Monetizing Prisons

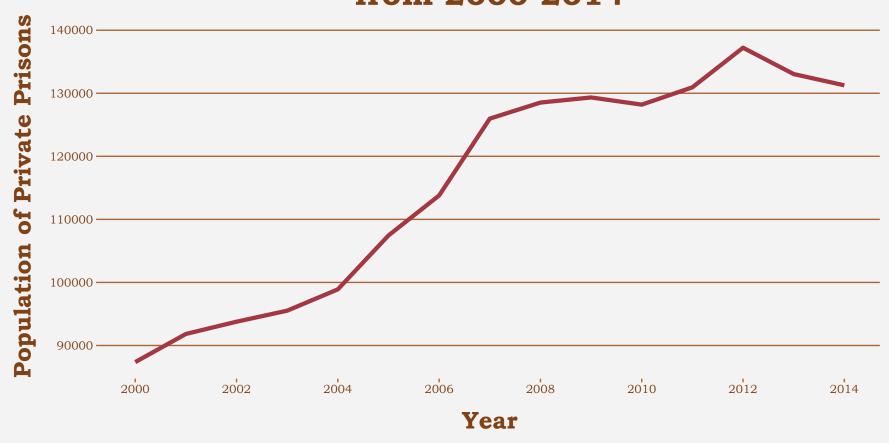
HOW MONETIZING THE U.S. PRISON SYSTEM HAS AFFECTED SOCIETY

Andrew Batbouta and Matt Poegel

Prisons for Profit

- There are 2.2 Million people in prisons in the US.
- We have the most in the world, 600K more than China a country that has 1 billion more citizens than the US.
- Why do we have so many? We don't take care of our prisoners, 77% recidivism in State prisons, 44% in federal. Norway has 20% recidivism.
- We punish rather than rehabilitate.
- Private Prisons bring out the worst in prisons by having no motivations to help prisoners and rather and can make money by not rewarding good behavior and having high recidivism.





Cruel and Inhumane

- A man was placed in solitary confinement for

 "misbehaving" after guards forced him to agree to the
 treatment by signing paperwork he could not understand
- A man with serious mental health problems was put in solitary confinement for months at a time.
- An HIV postive woman was not receiving her proper medication until a local NGO got involved.
- Inmates must pay \$2 a minute to speak with families and lawyers.
- Inmates were repeatly insulted, mocked, and had their possions thrown onto the floor by gaurds.
- Roberto Medina-Martinez, a 39-year-old immigrant, died from a treatable heart infection after negligence from the nurses and facility physician.
- Sanitation problems at the facility include food trays not being cleaned, worms in food, being given dirty laundry, bugs in water faucets, and cell overcrowding.
- The detention center is over three hours from Atlanta, which makes family and legal visits nearly prohibitive.
- Visitors can only see their loved ones through video screens instead of face to face.



High Recidivism

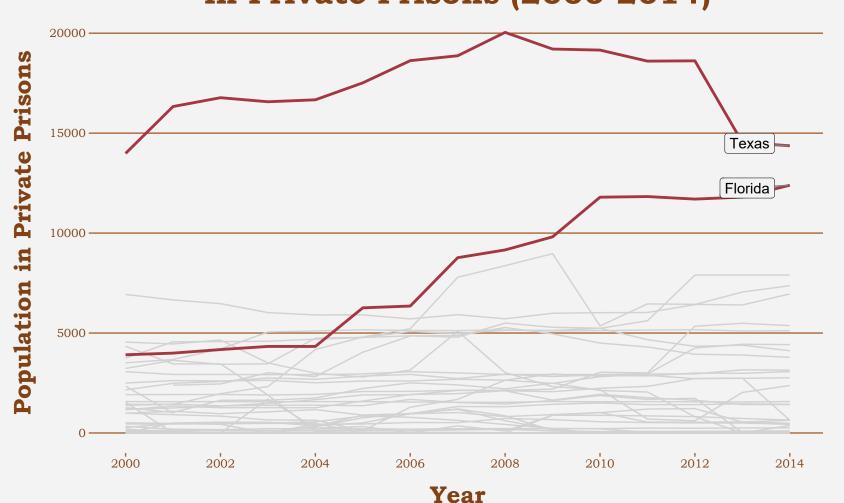
- There is a lack of reason to rehabilitate prisoners, because companies can make profits instead
- Labor includes making Licence plates to office furniture to staffing call centers, run by UNICOR, a government run corporation
- Inmates get paid in a range from \$0.23 to \$1.15 an hour working in prisons. Prisoners do not get health insurance or benefits.

\$2.4 Billion

the amount of money prison labor generates each year

- Private prisons do not reward good behaviour often because it would lose inmates, which are the source of profits.
- Prisoners often lack resources found at state or Federal prisons
- To increase profits, private prisons cut back on spending related to improving prisoner conditions
- These prisons often employ less guards to save money, which leads to more violence

Texas and Florida Have Highest Populations in Private Prisons (2000-2014)



Prison is Punishment

The Solutions

I "It's a fact that needs to be spoken: America's prisons are broken!" I