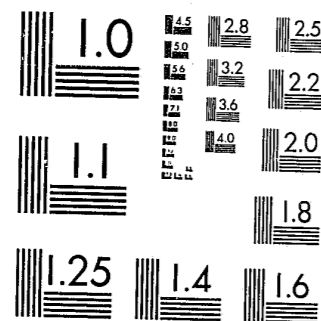


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THE BLACK INCARCERATION RATE
IN THE UNITED STATES:
A NATIONWIDE PROBLEM

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INTRODUCTION

Among the clearest trends in corrections in the United States during the decade of the 1970s was the massive increase in the number of persons imprisoned in state correctional facilities. From December 31, 1971 to December 31, 1978, the population of the state prisons rose from 177,113 to a record high of 276,799, an increase of 64 percent.

This upsurge was close to nationwide. During 1977, for example, four-fifths of the jurisdictions in the United States registered increases in the size of their sentenced prisoner populations. Significant regional differences were also apparent, the most important being that the South accounted for 47 percent of all prisoners, but only about one-third of the general U.S. population.

Table 1. Sentenced prisoners in state correctional facilities, 1971-1978

Dec. 31, 1971	117,113
Dec. 31, 1972	174,470
Dec. 31, 1973	181,534
Dec. 31, 1974	195,844
Dec. 31, 1975	216,462
Dec. 31, 1976	236,492
Dec. 31, 1977	249,491
Dec. 31, 1978	276,799

NOTE: A prisoner is an inmate who has been sentenced as an adult or youthful offender to a maximum term of at least 1 year and 1 day. Due to a change in the format of the publication series Prisoners in State and Federal Institutions, the 1978 total refers to "prisoners under jurisdiction of state correctional authorities" and is not limited to those in custody on the given date. For other variations, consult original sources.

SOURCE: The primary source is the series of the National Prisoner Statistics Bulletins, Prisoners in State and Federal Institutions, published annually. Revised totals for 1972 and 1973 appear in M. Hindelang et al, Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics - 1976, p. 686.

This monograph draws attention to the fact that black Americans, and particularly black male Americans, are heavily overrepresented among the U.S. prison population. Moreover, as we shall see, the disproportionality in the extent to which blacks are imprisoned compared to whites has been increasing at an alarming rate.

Although blacks comprised only 22.6 million (about 11.1 percent) of the total U.S. population of about 203 million in 1970, they accounted for about 83,088 (or about 46.4 percent) of the 178,914 persons in state correctional facilities on Dec. 31, 1973. This overrepresentation of blacks in the 1973 prison data was recently the subject of a much-discussed article¹ by Frank M. Dunbaugh. For this monograph, however, the 1973 data has been slightly refined.

Table 2. U.S. population by race and region, 1970

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Total (all races)</u>
Northeast	44,310,504	4,344,153	49,040,703
NorthCentral	51,641,183	4,572,550	56,571,663
South	50,420,108	11,969,961	62,795,367
West	31,377,180	1,694,625	34,804,193
U.S.	177,748,975	22,580,289	203,211,926

SOURCE: Table A, Appendix

Table 3. U.S. state prison population by race and region, 1973

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Race Unknown</u>	<u>Total all races</u>
Northeast	10,246	14,785	2,788	29,656
NorthCentral	18,110	16,701	1,287	36,712
South	33,562	43,933	2,018	82,565
West	20,400	7,669	205	29,981
U.S.	82,318	83,088	6,298	178,914

SOURCE: Table B, Appendix

The results of our analysis of the 1973 data are as follows:

Table 4. Percent distribution of the U.S. population by race and region, 1970

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Total all races</u>
Northeast	21.8	2.1	24.1
NorthCentral	25.4	2.2	27.8
South	24.8	5.9	30.9
West	15.4	0.8	17.1
U.S.	87.5	11.1	100.0 %

SOURCE: Table C, Appendix

Table 5. Percent distribution of the U.S. state prison population by race and region, 1973

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Race Unknown</u>	<u>Total all races</u>
Northeast	5.7	8.3	1.6	16.6
NorthCentral	10.1	9.3	0.7	20.5
South	18.8	24.6	1.1	46.1
West	11.4	4.3	0.1	16.8
U.S.	46.0	46.4	3.5	100.0%

SOURCE: Table D, Appendix

Strong variation is evident in the extent to which imprisonment is used in the various major geographical regions. The usual means of measuring this usage is to compute a so-called rate of incarceration per 100,000 of the general population of the jurisdiction under study. Such calculations, of course, require both prison statistics showing the number of inmates of various categories who were in prison on a specified date (typically December 31 of each year), and general population statistics for the same jurisdiction which also contain demographic characteristics for the same categories under study.

It is important to remember that such an incarceration rate is based on the number of persons in custody on a specific date, and thus, it is not

a true reflection of the number of persons who were committed to prison in that jurisdiction during a specified period. Rather, the so-called incarceration rate also reflects the length of time that prisoners serve in correctional facilities. To that extent at least, so-called incarceration rates also reflect the jurisdiction's sentencing and release policies.

When incarceration rates by region and race were computed for 1973, some striking differences appeared. For the entire United States, 46.3 per 100,000 whites were found to be in prison, whereas the figure for blacks was 368.0, or about eight times greater. The rate for all races ranged from 60.5 in the Northeast to 131.5 in the South, for an average national rate of 88.0 per 100,000. The black incarceration rate ranged from 340.3 in the Northeast to 452.5 in the West.

Table 6. U.S. incarceration rates¹ by race and region, 1973

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>All races</u>
Northeast	23.1	340.3	60.5
North Central	35.1	365.3	64.9
South	66.6	367.0	131.5
West	65.0	452.5	86.1
U.S.	46.3	368.0	88.0

¹Prisoners in state correctional institutions per 100,000 civilian population.

SOURCE: Table A and Table B, Appendix

Ranked by jurisdiction, the overall incarceration rates ranged from 273.9 in the District of Columbia, to 26.2 in North Dakota, with a majority of jurisdictions reporting an overall rate of 75.1 or more for 1973. Nine of the top ten jurisdictions were located in the Southern region.

Table 7. U.S. incarceration rates, ranked by jurisdiction, 1973

1. District of Columbia	273.9	27. New York	68.9
2. North Carolina	194.7	28. Kansas	68.9
3. Georgia	180.1	29. New Mexico	68.8
4. Florida ¹	152.4	30. Indiana	66.3
5. Texas	145.5	31. Nebraska	62.6
6. Nevada	136.9	32. Connecticut ¹	61.4
7. Maryland	133.4	33. Idaho	58.9
8. South Carolina	130.1	34. Alaska	58.3
9. Oklahoma	129.1	35. West Virginia	56.3
10. Alabama	114.7	36. Pennsylvania ¹	52.2
11. Virginia	108.4	37. Maine	50.9
12. Louisiana	99.3	38. Illinois	50.5
13. Arizona	98.0	39. Delaware	50.4
14. California	92.9	40. Iowa	49.9
15. Michigan	91.4	41. Utah	48.3
16. Arkansas	90.7	42. Wisconsin	46.3
17. Kentucky	90.3	43. Montana	44.6
18. Mississippi	89.5	44. Vermont	41.6
19. Wyoming	85.4	45. Rhode Island	41.6
20. Colorado	84.4	46. Hawaii	40.5
21. Washington	84.3	47. South Dakota	38.5
22. Tennessee ¹	83.8	48. Minnesota	37.2
23. Missouri ¹	80.8	49. Massachusetts	36.4
24. New Jersey ¹	79.1	50. New Hampshire	32.9
25. Oregon ¹	76.2	51. North Dakota	26.2
26. Ohio ¹	75.1		

SOURCES: Table A and Table B, Appendix

¹The following states lacked information concerning the race of at least five percent (5%) of their reported inmate total. Consequently, their reported incarceration rates are underestimates of the true values.

<u>State</u>	<u>Percentage of prisoners whose race is unknown</u>
Connecticut	59.2
New Jersey	21.9
Florida	12.9
Missouri	11.3
Ohio	10.5
Tennessee	8.7
Oregon	7.4
Pennsylvania	7.0

The white incarceration rates, ranked by jurisdiction, ranged from 110.8 in North Carolina to 13.5 in Connecticut, with a majority of jurisdictions reporting a rate of 42.4 or more. Six of the top ten jurisdictions were located in the South.

Table 8. White incarceration rates, ranked by jurisdiction, 1973

1. North Carolina	110.8	27. Maryland	42.3
2. Nevada	106.9	28. Vermont	41.6
3. Oklahoma	96.4	29. District of Columbia	41.6
4. Georgia	88.8	30. Indiana	41.2
5. South Carolina	77.7	31. Missouri	41.1
6. Kentucky	70.6	32. Louisiana	40.7
7. California	69.3	33. Nebraska	40.3
8. Wyoming	69.3	34. Iowa	40.0
9. Florida	69.1	35. Alaska	39.7
10. New Mexico	65.3	36. Ohio ¹	35.6
11. Washington	65.3	37. Montana	34.8
12. Texas	65.1	38. New Hampshire	33.0
13. Colorado	61.1	39. Rhode Island	31.9
14. Oregon ¹	60.9	40. Wisconsin	29.2
15. Alabama	59.4	41. Minnesota	28.0
16. Arkansas	58.3	42. South Dakota	27.0
17. Arizona	58.3	43. New Jersey ¹	25.4
18. Virginia	54.3	44. Massachusetts	25.2
19. Mississippi	52.3	45. Illinois	24.7
20. Idaho	51.9	46. Delaware	23.6
21. Tennessee ¹	50.2	47. North Dakota	22.4
22. West Virginia	49.6	48. New York	21.7
23. Maine	49.1	49. Pennsylvania ¹	20.9
24. Kansas	47.1	50. Hawaii	19.5
25. Utah	43.6	51. Connecticut ¹	13.5
26. Michigan	42.4		

SOURCE: Table A and Table B, Appendix

¹See note at Table 7, *supra*.

The black incarceration rates for 1973 were much higher, ranging from 825.3 in Iowa, to 39.9 in New Hampshire. A majority of jurisdictions reported a black incarceration rate of 366.9 or more. Contrary, perhaps,

Table 9. Black incarceration rates, ranked by jurisdiction, 1973

1. Iowa	825.3	27. New Jersey ¹	365.8
2. Oregon ¹	805.8	28. Maine	357.1
3. Utah	710.3	29. Virginia	346.8
4. Washington	701.2	30. Pennsylvania ¹	342.2
5. Arizona	699.2	31. Kentucky	339.3
6. Nebraska	691.5	32. Missouri ¹	339.0
7. Minnesota	653.9	33. New York	337.7
8. Maryland	553.1	34. Alaska	314.2
9. Wisconsin	543.6	35. South Dakota	307.3
10. Colorado	543.6	36. Alabama	270.8
11. Nevada	525.9	37. Montana	250.6
12. Oklahoma	505.5	38. South Carolina	250.3
13. Texas	505.4	39. Louisiana	236.7
14. Florida ¹	485.1	40. Arkansas	235.5
15. Michigan	479.0	41. Illinois	226.4
16. North Carolina	474.1	42. West Virginia	222.7
17. Wyoming	467.3	43. Tennessee ¹	216.8
18. Kansas	458.0	44. Delaware	212.1
19. Georgia	442.2	45. Connecticut ¹	206.4
20. California	421.0	46. Idaho	187.8
21. New Mexico	414.2	47. Mississippi	153.4
22. Indiana	399.2	48. Vermont	131.4
23. Massachusetts	387.9	49. North Dakota	120.3
24. Ohio ¹	381.6	50. Hawaii	79.2
25. Rhode Island	378.9	51. New Hampshire	39.9
26. District of Columbia	366.9		

SOURCE: Table A and Table B, Appendix

¹See note at Table 7, *supra*

to expectation, only one of the top ten leaders was located in the South. In most cases, it appeared that the jurisdictions with the highest rate of incarceration of blacks were ones with relatively few blacks among their general population.

Comparison of the black and white incarceration rates for 1973 reveals that the highest white incarceration rate -- 110.8 in North Carolina -- was lower than the black incarceration rates of forty-nine jurisdictions. This can be taken as another indication of the nationwide scope of the problem.

Regional disparity, 1973

Every region exhibited very significant differences between black and white incarceration rates in 1973. This disparity ranged from a low of 300.4 persons per 100,000 general population in the South, to a high of 387.5 in the West, and the difference for all jurisdictions amounted to 321.7 for the entire United States.

Northeast	317.2
North Central	330.2
South	300.4
West	387.5
U.S.	321.7

SOURCE: Table A and Table B, Appendix

This means that a nationwide problem existed in 1973, insofar as the state correctional facilities of every region showed a very large difference in the extent to which blacks were imprisoned compared to whites. Although the disproportionality varied somewhat by region, variation from the national average did not exceed 7 percent in any region, except the West, where it was about 20 percent higher.

However, when the ratio of black to white incarceration rates per 100,000 is examined, a somewhat different picture of disproportionality emerges. Blacks in the Northeast showed a rate that was 14.7 times higher than the white incarceration rate, while in the South the black imprisonment rate was 5.5 times higher. For the entire United States, the black incarceration rate was 7.9 times higher than the white incarceration rate in 1973.

Northeast	14.7
North Central	10.4
South	5.5
West	7.0
U.S.	7.9

SOURCE: Table A and Table B, Appendix

Disparity by state, 1973

When the jurisdictions were ranked by the difference between black and white incarceration rates in 1973, very large variation was apparent. The differences ranged from a high of 785.3 persons per 100,000 in Iowa, to a low of 6.9 in New Hampshire, with a median of 340.4. Every jurisdiction reported a higher imprisonment rate for blacks than for whites. Two states showed a difference of more than 700, seven states more than 600, nine states more than 500, sixteen states more than 400, and thirty jurisdictions more than 300. In only four states was the difference less than 100 persons per 100,000.

The relative positions of the states changed only slightly when the jurisdictions were ranked by the ratio of black to white incarceration rates. In Minnesota, the black imprisonment rate was 23.4 times higher than the white rate, whereas in New Hampshire it was 1.2 times higher. A majority of the jurisdictions reported a black incarceration rate that was 7.9 times higher or more.

Thus, it is seen that the black incarceration rate was higher than the white incarceration rate in every jurisdiction in the U.S. during 1973. In most states, blacks were about eight times more likely to be in prison than whites.

Table 12. Jurisdictions ranked by the difference between black and white incarceration rates, 1973

1. Iowa	785.3	27. District of Columbia	325.3
2. Oregon	744.9	28. Pennsylvania	321.3
3. Utah	666.7	29. New York	316.0
4. Nebraska	651.2	30. Maine	308.0
5. Arizona	640.9	31. Missouri	297.9
6. Washington	635.9	32. Virginia	292.5
7. Minnesota	625.9	33. South Dakota	280.3
8. Wisconsin	514.4	34. Alaska	274.5
9. Maryland	510.8	35. Kentucky	268.7
10. Colorado	482.5	36. Alabama	216.4
11. Texas	440.3	37. Montana	215.8
12. Michigan	436.6	38. Illinois	201.7
13. Nevada	419.0	39. Louisiana	196.0
14. Florida	416.0	40. Connecticut	192.9
15. Kansas	410.9	41. Delaware	188.5
16. Oklahoma	409.1	42. Arkansas	177.2
17. Wyoming	398.0	43. West Virginia	173.1
18. North Carolina	363.3	44. South Carolina	172.6
19. Massachusetts	362.7	45. Tennessee	166.6
20. Indiana	358.0	46. Idaho	135.9
21. Georgia	353.4	47. Mississippi	101.1
22. California	351.7	48. North Dakota	97.9
23. New Mexico	348.9	49. Vermont	89.8
24. Rhode Island	347.0	50. Hawaii	59.7
25. Ohio	346.0	51. New Hampshire	6.9
26. New Jersey	340.4		

SOURCE: Table 8 and Table 9, supra

Table 13. Jurisdictions ranked by the ratio of black to white incarceration rates, 1973

1. Minnesota	23.4	27. Texas	7.8
2. Iowa	20.6	28. Maine	7.3
3. Wisconsin	18.6	29. Montana	7.2
4. Nebraska	17.2	30. Florida	7.0
5. Pennsylvania	16.4	31. Wyoming	6.7
6. Utah	16.3	32. Virginia	6.4
7. New York	15.6	33. New Mexico	6.3
8. Massachusetts	15.4	34. California	6.1
9. Connecticut	15.3	35. Louisiana	5.8
10. New Jersey	14.4	36. North Dakota	5.4
11. Oregon	13.2	37. Oklahoma	5.2
12. Maryland	13.1	38. Georgia	5.0
13. Arizona	12.0	39. Nevada	4.9
14. Rhode Island	11.9	40. Kentucky	4.8
15. South Dakota	11.4	41. Alabama	4.6
16. Michigan	11.3	42. West Virginia	4.5
17. Washington	10.7	43. Tennessee	4.3
18. Ohio	10.7	44. North Carolina	4.3
19. Kansas	9.7	45. Hawaii	4.1
20. Indiana	9.7	46. Arkansas	4.0
21. Illinois	9.2	47. Idaho	3.6
22. Delaware	9.0	48. South Carolina	3.2
23. Colorado	8.9	49. Vermont	3.2
24. Dist. of Columbia	8.8	50. Mississippi	2.9
25. Missouri	8.2	51. New Hampshire	1.2
26. Alaska	7.9		

SOURCE: Table 8 and Table 9, supra.

MORE RECENT DATA

At this writing, the results of the 1980 Census were not yet available. As a result, estimates of the U.S. population in 1976 were utilized in order to compute so-called rates of incarceration.

The government's estimates listed blacks as comprising only 24.3 million (about 11.5 percent) of the total U.S. population of about 211.5 million. However, results of a national survey of correctional facilities, conducted

Table 14. U.S. population estimates by race and region, 1976

	White	Black	Total (all races)
Northeast	43,793,000	4,476,000	48,820,000
North Central	51,566,000	5,031,000	57,022,000
South	54,536,000	12,797,000	67,950,000
West	33,740,000	1,992,000	37,724,000
United States	183,637,000	24,297,000	211,517,000

SOURCE: Table E, Appendix

Table 15. U.S. state prison population by race and region, 1979

	White	Black	Total (all races)
Northeast	16,054	21,667	43,291
North Central	30,674	29,199	61,841
South	54,805	71,417	132,465
West	20,771	9,911	40,175
United States	122,304	132,194	277,772

SOURCE: Table G, Appendix

in 1979, revealed that blacks accounted for about 132,194 (or about 47.8 percent) of the 277,772 persons in state correctional facilities on Aug. 1, 1979.

Again, strong variation was evident in the extent to which imprisonment was used in the different major geographical regions. For the entire U.S., 65.1 per 100,000 whites were found to be in prison, whereas the figure for blacks was 544.1, or more than eight times greater. The rate for all races ranged from 88.7 in the Northeast, to 194.9 in the South, for a national average of 131.3 per 100,000. The black incarceration rate ranged from 484.1 in the Northeast, to 580.4 in the North Central region, with the national average being 544.1 per 100,000 blacks.

Table 16. Percent distribution of the estimated U.S. population by race and region, 1976

	White	Black	Total (all races)
Northeast	20.7	2.1	23.1
North Central	24.4	2.4	27.0
South	25.8	6.1	32.1
West	16.0	0.9	17.8
United States	86.8	11.5	100.0%

SOURCE: Table E, Appendix

Table 17. Percent distribution of the U.S. state prison population by race and region, 1979

	White	Black	Total (all races)
Northeast	5.8	7.8	15.6
North Central	11.1	10.5	22.3
South	19.8	25.8	47.9
West	7.5	3.6	14.5
United States	44.2	47.8	100.0%

SOURCE: Table G, Appendix

Table 18. U.S. incarceration rates by race and region, 1979

	White	Black	Total (all races)
Northeast	36.7	484.1	88.7
North Central	59.5	580.4	108.5
South	100.5	558.1	194.9
West	61.6	497.5	106.5
United States	65.1	544.1	131.3

SOURCE: Table E and Table G, Appendix

Table 19. U.S. incarceration rates ranked by jurisdiction, 1979

1. District of Columbia	672.7	27. Alabama	109.6
2. South Carolina	284.7	28. Idaho	108.1
3. North Carolina	270.0	29. Kentucky	106.0
4. Nevada	266.6	30. Kansas	104.4
5. Georgia	252.4	31. Illinois	99.2
6. Florida	230.5	32. Montana	98.8
7. Alaska	224.1	33. Indiana	94.2
8. Delaware	216.7	34. California	92.0
9. Texas	203.9	35. West Virginia	89.8
10. Louisiana	201.6	36. Colorado	89.6
11. Maryland	178.5	37. New Jersey	85.0
12. Michigan	167.4	38. South Dakota	84.8
13. Virginia	164.2	39. Vermont	82.1
14. Oregon	143.3	40. Maine	77.7
15. Arizona	142.9	41. Iowa	77.0
16. Tennessee	142.7	42. Utah	75.4
17. New Mexico	141.3	43. Wisconsin	75.2
18. Mississippi	140.0	44. Pennsylvania	67.9
19. Washington	128.8	45. Rhode Island	65.6
20. Ohio	128.3	46. Nebraska	64.3
21. Oklahoma	128.3	47. Hawaii	63.2
22. Wyoming	118.1	48. Minnesota	53.4
23. New York	117.2	49. Massachusetts	45.8
24. Connecticut	116.2	50. New Hampshire	37.1
25. Missouri	114.0	51. North Dakota	32.5
26. Arkansas	111.7		

SOURCE: Table E and Table G, Appendix

Ranked by jurisdiction, the overall incarceration rates in 1979 ranged from 672.7 in the District of Columbia, to 32.5 in North Dakota, with a majority of jurisdictions reporting an overall rate of 111.7 or more per 100,000 persons. Eight of the top ten jurisdictions were located in the Southern region.

The white incarceration rates, ranked by jurisdiction, ranged from 191.7 in North Carolina, to 28.0 in Hawaii, with a majority of jurisdictions reporting a rate of 70.8 or more. Again, as in 1973, six of the top ten jurisdictions were located in the South.

As before, the black incarceration rates were much higher, ranging from 1,341.8 in Washington, to 50.0 in North Dakota. A majority of jurisdictions

Table 20. White incarceration rates ranked by jurisdiction, 1979

1. Nevada	191.7	27. Ohio	68.5
2. South Carolina	180.3	28. Kansas	67.8
3. Alaska	177.7	29. Missouri	67.5
4. North Carolina	158.5	30. Arkansas	66.1
5. Georgia	141.2	31. South Dakota	62.1
6. Florida	138.1	32. Iowa	60.8
7. Oregon	118.2	33. Utah	57.0
8. District of Columbia	103.9	34. Alabama	56.8
9. Delaware	98.8	35. Connecticut	55.5
10. Washington	94.7	36. Maryland	53.4
11. Idaho	93.5	37. New Mexico	52.0
12. Wyoming	92.6	38. Rhode Island	51.8
13. Oklahoma	92.2	39. Illinois	48.7
14. Tennessee	90.5	40. Colorado	46.1
15. Texas	89.7	41. California	42.6
16. Vermont	80.5	42. Wisconsin	41.8
17. Montana	83.9	43. Minnesota	40.6
18. Kentucky	82.4	44. New Hampshire	36.2
19. Virginia	79.1	45. Nebraska	36.1
20. West Virginia	77.2	46. New York	35.8
21. Maine	76.1	47. Pennsylvania	34.3
22. Mississippi	74.3	48. New Jersey	29.8
23. Michigan	72.2	49. North Dakota	29.3
24. Indiana	71.3	50. Massachusetts	28.4
25. Arizona	71.2	51. Hawaii	28.0
26. Louisiana	70.8		

SOURCE: Table E and Table G, Appendix

registered a black incarceration rate of 600.0 or more in the 1979 survey. Again, as in 1973, only one of the top ten jurisdictions was located in the South. In most cases, those jurisdictions with the highest black incarceration rates were generally ones with relatively few blacks among their general population.

Comparison of the black and white incarceration rates for 1979 reveals again that the highest white incarceration rate -- 191.7 in Nevada -- was lower than the black incarceration rates of forty-nine jurisdictions. This can be

Table 21. Black incarceration rates ranked by jurisdiction, 1979

1. Washington	1,341.8	26. Vermont	600.0
2. Oregon	1,270.0	27. Georgia	552.8
3. Nevada	1,173.7	28. Oklahoma	534.1
4. Iowa	1,157.1	29. Wyoming	533.3
5. Arizona	1,112.1	30. Alaska	526.7
6. Idaho ¹	1,079.8	31. Colorado	522.5
7. South Dakota	1,000.0	32. Rhode Island	516.0
8. Utah	987.5	33. South Carolina	508.1
9. Delaware	985.7	34. New York	500.7
10. Wisconsin	949.7	35. Massachusetts	476.0
11. District of Columbia	900.4	36. New Jersey	461.8
12. Michigan	853.7	37. Missouri	460.0
13. New Mexico	825.0	38. Louisiana	457.0
14. Texas	752.8	39. Pennsylvania	419.1
15. Florida	739.0	40. Indiana	409.6
16. Connecticut	717.4	41. California	405.6
17. Nebraska	710.6	42. Tennessee	403.8
18. Ohio	697.6	43. Illinois	369.3
19. West Virginia	697.3	44. Kentucky	354.7
20. Minnesota	666.7	45. Montana	333.3
21. Maryland	656.7	46. Arkansas	333.1
22. North Carolina	642.0	47. Hawaii	316.7
23. Kansas	634.4	48. Mississippi	258.6
24. Virginia	618.5	49. Alabama	254.8
25. Maine	600.0	50. New Hampshire	150.0
		51. North Dakota	50.0

¹Idaho: The Census source does not estimate a black population for Idaho on the basis of the 1976 sample. The incarceration rate was computed instead on the basis of the black population (2,130) shown in the 1970 Census.

SOURCE: Table E and Table G, Appendix

taken as another indication that the problem of black overrepresentation in prison is nationwide in scope, and not limited to the South or any other region.

Regional disparity, 1979

Again, in 1979 every region in the nation exhibited very significant differences between the white and black incarceration rates. This disparity ranged from a low of 435.9 persons per 100,000 population in the West, to a high of 520.9 in the North Central region, and the difference for all jurisdictions amounted to 479.0 for the entire U.S.

Table 22. The difference between black and white incarceration rates by region, 1979

Northeast	447.4
North Central	520.9
South	457.6
West	435.9
U.S.	479.0

SOURCE: Table E and Table G, Appendix

This means that a nationwide problem existed again in 1979, insofar as the state correctional facilities of every region showed a large difference in the extent to which blacks were incarcerated compared to whites. Although the disproportionality varied somewhat by region, variation from the national average did not exceed 9 percent in any region.

Again, however, when the ratio of black to white incarceration rates was examined, a somewhat different picture of disproportionality emerged. Blacks in the Northeast showed a rate that was 13.2 times higher than the white incarceration rate, while in the South the black imprisonment rate was 5.6 times greater. For the entire United States, the black incarceration rate was 8.4 times higher than the white incarceration rate in 1979.

Table 23. The ratio of black to white incarceration rates by region, 1979

Northeast	13.2
North Central	9.8
South	5.6
West	8.1
<hr/>	
U.S.	8.4

SOURCE: Table E and Table G, Appendix

Disparity by state, 1979

While differences between black and white incarceration rates appeared relatively consistent on a regional basis, very large variations were apparent when the jurisdictions were ranked by the difference between the black rate and the white rate. The differences ranged from a high of 1,247.1 in Washington, to a low of 20.7 persons per 100,000 in North Dakota. The median was 483.5. Every jurisdiction reported a higher imprisonment rate for blacks than for whites. In four states the difference exceeded 1,000; in nine it exceeded 900; in ten it exceeded 800; it was over 700 in thirteen jurisdictions; over 600 in twenty-one; over 500 in twenty-five; and over 400 in thirty-four. A total of forty-three jurisdictions reported a difference of more than 300, whereas only one reported a difference of less than 100 persons per 100,000.

The relative positions of the jurisdictions changed slightly when they were ranked by the ratio of black to white incarceration rates. In Wisconsin, the black imprisonment rate was 22.7 times higher than the white rate, whereas in North Dakota it was 1.7 times higher. A majority of jurisdictions reported a black incarceration rate that was 9.0 times higher or more.

Table 24. Jurisdictions ranked by the difference between black and white incarceration rates, 1979

1. Washington	1,247.1	27. Colorado	476.4
2. Oregon	1,151.8	28. New York	464.9
3. Iowa	1,096.3	29. Rhode Island	464.2
4. Arizona	1,040.9	30. Massachusetts	447.6
5. Idaho	986.3	31. Oklahoma	441.9
6. Nevada	982.0	32. Wyoming	440.7
7. South Dakota	937.9	33. New Jersey	432.0
8. Utah	930.5	34. Georgia	411.6
9. Wisconsin	907.9	35. Missouri	392.5
10. Delaware	886.9	36. Louisiana	386.2
11. District of Columbia	796.5	37. California	363.0
12. Michigan	781.5	38. Alaska	349.0
13. New Mexico	773.0	39. Pennsylvania	348.8
14. Nebraska	674.5	40. Indiana	338.3
15. Texas	663.1	41. South Carolina	327.8
16. Connecticut	661.9	42. Illinois	320.6
17. West Virginia	629.5	43. Tennessee	313.3
18. Ohio	629.1	44. Hawaii	288.7
19. Minnesota	626.1	45. Kentucky	272.3
20. Maryland	603.3	46. Arkansas	267.0
21. Florida	600.9	47. Montana	249.4
22. Kansas	566.6	48. Alabama	198.0
23. Virginia	539.4	49. Mississippi	184.3
24. Maine	523.9	50. New Hampshire	113.8
25. Vermont	519.5	51. North Dakota	20.7
26. North Carolina	483.5		

SOURCE: Table 20 and Table 21.

Table 25. Jurisdictions ranked by the ratio of black to white incarceration rates, 1979

1. Wisconsin	22.7	27. District of Columbia	8.7
2. Nebraska	19.7	28. Texas	8.4
3. Iowa	19.0	29. Maine	7.9
4. Utah	17.3	30. Virginia	7.8
5. Massachusetts	16.8	31. Illinois	7.6
6. Minnesota	16.4	32. Vermont	7.5
7. South Dakota	16.1	33. Missouri	6.8
8. New Mexico	15.9	34. Louisiana	6.5
9. Arizona	15.6	35. Nevada	6.1
10. New Jersey	15.5	36. Oklahoma	5.8
11. Washington	14.2	37. Wyoming	5.8
12. New York	14.0	38. Indiana	5.7
13. Connecticut	12.9	39. Florida	5.4
14. Maryland	12.3	40. Arkansas	5.0
15. Pennsylvania	12.2	41. Alabama	4.5
16. Michigan	11.8	42. Tennessee	4.5
17. Idaho	11.6	43. Kentucky	4.3
18. Colorado	11.3	44. New Hampshire	4.1
19. Hawaii	11.3	45. North Carolina	4.1
20. Oregon	10.7	46. Montana	4.0
21. Ohio	10.2	47. Georgia	3.9
22. Delaware	10.0	48. Mississippi	3.5
23. Rhode Island	10.0	49. Alaska	3.0
24. California	9.5	50. South Carolina	2.8
25. Kansas	9.4	51. North Dakota	1.7
26. West Virginia	9.0		

SOURCE: Table 20 and Table 21.

CHANGES FROM 1973 - 79

Disturbing trends noted

Analysis of the data presented reveals that incarceration rates increased substantially in every region from 1973-79. The black rate rose by 47.9 percent and the white rate by 40.6 percent. The greatest increases were recorded in the North Central region, where imprisonment rates for all races rose by 67.2 percent, the black rate by 58.9 percent, and the white rate by 69.5 percent. The smallest increases occurred in the West, where the white rate rose by 5.2 percent, the black rate by 9.9 percent, and the rate for all races by 23.7 percent.

Table 26. Percentage increase in incarceration rates by race and region, 1973-1979

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>All races</u>
Northeast	58.9	42.3	46.6
North Central	69.5	58.9	67.2
South	50.9	52.1	48.2
West	5.2	9.9	23.7
U.S.	40.6	47.9	49.2

SOURCE: Table 6 and Table 18.

A similar pattern emerged when the change in disparity between black and white incarceration rates from 1973 to 1979 was examined. Again, the North Central region was the leader with an increase of 190.7 persons per 100,000, while the West registered the smallest increase in disparity (48.4). For all the United States, the difference between black and white incarceration rates increased by 157.3 persons per 100,000 from 1973 to 1979. During the period studied, overrepresentation of blacks in state correctional facilities continued to increase, and at a substantial rate.

Table 27. The change in disparity between black and white incarceration rates¹ by region, 1973-1979

	1979 disparity	1973 disparity	Change in disparity
Northeast	447.4	317.2	130.2
North Central	520.9	330.2	190.7
South	457.6	300.4	157.2
West	435.9	387.5	48.4
U.S.	479.0	321.7	157.3

¹Computed as follows:
 [Black Incarceration Rate (1979) - White Incarceration Rate (1979)] - [Black Incarceration Rate (1973) - White Incarceration Rate (1973)].

This quantity answers the question: How many more blacks than whites were imprisoned per 100,000 civilian population in 1979 as compared to that number in 1973?

SOURCE: Table 10 and Table 22.

Change by state

Ranking of the jurisdictions by the change in disparity between the black and white incarceration rates from 1973 to 1979 revealed a widening gap in most states in the extent to which blacks are imprisoned compared to whites. A total of forty-seven jurisdictions reported increased disparity, whereas four registered a decrease in the level of disproportionality. These four states were Colorado, Alabama, Indiana and North Dakota.

The largest increase in the change in disparity occurred in Idaho, where the gap grew by 850.4 persons per 100,000. In three states the increase was more than 600, in five it was more than 500, in twelve jurisdictions it was more than 400, and in fifteen it was more than 300. A majority of jurisdictions recorded an increase of 148.9 or more in disparity from 1973 to 1979.

Table 28. Jurisdictions ranked by the change in disparity between black and white incarceration rates, 1973-1979

1. Idaho	850.4	27. Tennessee	146.7
2. South Dakota	657.6	28. North Carolina	120.2
3. Washington	611.2	29. Illinois	118.9
4. Delaware	598.4	30. Rhode Island	117.2
5. Nevada	569.0	31. New Hampshire	106.9
6. District of Columbia	471.2	32. Missouri	94.6
7. Connecticut	469.0	33. Maryland	92.5
8. West Virginia	456.4	34. New Jersey	91.6
9. Vermont	429.7	35. Arkansas	89.8
10. New Mexico	424.1	36. Massachusetts	84.9
11. Oregon	401.9	37. Mississippi	83.2
12. Arizona	400.0	38. Alaska	74.5
13. Wisconsin	393.5	39. Georgia	58.2
14. Michigan	344.9	40. Wyoming	42.7
15. Iowa	311.0	41. Montana	33.6
16. Ohio	283.1	42. Oklahoma	32.8
17. Utah	263.8	43. Pennsylvania	27.5
18. Virginia	246.9	44. Nebraska	22.8
19. Hawaii	229.0	45. California	11.3
20. Texas	222.8	46. Kentucky	3.6
21. Maine	215.9	47. Minnesota	0.2
22. Louisiana	190.2	48. Colorado	-6.1
23. Florida	184.9	49. Alabama	-18.4
24. Kansas	155.7	50. Indiana	-19.7
25. South Carolina	155.2	51. North Dakota	-77.2
26. New York	148.9		

SOURCE: Table 12 and Table 24.

THE SEX VARIABLE

Black males vastly overrepresented

When one considers that about 96 percent of all prisoners in state correctional facilities are males, the degree of disparity becomes much larger. Although females outnumber males by a considerable margin in the society as a whole, males are very strongly overrepresented among the prison population.

Table 29. U.S. population estimates (in thousands) by race, sex and region, 1976

	W H I T E		B L A C K		T O T A L ALL RACES	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Northeast	21,190	22,603	2,007	2,468	23,466	25,354
N. Central	25,195	26,370	2,360	2,671	27,758	29,263
South	26,480	28,056	6,119	6,677	32,889	35,060
West	16,592	17,148	951	1,041	18,500	19,224
U.S.	89,458	94,178	11,438	12,859	102,614	108,902

SOURCE: Table E, Appendix

Table 30. U.S. state prison population by race, sex and region, 1978

	W H I T E		B L A C K		T O T A L ALL RACES	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Northeast	20,318	551	20,707	680	41,184	1,238
N. Central	29,932	935	28,140	1,182	59,328	2,374
South	57,018	2,137	67,801	3,041	125,525	5,213
West	28,155	1,324	9,821	606	39,870	2,067
U.S.	135,423	4,947	126,469	5,509	265,907	10,892

SOURCE: Table F, Appendix

About 48.5 percent of the U.S. population was male and 51.5 percent was female, according to the government's estimates. Yet 96.1 percent of the prison population in state correctional facilities were males in 1978, whereas only 3.9 percent were females. Although black males accounted for only 5.4 percent of the total U.S. population, they comprised 45.7 percent of the prison population.

Table 31. Percent distribution of the estimated U.S. population by race, sex and region, 1976

	W H I T E		B L A C K		T O T A L ALL RACES	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Northeast	10.0	10.7	0.9	1.2	11.1	12.0
North Central	11.9	12.5	1.1	1.3	13.1	13.8
South	12.5	13.3	2.9	3.2	15.5	16.6
West	7.8	8.1	0.4	0.5	8.7	9.1
U.S.	42.3	44.5	5.4	6.1	48.5	51.5

SOURCE: Table 29

Table 32. Percent distribution of the U.S. state prison population by race, sex and region, 1978

	W H I T E		B L A C K		T O T A L ALL RACES	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Northeast	7.3	0.2	7.5	0.2	14.9	0.4
North Central	10.8	0.3	10.2	0.4	21.4	0.9
South	20.6	0.8	24.5	1.1	45.3	1.9
West	10.2	0.5	3.5	0.2	14.4	0.7
U.S.	48.9	1.8	45.7	2.0	96.1	3.9

SOURCE: Table 30

This means that the incarceration rates for black males are more than double those for blacks in general. For the entire U.S., these rates were 1,105.7 and 544.1 per 100,000 respectively. Of the various regions, the North Central states showed the highest overrepresentation, at 1,192.4 and 580.4 respectively. The South was second, with 1,108.0 and 558.1 respectively,

in prison. The West registered 1,032.7 per 100,000 of its black males incarcerated, compared to 497.5 of its total black population; and the Northeast was close behind, at 1,031.7 and 484.1 respectively. For the entire nation and within each region, more than one of every 100 black males was in prison at the end of 1978.

Table 33. Incarceration rates for black males by region, 1978

Northeast	1,031.7
North Central	1,192.4
South	1,108.0
West	1,032.7
U.S.	1,105.7

SOURCE: Table 29 and Table 30

When the incarceration rates for black males were examined by jurisdiction, for 1978, the most recent date for which such data was available, some very large variation was evident. A majority of jurisdictions showed a rate of 1,118.0 or more per 100,000, and the rate of 1,000 or more appeared in a total of thirty-three jurisdictions. In three states, it was over 2,000. They were Washington (2,408.6), Arizona (2,210.3), and Alaska (2,200.0).

Seven states registered an imprisonment rate of 600.0 or less, and in two states the rate was 225.7 or less.

Table 34. Incarceration rates for black males, ranked by jurisdiction, 1978

1. Washington	2,408.6	27. Minnesota	1,114.8
2. Arizona	2,210.3	28. Massachusetts	1,107.7
3. Alaska	2,200.0	29. New York	1,076.5
4. Iowa	1,972.2	30. Georgia	1,039.7
5. Nevada	1,963.2	31. New Jersey	1,006.3
6. Delaware	1,961.1	32. South Dakota ¹	1,006.0
7. Nebraska	1,834.8	33. Missouri	1,002.9
8. Utah	1,775.0	34. Louisiana	975.0
9. Michigan	1,734.7	35. South Carolina	954.5
10. Wisconsin	1,734.2	36. Pennsylvania	879.2
11. New Mexico	1,720.0	37. California	870.1
12. Florida	1,577.0	38. Tennessee	845.7
13. Oregon	1,520.0	39. Indiana	819.0
14. Maryland	1,509.8	40. Illinois	810.3
15. Texas	1,438.9	41. Maine	800.0
16. Ohio	1,399.6	42. Arkansas	736.7
17. Connecticut	1,378.6	43. Alabama	661.6
18. Oklahoma	1,372.3	44. Kentucky	644.2
19. Idaho	1,301.7	45. New Hampshire	600.0
20. Rhode Island	1,266.7	46. Montana	500.0
21. North Carolina	1,246.5	47. Mississippi	463.8
22. Virginia	1,233.1	48. North Dakota	400.0
23. Colorado	1,211.4	49. Hawaii	350.0
24. Kansas	1,208.2	50. Vermont ¹	225.7
25. West Virginia	1,200.0	51. Wyoming	0.0
26. District of Columbia	1,118.0		

¹No 1976 estimates for the number of black males in the civilian population of these states are available. Rates were computed instead of using the 1970 Census figures.

SOURCE: Table E and Table F, Appendix

CONCLUSION

Afro-Americans have experienced a higher rate of incarceration than whites since at least the nineteenth century, when they were emancipated from chattel slavery. Writing in 1833, Gustave de Beaumont and Alexis de Tocqueville noted in their classic report, On the Penitentiary System in the United States and Its Application in France, that the great majority of black persons living in the American South were kept as slaves, while "in those states in which there exists one Negro to thirty whites, the prisons contain one Negro to four white persons."³

Data circulated in 1979 showed that, in 1973, blacks were strongly over-represented among prison populations throughout the United States. The authors' own analysis has confirmed those basic findings, and more recent data, for 1978 and 1979, indicate that the problem has grown worse, not better, during the last several years.

The need exists for more detailed study of the problem, which is clearly massive and national in scope. Statistics must be obtained and analyzed which explore the connection, if any, between crime rates and rates of incarceration, particularly as they involve blacks. However, it should be pointed out that black overrepresentation in arrest statistics may not be sufficient to explain racially disproportionate rates of imprisonment.⁴

Indeed, it is likely that racial discrimination in the criminal justice process may be a significant factor in determining why blacks are sent to prison so much more than whites.⁵

The possibility already exists for massive legal action which is designed to raise established constitutional principles by which a prima facie case of invidious racial discrimination might be asserted.⁶

There is an urgent need for full-scale studies designed to identify both the factors contributing to the extraordinarily high black incarceration rate, and the effects of that imprisonment policy upon black Americans, i.e. the black family. Strategies also need to be developed for reducing the disproportionate and greatly increasing overrepresentation of black males in prisons throughout the nation.

FOOTNOTES

1. See Dunbaugh, "Racially Disproportionate Rates of Incarceration in the United States," Prison Law Monitor, 1 (9) (1979): 1-4.
2. Christianson, "Corrections Law Developments: Legal Implications of Racially Disproportionate Incarceration Rates," Criminal Law Bulletin, 16(1) (Jan.-Feb. 1980): at 59-60.
3. Gustave de Beaumont and Alexis de Tocqueville, On the Penitentiary System in the United States and Its Application in France (1833) at 93.
4. See, e.g., William G. Nagel, "On Behalf of a Moratorium on Prison Construction," Crime & Delinquency 23 (1977); Jack Nagel, Crime and Incarceration: A Reanalysis (School of Public and Urban Policy, University of Pennsylvania, 1977); James Garofalo, Social Structure and Rates of Imprisonment: A Research Note (Research Center East, National Council on Crime and Delinquency, 1979); Scott Christianson and David Parry, Blacks and Crime: An Annotated Bibliography (School of Criminal Justice, S.U.N.Y. at Albany, 1980).
5. A comprehensive bibliography tracing the processing of minority persons through the criminal justice system is available from the School of Criminal Justice. See Scott Christianson and Barry DeFoe, Minorities and the Criminal Justice Process (1980).
6. See note 2 supra, and part 2 of the same article, scheduled for publication in the November-December 1980 issue.

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A P P E N D I X

Table A. U.S. population by race, region and jurisdiction, 1970

	White	Black	Total all races
Northeast	44,310,504	4,344,153	49,040,703
Maine	985,276	2,800	992,048
New Hampshire	733,106	2,505	737,681
Vermont	442,553	761	444,330
Massachusetts	5,477,624	175,817	5,689,170
Rhode Island	914,757	25,338	946,725
Connecticut	2,835,458	181,177	3,031,709
New York	15,834,090	2,168,949	18,236,967
New Jersey	6,349,908	770,292	7,168,164
Pennsylvania	10,737,732	1,016,514	11,793,909
North Central	51,641,183	4,571,550	56,571,663
Ohio	9,646,997	970,477	10,652,017
Indiana	4,820,324	357,464	5,193,669
Illinois	9,600,381	1,425,674	11,113,976
Michigan	7,833,474	991,066	8,875,083
Wisconsin	4,258,959	128,224	4,417,731
Minnesota	3,736,038	34,868	3,804,971
Iowa	2,782,762	32,596	2,824,376
Missouri	4,177,495	480,172	4,676,501
North Dakota	599,485	2,494	617,761
South Dakota	630,333	1,627	665,507
Nebraska	1,432,867	39,911	1,483,493
Kansas	2,122,068	106,977	2,246,578
South	50,520,108	11,969,961	62,795,367
Delaware	466,459	78,276	548,104
Maryland	3,194,888	699,479	3,922,399
District of Columbia	209,272	537,712	756,510
Virginia	3,761,514	861,368	4,648,494
West Virginia	1,673,480	67,342	1,744,237
North Carolina	3,901,767	1,126,478	5,082,059
South Carolina	1,794,430	789,041	2,590,516
Georgia	3,391,242	1,187,149	4,589,575
Florida	5,719,343	1,041,651	6,789,443
Kentucky	2,981,766	230,793	3,218,706
Tennessee	3,293,930	621,261	3,923,687
Alabama	2,533,831	903,467	3,444,165
Mississippi	1,393,283	815,770	2,216,912
Arkansas	1,565,915	352,445	1,923,295
Louisiana	2,541,498	1,086,832	3,641,306
Oklahoma	2,280,362	171,892	2,559,229
Texas	9,717,128	1,399,005	11,196,730

- continued -

Table A (continued)

	White	Black	Total
West	31,377,180	1,694,625	34,804,193
Montana	663,043	1,995	694,409
Idaho	698,802	2,130	712,567
Wyoming	323,024	2,568	332,416
Colorado	2,112,352	66,411	2,207,259
New Mexico	915,815	19,555	1,016,000
Arizona	1,604,948	53,344	1,770,900
Utah	1,031,926	6,617	1,059,273
Nevada	448,177	27,762	488,738
Washington	3,251,055	71,308	3,409,169
Oregon	2,032,079	26,308	3,409,169
California	17,761,032	1,400,143	19,953,134
Alaska	236,767	8,911	300,382
Hawaii	298,160	7,573	768,561
TOTAL			
United States	177,748,975	22,580,289	203,211,926

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1970
Census of Population, Vol. 1, Part 1, Sect. 1, p. 294.

Table B. U.S. state prison population by race, region and jurisdiction, 1973

	White	Black	Race Unknown	Total all races
Northeast	10,246	14,785	2,788	29,656
Maine	484	10		505
New Hampshire	242	1		243
Vermont	184	1		185
Massachusetts	1,381	682	7	2,072
Rhode Island	292	96	4	394
Connecticut	382	374	1,102	1,860
New York ¹	5,429	7,324		12,573
New Jersey ²	1,610	2,818	1,243	5,671
Pennsylvania ³	2,242	3,479	432	6,153
North Central	18,110	16,701	1,287	36,712
Ohio	3,439	3,703	843	7,999
Indiana	1,986	1,427		3,443
Illinois	2,369	3,228	12	5,611
Michigan	3,318	4,747		8,115
Wisconsin	1,243	697		2,046
Minnesota	1,046	228		1,416
Iowa	1,112	269	1	1,409
Missouri	1,716	1,628	428	3,779
North Dakota	134	3		162
South Dakota	170	5	2	256
Nebraska ⁴	578	276	1	928
Kansas	999	490		1,548
South	33,562	43,933	2,018	82,565
Delaware	110	166		276
Maryland	1,352	3,869		5,231
District of Columbia	87	1,973	5	2,072
Virginia	2,041	2,987	13	5,041
West Virginia ³	830	150	2	982
North Carolina	4,323	5,341		9,895
South Carolina ²	1,394	1,975		3,369
Georgia	3,012	5,250	4	8,266
Florida	3,950	5,053	1,336	10,347
Kentucky	2,104	783	11	2,906
Tennessee	1,655	1,347	287	3,289
Alabama ^{3,4,5}	1,505	2,447		3,952
Mississippi	729	1,251	2	1,985
Arkansas	913	830	1	1,744
Louisiana	1,035	2,572	10	3,617
Oklahoma	2,198	869	20	3,304
Texas ⁶	6,324	7,070	327	16,289

- continued -

Table B (continued)

	White	Black	Race Unknown	Total all races
West	20,400	7,669	205	29,981
Montana	231	5		310
Idaho	363	4		420
Wyoming	224	12		284
Colorado	1,291	361	4	1,863
New Mexico	598	81		699
Arizona ⁶	935	373	7	1,736
Utah	450	47	2	512
Nevada	479	146		669
Washington	2,122	500	74	2,575
Oregon	1,238	212	118	1,593
California	12,317	5,894		18,534
Alaska	94	28		175
Hawaii	58	6		311
<hr/>				
TOTAL				
United States	82,318	83,088	6,298	178,914

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Census of Prisoners in State Correctional Facilities 1973.

¹Prisoners of Puerto Rican background are counted in the category "other," while the remaining states classify them as either "white" or "black."

²Prisoners of races other than "white" or "black" are counted as "black," resulting in a dichotomy, i.e. white/non-white.

³Prisoners of races other than "white" or "black" are counted as "white," resulting in a dichotomy, i.e., non-black/black.

⁴Nebraska and Alabama were the only states to report on inmates sentenced to a maximum term of at least one year. The remaining jurisdictions provided information on offenders sentenced to a maximum term of at least one year and one day.

⁵Data are reported as of Sept. 30, 1973.

⁶Prisoners of Mexican background are counted in the category "other," while the remaining jurisdictions classify them as either white or black.

Table C. Percent distributions of U.S. state populations by race, region and jurisdiction, 1970

	White	Black
Northeast	90.4	8.9
Maine	99.3	0.3
New Hampshire	99.4	0.3
Vermont	99.6	0.2
Massachusetts	96.3	3.1
Rhode Island	96.6	2.7
Connecticut	93.5	6.0
New York	86.8	11.9
New Jersey	88.6	10.7
Pennsylvania	91.0	8.6
North Central	91.3	8.1
Ohio	90.6	9.1
Indiana	92.8	6.9
Illinois	86.4	12.8
Michigan	88.2	11.2
Wisconsin	96.4	2.9
Minnesota	98.2	0.9
Iowa	98.5	1.2
Missouri	89.3	10.3
North Dakota	97.0	0.4
South Dakota	94.7	0.2
Nebraska	96.6	2.7
Kansas	94.4	4.8
South	80.3	19.1
Delaware	85.1	14.3
Maryland	81.5	17.8
District of Columbia	27.6	71.1
Virginia	80.9	18.5
West Virginia	95.9	3.9
North Carolina	76.8	22.2
South Carolina	69.3	30.5
Georgia	73.9	25.9
Florida	84.2	15.3
Kentucky	92.6	7.2
Tennessee	83.9	15.8
Alabama	73.6	26.2
Mississippi	62.8	36.8
Arkansas	81.4	18.3
Louisiana	69.8	29.8
Oklahoma	89.1	6.7
Texas	86.8	12.5

- CONTINUED -

Table C. (Continued)

	White	Black
West	90.2	4.9
Montana	95.5	0.3
Idaho	98.1	0.3
Wyoming	97.2	0.8
Colorado	95.7	3.0
New Mexico	90.1	1.9
Arizona	90.6	3.0
Utah	97.4	0.6
Nevada	91.7	5.7
Washington	95.4	2.1
Oregon	97.2	1.3
California	89.0	7.0
Alaska	78.8	3.0
Hawaii	38.8	1.0
TOTAL		
United States	87.5	11.1

SOURCE: Table A

Table D. Percent distributions of U.S. state prison populations by race, region and jurisdiction, 1973

	% Among Prisoners Whose Race Is Reported		% of Prisoners Whose Race Is Not Reported
	WHITE	BLACK	
Northeast	38.1	55.0	9.4
Maine	95.8	2.0	
New Hampshire	99.6	0.4	
Vermont	99.5	0.5	
Massachusetts	66.9	33.0	0.3
Rhode Island	74.9	24.6	1.0
Connecticut	50.4	49.3	59.2
New York	27.3	58.3	
New Jersey	36.4	63.6	21.9
Pennsylvania	39.2	60.8	7.0
North Central	51.1	47.1	3.5
Ohio	48.1	51.7	10.5
Indiana	57.7	41.4	
Illinois	42.3	57.7	0.2
Michigan	40.9	58.5	
Wisconsin	60.8	34.1	
Minnesota	73.9	16.1	
Iowa	79.0	19.1	0.1
Missouri	51.2	48.6	11.3
North Dakota	82.7	1.9	
South Dakota	66.9	2.0	0.8
Nebraska	62.4	29.8	0.1
Kansas	64.5	31.7	
South	41.7	54.5	2.4
Delaware	39.9	60.1	
Maryland	25.8	74.0	
District of Columbia	4.2	95.5	0.2
Virginia	40.6	59.4	0.3
West Virginia	84.7	18.1	0.2
North Carolina	43.7	54.0	
South Carolina	41.4	58.6	
Georgia	36.5	63.5	
Florida	43.8	56.1	12.9
Kentucky	72.7	27.0	0.4
Tennessee	55.1	44.9	8.7
Alabama	38.1	61.9	
Mississippi	36.8	63.1	0.1
Arkansas	52.4	47.6	0.1
Louisiana	28.7	71.3	0.3
Oklahoma	66.9	26.5	0.6
Texas	39.6	44.3	2.0

Table D. (continued)

	% Among Prisoners Whose Race Is Reported		% Among Prisoners Whose Race Is Not Reported
	WHITE	BLACK	
West	68.5	25.8	0.7
Montana	74.5	1.6	
Idaho	86.4	1.0	
Wyoming	78.9	4.2	
Colorado	69.4	19.4	0.2
New Mexico	85.6	11.6	
Arizona	54.1	21.6	0.4
Utah	88.2	9.2	0.4
Nevada	71.6	21.8	
Washington	75.8	17.9	2.6
Oregon	83.9	14.4	7.4
California	66.5	31.8	
Alaska	53.7	16.0	
Hawaii	18.6	1.9	
TOTAL			
United States	47.7	48.1	3.5

SOURCE: Table B

Table 2. U.S. population estimates (in thousands) by race, sex, region and jurisdiction, 1976

	W H I T E			B L A C K			A L L R A C E S		
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Northeast	21,190	22,603	43,793	2,007	2,468	4,476	23,466	25,354	48,820
Maine	501	547	1,049	1	1	2	504	551	1,056
New Hampshire	399	413	812	1	-	2	402	415	817
Vermont	227	239	467	-	-	1	228	241	469
Massachusetts	2,721	2,794	5,518	91	100	192	2,834	2,917	5,751
Rhode Island	423	454	877	12	13	25	440	472	913
Connecticut	1,395	1,441	2,836	98	115	213	1,501	1,563	3,065
New York	7,260	7,996	15,256	974	1,259	2,234	8,399	9,433	17,833
New Jersey	3,114	3,262	6,377	348	433	782	3,500	3,744	7,244
Pennsylvania	5,147	5,449	10,596	477	543	1,021	5,655	6,014	11,669
North Central	25,195	26,370	51,566	2,360	2,671	5,031	27,758	29,263	57,022
Ohio	4,669	4,915	9,584	467	536	1,003	5,158	5,475	10,633
Indiana	2,386	2,482	4,868	168	187	355	2,569	2,692	5,261
Illinois	4,500	4,688	9,189	778	910	1,688	5,330	5,653	10,993
Michigan	3,898	4,090	7,989	467	550	1,017	4,402	4,674	9,076
Wisconsin	2,172	2,237	4,409	73	74	147	2,251	2,318	4,570
Minnesota	1,846	1,943	3,790	27	23	51	1,900	1,989	3,889
Iowa	1,381	1,412	2,794	18	16	35	1,405	1,431	2,836
Missouri	1,991	2,142	4,133	272	282	555	2,271	2,434	4,706
North Dakota	305	301	607	1	-	2	311	309	621
South Dakota	319	324	644	-	-	1	333	339	672
Nebraska	707	762	1,469	23	24	47	736	793	1,529
Kansas	1,016	1,069	2,085	61	64	125	1,087	1,141	2,228
South	26,480	28,056	54,536	6,119	6,677	12,797	32,889	35,060	67,950
Delaware	242	249	494	36	40	77	283	292	576
Maryland	1,552	1,613	3,166	387	454	842	1,966	2,092	4,058
Dist. of Columbia	84	94	178	239	258	497	330	362	693
Virginia	1,989	2,083	4,072	384	395	779	2,400	2,513	4,914
West Virginia	861	892	1,753	15	22	37	877	915	1,793

- continued -

	W H I T E			B L A C K			A L L R A C E S		
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
North Carolina	1,985	2,060	4,045	550	655	1,206	2,600	2,781	5,382
South Carolina	915	971	1,887	422	458	881	1,345	1,439	2,785
Georgia	1,718	1,821	3,539	625	710	1,336	2,361	2,548	4,910
Florida	3,411	3,710	7,122	644	675	1,319	4,075	4,422	8,497
Kentucky	1,491	1,571	3,062	147	148	296	1,647	1,727	3,374
Tennessee	1,681	1,808	3,490	313	374	687	1,999	2,186	4,185
Alabama	1,268	1,349	2,617	471	488	959	1,748	1,841	3,589
Mississippi	734	755	1,489	401	428	829	1,139	1,189	2,329
Arkansas	824	923	1,747	177	189	366	1,005	1,120	2,125
Louisiana	1,308	1,351	2,660	523	547	1,070	1,838	1,907	3,745
Oklahoma	1,164	1,244	2,408	83	95	179	1,294	1,386	2,681
Texas	5,243	5,555	10,799	696	732	1,428	5,974	6,333	12,307
West	16,592	17,148	33,740	951	1,041	1,992	18,500	19,224	37,724
Montana	355	365	721	2	1	3	370	376	747
Idaho	408	405	814	-	-	-	415	412	828
Wyoming	184	180	364	1	1	3	189	186	376
Colorado	1,201	1,225	2,427	44	45	89	1,254	1,282	2,537
New Mexico	503	513	1,017	10	10	20	562	592	1,155
Arizona	1,038	1,056	2,095	29	29	58	1,125	1,148	2,274
Utah	593	606	1,199	4	3	8	604	617	1,221
Nevada	272	272	545	19	19	38	300	301	601
Washington	1,639	1,698	3,338	35	32	67	1,722	1,781	3,503
Oregon	1,069	1,139	2,209	15	14	30	1,111	1,181	2,292
California	9,047	9,432	18,479	775	873	1,648	10,235	10,761	20,996
Alaska	144	129	274	8	6	15	180	165	345
Hawaii	132	122	254	4	2	6	427	415	842
TOTAL									
United States	89,458	94,178	183,637	11,438	12,859	24,297	102,614	108,902	211,517

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 334, "Demographic, Social and Economic Profile of States: Spring 1976," pp. 10-18.

NOTE: - indicates that the population estimates rounds to zero.

Table F. U.S. state prison population by race, sex, region and jurisdiction, 1978

	W H I T E			B L A C K			A L L R A C E S	
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	RACE UNKNOWN	TOTAL
Northeast	20,318	551	20,869	20,707	680	21,386	141	42,422
Maine	676	15	691	8	0	8	0	711
New Hampshire	270	6	276	6	0	6	0	283
Vermont	452	11	463	1	0	1	0	464
Massachusetts	1,725	53	1,778	1,008	42	1,050	0	2,833
Rhode Island	478	8	486	152	5	157	20	664
Connecticut	2,007	69	2,076	1,351	60	1,411	0	3,489
New York	9,032	211	9,243	10,485	340	10,825	121	20,189
New Jersey	2,191	68	2,259	3,502	108	3,610	0	5,869
Pennsylvania	3,487	110	3,597	4,194	125	4,319	0	7,920
North Central	29,932	935	30,867	28,140	1,182	29,322	807	61,702
Ohio	6,033	215	6,248	6,536	323	6,859	0	13,107
Indiana	3,373	98	3,472	1,376	71	1,447	4	4,923
Illinois	4,544	106	4,650	6,304	220	6,524	0	11,258
Michigan	5,590	115	5,705	8,101	293	8,394	787	14,944
Wisconsin	1,926	69	1,995	1,266	76	1,342	0	3,433
Minnesota	1,421	67	1,488	301	17	318	14	1,965
Iowa	1,603	59	1,662	355	19	374	2	2,065
Missouri	2,727	91	2,818	2,728	91	2,819	0	5,637
North Dakota	159	3	162	4	0	4	0	200
South Dakota	362	13	375	10	0	10	0	532
Nebraska	787	43	830	422	32	454	0	1,347
Kansas	1,406	56	1,462	737	40	777	0	2,291
South	57,018	2,137	59,155	67,801	3,041	70,842	167	130,738
Delaware	555	25	580	706	39	745	0	1,325
Maryland	1,854	51	1,905	5,843	193	6,036	13	7,966
Dist. of Col.	84	5	89	2,672	54	2,726	29	2,844
Virginia	3,226	127	3,353	4,735	231	4,966	25	8,344
West Virginia	976	19	995	180	9	189	0	1,185
North Carolina	5,571	190	5,761	6,856	321	7,177	0	13,252
South Carolina	3,054	132	3,186	4,028	178	4,206	0	7,396
Georgia	4,308	219	4,527	6,498	329	6,827	49	11,403
Florida	9,775	303	10,078	10,156	534	10,690	0	20,773
Kentucky	2,332	67	2,399	947	44	991	0	3,390
Tennessee	2,927	136	3,063	2,647	125	2,772	0	5,835
Alabama	2,097	100	2,197	3,116	158	3,274	0	5,472
Mississippi	925	37	962	1,860	73	1,933	0	2,896
Arkansas	1,207	45	1,252	1,304	49	1,353	0	2,605
Louisiana	1,984	72	2,056	5,099	136	5,235	0	7,291
Oklahoma	2,588	99	2,687	1,139	73	1,212	51	4,186
Texas	13,555	510	14,065	10,015	495	10,510	0	24,575

Table F. (continued)

	W H I T E			B L A C K			A L L R A C E S	
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	RACE UNKNOWN	
							UNKNOWN	TOTAL
West	28,155	1,324	29,479	9,821	606	10,427	564	41,937
Montana	558	14	572	10	0	10	0	690
Idaho	727	25	752	17	2	19	0	802
Wyoming	414	14	428	0	1	1	0	433
Colorado	1,862	46	1,908	533	18	551	0	2,486
New Mexico	1,325	54	1,379	172	10	182	0	1,593
Arizona	2,478	124	2,602	641	42	683	63	3,456
Utah	788	26	814	71	5	76	0	911
Nevada	869	37	906	373	35	408	0	1,350
Washington	3,228	145	3,373	843	71	914	75	4,563
Oregon	2,417	81	2,498	228	32	260	27	2,891
California	12,968	732	13,700	6,743	379	7,122	111	21,325
Alaska	441	22	463	176	9	185	7	712
Hawaii	80	4	84	14	2	16	281	725
TOTAL								
U.S.	135,423	4,947	140,370	126,469	5,509	131,978	1,679	276,799

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Prisoners in State and Federal Institutions on December 31, 1978.

Table G. U.S. state prison population by race, region and jurisdiction, 1979

	WHITE	BLACK	ALL RACES
Northeast	16,054	21,667	43,291
Maine	798	12	821
New Hampshire	294	3	303
Vermont ¹	376	6	385
Massachusetts	1,565	914	2,636
Rhode Island	454	129	599
Connecticut	1,573	1,528	3,561
New York	5,457	11,185	20,907
New Jersey ²	1,898	3,611	6,161
Pennsylvania	3,639	4,279	7,918
North Central	30,674	29,199	61,841
Ohio	6,566	6,997	13,643
Indiana	3,469	1,454	4,955
Illinois	4,478	6,234	10,910
Michigan	5,766	8,682	15,190
Wisconsin	1,845	1,396	3,438
Minnesota	1,540	340	2,075
Iowa	1,698	405	2,185
Missouri	2,790	2,553	5,364
North Dakota	178	1	202
South Dakota	400	10	570
Nebraska	531	334	983
Kansas	1,413	793	2,326
South	54,805	71,417	132,465
Delaware	488	759	1,248
Maryland	1,690	5,529	7,243
Dist. of Columbia ³	185	4,475	4,662
Virginia	3,221	4,818	8,068
West Virginia	1,353	258	1,611
North Carolina	6,412	7,742	14,529
South Carolina	3,402	4,476	7,930
Georgia	4,998	7,386	12,391
Florida	9,833	9,747	19,583
Kentucky	2,524	1,050	3,576
Tennessee	3,159	2,774	5,970
Alabama	1,487	2,444	3,933
Mississippi	1,106	2,144	3,261
Arkansas	1,154	1,219	2,373
Louisiana ⁴	1,882	4,890	7,550
Oklahoma	2,220	950	3,439
Texas	9,691	10,750	25,098

Table G. (continued)

	WHITE	BLACK	ALL RACES
West	20,771	9,911	40,175
Montana	605	10	738
Idaho	761	23	895
Wyoming ⁵	337	16	444
Colorado ⁶	1,119	465	2,272
New Mexico	529	165	1,672
Arizona	1,492	645	3,250
Utah	683	79	921
Nevada	1,045	446	1,602
Washington	3,162	899	4,513
Oregon	2,610	381	3,285
California ⁷	7,870	6,684	19,318
Alaska ⁸	487	79	773
Hawaii	71	19	532
TOTAL	122,304	132,194	277,772

SOURCE: National Institute of Corrections survey, 1979.

NOTES: ¹Vermont does not include 22 prisoners on "extended furlough."

²New Jersey did not report race for 222 prisoners.

³District figures include 1,002 D.C. Code violators in federal prisons (W-84, B-918, NA-0, 0-0). Also included were 1,497 prisoners in the District of Columbia jail, of whom 614 were sentenced, 672 were unsentenced, and 201 were parole violators.

⁴Louisiana did not report race for 722 state prisoners in parish jails.

⁵Wyoming included prisoners on work release.

⁶Colorado did not include 257 "off-grounds" prisoners.

⁷California did not include 3,216 prisoners who were not housed in regular prison facilities (1,570 in reception centers, 69 in controlled substances treatment control units, and 1,277 in other miscellaneous facilities).

⁸Alaska included 178 state prisoners in federal prisons (W-101, B-31, NA-42, 0-4). The number of prisoners in Alaska's state prisons was computed from the 10/1/79 population on the basis of the racial averages for Fiscal Year 1979 (W-65%, or 386, B-8% or 48, NA-26% or 155, 0-1% or 6). Also included were pre-sentenced prisoners and convicted misdemeanants.

Table H. Percent distributions of estimated U.S. state populations by race, sex, region and jurisdiction, 1976

	% W H I T E			% B L A C K		
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Northeast	43.4	46.3	89.7	4.1	5.1	9.2
Maine	47.5	51.8	99.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
New Hampshire	48.8	50.6	99.4	0.1	0.1	0.2
Vermont	48.4	51.0	99.6	0.1	0.1	0.2
Massachusetts	47.3	48.6	95.9	1.6	1.7	3.3
Rhode Island	46.4	49.8	96.1	1.3	1.4	2.7
Connecticut	45.5	47.0	92.5	3.2	3.8	6.9
New York	40.7	44.8	85.5	5.5	7.1	12.5
New Jersey	43.0	45.0	88.0	4.8	6.0	10.8
Pennsylvania	44.1	46.7	90.8	4.1	4.7	8.7
North Central	44.2	46.2	90.4	4.1	4.7	8.8
Ohio	43.9	46.2	90.1	4.4	5.0	9.4
Indiana	45.4	47.2	92.5	3.2	3.6	6.7
Illinois	40.9	42.6	83.6	7.1	8.3	15.4
Michigan	42.9	45.1	88.0	5.1	6.1	11.2
Wisconsin	47.5	49.0	76.5	1.6	1.6	3.2
Minnesota	47.5	50.0	97.5	0.7	0.6	1.3
Iowa	48.7	49.8	98.5	0.6	0.6	1.2
Missouri	42.3	45.5	87.8	5.8	6.0	11.8
North Dakota	49.2	48.5	97.7			0.3
South Dakota	47.5	48.2	95.8			0.1
Nebraska	46.2	49.8	96.1	1.5	1.6	3.1
Kansas	45.6	48.8	93.6	2.7	2.9	5.6
South	39.0	41.3	80.3	9.0	9.8	18.8
Delaware	42.1	43.3	85.8	6.3	7.0	13.4
Maryland	38.2	39.7	78.0	9.5	11.2	20.7
Dist. of Col.	12.1	13.6	25.7	34.5	37.3	71.7
Virginia	40.5	42.4	82.4	7.8	8.0	15.9
W. Virginia	48.0	49.8	97.8	0.8	1.2	2.1
N. Carolina	36.9	38.3	75.2	10.2	12.2	22.4
S. Carolina	32.9	34.9	67.8	15.2	16.5	31.6
Georgia	35.0	37.1	72.1	12.7	14.5	27.2
Florida	40.1	43.7	83.8	7.6	7.9	15.5
Kentucky	44.2	46.6	90.8	4.4	4.4	8.8
Tennessee	40.2	43.2	83.4	7.5	8.9	16.4

- continued -

Table H. (continued)

	% W H I T E			% B L A C K		
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Alabama	35.3	37.6	72.9	13.1	13.6	26.7
Mississippi	31.5	32.4	63.9	17.2	18.4	35.6
Arkansas	38.8	43.4	82.2	8.3	8.9	17.2
Louisiana	34.9	36.1	71.0	14.0	14.6	28.6
Oklahoma	43.4	46.4	89.8	3.1	3.5	6.7
Texas	42.6	45.1	87.7	5.7	5.9	11.6
West	44.0	45.5	89.4	2.5	2.8	5.3
Montana	47.6	48.9	96.5	0.3	0.1	0.4
Idaho	49.3	49.0	98.3	-	-	-
Wyoming	49.1	48.0	96.8	0.3	0.3	0.8
Colorado	47.4	48.3	95.7	1.7	1.8	3.5
New Mexico	43.6	44.5	88.1	0.9	0.9	1.7
Arizona	45.7	46.5	92.1	1.3	1.3	2.6
Utah	48.6	49.6	98.2	0.3	0.2	0.7
Nevada	45.3	45.3	90.7	3.2	3.2	6.3
Washington	46.8	48.5	95.3	1.0	0.9	1.9
Oregon	46.6	49.7	96.4	0.7	0.6	1.3
California	43.1	44.9	88.0	3.7	4.2	7.8
Alaska	41.7	37.4	79.4	2.3	1.7	4.3
Hawaii	15.7	14.5	30.2	0.5	0.2	0.7
TOTAL						
United States	42.3	44.5	86.8	5.4	6.1	11.5

SOURCE: Table E

Table I. Percent distributions of U.S. state prison populations by race, sex, region and jurisdiction, 1978

	% among prisoners whose race reptsd.						% of prisoners whose race is not reported
	W H I T E			B L A C K			
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	
Northeast	48.1	1.3	49.4	49.0	3.3	50.6	0.3
Maine	95.1	2.1	97.2	1.1	0	1.1	
N.Hampshire	95.4	2.1	97.5	2.1	0	2.1	
Vermont	97.4	2.4	99.8	0.2	0	0.2	
Mass.	60.9	1.9	41.6	35.6	1.5	37.1	
Rhode Is.	74.2	1.2	75.4	23.6	0.8	24.4	3.0
Conn.	57.5	2.0	59.5	38.7	1.7	40.4	
New York	45.0	1.1	46.1	52.2	1.7	53.9	0.6
New Jersey	37.3	1.2	38.5	59.7	1.8	61.5	
Penn.	44.0	1.4	45.4	53.0	1.6	54.5	
N. Central	49.2	1.5	50.7	46.2	1.9	48.2	1.3
Ohio	46.0	1.6	47.7	49.9	2.5	52.3	
Indiana	68.6	2.0	70.6	28.0	1.4	29.4	0.1
Illinois	40.4	0.9	41.3	56.0	2.0	57.9	
Michigan	39.5	0.8	40.3	57.2	2.1	59.3	5.3
Wisconsin	56.1	2.0	58.1	36.9	2.2	39.1	
Minnesota	72.8	3.4	76.3	15.4	0.9	0.7	23.7
Iowa	77.7	2.9	80.6	17.2	0.9	18.1	0.1
Missouri	48.4	1.6	50.0	48.4	1.6	50.0	
N.Dakota	79.5	1.5	81.0	2.0	0	2.0	
S.Dakota	68.0	2.4	70.5	1.9	0	1.9	
Nebraska	58.4	3.2	61.6	31.3	2.4	33.7	
Kansas	61.4	2.4	63.8	32.2	1.7	33.9	
South	43.7	1.6	45.3	51.9	2.3	54.3	0.1
Delaware	41.9	1.9	43.8	53.3	2.9	56.2	
Maryland	23.3	0.6	24.0	73.5	2.4	75.9	0.2
Dist.of Col.	3.0	0.2	3.2	94.9	1.9	96.8	1.0
Virginia	38.8	1.5	40.3	56.9	2.8	59.7	0.3
W.Virginia	82.4	1.6	84.0	15.2	0.8	15.9	
N.Carolina	42.0	1.4	43.5	51.7	2.4	54.2	
S.Carolina	41.3	1.8	43.1	54.5	2.4	56.9	
Georgia	37.9	1.9	39.9	57.2	2.9	60.1	0.4
Florida	47.1	1.5	48.5	48.9	2.6	51.5	
Kentucky	68.8	2.0	70.8	27.9	1.3	29.2	
Tennessee	50.2	2.3	52.5	45.4	2.1	47.5	

- continued -

Table I. (continued)

	% among prisoners whose race is reported						% of prisoners whose race is not reported
	W H I T E			B L A C K			
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	
Alabama	38.3	1.8	40.1	56.9	2.9	59.8	
Mississippi	31.9	1.3	33.2	64.2	2.5	66.7	
Arkansas	46.3	1.7	48.1	50.1	1.9	51.9	
Louisiana	27.2	1.0	28.2	69.9	1.9	71.8	
Oklahoma	62.6	2.4	65.0	27.5	1.8	29.3	1.2
Texas	55.2	2.1	57.2	40.8	2.0	42.8	
West	68.1	3.2	71.3	23.7	1.5	25.2	1.3
Montana	80.9	2.0	82.9	1.4	0	1.4	
Idaho	90.6	3.1	93.8	2.1	0.2	2.4	
Wyoming	95.6	3.2	98.8	0	0.2	0.2	
Colorado	74.9	1.9	76.7	21.4	0.7	22.2	
N.Mexico	83.2	3.4	86.6	10.8	0.6	11.4	
Arizona	73.0	3.7	76.7	18.9	1.2	20.1	1.8
Utah	86.5	2.9	89.4	7.8	0.5	8.3	
Nevada	64.4	2.7	67.1	27.6	2.6	30.2	
Wash.	71.9	3.2	75.2	18.8	1.6	20.4	1.6
Oregon	84.4	2.8	87.2	8.0	1.1	9.1	0.9
Calif.	61.1	3.5	64.6	31.8	1.8	33.6	0.5
Alaska	62.6	3.1	65.7	25.0	1.3	26.2	1.0
Hawaii	18.0	0.9	18.9	3.2	0.5	3.6	38.8
TOTAL							
U.S.	49.2	1.8	51.0	46.0	2.0	48.0	0.6

SOURCE: Table F.

Table J. Percent distributions of U.S. state prison populations by race, region and jurisdiction, 1979

	% among prisoners whose race is reported		% among prisoners whose race is not reported
	WHITE	BLACK	
Northeast	37.3	50.3	0.5
Maine	97.2	1.5	
New Hampshire	97.0	1.0	
Vermont	97.7	1.6	
Massachusetts	59.4	34.7	
Rhode Island	75.8	21.5	
Connecticut	44.2	42.9	
New York	26.1	53.5	
New Jersey	32.0	60.8	3.6
Pennsylvania	46.0	54.0	
North Central	49.6	47.2	
Ohio	48.1	51.3	
Indiana	70.0	29.3	
Illinois	41.0	57.1	
Michigan	38.0	57.2	
Wisconsin	53.7	40.6	
Minnesota	74.2	16.4	
Iowa	77.7	18.5	
Missouri	52.0	47.6	
N.Dakota	88.1	0.5	
S.Dakota	70.2	1.8	
Nebraska	54.0	34.0	
Kansas	60.7	34.1	
South	41.6	54.2	0.6
Delaware	39.1	60.8	
Maryland	23.3	76.3	
District of Columbia	4.0	96.0	
Virginia	39.9	59.7	
West Virginia	84.0	16.0	
North Carolina	44.1	53.3	
South Carolina	42.9	56.4	
Georgia	40.3	59.6	
Florida	50.2	49.8	

- continued -

Table J. (continued)

	% among prisoners whose race is reported		% among prisoners whose race is not reported
	WHITE	BLACK	
Kentucky	70.6	29.4	
Tennessee	52.9	46.5	
Alabama	37.8	62.1	
Mississippi	33.9	65.7	
Arkansas	48.6	51.4	
Louisiana	27.8	72.1	10.2
Oklahoma	64.6	27.8	
Texas	35.6	42.8	
West	51.7	24.7	
Montana	82.0	1.4	
Idaho	85.0	2.6	
Wyoming	75.9	3.6	
Colorado	49.3	20.5	
New Mexico	32.4	10.1	
Arizona	45.9	19.8	
Utah	74.2	8.6	
Nevada	65.2	27.8	
Washington	70.1	19.9	
Oregon	79.5	11.6	
California	40.7	34.6	
Alaska	63.0	10.2	
Hawaii	13.3	3.6	
TOTAL			
U.S.	44.2	47.8	0.4

SOURCE: Table G.

END