

The Marshall Project
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Incarceration Rate Fact Sheet

Overview

The Marshall Project plans to examine the impact of drug-related crimes in the prison system, as well as how drug-related crimes affect minority incarceration rates.

Citizen Incarceration Rate:

- Currently 0.7% of the American population is in the federal local prison system. 1 out of 5 prisoners in the world come from the United States. 0.88% of adults in the US are incarcerated.
- 48.6% of prisoners are in as a result of drug related offenses.
- The average time served for a drug-related crime is 10-15 months.

Minority Incarceration Rate:

- The imprisonment rate for African-Americans is has gone down 34% since 2006. In 2018 1,501 African-American were incarcerated for every 100,000 free.
- 33% of people arrested for drug related crimes are minorities.

Recidivism Rate:

- The recidivism rate for the United States in recent years has been as high as 50%. The rate as not declined in years.
- For drug, related crimes the recidivism rate is also 50%, however the reconviction rate is 30.8%, as well as the return incarceration rate is only 23.4%

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