



## **FACTS ABOUT PRISONS AND PRISONERS**

The number of people incarcerated in state and federal prisons increased by 15% from 1,316,333 to 1,518,104 between 2000 and 2010.

In addition to the more than 1.5 million people in state and federal prisons, there were 748,728 people in local jails in 2010, yielding a total incarcerated population of nearly 2.3 million.

Between 2000 and 2009, state prison populations grew at an average rate of 1.3% per year, the federal population at 4.2%, and jail populations by 2.3%.

Between 2009 and 2010, the total number of people in American prisons and jails decreased by 1.1%.

1 in every 137 Americans was in prison or jail in 2010.

4,887,900 people were on probation or parole in 2010, for a total of 7,076,200 people in America under some form of criminal justice supervision.

The 2010 U.S. incarceration rate of 731 people per 100,000 population is the highest in the world.

### **Characteristics of People in Prison**

93% of people in prison were male, 7% were female.

112,797 women were in state or federal prison in 2010.

38% of people in state or federal prisons were Black, 32% were white, and 22% were Hispanic in 2010.

1 in every 10 Black males ages 30 to 34 was in jail or prison in 2010, as were 1 in 26 Hispanic males and 1 in 61 white males in the same age group.

Black males have a 32% chance of serving time in prison at some point in their lives; Hispanic males have a 17% chance; white males have a 6% chance.

In 2010, the rate of jail or prison incarceration for Black women was 2.9 times higher than the rate for white women; the rate for Hispanic women was 1.5 times higher.

Nearly half (47%) of people incarcerated in state prisons in 2009 were convicted of non-violent drug, property, or public order crimes.

People convicted of drug offenses were 18% of state inmates in 2009 and 51% of federal prison inmates in 2010; 1 in 4 people in jail in 2002 was incarcerated for a drug offense.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics

1/12