

250,000,000

200,000,000

150,000,000

100,000,000

50,000,000

0

## America's Racial Demographic

Source: U.S. Census Bureau  
DP-1: Profile of General  
Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Hispanic

Black

White

Other

1,000,000

900,000

800,000

700,000

600,000

500,000

400,000

300,000

200,000

100,000

0

**Racial  
Demographic:  
America's  
Prison  
Population  
2008**

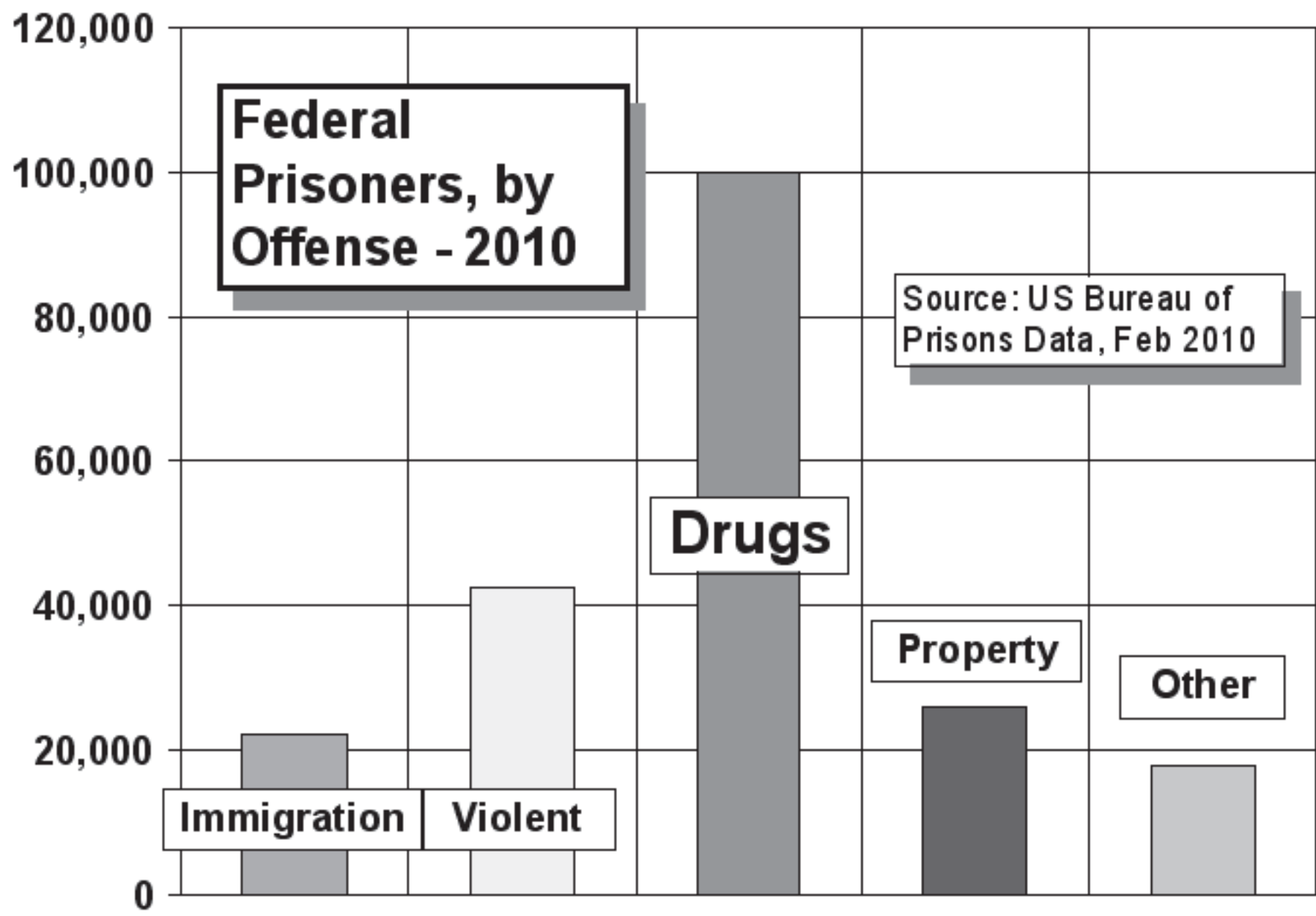
**Black  
38%**

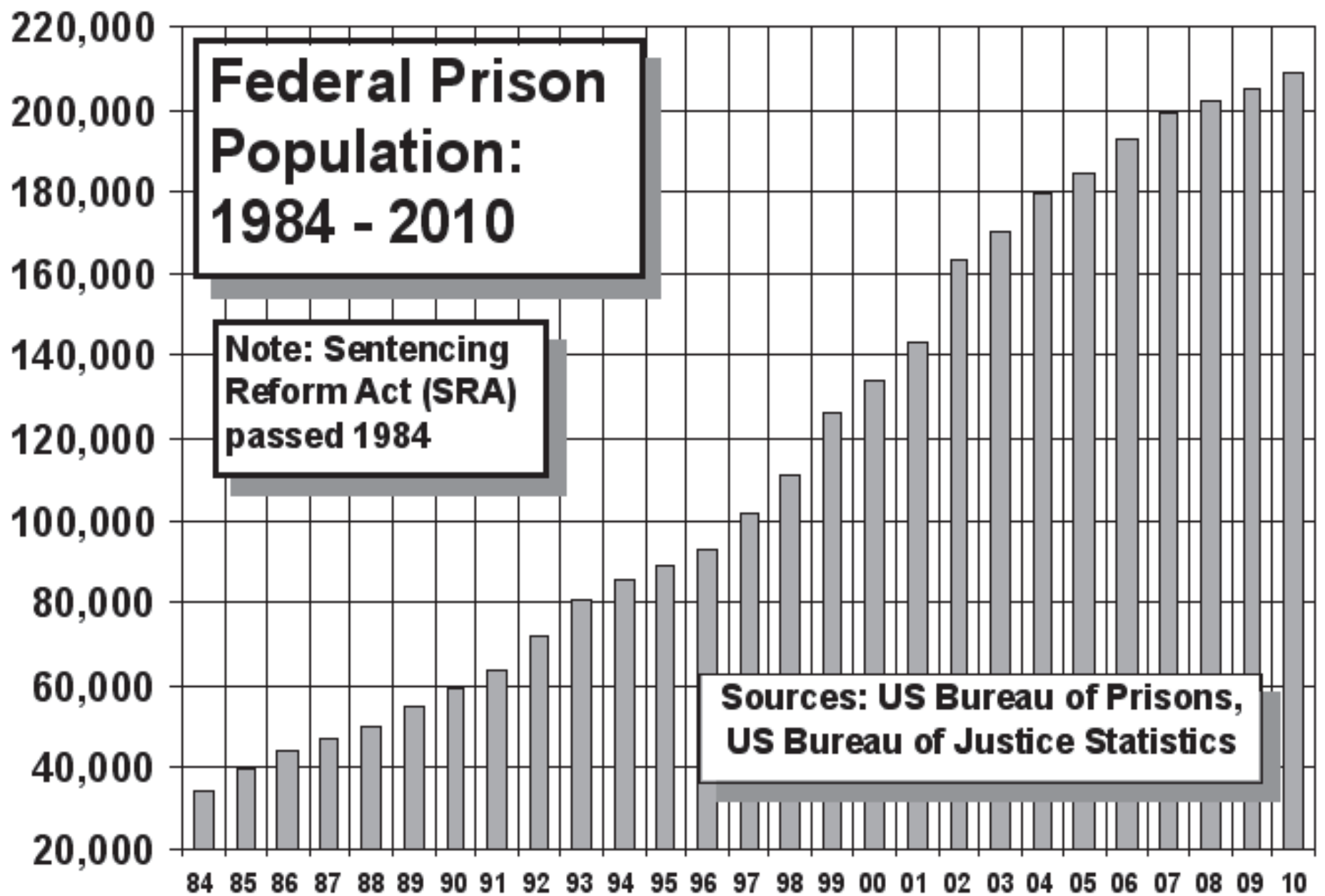
**White  
34%**

**Hispanic  
20%**

**Other  
8%**

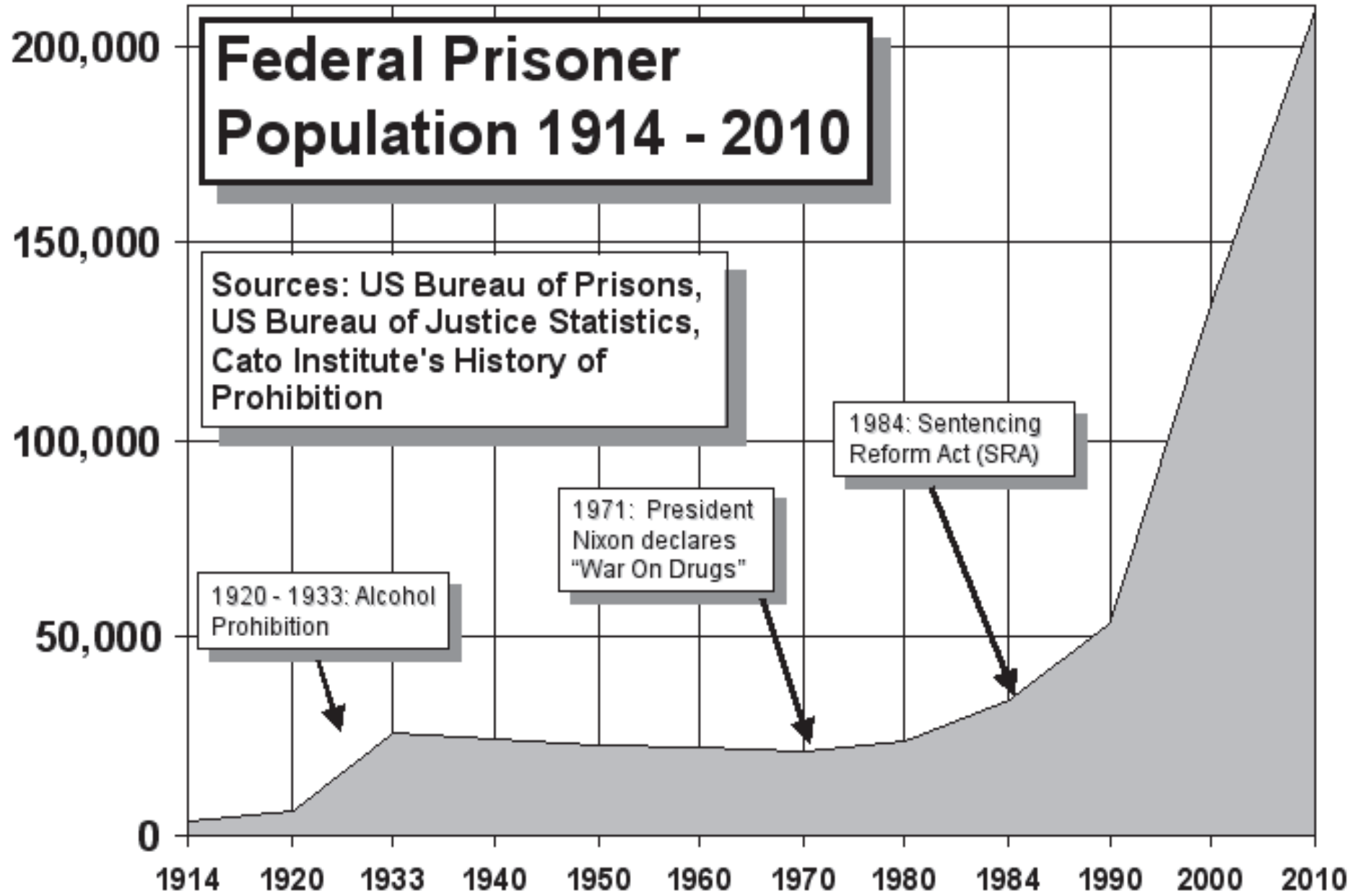
**Source: U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics  
Bulletin NCJ 228417 - Prisoners in 2008**





# Federal Prisoner Population 1914 - 2010

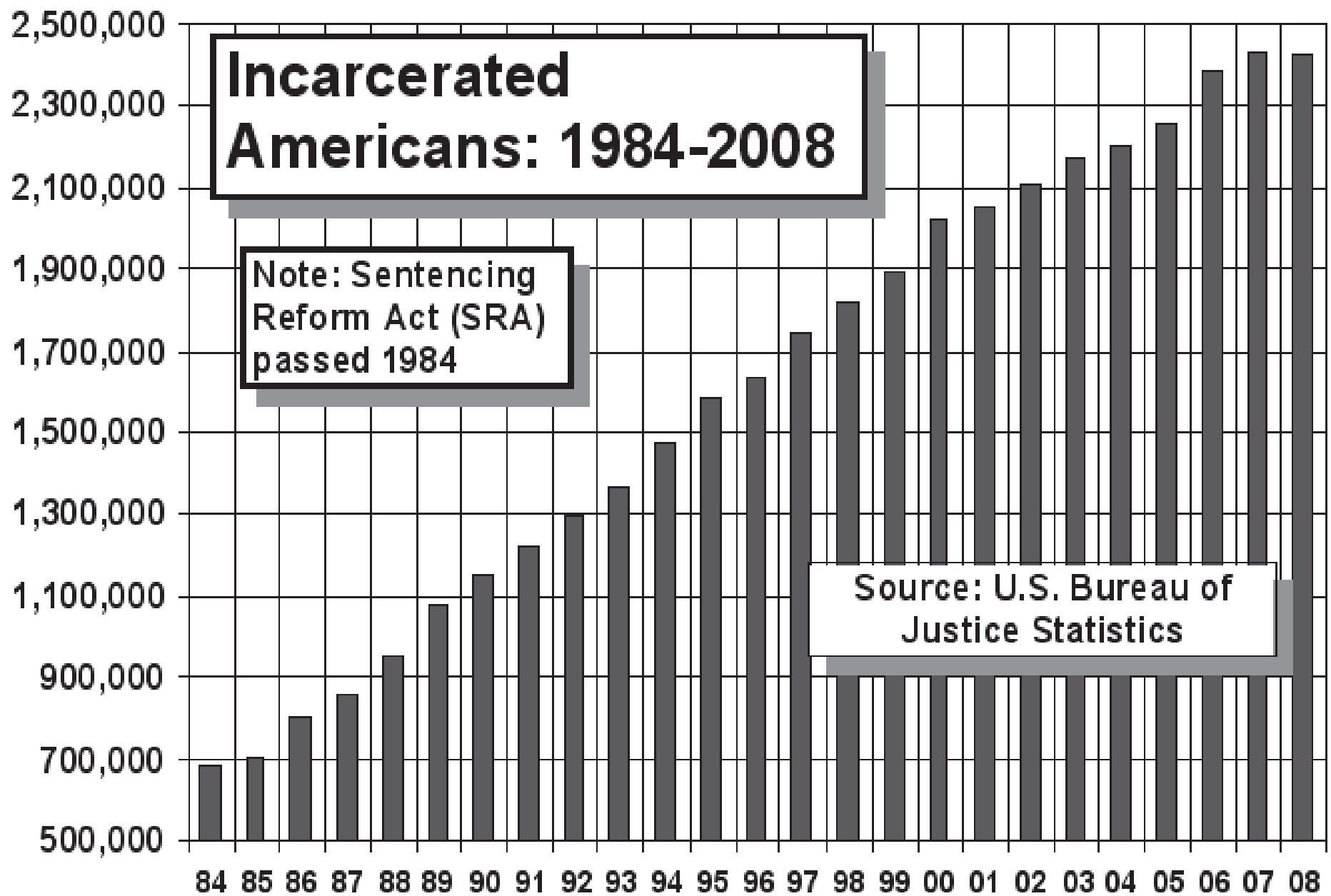
Sources: US Bureau of Prisons,  
US Bureau of Justice Statistics,  
Cato Institute's History of  
Prohibition



1920 - 1933: Alcohol  
Prohibition

1971: President  
Nixon declares  
"War On Drugs"

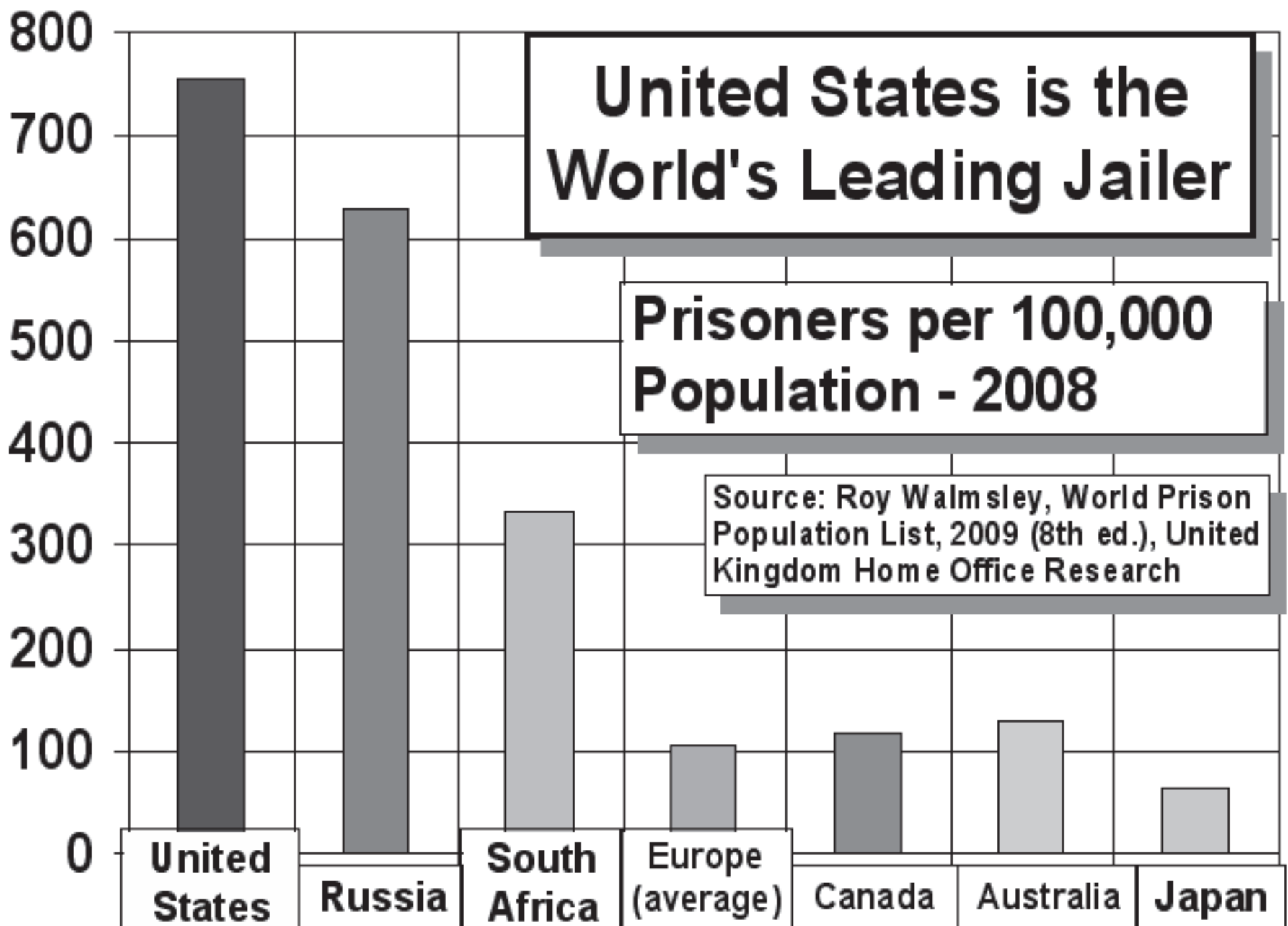
1984: Sentencing  
Reform Act (SRA)



# United States is the World's Leading Jailer

## Prisoners per 100,000 Population - 2008

Source: Roy Walmesley, World Prison Population List, 2009 (8th ed.), United Kingdom Home Office Research

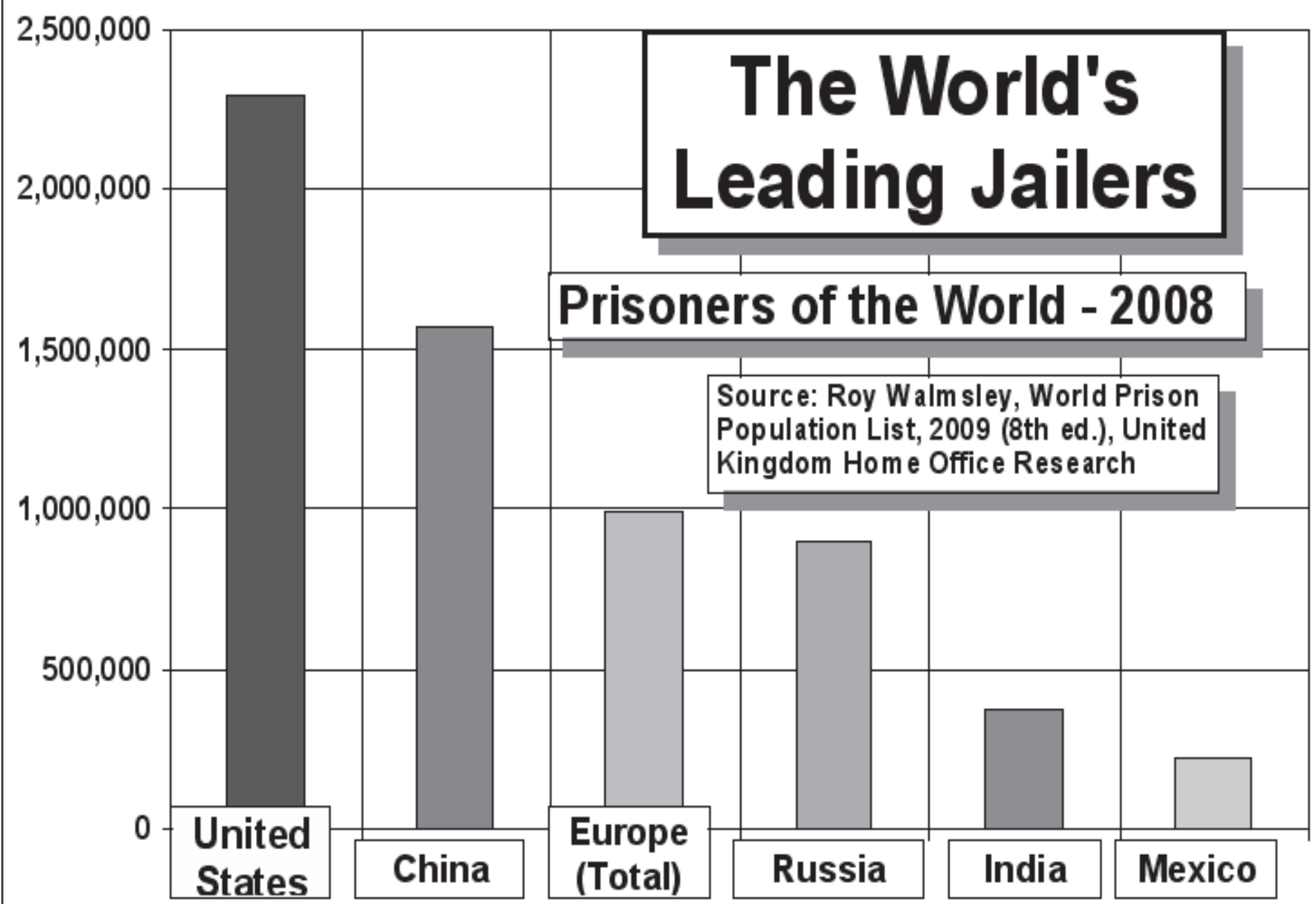




# The World's Leading Jailers

## Prisoners of the World - 2008

Source: Roy Walmesley, World Prison Population List, 2009 (8th ed.), United Kingdom Home Office Research



\$20

## Federal Drug Control Budget (in billions)

Source: U.S. Bureau of Justice  
Statistics: ONDCP, FY 2003 National  
Drug Control Budget, February 2002

\$18

\$16

\$14

\$12

\$10

\$8

\$6

1991

1993

1995

1997

1999

2001

2003

*Note: As of 2004, ONDCP has changed its budgetary reporting practices, and no longer includes costs of enforcement and incarceration as part of its 'Federal Drug Control Budget'.*

1,000,000

# Racial Demographic: America's Prison Population 2008

900,000

800,000

700,000

600,000

500,000

400,000

300,000

200,000

100,000

0

**Black**  
**38%**

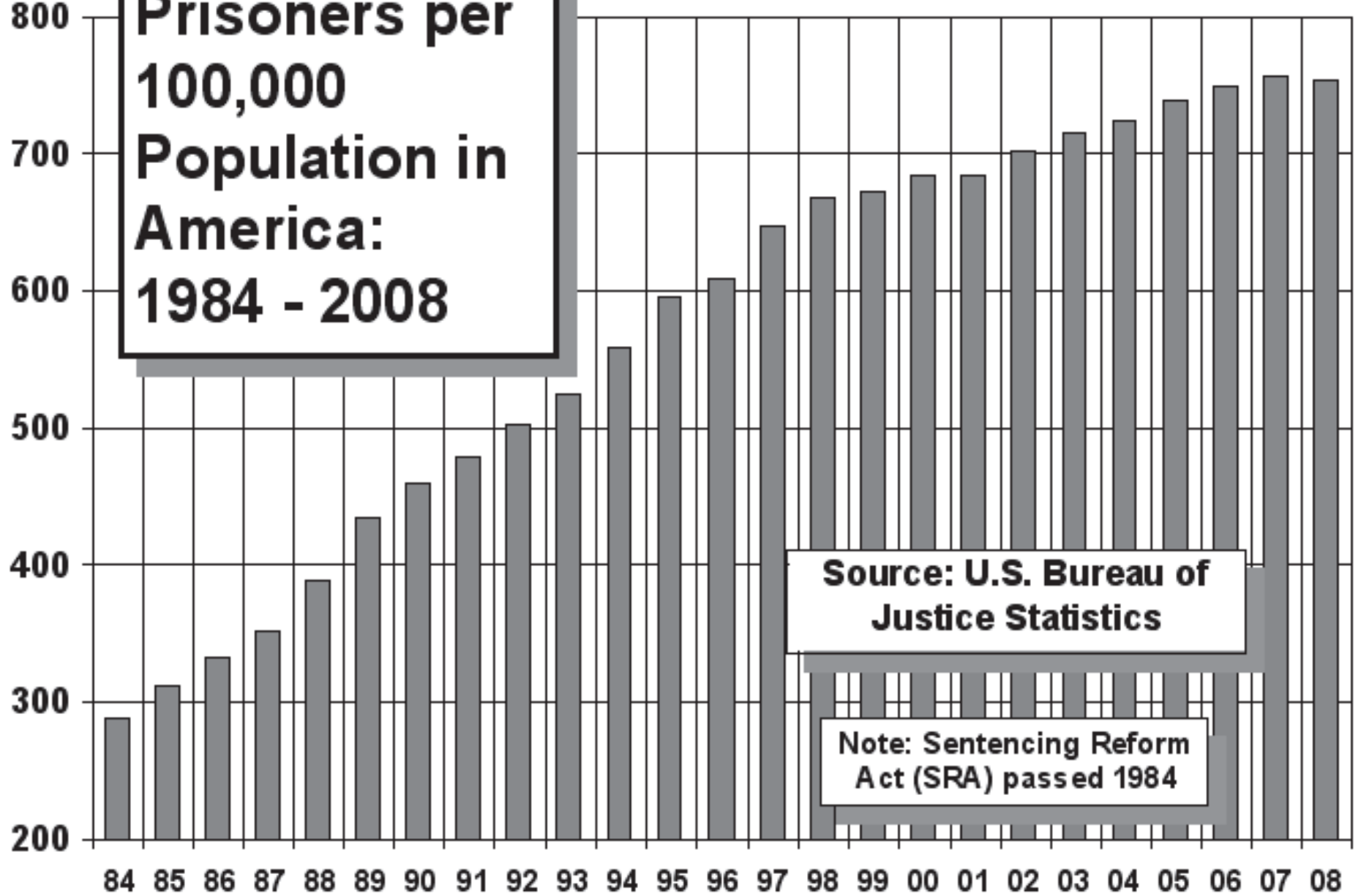
**White**  
**34%**

**Hispanic**  
**20%**

**Other**  
**8%**

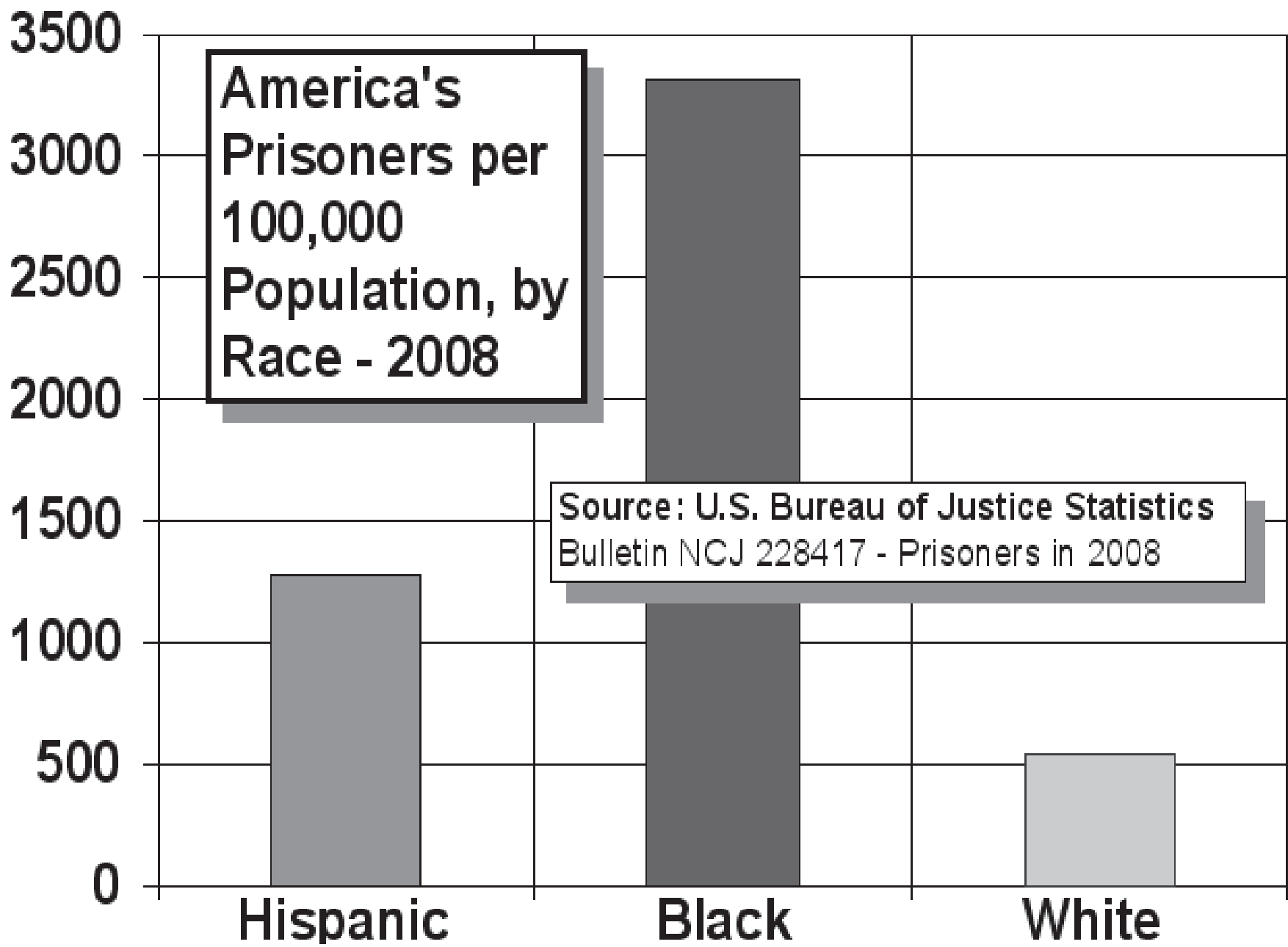
Source: U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics  
Bulletin NCJ 228417 - Prisoners in 2008

# Prisoners per 100,000 Population in America: 1984 - 2008



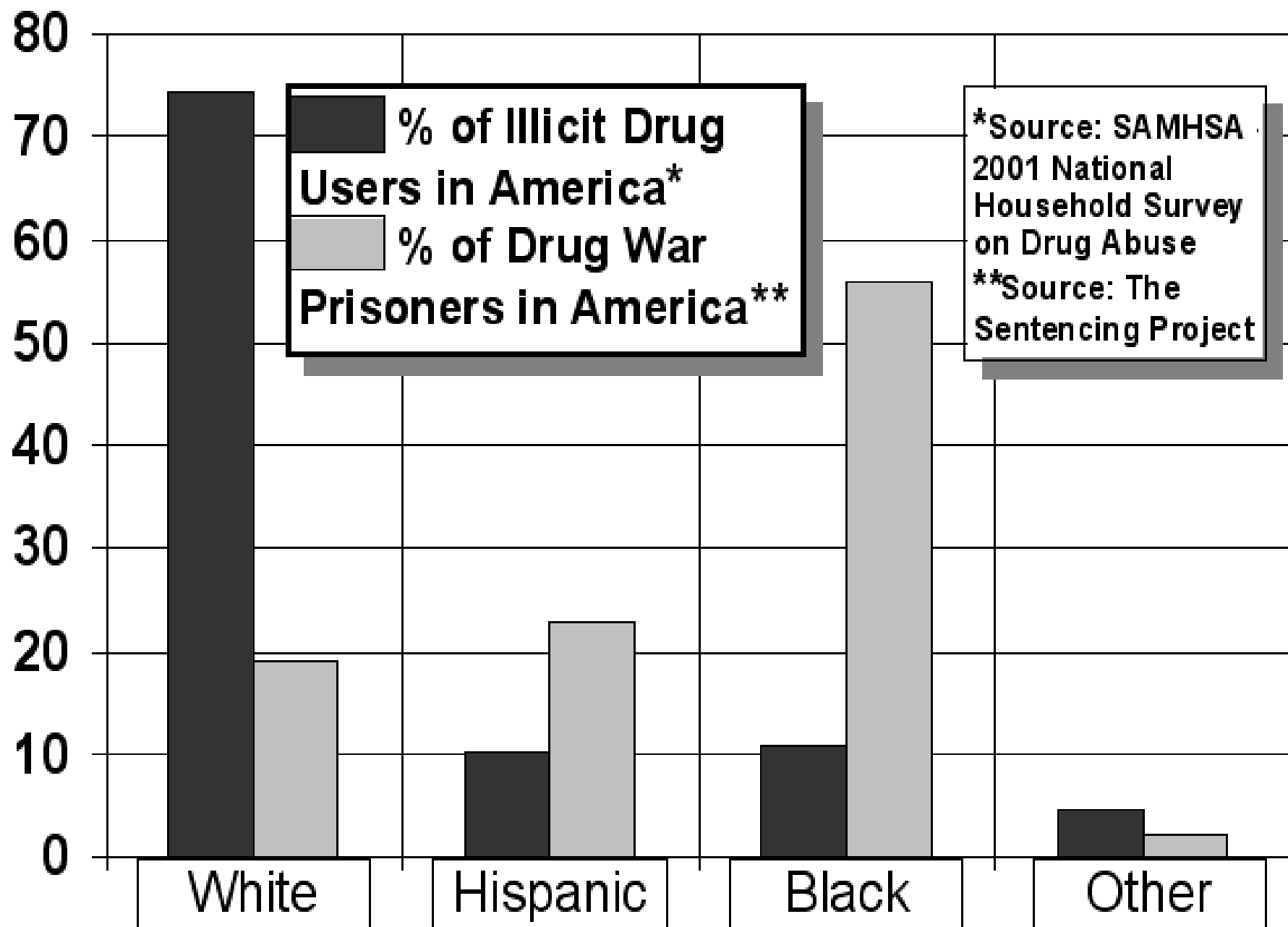
Source: U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics

Note: Sentencing Reform Act (SRA) passed 1984



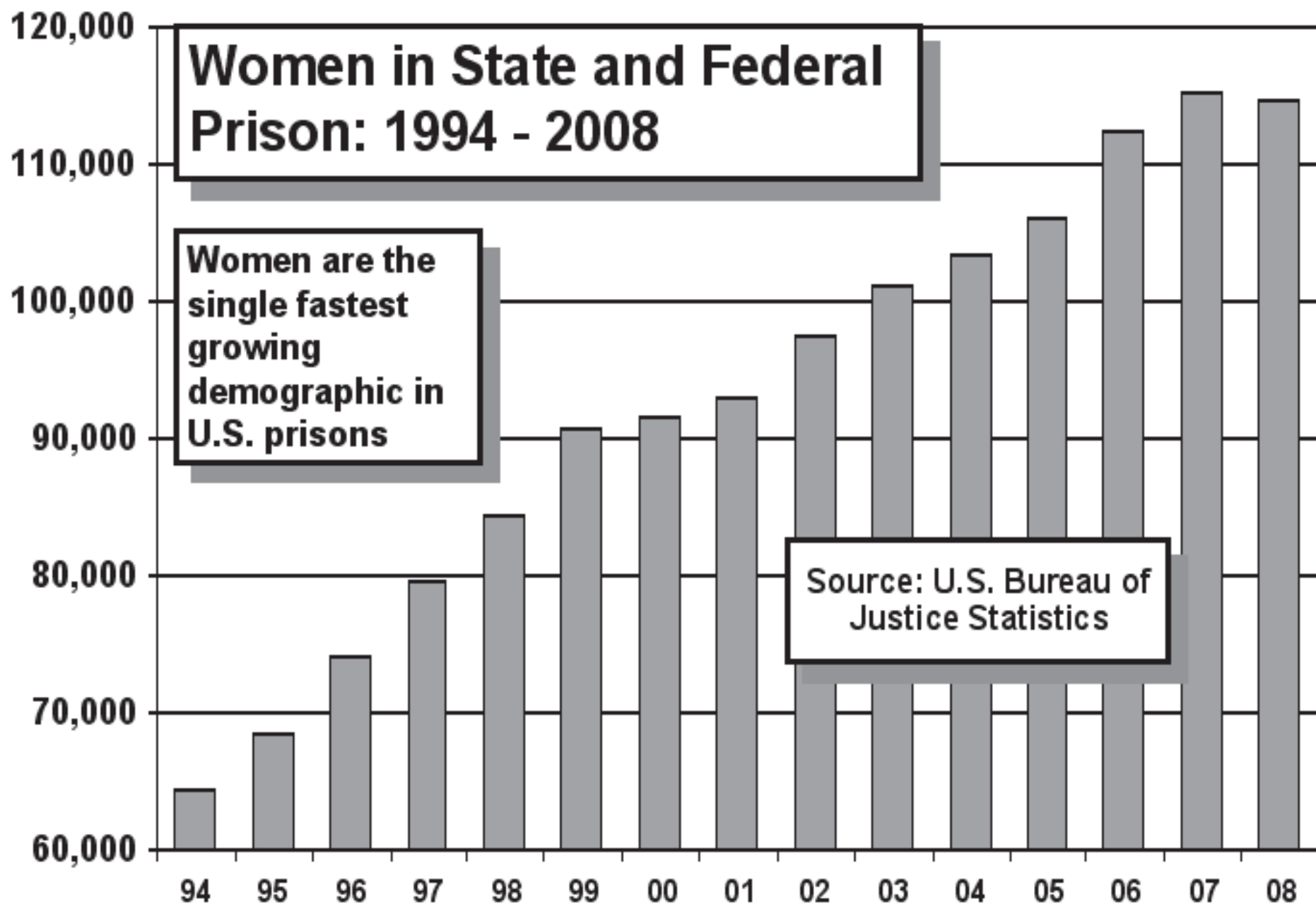
**America's  
Prisoners per  
100,000  
Population, by  
Race - 2008**

Source: U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics  
Bulletin NCJ 228417 - Prisoners in 2008



■ % of Illicit Drug Users in America\*  
 ■ % of Drug War Prisoners in America\*\*

\*Source: SAMHSA 2001 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse  
 \*\*Source: The Sentencing Project



70%

60%

50%

40%

30%

20%

10%

0%

# Drug Sellers By Race

(Percent, based on  
survey response)

Source: 2004 National Survey on Drug Use & Health, U.S.  
Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration

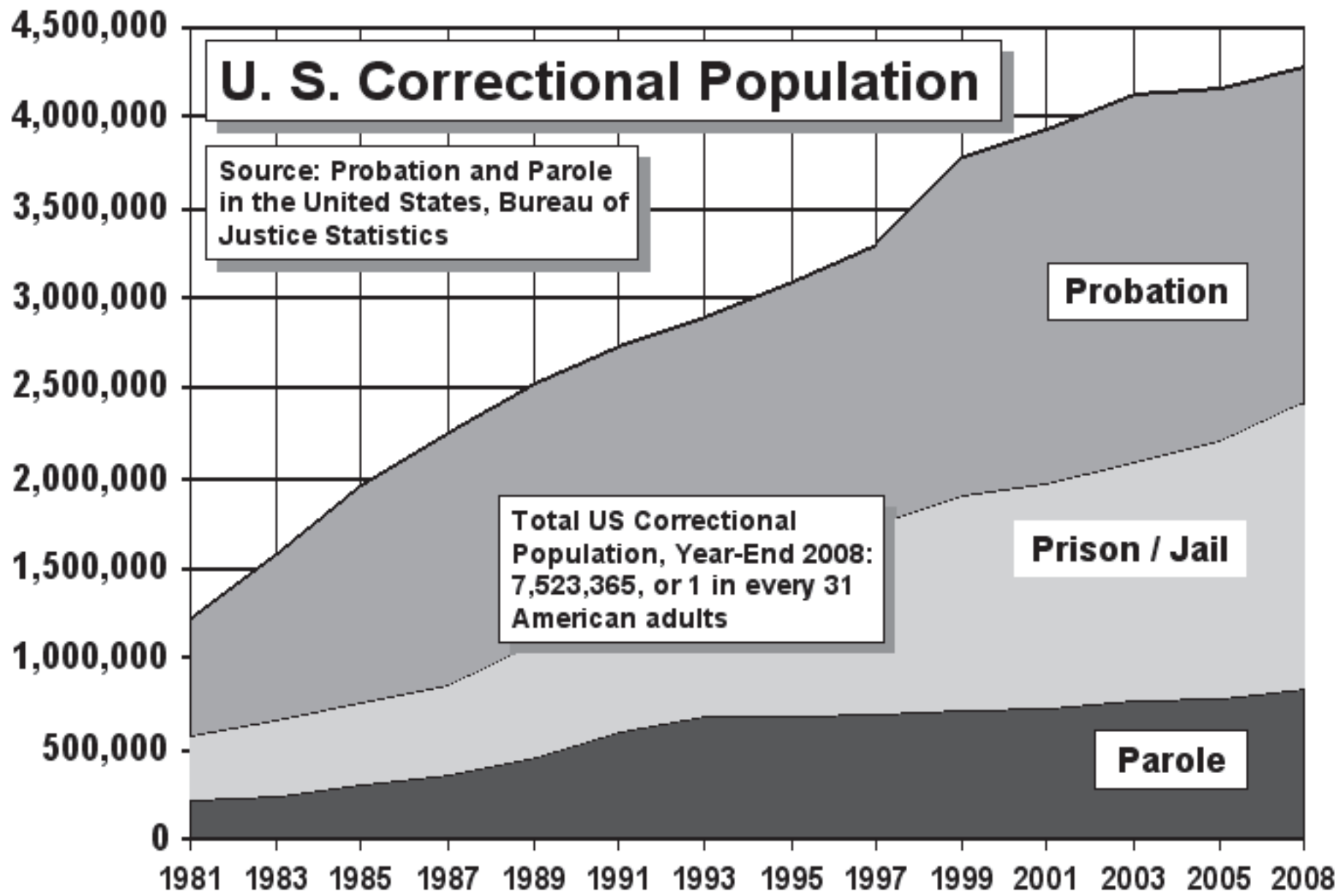
White

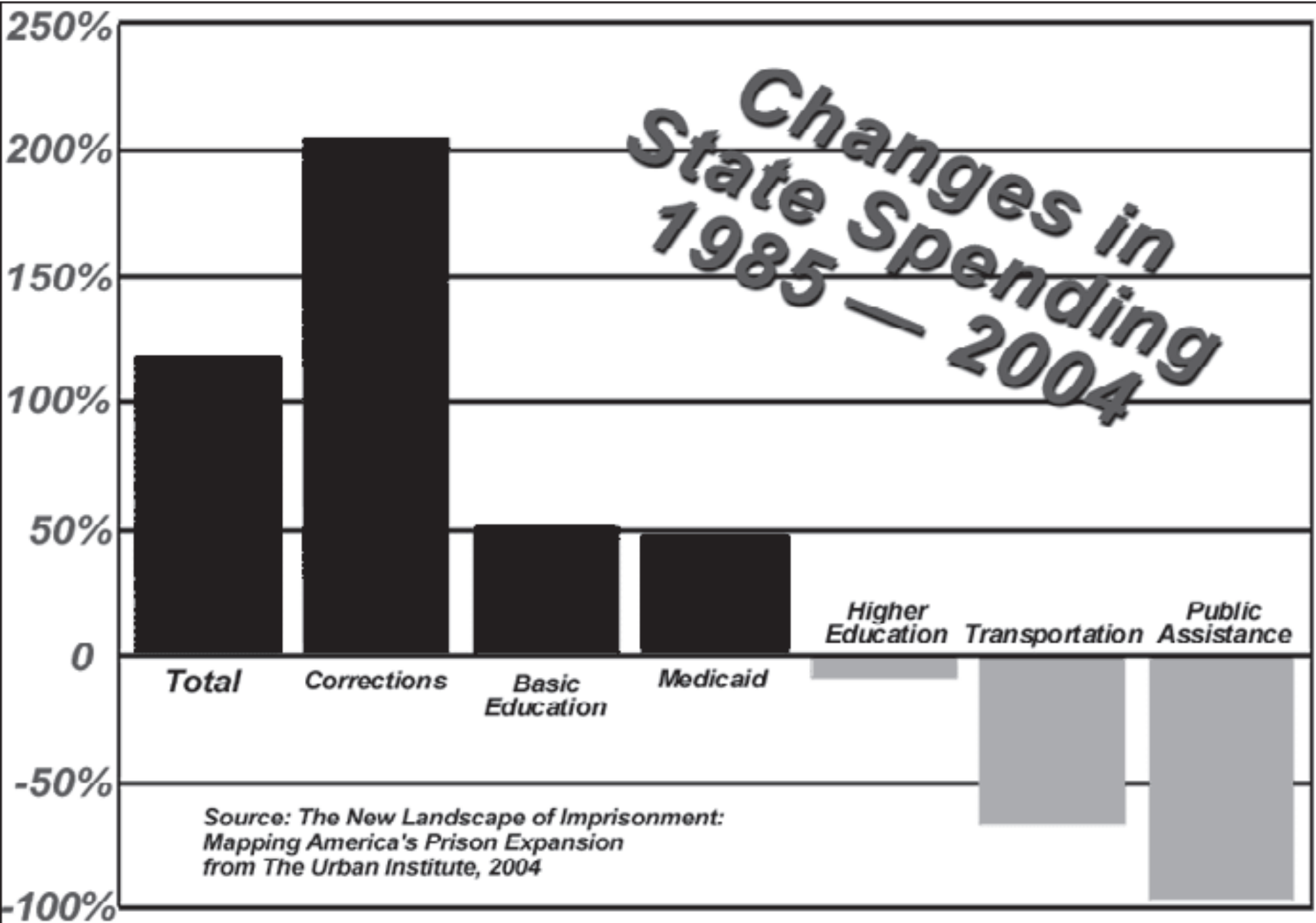
Black

Hispanic

Other







# U.S. Prison Proliferation, 1900-2000

1900



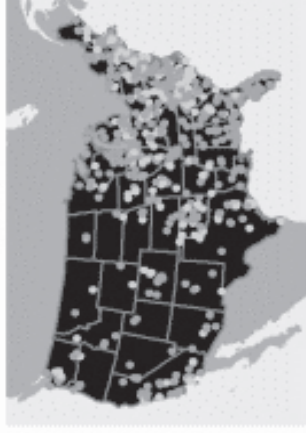
People in state and federal prisons: 57,070  
Rate per 100,000 U.S. residents: 69<sup>1</sup>

1940



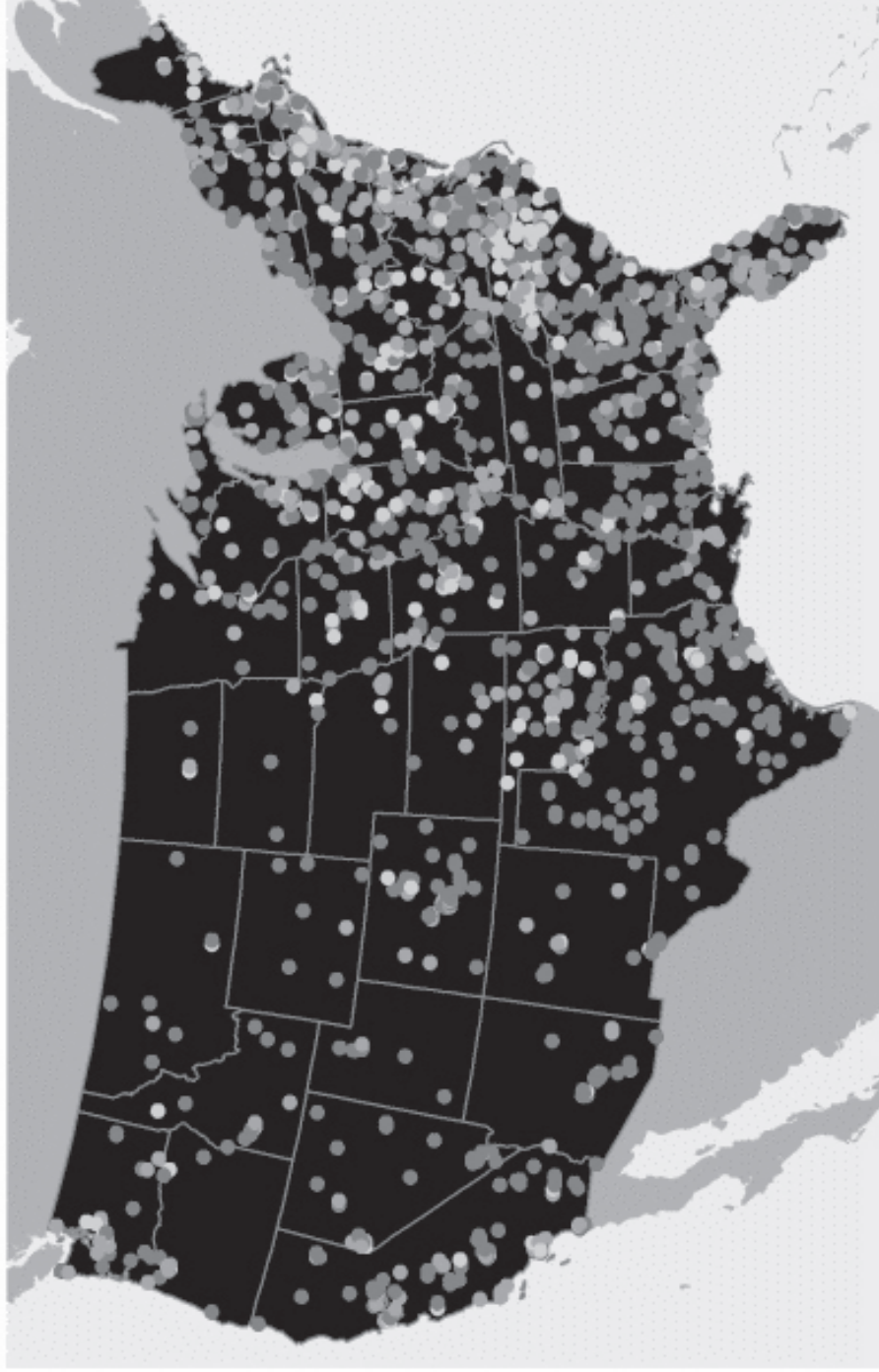
People in state and federal prisons: 165,586  
Rate per 100,000 U.S. residents: 126<sup>1</sup>

1980



People in state and federal prisons: 329,821  
Rate per 100,000 U.S. residents: 145<sup>1</sup>

2000



**People in state and federal prisons: 1,312,354. Rate per 100,000 U.S. residents: 478**

In addition to the prisons represented here, the United States has more than 3,000 jails holding people awaiting trial or serving short sentences. Overall, the United States incarcerated over 2 million people (one in every 143 U.S. residents) in prisons and jails at yearend 2000.<sup>2</sup>

**Year Prison Opened: • 1778 - 1900 • 1901 - 1940 • 1941 - 1980 • 1981 - 2000**

Designed by Rose Heyer for PrisonersoftheCensus.org

Created March 28, 2005. Data Source: U.S. Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. *Census Of State And Federal Adult Correctional Facilities, 2000.* Conducted by U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. ICP/SR ed. Ann Arbor, MI, 2004. Cartography Source: Environmental Systems Research Inst. <sup>1</sup>U.S. Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. *Historical Corrections Statistics in the United States, 1850 - 1994*, Dec. 1996. <sup>2</sup>U.S. Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. *Prisoners in 2000*, Aug. 2001.