

URBAN MEN IN POVERTY: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

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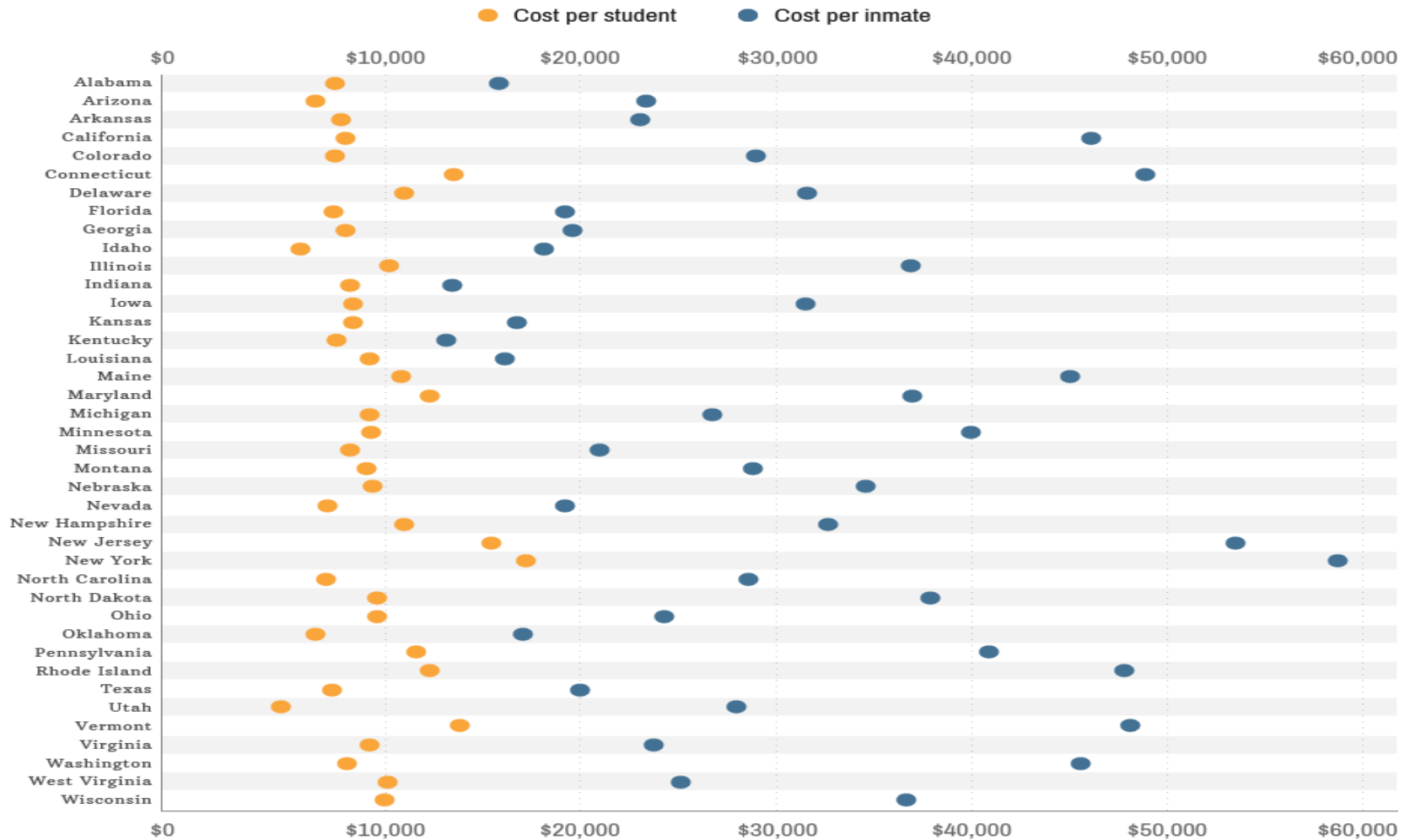
Overview

- Today's talk:
 - Expansion of the Penal System
 - Compared to earlier periods
 - How many are cycling in/out
 - Who is most impacted
 - Demographic considerations
 - When possible a focus on Wisconsin
 - Think broadly about consequences
 - Brief Discussion with Q&A

Scope of System

- Penal system has emerged as a social institution
 - Approximately 1 in every 100 adults incarcerated
- Compare to another institution: Higher education
 - All the students at UW-system, and Big-10, Pac-12, Big East, SEC, ACC, Big-12, IVY
 - Approximately same number of African-American men in prisons and jails as enrolled in four year institutions of higher learning
 - Jails VS Prisons
 - Felons VS Ex-Felons*
 - Many states, (including CA, NY, PA, MI, GA) spend more on incarceration than higher education

Spending



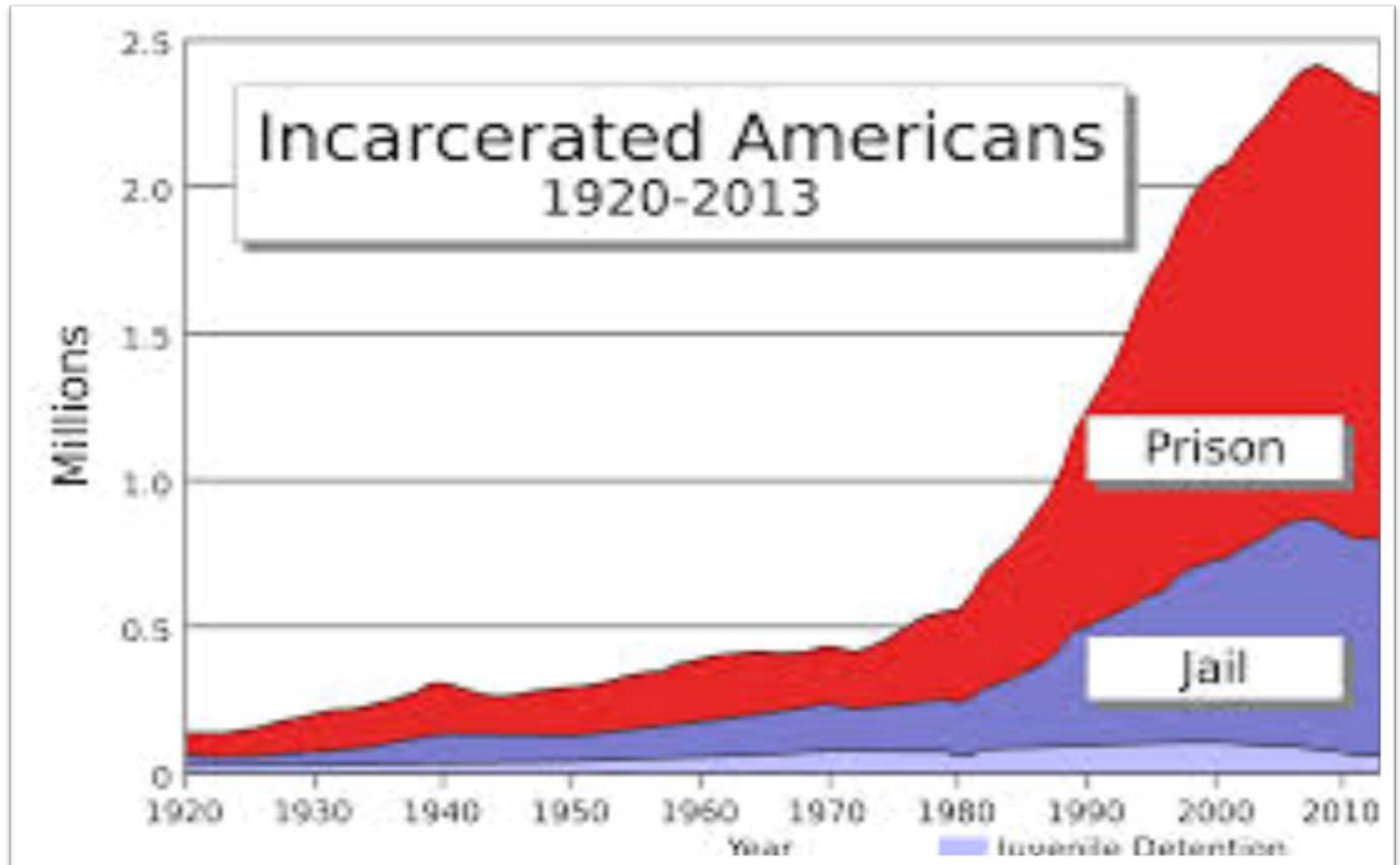
Expansion

- Notable for 3 reasons
 - Comparatively recent
 - Last three decades
 - Expansion not equal
 - Disproportionately poor, urban, minority men
 - Policy decision decoupled from crime rates
 - Crime rates decreasing since the early 1990s

Recent

- Began around the mid-1980s
- Universal
 - Federal system
 - Federal system population up over 700%
 - Funding up over 1700%
 - All state systems
 - Greater variation, but roughly 400-500%
 - Swelling of correctional population across different “classes”
 - Prisoners, felons, ex-felons

Expansion: How fast? How recent?



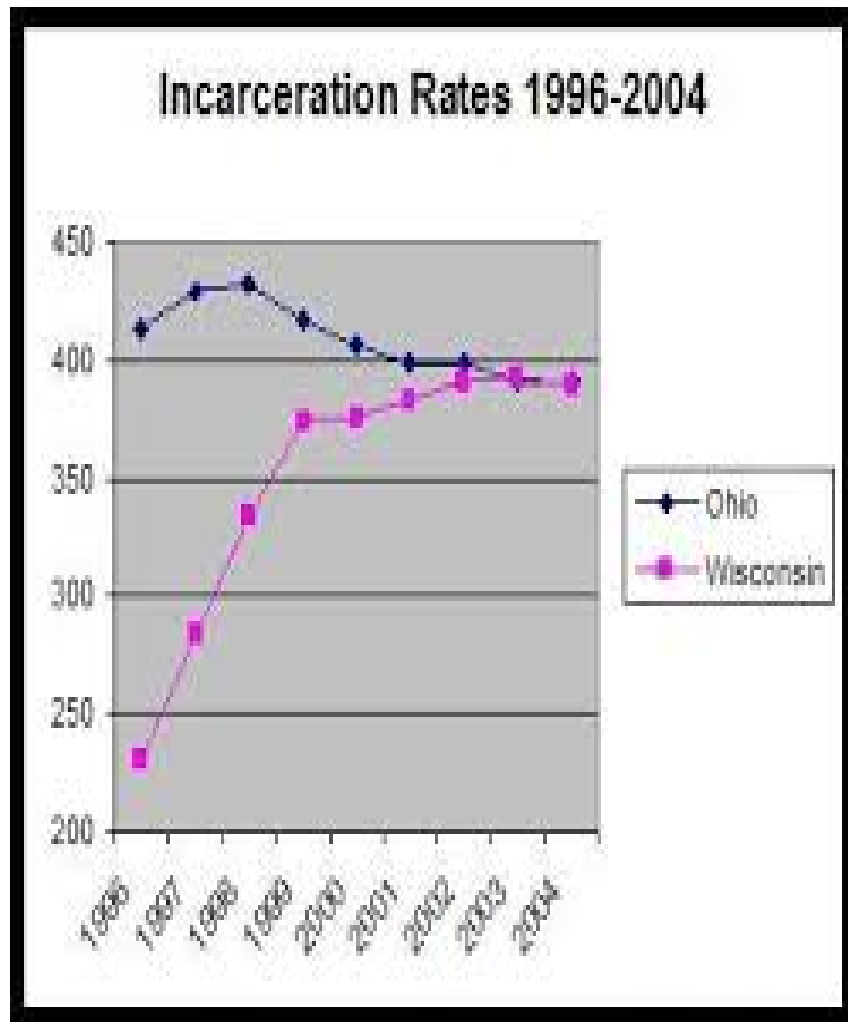
Further Back?

The Growth Of Incarceration

U.S. imprisonment rate per 100,000 people since 1980

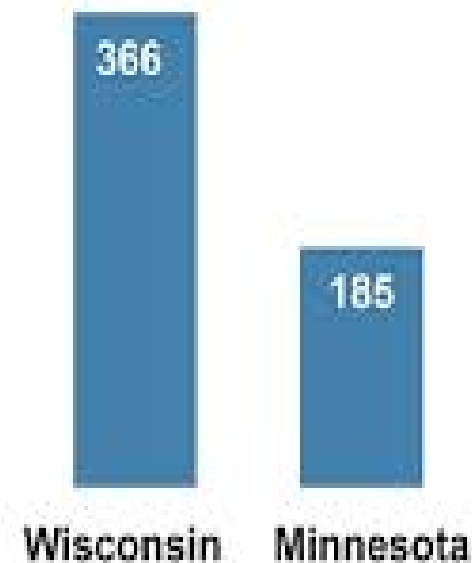


Wisconsin: Started later...



Wisconsin's Incarceration Rate is Double that of Minnesota

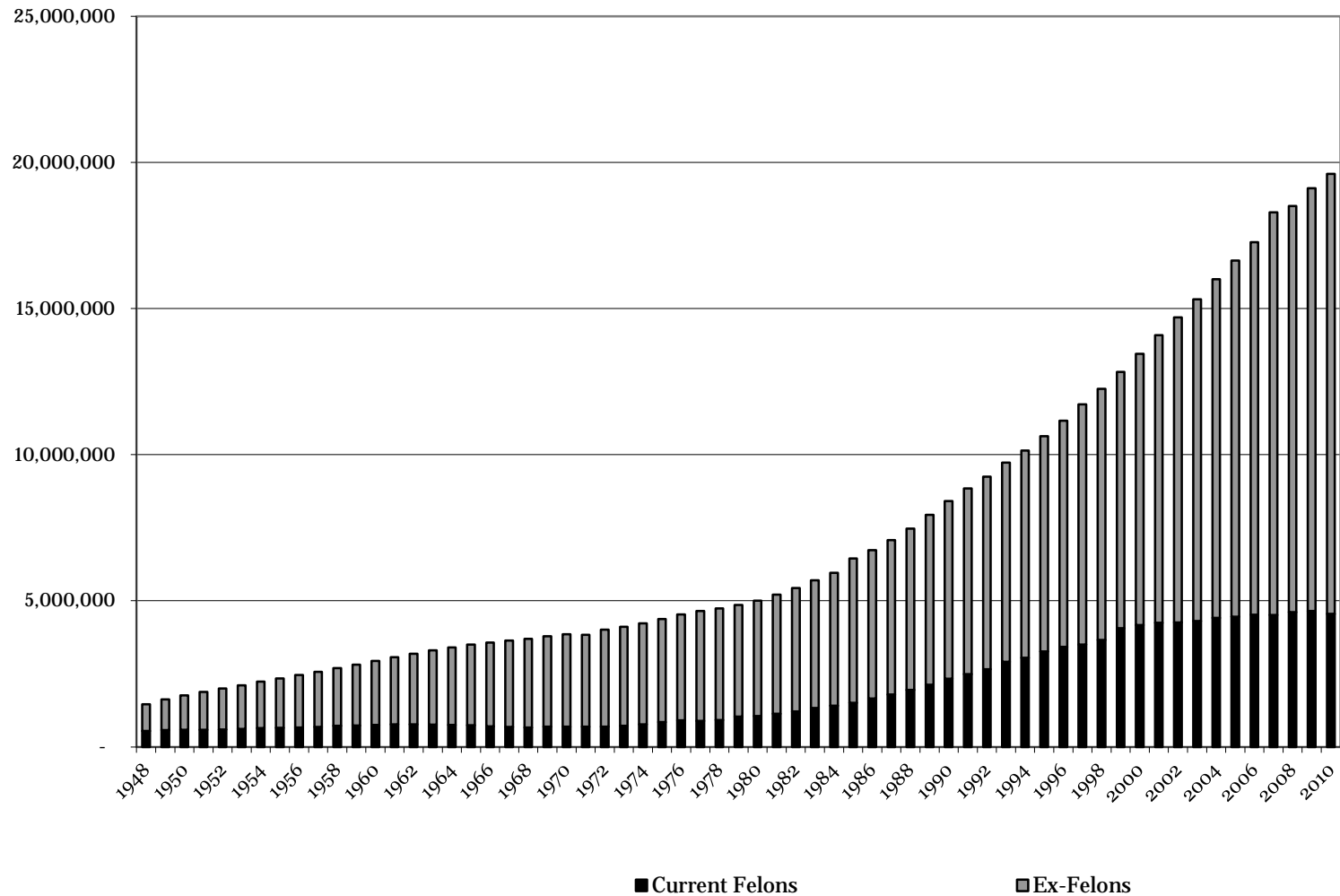
2010 Incarceration Rate per 100,000 Residents



SOURCE: Statehealthfacts.org

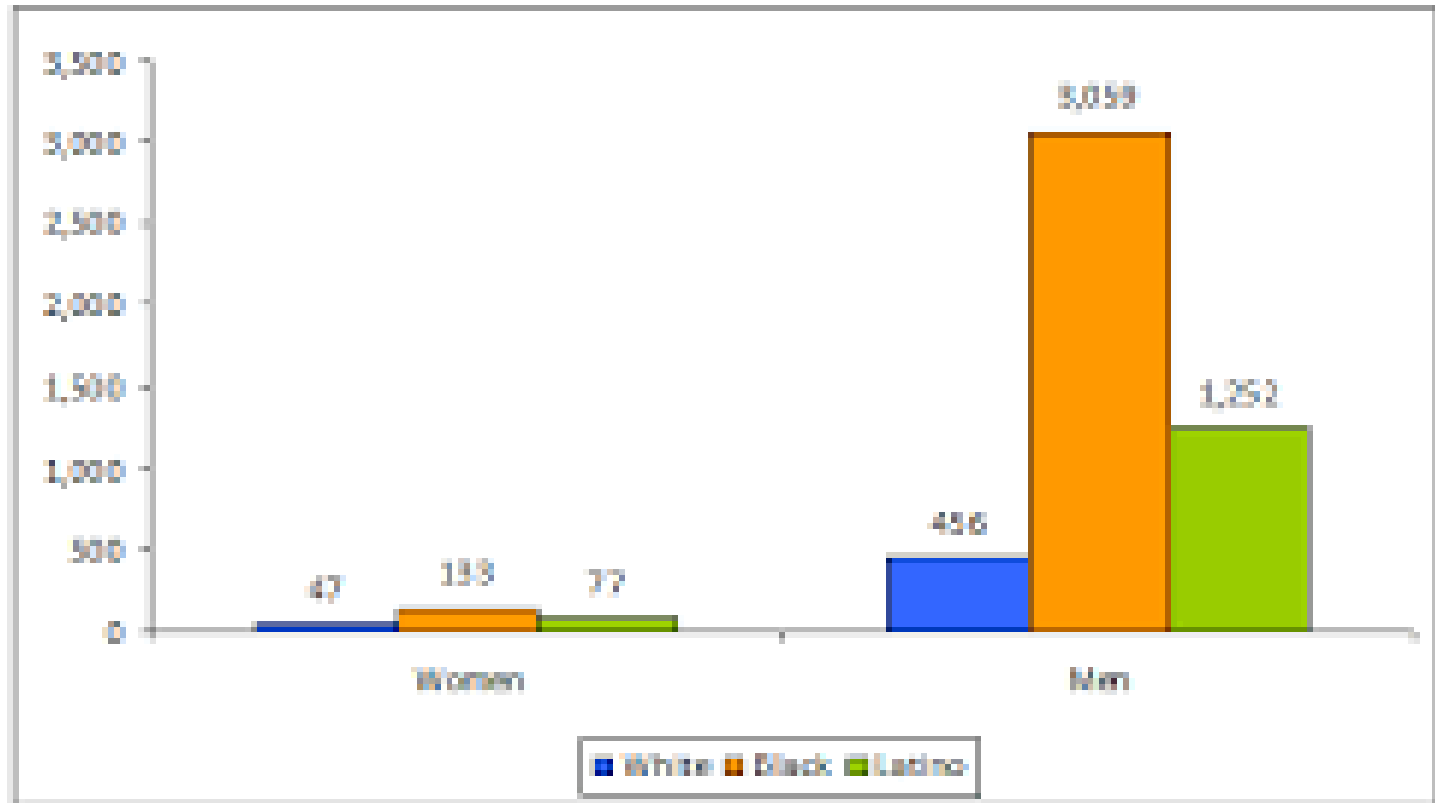
Wisconsin Budget Project

National Picture- Total Felons*



Who is Impacted?

RATE OF INCARCERATION PER 100,000, BY GENDER AND RACE, 2010



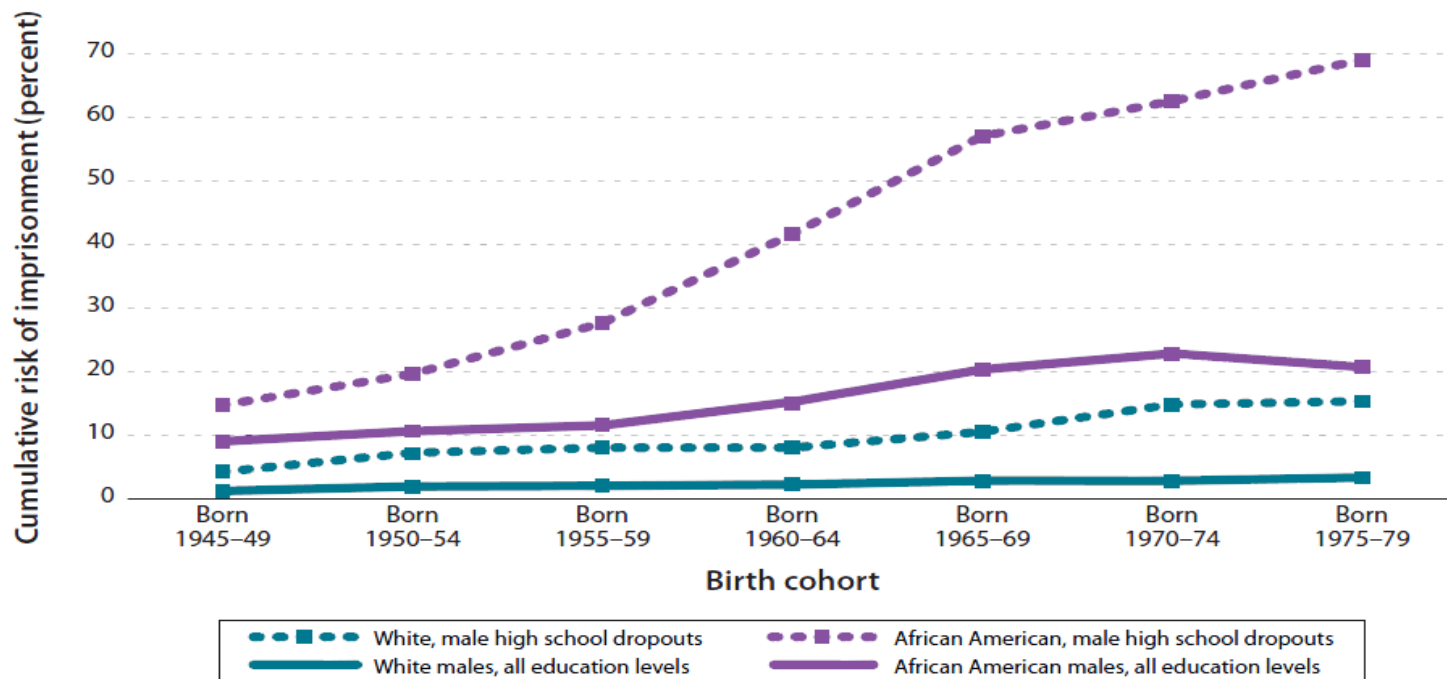
Source: Guerino, P., Harrison, P. M., & Sabol, W. (2011). *Prisoners in 2010*. Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Men - Add Disadvantage ?

FIGURE 7.

Cumulative Risk of Imprisonment by Age 30–34 for Men Born Between 1945–49 and 1975–79, by Race and Education

Among men born between 1975 and 1979, an African American high school dropout has nearly a 70 percent chance of being imprisoned by his mid-thirties.



Source: Western and Wildeman 2009.

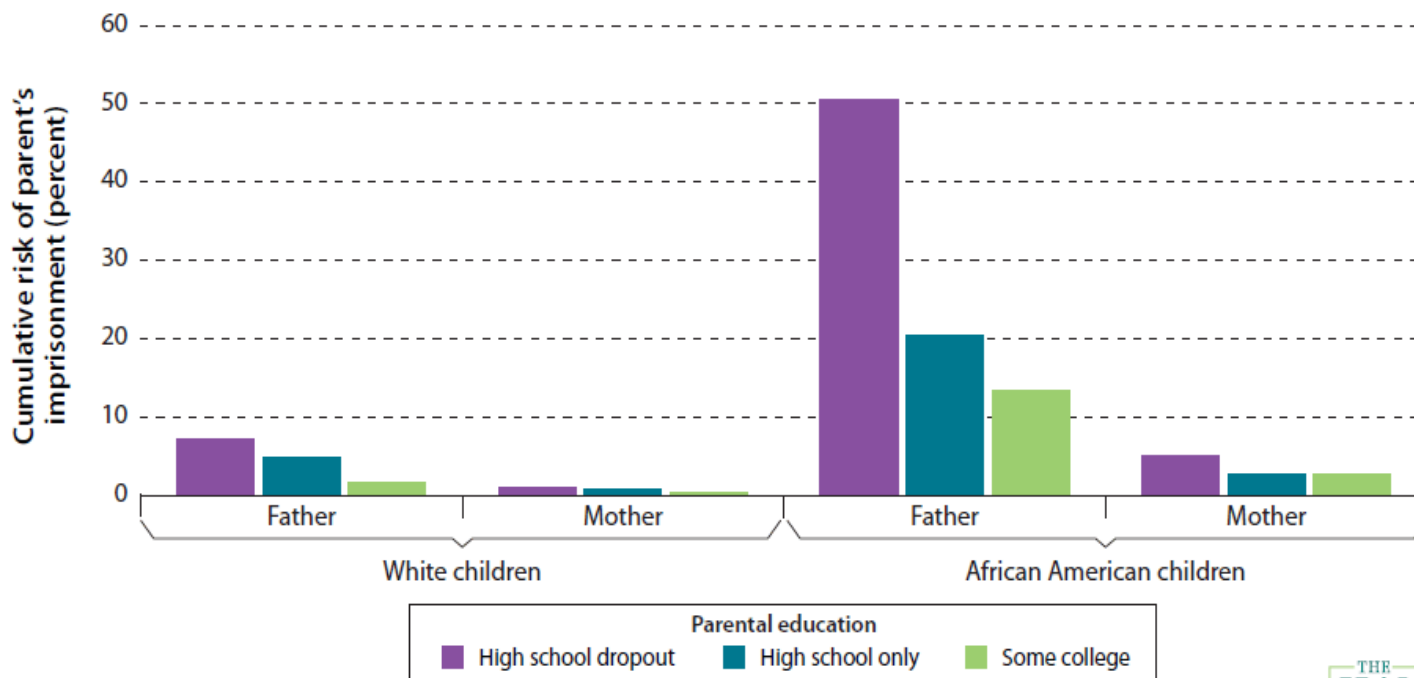
Note: Cumulative risk of imprisonment is the projected lifetime likelihood of imprisonment for a person born in a specific range of years. For more details, see the technical appendix.

Impact on Children?

FIGURE 9.

Cumulative Risk of Parent's Imprisonment for Children by Age 14, by Race and Parent's Education

An African American child whose father did not complete high school has a 50 percent chance of seeing his or her father incarcerated by the time the child reaches his or her fourteenth birthday.

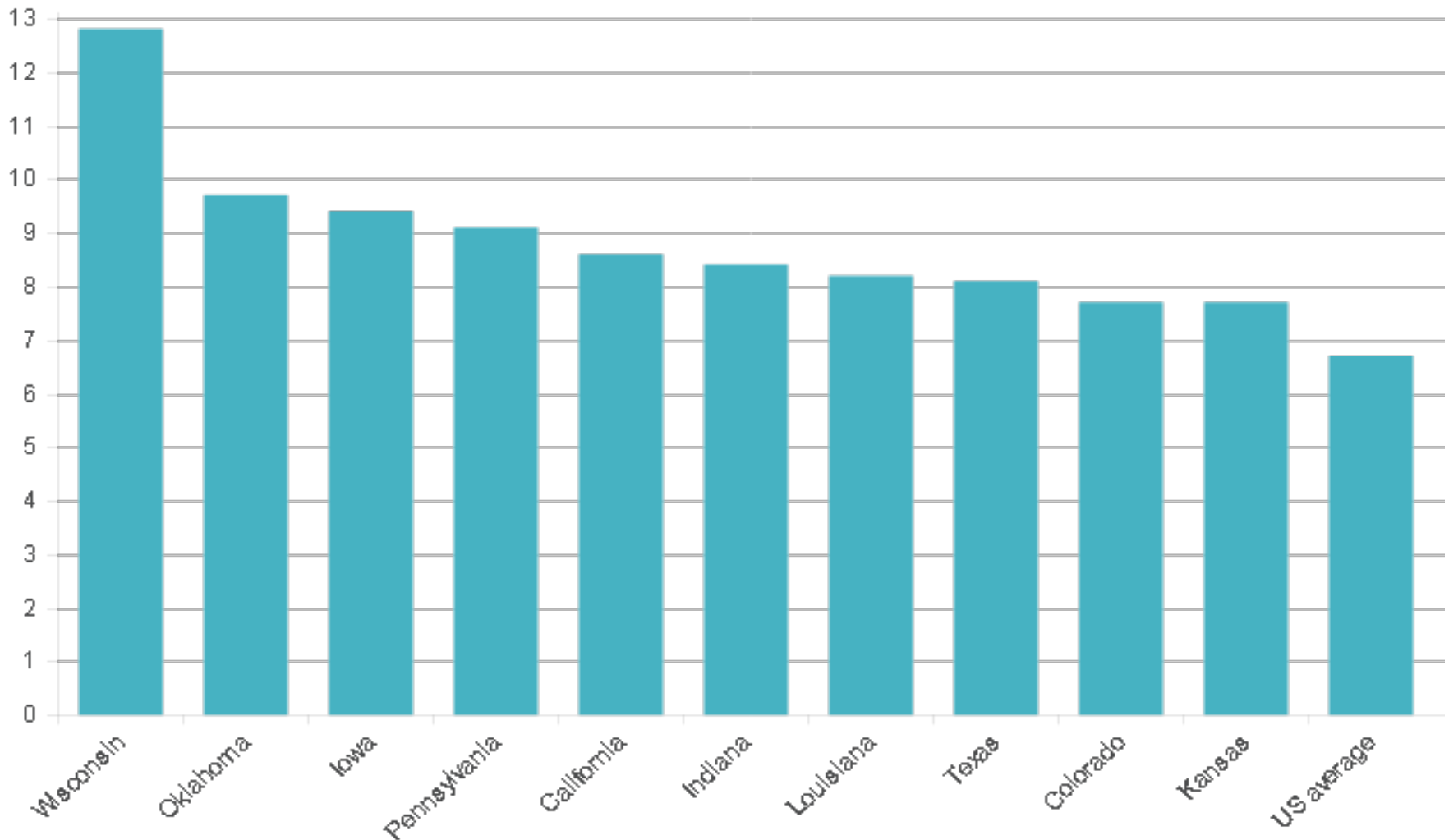


Source: Wildeman 2009.

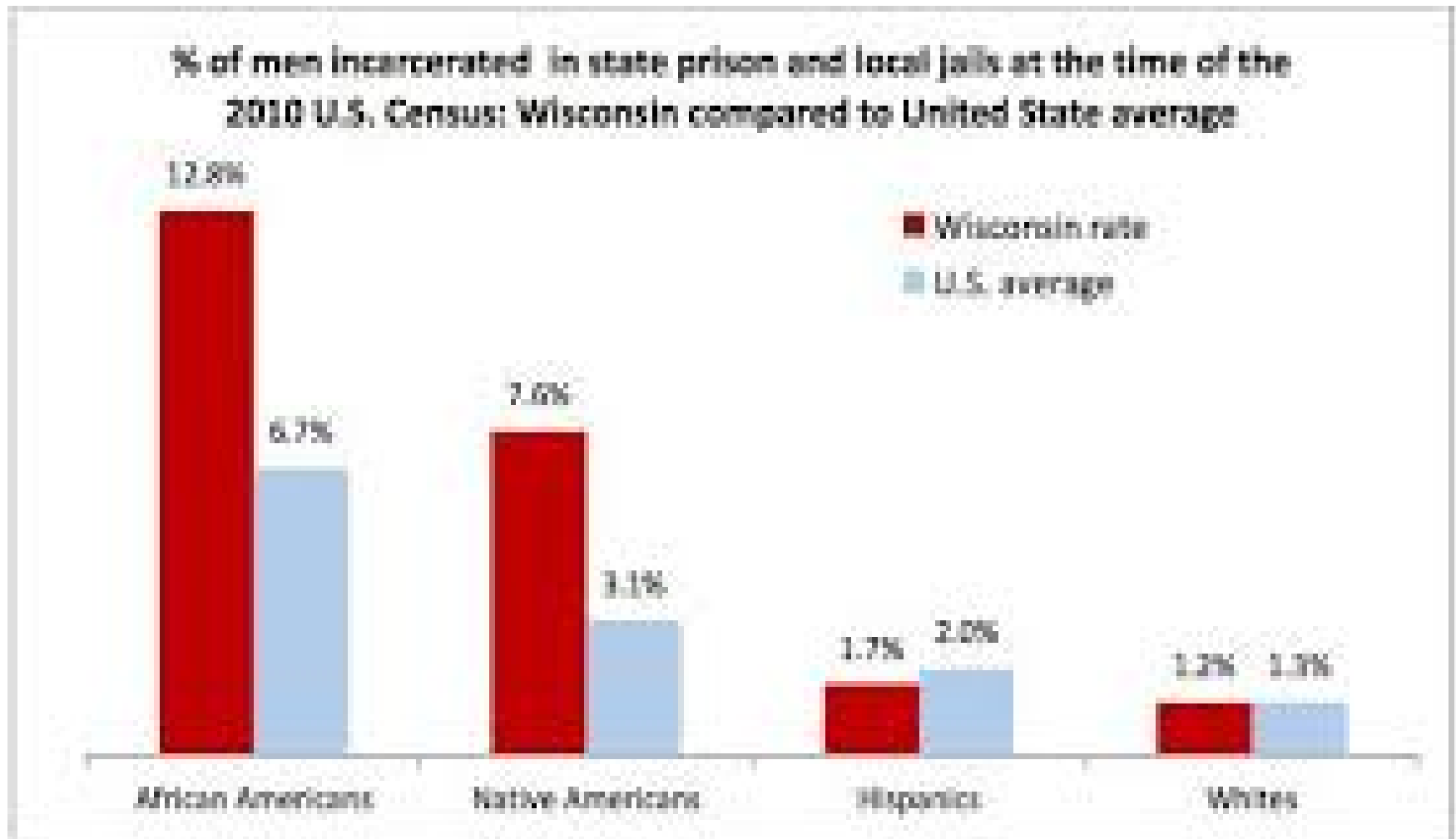
Note: Cumulative risk of imprisonment is the projected lifetime likelihood of a parent's imprisonment by the time his or her child turns fourteen. Children included in the analysis were born in 1990. For more details, see the technical appendix.

How does Wisconsin Compare?

% of African-American Men Incarcerated

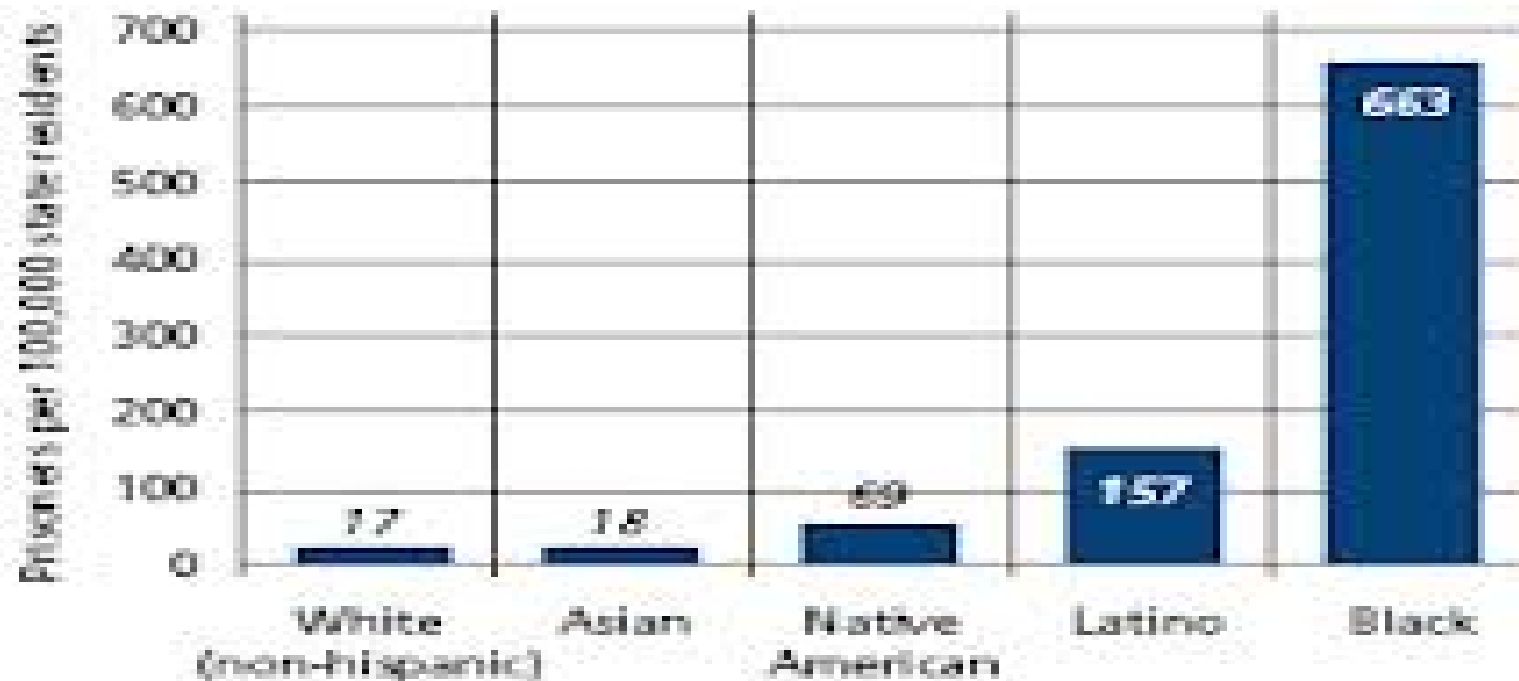


Race Differences



Why? Drug Disparities

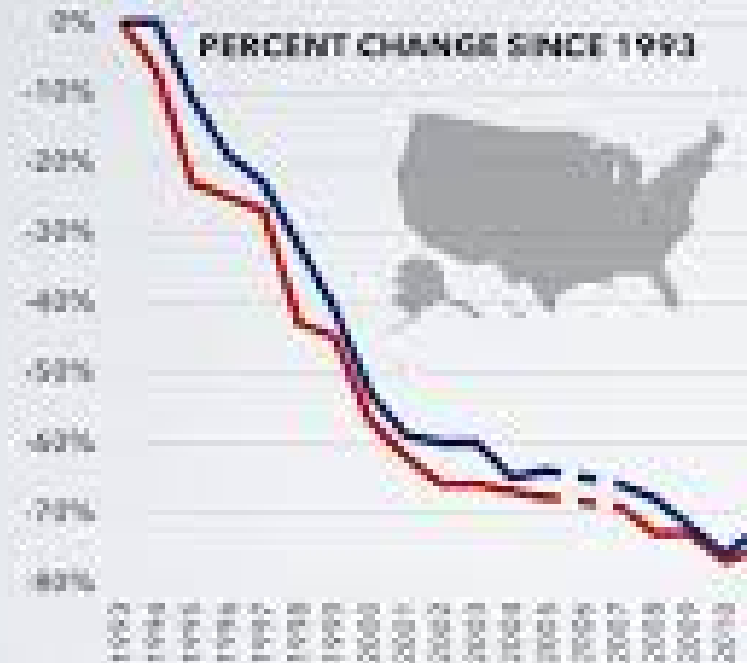
Incarceration rates for nonviolent drug offenses by race/ethnicity: June 30, 2004



SOURCE: DOC Public Information Data File, US Census

Decoupled from Crime

TWO DECADES OF U.S. VICTIMIZATION DECLINES



TOTAL VIOLENT VICTIMIZATION
1993: 79.8 per 1,000
2011: 22.5 per 1,000
DOWN 72%

SERIOUS VIOLENT VICTIMIZATION
1993: 29.1 per 1,000
2011: 7.2 per 1,000
DOWN 75%

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Crime Victimization*, 2011
Note: 2006 includes several methodological changes to the BJS.



New “class” in America

- Correctional policies have caused the emergence of a new “felon class” in society
 - ~20 million felons in the US
 - 8.5 percent of the adult population
 - 22.3 percent of the black adult population
 - 35.4 percent of the black adult male population
- Largely removed from crime
- Greatest disparity around drug crimes
- Transformative impact in American Society

Incarceration and Re-integration

- The implications of mass incarceration: Most often associated with returning to communities
 - 700,000 people release from prison yearly
 - 678,281 (2008 NCES)
 - ~ 398,180 living UW alumni
 - 545,021 degrees granted
(http://registrar.wisc.edu/cumulative_degrees_granted.htm)
 - Concentrated across a number of dimensions
 - Racially, geographically, economically, educationally

Consequences of Incarceration

- Individual level outcomes
 - Jobs, wages, neighborhood, health
- Family level outcomes
 - Family functioning, spouse, children
- Community outcomes
 - Political/ Civic participation and representation
 - Neighborhood impacts
- Across ***almost*** all outcomes:
 - Most disadvantaged groups also most likely to be impacted
 - Incarceration: Creates and perpetuates historical patterns of disadvantage

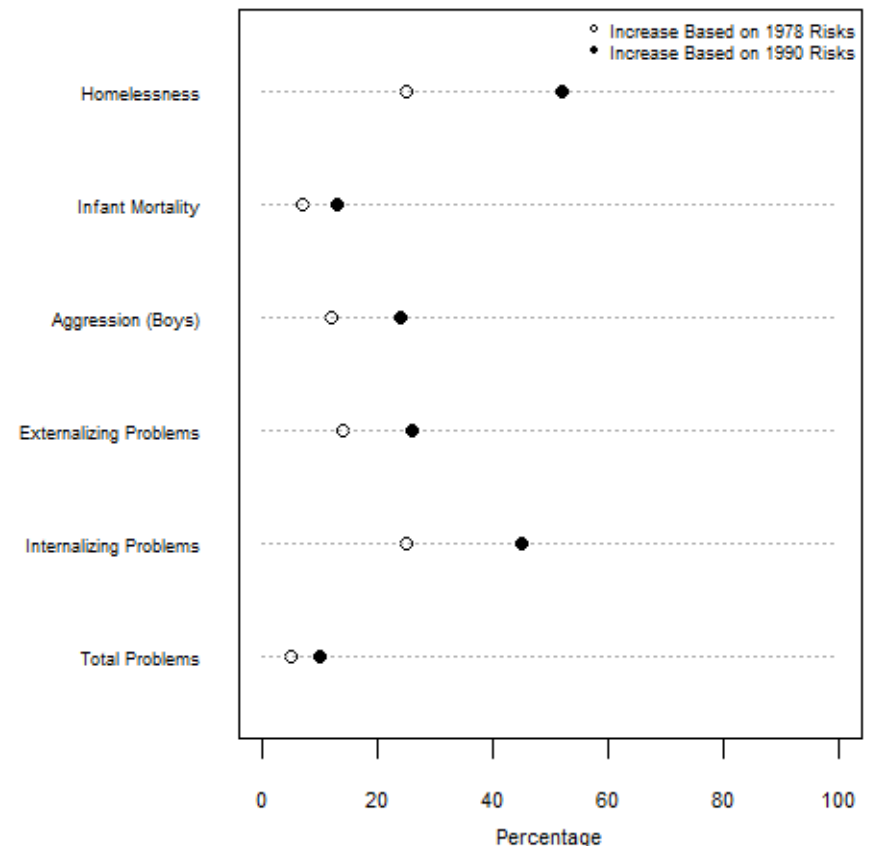
Individual Level Outcomes

- Jobs, wages, neighborhoods, health*
- In depth: Employment - Audit Study
 - Manufacturing Jobs in Milwaukee
 - Adds in newspaper
 - Created Identical job applications: but for race and criminal history
 - All other factors (education, work history etc) held constant
- Who was called back for interview?
 - White: No record 34% of applicants -- with record 17%
 - African-American: No record 12% -- with record 5%
 - Creates and re-enforces inequality

Family level outcomes

- Family functioning, spouse, children
 - Leads to divorce, leads to partner depression
- In depth: Impact on children
- Incarceration related to child behaviors, and has perpetuated racial differences in child behavioral problems

Figure 7.5: Initial Estimates of Increase in Black-White Disparities in Child Wellbeing Due to Incarceration



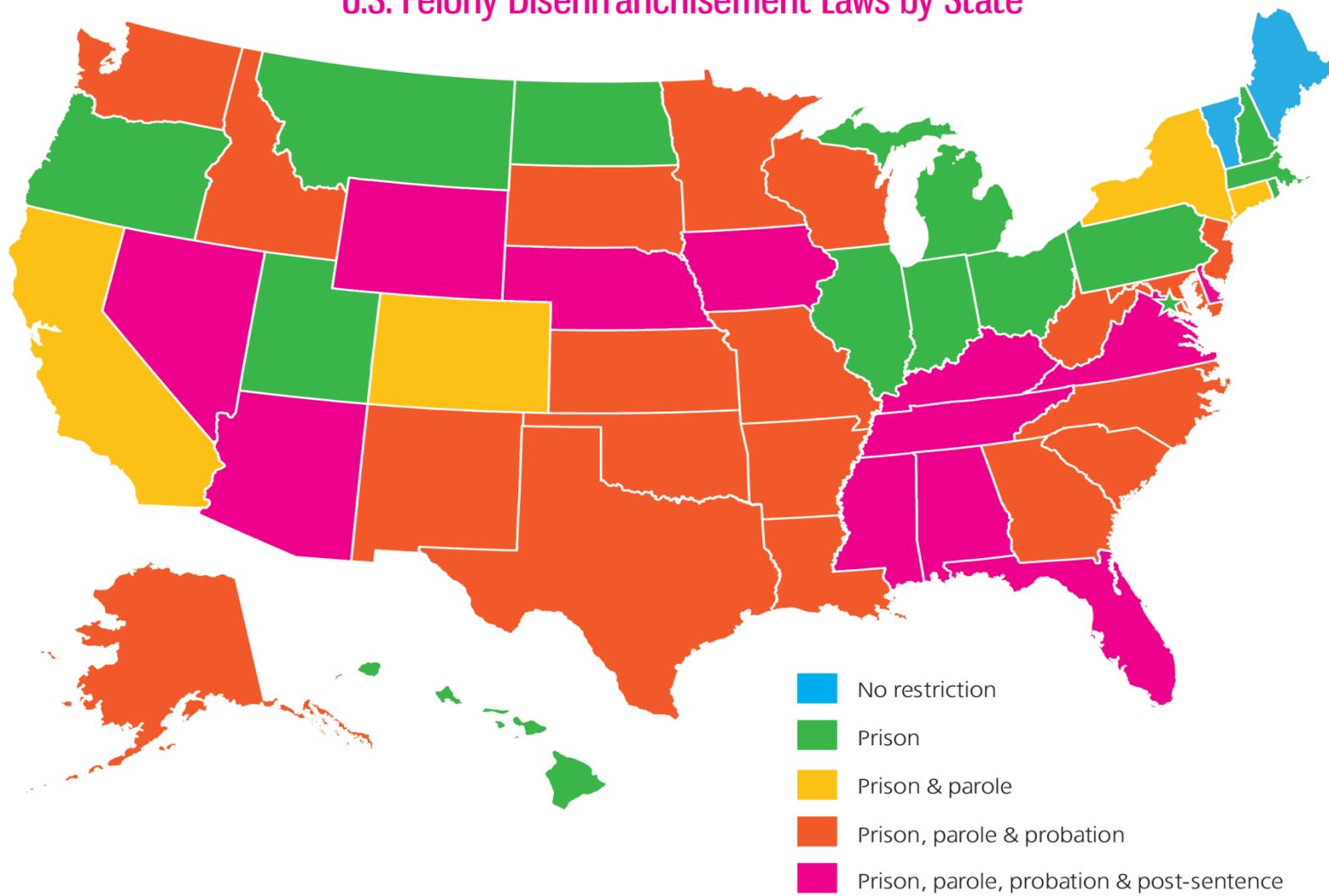
Community Outcomes

- Neighborhood impacts
 - Incarceration disproportionately draws from and returns to the most disadvantaged neighborhoods
 - More Returning inmates: Varied detrimental impacts
- Political participation: representation in depth
 - State variation but felons commonly cannot vote:
 - Nationally: Around 6 million individuals largely minority
 - Almost 8 percent of African American voting age population
 - Florida, Virginia, West Virginia > 20%: Many including WI, > 10% & 10X white rate
 - Impacts presidential outcomes (FL: 23% AA)
 - Estimate: 7 senate seats, many congressional seats
 - Close elections in states with high percentage African – American.

Conclusions

- **Caveat:**
 - Broad big picture overview
 - Masks tremendous variation
 - Some decreases (Texas) some positive outcomes (health)
- **Huge expansion of penal system**
 - Most significant policy shift of my lifetime?
 - WI – Close to national average in terms of expansion
 - Worst of very near worst across almost all indicators of disparity
- **Broad, sweeping and transformative impacts on society**
 - Most acutely felt by disadvantaged minorities and the communities where they reside
 - Either because of differential impact (employment)
 - Or similar impact but differential “exposure” (voting)

U.S. Felony Disenfranchisement Laws by State



- http://www.soc.umn.edu/~uggen/WIReport_2010.pdf