

Incarceration Trends in INDIANA

Incarceration in Local Jails and State Prisons

REGIONAL RANK

3 of 7 in total incarceration

Total people...

...locked up in Indiana

261%

INCREASE

12,959 people

46,719 people

1983

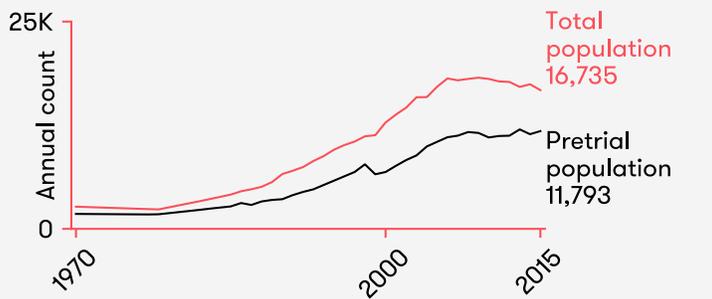
2015

Since 1970, the rate of incarceration in America has expanded more than fourfold, and the United States leads the world in locking people up. Many places in America have begun to reduce their use of prisons and jails, but progress has been uneven. Although the number of people sent to state prisons and county jails from urban areas has decreased, that number has continued to rise in many rural places. Racial disparities in incarceration remain strikingly wide. Women constitute a rising number of those behind bars.

This fact sheet provides at-a-glance information about how many people are locked up in both state prisons and county jails and shows where the state stands on a variety of metrics, so that policymakers and the public can better determine where to target reforms.

STATE TOTALS

JAILS



% change in jail population

SINCE 1970

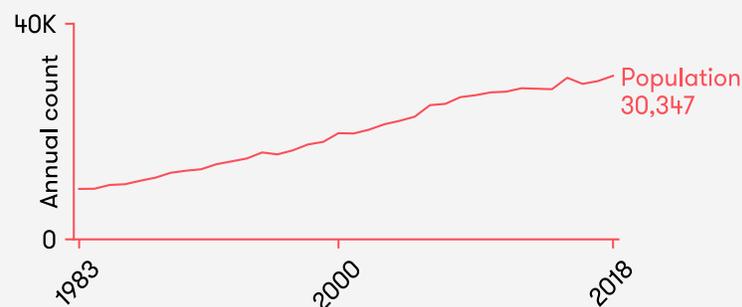
SINCE 2000

526% ↑

30% ↑

Since 1970, the total jail population has increased 526%. In 2015, pretrial detainees constituted 70% of the total jail population in Indiana.

PRISONS



% change in prison population

SINCE 1983

SINCE 2000

224% ↑

54% ↑

Since 1983, the prison custody population has increased 224%. In 2018, there were 30,347 people in the Indiana prison system.

RACE

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JAILS 2015

10% of state pop. | 24% of jail pop.



PRISONS 2017

10% of state pop. | 34% of prison pop.



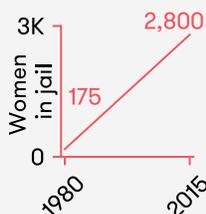
In Indiana, Black people constituted 10% of state residents, but 24% of people in jail and 34% of people in prison.

GENDER

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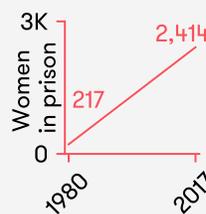
JAILS

1,492% ↑



PRISONS

1,012% ↑



Since 1980, the number of women in jail has increased 1,492%, and the number of women in prison has increased 1,012%.

GEOGRAPHY

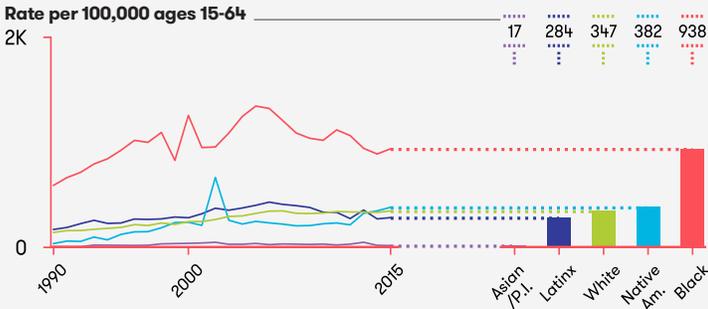
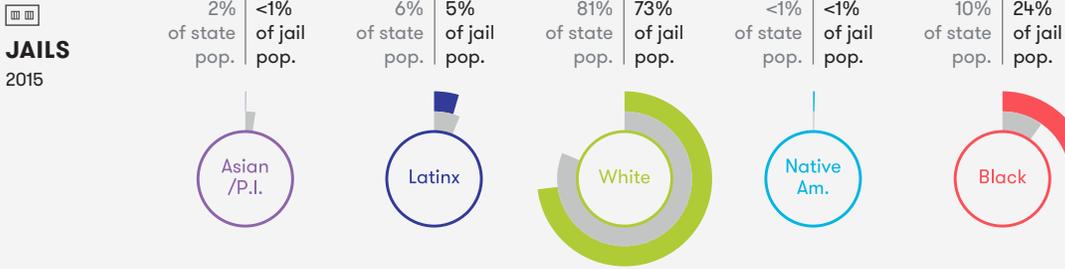
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Top admission rates, 2015 (rate per 100K)

COUNTY	JAILS	COUNTY	PRISONS
Marshall	13,311	Dearborn	1,232
Pulaski	11,203	Scott	1,224
Clay	10,557	Fayette	1,039
Jennings	10,350	Wabash	931
Fulton	9,533	Shelby	843

Incarceration is not only an urban phenomenon. In fact, on a per capita basis, the most rural places in the state often lock up the most people in jail and send the most people to prison.

RACE AND ETHNICITY



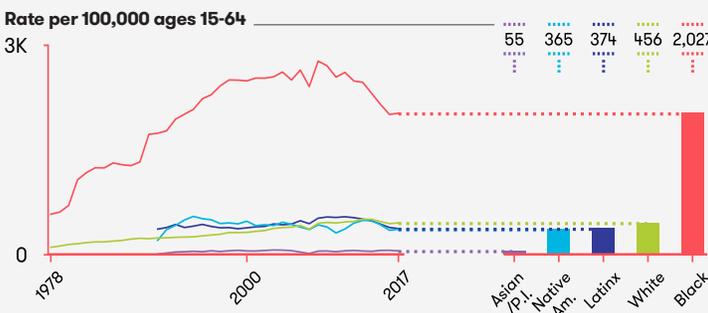
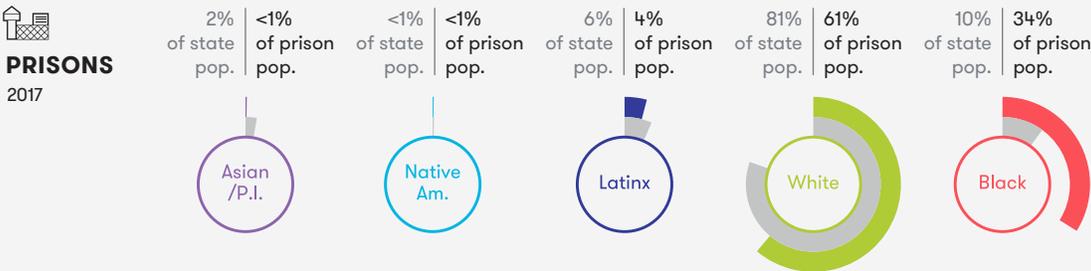
Since 1990, the Black incarceration rate has increased 59 percent. In 2015, Black people were incarcerated at 2.7 times the rate of white people, and Native American people were incarcerated at 1.1 times the rate of white people.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

The overrepresentation of Black Americans in the justice system is well documented. Black men constitute about 13 percent of the male population, but about 35 percent of those incarcerated. One in five Black people born in 2001 is likely to be incarcerated in their lifetime, compared to one in 10 Latinx people and one in 29 white people.

Discriminatory criminal justice policies and practices at all stages of the justice process have unjustifiably disadvantaged Black people, including through disparity in the enforcement of seemingly race-neutral laws. Studies have found that Black people are more likely to be stopped by the police, detained pretrial, charged with more serious crimes, and sentenced more harshly than white people—even when controlling for things like offense severity.

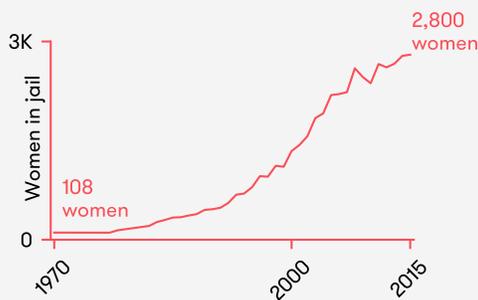
Nationally, Latinx people are also overrepresented in prisons and jails, yet common data misclassification leads to distorted, lower estimates of Latinx incarceration rates and distorted, higher estimates of white incarceration rates. Smaller and inconsistent data reporting make it difficult to measure the effects of racism for incarcerated people of other racial groups.



Since 1978, the Black incarceration rate has increased 250 percent. In 2017, Black people were incarcerated at 4.4 times the rate of white people.

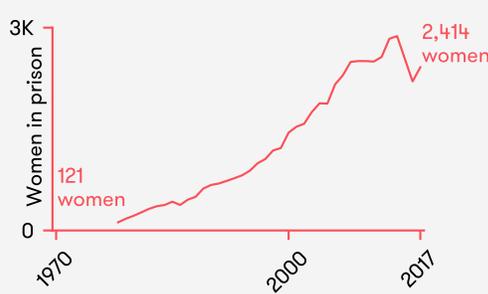
GENDER

JAILS



The number of women in Indiana's jails has increased more than 25-fold, from 108 in 1970 to 2,800 in 2015.

PRISONS



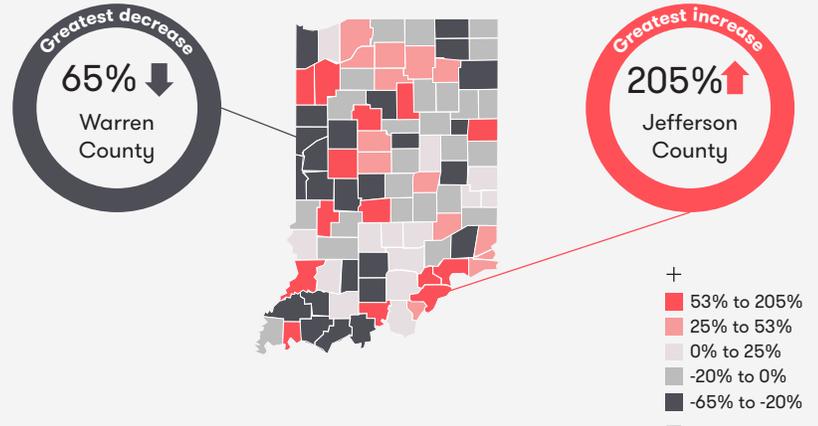
The number of women in Indiana's prisons has increased more than 19-fold, from 121 in 1970 to 2,414 in 2017.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

Although men's jail admissions have declined by 26 percent since 2008, women's admissions have increased both as a total number and as a proportion of all jail admissions. Women now make up almost one out of every four jail admissions, up from fewer than one in 10 in 1983. Since 1970, the number of women in U.S. jails has increased 14-fold—from fewer than 8,000 to nearly 110,000 in 2013—and women in jail now account for approximately half of all women behind bars in the country.

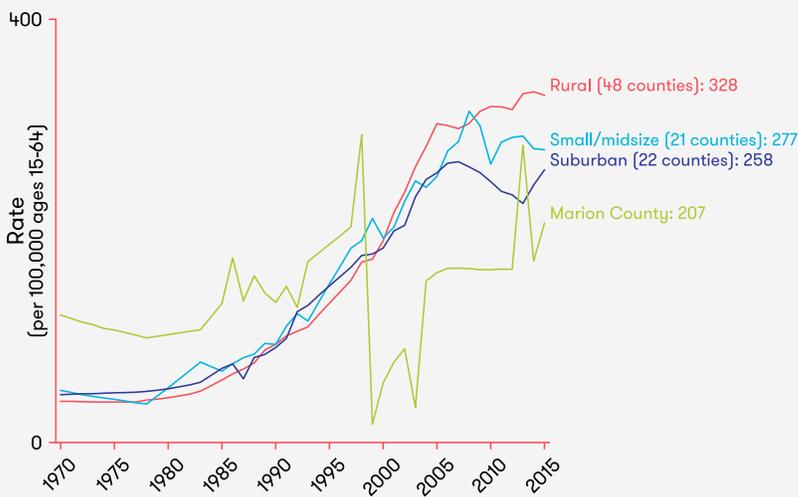
Statewide trends alone do not tell the whole story of incarceration: there is wide variation in the use of incarceration across the state. Today, the highest rates of prison admissions are in rural counties, and pretrial detention continues to increase in smaller counties even as it is on the decline in larger counties. It is critical to examine incarceration trends in every corner of the state, because although the largest counties may have the most people in jails—the highest rates of incarceration are in smaller cities and rural counties.

% change in jail population from 2005 to 2015



Comparing the jail populations for 2005 and 2015, counties shaded dark gray had fewer people in jail and those shaded dark red had more people in jail.

JAILS Pretrial population



Since 2000, the state's use of pretrial detention has taken different trajectories in different types of counties. The pretrial incarceration rate has increased 72% in the state's 48 rural counties, 43% in the state's 21 small/medium counties, 40% in the state's 22 suburban counties, and 268% in the state's one urban county.

Vera's analysis of the urban-rural continuum changes the six categories defined by the National Center for Health Statistics Urban-Rural Classification Scheme for Counties to four. A county is labeled "urban" if it is one of the core counties of a metropolitan area with 1 million or more people and is labeled "suburban" if it is within the surrounding metropolitan area. Vera turns the remaining four categories into two by combining small and medium metropolitan areas ("small and midsize metro") and micropolitan and noncore areas ("rural").

JAIL ADMISSIONS (TOP 10 OF 92 COUNTIES)

COUNTY	Rate (per 100K)	COUNTY	Annual count
Marshall	13,311	Marion	23,103
Pulaski	11,203	Allen	11,747
Clay	10,557	St. Joseph	8,689
Jennings	10,350	Vanderburgh	8,237
Fulton	9,533	Lake	8,216
Jay	9,253	Tippecanoe	6,851
Clark	8,973	Clark	6,808
Scott	8,830	Elkhart	6,779
Fayette	8,730	Hamilton	6,686
Grant	8,548	Porter	6,466

PRISON ADMISSIONS (TOP 10 OF 92 COUNTIES)

COUNTY	Rate (per 100K)	COUNTY	Annual count
Dearborn	1,232	Marion	2,831
Scott	1,224	Allen	969
Fayette	1,039	Elkhart	618
Wabash	931	Madison	532
Shelby	843	Vanderburgh	526
Ripley	809	Hamilton	497
Huntington	790	Lake	472
Wayne	767	St. Joseph	420
Jennings	752	Dearborn	399
Martin	752	Tippecanoe	373

JAILS



Jail admissions

Rank	State	Rate (2015)	Rate change ('05-'15)
1	Kentucky	9,631	-9%
2	Missouri	5,315	-11%
3	Indiana	5,247	-24%
4	Ohio	5,029	-15%
5	Michigan	4,680	-21%
6	West Virginia	4,071	11%
7	Illinois	3,808	-17%



Jail pretrial population

Rank	State	Rate (2015)	Rate change ('05-'15)
1	Kentucky	312	3%
2	Indiana	272	8%
3	Missouri	226	16%
4	West Virginia	192	39%
5	Illinois	157	-19%
6	Ohio	146	-4%
7	Michigan	126	-4%

Jail sentenced population

Rank	State	Rate (2015)	Rate change ('05-'15)
1	Kentucky	410	0.4%
2	West Virginia	173	-0.1%
3	Michigan	119	-0.2%
4	Indiana	114	-0.3%
5	Ohio	91	-0.2%
6	Illinois	64	0.5%
7	Missouri	60	-0.2%

PRISONS



Prison admissions

Rank	State	Rate (2016)	Rate change ('06-'16)
1	Kentucky	694	39%
2	Missouri	465	-7%
3	West Virginia	302	30%
4	Ohio	300	-28%
5	Illinois	299	-36%
6	Indiana	297	-29%
7	Michigan	192	-12%

Prison population

Rank	State	Rate (2018)	Rate change ('08-'18)
1	Kentucky	831	10%
2	Missouri	768	0.2%
3	Ohio	666	-1%
4	Indiana	620	-6%
5	Michigan	594	-18%
6	West Virginia	584	18%
7	Illinois	472	-10%

Data

This fact sheet uses data from four U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) data series and is supplemented with data obtained directly from state governments for the more recent years for which BJS data is not yet available, when available. The Annual Survey of Jails, Census of Jails, and National Corrections Reporting Program provides data through 2016; the National Prisoner Statistics program provides data through 2017, and 2018 data is sourced from state agencies. Rates are per 100,000 residents aged 15 to 64. See *Data and Methods for Vera's State Fact Sheets*: www.vera.org/incarceration-trends-fact-sheets-data-and-methods.pdf for complete details. County-level data is available at trends.vera.org.

Acknowledgments

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Credits

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For more information

For more information, visit www.vera.org. For more information about this fact sheet, contact Jacob Kang-Brown, senior research associate, at jkangbrown@vera.org.