

Table 1.25

**Employees in State and local law enforcement agencies**

By type of agency, United States, 1996

Type of agency	Number of employees					
	Full-time			Part-time		
	Total	Sworn	Nonsworn	Total	Sworn	Nonsworn
Number	921,978	663,535	258,443	97,770	47,712	50,058
Local police	521,985	410,956	111,029	61,453	30,976	30,477
Sheriff	257,712	152,922	104,790	22,412	10,845	11,567
State police	83,742	54,587	29,155	1,303	132	1,171
Special police	56,229	43,082	13,147	12,003	5,202	6,801
Texas constable	2,310	1,988	322	599	557	42
Percent	100%	72.0%	28.0%	100%	48.8%	51.2%
Local police	100	78.7	21.3	100	50.4	49.6
Sheriff	100	59.3	40.7	100	48.4	51.6
State police	100	65.2	34.8	100	10.1	89.9
Special police	100	76.6	23.4	100	43.3	56.7
Texas constable	100	86.1	13.9	100	93.0	7.0

Note: These data are from the Directory Survey of Law Enforcement Agencies, a census of the Nation's State and local law enforcement agencies conducted in 1996. The data were collected by the U.S. Bureau of the Census for the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. The Directory Survey includes all State and local agencies employing at least one sworn officer with general arrest powers and collects data on the number of sworn and nonsworn personnel employed by each agency, including both full-time and part-time employees. The pay period that included June 28, 1996 was the reference date for all personnel data. The final database includes responses from 13,578 general purpose local police departments, 3,088 sheriffs' departments, 49 primary State police departments, 1,316 special police agencies, and 738 county constable offices in Texas. Hawaii does not have a State police agency; the Hawaii Department of Public Safety primarily provides court support services.

A local police department was defined as a general purpose police department operated by a municipal, county, or tribal government. A State police department was defined as the general purpose State police agency operated by the State. Included among special police agencies are both State and local agencies policing special geographic jurisdictions such as airports, parks, transit systems, public schools, colleges and universities, and public housing. Also included are agencies with special enforcement responsibilities such as those pertaining to natural resource conservation or alcoholic beverage control and special investigative units such as those operated by prosecutors' offices. Texas constables are elected officials who are responsible for serving process out of the justice, county, and district courts. About one-third of constable offices also performed law enforcement functions. Of the approximately 760 county constable offices in Texas, 738 employed sworn personnel as of June 1996.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies, 1996*. Bulletin NCJ-164618 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, June 1998), p. 2.