Incarceration, Reentry and Public Health

Jim Parsons

Vera Institute of Justice

The Impact of Incarceration and Reentry on Community
Health and Wellbeing

Outline

Mass incarceration

The health of people who are incarcerated

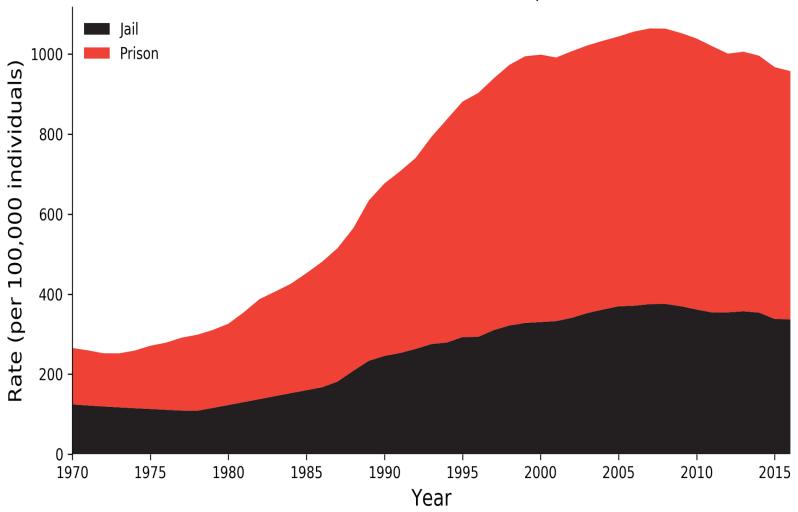
Community health and wellbeing

Opportunities/challenges for public health

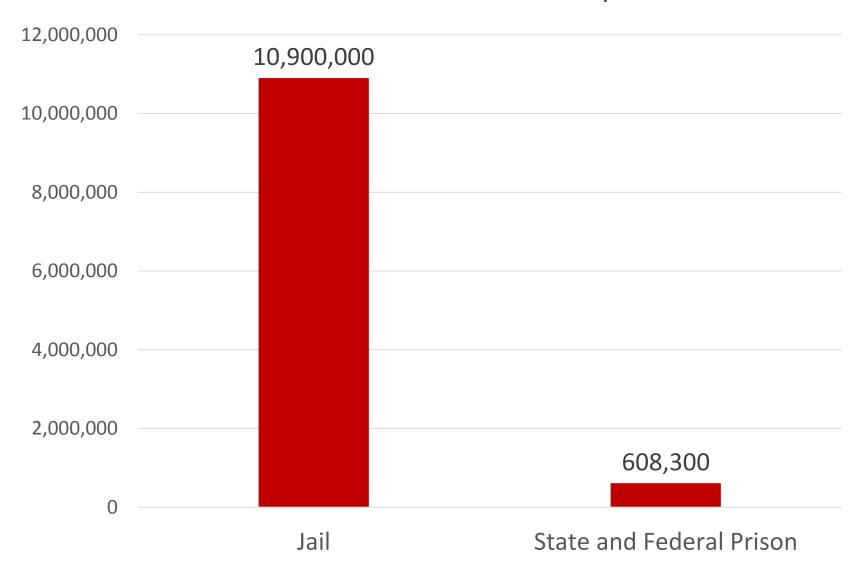
Mass Incarceration



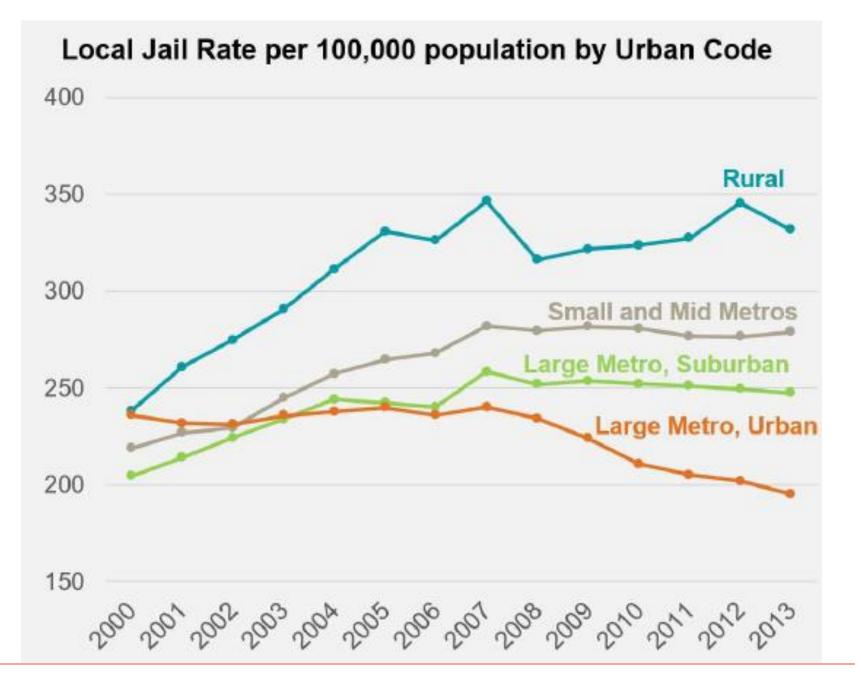
Incarceration rates in the U.S., 1970-2015



2015 Admissions to Custody

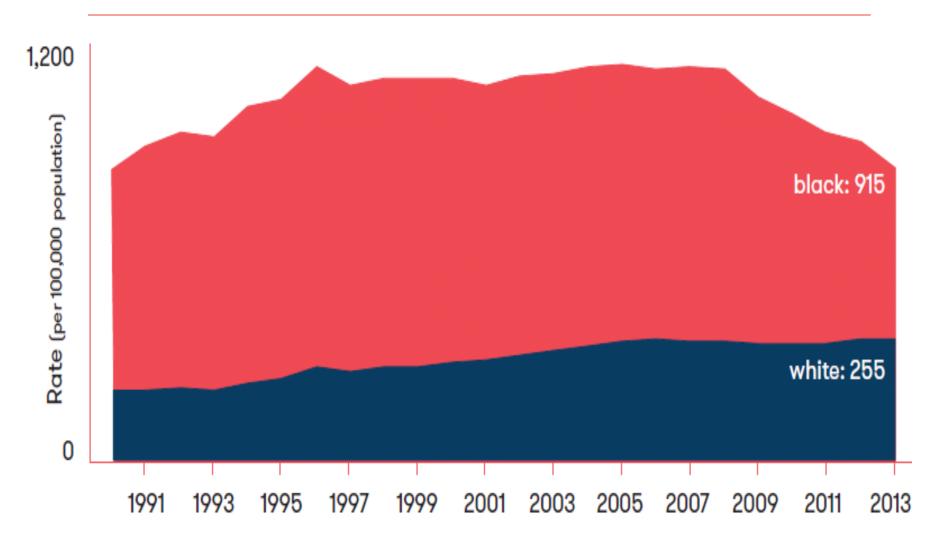






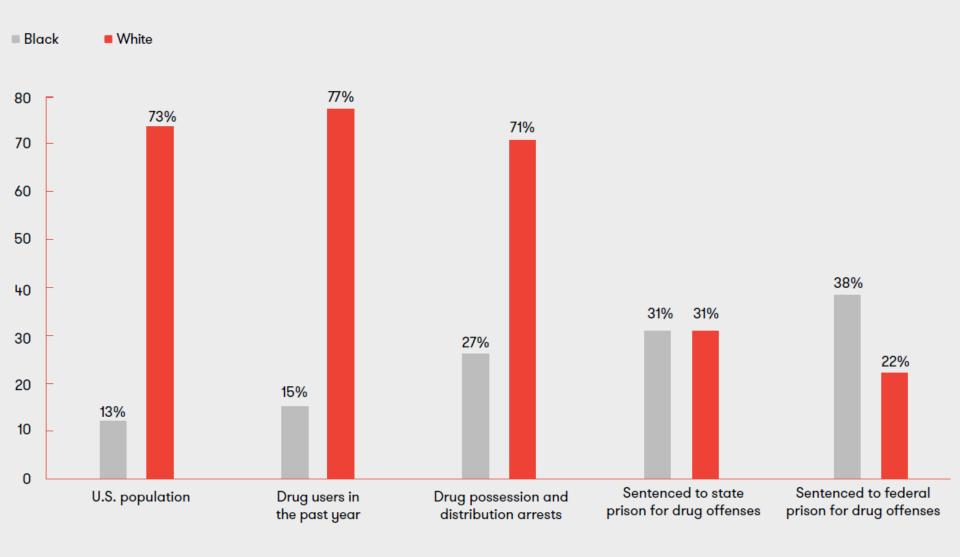


Racial Disparity in Jail Incarceration



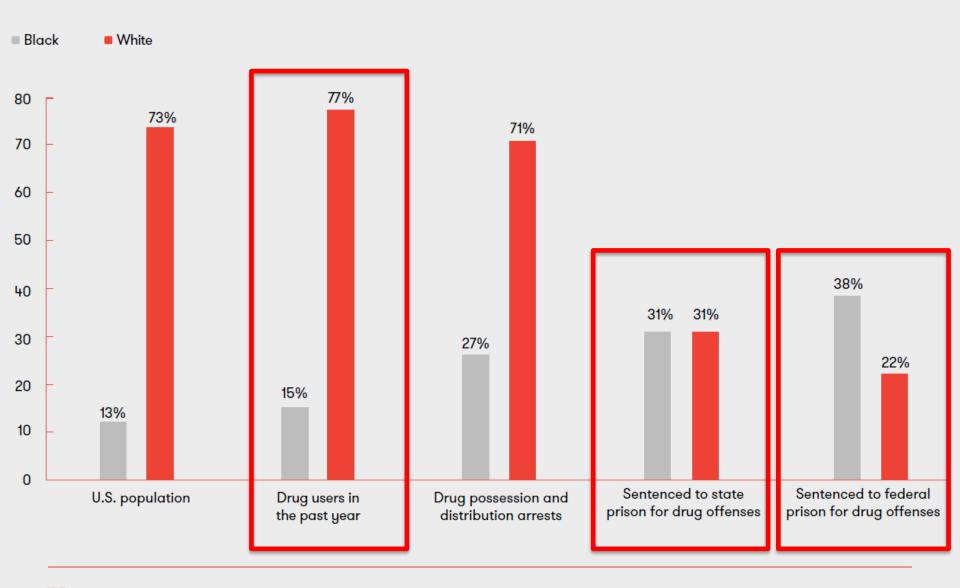


Disparities in Drug Arrest and Sentencing

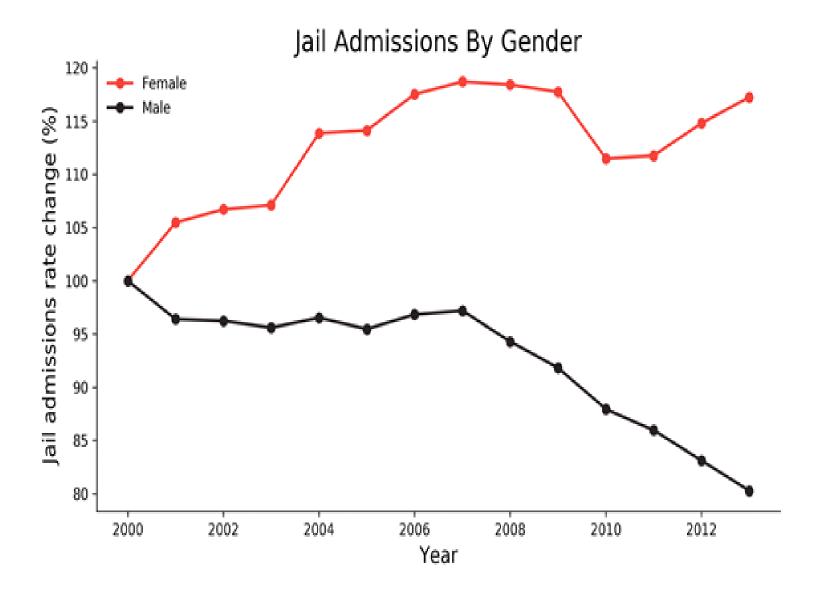




Disparities in Drug Arrest and Sentencing

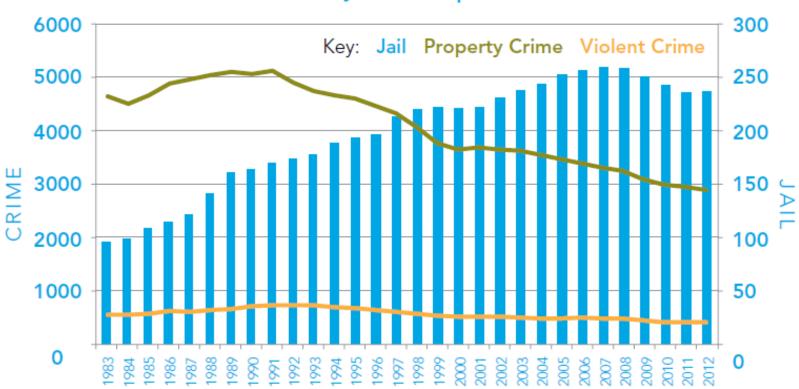






Incarceration and Crime

Crime and jail rates per 100,000



While the country has grown safer since the early 1990s, an ever-larger proportion of the population is being sent to jail.



Health in Prison and Jail



Diagnosable substance use disorders

68% all jail inmates

50% in state prisons

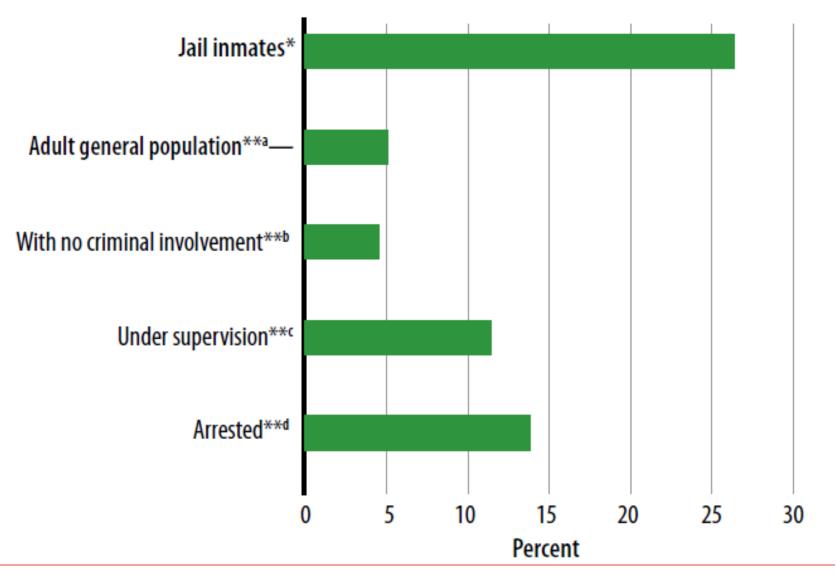
general population

9%

fewer than 15% receive appropriate treatment



Jail inmates and adult general population who met the threshold for serious psychological distress, 2009–2012





Chronic Conditions & Infectious Disease

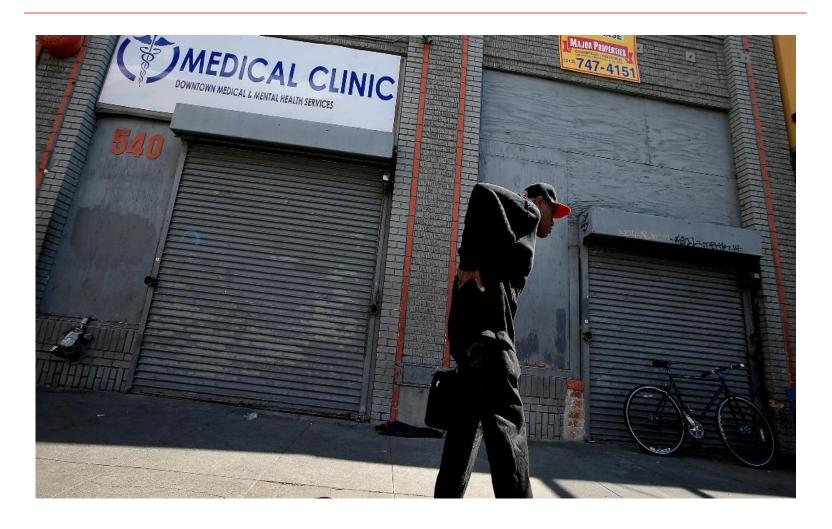
- Between 39 and 43 percent of people in custody have at least one chronic health condition
- HIV/AIDS is 2 to 7 times more prevalent than in the general population
- An estimated 17% of all people with HIV in the US pass through prison or jail each year
- Rates of Hepatitis C in correctional settings are 8 to 21 times those seen in the community
- Tuberculosis is more than 4 times as prevalent in corrections

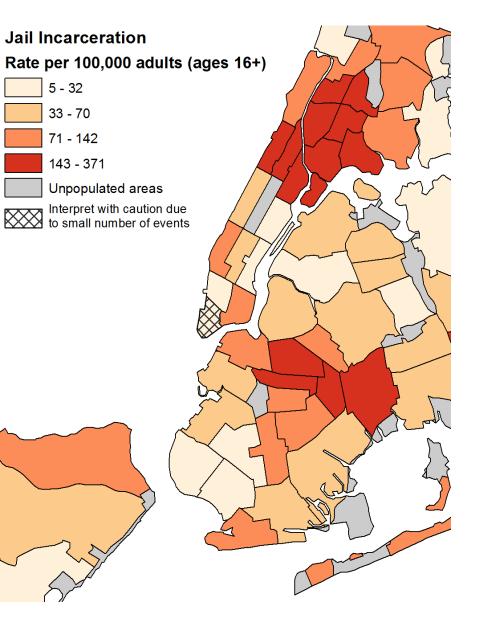


Violence, Suicide and Self Harm

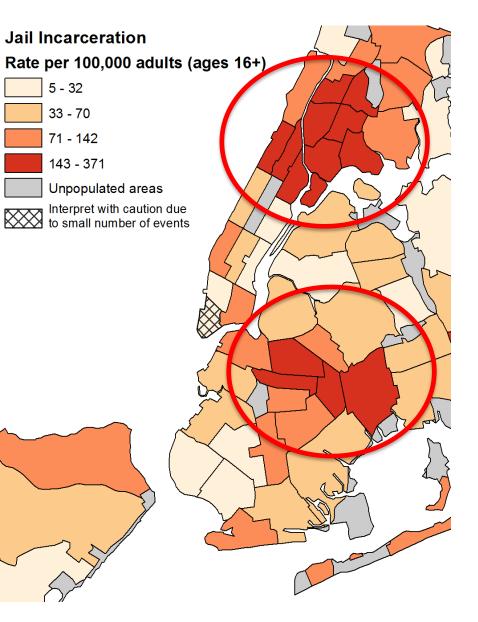
- Suicide accounted for 30 percent of deaths in jails between 2000-2013
- Fifteen percent of state prisoners reported violencerelated injuries
- A study in New York City jails found elevated rates of self-harm amongst people with mental health disorders and people held in solitary confinement

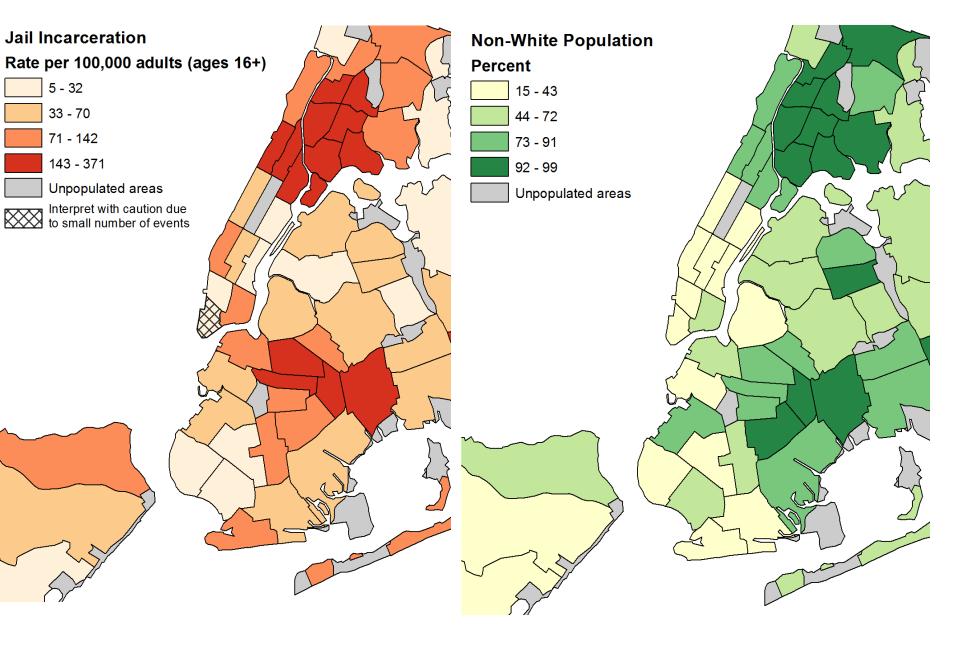
Community Health & Wellbeing



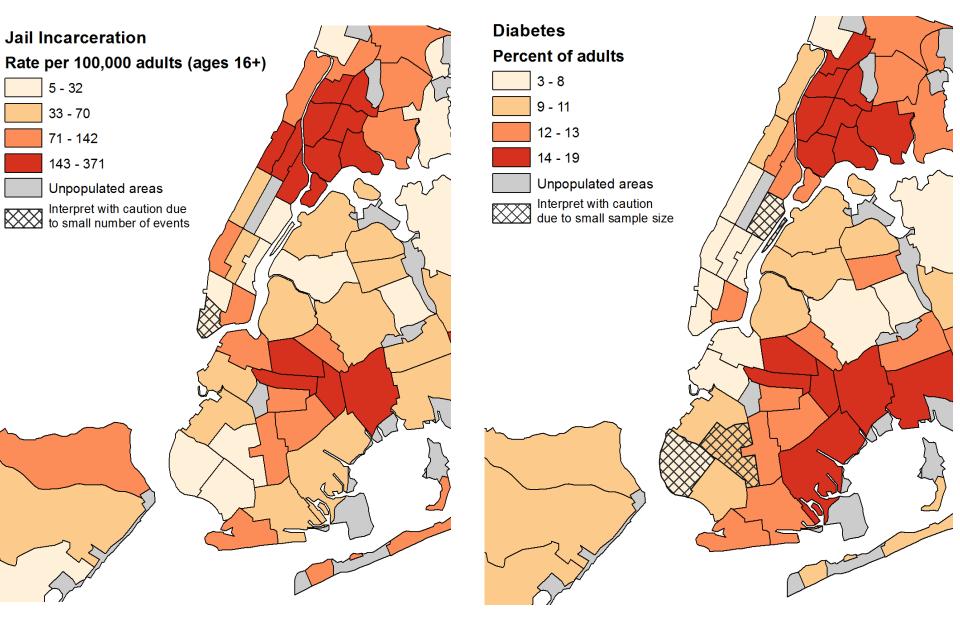


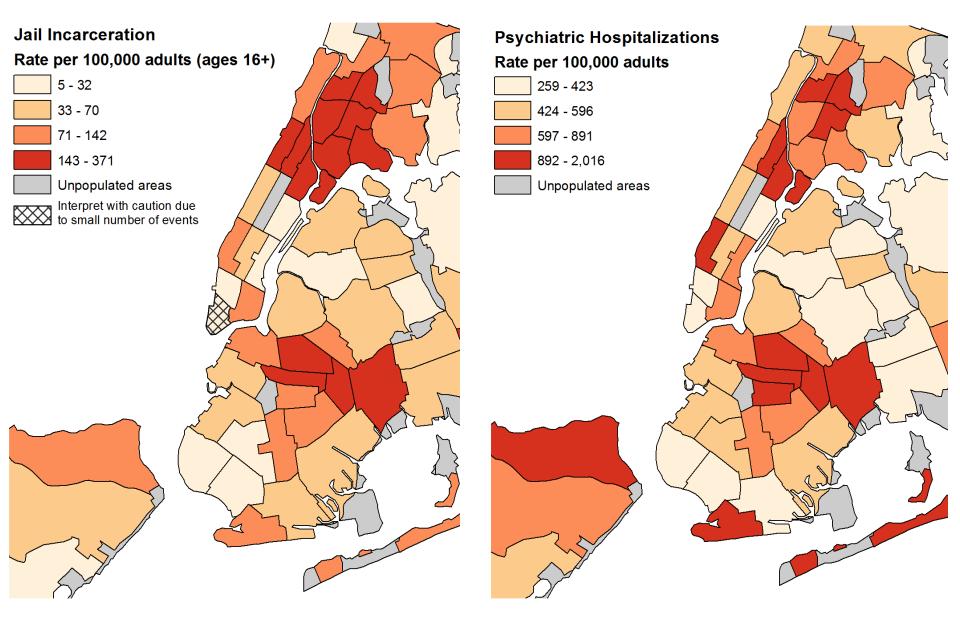


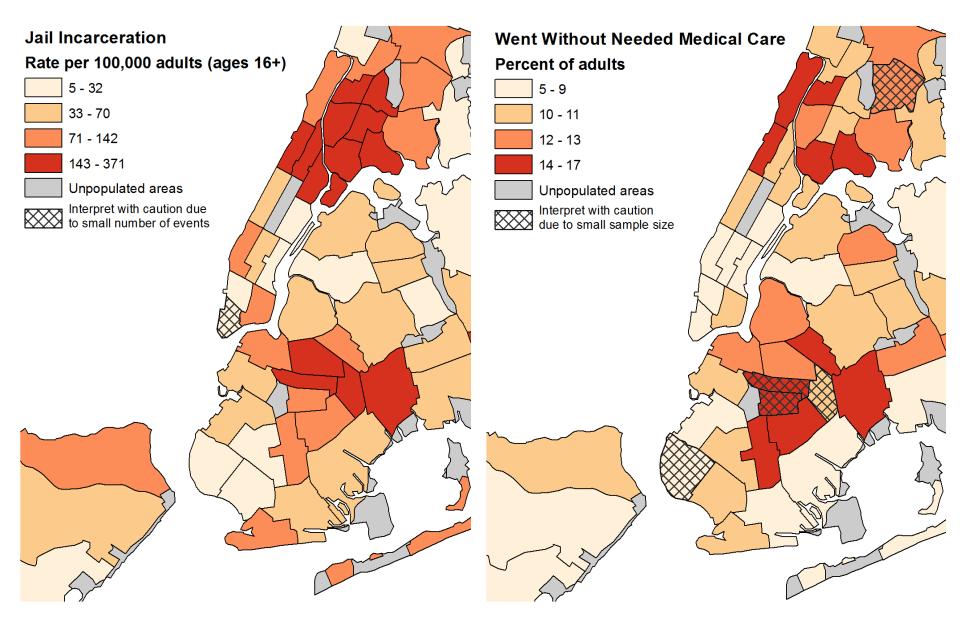


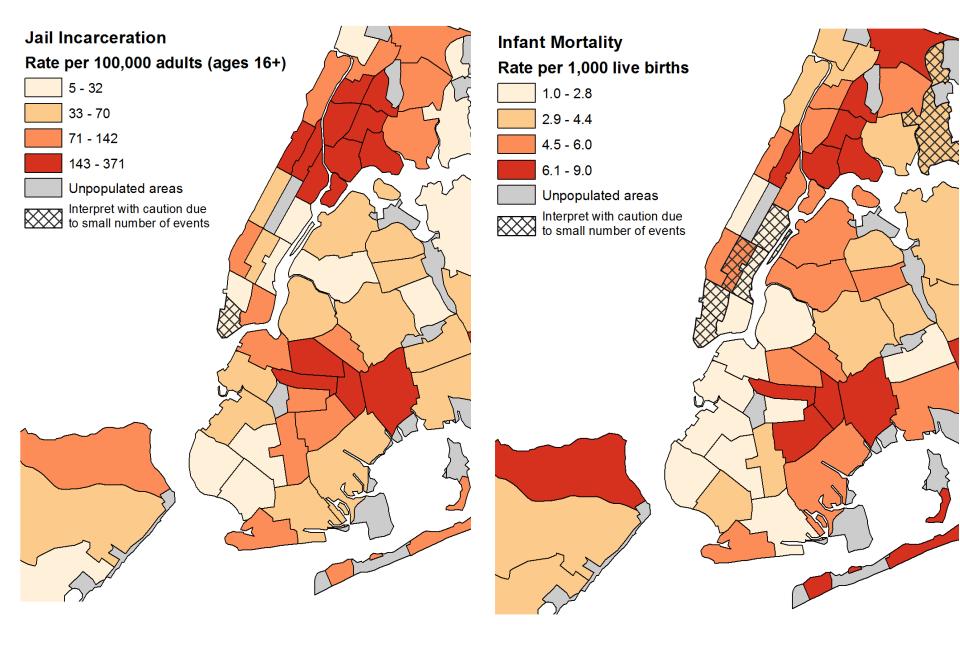




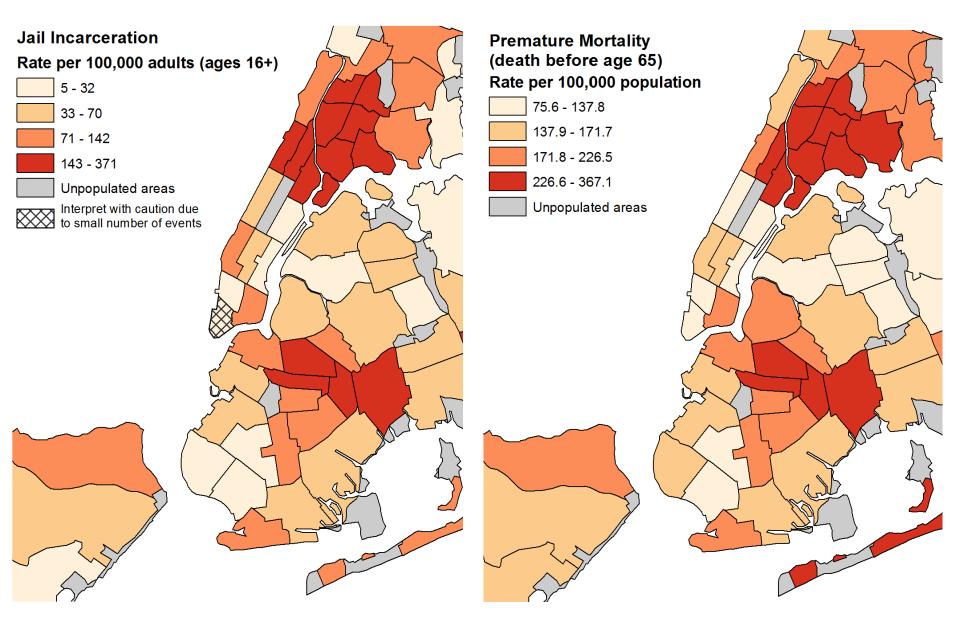












Impact on Families

- •One in 14 U.S. children have lived with a parent who was incarcerated at some time after the child's birth (Murphey & Cooper, 2015)
- •One in 25 white children born in 1990 had an incarcerated parent at some point during childhood, compared to one in four black children.(Wildeman, 2009)
- •Children exposed to parental incarceration have an increased likelihood of long-term negative outcomes including depression, anxiety, withdrawal, difficulties forming healthy relationships, aggressive behaviors, substance use, developmental delays, and academic difficulties (Eddy & Poehlmann, 2010; Parke & Clarke-Stewart, 2001; Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2016).
- •Women with incarcerated family members were less healthy and reported higher rates of obesity, stoke and hear disease (Lee, Wildmean & Wang, 2014)

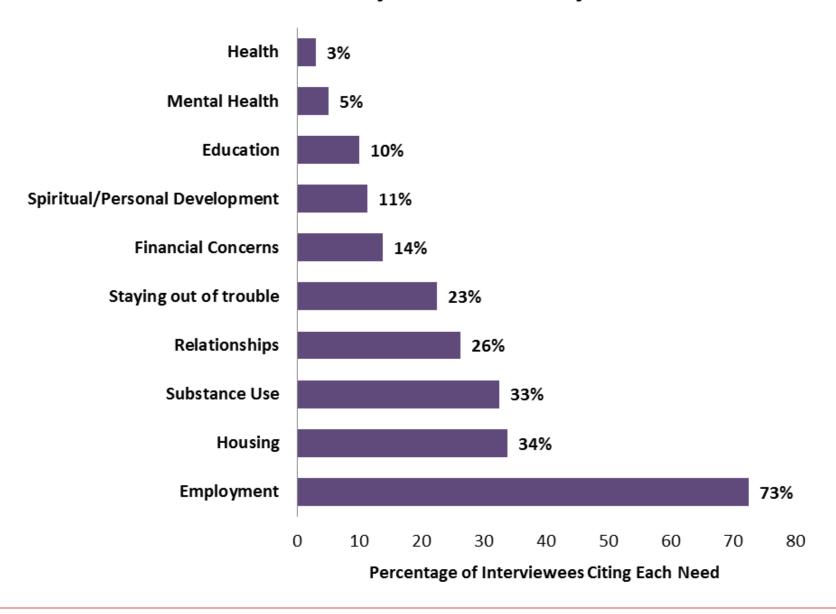
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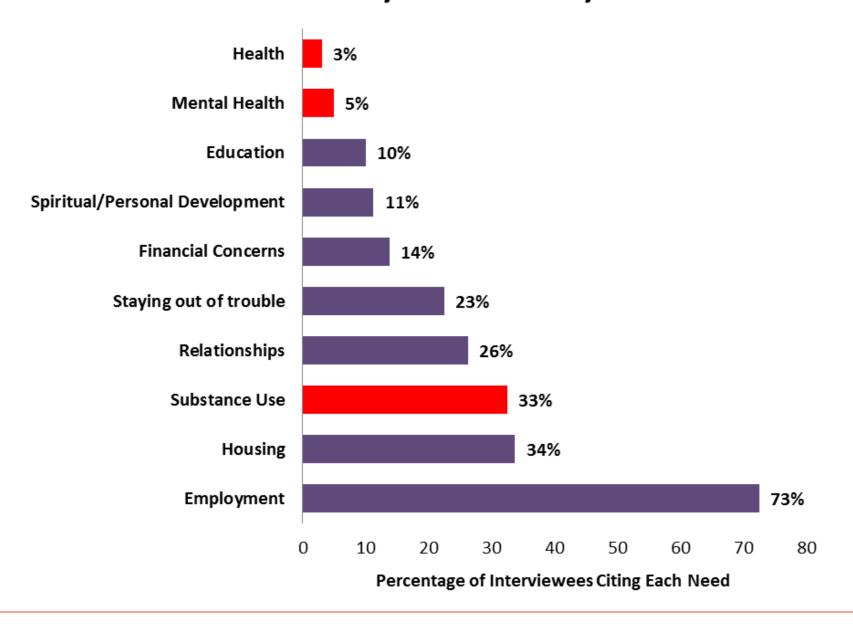
Prevention, Diversion and Reentry



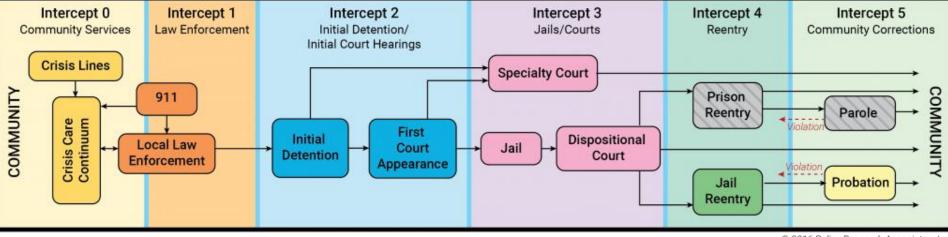
Most Commonly Cited Reentry Needs



Most Commonly Cited Reentry Needs



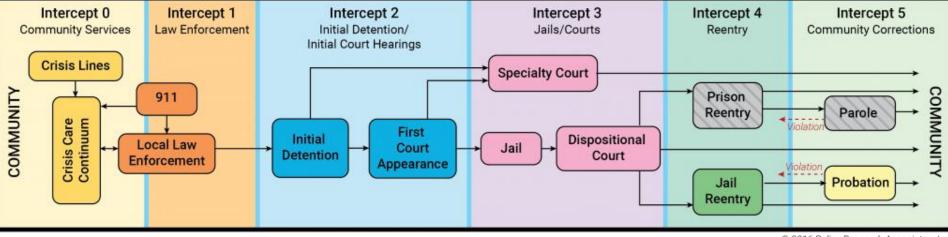
Sequential Intercept Model



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Sequential Intercept Model

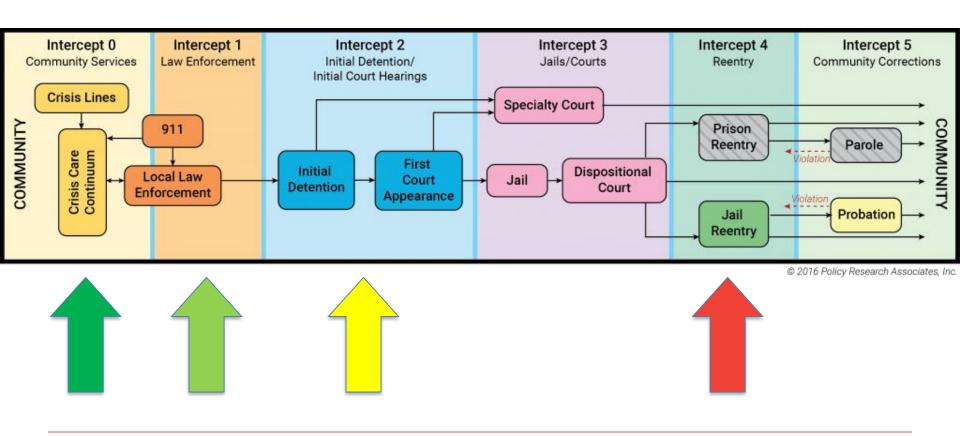


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Sequential Intercept Model

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Implications for Public Health

- Incarceration is a Social Determinant of Health and impacts communities unequally, exacerbating existing health disparities
- People leaving jail and prison return to communities that are characterized by poor health outcomes and limited access to primary care
- It has direct and indirect impacts on community health, increasing rates of illness while simultaneously undermining the supports that can support community health an wellbeing
- Incarceration affects children, communities and has <u>population-level</u> health impacts
- Jails are largely untapped resources to provide quick interventions, such as naloxone and overdose prevention
- Mass incarceration is increasingly a rural phenomena and prison populations are 'greying', posing challenges for treatment and public health interventions

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