

Women's Justice: By the Numbers

Data Sources and Methodology

This document identifies the original data, sources, and additional data notes for each figure in *Women's Justice: By the Numbers*. The figures use data from readily available statistics, reports, datasets, and data tools. The data are from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Prison Policy Initiative.

ARRESTS

Figure 1: Adult Arrests

Data:

- 1980-2024: number and rate of adult arrests, by year and sex

Sources:

- 1980-2009: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (n.d.). *Arrests by offense, age, and gender*. <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/statistical-briefing-book/crime/faqs/ucr>
- 2010-2019: Federal Bureau of Investigation. (n.d.). *Crime in the United States*. Tables 39 and 40. <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s>
- 2020-2024: Federal Bureau of Investigation. (n.d.). *Crime in the United States*. Tables 39 and 40. <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/downloads>

Notes:

- Percentages (shares) were calculated using the number of arrests.
- From 2010 to 2020, population denominator data was obtained from CDC Bridge-Race Population Estimates.
- For 2022-2024, population denominator data came from one-year American Community Survey (ACS) estimates accessed through Social Explorer.
- The FBI did not provide arrest tables in 2016, and data are unavailable in 2021 due to a reporting system change.

Figure 2: Juvenile Arrests

Data:

- 1980-2024: number and rate of juvenile arrests, by year and sex

Sources:

- 1980-2009: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (n.d.). *Arrests by offense, age, and gender*. <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/statistical-briefing-book/crime/faqs/ucr>

- 2010-2019: Federal Bureau of Investigation. (n.d.). *Crime in the United States*. Tables 39 and 40. <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s>
- 2020-2024: Federal Bureau of Investigation. (n.d.). *Crime in the United States*. Tables 39 and 40. <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/downloads>

Notes:

- Percentages (shares) were calculated using the number of arrests.
- From 2010 to 2020, population denominator data for 10-17 year olds was obtained from CDC Bridge-Race Population Estimates.
- For 2022-2024, population denominator data (10-17 year olds) came from one-year American Community Survey (ACS) estimates accessed through Social Explorer.
- The FBI did not provide arrest tables in 2016, and data are unavailable in 2021 due to a reporting system change.

Figure 3: Adult Arrests by Sex and Offense

Rates Tab

Data:

- 1980-2024: arrests rates for violent, property, and drug offenses, by year and sex

Sources:

- 1980-2009: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (n.d.). *Arrests by offense, age, and gender*. <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/statistical-briefing-book/crime/fags/ucr>
- 2010-2019: Federal Bureau of Investigation. (n.d.). *Crime in the United States*. Tables 39 and 40. <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s>
- 2020-2024: Federal Bureau of Investigation. (n.d.). *Crime in the United States*. Tables 39 and 40. <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/downloads>

Shares Tab

Data:

- 1986-2024: number of violent, property, and drug arrests of women, by year

Sources:

- 1986-1995: Federal Bureau of Investigation. Individual annual reports, *Crime in the United States YEAR Uniform Crime Reports*.
- 1996-2019: Federal Bureau of Investigation. Individual annual reports, *YEAR crime in the United States*.
- 2020-2024: Federal Bureau of Investigation. (n.d.). *Crime data explorer: Arrests in the United States by offense*. <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/explorer/crime/arrest>

Note:

- Percentages (shares) were calculated using the number of arrests.

CORRECTIONAL CONTROL

Figure 4: All Correctional Control by Sex

Data:

- 2023: number of adults on probation, parole, in state and federal prison, and in jail, by sex

Source:

- Gann, S., & Kaebler, D. (2025). *Correctional populations in the United States, 2023 – statistical tables* (NCJ 310413), Table 4. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/cpus22st.pdf>

INCARCERATION

Figure 5: Imprisonment and Jail Incarceration Rates by Sex

Data:

- 1999-2023: rate of state or federal incarceration, by year and sex
- 2010-2023: rate of jail incarceration, by year and sex

Sources:

- State and federal prison: Bureau of Justice Statistics. Individual annual reports, *Prisoners in YEAR – statistical tables*.
- Jail: Bureau of Justice Statistics. Individual annual reports, *Jail inmates in YEAR – statistical tables*.

Note:

- Includes adults and juveniles.

Figure 6: Number of Incarcerated Females

Data:

- 1982-2023: number of females in state prisons, by year
- 1982-2023: number of females in federal prisons, by year
- 1982-2023: number of females in jails, by year

Sources:

- 1982-2019, state and federal prison: Bureau of Justice Statistics. (n.d.). *Female prisoners under the jurisdiction of state or federal correctional authorities*. <https://csat.bjs.ojp.gov/>
- 2020, state and federal prison: Carson, E. A. (2021). *Prisoners in 2020 – statistical tables* (NCJ 302776). Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh236/files/media/document/p20st.pdf>
- 2021-2022, state and federal prison: Carson, E. A. (2023). *Prisoners in 2022 – statistical tables* (NCJ 307149). Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/p22st.pdf>

- 2023, state and federal prison: Mueller, D., & Kluckow, R. (2025). *Prisoners in 2023 – statistical tables* (NCJ 310197). Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/p23st.pdf>
- 1982-2015, local jail: Sawyer, W. (2018). *The gender divide: Tracking women's state prison growth table 1: Women's prison and jail population estimates and incarceration rates, 1922-2015*. Prison Policy Initiative. https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/women_overtime_table_1.html
- 2016-2023, local jail: Bureau of Justice Statistics. Individual annual reports, *Jail inmates in YEAR*.

Note:

- Includes adults and juveniles.

Figure 7: State and Federal Imprisonment Rates by Race and Ethnicity

Data:

- 2000-2023: rate of sentenced females in state or federal prisons, by year and race/ethnicity

Sources:

- 2000-2010: Guerino, P., Harrison, P. M., & Sabol, W. J. (2011). *Prisoners in 2010 (revised)* (NCJ 236096), Appendix Table 14. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/library/publications/prisoners-2010-revised>
- 2011-2023: Bureau of Justice Statistics. Individual annual reports, *Prisoners in YEAR – statistical tables*.

Notes:

- The rate includes adults and juveniles.
- Another report from the Council on Criminal Justice, [Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Female Imprisonment in the U.S.](#), measured the number of imprisoned females in a different way. It found that the White female imprisonment rate surpassed the Hispanic female rate in 2010.

Figure 8: Imprisonment Rates by Age

Data:

- 2007-2023: rate of sentenced females in state or federal prisons, by year and age group

Sources:

- 2007-2023: Bureau of Justice Statistics. Individual annual reports, *Prisoners in YEAR – statistical tables*.

Figure 9: Share of Offenses in State Prisons

Data:

- 2006-2022: percent of sentenced state prisoners, by year, sex, and offense type (violent, property, drug, public order, or other)

Source:

- 2006-2022: Bureau of Justice Statistics. Individual annual reports, *Prisoners in YEAR – statistical tables*.

Figure 10: Share of Offenses in Federal Prisons

Data:

- 2014-2023: percent of sentenced federal prisoners (BOP or private facilities), by year, sex, and offense type (violent, property, drug, public order, or other)

Source:

- 2014-2023: Bureau of Justice Statistics. Individual annual reports, *Prisoners in YEAR – statistical tables*.

Figure 11: Female Imprisonment by State

Data:

- 2018-2023: rate of sentenced females in state prisons, by state jurisdiction and year

Sources:

- 2018: Carson, E. A. (2020). *Prisoners in 2019* (NCJ 255115), Table 7. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/p19.pdf>
- 2019: Carson, E. A. (2021). *Prisoners in 2020 – statistical tables* (NCJ 302776), Table 7. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/p20st.pdf>
- 2020: Carson, E. A. (2022). *Prisoners in 2021 – statistical tables* (NCJ 305125), Table 7. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh236/files/media/document/p21st.pdf>
- 2021-2022: Carson, E. A. (2023). *Prisoners in 2022 – statistical tables* (NCJ 307149), Table 7. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/p22st.pdf>
- 2023: Mueller, D., & Kluckow, R. (2025). *Prisoners in 2023 – statistical tables* (NCJ 310197), Table 7. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/p23st.pdf>

Notes:

- The rate includes adults and juveniles.
- See original data sources for more notes by state.

Figure 12: State Long Sentence Prison Admissions by Sex

Data:

- 2005-2020: number of long sentence state prison admissions, by year and sex
- 2005-2020: long sentences percent of state prison admissions, by year and sex

Source:

- 2005-2020: Council on Criminal Justice. (n.d.). *Long sentences by the numbers*. <https://counciloncj.foleon.com/tfls/long-sentences-by-the-numbers/>

Figure 13: Recidivism After Release from State and Federal Prison

Data:

- Percent of people released from state prisons in 2012 who were arrested, reconvicted, or reimprisoned (not jail) within 5 years (by 2017), by sex
- Percent of people released from federal prisons in 2010 who were rearrested within 8 years (by 2018), by sex

Sources:

- State: Durose, M.R., & Antenangeli, L. (2023). *Recidivism of females released from state prison, 2012-2017* (NCJ 306141), Appendix Table 1. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/rfrsp1217.pdf>
- Federal: United States Sentencing Commission. (2021). *Recidivism of federal offenders released in 2010*, Table 5. https://www.ussc.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/research-and-publications/research-publications/2021/20210930_Recidivism.pdf

Notes:

- State:
 - Includes all ages except when juvenile data were shielded
 - Includes rearrests for any type of offense and reimprisonment for community supervision violations
- Federal: Includes rearrests for community supervision violations

Figure 14: Recidivism for People Released from State Prisons by Offense

Data:

- Percent of people released from state prisons in 2012 who were arrested, reconvicted, or reimprisoned (not jail) within 5 years (by 2017), by most serious commitment offense category and sex

Source:

- Durose, M.R., & Antenangeli, L. (2023). *Recidivism of females released from state prison, 2012-2017* (NCJ 306141), Appendix Table 1. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/library/publications/recidivism-females-released-state-prison-2012-2017>

Notes:

- Includes all ages except when juvenile data were shielded
- Includes rearrests for any type of offense and reimprisonment for community supervision violations

Figure 15: Recidivism for People Released from Federal Prisons by Age

Data:

- Percent of people released from federal prisons in 2005 who were rearrested, reconvicted, or reincarcerated (including jail) within eight years (by 2013), by sex, and age at release

Source:

- United States Sentencing Commission. (2017). *The effects of aging on recidivism among federal offenders*, Appendix Table 3.
https://www.ussc.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/research-and-publications/research-publications/2017/20171207_Recidivism-Age.pdf

Note: Includes recidivism for technical violations.

COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

Figure 16: Parole and Probation Rates by Sex

Data:

- 2011-2023: rate of adults on probation or parole, by year and by sex
- 2011-2023: rate of adults in prison or jail, by year and by sex

Sources:

- 2011: Carson, E. A. & Kluckow, R. (2023). *Correctional populations in the United States, 2021 – statistical tables* (NCJ 30554), Table 4. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/cpus21st.pdf>
- 2012-2022: Buehler, E. D. & Berzofsky, R. (2024). *Correctional Populations in the United States, 2022 – statistical tables* (NCJ 308699), Table 5. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/cpus22st.pdf>
- 2023: Gann, S., & Kaebler, D. (2025). *Correctional populations in the United States, 2023 – statistical tables* (NCJ 310413), Table 5. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/cpus22st.pdf>

Notes:

- The imprisonment, probation, and parole rates include people in adult correctional custody at year-end, and the jail incarceration rate includes people in adult jail custody at mid-year.
- Rates include a small number of persons aged 17 or younger who were under adult correctional supervision.

WOMEN'S UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

Figure 17: Adverse Life and Health Experiences of People in State and Federal Prisons

Data:

- 2016: state and federal prisoners – whether they had family members ever incarcerated, by sex
- 2016: state and federal prisoners – whether they had substance use at time of the offense, by sex

- 2016: state and federal prisoners – whether they were ever told by mental health professional they had a mental disorder, by sex
- 2016: state and federal prisoners – whether they had any disability, by sex
- 2016: state and federal prisoners – whether they ever had a chronic medical condition, by sex

Source:

- 2016: Bureau of Justice Statistics. (n.d.). *Survey of prison inmates data analysis tool (SPI DAT) custom charts*. <https://spi-data.bjs.ojp.gov/dashboard>

Note:

- The data cover adults serving sentences in state and federal prisons. The survey was last conducted in 2016.

Figure 18: Parents in State and Federal Prisons

Data:

- 2016: state and federal prisoners – whether they were parents of a minor child, by sex
- 2016: state and federal prisoners – whether they lived with their minor child at the time of their arrest, by sex
- 2016: state and federal prisoners – whether they lived in a single parent household at the time of their arrest (lived with child without spouse), by sex

Sources:

- 2016, parent of a minor child: Bureau of Justice Statistics. (n.d.). *Survey of prison inmates data analysis tool (SPI DAT) custom charts*. <https://spi-data.bjs.ojp.gov/dashboard>
- 2016, lived with their child: Wang, L. (2022). *Both sides of the bars: How mass incarceration punishes families*. Prison Policy Initiative. https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/2022/08/11/parental_incarceration/
- 2016, single parent household: Wang, L. (2022). *Both sides of the bars: How mass incarceration punishes families*. Prison Policy Initiative. https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/2022/08/11/parental_incarceration/

Note:

- The data cover adults serving sentences in state and federal prisons. The survey was last conducted in 2016.

Figure 19: Pregnant Females in Federal Prisons

Data:

- 2018-2022: number of pregnancies known to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, by year

Source:

- 2018-2022: Bureau of Justice Statistics. (2023). *Federal prisoner statistics collected under the First Step Act, 2023* (NCJ 307305). <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/fpscufsa23.pdf>

Figure 20: Reported Sexual Victimizations

Data:

- 2011-2012: state and federal prison inmates reporting sexual victimization by other inmates: percent of male population, percent of female population
- 2011-2012: local jail inmates reporting sexual victimization by other inmates: percent of male population, percent of female population
- 2011-2012 state and federal prison inmates reporting sexual victimization by staff: percent of male population, percent of female population
- 2011-2012 local jail inmates reporting sexual victimization by staff: percent of male population, percent of female population

Source:

- 2011-2012: Beck, A. J., Berzofsky, M., Caspar, R., & Krebs, C. (2013). *Sexual victimization in prisons and jails reported by inmates, 2011 – 12* (NCJ 241399), Table 7. Bureau of Justice Statistics.
<https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/svpjri1112.pdf>

VIOLENT VICTIMIZATION

Figure 21: Violent Crime Victimization

Data:

- 1993-2024: rate of violent victimizations, by year and by sex

Source:

- 1993-2024: Bureau of Justice Statistics. (n.d.). *National crime victimization survey data dashboard (N-DASH)*. <https://ncvs.bjs.ojp.gov/Home>

Note:

- Excludes personal theft/larceny and murder.

Figure 22: Share of the Number of Violent Crime Victimization

Data:

- 1993-2024: number of violent victimizations, by year and by sex

Source:

- 1993-2024: Bureau of Justice Statistics. (n.d.). *National crime victimization survey data dashboard (N-DASH)*. <https://ncvs.bjs.ojp.gov/Home>

Notes:

- Excludes personal theft/larceny and murder.
- We used the number of victimizations to calculate percentages (or shares).

Figure 23: Violent Victimization by Relationship to Offender

Data:

- 2024: number of violent offenses, by type of relationship with offender and by sex

Source:

- 2024: Bureau of Justice Statistics. (n.d.). *National crime victimization survey data dashboard (N-DASH)*. <https://ncvs.bjs.ojp.gov/Home>

Notes:

- Excludes personal theft/larceny and murder.
- We used the number of victimizations to calculate percentages (or shares).

Figure 24: Violent Victimizations by Location

Data:

- 2024: number of violent offenses, by incident location and by sex

Source:

- 2024: Bureau of Justice Statistics. (n.d.). *National crime victimization survey data dashboard (N-DASH)*. <https://ncvs.bjs.ojp.gov/Home>

Notes:

- The number excludes personal theft/larceny and murder.
- We used the number of victimizations to calculate percentages (or shares).