

State Reports

Virginia

IMPRISONMENT GROWTH AT A GLANCE

Imprisonment Rate 1977: 142 (11th)	Female Imprisonment Rate 1977: 9 (19th)
Imprisonment Rate 2004: 473 (15th)	Female Imprisonment Rate 2004: 71 (14th)
Total Female Sentenced Prisoners 1977:	251
Total Female Sentenced Prisoners 2004:	2,706
Percent Increase 1977-2004:	978%
Average Annual Percent Increase 1977-2004:	10%
Percent Increase 1999-2004:	42%

IMPRISONMENT IN VIRGINIA

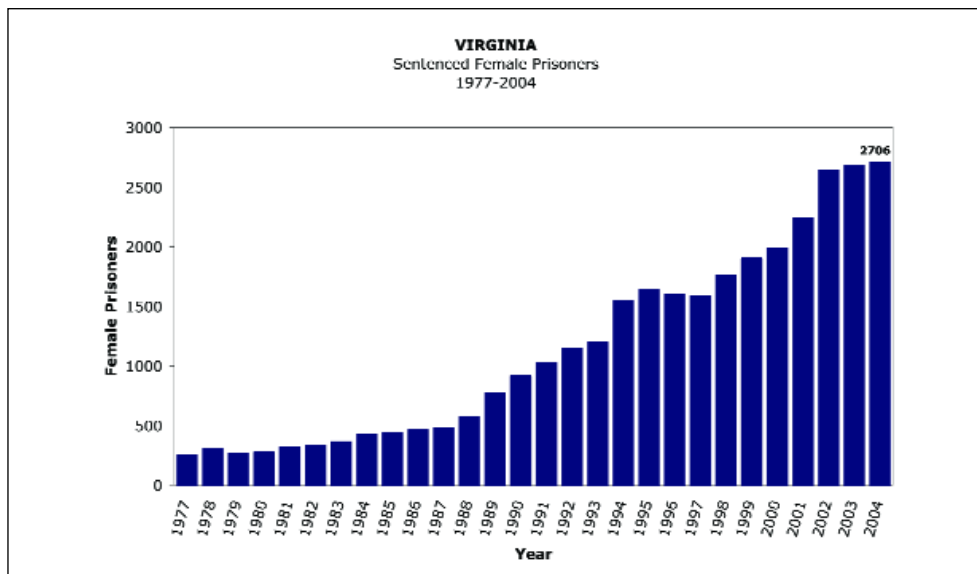
At year-end 2004, Virginia prisons housed 35,564 inmates serving sentences of more than one year. Of these inmates, 32,858 were male and 2,706 were female. Virginia ranked 14th in its 2004 female imprisonment rate with 71 female prisoners per 100,000 female residents, and 15th in its 2004 overall imprisonment rate with 473 prisoners per 100,000 residents.

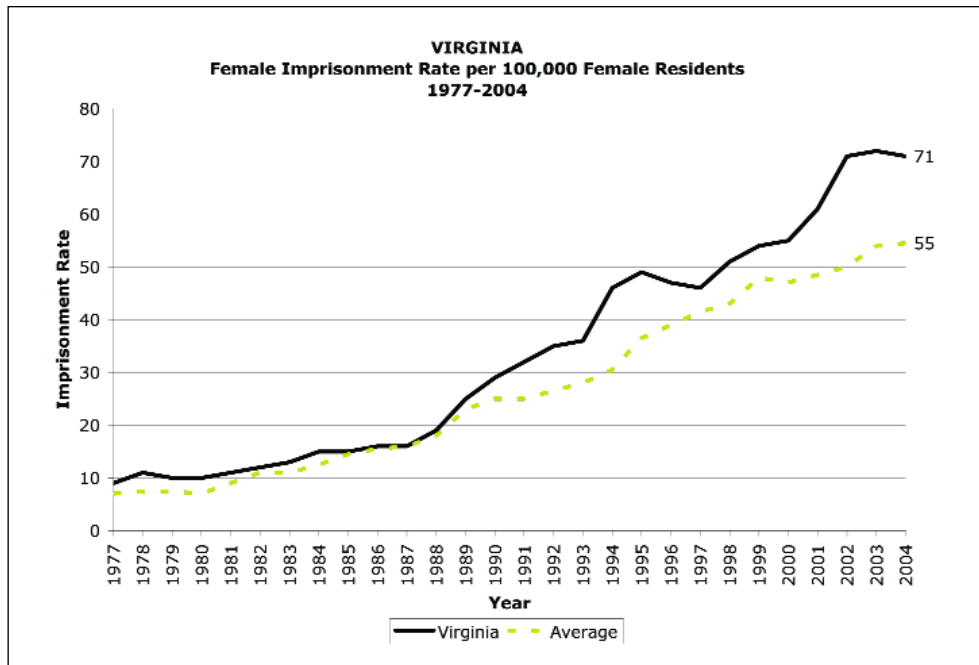
In 1977, Virginia prisons housed 251 female inmates; by 2004, the female prison population had reached 2,706. Virginia's female prison population was at its lowest with 251 female prisoners in 1977 and peaked at 2,706 female inmates in 2004.

GROWTH IN FEMALE IMPRISONMENT RATE

Between 1977 and 2004, Virginia's female prison population grew by 978% with an average annual percent change of 9.7% per year.

For much of the period from 1977 to 1990, Virginia's female imprisonment rate closely tracked the average female imprisonment rate across the states. Beginning in the early 1990s, Virginia's female imprisonment growth accelerated more rapidly. By 2004, with a female imprisonment rate of 71 female prisoners per 100,000 female residents, Virginia was among the 15 most punitive states in its imprisonment of female offenders (ranked 14th).





**MALE TO FEMALE IMPRISONMENT RATIO**

The male to female imprisonment ratio indicates the number of male inmates for every female inmate. Although both female and male imprisonment rates have increased over the period of study, a shrinking ratio suggests that the number of female prisoners has increased at a faster pace. In 1977, across the states, there were an average of 26 male prisoners for every female prisoner; by 2004, this ratio had fallen to 13 male prisoners for every female prisoner. Virginia’s 1977 ratio was slightly higher than average with 27 male prisoners for every female prisoner. By 2004, Virginia’s male to female imprisonment ratio (12:1) was slightly lower than the average across states.

**CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES**

According to the 2000 Census of State and Federal Correctional Facilities, Virginia has 61 correctional facilities. Of Virginia’s 61 correctional facilities, 54 house male prisoners only and seven house female prisoners. No facilities house both male and female prisoners.