Incarceration Statistics

1. At the end of 2013, the number of prisoners in the United States was 1,574,741, approximately 0.5% of the population, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. In Massachusetts, there were 10,950 prisoners, representing less than 0.2% of the population. This is less than half the national incarceration rate. This however does not include prisoners who may be in locally operated jails and correctional institutions for up to 2.5 years.
2. Drugs represented 16.0% of state incarcerations and 51.0% of federal incarcerations.
3. The Massachusetts DOC has more information regarding Massachusetts incarceration.
4. In 2012, there was an incident involving drug test falsifications by a chemist, Annie Dookhan, which has caused a spike in unconditional releases for that year.