



## Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016

# Indicators of Mental Health Problems Reported by Prisoners

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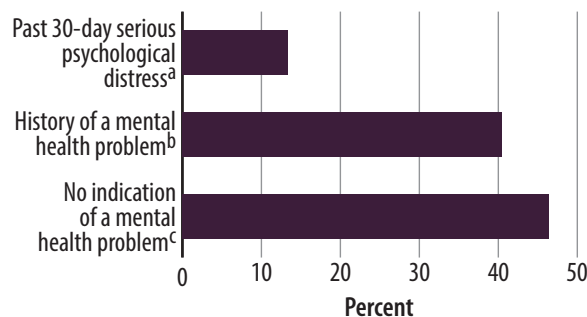
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An estimated 13% of all state and federal prisoners reported experiences that met the threshold for serious psychological distress (SPD) during the 30 days prior to their interview (hereafter referred to as past 30-day SPD) (figure 1, table 1). Statistics in this report are based on self-reported data collected through face-to-face interviews with a national sample of state and federal prisoners age 18 or older in the 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI). (See *Methodology*.)

Forty-one percent of all state and federal prisoners had a history of a mental health problem. Among all prisoners, 46% neither met the threshold for past 30-day SPD nor reported having a history of a mental health problem.

This report presents two prevalence estimates of indicators of a mental health problem: past 30-day SPD and history of a mental problem. Estimates from self-reported data are not equivalent to a clinical diagnosis of a mental disorder and should not be interpreted as such. (See *Measurement of mental health indicators*.)

**FIGURE 1**  
Prevalence of mental health indicators among all state and federal prisoners, 2016



Note: See table 1 for percentages and standard errors.

<sup>a</sup>Includes prisoners with a score of 13 or more on the past 30-day K6 scale. See *Measurement of mental health indicators*.

<sup>b</sup>Includes prisoners who self-reported they had ever been told by a mental health professional they had a mental disorder.

<sup>c</sup>Includes prisoners with a score of 0 to 7 on the past 30-day K6 scale and no history of a mental health problem.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

## Highlights

- About 14% of state prisoners and 8% of federal prisoners met the threshold for past 30-day SPD.
- Females in state (19%) or federal (17%) prison were more likely than males in state (14%) or federal (7%) prison to have met the threshold for past 30-day SPD.
- About 43% of state and 23% of federal prisoners had a history of a mental health problem.
- An estimated 27% of state and 14% of federal prisoners reported being told they had a major depressive disorder, the most common mental disorder reported.
- Among state prisoners, blacks (33%) were less likely than whites (53%) to have a history of a mental health problem.
- Among federal prisoners, whites (44%) were more likely than blacks (17%) and Hispanics (14%) to have a history of a mental health problem.
- An estimated 40% of state prisoners and 26% of federal prisoners who met the threshold for past 30-day SPD reported they were receiving treatment for a mental health problem.

## Other key findings

- Forty-four percent of state and 65% of federal prisoners had no indication of a mental health problem (**table 2**).
- Females in state (69%) or federal (52%) prison were more likely to have a history of a mental health problem than males in state (41%) or federal (21%) prison.
- About 12% of state prisoners ages 18 to 24 met the threshold for past 30-day SPD, compared to those ages 25 to 34 (14%) and ages 35 to 44, 45 to 54, and 55 to 64 (15% of each age group).
- State prisoners ages 55 to 64 (38%) and age 65 or older (32%) were less likely than those ages 18 to 24 (43%) to report a history of a mental health problem.
- There were no significant differences across age groups in federal prison for the portion who met the threshold for past 30-day SPD or who reported a history of a mental health problem.
- Among state prisoners, blacks (12%) were less likely than whites (15%) to have met the threshold for past 30-day SPD.
- White federal prisoners (9%) were more likely than black federal prisoners (7%) to have met the threshold for past 30-day SPD.
- About a quarter of state prisoners reported being told they had bipolar disorder (23%) or an anxiety disorder (22%) (**table 3**).
- Fourteen percent of state prisoners and 7% of federal prisoners reported being told they had post-traumatic stress disorder.
- About 1 in 10 federal prisoners reported being told they had an anxiety disorder (10%) or bipolar disorder (9%).
- About 60% of state prisoners and 42% of federal prisoners who met the threshold for past 30-day SPD reported they had received mental health treatment at some time since admission (**table 4**).
- Among those with a history of a mental health problem, 63% of state and 58% of federal prisoners reported receiving treatment since admission.
- Nearly 2 in 5 state prisoners (39%) and 1 in 5 federal prisoners (19%) who met the threshold for past 30-day SPD reported ever staying overnight in a hospital for a mental health problem.
- About a third of state prisoners who met the threshold for past 30-day SPD (34%) or who had a history of a mental health problem (32%) reported receiving prescription medication for a mental health problem at the time of the interview.
- An estimated 21% of federal prisoners who met the threshold for past 30-day SPD and 28% who had a history of a mental health problem reported they were receiving prescription medication for a mental health problem.
- About a third of state prisoners who met the threshold for past 30-day SPD (30%) or who had a history of a mental health problem (30%) reported they were receiving counseling or therapy from a trained professional.
- Among federal prisoners, 15% who met the threshold for past 30-day SPD and 17% who had a history of a mental health problem reported they were receiving counseling or therapy from a trained professional.

## Measurement of mental health indicators

The 2016 SPI assessed the prevalence of serious psychological distress (SPD) in the 30 days prior to the interview (past 30-day SPD) and the percentage who had ever been told they had a mental disorder by a mental health professional (history of a mental health problem). The estimates are from self-reported data and should not be interpreted as representing a clinical diagnosis of a mental disorder. Findings also should not be used to infer causation between an indicator of a mental health problem and incarceration, because the temporal relationship is unknown.

**SPD** — The Kessler 6 (K6) nonspecific psychological distress scale was used to assess those who met the threshold for SPD in the 30 days prior to the interview. The K6 is a six-question tool developed to assess the likelihood of serious mental illness among adults age 18 or older in the general U.S. population, with a score of 13 or higher indicating SPD.<sup>1</sup> Prisoners were asked how often during the 30 days prior to the interview they felt—

- nervous
- hopeless
- restless or fidgety
- so depressed that nothing could cheer them up

- everything was an effort
- worthless.

The response options were (1) all of the time, (2) most of the time, (3) some of the time, (4) a little of the time, and (5) none of the time. The responses were recoded from 4 to 0, with 4 assigned to “all of the time” and 0 assigned to “none of the time.” A summary scale with a range of 0 to 24 was then produced by combining the responses from all six items. Prisoners with a score of 13 or higher were considered to have SPD, prisoners with a score of 8 to 12 were considered to have an anxiety disorder (not reported), and prisoners with a score of 7 or fewer were considered to not have an indicator of a current mental health problem.

**History of a mental health problem** — This measure is based on the question, “Have you ever been told by a mental health professional, such as a psychiatrist or psychologist, that you had (1) manic depression, bipolar disorder, or mania; (2) a depressive disorder; (3) schizophrenia or another psychotic disorder; (4) post-traumatic stress disorder; (5) another anxiety disorder, such as panic disorder or obsessive compulsive disorder; (6) a personality disorder, such as antisocial or borderline personality; or (7) a mental or emotional condition other than those listed above?” Prisoners who answered positively to this question were considered to have a history of a mental health problem.

The time period in which a prisoner was told they had a mental disorder is unknown (e.g., told last week or last year). This measure is also affected by a person’s access to professional mental health care. These two indicators are not mutually exclusive. A prisoner could have met the threshold for SPD and a history of a mental health disorder. Relatedly, a prisoner may have met the threshold for SPD but not have ever been told by a mental health professional they had a mental disorder. Or they could have been told they had a mental disorder but did not meet the threshold for SPD.

<sup>1</sup>See Kessler, R. C., Barker, P. R., Colpe, L. J., Epstein, J. F., Gfroerer, J. C., Hiripi, E., Howes, M. J., Normand, S.-L. T., Manderscheid, R. W., Walters, E. E., & Zaslavsky, A. M. (2003). Screening for serious mental illness in the general population. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 60(2), 184-189. <https://doi.org/10.1001/archpsyc.60.2.184>. See also Kessler, R. C., Green, J. G., Gruber, M. J., Sampson, N. A., Bromet, E., Cuitan, M., Furukawa, T. A., Gureje, O., Hinkov, H., Hu, C.-Y., Lara, C., Lee, S., Mneimneh, Z., Myer, L., Oakley-Browne, M., Posada-Villa, J., Sagar, R., Viana, M. C., & Zaslavsky, A. M. (2010). Screening for serious mental illness in the general population with the K6 screening scale: Results from the WHO World Mental Health (WMH) survey initiative. *International Journal of Methods in Psychiatric Research*, 19(Suppl. 1), 4-22. <https://doi.org/10.1002/mp.333>.

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**TABLE 1****Prevalence of mental health indicators among all state and federal prisoners, 2016**

Indicator	Percent	Standard error
Past 30-day serious psychological distress <sup>a</sup>	13.4%	0.40%
History of a mental health problem <sup>b</sup>	40.5	0.78
No indication of a mental health problem <sup>c</sup>	46.4	0.74

Note: See appendix table 1 for prisoner estimates.

<sup>a</sup>Includes prisoners with a score of 13 or more on the past 30-day K6 scale.

<sup>b</sup>Includes prisoners who self-reported they had ever been told by a mental health professional they had a mental disorder.

<sup>c</sup>Includes prisoners with a score of 0 to 7 on the past 30-day K6 scale and no history of a mental health problem.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

**TABLE 2****Prevalence of mental health indicators among state and federal prisoners, by demographic characteristics, 2016**

Characteristic	State prisoners			Federal prisoners		
	Past 30-day serious psychological distress <sup>a</sup>	History of a mental health problem <sup>b</sup>	No indication of a mental health problem <sup>c</sup>	Past 30-day serious psychological distress <sup>a</sup>	History of a mental health problem <sup>b</sup>	No indication of a mental health problem <sup>c</sup>
All prisoners	14.2%	42.9%	43.9%	7.9%	23.2%	64.8%
<b>Sex</b>						
Male*	13.8%	40.9%	45.4%	7.3%	21.3%	66.8%
Female	18.8 †	68.7 †	23.6 †	16.8 †	51.9 †	35.7 †
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>						
White <sup>d*</sup>	14.6%	52.8%	37.0%	9.1%	43.8%	47.8%
Black <sup>d</sup>	12.4 †	33.2 †	50.6 †	6.5 †	17.4 †	69.0 †
Hispanic	14.1	35.8 †	50.3 †	6.9	14.0 †	73.7 †
American Indian/ Alaska Native <sup>d</sup>	20.8	51.7	32.3	11.5 †	39.6	48.6
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander <sup>d</sup>	13.4	31.9 †	53.5 †	10.2 †	24.3 †	66.6 †
Two or more races <sup>d</sup>	17.7 †	56.0 †	32.9 †	14.5 †	36.4 †	50.6
<b>Age</b>						
18-24*	12.0%	42.7%	44.1%	6.2%	26.6%	65.2%
25-34	14.1 †	43.8	42.1	8.3	24.0	62.8
35-44	15.0 †	44.9	42.1	6.5	22.0	65.3
45-54	14.7 †	42.8	45.0	9.3	20.4	68.4
55-64	14.9 †	38.4 †	48.3	9.7	28.7	60.8
65 or older	9.9	31.9 †	56.4 †	8.0	29.4	63.5

Note: See appendix table 1 for prisoner estimates. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

\*Comparison group.

†Difference with the comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

<sup>a</sup>Includes prisoners with a score of 13 or more on the past 30-day K6 scale.

<sup>b</sup>Includes prisoners who self-reported they had ever been told by a mental health professional they had a mental disorder.

<sup>c</sup>Includes prisoners with a score of 0 to 7 on the past 30-day K6 scale and no history of a mental health problem.

<sup>d</sup>Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic whites and “black” refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

**TABLE 3****Prevalence of state and federal prisoners reporting a history of a mental health problem, by specific mental disorders, 2016**

History of a mental health problem	State prisoners		Federal prisoners	
	Percent	Standard error	Percent	Standard error
Ever told by mental health professional they had a mental disorder	42.9%	0.86%	23.2%	1.55%
Major depressive disorder	27.1	0.67	13.7	1.04
Bipolar disorder	23.3	0.62	9.4	0.86
Anxiety disorder <sup>a</sup>	22.2	0.64	10.4	0.76
Post-traumatic stress disorder	14.1	0.50	6.9	0.70
Personality disorder <sup>b</sup>	11.4	0.41	4.8	0.63
Schizophrenia/other psychotic disorder	8.8	0.40	3.2	0.43

Note: Based on prisoners' self-report of ever being told by a mental health professional they had a specific disorder. Details may not sum to totals because prisoners could report more than one disorder. See appendix table 1 for prisoner estimates.

<sup>a</sup>Includes panic disorder and obsessive compulsive disorder. Excludes post-traumatic stress disorder.

<sup>b</sup>Includes antisocial and borderline personality disorders.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

**TABLE 4****Mental health treatment received by state and federal prisoners with an indicator of a mental health problem, by type of indicator, 2016**

Time period and treatment type	State prisoners		Federal prisoners	
	Past 30-day serious psychological distress <sup>a</sup>	History of a mental health problem <sup>b</sup>	Past 30-day serious psychological distress <sup>a</sup>	History of a mental health problem <sup>b</sup>
Overnight hospital stay during lifetime <sup>c</sup>	39.0%	38.3%	18.8%	26.0%
Received mental health treatment since admission to prison	59.7%	62.7%	42.4%	57.6%
Prescription medication	50.4	52.9	35.6	48.4
Counseling/therapy from trained professional <sup>d</sup>	47.6	49.9	27.5	37.4
Prescription medication and counseling/therapy	38.3	40.0	20.8	28.2
Current treatment for a mental health problem <sup>e</sup>	40.5%	40.5%	26.0%	33.9%
Prescription medication	33.6	32.3	20.7	28.4
Counseling/therapy from trained professional <sup>d</sup>	29.8	30.1	15.4	16.7
Prescription medication and counseling/therapy	22.8	21.9	10.1	11.2

Note: Details may not sum to totals because prisoners could report receiving more than one type of treatment. See appendix table 1 for prisoner estimates and appendix table 3 for standard errors.

<sup>a</sup>Includes prisoners with a score of 13 or more on the past 30-day K6 scale.

<sup>b</sup>Includes prisoners who self-reported they had ever been told by a mental health professional they had a mental disorder.

<sup>c</sup>Includes prisoners who self-reported they stayed overnight or longer in any type of hospital or other facility to receive treatment or counseling for any problems with their emotions, nerves, or mental health.

<sup>d</sup>Includes counseling or therapy received from a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, or nurse.

<sup>e</sup>Treatment ongoing as of the time of the interview.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

## Change in indicators of mental health among all state and federal prisoners, 2011-2012 and 2016

The 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI) had a different sampling frame from the 2011-12 National Inmate Survey (NIS), the previous survey that collected data on mental health problems from prisoners.<sup>2</sup> To produce comparable data, BJS made two adjustments. First, prisoners in community-based correctional facilities were removed from the 2016 SPI sample before analysis because the 2011-12 NIS did not

include those prisoners. Second, the comparisons made between the years were for all prisoners, without separating out state and federal prisoners, because the federal population in the 2011-12 NIS was not designed to be self-representing but as part of a representative sample for all prisoners.

After these adjustments, comparison between the years showed an increase in the prevalence of prisoners reporting a history of a mental health problem. The prevalence of prisoners who met the threshold for 30-day SPD was statistically unchanged. In 2016, an estimated 40% of all state and federal prisoners reported a history of a mental health problem, up from 37% in 2011-12 (**table 5**). For both years, about 1 in 7 prisoners met the threshold for past 30-day SPD.

<sup>2</sup>Mode effects may impact the differences observed between 2011-12 and 2016 percentages, as audio computer-assisted self-interviewing was used to collect NIS data, while SPI data were collected through face-to-face interviews using computer-assisted personal interviewing. For more details on the methodology for this data collection, see *Sexual Victimization in Prisons and Jails Reported by Inmates, 2011-12* (NCJ 241399, BJS, May 2013).

**TABLE 5**  
**Prevalence of mental health indicators among all state and federal prisoners, 2011-2012 and 2016**

Year	Past 30-day serious psychological distress <sup>a</sup>		History of a mental health problem <sup>b</sup>		No indication of a mental health problem <sup>c</sup>	
	Percent	Standard error	Percent	Standard error	Percent	Standard error
2011-2012*	14.5%	0.46%	36.9%	1.15%	49.9%	1.07%
2016 <sup>d</sup>	13.4	0.41	40.4 †	0.78	46.5 †	0.73

Note: Based on the adjusted 2016 data, there was an estimated 1,403,600 state and federal prisoners in 2016 and an estimated 1,441,800 state and federal prisoners in 2011-2012.

\*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

<sup>a</sup>Includes prisoners with a score of 13 or more on the past 30-day K6 scale.

<sup>b</sup>Includes prisoners who self-reported they had ever been told by a mental health professional they had a mental disorder.

<sup>c</sup>Includes prisoners with a score of 0 to 7 on the past 30-day K6 scale and no history of a mental health problem.

<sup>d</sup>To allow for comparison to 2011-2012, estimates for 2016 exclude prisoners held in community-based correctional facilities.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Inmate Survey, 2011-2012; and Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.



## Methodology

Findings are based on self-reported data collected through face-to-face interviews with a national sample of state and federal prisoners in the 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI), produced by the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The 2016 SPI included confinement and community-based facilities but excluded special facilities such as those operated by or holding prisoners exclusively for the U.S. military, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S. Marshals Service, and correctional authorities in Indian country. Facilities in every state and the Federal Bureau of Prisons were eligible. The 2016 SPI was a stratified two-stage sample design in which prisons were selected in the first stage and prisoners within sampled facilities were selected in the second stage. The SPI sample was selected from a universe of 2,001 unique prisons (1,808 state and 193 federal). A total of 364 prisons (306 state and 58 federal) participated in the 2016 SPI out of 385 selected (324 state and 61 federal). The first-stage response rate (i.e., the response rate among selected prisons) was 98.4% (98.1% among state prisons and 100% among federal prisons).<sup>3</sup>

A total of 24,848 prisoners (20,064 state and 4,784 federal) participated in the 2016 SPI, based on a sample of 37,058 prisoners (30,348 state and 6,710 federal).<sup>4</sup> The second-stage response rate (i.e., the response rate among selected prisoners) was 70.0% (69.3% among state prisoners and 72.8% among federal prisoners).<sup>5</sup>

### Standard errors and tests of significance

When national estimates are derived from a sample, as with the SPI, caution must be used when comparing one estimate to another or when comparing estimates over time. Although one estimate may be larger than another, estimates based on a sample rather than a complete enumeration of the population have some

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<sup>3</sup>A total of 15 prisons (12 state and 3 federal) that were sampled were deemed ineligible for the 2016 SPI. For more information, see *Methodology: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016* (NCJ 252210, BJS, July 2019).

<sup>4</sup>There were 10,661 sampled prisoners who were eligible for the survey but did not participate. Another 1,549 sampled prisoners were deemed ineligible for the survey. For more information, see *Methodology: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016* (NCJ 252210, BJS, July 2019).

<sup>5</sup>For more detailed information on the 2016 SPI, see *Methodology: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016* (NCJ 252210, BJS, July 2019).

degree of sampling error. The sampling error of an estimate depends on several factors, including the size of the estimate, the number of completed interviews, and the intracluster correlation of the outcome within prisons. When the sampling error around an estimate is taken into account, estimates that appear different may not be statistically different.

One measure of the sampling error associated with an estimate is the standard error. The standard error may vary from one estimate to the next. Standard errors in this report were estimated using Taylor Series Linearization (TSL) to account for the complex design of the 2016 SPI. The TSL method directly estimates variances through a linearized function by combining variance estimates from stratum and primary sampling units used to sample prisoners.

Readers may use the estimates and standard errors of the estimates provided in this report to generate a 95% confidence interval around the estimates as a measure of the margin of error. Typically, multiplying the standard error by 1.96 and then adding or subtracting the result from the estimate produces the confidence interval. This interval expresses the range of values within which the true population parameter is expected to fall 95% of the time if the same sampling method is used to select different samples.

For small samples and estimates close to 0%, the use of the standard error to construct the 95% confidence interval may not be reliable. Therefore, caution should be used when interpreting the estimates. Caution should also be used if constructing a 95% confidence interval, which would include zero in these cases, because the estimate may not be distinguishable from zero.

The standard errors have been used to compare selected groups of prisoners that have been defined by demographic characteristics. They have also been used to compare estimates of state and federal prisoners between 2011-12 and 2016. Differences in the estimates for subgroups in tables 2 and 5 in this report have been tested and notated for significance at the 95% level of confidence. Readers should reference the tables for testing on specific findings. Unless otherwise noted, findings described in this report as higher, lower, or different passed a test at the 0.05 level of statistical significance (95% confidence level).



## **Measurement of mental health treatment**

Prisoners who had an indicator of a mental health problem (SPD or a history of a mental health problem) were asked about mental health treatment. These prisoners were asked if they had received prescription medication; counseling or therapy from a trained professional, such as a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, or nurse; or both prescription medication and counseling or therapy since admission to prison.

Those who answered yes were asked if they were currently being treated for a mental health problem, with current meaning at the time of the interview. To measure overnight hospital stays, prisoners who had an indicator of a mental health problem were asked whether they stayed overnight or longer in any type of hospital or other facility to receive treatment or counseling for any problems with their emotions, nerves, or mental health.

**APPENDIX TABLE 1****Estimated number of state and federal prisoners, by demographic characteristics, 2016**

Characteristic	State prisoners	Federal prisoners
All prisoners	1,248,300	173,400
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	1,159,100	162,700
Female	89,200	10,700
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>		
White*	391,800	35,900
Black*	415,500	55,000
Hispanic	254,700	63,500
American Indian/Alaska Native*	17,600	2,800
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander*	11,400	2,600
Two or more races*	138,600	11,200
<b>Age</b>		
18-24	128,500	8,200
25-34	400,800	48,900
35-44	328,800	59,700
45-54	231,000	37,300
55-64	120,900	14,400
65 or older	38,400	4,900

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest 100. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding and missing data. Counts are weighted to totals from the 2015 National Prisoner Statistics Program. See *Methodology: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016* (NCJ 252210, BJS, July 2019).

\*Excludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic whites and “black” refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

**APPENDIX TABLE 2****Standard errors for table 2: Prevalence of mental health indicators among state and federal prisoners, by demographic characteristics, 2016**

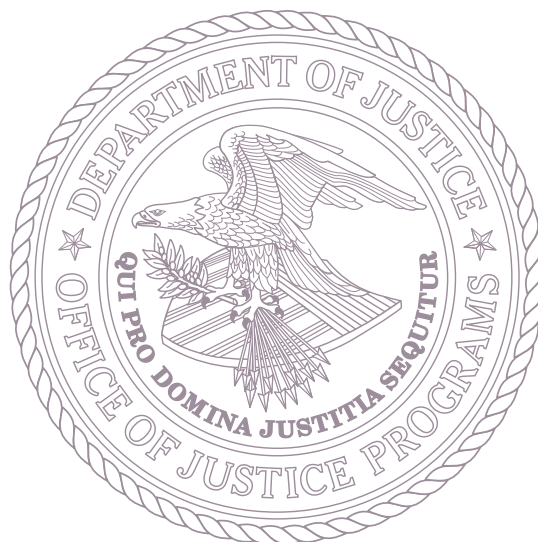
Characteristic	State prisoners			Federal prisoners		
	Past 30-day serious psychological distress	History of a mental health problem	No indication of a mental health problem	Past 30-day serious psychological distress	History of a mental health problem	No indication of a mental health problem
<b>All prisoners</b>	0.45%	0.86%	0.81%	0.55%	1.55%	1.65%
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	0.48%	0.91%	0.86%	0.56%	1.62%	1.72%
Female	0.84	1.57	1.23	1.84	2.87	2.70
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>						
White	0.72%	1.11%	1.09%	1.08%	2.27%	2.30%
Black	0.53	1.05	1.05	0.71	1.49	1.59
Hispanic	0.85	1.39	1.38	0.84	1.75	2.32
American Indian/ Alaska Native	3.39	4.85	3.86	3.60	5.39	5.20
Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	3.47	5.15	4.97	4.57	7.51	7.85
Two or more races	0.92	1.59	1.41	2.45	3.42	3.66
<b>Age</b>						
18-24	0.87%	1.60%	1.61%	2.21%	3.70%	4.41%
25-34	0.65	1.20	1.20	0.89	1.85	2.21
35-44	0.65	1.17	1.15	0.74	1.88	2.04
45-54	0.76	1.14	1.13	1.01	1.81	1.78
55-64	1.22	1.52	1.66	1.67	3.32	2.95
65 or older	1.41	2.46	2.63	2.32	4.93	5.42

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

**APPENDIX TABLE 3****Standard errors for table 4: Mental health treatment received by state and federal prisoners with an indicator of a mental health problem, by type of indicator, 2016**

Time period and treatment type	State prisoners		Federal prisoners	
	Past 30-day serious psychological distress	History of a mental health problem	Past 30-day serious psychological distress	History of a mental health problem
<b>Overnight hospital stay during lifetime</b>	1.16%	0.84%	2.69%	1.91%
<b>Received mental health treatment since admission to prison</b>	1.41%	1.09%	3.02%	1.61%
Prescription medication	1.44	1.14	3.03	1.77
Counseling/therapy from trained professional	1.40	1.17	2.33	1.73
Prescription medication and counseling/therapy	1.36	1.15	2.24	1.51
<b>Current treatment for a mental health problem</b>	1.50%	1.16%	2.39%	2.00%
Prescription medication	1.39	1.03	2.59	2.05
Counseling/therapy from trained professional	1.38	1.16	1.78	1.27
Prescription medication and counseling/therapy	1.20	0.98	1.67	1.04

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Doris J. James is the acting director.

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