Federal Bureau of Prisons Fact Sheet

Special Releases

The CARES Act and the First Step Act (FSA) provide various avenues for inmates to be granted home confinement or compassionate release. Only the sentencing court has authority to reduce a term of imprisonment (compassionate release) upon motion of the FBOP Director through the U.S. Attorney's Office or upon motion of the inmate. For more information about Compassionate Release trends, visit www.USSC.gov (United States Sentencing Commission).

Inmates on Elderly Home Confinement	All-Time:	1,246
	Current:	6
Compassionate Releases by the FBOP Director **The total shown is for the current calendar year*	Denied:	62
	Granted:	12
Compassionate Releases ordered by the Courts **The total shown is since the enactment of the First Step Act.*		5,012

FSA Programming & Time Credits

The First Step Act (FSA) provides for eligible inmates to earn FSA Time Credits (FTCs) for participating in recommended Evidence-Based Recidivism Reduction (EBRR) Programs and Productive Activities (PAs) that address their assessed needs. Inmates may not earn FTCs if serving a sentence for a disqualifying conviction listed in the statute. FTCs currently apply to inmates convicted in Federal District Court only. They do not apply to military prisoners, state boarders, or inmates with a final order of deportation. At this time, FTCs do not apply to inmates convicted in DC Superior Court.

% of inmate population eligible to earn FTCs:	58.0%
Inmates currently enrolled in curriculum-based EBRRs and PAs: *(waitlist + current participants)*	117,820
Total program completions of curriculum-based EBBRs and PAs since January 2020:	987,643
Transferred to pre-release custody after the accrual and crediting of earned time credits:	9,244

Employment Levels

One of the FBOP's key priorities is fully staffing our institutions. Hiring and retention of employees remains a priority for the Bureau, as higher employment levels afford the Bureau the flexibility and stability needed to carry out its mission, including the expansion of programs as required by the First Step Act (FSA). Although multiple positions in the FBOP carry out FSA activities, some positions have dedicated FSA funding.

Active Employees in Pay Status	Correctional Officers:	11,906
	All Other Positions:	22,840
Active Employees in Non-Pay Status	Correctional Officers:	146
	All Other Positions:	105
Total Employees		35,640
Authorized Full Time Positions	Correctional Officers:	14,900
	All Other Positions:	23,949
	Total Positions:	38,849
Vacant Positions		4,103

Employee Ratios

The inmate-to-employee ratio is an important factor in maintaining institution safety. The FBOP staffs facilities based on various factors including facility security level, inmate population and facility programs and capabilities.

Inmate to Employee Ratio:	4.35:1
Inmate to Correctional Officer Ratio:	9.29:1

Special Population Census (or Counts)

A statistical snapshot of the number of inmates nationwide that have been placed in the FBOP's various restrictive housing settings.

Number of inmates at the Special Housing Units:	10,616
Number of inmates at the Special Management Units:	25
Number of inmates at the ADX:	404

Notes:

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Overall Population

After decades of steady growth, the FBOP's inmate population eventually began to decline, followed by a period of renewed increases. Despite these fluctuations, the FBOP continues to face crowding in its medium- and low-security facilities.

System-wide:	-2.7%
Minimum:	-13.1%
Low:	10.0%
Medium:	7.3%
High:	-8.0%

Residential Reentry

The FBOP contracts with Residential Reentry Centers (RRCs), also known as halfway houses, to provide assistance to inmates who are nearing release. During an inmate's release planning, a RRC referral recommendation is made based on release needs, risk factors, and a treatment plan. RRCs help inmates gradually rebuild their ties to the community and facilitate readjustment. Higher risk inmates are the Bureau's first priority. Home confinement monitoring is done by either the RRC or via the Federal Location Monitoring Program with US Probation. An inmate's length of placement could be up to 12 months.

RRC Locations:	154
Total Number of inmates in RRCs:	8,615
RRC Average Stay (in days):	281
Work Release Locations:	17
Monitoring via Federal Probation Contract:	312
Total Number of inmates in Home Confinement:	6,292

Mental Health Care Levels

Mental Health Care Levels (of which there are four) are used to classify inmates based on their need for mental health services. Facility placement ranges from Care Level 1 facilities - which are for inmates who do not require significant mental health care - to Care Level 4 facilities for inmates who require inpatient psychiatric care.

	Male	Female	Total
Level 1:	132,223	8,965	141,188
Level 2:	4,946	651	5,597
Level 3:	629	64	693
Level 4:	566	13	579

Medical Care Levels

Medical Care Levels (of which there are four), are used to align an inmate's medical needs with institution capabilities (including community medical resources). Care Level 1 facilities are assigned to generally healthy inmates, while Care Level 4 facilities are reserved for inmates who require daily nursing care or therapy.

	Male	Female	Total
Level 1:	96,872	5,462	102,334
Level 2:	39,182	3,901	43,083
Level 3:	2,438	232	2,670
Level 4:	1,227	101	1,328

Education Status

Inmates who do not have a verified General Educational Development (GED) credential or high school diploma are required to attend an adult literacy program for a minimum of 240 instructional hours or until a GED is achieved, whichever occurs first. Non-English speaking inmates must take English-as-a-Second-Language.

GED Earned in the Bureau of Prisons:	14,216 (11%)
Has GED:	68,442 (55%)
Needs GED:	38,994 (32%)
→ (GED Enrolled: 9 %)	

GED Completions:

FY	2024	Enrolled:	10,874	Earned:	4,423
FY	2025	Enrolled:	12,066	Earned:	4,132
FY	026 (10/05)	Enrolled:	11,405	Earned:	3,828

Drug Treatment Participants

The FBOP's drug abuse treatment strategy has grown and changed as advances have occurred in the substance abuse treatment field. The FBOP offers a variety of programs to generate positive outcomes (by reducing relapse and criminality), ranging from residential programs, non-residential programs, drug education, and transitional drug treatment in the community.

	Res. Drug Treatment	Non-Res. Drug Treatment	Drug Education	Community Treatment
FY 2023	12,439	27,201	27,301	11,647
FY 2024	12,077	31,991	22,398	13,624
FY 2025	10,688	33,718	21,671	11,019
FY 2026	10,174	35,044	21,760	10,635