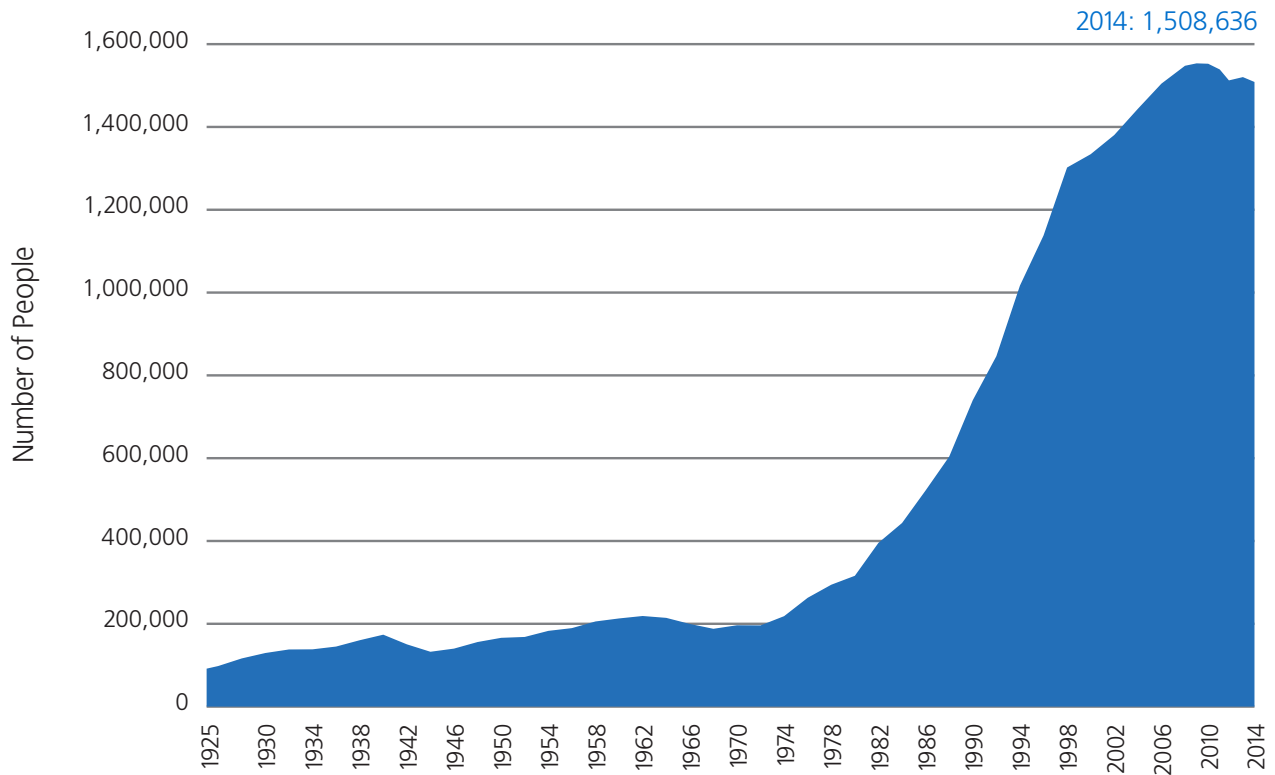


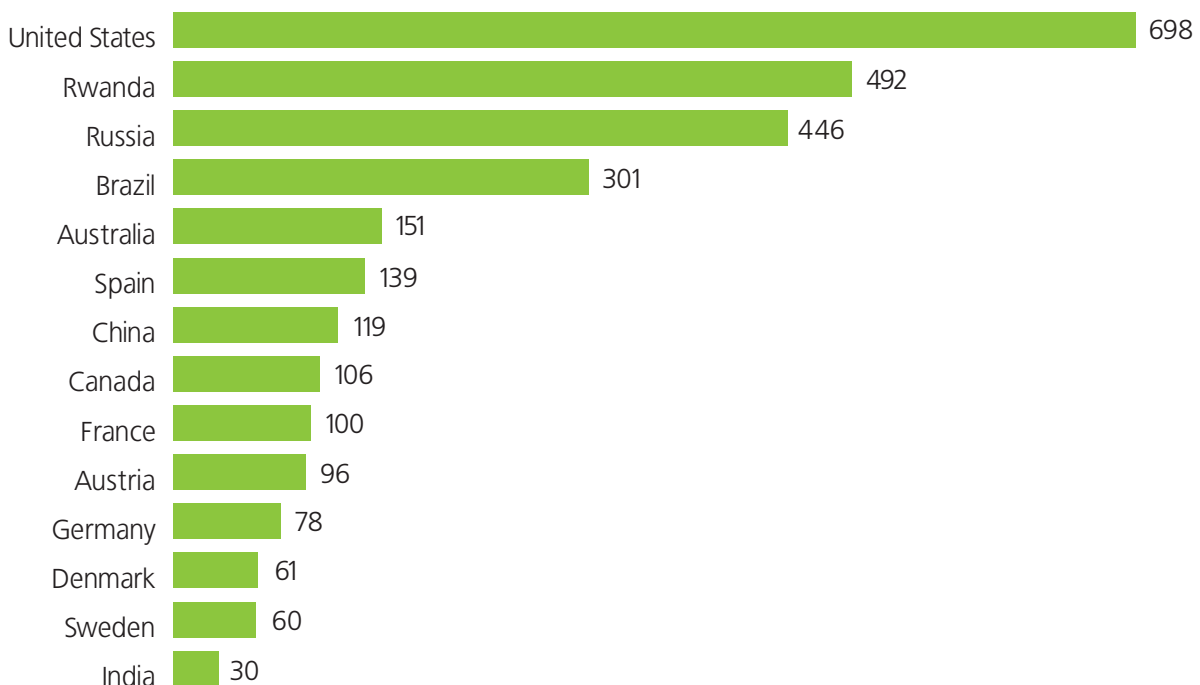
# Trends in U.S. Corrections

U.S. State and Federal Prison Population, 1925-2014



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics *Prisoners Series*.

International Rates of Imprisonment per 100,000

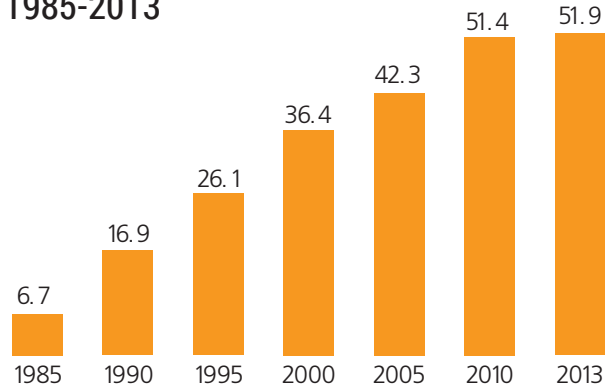


Sources: Carson, E.A. (2015). Prisoners in 2014. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics; Walmsley, R. (2015). World Prison Brief. London: Institute for Criminal Policy Research. Available online: <http://www.prisonstudies.org/world-prison-brief>

## MASS INCARCERATION

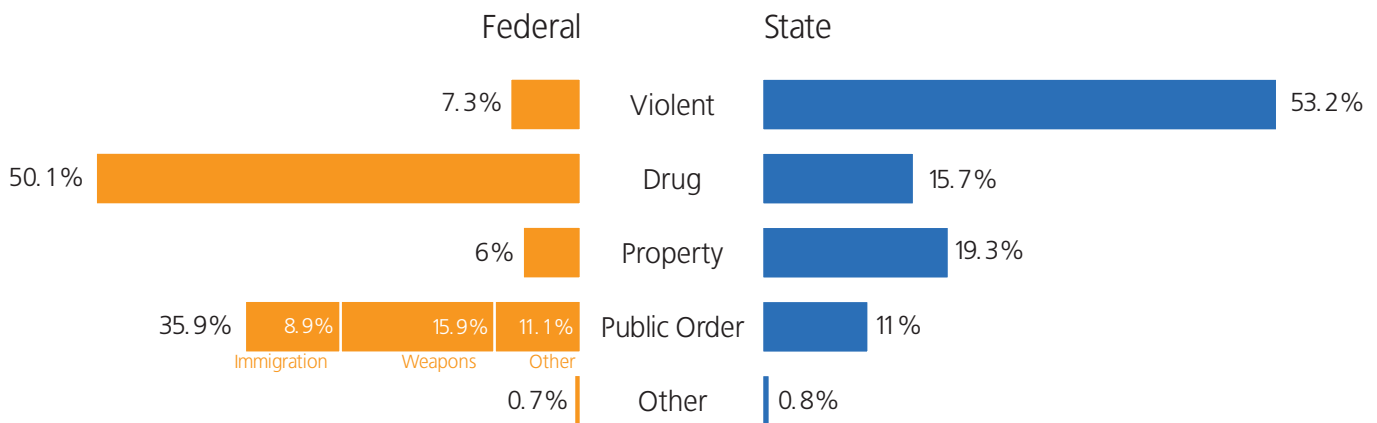
The United States is the world's leader in incarceration with 2.2 million people currently in the nation's prisons and jails — a 500% increase over the last forty years. Changes in sentencing law and policy, not changes in crime rates, explain most of this increase. These trends have resulted in prison overcrowding and fiscal burdens on states to accommodate a rapidly expanding penal system, despite increasing evidence that large-scale incarceration is not an effective means of achieving public safety.

### State Expenditures on Corrections in Billions, 1985-2013



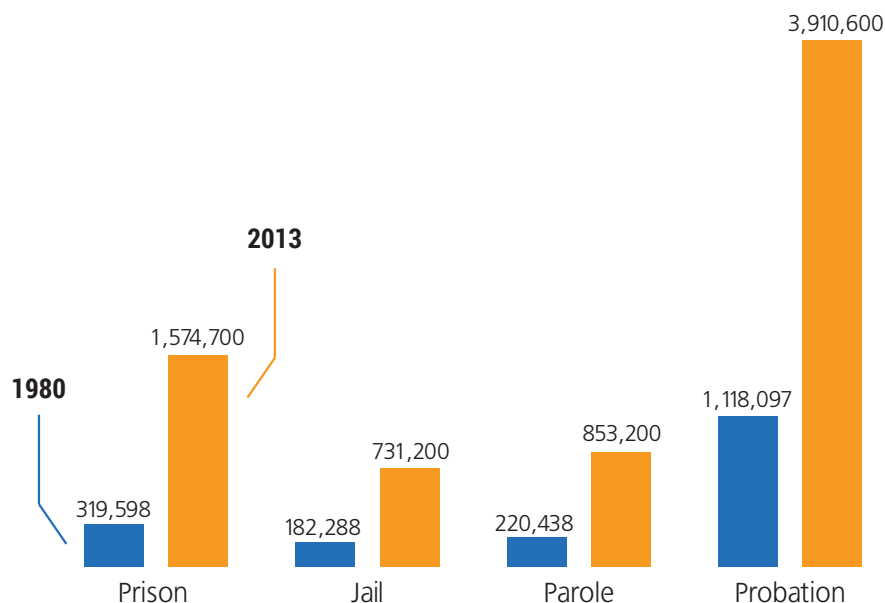
Source: National Association of State Budget Officers (1985-2013). *State Expenditure Report Series*. Washington, D.C.: National Association of State Budget Officers.

### State & Federal Prison Population by Offense, 2014



Source: Carson, E.A. (2015). *Prisoners in 2014*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

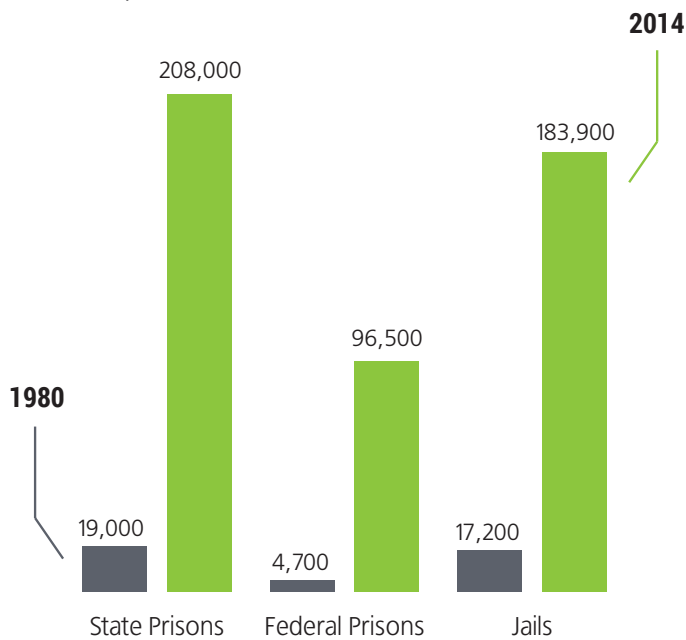
### Population Under Control of the U.S. Corrections System, 1980 and 2013



Sources: Glaze, L. E. and Herberman, E.J. (2014). *Correctional Populations in the United States, 2013*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics; *Corrections: Key Facts at a Glance*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

## Number of People in Prisons and Jails for Drug Offenses, 1980 and 2014

1980: 40,900 individuals  
2014: 488,400 individuals



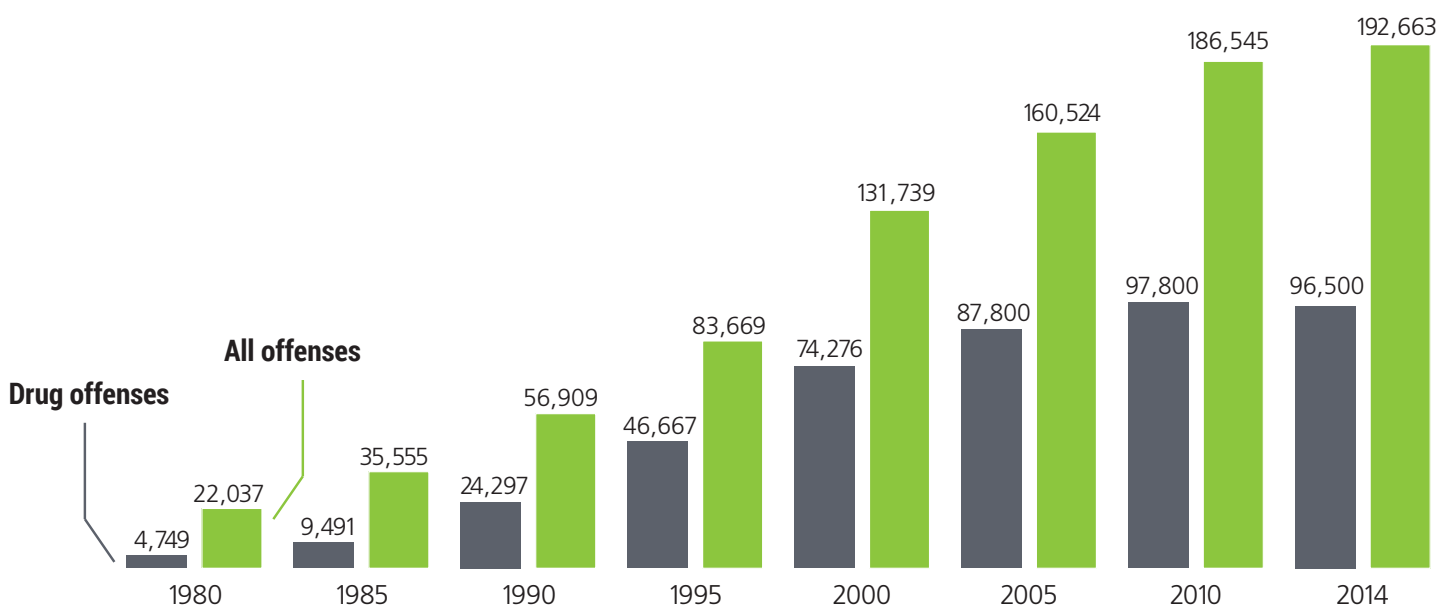
Sources: Carson, E.A. (2015). *Prisoners in 2014*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics; Mauer, M. and King, R. (2007). *A 25-Year Quagmire: The War on Drugs and its Impact on American Society*. Washington, D.C.: The Sentencing Project; Glaze, L. E. and Herberman, E.J. (2014). *Correctional Populations in the United States, 2013*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

## DRUG POLICY

Sentencing policies of the War on Drugs era resulted in dramatic growth in incarceration for drug offenses. Since its official beginning in the 1980s, the number of Americans incarcerated for drug offenses has skyrocketed from 41,000 in 1980 to nearly a half million in 2014. Furthermore, harsh sentencing laws such as mandatory minimums keep many people convicted of drug offenses in prison for longer periods of time: in 1986, people released after serving time for a federal drug offense had spent an average of 22 months in prison. By 2004, people convicted on federal drug offenses were expected to serve almost three times that length: 62 months in prison.

At the federal level, people incarcerated on a drug conviction make up half the prison population. At the state level, the number of people in prison for drug offenses has increased ten-fold since 1980. Most of these people are not high-level actors in the drug trade, and most have no prior criminal record for a violent offense.

## Number of People in Federal Prisons for Drug Offenses, 1980-2014

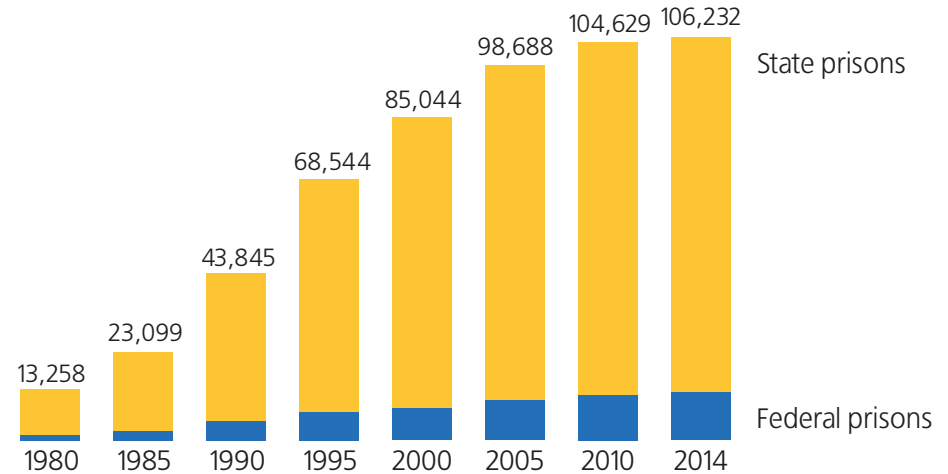


Sources: *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics Online*; Carson, E.A. (2015). *Prisoners in 2014*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

## WOMEN

The number of women in prison has been increasing at a rate 50 percent higher than men since 1980. Women in prison often have significant histories of physical and sexual abuse, high rates of HIV, and substance abuse problems. Women's imprisonment in female-led households leads to children who suffer from their mother's absence and breaks in family ties.

### Number of Women in State and Federal Prisons, 1980-2014



Sources: Bureau of Justice Statistics *Prisoners Series*; Bureau of Justice Statistics *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear Series*; Hester, T. (1987). *Correctional Populations in the United States, 1985*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

### Highest and Lowest State Incarceration Rates (per 100,000), 2014

Women (National = 65)		Overall (National = 471)		Men (National = 890)	
State	Rate	State	Rate	State	Rate
<b>HIGHEST</b>		<b>HIGHEST</b>		<b>HIGHEST</b>	
Oklahoma	142	Louisiana	816	Louisiana	1,577
Idaho	125	Oklahoma	700	Oklahoma	1,269
Kentucky	108	Alabama	633	Alabama	1,203
Arizona	104	Arkansas	599	Mississippi	1,146
Missouri	100	Mississippi	597	Arkansas	1,125
<b>LOWEST</b>		<b>LOWEST</b>		<b>LOWEST</b>	
Rhode Island <sup>a</sup>	12	Maine	153	Maine	290
Massachusetts	15	Rhode Island <sup>a</sup>	178	Rhode Island <sup>a</sup>	354
Maine	21	Massachusetts	188	Minnesota	364
New Jersey	22	Minnesota	194	North Dakota	369
New York	23	North Dakota	214	Massachusetts	373

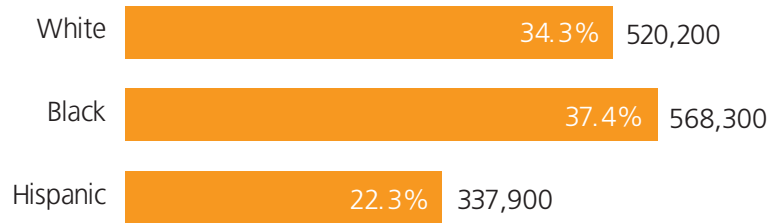
a. Prisons and jails form one integrated system. Data include total jail and prison populations.

Source: Carson, E.A. (2015). *Prisoners in 2014*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

## RACIAL DISPARITIES

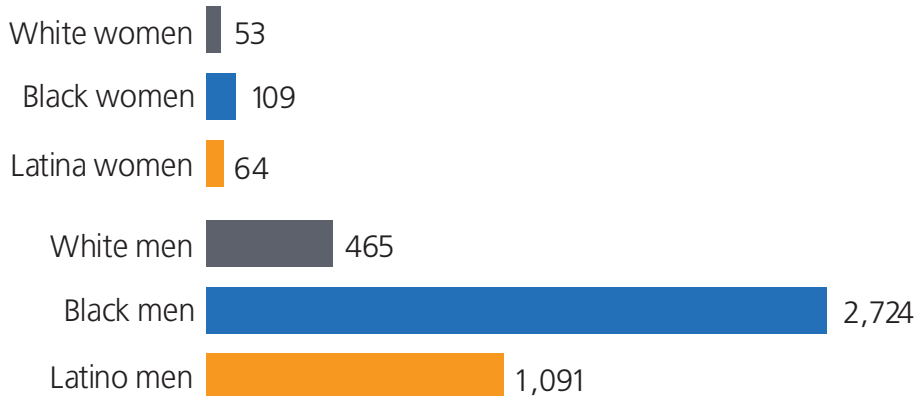
More than 60% of the people in prison today are people of color. Black men are nearly six times as likely to be incarcerated as white men and Hispanic men are 2.3 times as likely. For black men in their thirties, 1 in every 10 is in prison or jail on any given day.

### People in State and Federal Prisons, by Race and Ethnicity, 2013/2014



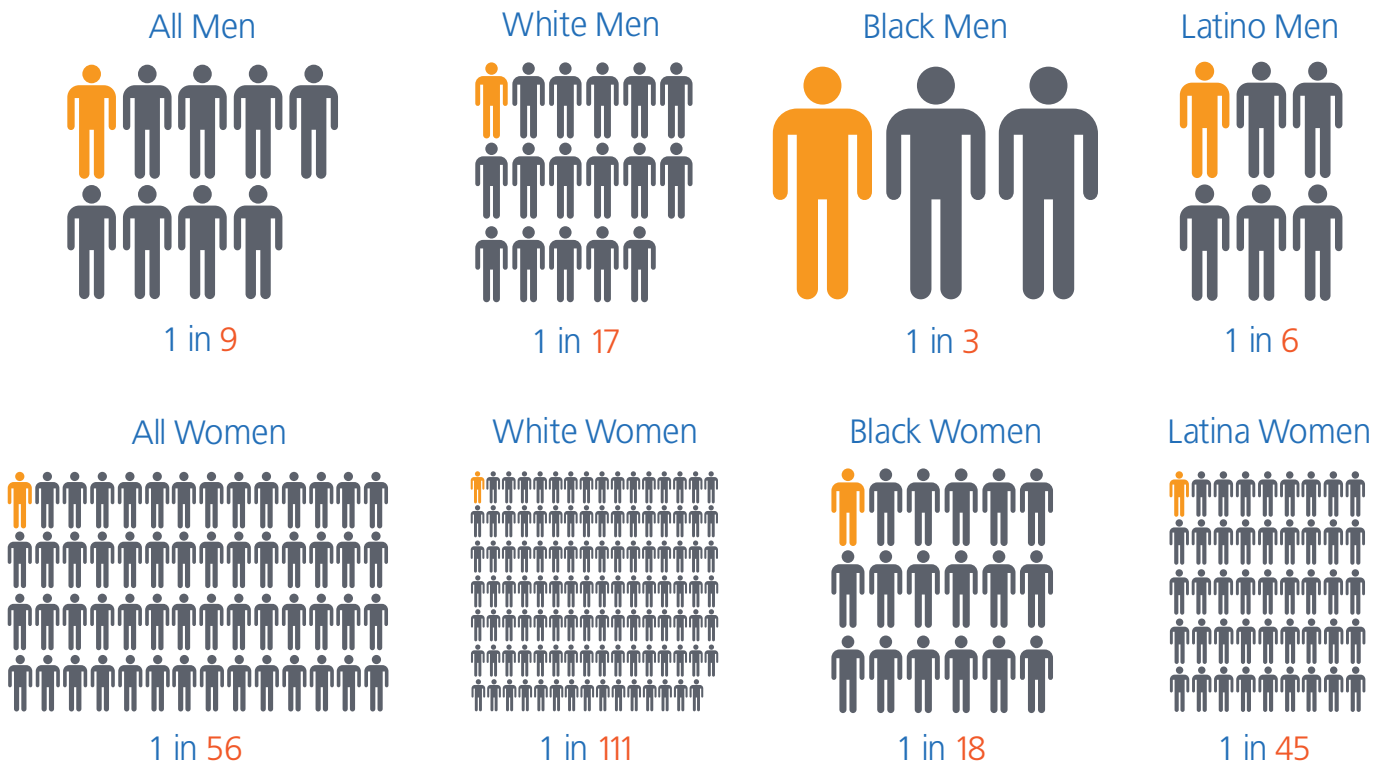
Source: Carson, E.A. (2015). *Prisoners in 2014*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

### Rate of Incarceration per 100,000, by Gender, Race, and Ethnicity, 2014



Source: Carson, E.A. (2015). *Prisoners in 2014*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

### Lifetime Likelihood of Imprisonment of U.S. Residents Born in 2001

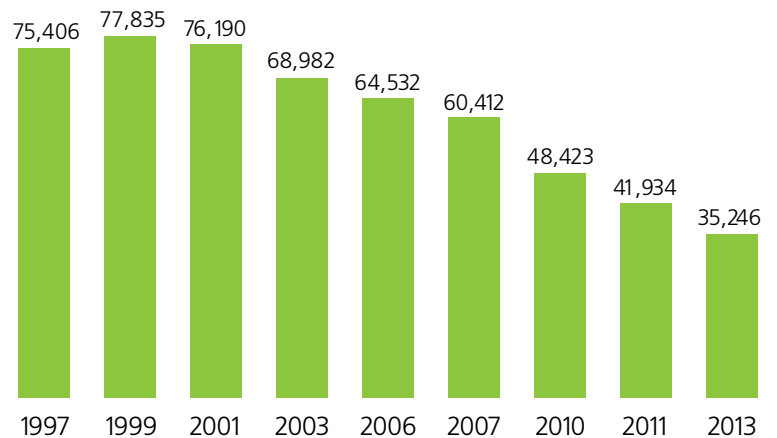


Source: Bonczar, T. (2003). *Prevalence of Imprisonment in the U.S. Population, 1974-2001*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

## YOUTH

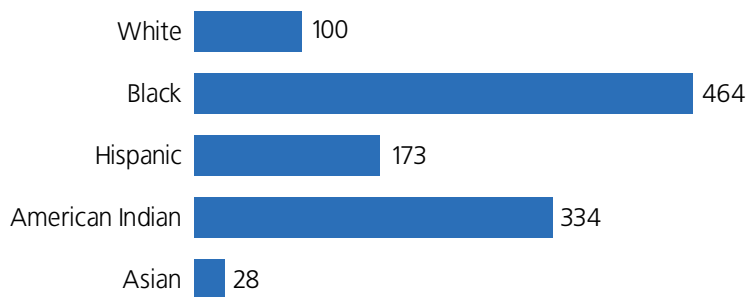
Over the past 15 years, commitment to secure juvenile facilities for youth who have been adjudicated delinquent has been steadily declining from a high point of 77,800 in 1999 to 35,200 in 2013. Still, troubling problems remain. Youth of color enter the system much more frequently than white youth and are more likely to be sentenced to harsher terms of punishment. In addition, thousands of young people are transferred to the adult system each year, and many are sent to adult prisons and jails to serve their sentences.

### Number of Youth Committed to Juvenile Facilities, 1997-2013



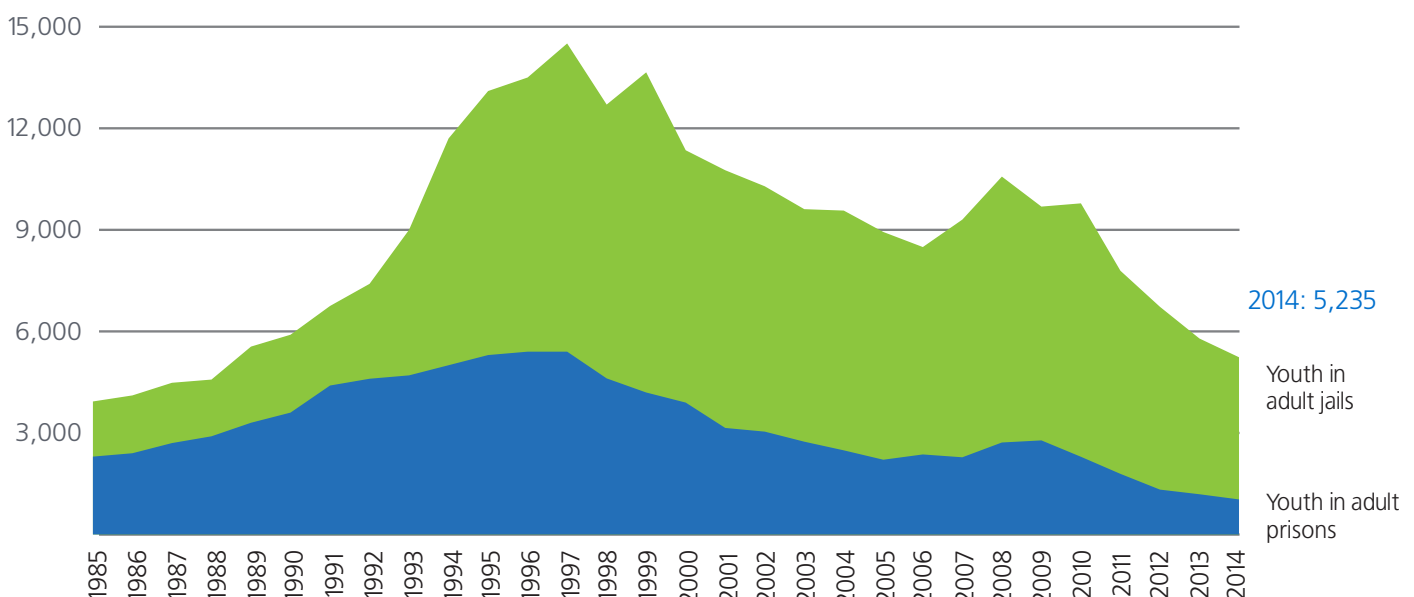
Source: Sickmund, M., Sladky, T.J., Kang, W., & Puzanchera, C. (2015). *Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement*. Available: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp>.

### Rate of Youth in Residential Placement per 100,000, by Race and Ethnicity, 2013



Source: Sickmund, M., Sladky, T.J., Kang, W., & Puzanchera, C. (2015). *Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement*. Available: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp>.

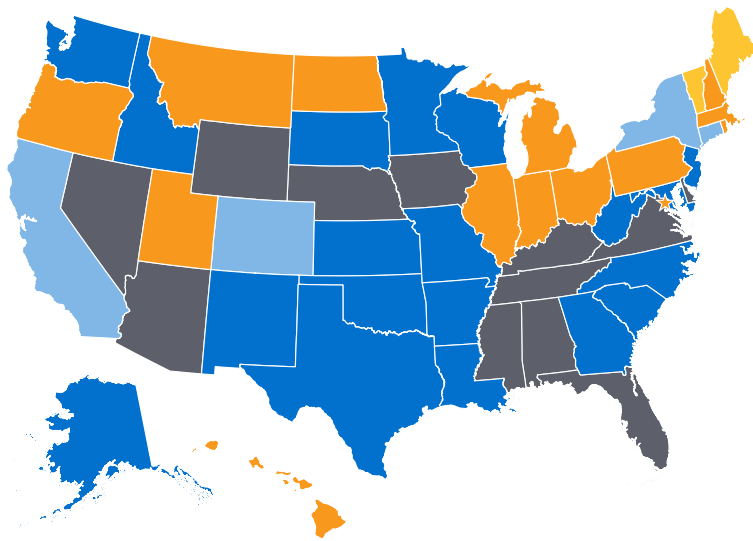
### Number of Youth Held in Jails and State Prisons, 1985-2014



Sources: Austin, J., Johnson, K. D., & Gregoriou, M. (2000). *Juveniles in Adult Prisons and Jails: A National Assessment*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Assistance; Bureau of Justice Statistics *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear Series*; Bureau of Justice Statistics *Prisoner Series*; Strom, K. J. (2000). *Profile of State Prisoners under Age 18, 1985-1997*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

## Felony Disenfranchisement Restrictions by State, 2015

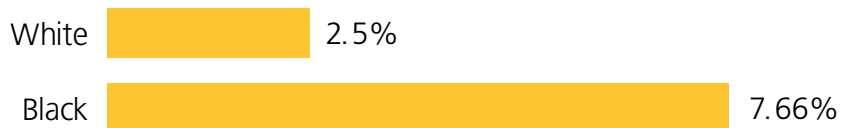
## FELONY DISENFRANCHISEMENT



In 48 states, a felony conviction can result in the loss of an individual's voting rights. The period of disenfranchisement varies by state, with some states restoring the vote upon completion of a prison term, and others effectively disenfranchising for life. As a result of the dramatic expansion of the criminal justice system in the last 40 years, felony disenfranchisement has affected the political voice of many communities. Today, 5.85 million Americans are unable to vote due to state felony disenfranchisement policies.

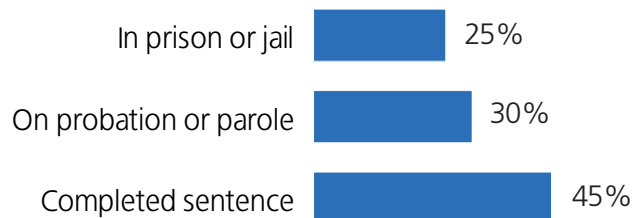
Source: Chung, J. (2014). *Felony Disenfranchisement: A Primer*. Washington, D.C.: The Sentencing Project.

### Rate of Disenfranchisement, by Race, 2010



Source: Uggen, C., Shannon, S., & Manza, J. (2012). *State-Level Estimates of Felon Disenfranchisement in the United States, 2010*. Washington, D.C.: The Sentencing Project.

### Disenfranchised Population by Incarceration Status, 2010

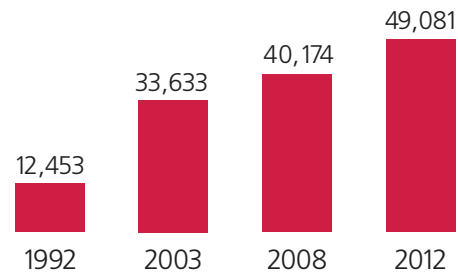


Source: Uggen, C., Shannon, S., & Manza, J. (2012). *State-Level Estimates of Felon Disenfranchisement in the United States, 2010*. Washington, D.C.: The Sentencing Project.

## LIFE SENTENCES

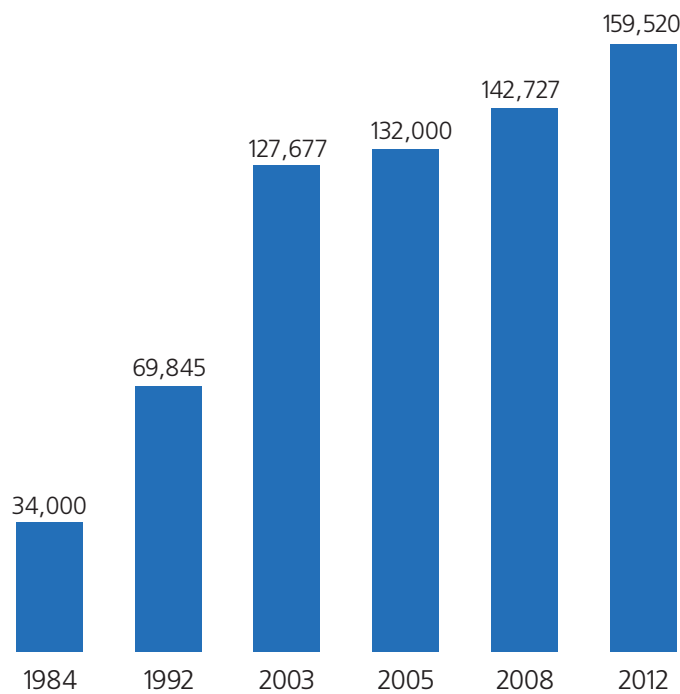
The number of people serving life sentences continues to grow even while serious, violent crime has been declining for the past 20 years and little public safety benefit has been demonstrated to correlate with increasingly lengthy sentences. The lifer population has more than quadrupled since 1984. One in nine people in prison is now serving a life sentence and nearly a third of lifers have been sentenced to life without parole.

### Number of People Serving Life Without Parole Sentences, 1992-2012



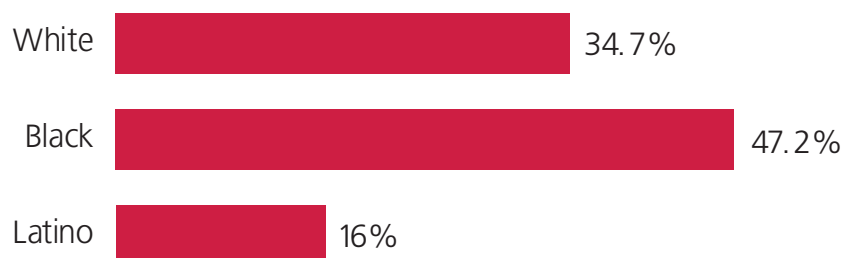
Source: Nellis, A. (2013). *Life Goes On: The Historic Rise in Life Sentences in America*. Washington, D.C.: The Sentencing Project.

### Number of People Serving Life Sentences, 1984-2012



Source: Nellis, A. (2013). *Life Goes On: The Historic Rise in Life Sentences in America*. Washington, D.C.: The Sentencing Project.

### People Serving Life Sentences, by Race and Ethnicity, 2012



Source: Nellis, A. (2013). *Life Goes On: The Historic Rise in Life Sentences in America*. Washington, D.C.: The Sentencing Project.

Updated November 2015