

Data  
Table

Minorities under control of the U.S. corrections  
system

Minority Group	1990	2000	2007	2008	2009	% Chg
1990- 2009						
TOTAL persons in system	4,346,941	6,423,708	7,326,734	7,319,419	7,234,209	63.00%
Minorities in system	2,351,516	3,309,566	3,622,726	3,607,341	3,611,911	51.10%
Minority % of TOTAL	54.10%	51.50%	49.40%	49.30%	49.90%	--
Blacks in system	1,614,195	2,347,066	2,446,834	2,453,170	2,472,920	49.50%
Blacks % of TOTAL	37.10%	36.50%	33.40%	33.50%	34.20%	--
Hispanic/Latinos in system	737,321	962,500	1,175,892	1,154,171	1,138,991	54.80%
Hispanics/Latinos % of TOTAL	17.00%	15.00%	16.00%	15.80%	15.70%	--
Percentage of minorities in prison	60.00%	63.40%	60.30%	60.40%	60.50%	--

**(Incarceration Rates by Race and Gender)** "Changes in the incarceration rates for men and women by race were associated with changes to the overall composition of the custody population at midyear 2007. Black men had an incarceration rate of 4,618 per 100,000 U.S. residents at midyear 2007, down from 4,777 at midyear 2000. For white men, the midyear 2007 incarceration rate was 773 per 100,000 U.S. residents, up from 683 at midyear 2000. The ratio of the incarceration rates of black men to white men declined from 7 to 6 during this period.

"Changes in the incarceration rates for women were more distinct. At midyear 2000, black women were incarcerated at a rate 6 times that of white women (or 380 per 100,000 U.S. residents versus 63 per 100,000 U.S. residents). By June 30, 2007, the incarceration rate for black women declined to 3.7 times that of white women (or 348 versus 95). An 8.4% decline in the incarceration rate for black women and a 51% increase in the rate for white women accounted for the overall decrease in the incarceration rate of black women relative to white women at midyear 2007."

**Source:** Sabol, William J., PhD, and Couture, Heather, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prison Inmates at Midyear 2007* (Washington, DC: US Department of Justice, June 2008), NCJ221944, p. 8.  
<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/pim07.pdf>

***(Male Incarceration Rate In The US 2007, By Race/Ethnicity)*** "The custody incarceration rate for black males was 4,618 per 100,000. Hispanic males were incarcerated at a rate of 1,747 per 100,000. Compared to the estimated numbers of black, white, and Hispanic males in the U.S. resident population, black males (6 times) and Hispanic males (a little more than 2 times) were more likely to be held in custody than white males. At midyear 2007 the estimated incarceration rate of white males was 773 per 100,000.

"Across all age categories, black males were incarcerated at higher rates than white or Hispanic males. Black males ages 30 to 34 had the highest custody incarceration rate of any race, age, or gender group at midyear 2007."

- See more at:

[http://www.drugwarfacts.org/cms/Race\\_and\\_Prison#sthash.TINsEpGx.dpuf](http://www.drugwarfacts.org/cms/Race_and_Prison#sthash.TINsEpGx.dpuf)

**(Incarceration of People of Color)** "Mass arrests and incarceration of people of color – largely due to drug law violations<sup>46</sup> – have hobbled families and communities by stigmatizing and removing substantial numbers of men and women. In the late 1990s, nearly one in three African-American men aged 20-29 were under criminal justice supervision, <sup>47</sup> while more than two out of five had been incarcerated – substantially more than had been incarcerated a decade earlier and orders of magnitudes higher than that for the general population.<sup>48</sup> Today, 1 in 15 African-American children and 1 in 42 Latino children have a parent in prison, compared to 1 in 111 white children.<sup>49</sup> In some areas, a large majority of African-American men – 55 percent in Chicago, for example<sup>50</sup> – are labeled felons for life, and, as a result, may be prevented from voting and accessing public housing, student loans and other public assistance."

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**(Racial Disparities in Enforcement and Incarceration)** "The racial disparities in the rates of drug arrests culminate in dramatic racial disproportions among incarcerated drug offenders. At least two-thirds of drug arrests result in a criminal conviction.<sup>18</sup> Many convicted drug offenders are sentenced to incarceration: an estimated 67 percent of convicted felony drug defendants are sentenced to jail or prison.<sup>19</sup> The likelihood of incarceration increases if the defendant has a prior conviction.<sup>20</sup> Since blacks are more likely to be arrested than whites on drug charges, they are more likely to acquire the convictions that ultimately lead to higher rates of incarceration. Although the data in this backgrounder indicate that blacks represent about one-third of drug arrests, they constitute 46 percent of persons convicted of drug felonies in state courts.<sup>21</sup> Among black defendants convicted of drug offenses, 71 percent received sentences to incarceration in contrast to 63 percent of convicted white drug offenders.<sup>22</sup> Human Rights Watch's analysis of prison admission data for 2003 revealed that relative to population, blacks are 10.1 times more likely than whites to be sent to prison for drug offenses.<sup>23</sup>"

**Source:** *Fellner, Jamie, "Decades of Disparity: Drug Arrests and Race in the United States," Human Rights Watch (New York, NY: March 2009), p. 16.*

[http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/us0309web\\_1.pdf](http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/us0309web_1.pdf)

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