

EMERSON & JESSICA TURNER - NATIONAL VICE COMMISSIONERS
PRISON MINISTRY (*HEBREWS 13:3*)

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Prison Ministry of the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission is to focus on the incarcerated individual, their families, victims and their communities as it relates to ministering to them while incarcerated, providing for a smooth transition back into society after incarceration and the reducing the return rate to the incarcerated state (recidivism).

VISION:

...a community where the life of every inmate is impacted by the Word of God and the value of each inmate is restored as the true apex of God's creation.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Mission of the Prison Ministry is to exhort, assist and equip the local church in its evangelistic and emancipating ministry to those in prison, ex-prisoners, victims, and their families, and the advancement of biblical standards of justice.

MISSION:

1. To provide delegates and churches with the necessary tools to participate, initiate, and sustain an effective prison ministry by:
2. Establishing a compelling need for organizing and developing a prison ministry.
3. Establishing a compelling need from a church and societal point of view.
4. Apprising churches of local and state requirements for participation in prison ministry.
5. Exposing delegates to a myriad of prison ministry options.
6. Providing training and practical experience through classroom learning and actual ministry opportunities.
7. Calling to action those who have been inspired to do the work.

METHODS:

The Prison Ministry will harness the collective power of the Parent Body through its auxiliaries and affiliated churches and clearly identify those who wish to express their obedience to Christ through ministry and minister to those who are downtrodden, left behind and to those behind prison walls. This ministry provides opportunities to fulfill *Matt 25:31-46*.

1. Instruction

The Prison Ministry has developed a training course (8029L) that addresses the classroom-training component of this initiative. Scripture challenges us to *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15)”*, to be competent soldiers in the battle. The class comes with a “practicum” component, where students will get hands-on experience about the nature of the work.

2. Expunged Records

The Prison Ministry has developed information, techniques and strategies relative to the avenues to expunge their records in every state where this is an option after incarceration.

PRISON STATISTICS

GENERAL

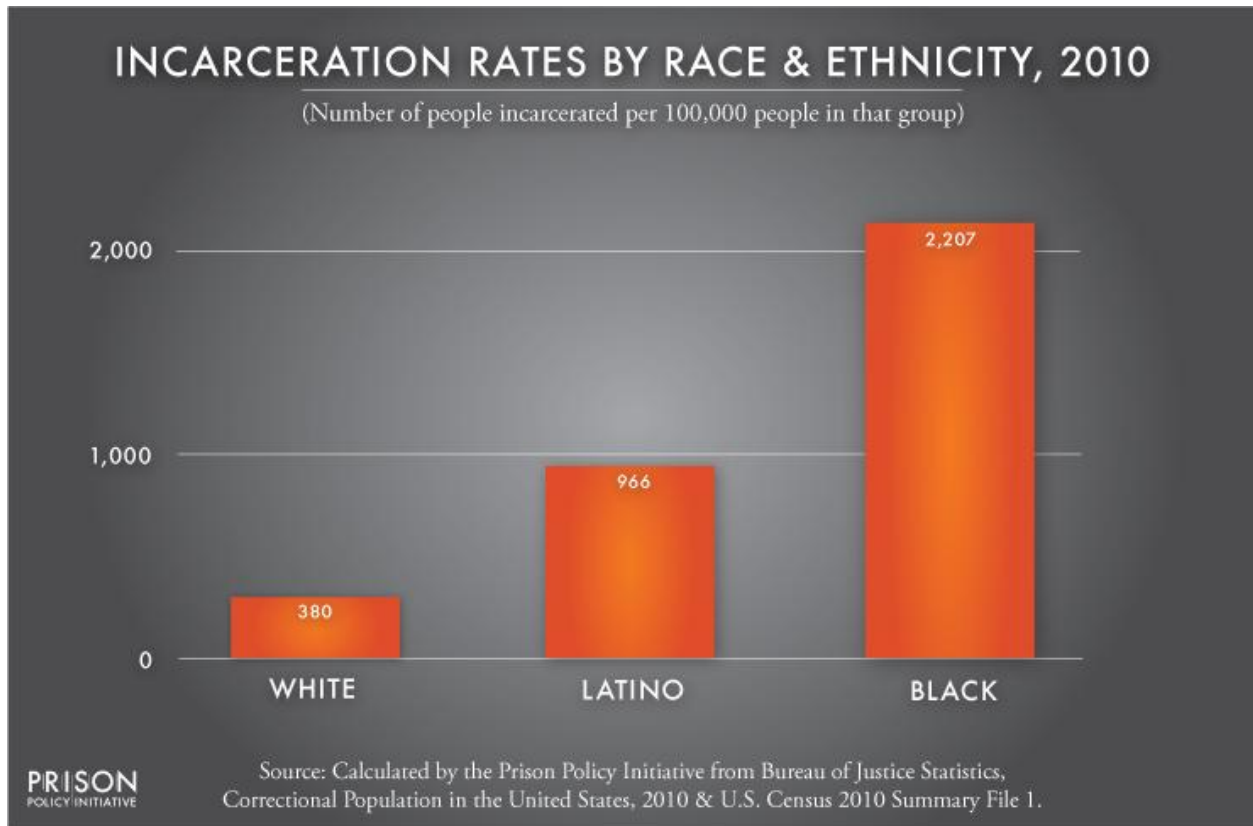
This report presents statistics on offenders supervised by adult correctional systems in the United States at yearend 2013, including offenders supervised in the community on probation or parole and those incarcerated in prison or local jail. The report includes other data and statistics as well. References (sources) have been omitted for the sake of brevity.

General Highlights:

- An estimated 6,899,000 persons were under the supervision of adult correctional systems at yearend 2013, a decline of about 41,500 from yearend 2012.
- The decline in the correctional population during 2013 (0.6%) was less than 1% for the second consecutive year, down from 2.1% in 2010 when the fastest annual decline in the population was observed.
- For the second consecutive year, the community supervision (down 0.6%) and incarcerated (down 0.5%) populations declined by less than 1%.
- All of the decline in the correctional population during 2013 resulted from decreases in the probation (down 32,100) and local jail (down 13,300) populations.
- About 1 in 35 adults (2.8%) in the United States was under some form of correctional supervision at yearend 2013, unchanged from 2012.
- About 1 in 51 adults was on probation or parole at yearend 2013, compared to 1 in 110 adults incarcerated in prison or local jail.
- After a peak in the number of inmates confined in county and city jails at midyear 2008 (785,533), the jail population was significantly lower by midyear 2013 (731,208).
- Males represented at least 86% of the jail population since 2000. The female inmate population increased 10.9% (up 10,000 inmates) between midyear 2010 and 2013, while the male population declined 4.2% (down 27,500 inmates).
- White inmates accounted for 47% of the total jail population, blacks represented 36%, and Hispanics represented 15%.

Black Men: Pew Research Center – Basic Facts

- Black men in their prime working years, especially those without a high school diploma, are much more likely to be in jail than white men are. The institutionalization rate for less educated Black men (age 20-24) rose from 10% in 1980 to 30% in 2000.
- In 2010, the institutionalization rate for this group dropped to 26%
- This group was more likely to be institutionalized than employed (19% employment rate in 2010)
- In 2010, all Black men were six times as likely as all white men to be incarcerated in federal, state and local jails. (Pew Research)



Nationally, according to the U.S. Census, Blacks are incarcerated five times more than Whites¹ are, and Hispanics are nearly twice as likely to be incarcerated as Whites:

The racial and ethnic make-up of incarcerated populations is dramatically different from that of the U.S. as a whole.²

| Race/Ethnicity | % of US population | % of U.S. incarcerated population | National incarceration rate (per 100,000) |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| White (non-Hispanic) | 64% | 39% | 450 per 100,000 |
| Hispanic | 16% | 19% | 831 per 100,000 |
| Black | 13% | 40% | 2,306 per 100,000 |

Girls and Incarceration rates (*Criminal Justice Magazine 2001*)

- Girls - the increase in the number of girls arrested has dramatically outstripped that of boys for most of the last decade.
- Girls now account for one out of four arrests, and statistics show the greatest increase in arrests is for violent offenses.
- Between 1989 and 1998, arrests of girls increased 50.3 percent, compared to only 16.5 percent for boys, according to the FBI's 1999 report, *Crime in the United States 1998*

- During that same period, arrests of girls for serious violent offenses increased by 64.3 percent and arrests of girls for "other assaults" increased an astonishing 125.4 percent.
- In 1999, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention reported that the female violent crime rate for 1997 was 103 percent above the 1981 rate, compared to a 27 percent increase for males, prompting the statement that "increasing juvenile female arrests and the involvement of girls in at-risk and delinquent behavior has been a pervasive trend across the United States.
- Between 1988 and 1997, the number of delinquency cases involving girls increased by 83 percent compared to a 39 percent increase for males
- Girls were also more likely than boys to murder family members (32 percent) and very young victims (24 percent of their victims were under the age of three compared to 1 percent of the boys' victims).
- When involved in a peer homicide, girls were more likely than boys to have killed as a result of an interpersonal conflict and were more likely to kill alone, while boys were more likely to kill with an accomplice.
- Girls are far more likely than boys to fight with a parent or sibling (34 percent compared to 9 percent), whereas boys are more likely to fight with friends or strangers.

Education and the Prison Population

- About 41% of inmates in the Nation's State and Federal prisons and local jails in 1997 and 31% of probationers had not completed high school or its equivalent. In comparison, 18% of the general population age 18 or older had not finished the 12th grade.
- Of inmates in State prisons, 293,000 in 1991 and 420,600 in 1997 had entered prison without a high school diploma
- 68% of State prison inmates did not receive a high school diploma.
- About 26% of State prison inmates said they had completed the GED while serving time in a correctional facility.
- The groups of State prison inmates who had not completed high school or the GED included
 - 40% of males and 42% of females
 - 27% of whites, 44% of blacks, and 53% of Hispanics
 - 52% of inmates 24 or younger and 35% of inmates 45 or older
 - 61% of noncitizens and 38% of U.S. citizens
 - 59% with a speech disability,
 - 66% with a learning disability, and
 - 37% without a reported disability
 - 47% of drug offenders
 - 12% of those with military service and
 - 44% with no military service.

Crime Statistics:

General: Crime is reported in several different categories:

- Violent crime
- Property crime
- Expanded offence data; i.e. persons arrested

Violent Crime

- In 2013, an estimated 1,163,146 violent crimes occurred nationwide, a decrease of 4.4 percent from the 2012 estimate.
- When considering 5- and 10-year trends, the 2013 estimated violent crime total was 12.3 percent below the 2009 level and 14.5 percent below the 2004 level.
- There were an estimated 367.9 violent crimes per 100,000 inhabitants in 2013, a rate that declined 5.1 percent when compared with the 2012 estimated rate.
- Aggravated assaults accounted for 62.3 percent of violent crimes reported to law enforcement in 2013. Robbery offenses accounted for 29.7 percent of violent crime offenses; rape (legacy definition) accounted for 6.9 percent; and murder accounted for 1.2 percent.
- Information collected regarding types of weapons used in violent crime showed that firearms were used in 69.0 percent of the nation's murders, 40.0 percent of robberies, and 21.6 percent of aggravated assaults. (Weapons data are not collected for rape.)

Property Crime

- In 2013, there were an estimated 8,632,512 property crime offenses in the nation. The 2-year trend showed that property crime declined 4.1 percent in 2013 when compared to the 2012 estimate. The 10-year trend showed that property crime offenses decreased 16.3 percent in 2013 when compared with the 2004 estimate.
- In 2013, the rate of property crime was estimated at 2,730.7 per 100,000 inhabitants, a 4.8 percent decrease when compared with the 2012 estimated rate. The 2013 property crime rate was 10.2 percent less than the 2009 estimate and 22.3 percent less than the 2004 estimate.
- Of all property crimes in 2013, larceny-theft accounted for 69.6 percent. Burglary accounted for 22.3 percent and motor vehicle theft for 8.1 percent.
- Property crimes in 2013 resulted in losses estimated at \$16.6 billion.

Persons Arrested

- Nationwide, law enforcement made an estimated 11,302,102 arrests in 2013. Of these arrests, 480,360 were for violent crimes, and 1,559,284 were for property crimes. (Note: the UCR Program does not collect data on citations for traffic violations.)
- The highest numbers of arrests were for drug abuse violations (estimated at 1,501,043 arrests), larceny-theft (estimated at 1,231,580), and driving under the influence (estimated at 1,166,824).
- The estimated arrest rate for the United States in 2013 was 3,690.5 arrests per 100,000 inhabitants. The arrest rate for violent crime (including murder and non-negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) was 159.8 per 100,000 inhabitants, and the arrest rate for property crime (burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson) was 513.2 per 100,000 inhabitants.
- Two-year arrest trends show violent crime arrests declined 3.9 percent in 2013 when compared with 2012 arrests, and property crime arrests decreased 2.9 percent when compared with 2012 arrests.
- Arrests of juveniles for all offenses decreased 15.5 percent in 2013 when compared with the 2012 number; arrests of adults decreased 3.7 percent.

- More than 73 percent (73.5) of the persons arrested in the nation during 2013 were males. They accounted for 79.9 percent of persons arrested for violent crime and 62.2 percent of persons arrested for property crime.
- In 2013, 68.9 percent of all persons arrested were white, 28.3 percent were black, and the remaining 2.9 percent were of other races.

Cost to Incarcerate

- Cost to incarcerate can vary from \$31,307 per year up to \$60,000 per year
- The current incarceration epidemic cost taxpayers \$63.4 billion /year
- This is the result of 1970's political response to “get tough on crime” and “three strikes” laws.

Number of Jails in US

According to the latest Census of Jails available data (1999), published by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the amount of jail facilities in the US equals 3,365. In 2008, the average occupation rate was 95% of jail capacity. The facilities with the highest concentration of inmates are located in California, Texas, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania and Louisiana “about 50% of the total inmate population is held in these states.

