



BEHIND THE WALLS: 10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PRISONS AND INCARCERATED PEOPLE

IL-CHEP advocates for greater access to quality higher education opportunities for all people who are incarcerated in Illinois while supporting policies that will abolish our state's and nation's reliance on criminalization and incarceration.

<p>1</p> <p>Over 2.3 million people are incarcerated in America. About 7 million people, or 3% of the U.S. population, are under correctional supervision (jail, prison, probation or parole).¹</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Nationally, more than 8.3 million children have parents under correctional supervision (prison, jail, or on probation or parole). One in every 28 children has a parent in state or federal prison.^{1,7}</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Between 1970 and 2001, the Illinois prison population increased more than 500%. Today, there are over 29,000 people in Illinois prisons with another 26,000 on parole.^{2,3,8}</p>	<p>4</p> <p>The Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) operates 28 adult prisons, various work and boot camps and four adult transitional centers.³</p>	<p>5</p> <p>In 2020, Illinois spent \$1.5 billion on IDOC. Nationally, spending is approximately \$64 billion.⁵</p>
<p>6</p> <p>About 93% of incarcerated people are male; 7% are female.¹</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Black males have a 32% chance of serving time in prison at some point in their lives; Hispanic males have a 17% chance; white males have a 6% chance.¹</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Approximately 68% of people in state prisons did not receive a high school diploma; up to 65% are illiterate.^{1,6}</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Between 1987 and 2007, state corrections funding increased by 127% while funding for higher education grew by only 21%.⁶</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Being formerly incarcerated reduces hourly wages for men by approximately 11%, annual employment by nine weeks and annual earnings by 40%.⁷</p>

¹ Bureau of Justice Statistics

² Urban Institute Report, 2003

³ Illinois Department of Corrections Quarterly Report, 2020, 2022, FY20 Annual Report

⁴ Vera Institute of Justice

⁵ The Institute for Illinois' Fiscal Sustainability at The Civic Federation, 2020

⁶ NAACP "Misplaced Priorities: Over Incarcerate, Under Educate", 2001

⁷ Pew Research Center, 2010

⁸ National Institute of Corrections, 2019

Working to bring opportunities and hope to people who are incarcerated.

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