

**GRAND CHALLENGE:
PROMOTE SMART DECARCERATION**

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OUR FOCUS

Develop a proactive, comprehensive, evidence-based, “smart decarceration” strategy that will dramatically reduce the U.S. prison population and enable our nation to embrace a more effective and just approach to public safety.

Specific Focus:

How do we reduce recidivism?

DESCRIPTIVE STUDIES

- United States has the highest rate of imprisonment in the world; 716 per 100,000 persons
- 1972: Fewer than 200,000 individuals were incarcerated in the U.S.
- 2014: More than 2.2 million people were incarcerated with another 4.7 million adults under community supervision

DESCRIPTIVE STUDIES

<u>Characteristic</u>	<u>1 year</u>	<u>3 year</u>	<u>5 year</u>
All released prisoners	43.4%	67.8%	76.6%
Sex			
Male	44.5%	69%	77.6%
Female	34.4	58.5	68.1
Race/Hispanic origin			
White	39.7%	63.9%	73.1%
Black/African American	45.8	71.7	80.8
Hispanic/Latino	46.3	68.1	75.3
Other	42.7 ^{a,b}	67.3	75.0
Age at Release			
24 or younger	51.3%	75.9%	84.1
25-29	45.4	71.1	80.3
30-34	43.4	68.1	77.0
35-39	44.4	69.8	78.1
40 or older	37.3	60.3	69.2
Type of Prison Release			
Conditional	44.0%	67.8%	76.5%
Unconditional	41.8	67.9	76.8

DESCRIPTIVE STUDIES

- In general, commitment crimes predicted repeat crimes
- 1/3 imprisoned for violent crimes recidivated with violent crimes
- More than 1/2 of property crime offenders re-offended with property crimes
- About 1/2 with drug crimes were re-arrested with drug crimes

DESCRIPTIVE STUDIES

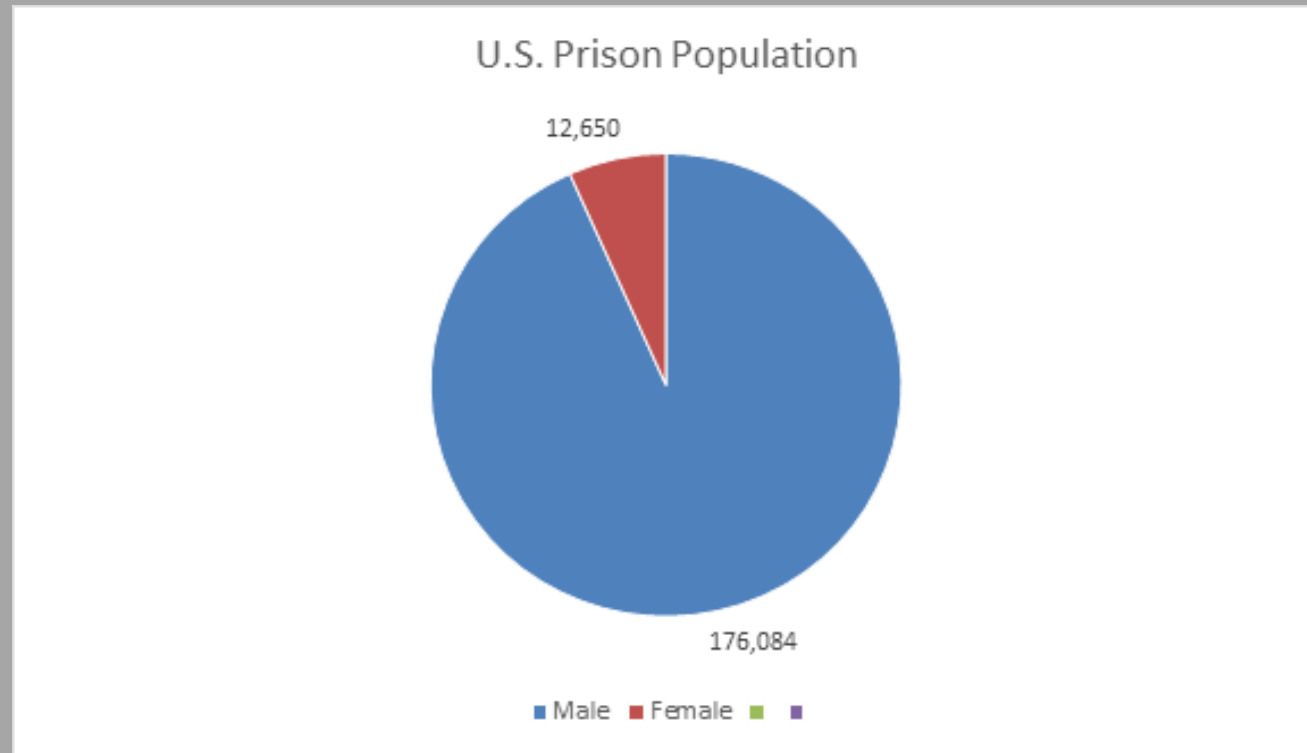
Individuals most at-risk for imprisonment:

- Men of color
- Younger populations
- Those who are involved with illicit substances

Those most at risk to recidivate following imprisonment:

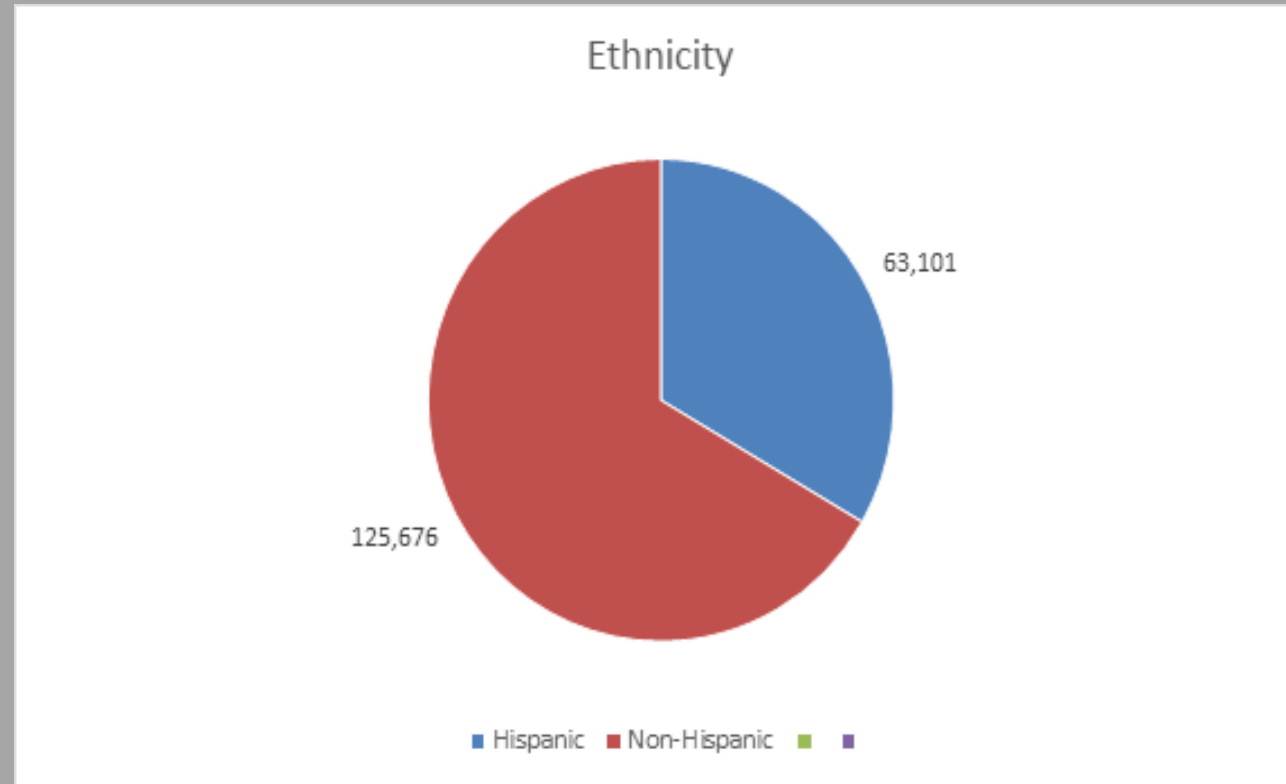
- Men of color under the age of forty
- Those who commit non-violent crimes, including property and drug crimes

DESCRIPTIVE STUDIES



Based on data available by Federal Bureau of Prisons
Last Updated: 25 February 2017

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RACE CORRELATIONAL STUDIES

5 Year Recidivism Rates:

- African American (Non-Hispanic) 81%
- Hispanic 75%
- White (Non-Hispanic) 73%

RACE CORRELATIONAL STUDIES

Non-Violent Re-offenses (2010-2014):

- Non-White (Hispanic & Black) 67%
- White (Non-Hispanic) 31%

RACE CORRELATIONAL STUDIES

Violent Re-offenses (1994-2010; 2015):

- No significant association between Whites & Hispanics
- (Ultimately) significant association with Blacks

GENDER CORRELATIONAL STUDIES

Differences:

- Men are 10% more likely to recidivate overall
- Male violent criminal history leads to increased violent recidivism
- Men with longer sentences leads to lower recidivism, while in women recidivism increases

GENDER CORRELATIONAL STUDIES

Similarities:

- Protective Factor = family support
- Risk Factors = delinquent peers, living in low SES, weak informal social control
- Prison is criminogenic
- Jail, intensive probation and probation all produce less recidivism

EFFECTIVENESS STUDIES

Prison Based College Programs:

- Reduces recidivism, offers job training and teaches responsibility

Specialized Courts:

- Services such as drug, mental health, domestic violence and community courts
- Help with reintegration into society

Family & Community Integration:

- Studies show that even one visit from a family member or friend can reduce recidivism 13%-25% depending on the sentence

CONCLUSION

Research Indicates:

- Black prisoners have the highest recidivism rate (outside factors may have an impact on statistical data)
- Men recidivate more than woman (but the gap is shrinking)

CONCLUSION

Our Suggestions:

- Prison-based college programs- *Increases employment skills*
- Specialty courts- *Offers rehabilitation vs criminalization*
- Increased familial & community support- *Creates social supports necessary for successful reintegration*