The number of adults incarcerated by the state peaked at about 173,300 in 2007 and declined to 132,900 in 2013. This is mostly due to the transfer of responsibility for adults convicted of low-level felonies to counties in 2011.

The adult population incarcerated by the state is projected to decline to 129,800 in 2016, then rise slightly through 2019. The decline is due largely to Proposition 47, approved by voters in 2014, which reclassified some drug and property crimes as misdemeanors and allows for resentencing of people currently incarcerated for these crimes.

The number of adults sentenced to state prison for second strikes is decreasing, possibly because Proposition 47 converted nonserious, nonviolent felonies that had previously qualified as second strikes into misdemeanors. A second-strike conviction doubles the prison term for that offense.

Note: Reflects the number of adults incarcerated in state prisons and other facilities in and outside of California, as of June 30 each year. 2015 to 2019 are projected. Source: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation