

HINDA Institute

Winter 2024

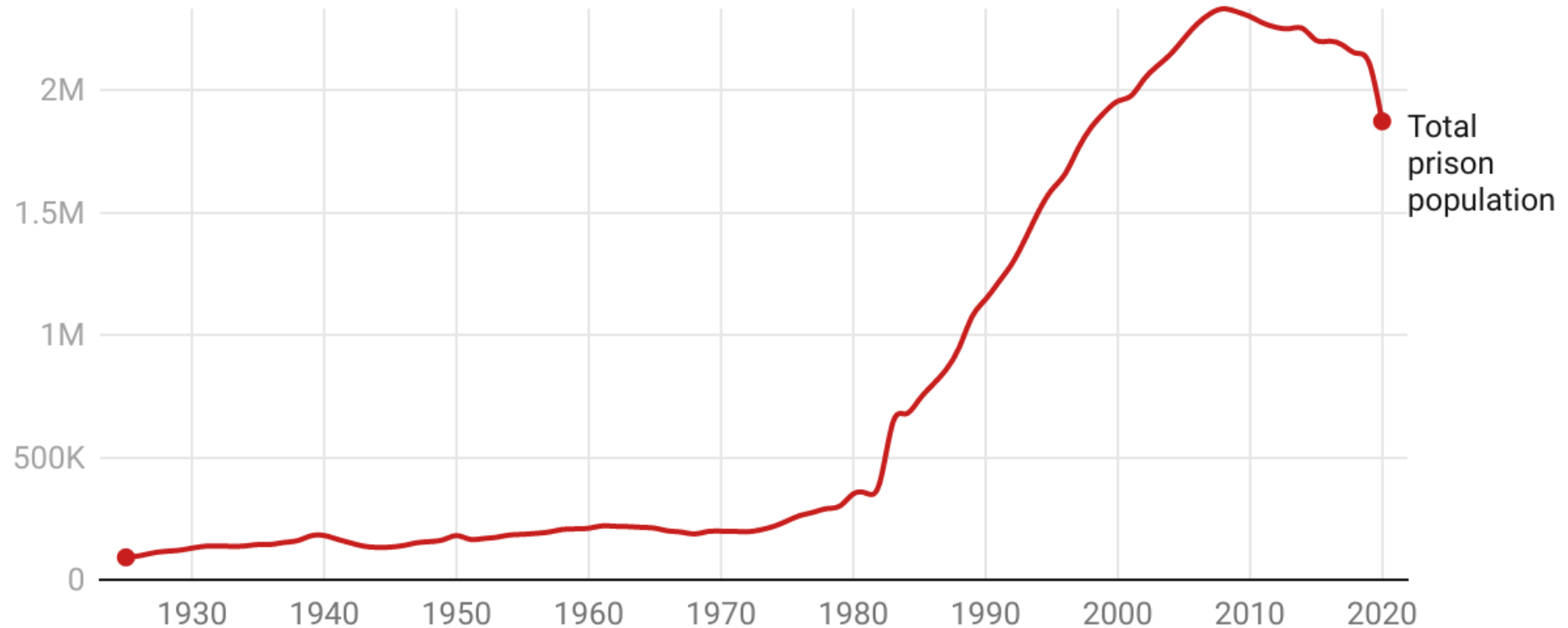


UPLC

UPTOWN PEOPLE'S LAW CENTER

The prison population has grown 14x in the last 100 years, but the overall population has only grown 3x

Prison population is at its lowest level since 2000 and the incarceration rate is at its lowest level since 1995

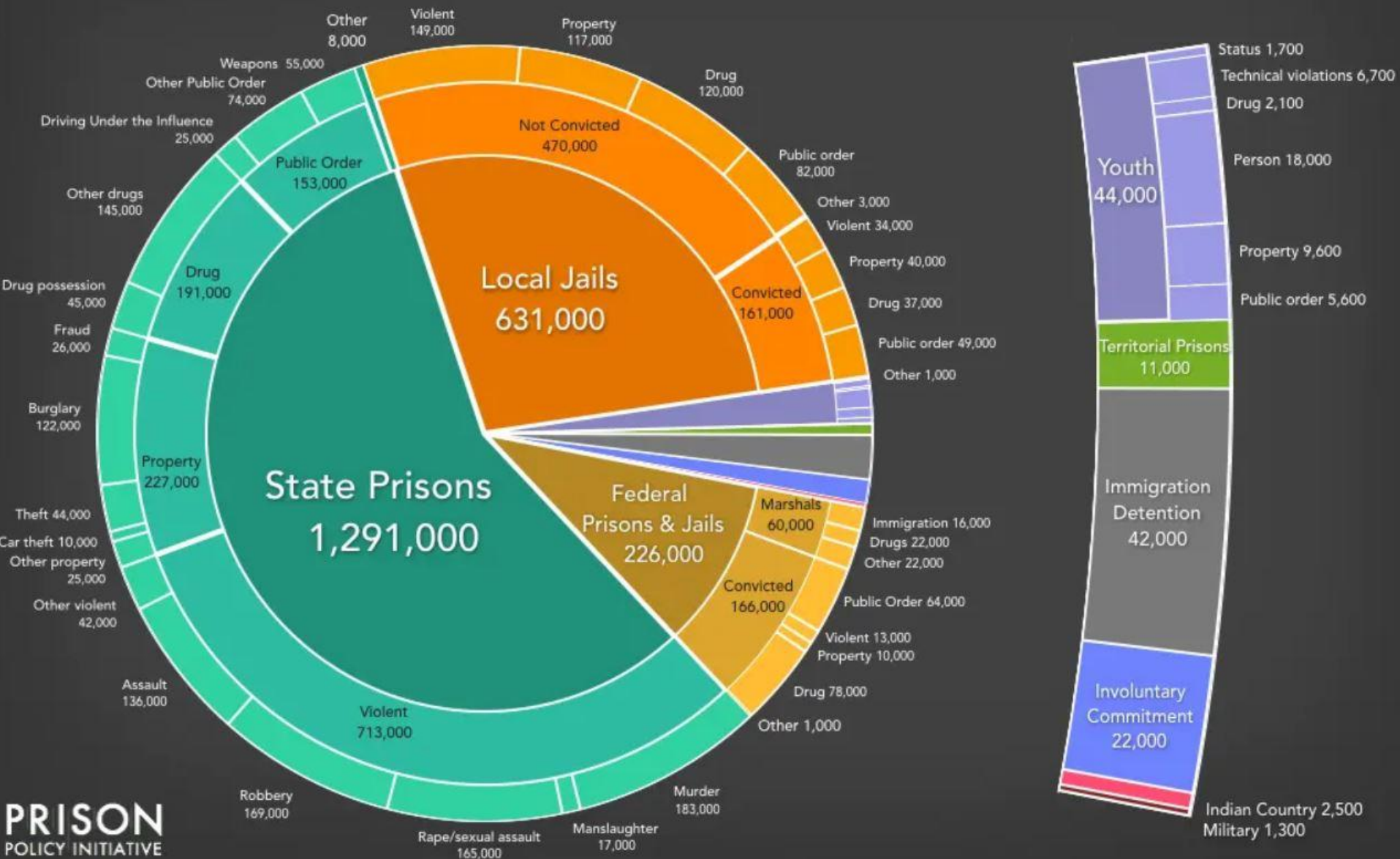


Does not include pre-trial incarceration, which accounts for the missing half million people

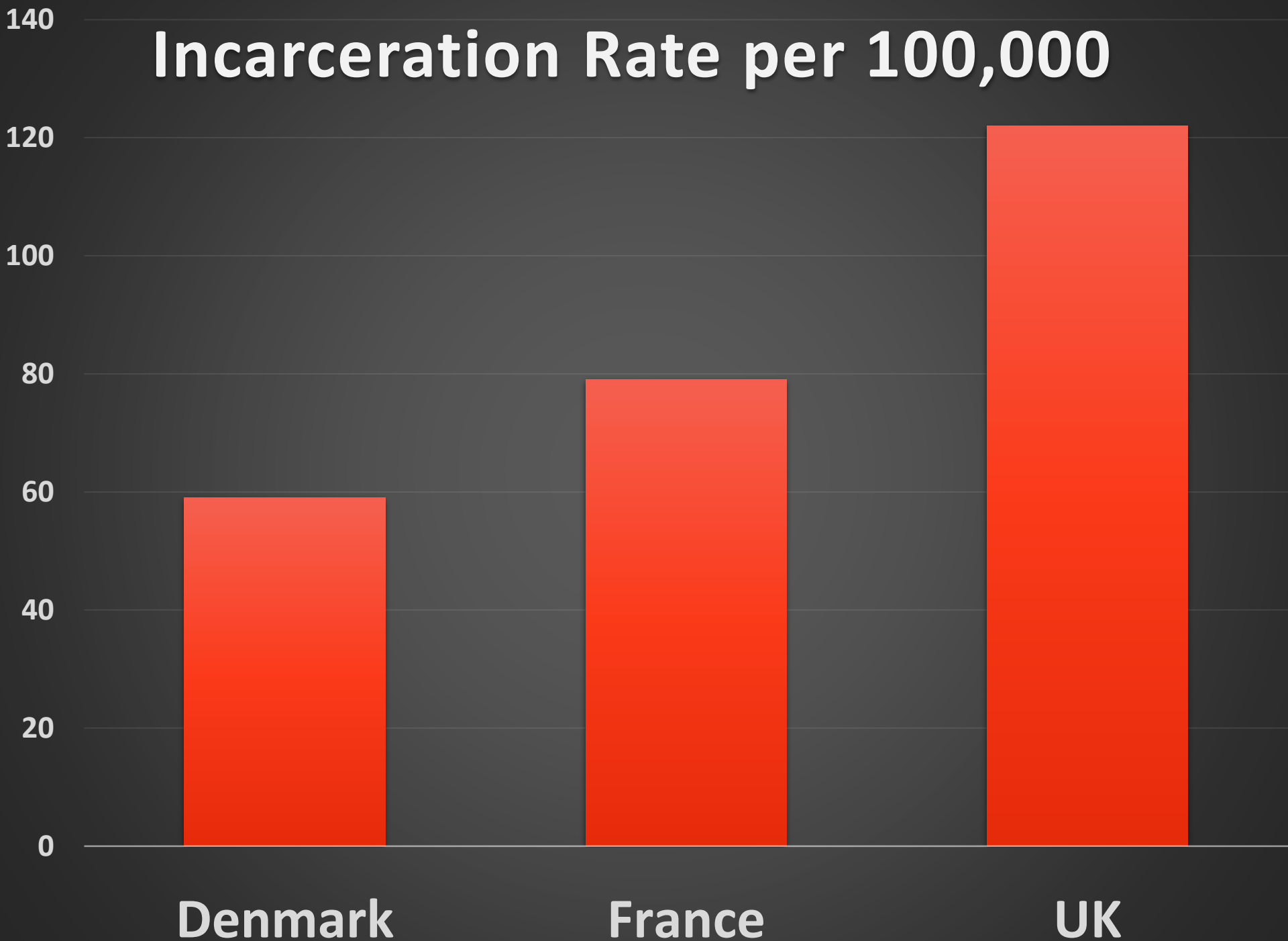
Chart: Jeremy Ney @Americaninequality • Source: PrisonPolicy.org • Created with Datawrapper

How many people are locked up in the United States?

The U.S. locks up more people per capita than any other nation, at the staggering rate of 698 per 100,000 residents. But to end mass incarceration, we must first consider *where* and *why* 2.3 million people are confined nationwide.



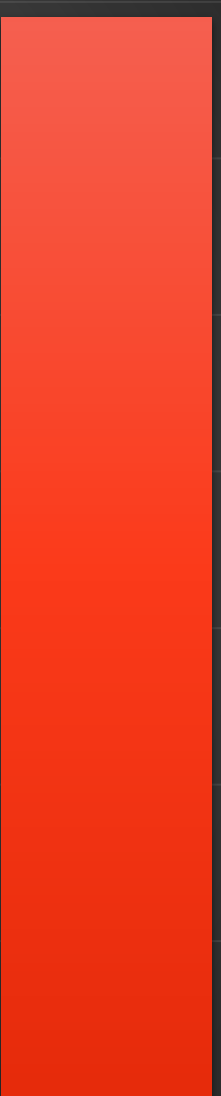
Incarceration Rate per 100,000



Incarceration Rate per 100,000

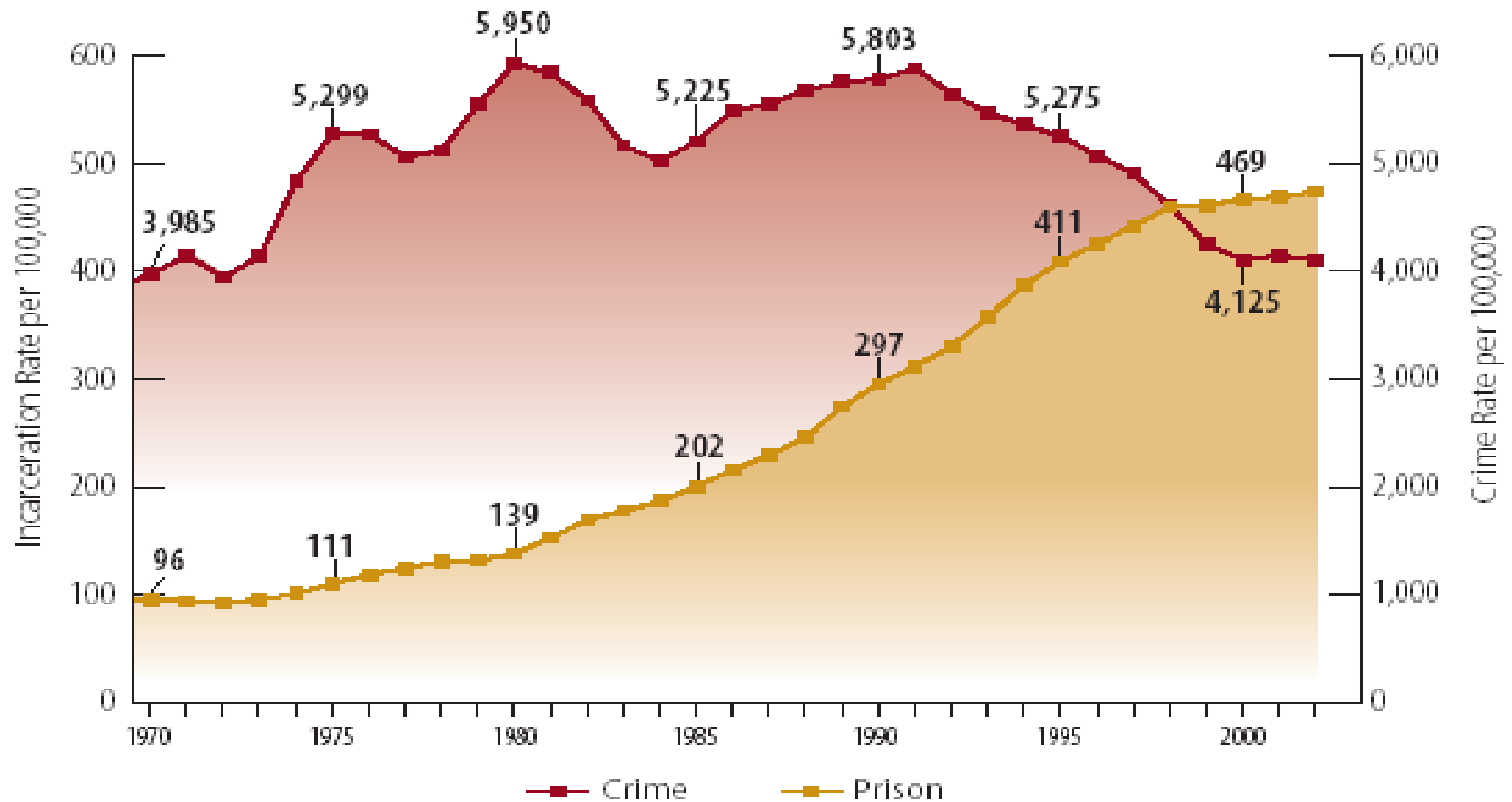
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0

Denmark France UK US



Prison Population Is Unhooked From Crime Rate

FIGURE 5
INCARCERATION AND CRIME RATES

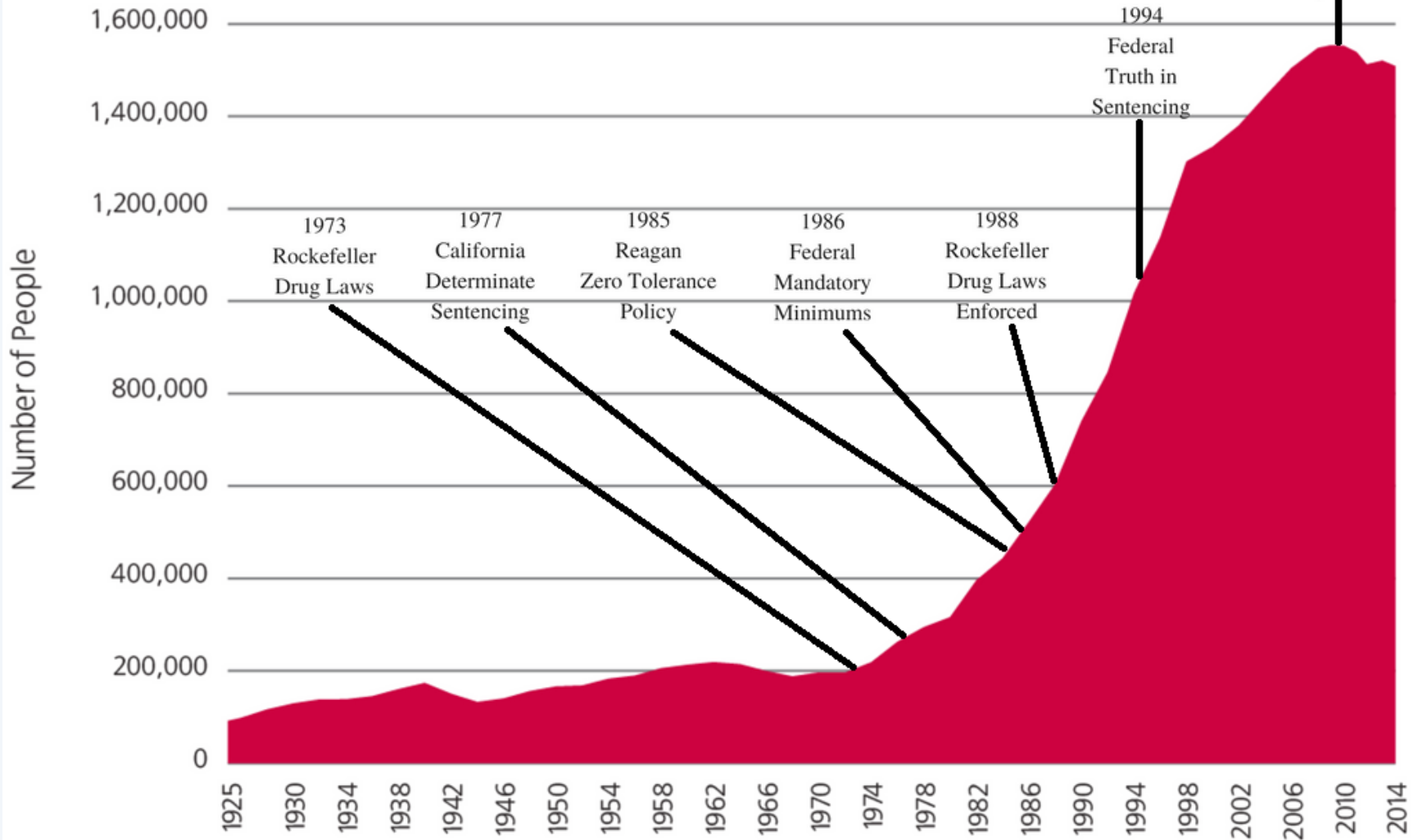


1972:

Choices Made

What Happened?

U.S. State and Federal Prison Population, 1925-2014



August 26-29, 1968



Democratic Convention

May 4, 1970



Kent State

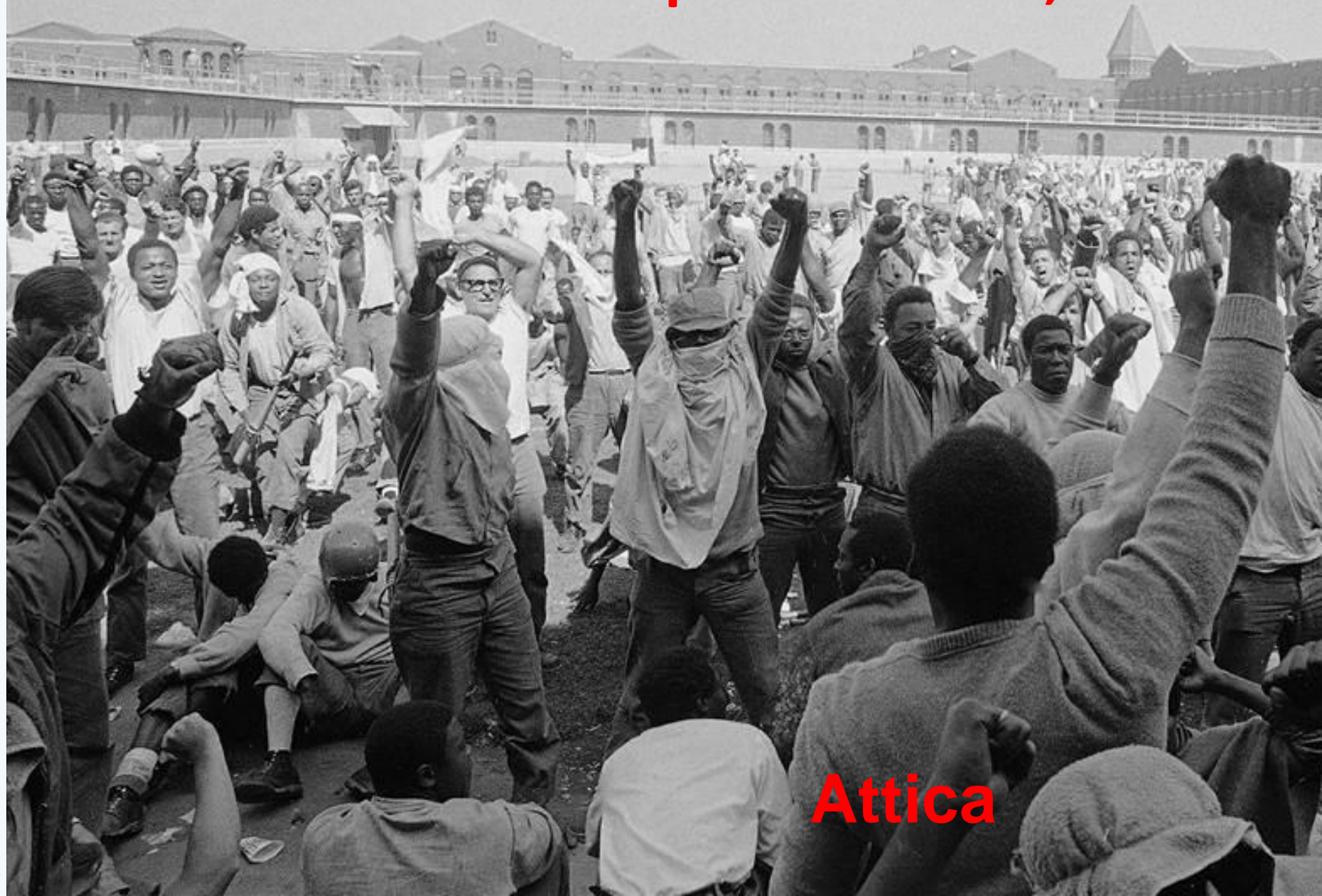
May 14, 1970



Jackson State



September 9-13, 1971



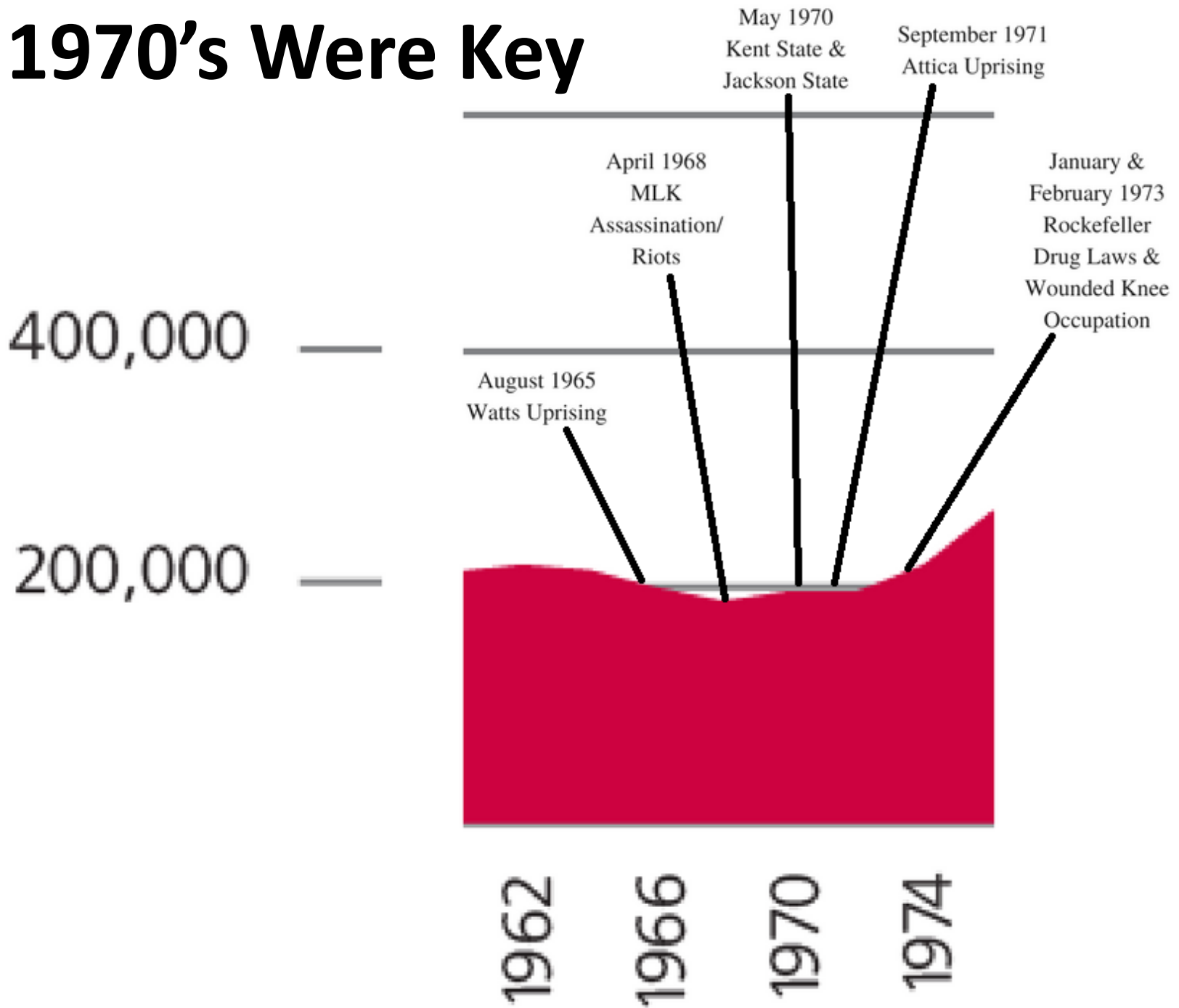
Attica

Feb 27 - May 8, 1973



Wounded Knee

1970's Were Key





NIXON: Tell me this, is this—are these primarily blacks that you're dealing with?

ROCKEFELLER: Oh, yes, the whole thing was led by the blacks.

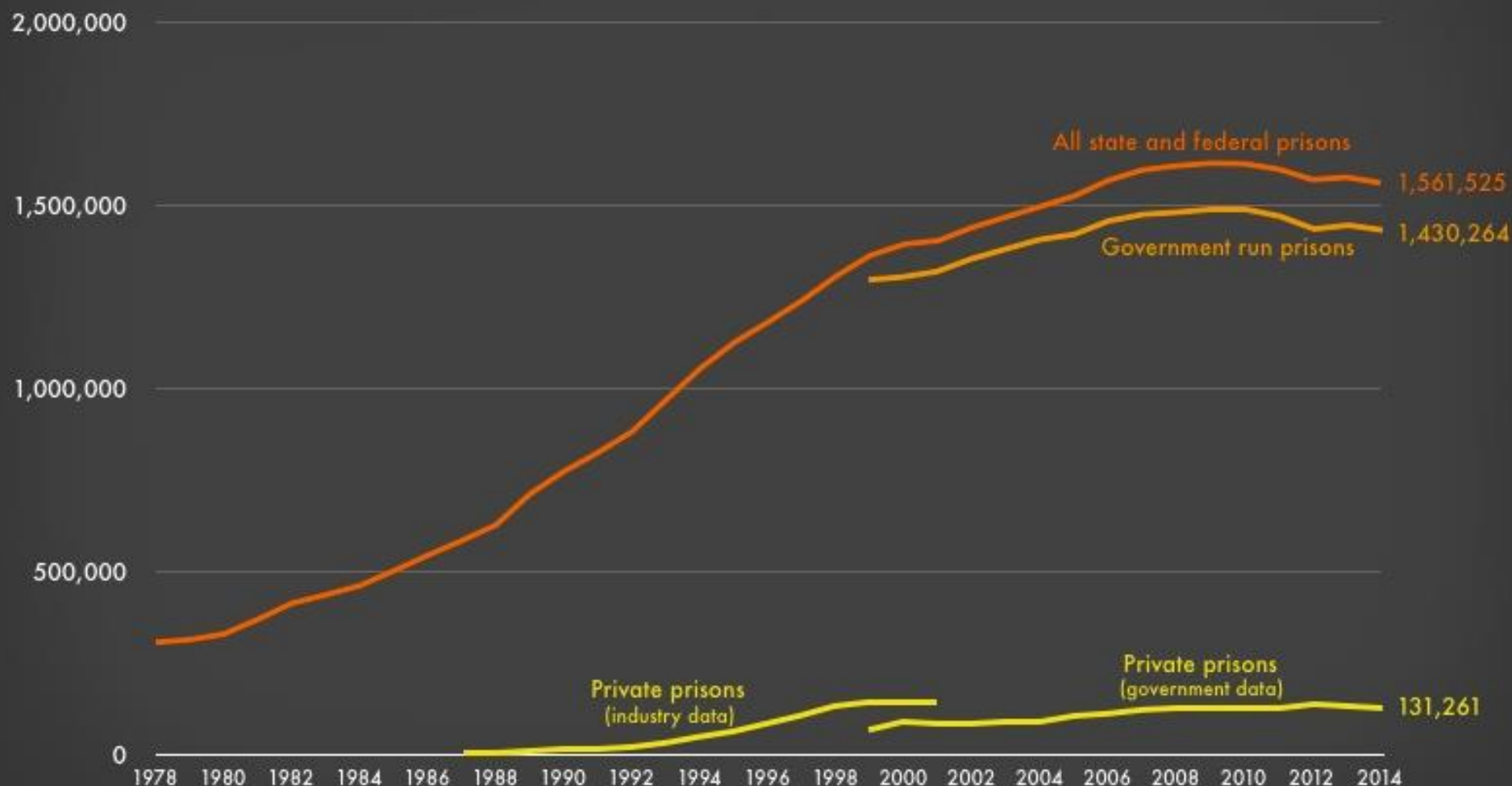
NIXON: I'll be darned. Are all the prisoners that were killed blacks? Or are there any whites?

ROCKEFELLER: I haven't got that report, but I have to—I would say, just offhand, yes.

NIXON: Yeah.

Growth of private prisons

Why do the private prison companies demand — and receive — so much of the credit for mass incarceration when their growth has always trailed that of publicly-owned prisons?



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Corrections Statistical Analysis Tool & Private Adult Correctional Facility Census 1995 and 2001 editions. Figures for government-run facilities calculated by subtracting private figures from the total figures.

FOLLOWING
THE MONEY
of Mass Incarceration

Public Corrections Agencies

Prisons, jails, parole, and probation

\$80.7 billion

**Judicial and
Legal**

Criminal law only

\$29.0 billion

Prosecution

\$5.8 billion

Indigent Defense

\$4.5 billion

Public Employees

\$38.4 billion



Civil Asset Forfeiture
\$4.5 billion



Bail Fees
(only the fees paid to bondsmen)
\$1.4 billion



Costs To Families
\$2.9 billion



Commissary
\$1.6 billion



Telephone Calls
\$1.3 billion



Food
\$2.1 billion



Utilities
\$1.7 billion



Private Corrections
aka private prisons
\$3.9 billion

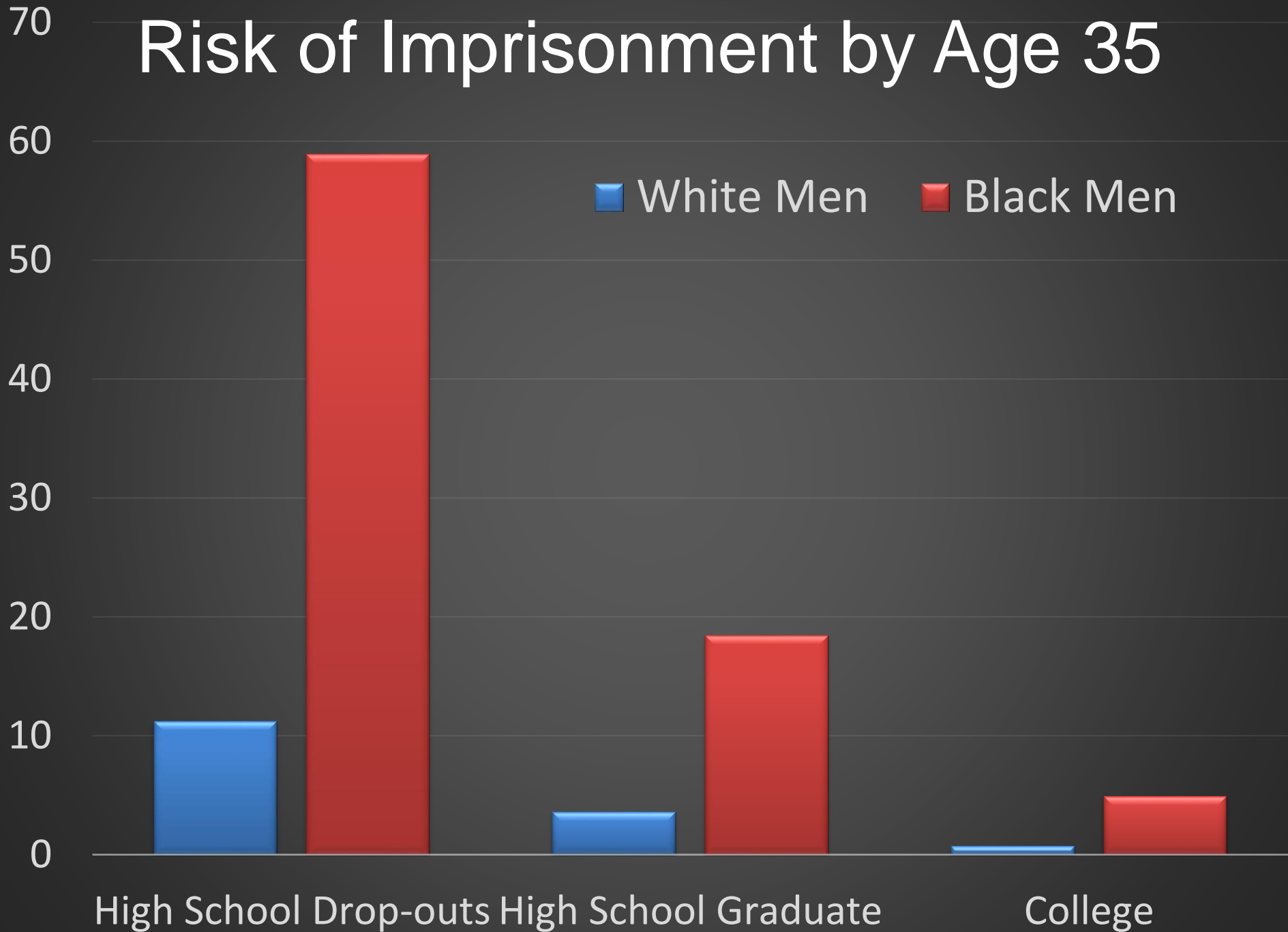


Private Prison Profits
\$0.37 billion
aka \$374 million

Annual Total
\$1.92 billion

Risk of Imprisonment by Age 35

White Men Black Men



This is not a new phenomenon, but.....

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THE FIRST CIVIL RIGHT

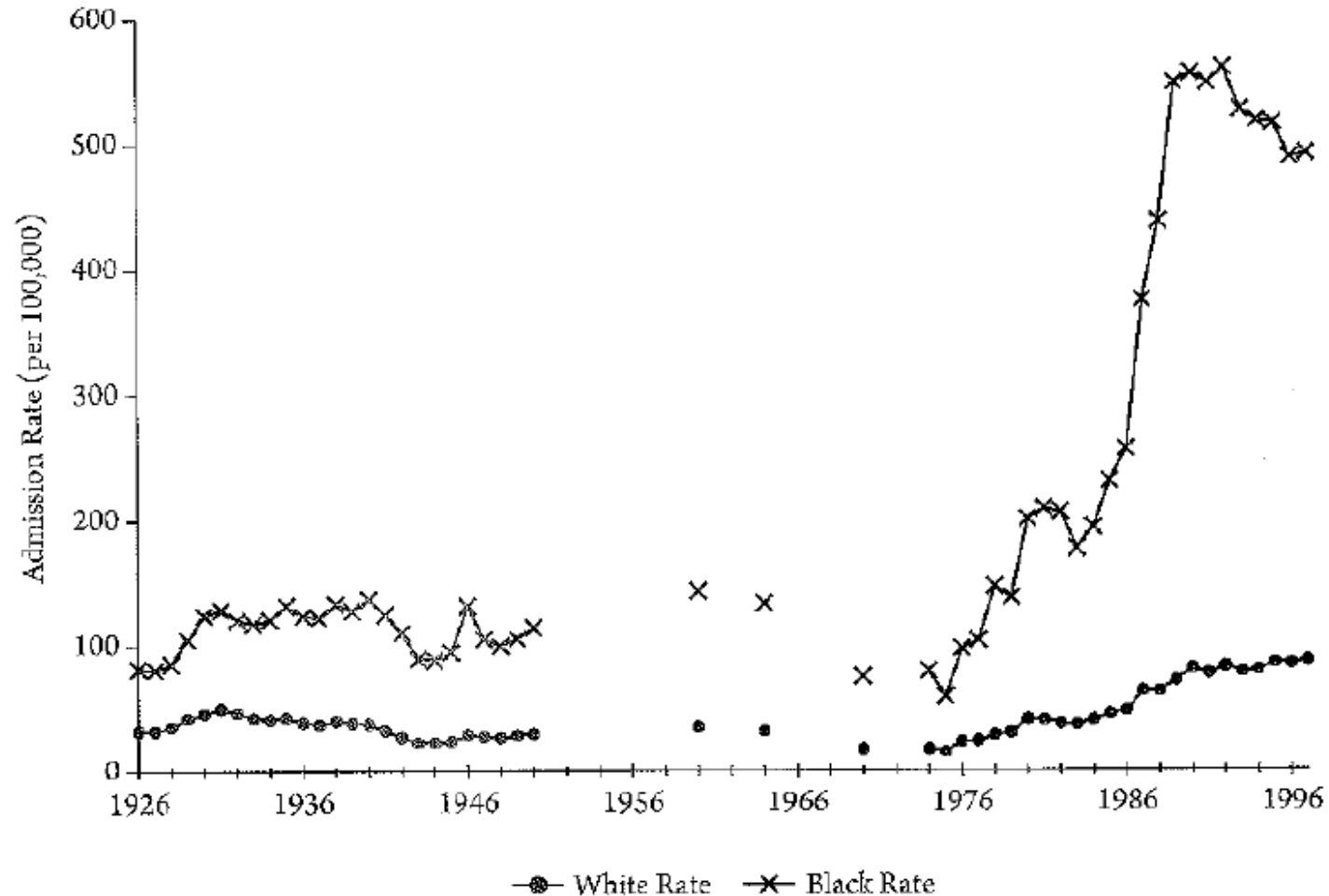
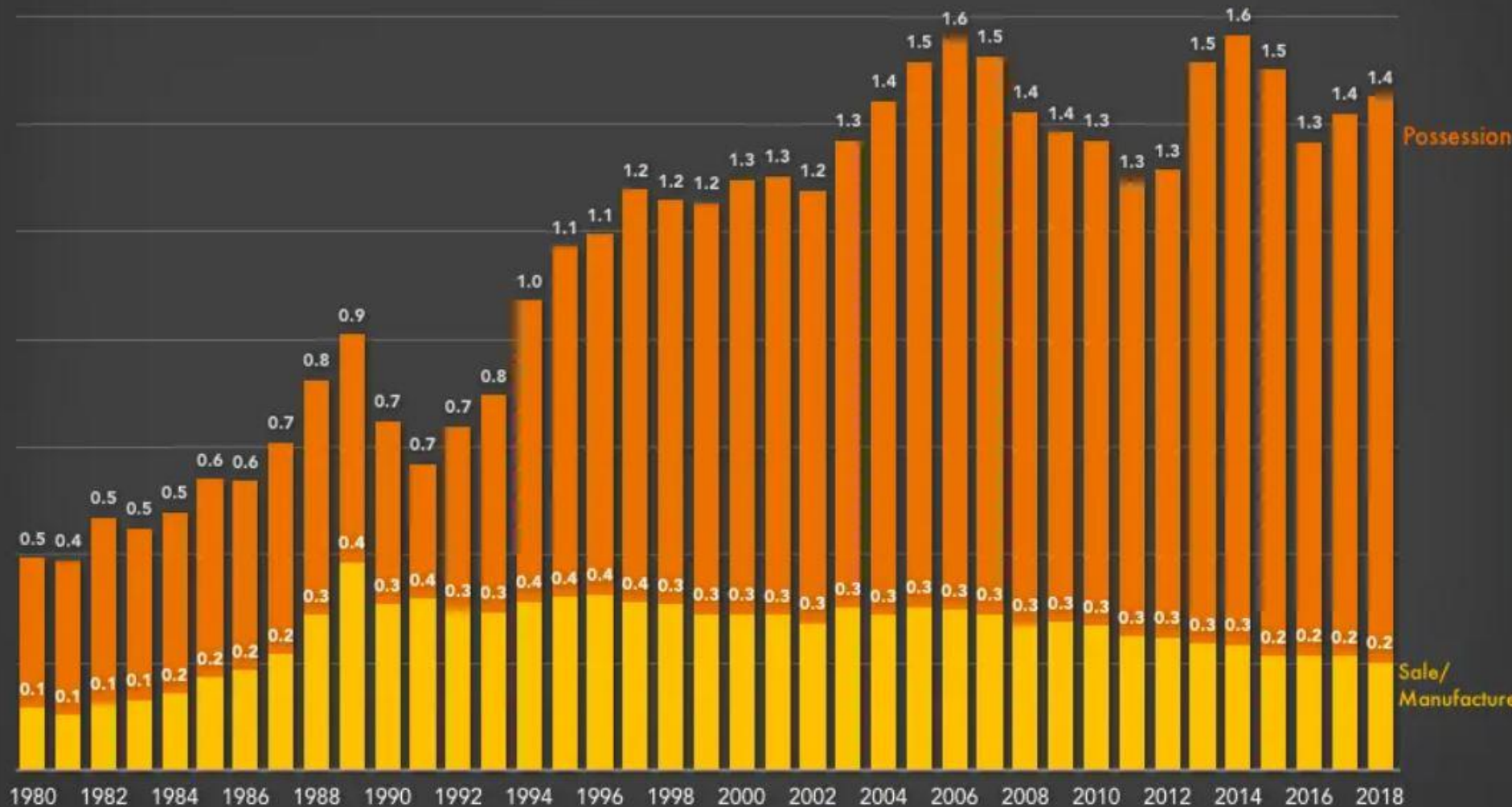


Figure 1.2 Admission Rates to State and Federal Prisons by Race, 1926-1997. Note: The

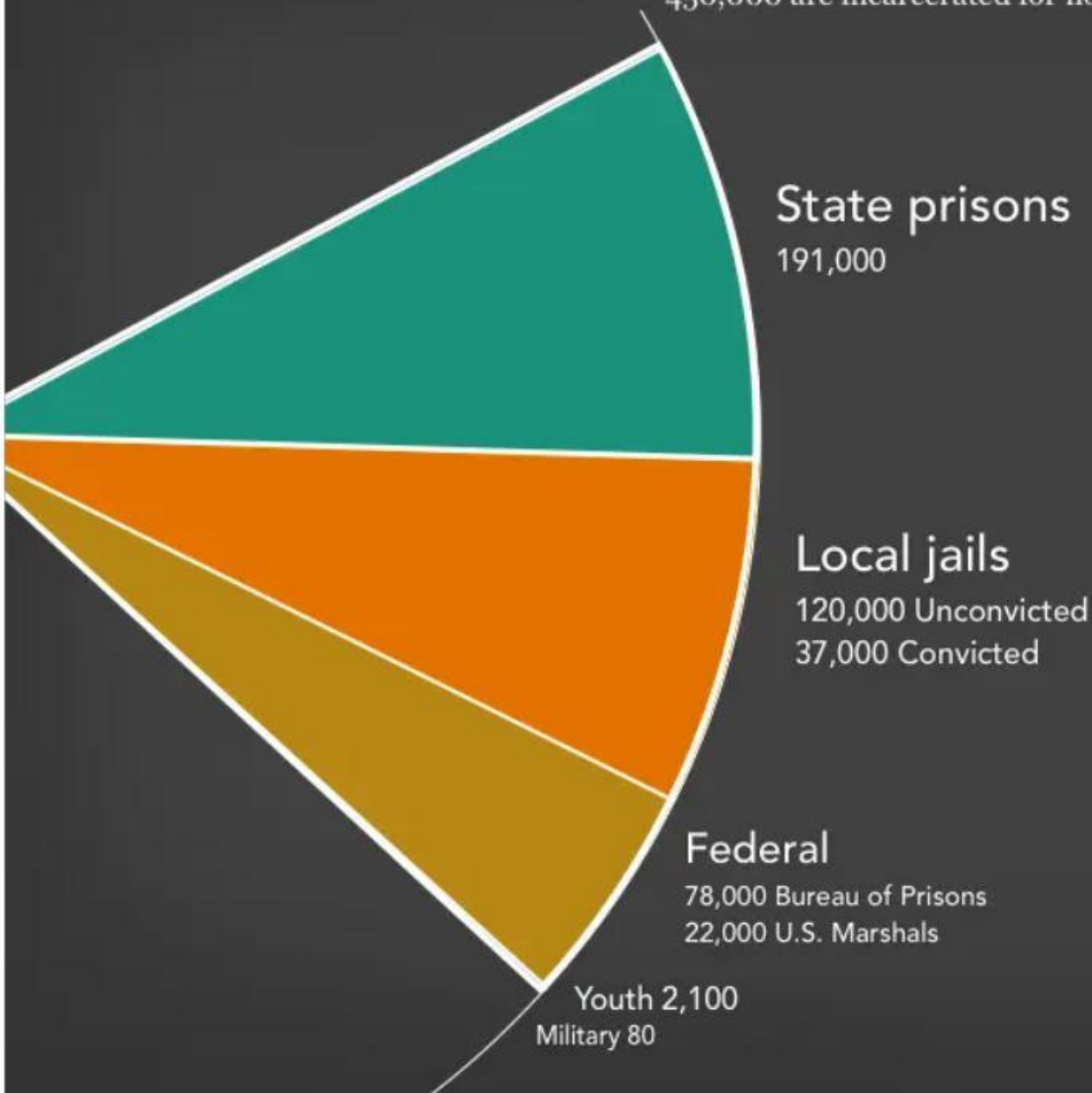
There are over 1 million drug possession arrests each year

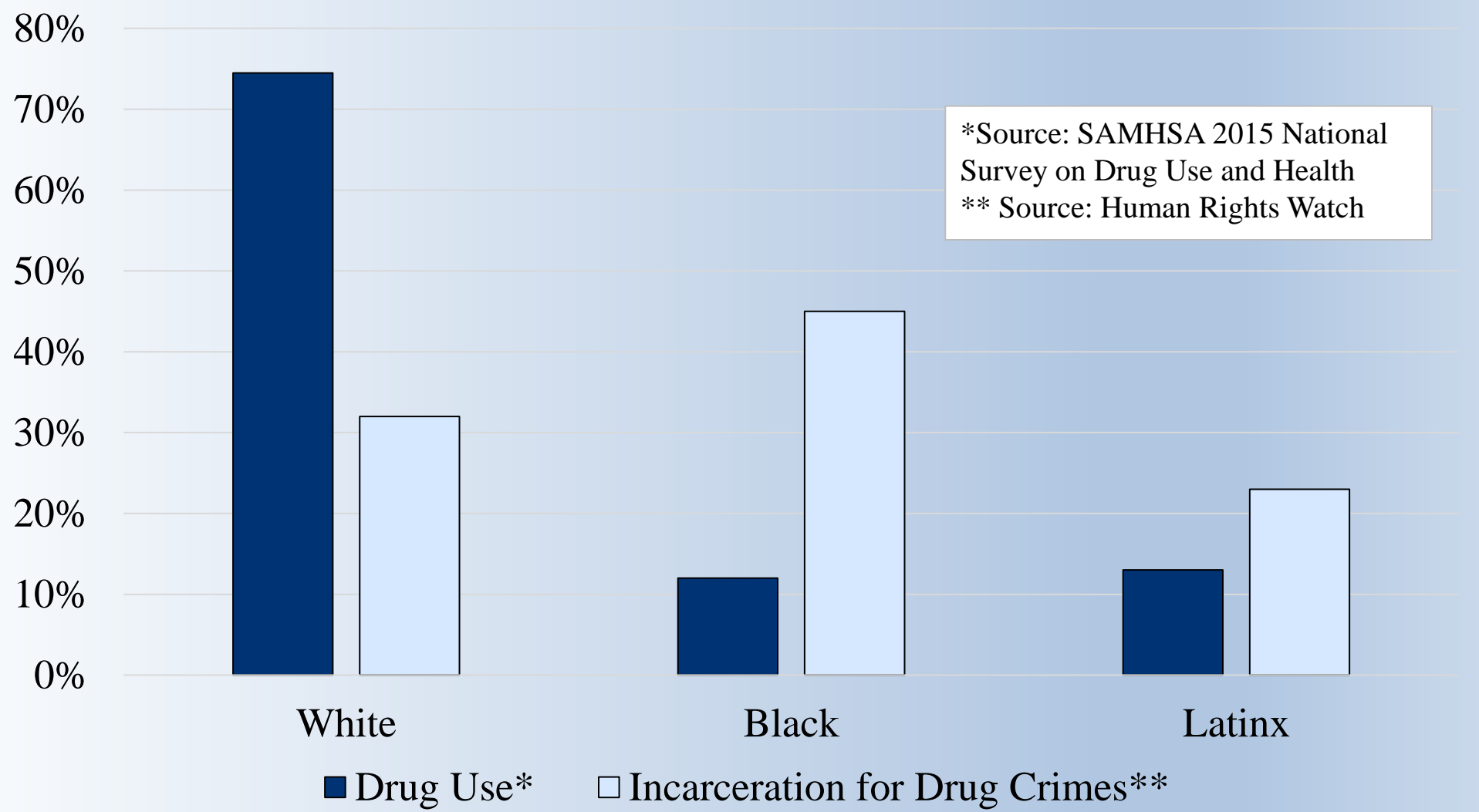
There are 6 times as many arrests for drug possession as for drug sales.
(Arrests in millions, 1980–2018)



1 in 5 incarcerated people is locked up for a drug offense

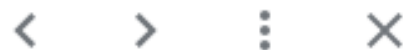
450,000 are incarcerated for nonviolent drug offenses on any given day.







Incarceration and the Law

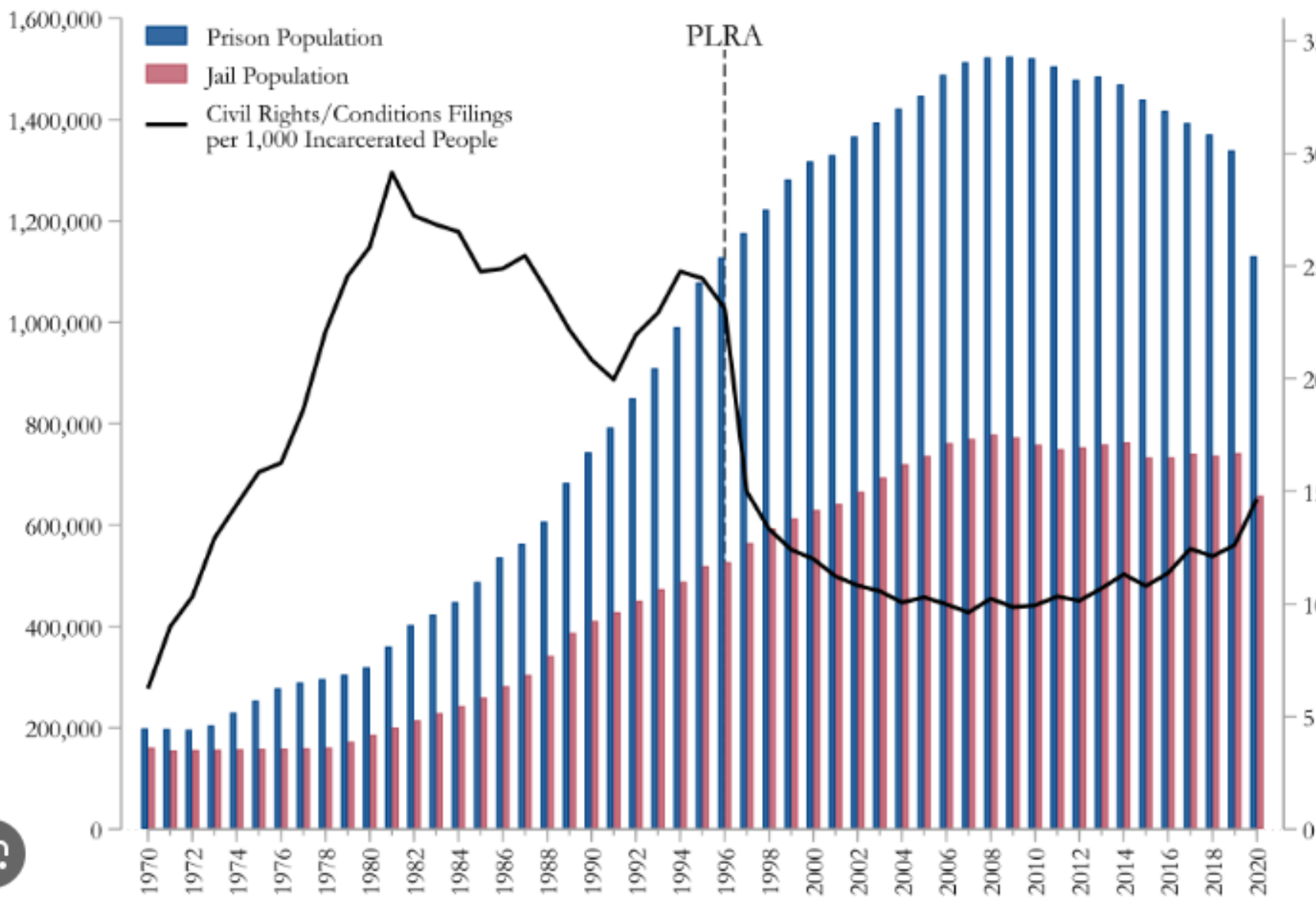


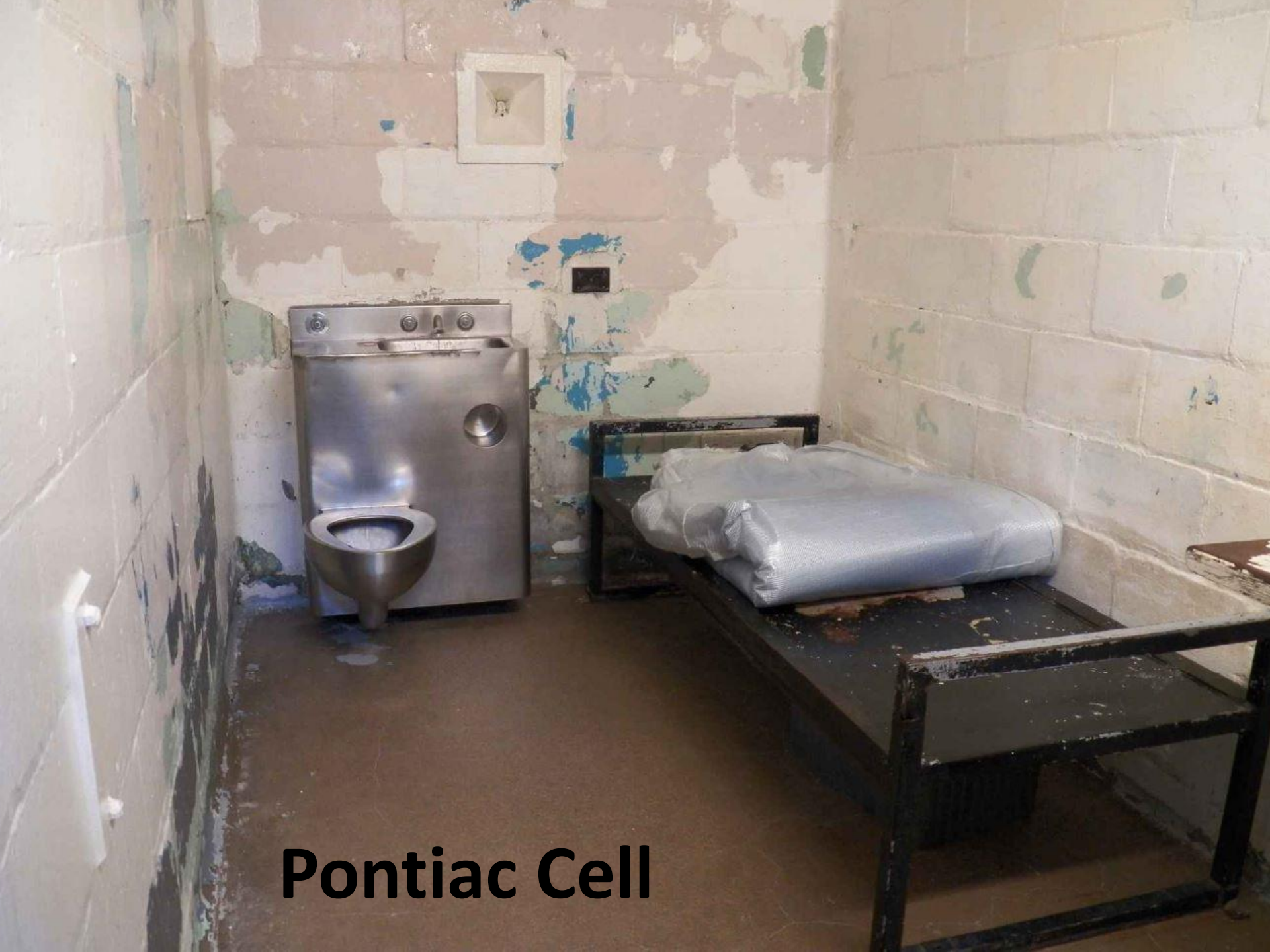
Jail and Prison Population

- Prison Population
- Jail Population
- Civil Rights/Conditions Filings per 1,000 Incarcerated People

PLRA

Filings per 1,000 Incarcerated People





Pontiac Cell



Norwegian Prison Cell



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