



WOMEN'S PRISON ASSOCIATION

THE NUMBERS

- In 2002, 5,349,660 people lived in Arizona. At the end of 2002, 29,591 were incarcerated in state prisons. By December 31, 2003 this population had grown to 31,258.
- 8.54% of the incarcerated population is female. Females represent about 50% of the total population of Arizona.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
Incarcerated Population 2003	31,258	28,590 (91.5%)	2,668 (8.5%)
Admissions to Prison 2002	15,854	14,033 (89%)	1,821 (11%)
Releases from Prison 2002	13,844	12,363 (89%)	1,481 (11%)

AGE

- Women incarcerated in Arizona are slightly older than their male counterparts.
- 68% of women (1,829) and 63% of men (18,110) in prison are 30 years old and older.

Incarcerated Population, 2003

	<u>Under 21</u>	<u>21-24</u>	<u>25-29</u>	<u>30-34</u>	<u>35-39</u>	<u>40-44</u>	<u>45-49</u>	<u>50+</u>
Men	5%	14%	17%	16%	15%	13%	9%	10%
Women	2	12	17	19	20	17	8	6

RACE AND ETHNICITY

- 64% of Arizona's population is non-Hispanic White, 25% is Hispanic or Latino, 5% is Native American, and 3% is non-Hispanic Black.
- The majority of men and women in Arizona prisons are non-White. However, inmates are more likely to be White than any other single race or ethnicity.
- Mexican-Americans are the second largest group of inmates among both men and women.
- A greater percentage of men than women in Arizona state prisons are Mexican nationals. Only 2% of women compared to 12% of men are Mexican nationals.

Incarcerated Population, 2003

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Mexican-American</u>	<u>Mexican Nationals</u>	<u>Other</u>
Men	43%	13%	25%	12%	7%
Women	56	13	22	2	7

CONVICTION STATUS

- Women were more likely than men to be convicted for drug and property crimes.
- Men were more likely than women to be convicted for violent crimes.
- 88% of women, compared to 78% of men, were admitted to Arizona prisons for nonviolent crimes.

Admissions, 2002

	<u>Violent</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>Drug</u>	<u>Public Order</u>	<u>Other</u>
Men	22%	30%	19%	25%	4%
Women	12	38	30	17	3

ARIZONA: COMPARATIVE TRENDS IN INCARCERATION FROM 1978-1999

Changes in Arizona 1978-1999

In the 21 years from 1978 to 1999 the number of women incarcerated in Arizona prisons and jails swelled from 515 to 3147. This represents a 511% increase. While significant, 38 other states experienced an even greater increase. What is notable about Arizona, however, is that the growth in incarceration outpaced the growth in the state's female population. Consequently, the change in the proportion of female residents incarcerated grew in Arizona faster than it did in other states. Indeed, Arizona is ranked 16 (out of 51) for change in female incarceration rate. At the same time, Arizona did not change the ratio of male to female incarceration in this time period. Both in 1978 and in 1999, approximately 10 men were incarcerated for every one female incarcerated. In 1978, this ratio ranked Arizona as the closest to a 1:1 ratio of incarceration in the nation. By 1999, however, 15 other states had moved closer to a 1:1 male-to-female ratio of incarceration, making them nearly as punitive towards women as they are towards men.

Arizona 1999

- With 3145 women incarcerated, Arizona is ranked 15 (out of 51 states and D.C.) in the number of women incarcerated. Only 14 other states incarcerated more women.
- Arizona incarcerates a higher proportion of women than do most other states. It is ranked 10 (out of 51).
- Arizona is near the top of the ranking (16 out of 51) for its ratio of male-to-female incarceration. Approximately 10 men are incarcerated for 1 female incarcerated. Most other states have a smaller incarcerated female population relative to the size of its incarcerated male population.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of women incarcerated (Rank)*</u>	<u>Rate per 100,000 (Rank)**</u>	<u>Ratio of Men to Women (Rank)</u>
1978	515 (11)	66.68 (2)	10.88 (1)
1983	486 (22)	53.6 (13)	19.42 (18)
1988	1223 (13)	113.72 (5)	13.84 (8)
1993	1795 (17)	152.1 (9)	12.95 (11)
1999	3147 (15)	222.87 (10)	10.52 (16)

* Number includes women incarcerated in prisons and jails. Rankings ordered from highest (1) to lowest (51) and include D.C.

** Incarceration rate (prisons and jails) per 100,000 women 18-64 years old.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES AND EXPENDITURES

- Arizona has 10 state-run prisons, 3 of which incarcerate women. In addition, 1 of the 3 private prisons incarcerates women.
- The cost per inmate in the Arizona prison system is \$19,505 yearly and \$53.44 daily.
- Arizona incarcerates a significant number of its prisoners (1,442 in 2002) in private facilities. This costs \$15,214 yearly and \$41.68 daily.

SENTENCING LAWS

- Truth in Sentencing: inmates must serve at least 85% of their sentences.
- Maximum mandatory sentences can be increased with a variety of sentencing enhancements.
- Discretionary release: Arizona is one of 14 states to have abolished discretionary parole board release. This law affects all inmates.
- Juveniles: Tougher juvenile crime laws were passed in the late 1990's that increased the number of minors convicted of adult crimes. More juveniles are expected to enter the adult prison system in the future.

INMATES AND THEIR FAMILIES

- Arizona is one of twenty-eight states to have developed a DOC agency-wide program that helps inmates and their families maintain supportive relationships. DOC services include:
 - ✓ Car pooling and transportation information for family visits to the prisons;
 - ✓ Arrangement of parent/child visits, often in cooperation with community support agencies;
 - ✓ Acting as a liaison between inmates and their family members when contact has been discontinued; and
 - ✓ Working with community support agencies to assist families with problems, including eviction, medical problems, and utility, food, clothing, and rent subsidies.
- Parenting classes are offered in Arizona prisons and in most state prisons throughout the country. Fourteen states allow children to be present during the classes. Arizona is not one of them.
- Arizona has no special facilities for pregnant inmates, nor does it provide in-prison accommodations for infants and young children (only 9 and 11 states respectively have adopted such policies).

VOTING RIGHTS

- Prison inmates, felon probationers and felon parolees are barred from voting in Arizona.
- Ex-prisoners are permanently barred from voting after their second felony.

WELFARE REFORM

- In Arizona, people convicted of a drug-related felony are ineligible to receive TANF (Assistance for Needy Families), a monthly cash assistance program for poor families with children under age 18. The program, instituted as an integral part of the Welfare Reform Act in 1996, replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children and ended the federal entitlement to welfare. It also placed primary responsibility for allocating assistance funds on state governments. The block grant format of TANF gives states some flexibility with to determine eligibility for TANF. Rather than opt out of this ban as some states have done, Arizona has adopted it, making people convicted of drug-related offenses ineligible to receive this form of welfare. Since women are disproportionately likely to be the caregivers of their children, and disproportionately likely to be convicted of a drug-related offense, they are particularly hard hit by this ban on receiving TANF funds.

CHANGES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY

- In 2003, Arizona passed legislation allowing the release of non-violent drug offenders 90 days early if they qualify for a new transitioning service program, which includes job training, job placement, treatment, and housing assistance. Funds accumulated through early release pay for the programs.

Sources: Arizona Department of Corrections. Reports and Statistics. Available at <http://www.adc.state.az.us/reports.htm>; Austin, James et. al. 1999. The Impact of 'Three Strikes and You're Out.' *Punishment and Society*. 1(2):131-162; Beck, Allen J. Prisoners in 1999. Washington DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics; Hill, George and Paige Harrison. 2000. Female Prisoners under State or Federal Jurisdiction, 1977-1998 [electronic file]; Hire Network. State Responses to the Federal Drug Felon Ban on TANF and Food Stamps. Available online at http://www.hirenetwork.org/State_Responses.htm; Ditton, Paula M. and Doris James Wilson. 1999. Truth in Sentencing in State Prisons. Washington DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics; Greene, Judith A. 2003. Positive Trends in State-Level Sentencing and Corrections Policy. Washington DC: Families Against Mandatory Minimums; Fellner, Jamie and Marc Mauer. 1998. Losing the Vote: The Impact of Felony Disenfranchisement Laws in the United States. Washington DC: Human Rights Watch and The Sentencing Project; United States Census Bureau. State and County Quick Facts. Available at <http://www.census.gov/>; Jantz, Amy et. al. 2002. "The Continuing Evolution of State Kinship Care Policies." Washington DC: Urban Institute; Legal Action Center. "After Prison: Roadblocks to Reentry. A Report on State Legal Barriers Facing People with Criminal Records." Washington DC: Legal Action Center; Stephan, James J. 1999. State Prison Expenditures in 1996. Washington DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics; U.S. Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. NATIONAL JAIL CENSUS, 1999. Conducted by U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. 2nd ICPSR ed. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [producer and distributor].