SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, HISTORICAL CONTEXTS, AND PUBLIC POLICY: REFLECTIONS ON THE IMPACT OF MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVERS

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
Committee on Alcohol-Impaired Driving Fatalities
Washington, DC
March 22, 2017

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Figure 1: Comparative International Incarceration Rates (per 100,000 population)

United States: 751
Russian Federation: 625
Cuba: 531
South Africa: 342
Israel: 305
Singapore: 263
Thailand: 253
Poland: 230
Iran: 222
Brazil: 219
Libya: 209
Mexico: 198
Lebanon: 168
U.K. (Eng. & Wales): 149
Spain: 149
Zimbabwe: 136
Columbia: 135
Saudi Arabia: 132
Australia: 130
China: 119
Vietnam: 116
Canada: 108
South Korea: 97
Germany: 92
France: 91
Sweden: 79
Italy: 75
Venezuela: 74
Japan: 63
Pakistan: 57
Iraq: 54
Indonesia: 52
India: 32
Nigeria: 29

Source: International Centre for Prison Studies, 2008
www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/rel/icps
A Drug Policy Reform Conjuncture: 1988->

• HIV/AIDS crisis => NEPs & rise of Harm Reduction paradigm
• Mounting costs of failed drug war policies
• Human rights disasters (e.g., US cities, Thailand, Philippines)
• Mounting scientific/scholarly evidence against drug war
• Extraordinary activists (e.g., Nadelmann/Soros, DPA, SSDP)
• Rise of “respectable” political constituency against drug war
• Racial disparities => drug policy reform as a civil rights issue
• Opiate addiction/overdose crisis among whites
• Fiscal conservatives figure it out (see Cheap On Crime re: “humonetarianism”
Percent of County Population that is Black

Percent of Marijuana Possession Arrestees who are Black

Atlanta (Fulton, GA)
Baltimore City (MD)
Cleveland (Cuyahoga OH)
Philadelphia (PA)
New York City (NY)
Indianapolis (Marion IN)
Omaha (Douglas NE)
Westchester (NY)
Pittsburg (Allegheny PA)
Nassau (NY)
Houston (Harris TX)
Buffalo (Erie NY)
Boston (Suffolk, MA)
Dallas (TX)
Minneapolis (Hennepin, MN)
San Francisco (CA)
Oklahoma City (OK)
Alameda (Oakland, CA)
Las Vegas (Clark NV)
New Haven (CT)
Denver (CO)
Los Angeles (CA)
Detroit (Wayne, MI)
Suffolk County (NY)
Marijuana Use by Whites, Blacks and Hispanics Ages 18 to 25: Lifetime, Past Year, and Past-Month Prevalence

![Bar chart comparing marijuana use by Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics across different time periods (2002-2003 and 2004-2005) for lifetime use, past year use, and past-month use.](chart.png)
Figure 6: Illicit Drug Arrest Rates, by Race (2000–2004)

White Arrest Rate = Arrests per 100,000 Whites / Black Arrest Rate = Arrests per 100,000 Blacks


Source: SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, 2004 NATIONAL SURVEY ON DRUG USE AND HEALTH, POPULATION ESTIMATES 1995, Table 1.43a (2005), available at http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/Nhsda/2k3tabs/Sect1peTabs1to66.htm#tab1.43a.
Before and after the crack scare laws:

• In 1984, the proportion of federal offenders who were black was 10%
• In 1990 the proportion of federal offenders who were black was 28%

• In 1984 the average sentence for blacks was 28% higher than the average for whites
• In 1990 the average sentence for blacks was 49% higher than the average for whites
Maryland State Police Files: Drivers stopped, by race
I-95 North Corridor -- Jan., 1995 to Sept., 1996
http://www/aclu.profiling/report/index/html