

Fact Sheet on Issues Surrounding Mass Incarceration in the United States

- The estimated population of prisons in the United States is 2.3 Million
 - Of the 2.3 million **450,000** Americans are in jail today awaiting trial because they cannot afford to pay bail.
 - In the year after Sandra Bland's death, 815 people have died in jail awaiting trial. A third of them have died within the first three days of incarceration.
 - Of the 2.3 million $\frac{1}{5}$ or **460,000** are locked up for a drug offense.
 - Blacks are incarcerated for drug offenses at a rate **10** times greater than that of whites, despite the fact that blacks and whites use drugs at roughly the same rates.
 - Of the 2.3 million **80,000** are in Solitary Housing Units
 - Of these 80,000 $\frac{1}{3}$ are mentally ill
- An additional **4.7** million people are on parole or probation.
- The DOJ reported in 2012 that as many as **100** million people have a criminal record, and over **94** million of those records are online.
 - Of These **100** million people **31** million people have been arrested on drug related charges, approximately 1 in 10 Americans.
- The United States imprisons its population at the rate of **698** people per 100,000, the second highest in the world.
- Of the world prison population 10,357,134 we imprison **2.3** million or **22%**. Our total percent of the total world population is **5%**.
 - The United States spends over **\$80** billion on incarceration each year.
 - Local, state, and federal governments spend anywhere from **\$20,000 to \$50,000** annually to keep an individual behind bars.
 - Prison system costs now account for 1 out of every **15** state general fund discretionary dollars.
 - We have slightly more jails and prisons in the U.S. -- **5,000** plus -- than we do degree-granting colleges and universities.
 - One in **35** adults are under some form of correctional control, counting prison, jail, parole and probation populations.
- Books
 - The New Jim Crow, Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness-Dr. Michelle Alexander
 - Liberating Minds, The Case for College in Prison-Ellen Condliffe Lagemann
 - Hell is a Very Small Place, Voices from Solitary Confinement-edited by Jean Casella, James Ridgeway and Sarah Shourd
 - From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime, The Making of Incarceration in America-Elizabeth Hinton
 - Becoming Ms. Burton: From Prison to Recovery to Leading the Fight for Incarcerated Women-Susan Burton

- Blood in the Water- The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy-Heather Ann Thompson

- Websites on Solitary Confinement
 - <https://www.afsc.org/resource/solitary-confinement-facts>
 - <https://www.fcni.org/updates/solitary-confinement-and-quakers-118>
 - <http://nycaic.org/resources/>
 - <http://www.nrcat.org/torture-in-us-prisons/learn-more-/faqs>
 - <http://solitarywatch.com/2016/04/04/how-the-landmark-settlement-will-and-will-not-change-solitary-confinement-in-new-yorks-prisons-redux/>
 - <http://www.correctionalassociation.org/issue/solitary-confinement>
 - <https://www.nyclu.org/en/publications/report-boxed-true-cost-extreme-isolation-new-yorks-prisons-2012>
 - https://www.nyclu.org/sites/default/files/publications/nyclu_boxedin_FINAL.pdf
 - <http://www.boxedinny.org/>

- Websites on Mass Incarceration
 - <https://www.fcni.org/updates/mass-incarceration-and-the-legacy-of-slavery-329>
 - <https://www.afsc.org/key-issues/issue/ending-mass-incarceration-0>
 - <https://www.vera.org/ending-mass-incarceration>
 - <https://law.yale.edu/system/files/area/center/liman/document/aimingtoeducetic.pdf>
Aiming to reduce Time in Cell
 - <http://www.sentencingproject.org/>
 - <https://www.aclu.org/issues/mass-incarceration>
 - <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie2017.html>