Penitentiary institutions

Prisons

Links to the Past

- The Big House

  - 1940s-50s, average population 2,500 inmates per institution

  - Mostly white inmates, few treatment programs, custody as primary goal

- 1960s-70s

  - Correctional institutions

  - Rehabilitation model, treatment programs with counselors and teachers

The Goals of Incarceration

- Crime Control

  - Incarceration

  - Diverse prison population

  - Drug-related and violent criminals

The Goals of Incarceration

- Custodial Model
    - Incapacitation
    - Deterrence
    - Retribution
- Rehabilitation Model
    - Treatment
- Reintegration Model
    - Community supervision

Discuss if all three models of incarceration can be implemented at once. Why or why not?

Prison Systems

- All 50 states and federal government operate prisons
- 1,292 confinement facilities
- 92% under state authority
- 283 private facilities
- Largest number in the South 47%
- 20% in Midwest
- 18.5% West
- 14.5% North

Discussion Question

What if your home state decided to release 50% of its inmates early of their scheduled release, over a 16 month cycle, due to overcrowding and budget problems. The first inmates released early would be first time drug offenders, followed by non-violent offenders and repeat non-violent/drug offenders? Would you support or oppose this move? Why?

Prison Systems

- The Federal Prison System- created by congress in 1930
  - Bureau of Prisons
    - 38,000 employees
    - 219,000 inmates
    - 119 institutions
    - 22 residential reentry management offices
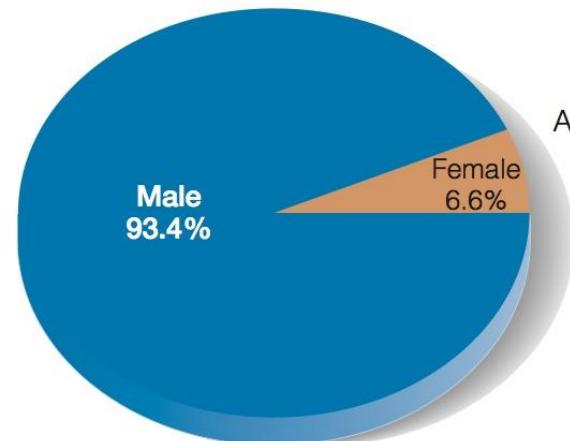
Prison Systems

- Federal crimes
  - Bank robbery
  - Extortion
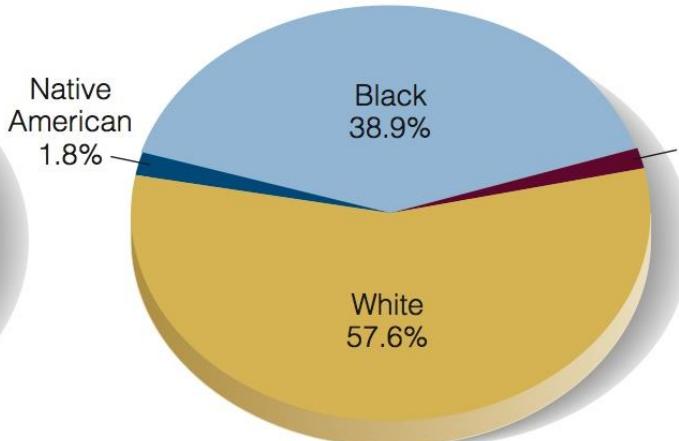 - Mail fraud
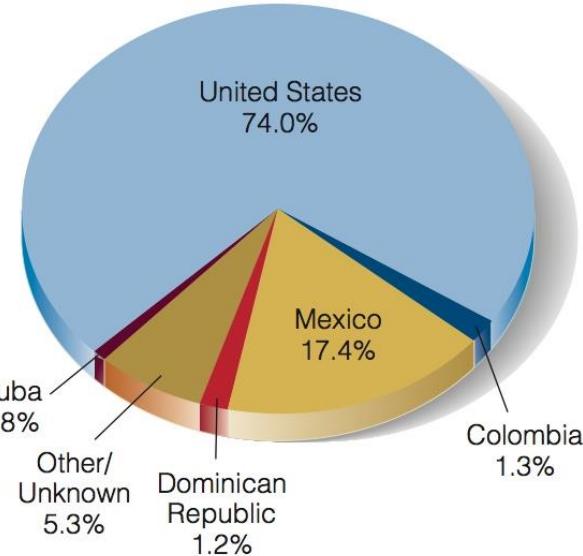 - Arson
  - Drugs

Prison Systems

Gender

- Male 93.4%
- Female 6.6%

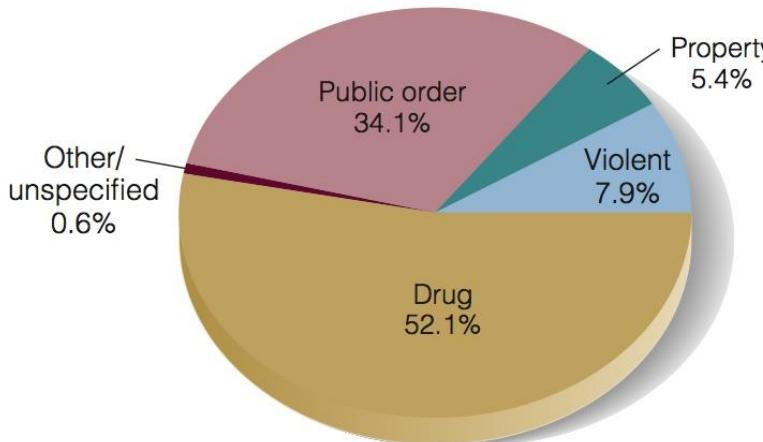**Race**

- Native American 1.8%
- Black 38.9%
- Asian 1.7%
- White 57.6%

Citizenship

- United States 74.0%
- Mexico 17.4%
- Colombia 1.3%
- Dominican Republic 1.2%
- Cuba 0.8%
- Other/ Unknown 5.3%

Sentence Imposed

- Less than 1 year 1.6%
- 5–10 years 29.8%
- More than 20 years 9.7%
- 10–20 years 29.6%
- 1–5 years 26.2%
- Life 3.1%

Types of Offenses

- Public order 34.1%
- Property 5.4%
- Violent 7.9%
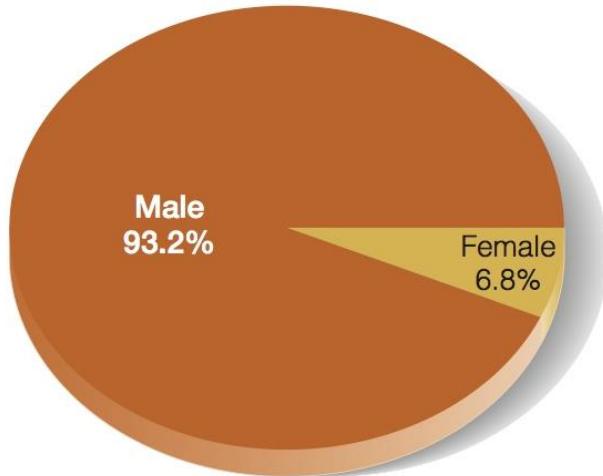- Other/ unspecified 0.6%
- Drug 52.1%
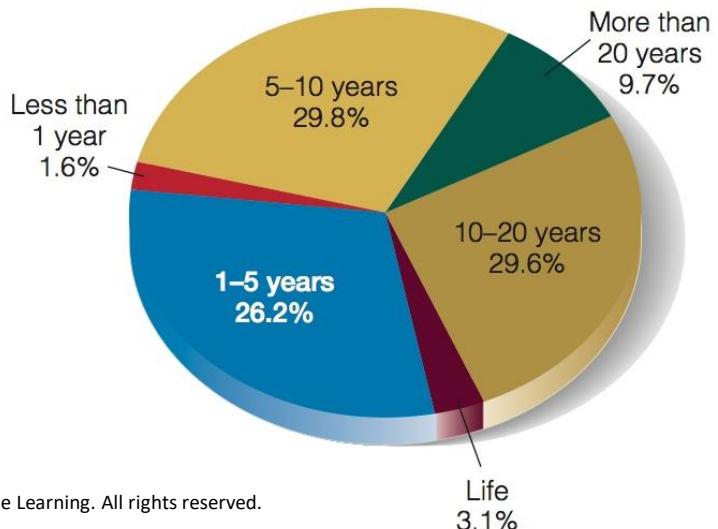
Prison Systems

- State Prison Systems
  - Administered by executive branch of government
  - Warden or superintendent
  - Differ by size, type, and location
  - Nearly 390,000 employees, 68% correctional officers
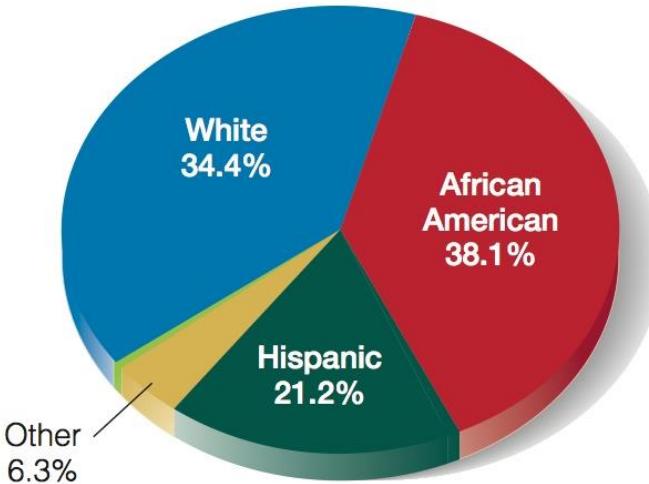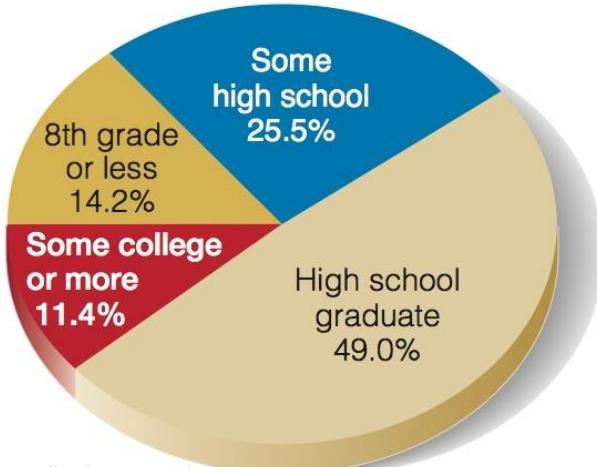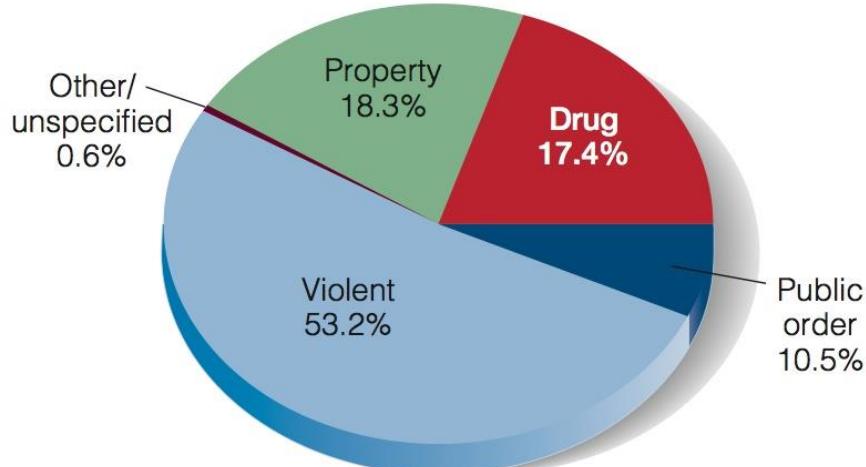 - Recidivists and violent offenders

Prison Systems

Gender

Male 93.2%
Female 6.8%

Race

White 34.4%
African American 38.1%
Hispanic 21.2%
Other 6.3%

Education

Some high school 25.5%
8th grade or less 14.2%
Some college or more 11.4%
High school graduate 49.0%

Type of Offenses

Other/unspecified 0.6%
Property 18.3%
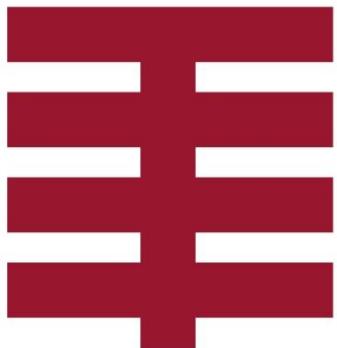Drug 17.4%
Violent 53.2%
Public order 10.5%
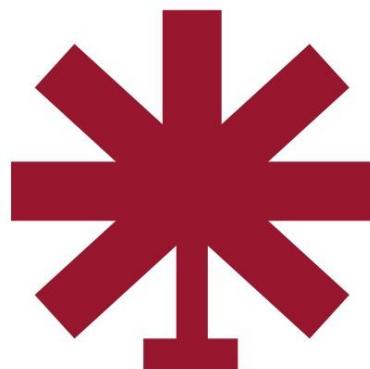
- Today's Designs

  - The radial design—East State Penitentiary

  - The telephone pole design
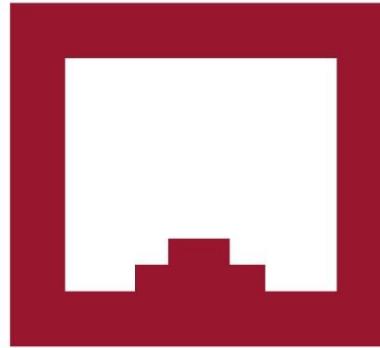
  - The courtyard style

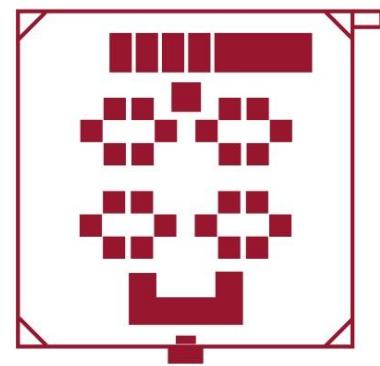 - The campus style

The Design and Classification of Prisons

a. Radial design

b. Telephone-pole design

c. Courtyard style

d. Campus style

- The Location of Prisons

  - Rural areas

    - Isolate offenders

    - Farms

    - Cheap land

    - NIMBY

    - Economic impact
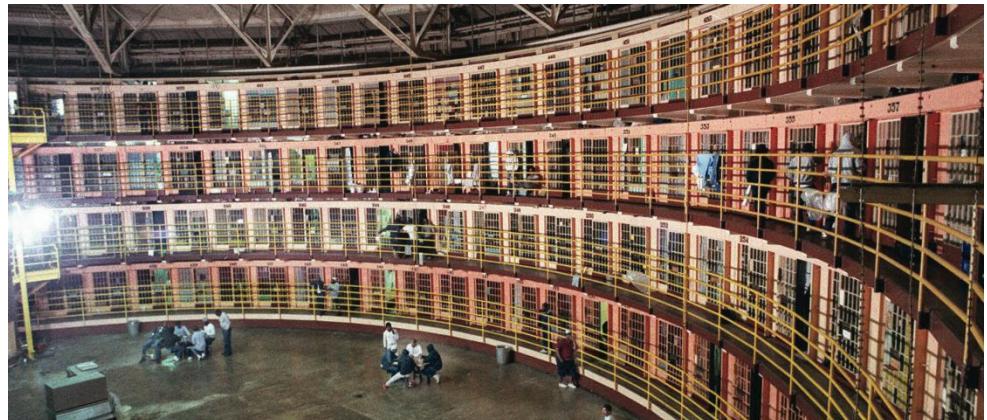
Discussion Question

Regardless of race, what are some obvious issues which arise when rural prison guards are responsible for urban prison inmates?

The Design and Classification of Prisons

- The Classification of Prisons

  - Maximum-security prison

  - Medium-security prison
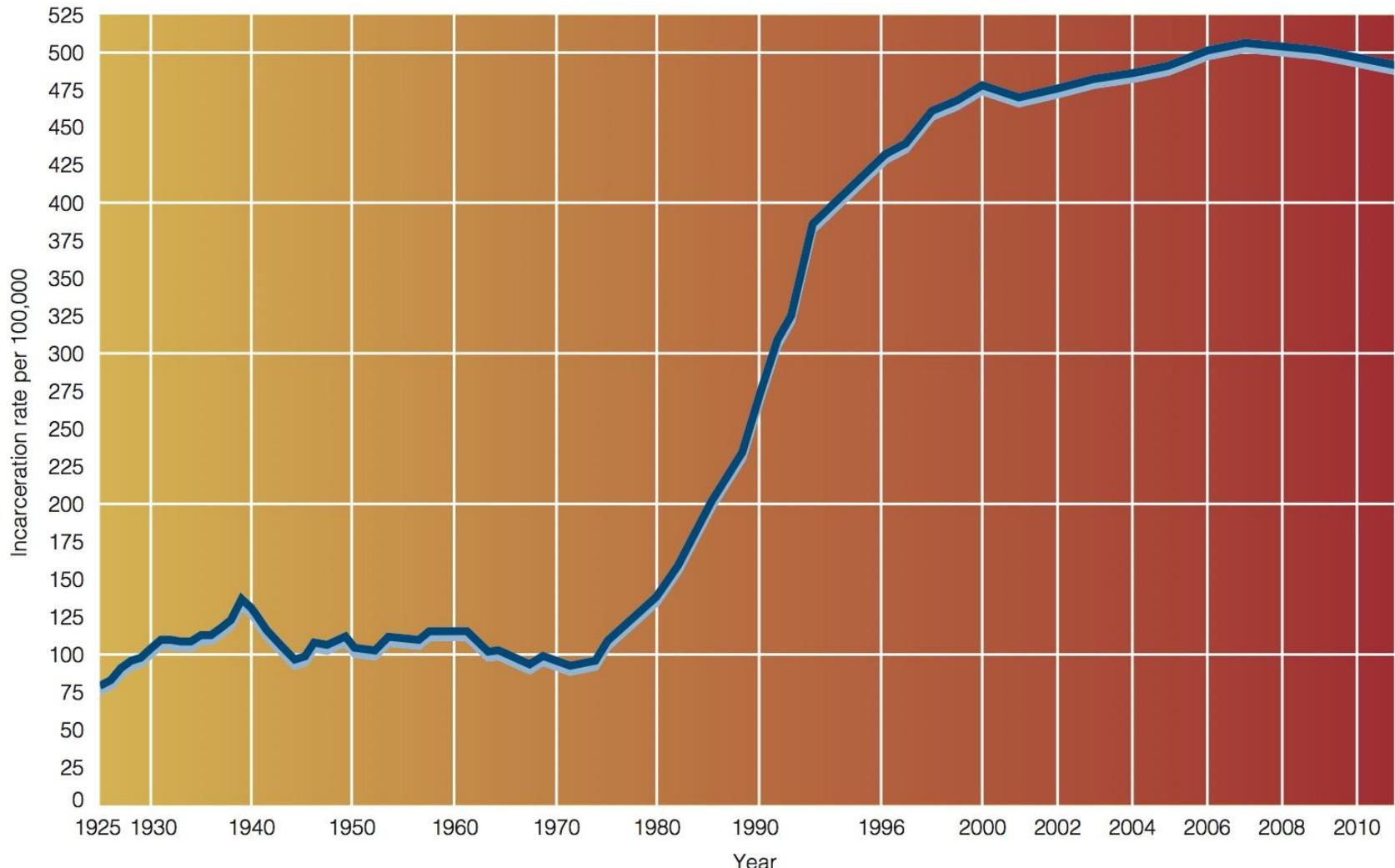
  - Minimum-security prison

  - Super-max prison

AP Images/Chicago Sun-Times, Richard A. Chapman

- Private Prisons

  - Expanded in recent decades

  - Big business

  - Controversial

  - Philosophical questions

Incarceration Trends

Incarceration Trends

- Explaining Prison Population Trends

  - Increased arrests and more likely incarceration

  - Tougher sentencing

  - Prison construction

  - The war on drugs

  - State and local politics

- Public Policy Trends
  - Incarceration of more offenders for longer periods of time
    - Increased law enforcement and prosecution spending
    - Mandatory-sentencing laws
    - Truth-in-sentencing requirements
    - Enhanced drug law enforcement
    - Tough parole policies

- Dealing with Crowded Prisons
  - Null strategy- doing nothing
  - Construction strategy- building more prisons to meet the demands of prison space
  - Reserve prison space for violent offenders
    - Intermediate sanctions
  - "Backdoor strategies"
    - Parole
    - Work release
    - Good time

Discuss which strategy would be most effective for dealing with overcrowding in prisons? Why?

Does Incarceration Pay?

- Opponents
  - Incarceration not warranted
  - Unintended consequences

- Supporters
  - Reduced crime rate
  - Most inmates commit serious crimes