



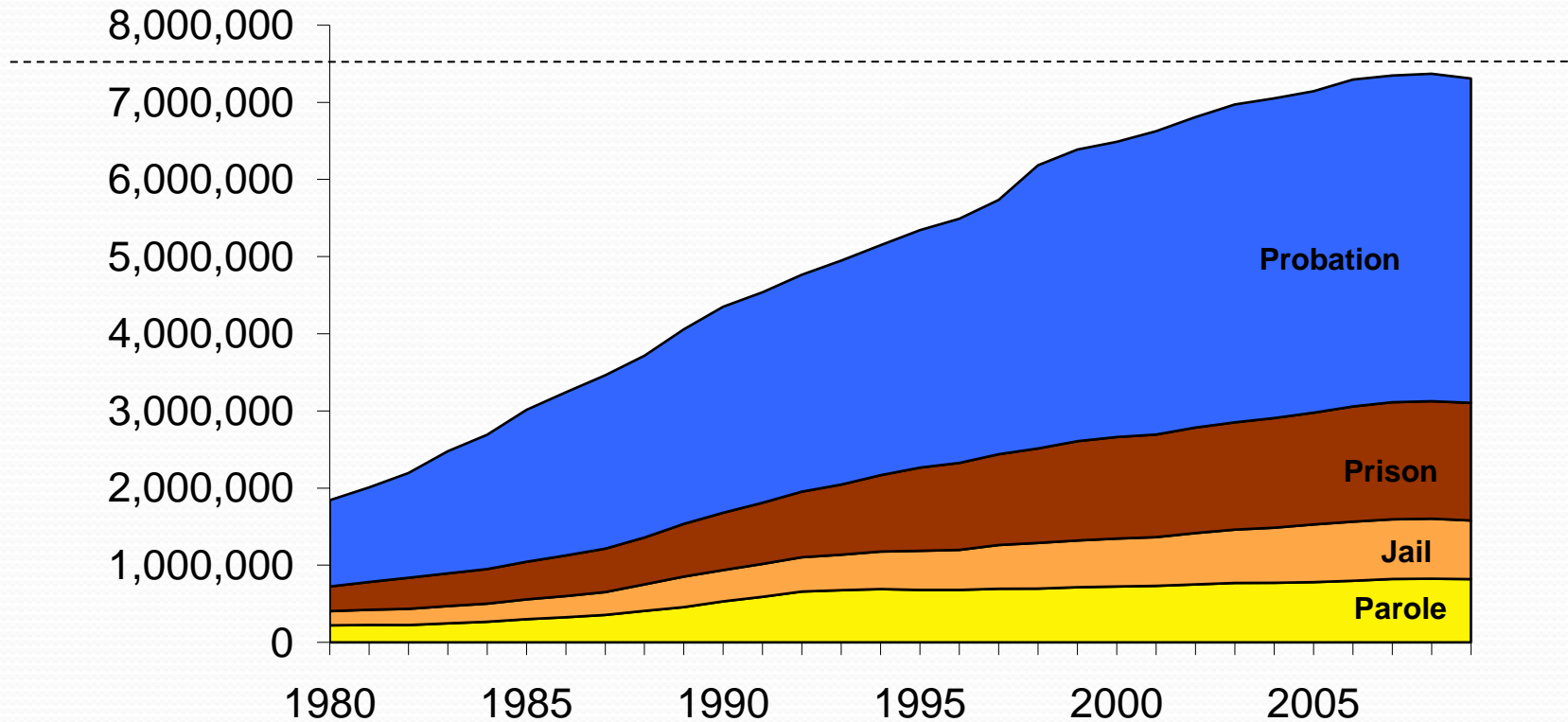
On De-coupling Race, Crime, and Punishment

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Harvard University

National Institute of Justice Conference,
June 20, 2011

Adult Correctional Population, 1980-2009¹

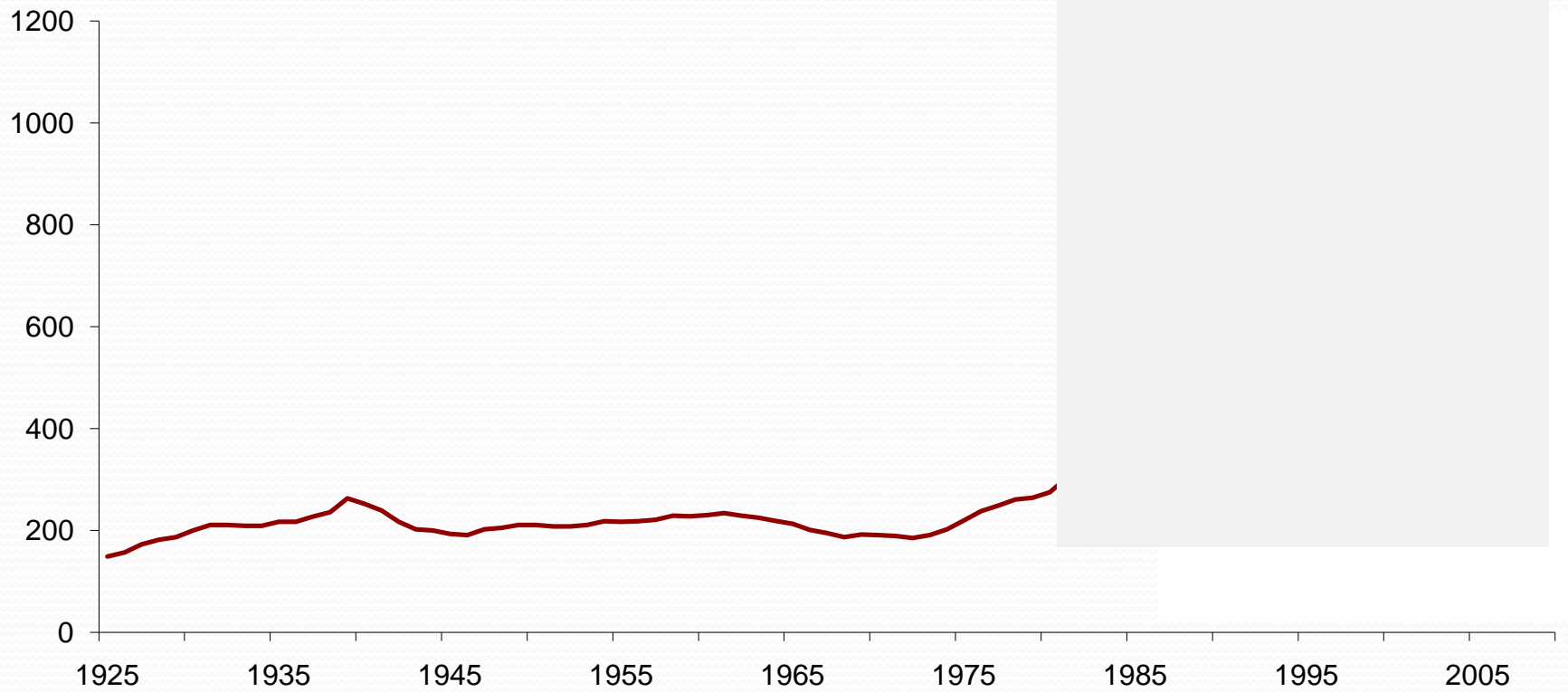
7,225,800 adults under correctional supervision



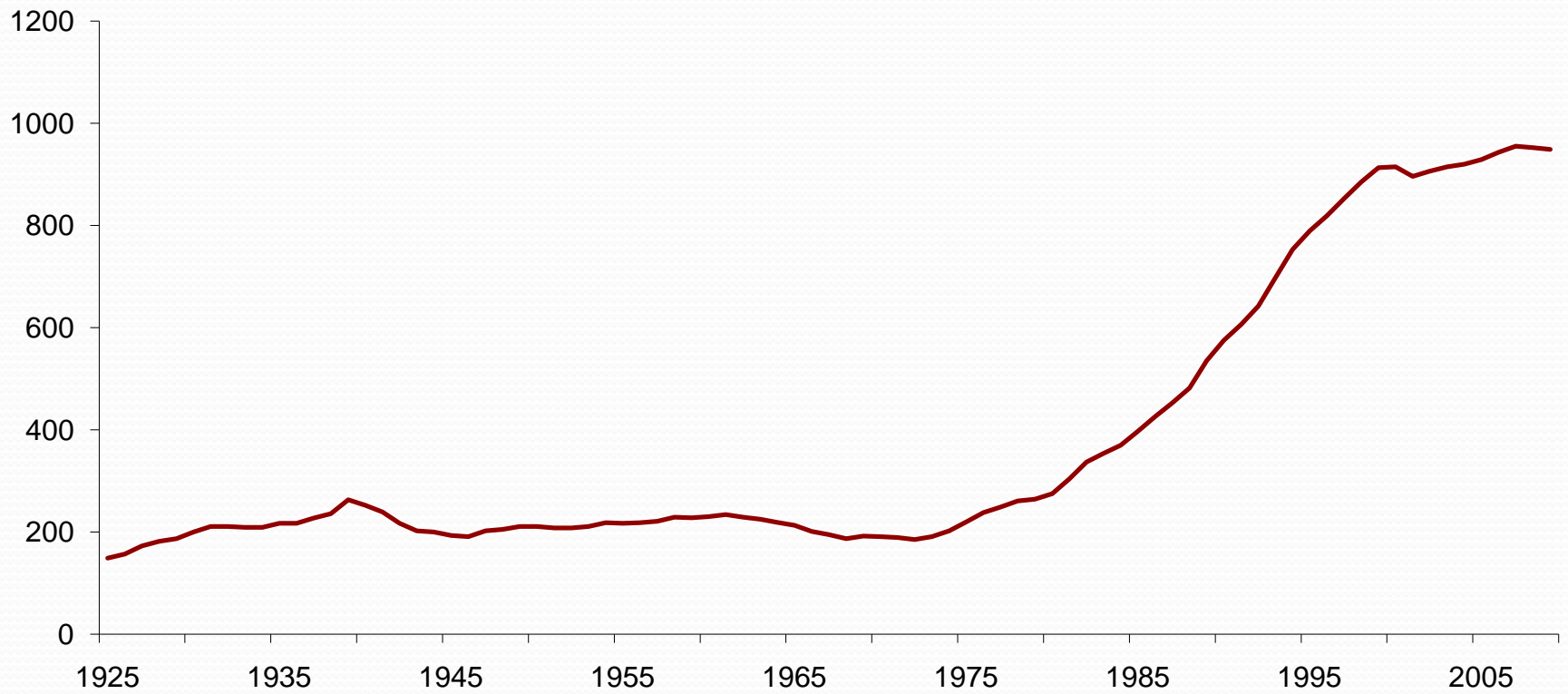
¹Totals for 1998 through 2009 exclude probationers in jail or prison.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics Correctional Surveys. 2009. (The Annual Probation Survey, National Prisoner Statistics, Survey of Jails, and The Annual Parole Survey.)

Prison Inmates per 100,000 Males, 1925-2009



Prison Inmates per 100,000 Males, 1925-2009

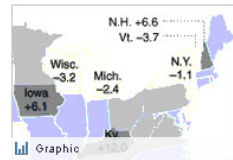


1 in 100 U.S. Adults Behind Bars, New Study Says

By ADAM LIPTAK
Published: February 28, 2008

For the first time in the nation's history, more than one in 100 American adults is behind bars, according to a new report.

Multimedia



Growth in Incarceration

Related

[Text of the Report](#)
(pewcenteronthestates.org)

The report's methodology differed from that used by the Pew Research Center, which calculates the incarceration rate by using the total population as the denominator. Using the department's methodology, one in 100 Americans is behind bars.

Nationwide, the prison population grew by 25,000 last year, bringing the total to almost 1.6 million. Another 1.6 million people are in local jails. Together, that means one in every 100 American adults is about behind bars, meaning that one in every 100

Incarceration rates are even higher in 36 Hispanic adults is behind bars, Department figures for 2007 show. As is one in nine black men.

The report, from the Pew Research Center, says that only one in 355 white men and 39 are behind bars but that 1 in 100 are.

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Report: More than 1 in every 100 Americans now behind bars

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VISITING ROOM: L.A. County Sheriff's Deputy Jack McClive peers through safety glass, while standing in the visiting room, during a tour of the Sybil Brand Institute Women's Jail in Monterey Park. Mei Melcon / Los Angeles Times

From the Associated Press
11:07 AM PST, February 28, 2008

For the first time in history, more than one in every 100 American adults is in jail or prison, according to a new report from the Pew Research Center. The report says that 11 states to rein in corrections spending.

The report, released Tuesday, says that more than \$49 billion was spent on corrections earlier. The rate of incarceration rose as education spending, the report says, fell.

Using updated state-by-state data on prisons or jails at the end of 2007, the report says that one in 100 other country in the world.

The Washington Post

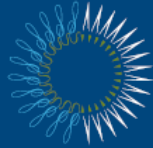
New High In U.S. Prison Numbers; Growth Attributed To More Stringent Sentencing Laws

The Washington Post - Washington, D.C.

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NC Aizenman - Washington Post Staff Writer
Feb 29, 2008
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[...] when it comes to preventing repeat offenses by nonviolent criminals -- who make up about half of the incarcerated population -- less-expensive punishments such as community supervision, electronic monitoring and mandatory drug counseling might prove as much or more effective than jail.



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One in 100:

Behind Bars in America 2008

Seven Distressing Facts

- The Black incarceration rate in 1999 was 2.8 times the rate in 1980.
- The Black incarceration rate in 1999 was 8.2 times the rate for non-Hispanic Whites.
- Approximately 2% of the Black population was incarcerated in 1999 (in Federal or State prison).
- Approximately 8.3% of Black males in their 20s were in State or Federal Prison in 1999.
- Roughly 30% of Black males in their 20s are under some form of criminal justice supervision (i.e., on probation, parole or in prison)
- In some jurisdictions, greater than 50% of Black males in their 20s are under criminal justice supervision.
- Of Black males born in the 1990s, approximately 28.5% will serve time in a State or Federal prison as compared to only 4.4% of non-Hispanic Whites.

Source: Blumstein 2001.

WHO'S BEHIND BARS

A sampling of incarceration rates by various demographics. Additional information available in Appendix A-6.

According to data analyzed for this report, as of Jan. 1, 2008 more than 1 in every 100 adults is behind bars.



For the most part, though, incarceration is heavily concentrated among men, racial and ethnic minorities, and 20- and 30-year olds. Among men the highest rate is with black males aged 20-34. Among women it's with black females aged 35-39.

MEN

White men ages 18 or older **1 in 106**



All men ages 18 or older **1 in 54**



Hispanic men ages 18 or older **1 in 36**



Black men ages 18 or older **1 in 15**

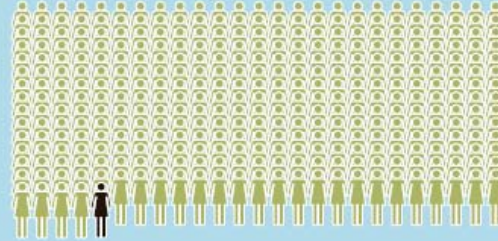


Black men ages 20-34 **1 in 9**

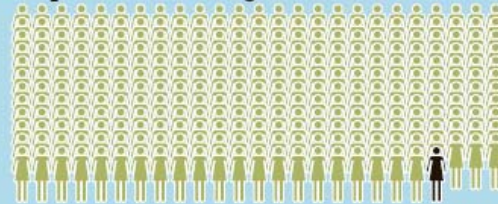


WOMEN

White women ages 35-39 **1 in 355**



Hispanic women ages 35-39 **1 in 297**



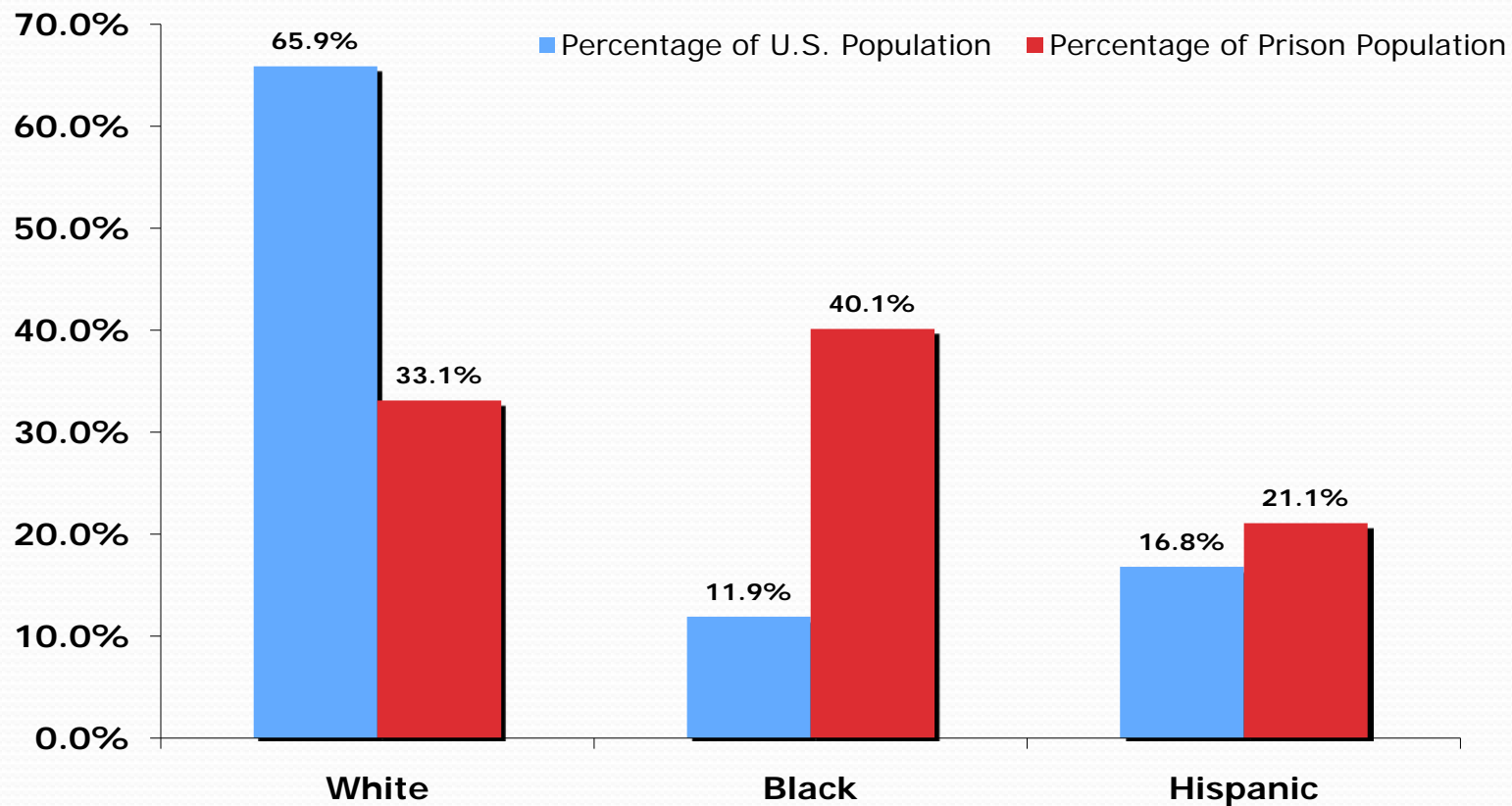
All women ages 35-39 **1 in 265**



Black women ages 35-39 **1 in 100**

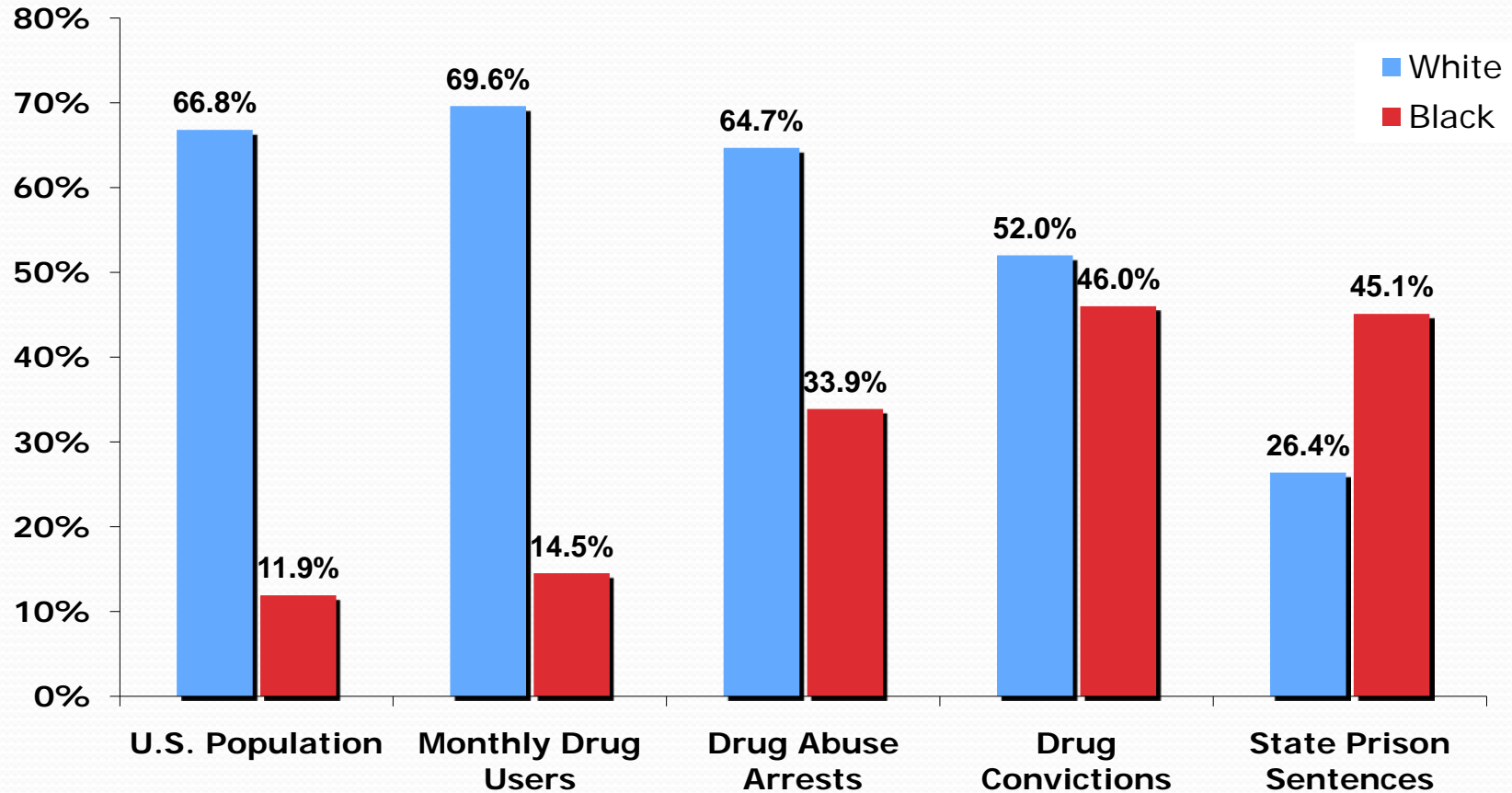


Total Population and Prison Percentages by Race for Males, 2009



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Prisoner Statistics 2009.

The War on Drugs and Racial Disparities in the Criminal Justice System



Sources: U.S. Population figures come from the American Community Survey, 2006; Monthly Drug Users figures come from National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2005; Drug Arrest figures come from *Uniform Crime Reports, Crime in the United States, 2005*; Drug Convictions data comes from National Judicial Reporting Program, 2002; Prison Sentences comes from Bureau of Justice Statistics,

Effects of Mass Incarceration

- Powerfully diminishes already weak employment prospects
- Fundamentally alters life-course trajectory for low-skill black men (changes the fabric of communities)
- De-stabilizes already weak families and communities
- In effect, transforms stratification system (minimally alters utility of economic indicators)
- Felon disenfranchisement distorts electoral outcomes
- Reinforces old anti-minority stereotypes, esp. stereotypes regarding black men

Dilulio's "Two Million Prisoners are Enough" (1999)

The Problem

- "Current laws put too many nonviolent drug offenders in prison."
- "Spending on correctional institutions is crowding out spending on other proven crime-reduction strategies, including improved policing."

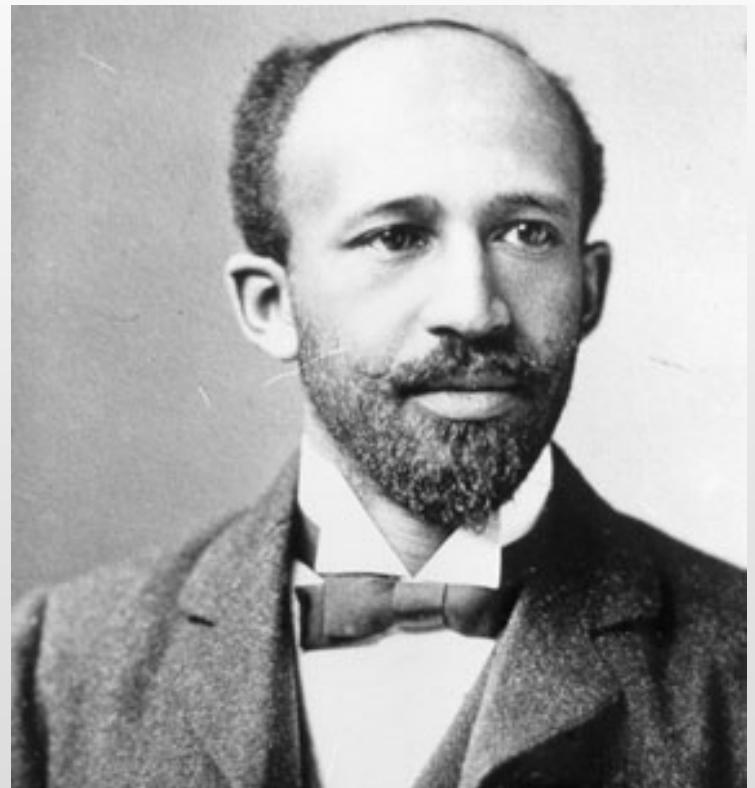
Dilulio's "Two Million Prisoners are Enough" (1999)

The New Recommendations

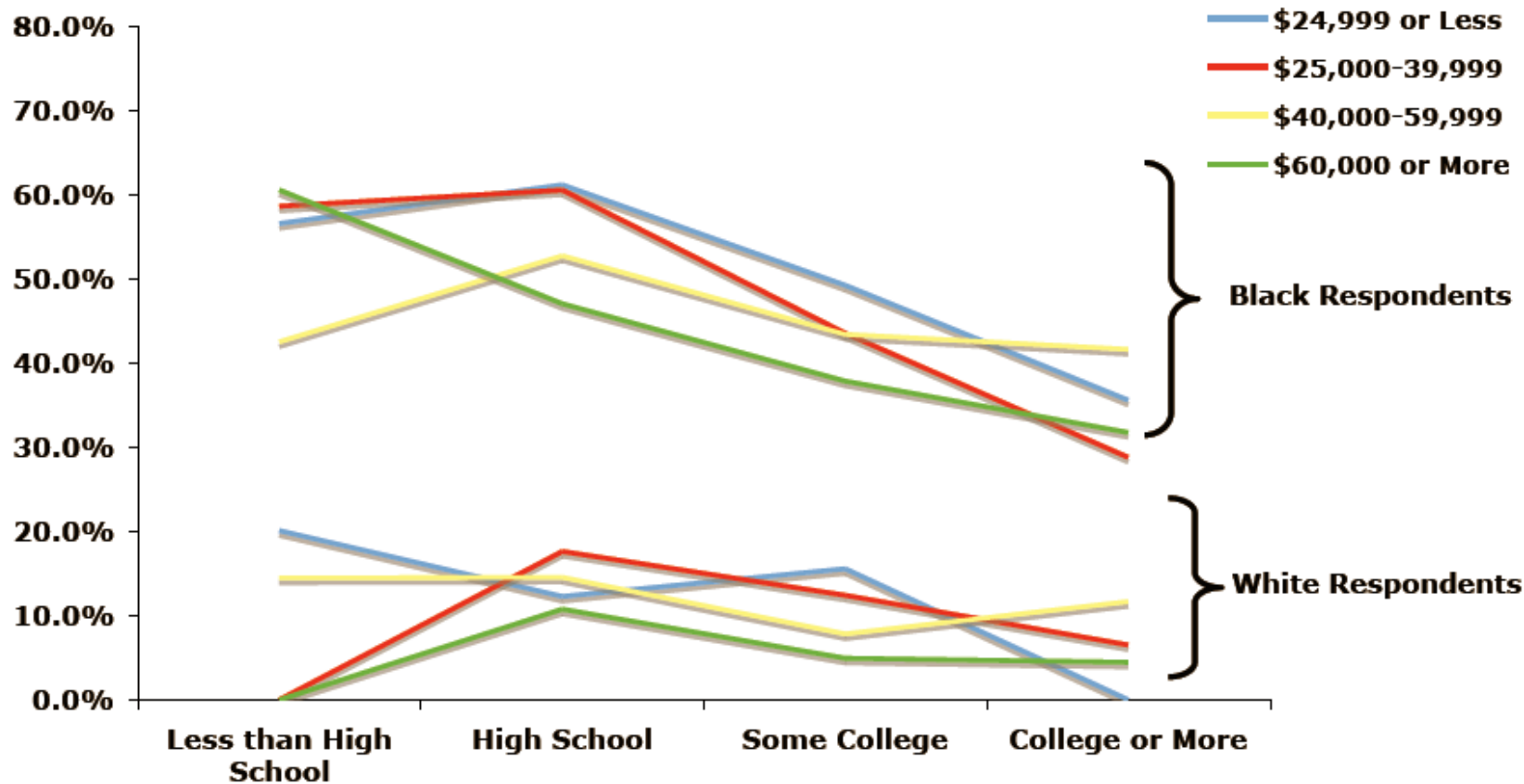
- "REPEAL mandatory-minimum drug laws"
- "REINVENT and REINVEST in probation and parole."
- "STOP federalizing crime policy, and MODIFY federal sentencing guidelines."
- "STUDY and PROMOTE faith-based crime prevention and restorative justice."
- "REDOUBLE efforts at juvenile crime prevention."

Du Bois on Race, Crime, and Prejudice

- Hardens Attitudes Toward African Americans
 - “There is a widespread feeling that something is wrong with a race that is responsible for so much crime, and that strong remedies are called for...Indeed to the minds of many this is the real Negro problem” (p. 241).



Friend or Relative Incarcerated by Education, Income and Race



Source: Race, Crime and Public Opinion Survey, 2001-2002.

¹Whites were only asked this question in the 2001 Race, Crime and Public Opinion Survey.