

HARPER'S INDEX

- Number of U.S. counties where more than a fifth of "residents" are prison inmates : 21
 - Number of these that are in Texas : 10
- Portion of New York Senate districts that would not meet the minimum population level without their inmates : 1/9
 - Percentage of U.S. House contests in 2004 that were decided by fewer than 10 percentage points : 5
 - Percentage of districts in 1972 that chose one party for President and another for the House : 44
 - Percentage that did in 2004 : 14
 - Percentage of Democrats and Republicans, respectively, who say the Iraq war was "worth fighting" : 4, 84
 - Total projected cost of the war per U.S. household, based on a January estimate : \$19,600
 - Amount that one of Saddam Hussein's military uniforms sold for at auction in December : \$16,000
 - Monthly fee that Court TV is charging for live Internet coverage of his trial : \$5.95
 - Number of suicide bombings known to have been carried out by Iranians : 0
- Minimum number of times that Frederick Douglass was beaten in what is now Donald Rumsfeld's vacation home : 25
 - Percentage of African-American families that have zero or negative net worth : 31
- Chance that the family of an African-American child is too poor to qualify for the full U.S. child tax credit : 1 in 2
 - Percentage change in the amount of housework done by women after they marry for the first time : +17
 - Percentage change in the amount done by men : -33
 - Rank of 2004 among years when the most U.S. babies were born out of wedlock : 1
- Number of half-siblings who have found each other on a website for children of anonymous sperm donors : 1,316
 - Greatest number of them who have the same father : 21
- Minimum number of registered sex offenders who evacuated during Hurricane Katrina and cannot be accounted for : 2,000
 - Miles from Berlin's World Cup stadium that a four-story brothel has recently opened : 2
 - Percentage change since 1992 in the number of civil wars worldwide claiming more than a thousand lives : -80
 - Chance that a nation lacking resource wealth will have a civil war in any given five-year span : 1 in 100
 - Chance that a nation with resource wealth will : 1 in 5
- Number of weapons that have been turned into tools for African farmers by a British nonprofit since 2001 : 2,200
 - Number of farm implements that a rocket launcher yields : 5
- Average percentage decline in U.K. child injuries during weekends when a new Harry Potter book is released : -46
 - Number of books published in Britain since 2004 that have "shit," "shite," or "crap" in their titles : 23
 - Percentage change since 1995 in the number of U.S. fantasy books about dragons : +91
 - Percentage of Americans who believe that China will be stronger than the U.S. in a decade : 42
- Number of copies sold in Japan since last summer of a comic book about the worthlessness of China : 180,000
 - Number of copies sold of a similar comic book about Korea : 370,000
- Chances that a Japanese person will make eye contact during conversation with another Japanese person : 2 in 5
 - Chances that he or she will make eye contact during conversation with a robot : 3 in 5
 - Amount paid in January for one of William Shatner's kidney stones : \$25,000
 - Amount paid last fall for a Ford Escort driven by Pope John Paul II : \$680,000
- Number of U.S. states whose constitutions require that public officials believe in a supreme being : 4
- Number of the 193 "laughing episodes" during Supreme Court arguments last term that were caused by Antonin Scalia : 77
 - Number caused by Clarence Thomas : 0

Figures cited are the latest available as of January 2006. Sources are listed on page 66.

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