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## Corrections Around the World

### Incarceration

- U.S. highest number of incarceration

### Imprisonment Rate

- Rate of imprisonment was very steady until 1980s
- Then, huge increase

### Causes of Prison Growth

- Pre- 1970s: offender based sentencing
- 1970s- Today: though on crime
  - Politicization of crime
  - Growing conservative climate
  - American individualism

### Determining Sentencing

- Moves us from an offender-based to an offense-based system
- 88% of increase in incarceration from 1980-1996 is due to changes in punishment
- 51% results from an increase in the number of people doing time
- 37% results from an increase in term length

### Did Prison Growth Cause the Crime Drop?

- Ways an increase in incarceration could lead to a decrease in crime:
  - **Rehabilitation:** fixing criminals
  - **Incapacitation:** stopping current criminals
  - **Deterrence:** stopping future criminals
- 1993-2001- incarceration decreased the crime rate 2-5%

### U.S. Statistics and Facts

- At least 95% of all state prisoners will be released from prison at some point
- As of 2006, 2,58,983 prisoners were under the jurisdiction of either a state or federal facility or local jail
- By the end of 200, 16 states had abolished discretionary release from prison by a parole board for all offenders and another 4 states for specific violent offenses
- By December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001, state prisons were operating between 1% and 16% above capacity, while federal prisons were operating at 31% above capacity

### Incarceration in the U.S.

- 1 in every 99 adults in the U.S. is incarcerated
- 1 in 9 state government employees works in corrections
- States spend \$44 billion on corrections in 2007—1 of every 15 state general fund dollars spend

### Characteristics of Incarcerated Populations

### Gender and Incarceration

- Males make up the vast majority of the incarceration population (94%)

### Race and Incarceration

- Black- 43% of incarcerated pop- has the greatest likelihood of being incarceration
- Hispanic- 35% of incarcerated pop
- White- 36% of incarceration pop

### Job Opportunities

- Blacks are less likely than whites to get jobs if they have a record

### Collateral Consequences/ Felony Disenfranchisement

- Federal level, adopted by states (but varies state to state)
  - o Right to vote
  - o Right to serve on a federal jury
  - o Right to hold federal office or employment
  - o Armed forces- qualifications for service; payment of benefits