



Fact Sheet

**Prisoner Transportation**  
**2018**

<i>Fiscal 2017 Data</i>	
Total federal prisoner movements	<b>266,083</b>
• Movements by air	104,170
• Movements by ground*	161,913
Average prisoner movements per day+	1,109

\*Does not include prisoners moved within district or up to 50 miles into a bordering district

+Based on 240 operational days in fiscal 2017

- ▶ The Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System manages the coordination, scheduling and secure handling of prisoners in federal custody, transporting them to detention facilities, courts and correctional institutions across the 94 judicial districts via a network of aircraft, buses, vans and cars.
- ▶ JPATS is the largest transporter of prisoners in the United States, supporting the federal judiciary, the Federal Bureau of Prisons and U.S. Marshals district offices.
- ▶ On average, JPATS manages more than 1,100 prisoner movements a day.
- ▶ Prisoner movements take place for a variety of reasons, such as to testify at a trial, serve a sentence at a facility or transfer between institutions. Prisoners are also moved for pretrial hearings, competency examinations, medical studies and observations.
- ▶ When a prisoner is in transit, the Marshals do not disclose any transportation details except verification that an inmate is in Marshals' custody and confirmation when a prisoner movement is complete.
- ▶ JPATS operates a fleet of aircraft to move prisoners over long distances more economically and with higher security than commercial airlines.
- ▶ JPATS is the only government-operated, regularly-scheduled passenger airline in the nation.
- ▶ JPATS transports prisoners using more than 40 airlift sites located throughout the United States and its territories. With appropriate planning, JPATS can accommodate international and special movement requests.
- ▶ JPATS air operations are conducted using JPATS-owned and -leased aircraft operated by specially-trained aviation security staff, expert pilots, medical personnel and experienced mechanics.
- ▶ For ground movements, JPATS coordinates the scheduling, but the transits are performed by Federal Bureau of Prisons buses, contracted transportation services with facilities that house Marshals prisoners and U.S. Marshals vehicles.
- ▶ JPATS also provides prisoner transportation to state and local law enforcement agencies and other federal agencies, including the military, on a space-available, cost-reimbursable basis.
- ▶ JPATS is funded through a revolving/working capital fund reimbursed from the partners it supports. JPATS does not receive appropriated funding.
- ▶ JPATS is a leader in government aviation safety programs and is recognized by the International Standard for Business Aircraft Operations.