

A photograph of a prison fence with a sun in the background. The fence is made of chain-link and topped with a layer of coiled barbed wire. The sun is a bright yellow circle in a hazy, orange-tinted sky. The fence recedes into the distance on the right side of the frame.

MASS INCARCERATION AS A DETERMINANT OF POPULATION HEALTH

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THE RE-ENVISIONING
HEALTH & JUSTICE LAB

01

Presentation Roadmap

01

HISTORY OF INCARCERATION

02

OVERVIEW OF INCARCERATION + HEALTH



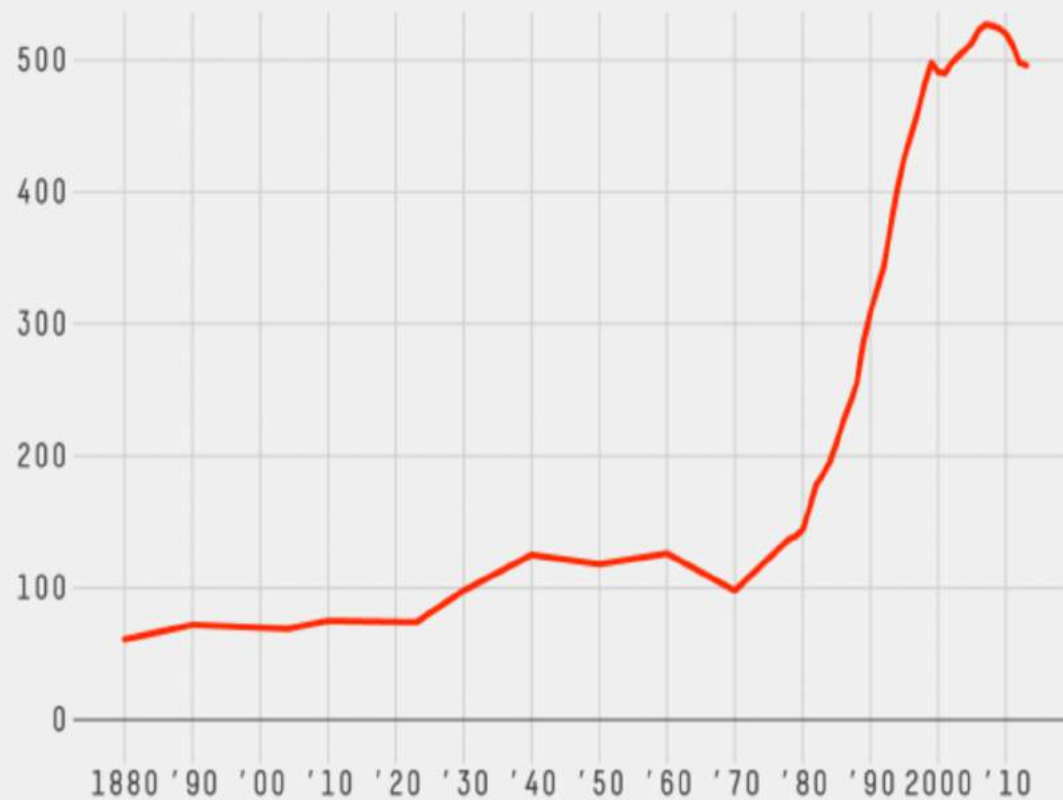
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Mass Incarceration & the Criminal Legal System



The Growth Of Incarceration

U.S. imprisonment rate per 100,000 people since 1880

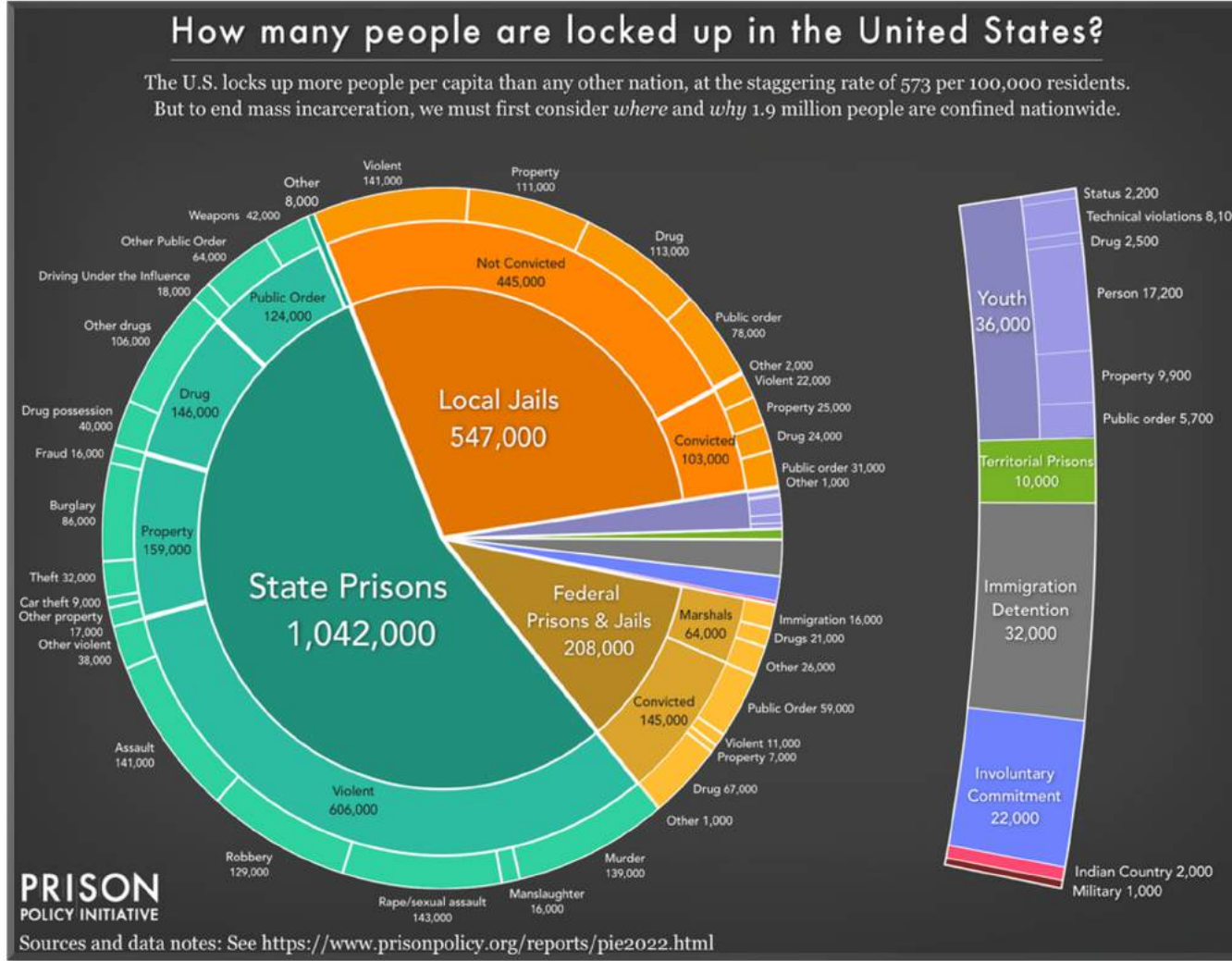
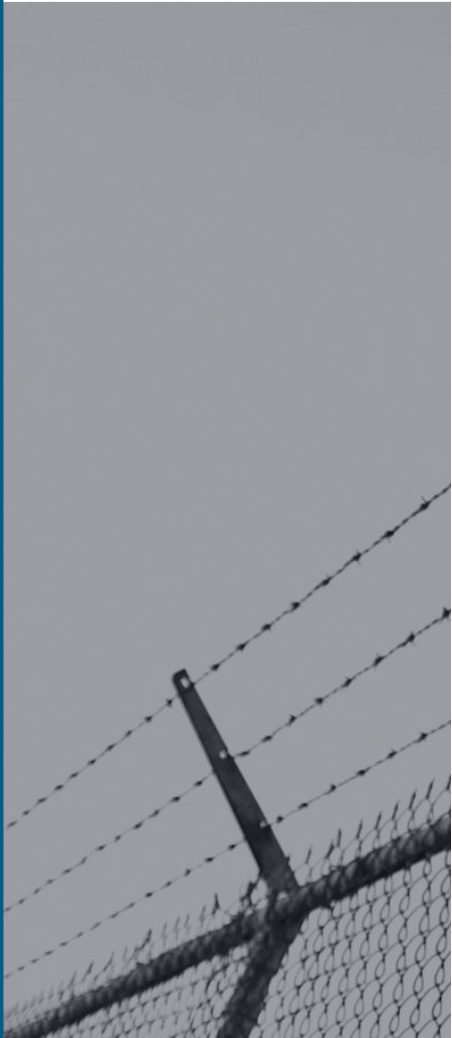


FIVETHIRTYEIGHT

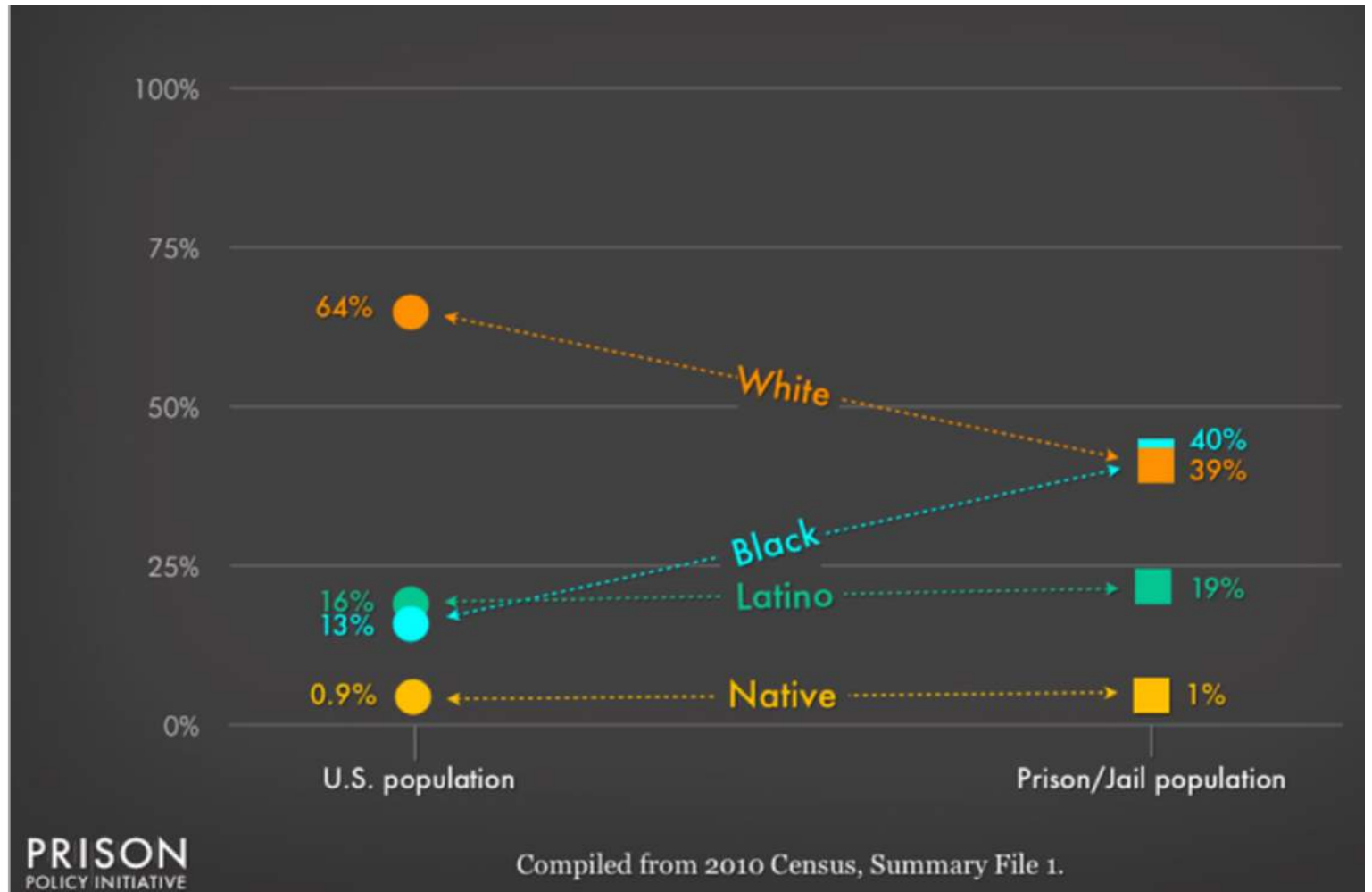
SOURCE: BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS



Mass Incarceration & the Criminal Legal System



RACIAL INEQUITIES IN MASS INCARCERATION



Sources and data notes: See <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie2020.html>



PUBLIC POLICY

National, State, Local Laws & Regulations

COMMUNITY

Community Health Outcomes, Concentration of Incarceration

ORGANIZATIONAL

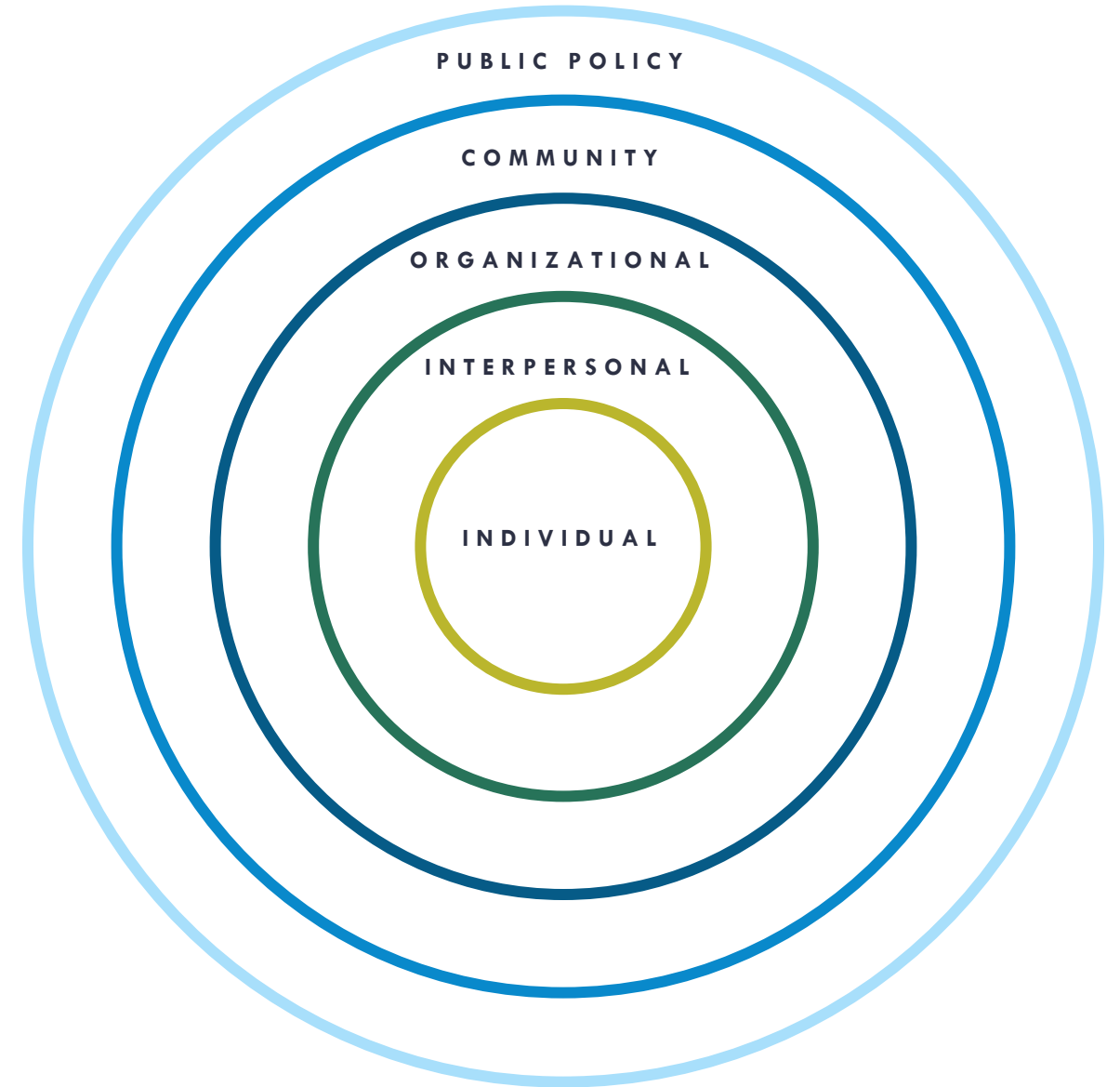
Organizations, Social Institutions

INTERPERSONAL

Families, Friends, Social Networks

INDIVIDUAL

Individual Health Behaviors



CONDITIONS AMONG PEOPLE WHO ARE INCARCERATED

Infectious Diseases

5x higher rate of COVID-19

Adverse Mental Health Outcomes

Increased Risk of Mortality

Community Outcomes

The Burden of Disease Behind Bars



HIV/AIDS
is 2 to 7 times more prevalent and an estimated 17 percent of all people with HIV living in the U.S. pass through a correctional facility each year.

Hepatitis C occurs at rates 8 to 21 times higher among incarcerated people, and accounts for more deaths in the community than HIV/AIDS.



Common STDs (sexually transmitted diseases), such as chlamydia and gonorrhea, are more prevalent, especially among incarcerated women who have significant histories of sexual trauma and/or engage in sex work.

One third of women admitted into jails who receive a screen for STDs test positive for syphilis.

Graying Behind Bars

People aged 55 years and older are among the fastest growing segments of the incarcerated population. Older adults have higher rates of chronic conditions and mental and physical disabilities.

550%

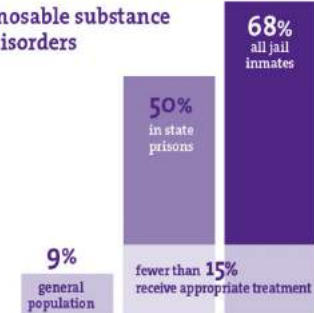
2012

1992

VERA
INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE
www.vera.org

Source: David Cloud, *On Life Support: Public Health in the Age of Mass Incarceration*, New York, NY: Vera Institute of Justice, 2014.

Diagnosable substance use disorders



Serious mental illnesses in jails



In state prisons, prevalence of serious mental illness is 2 to 4 times higher than in the community.

Suicide and Violence

Suicide accounts for one-third of deaths in jails. 15 percent of state prisoners reported violence-related injuries and 22 percent reported accidental injuries.

