



Fact Sheet

Prisoner Operations
2022

- ▶ The U.S. Marshals Service prisoner detention mission is a complex and multilayered function. The Marshals are responsible for preserving the integrity of the federal judicial process by overseeing all detention management matters for individuals remanded to U.S. Marshals custody.
- ▶ The Marshals provide safe, secure and humane custody, housing, medical care and transportation for federal prisoners throughout the United States and its territories.

<i>Fiscal 2021 Data</i>	
Total expenditures for federal prisoners in U.S. Marshals custody*	\$2.21 billion
Prisoners escorted by USMS to court appearances and other required events	466,429
Total average daily detention population	63,679
• State and local facilities	46,866
• Private facilities (contracted)	8,437
• Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities	8,376
Prisoners received	100,182
Agreements with state and local governments for use of detention space	approx. 1,200
Average daily prisoner detention cost	\$101.30

*Funded separately from U.S. Marshals Service appropriation

Prisoner Custody

- ▶ Individuals arrested for federal offenses are brought before a U.S. magistrate or U.S. district court judge for their initial court appearances. The court determines whether prisoners are to be released on bond or remanded to the custody of the Marshals to await trial.
- ▶ The Marshals received approximately 100,000 individuals in fiscal 2021, or about 400 people a day, and escorted more than 466,000 prisoners, or 1,866 prisoners per day, to court appearances or for other matters in the 94 federal judicial districts in more than 300 court cities.
- ▶ Upon conviction and sentencing, the Marshals transfer prisoners to their designated Federal Bureau of Prisons institutions to serve their prison sentences. Prisoners who receive sentences with less than 90 days remaining may serve their entire prison sentences in U.S. Marshals custody.
- ▶ The detention of federal prisoners presents diverse and complex challenges, including:
 - Locating detention space near federal courthouses to facilitate court proceedings and attorney access
 - Coordinating with federal, state and local authorities regarding the execution of writs, court orders and the transfer of prisoners
 - Separating multiple co-defendant prisoners from each other to ensure their safety and security and the effective operation of the judicial system
 - Managing prisoners with contagious diseases and chronic illnesses

Prisoner Housing

- ▶ The U.S. Marshals Service does not own or operate detention facilities but partners with state and local governments using intergovernmental agreements to house prisoners. Additionally, the agency houses prisoners in Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities and private detention facilities. *(The U.S. Marshals Service is implementing the [President's Executive Order on private detention facilities](#) across facilities within the U.S. Marshals Service. As part of the implementation process, the U.S. Marshals Service is carefully examining its existing contracts with these facilities, while also taking care to avoid unnecessarily disrupting meaningful access to counsel, timely court appearances and case resolutions, and access to family visitation and support.)*
- ▶ As both defense attorneys and prosecutors require routine access to prisoners, the Marshals attempt to house prisoners in close proximity to the judicial district in which they are prosecuted.
- ▶ The Marshals annually review state, local and private detention facilities that house federal prisoners to ensure the safe, secure and humane care and custody of those prisoners.

Prisoner Medical Care

- ▶ The U.S. Marshals Service is responsible for ensuring medically necessary health care is provided to prisoners in its custody.
- ▶ During fiscal 2021, the Marshals expended \$148.8 million for prisoner medical services.
- ▶ The agency is limited to paying Medicare rates for medical services provided to federal prisoners, per 18 U.S. Code § 4006.

Media Requests for Prisoner Information, Interviews and Booking Photos

- ▶ The U.S. Marshals Service does not disclose any personal information, location held, court scheduling, transportation details or other prisoner information, other than to verify a prisoner is in U.S. Marshals custody.
- ▶ Prisoner interview requests may be granted when there is no objection from the U.S. attorney or prosecutor of record, the presiding trial judge, the prisoner, the defense attorney, and the management of the detention facility where the prisoner is located. It is the responsibility of media representatives to obtain the aforementioned documentation in writing and provide it to the U.S. marshal, chief deputy U.S. marshal, or the Office of Public Affairs. Upon receipt of the required documentation, the U.S. Marshals will consider the request. Any prisoner interview requests of terrorism-related defendants must be approved, in advance, by the Federal Bureau of Prisons and DOJ National Security Division.
- ▶ The U.S. Marshals generally do not release prisoner mug shots (booking photos) for privacy reasons. (For the policy, see www.usmarshals.gov/foia/policy.)