



Federal Bureau of Prisons Fact Sheet

Special Releases



The CARES Act and the First Step Act (FSA) provide various avenues for Adults In Custody (AIC) 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 AIC. For more information about Compassionate Release trends, see the United States Sentencing.

• AIC on Elderly Home Confinement	All-Time:	1,246
	Current:	59
• Compassionate Releases by the FBOP Director	Denied:	57
	Granted:	15
<small>*The total shown is for the current calendar year.</small>		
• Compassionate Releases ordered by the Courts	:	4,635
<small>*The total shown is since the enactment of the First Step Act.</small>		

First Step Act Programming & Time Credits



As outlined in the FSA, eligible AIC earn First Step Act Time Credits (FTCs) for the completion of approved Evidence-Based Recidivism Reduction (EBRR) Programs and Productive Activities (PAs). AIC may not earn FTCs if serving a sentence for a disqualifying conviction listed in the statute. FTCs currently apply to AIC convicted in Federal District Court only. They do not apply to military prisoners, state boarders, or adults in custody with a final order of deportation. At this time, FTCs do not apply to AIC convicted in DC Superior Court.

• % of AIC population participating in time credits programming:	84%
• AIC currently enrolled in curriculum-based EBRRs and PAs:	105,869
• Total program completions of curriculum-based EBRRs and PAs:	409,576
• Transferred to pre-release custody after the accrual and crediting of earned time credits:	5,804

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:	12,417
	All Other Positions:	22,990
• Active Employees in Non-Pay Status	Correctional Officers:	227
	All Other Positions:	151
• Total Employees	:	35,407
• Authorized Full Time Positions	Correctional Officers:	14,900
	All Other Positions:	24,685
	Total Positions:	39,585
• Vacant Positions	:	4,178

Employee Ratios



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

• AIC to Employee Ratio:	4.4:1
• AIC to Correctional Officer Ratio:	9.4:1

Special Population Census (or Counts)



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

• Number of AIC in Special Housing Units:	10,987
• Number of AIC in Special Management Units:	0
• Number of AIC in ADX:	334





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Overall Population

For 34 years, the FBOP AIC population increased; in 2014, the first population decline was recorded. Declines continued through 2020; in 2021 and 2022, FBOP saw increases in the AIC population. The FBOP continues to experience crowding in medium and low facilities.

System-wide:	5%
Minimum:	-42%
Low:	2%
Medium:	30%
High:	28%



Residential Reentry

The FBOP contracts with Residential Reentry Centers (RRCs), also known as halfway houses, to provide assistance to AIC who are nearing release. During an AIC's release planning, a RRC referral recommendation is made based on release needs, risk factors, and a treatment plan. RRCs help AIC gradually rebuild their ties to the community and facilitate readjustment. Higher risk AIC 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 AIC's length of placement could be up to 12 months.

RRC Locations:	166
Total Number of AIC in RRCs:	8048
RRC Average Stay (in days):	192
Work Release Locations:	17
Monitoring via Federal Probation Contract:	158
Total Number of AIC in Home Confinement:	5656



Mental Health Care Levels

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

	Male	Female	Total
Level 1:	137,704 (90%)	9,946 (7%)	147,650
Level 2:	4,038 (3%)	544 (.4%)	4,582
Level 3:	627 (.4%)	38 (.02%)	665
Level 4:	512 (.3%)	7 (.01%)	519



Medical Care Levels

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

	Male	Female	Total
Level 1:	99,758 (64%)	6,430 (4%)	106,188
Level 2:	40,586 (26%)	3,697 (2%)	44,283
Level 3:	2,700 (2%)	285 (.2%)	2,985
Level 4:	1,305 (.8%)	125 (.08%)	1,430



Education Status

AIC 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 AIC must take English as a Second Language.

GED Earned in the Bureau of Prisons:	13,565 (10%)
Has GED:	70,393 (55%)
Needs GED:	44,416 (34%)
↳ (GED Enrolled: 9%)	

GED COMPLETIONS:			
FY 2022	Enrolled	13,013	Earned 2,814
FY 2023	Enrolled	12,686	Earned 4,380
FY 2024 (11/5)	Enrolled	11,162	Earned 276



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 2021	10,465	13,570	19,378	11,852
FY 2022	11,736	19,791	23,525	7,220
FY 2023	12,170	20,939	26,958	8,254
FY 2024	5,591	2,080	2,506	919