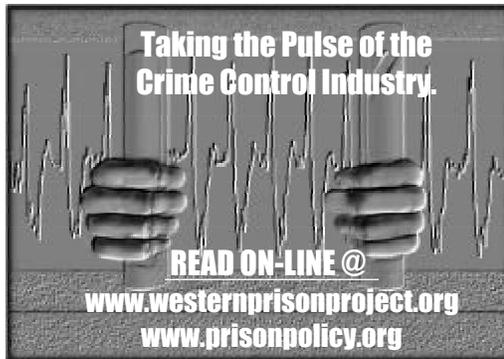


The Prison Index



Get the real facts about crime and punishment in the US today!

The Prison Index: Taking the Pulse of the Crime Control Industry is the first index of statistics about our nation's criminal justice system ever published. Containing 611 facts and 17 graphs and charts, this 48-page volume presents, in black-and-white, the state of crime control in America. Below is just a sample of some of the insightful and useful information, in easy to read index form.

The United States stands alone on high incarceration

Incarceration rates per 100,000 population in other countries and regions.

Countries with high incarceration:

United States: **686**
Cayman Islands: **664**
Russia: **638**
Belarus: **554**
Kazakhstan: **522**
Turkmenistan: **489**
Belize: **459**
Bahamas: **447**
Suriname: **437**
Dominica: **420**

First World countries with low incarceration

Australia: **116**
Canada: **102**
England and Wales: **139**
Finland: **59**
France: **85**
Germany: **96**
Iceland: **38**
Ireland: **86**
Italy: **95**
Japan: **48**
Netherlands: **93**
Spain: **126**

Median rates per region

Western and Central Africa: **50**
Southern Africa: **362**
South America: **107**
Caribbean: **297**
South central Asia: **54**
Central Asia: **426**
Southern Europe: **69**
Central and Eastern Europe: **213**
Oceania (including Australia and New Zealand): **110**

A Joint Project of The Western Prison Project and the Prison Policy Initiative

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As of August 2006, *The Prison Index* is out of print. Read it online at <http://prisonpolicy.org/prisonindex/>

Incarcerated population on the planet¹: 8,750,000

- ✍ Percent of incarcerated population that is in the United States²: **22**
- ✍ Percent of global population that is in the United States³: **4.6**
- ✍ Number incarcerated in the United States per 100,000 population⁴: **686**
- ✍ Percent of countries with prison populations below 150 per 100,000 national population⁵: **62.5%**

While the United States leads the world in caging its citizens, the prevalence of crime in the United States is just average.

- ✍ Average percent of population in 17 industrialized countries that were a victim of a crime in 1999⁶: **21**
- ✍ Percent of the United States who were a victim of a crime in 1999⁷: **21**

(Endnotes)

¹ Roy Walmsely, *World Prison Population List*, 4th edition, p. 1.

² Calculation, *Ibid*

³ Calculation based on the estimated U.S. population of 289,948,581 and the world population 6,265,656,384 at <http://www.census.gov> at 7:04pm on Dec 31, 2002.

⁴ *World Prison Population List*, p. 1.

⁵ *Ibid*

⁶ Van Kesteren, J., Mayhew, P. & Nieuwbeerta, P. (2000) *Criminal Victimization in Seventeen Industrialised Countries: Key-findings from the 2000 International Crime Victims Survey. Chapter 2, Figure 6.*

⁷ *Ibid*