

Recent Prison Related Statistics

- Close to 1.6 million Americans are in prison- not including the more than 700,000 in local jails. That is 750 people incarcerated out of every 100,000 citizens.
- About two thirds of prisoners released each year will return to prison within three years.
- Most states spend 7% of their budget on Corrections- higher than all but health care, education, and transportation.
- Since 1987 the national prison population has nearly tripled to 1.6 million, as a result state spending has gone up 127%.
- According to the National Association of State Budget Officers, in 2007 states spent \$44 billion in tax dollars on corrections.
- Each bed in the unused juvenile detention center in Auburn, NY costs about \$200,000 a year to maintain.
- By 2011 states are on track to be spending an additional \$25 billion.
- In 2005, the latest year for which we have data, it cost \$23,876 on average to imprison someone.
- One in nine black men between the ages of 20 and 34 is behind bars.
- Vermont, Connecticut, Delaware, Michigan, and Oregon devote more to corrections than they do to higher education.
- 4.5% of those held in prisons reported being sexually abused in the past 12 months.
- The US incarcerates 750 out of 100,000 citizens. Japan incarcerates 63 out of 100,000. The median incarceration rate among all nations is 125 per 100,000 citizens.