PRISONERS IN
2013
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In September 2014, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the bulletin, *Prisoners in 2013*. This annual report highlights characteristics of the nation's prison population. The following summarizes some key findings of the report, with emphasis on Ohio data wherever possible.

**Prison population and Imprisonment rate**

- The U.S. prison population increased to 1,574,741 in 2013, an approximate 0.3% (4,300 prisoners) increase from yearend 2012. This was the first increase reported since the peak of 1,615,487 prisoners in 2009. The female prison population increased by 2.3 percent between 2012 and 2013, while male prisoners increased 0.1 percent.
  - Ohio experienced a 1.7 percent increase in the prison population, from 50,876 at the end of 2012 to 51,729 at the end of 2013. The female prison population increased 7.3 percent, while the male prison population increased 1.2 percent. Ohio ranked 11th of all states with the highest percent change in prison population from 2012 to 2013.

- Nationwide, from 2004 to 2013, the annual rate of growth of female inmates averaged 1.4 percent, whereas the average rate of increase for male inmates was 1.1 percent.
  - Ohio has averaged a 3.4 percent increase in female inmates from 2004 to 2013, compared to an average rate of 1.6 percent for male prisoners during the same time period.
• The rate of imprisonment at the end of 2013 was 478 sentenced inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents.
  - At the end of 2013, Ohio’s rate of imprisonment was 446 inmates per 100,000 residents, less than the U.S. imprisonment rate.

• By the end of 2013, women accounted for 7.0 percent of all prisoners. The imprisonment rate for sentenced females in 2013 was 65 per 100,000 population. For sentenced males, the imprisonment rate was 14 times higher, at 904 per 100,000 population.
  - In Ohio, women accounted for 8.0 percent of all prisoners. The imprisonment rate for sentenced females in 2011 was 70 per 100,000 population. For sentenced males, the imprisonment rate was 12 times higher, at 839 per 100,000 population.
Admission and Releases

In 2013, the number of releases (623,337) from state and federal prisons was less than the number of admissions (631,168). The number of persons admitted to state and federal prisons in 2013 rose by 3.7 percent.

- Ohio experienced a decrease in the number of prison releases and an increase in the number of admissions (1.8 and 2.2% respectively). Also in Ohio, the number of admissions (21,998) exceeded the number of releases (21,235).

At the end of 2013, the Federal prison system was operating at 33.1 percent over their highest prison capacity. In addition, 19 states were operating at or above their highest capacity.

- Ohio’s prison system was operating at 19.8 percent over their highest capacity at yearend 2013.

Prisoner Demographics

- When looking at age, race and gender at yearend 2013, an estimated 58 percent of male inmates and 61 percent of female inmates in state or federal prison were age 39 or younger. Amongst the male population, white prisoners were generally older than black or Hispanic prisoners.

- Approximately three percent of black male U.S. residents of all ages were imprisoned by yearend 2013, which is an estimated 2,805 inmates per 100,000 black male U.S. residents. White males were incarcerated at a rate of 466 per 100,000 white male U.S. residents.

- The greatest difference in imprisonment rates between black and white males was for those ages 18 to 19 years. Black males were imprisoned at a rate of 1,092 per 100,000 population, which is 9 times higher than for white males (115 inmates per 100,000 population).

- There were fewer black females in state or federal prisons at yearend 2013 in comparison to yearend 2012. However, black females were imprisoned at more than twice the rate of white females. Black females, of all ages, were imprisoned at a rate of 113 inmates per 100,000 black
female U.S. residents and white females at a rate of 51 inmates per 100,000 white female U.S. residents.
  o The difference between black and white female inmates ages 18 to 19 was smaller than that of black and white males. Black females ages 18 to 19 were 5 times more likely to be imprisoned, at 33 inmates per 100,000 black females than white females at a rate of 7 inmates per 100,000 white females.

**Offenses committed by prisoners**

- The latest data available (yearend 2012) estimate that 53.8 percent of sentenced inmates in state prisons were held for violent offenses: murder/manslaughter, robbery, assault, and rape and other sexual assaults, and other violent offenses. In addition,
  o 18.8 percent were held for various property offenses
  o 16.0 percent were held for drug offenses
  o 10.7 percent were held for public order offenses, which includes but is not limited to: weapons, drunk driving, court offenses, commercialized vice, morals/decency charges, and liquor law violations

A link to the full report can be found on the Bureau of Justice Statistics’ website: [http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/p13.pdf](http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/p13.pdf)