

Prison Rape Elimination Act 101

Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence

December 15th, 2021



IMPACT/JUSTICE

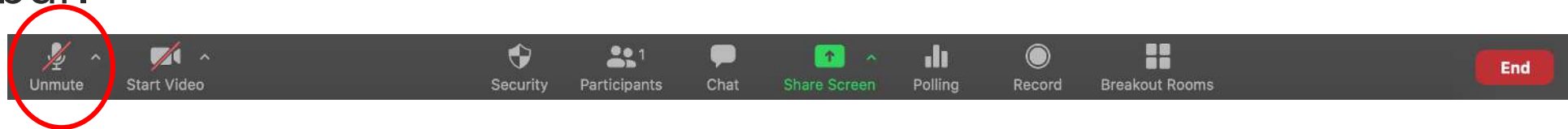
NATIONAL
PREA
RESOURCE
CENTER

PRC mission

The mission of the PRC is to assist adult prisons and jails, juvenile facilities, lockups, community confinement, and tribal facilities in their efforts to eliminate sexual abuse by increasing their capacity for prevention, detection, monitoring, responses to incidents, and services to victims and their families.

Mute

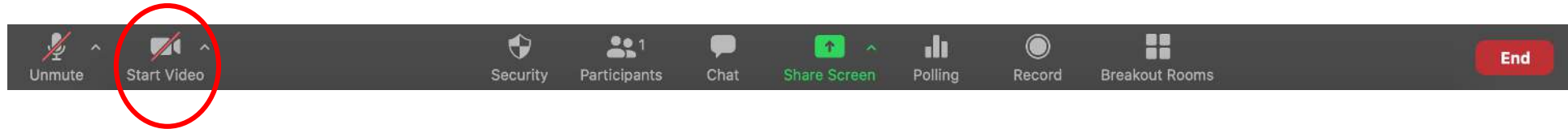
Please take the time to mute yourself to limit background noise. To mute yourself, please select the microphone button on the left side of the Zoom toolbar.



Logistics

Start/Stop video

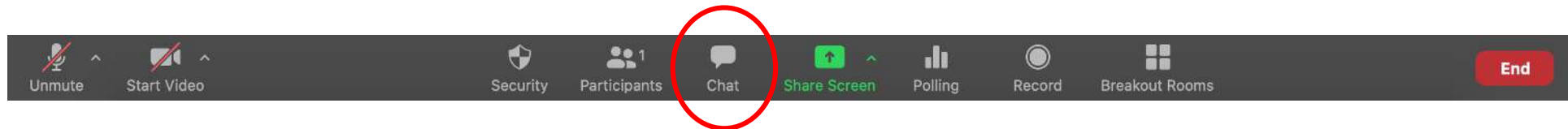
If at any time you need to step away, to turn off your video, please select the start video button on the left side of the Zoom toolbar, as shown below.



Logistics

Submitting questions

To submit a question related to the content of the presentation, use the chat feature on your Zoom toolbar, as seen below.



- Welcome & introductions
- Housekeeping & logistics
- Detention in the United States
- Sexual Abuse in Detention Settings
- The PREA Standards
- Reporting and Investigations in Detention
- Questions
- Resources
- Evaluations

Training Series

- December 15th – PREA 101
- January 19th – Providing Services to Incarcerated Survivors
- January 28th – Coaching Session with JDI #1
- February 23rd – Strengthening Victim Services Partnerships
- February 25th – Coaching Sessions with JDI #2
- March 25th – Coaching Sessions with JDI #3



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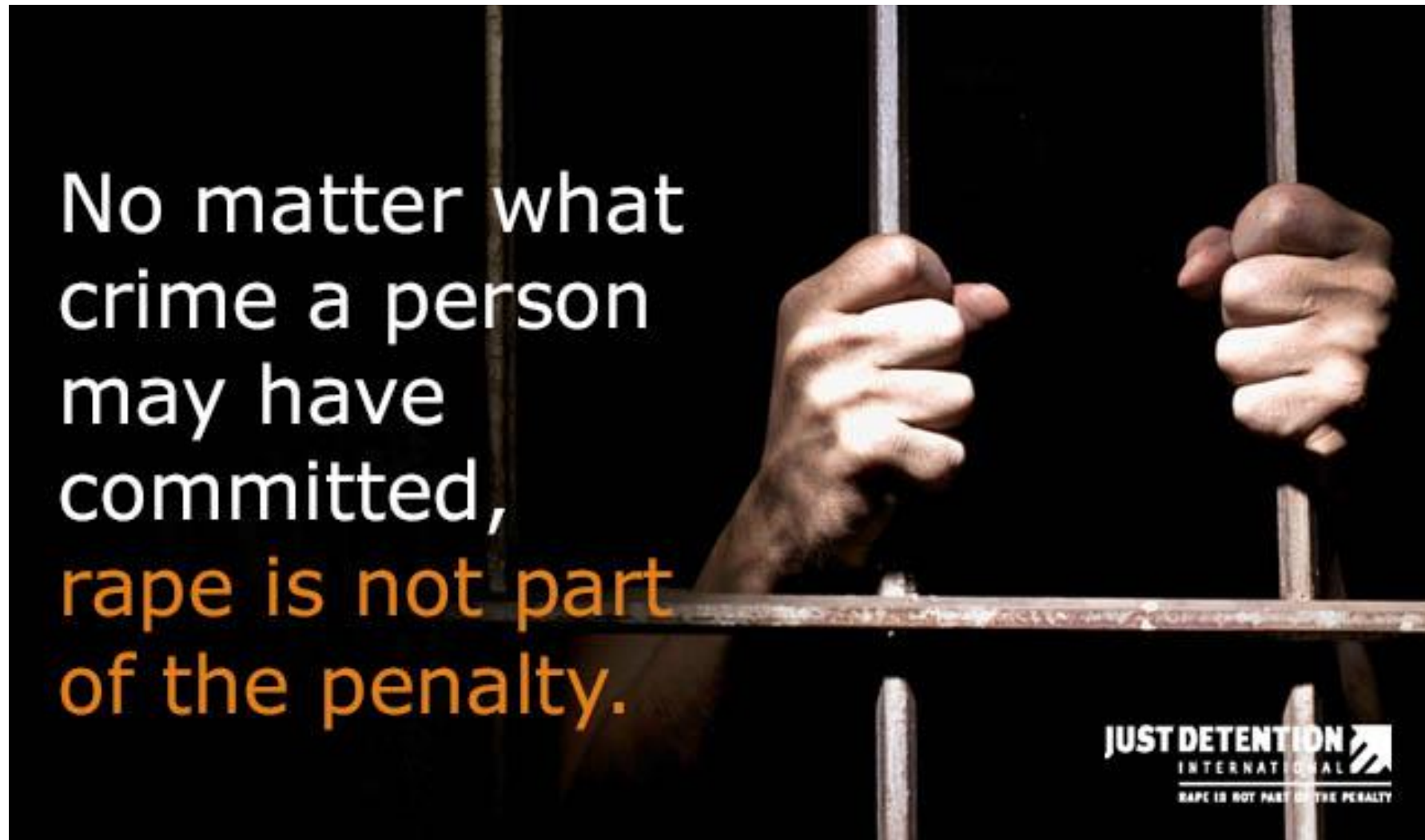
JDI's Mission

Just Detention International is a health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention.

JDI carries out its mission by:

- Working with corrections officials, rape crisis advocates, and policymakers to make detention facilities safe
- Promoting public attitudes that value the dignity and safety of people in detention
- Supporting incarcerated survivors of sexual abuse and sexual harassment

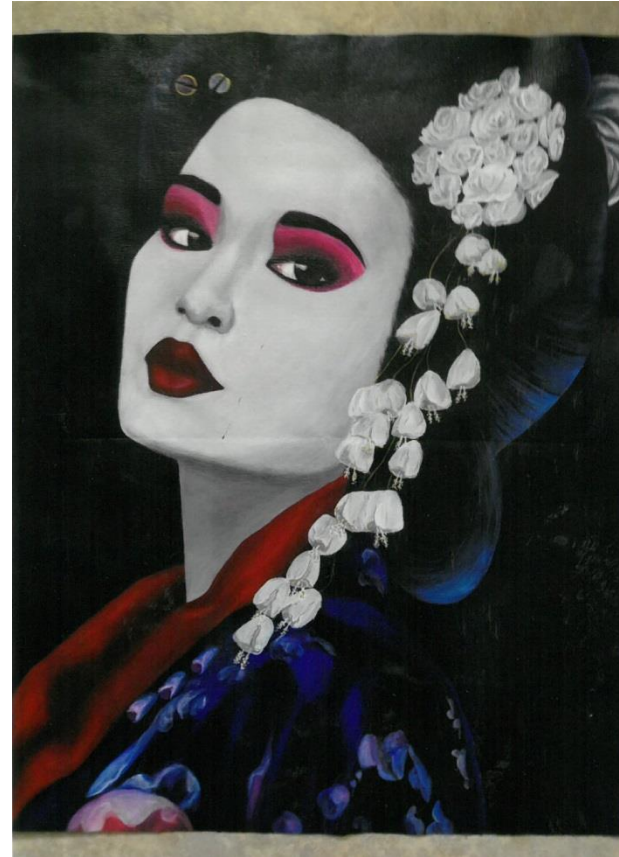
JDI's Core Principle



In Her Words

**"The assault wasn't my fault,
and just because I was
incarcerated, I did not deserve to
be raped."**

- Johanna, a prison rape survivor



Art by Johanna

Language

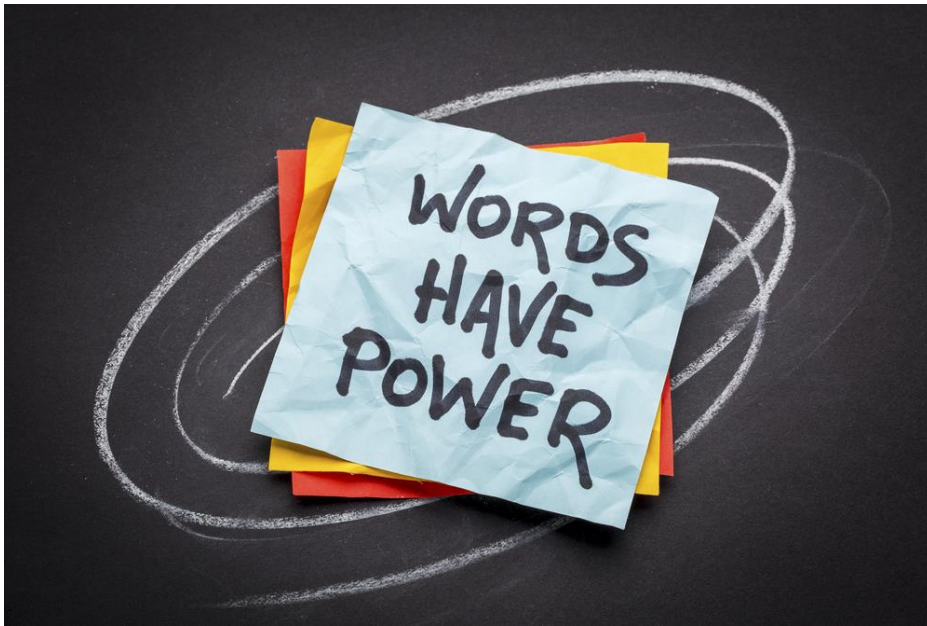


Photo credit: Marek Uliasz

- We will be using the word 'incarcerated person' or 'prisoner' instead of 'inmate'
- We will also be using the term 'survivor' rather than 'victim'

Self Care



Introductions



Detention in the United States

What Is Detention

- Prisons
- Jails
- Lockups
- Community confinement facilities
- Juvenile facilities
- Immigration facilities

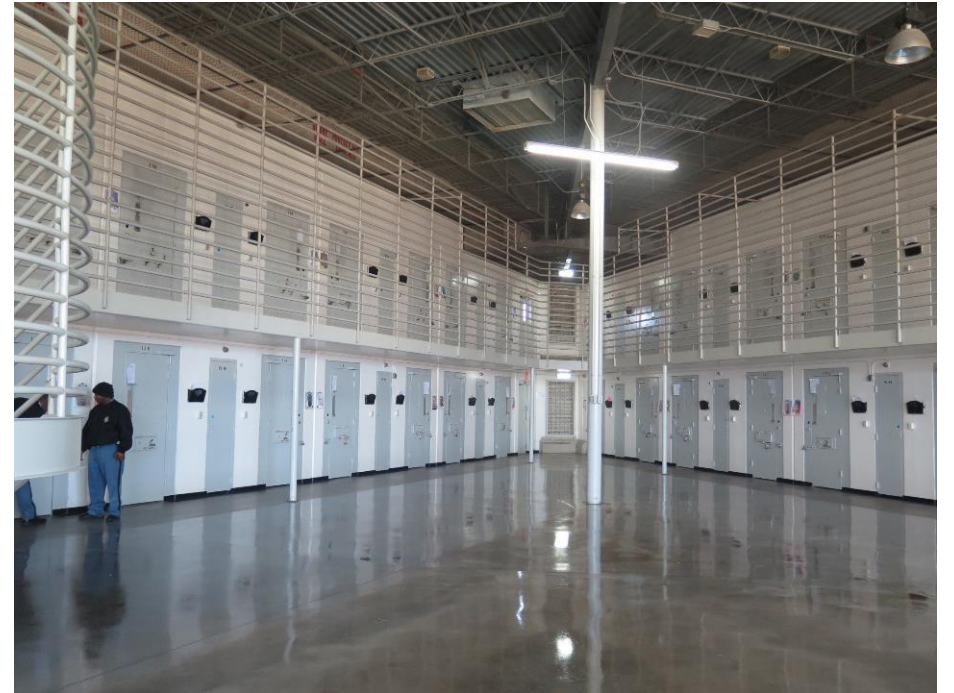


Photo credit: Just Detention International

Traumatizing Nature of Detention

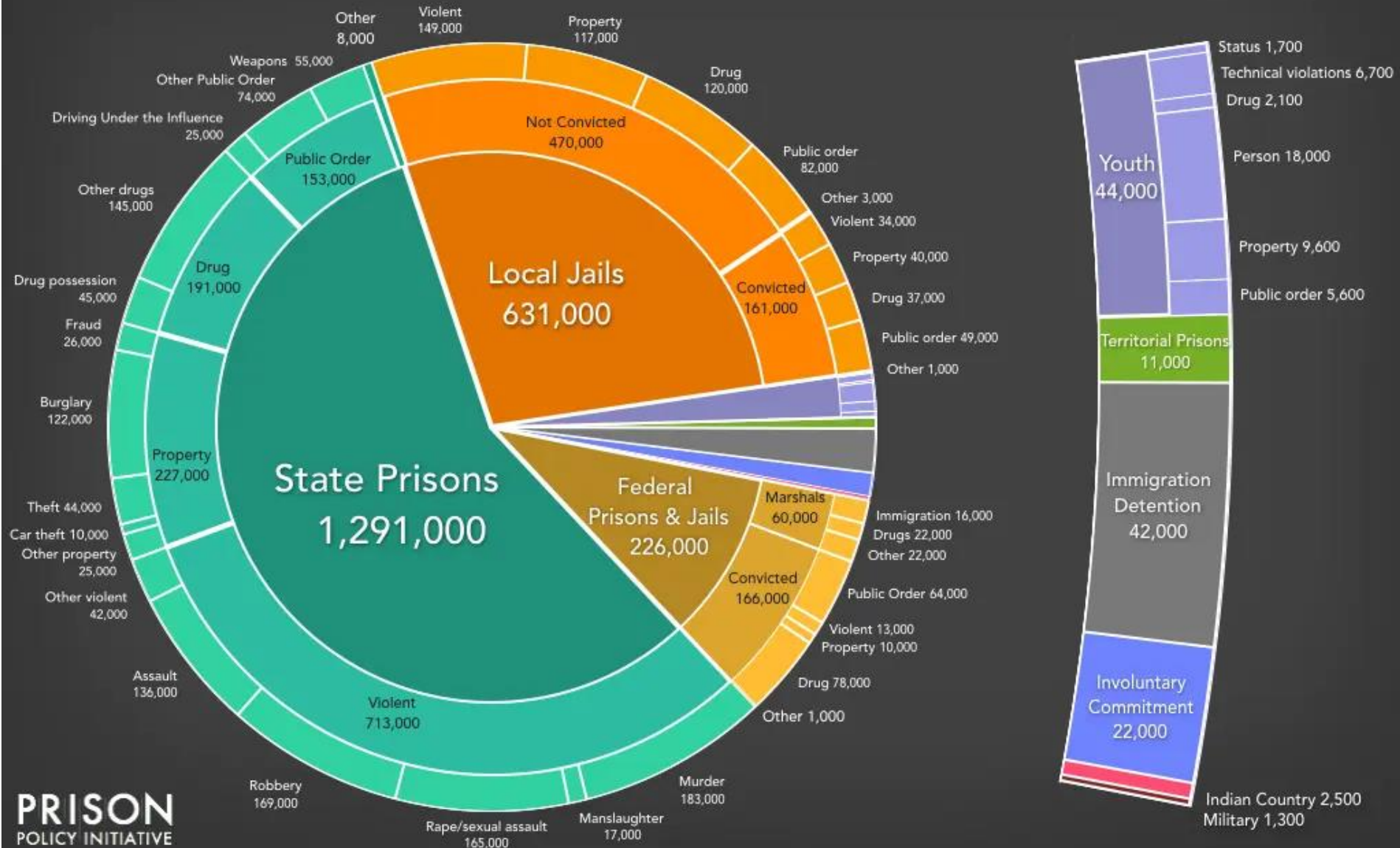
- Constant surveillance
- Lack of autonomy and privacy
- Lack of control over environment
- Routine searches of person/cell
- Frequent use of restraints
- Isolation
- Minimal health services



Photo credit: Just Detention International

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.



Demographics of Adults Behind Bars

Many adults who are incarcerated across the United States are:

- Men
- Black
- People with mental illness



Source: Glaze & Herberman (2013), *Correctional Populations in the United States, 2012*.

Racial Disparities in Incarceration

BLACK PEOPLE ARE INCARCERATED AT
FIVE TIMES THE RATE OF WHITE PEOPLE



Source: Sentencing Project, *The Color of Justice: Racial and Ethnic Disparity in State Prisons* (2021)

© Just Detention International

Complex Trauma Histories

Previous trauma may include:

- Child abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Domestic violence
- Gang violence
- Police violence
- Limited resources

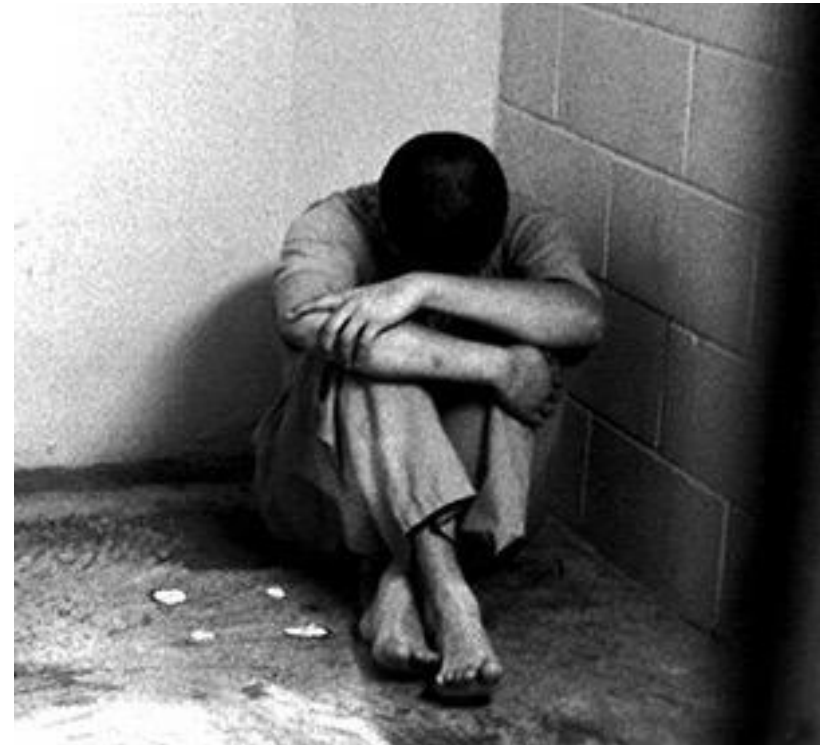
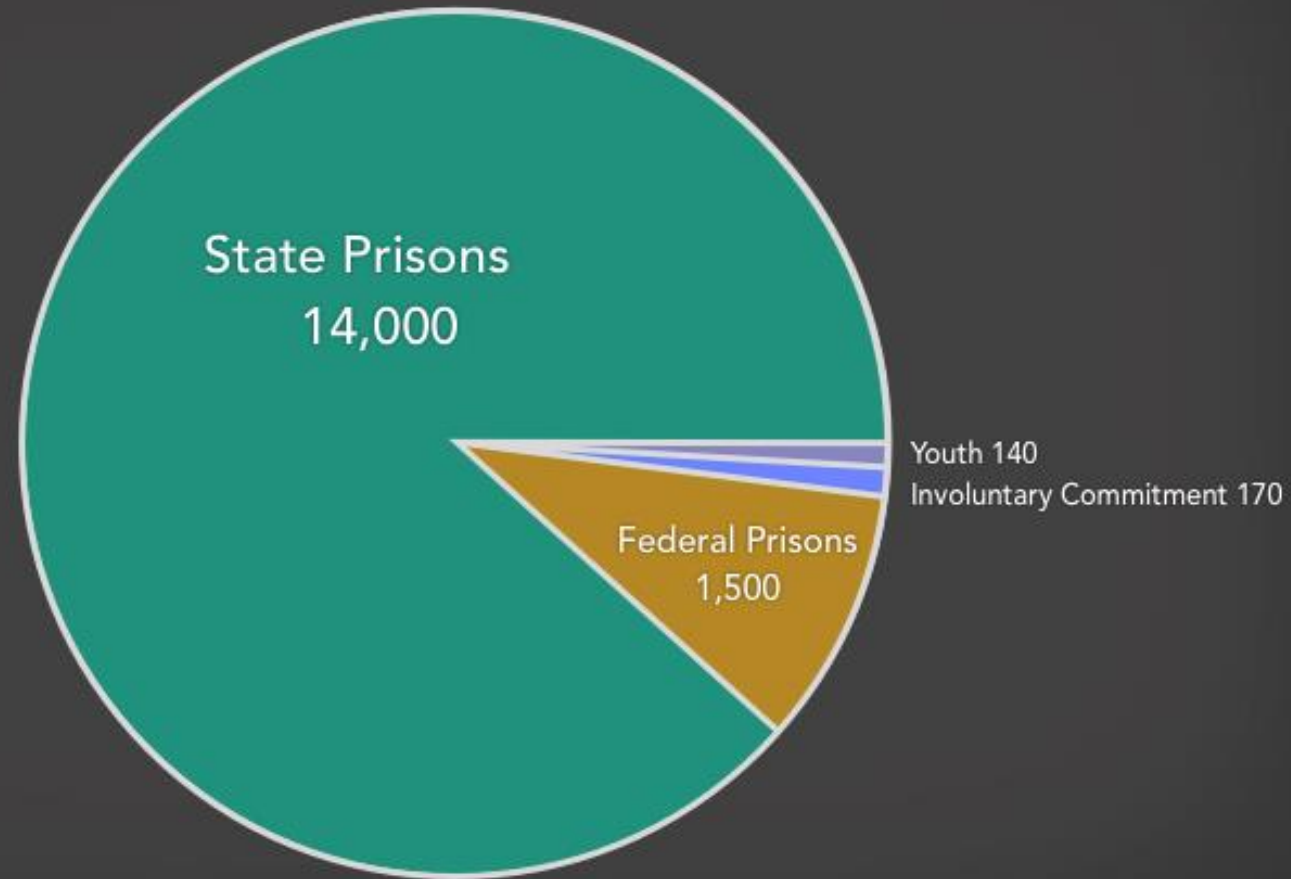


Photo credit: Steve Liss, Open Society Foundation

How many Connecticut residents are locked up and where?

16,000 of Connecticut's residents are locked up in various kinds of facilities



Landscape of Detention in CT

Operated by Federal Bureau of Prisons

- One facility: FCI Danbury
- Population: 1,046¹

Operated by CT Department of Correction

- 13 adult facilities (jails with pre-trial detainees and prisons with sentenced incarcerated people), 1 youth facility, 30 contracted Community Confinement Facilities
- Population: 9,431²
- CT DOC houses 1,075 youth (ages 14-24) ³

Operated by State of Connecticut Judicial Branch

- Two juvenile detention centers: Bridgeport, Hartford
- Statewide pretrial detention admissions (2020 FY): 747 youth ⁴
- Average stay: 23 days, average daily pop: 44 people ⁴

Sources:

(1) Federal Bureau of Prisons. (2021, October 28). Statistics. General Inmate Population Reports: FCI Danbury, <https://www.bop.gov/locations/institutions/dan/>

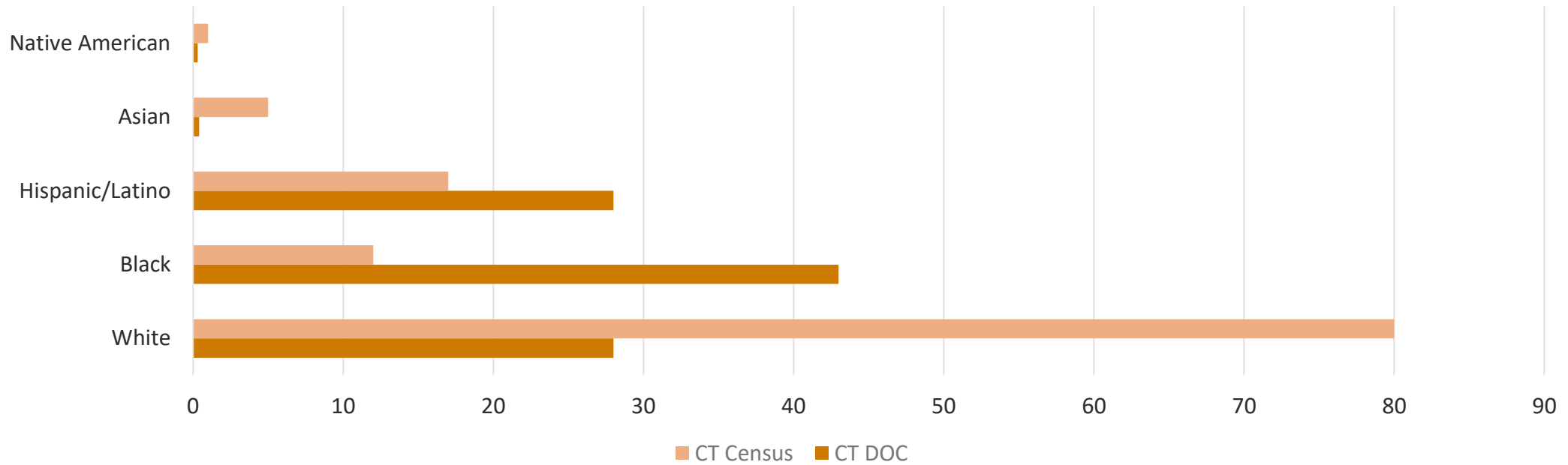
(2) Connecticut Department of Corrections Research Unit. (2021, November 1) Monthly Statistics November 1, 2021: Racial Distribution Among Correctional Facilities, Population Confined November 1, 2021. <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOC/Pdf/MonthlyStat/Stat11012021.pdf>

(3) Connecticut Department of Corrections Research Unit. (2021, November 1) Monthly Statistics November 1, 2021: Age Distribution Among Correctional Facilities, Population Confined November 1, 2021. <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOC/Pdf/MonthlyStat/Stat11012021.pdf>

(4) State of Connecticut Judicial Branch. (2021) Judicial Branch: Juvenile Detention. https://www.jud.ct.gov/statistics/juvdet/Juv_Det_yearly.pdf

Connecticut Racial/Ethnic Disparities

State v. Incarcerated Population (%)



	Native American	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Black	White
CT Census	1	5	17	12	80
CT DOC	0.3	0.4	28	43	28

Sources:

(1) United States Census Bureau. (2019). QuickFacts: Connecticut, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/CT>

(2) Connecticut Department of Corrections Research Unit. (2021, November 1) Monthly Statistics November 1, 2021: Racial Distribution Among Correctional Facilities, Population Confined November 1, 2021. <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOC/Pdf/MonthlyStat/Stat11012021.pdf>

Sexual Abuse in Detention Settings

Video: Rodney video



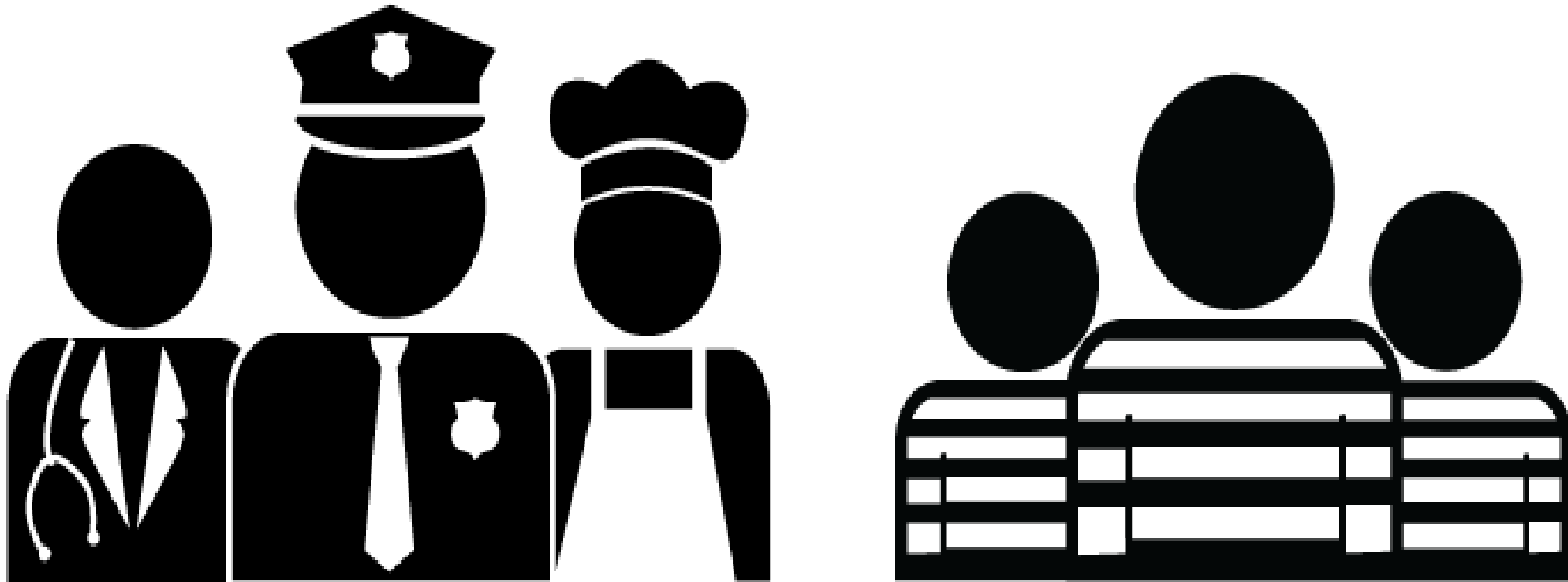
Photo credit: The New York Times

Prevalence of Sexual Abuse in Prisons and Jails

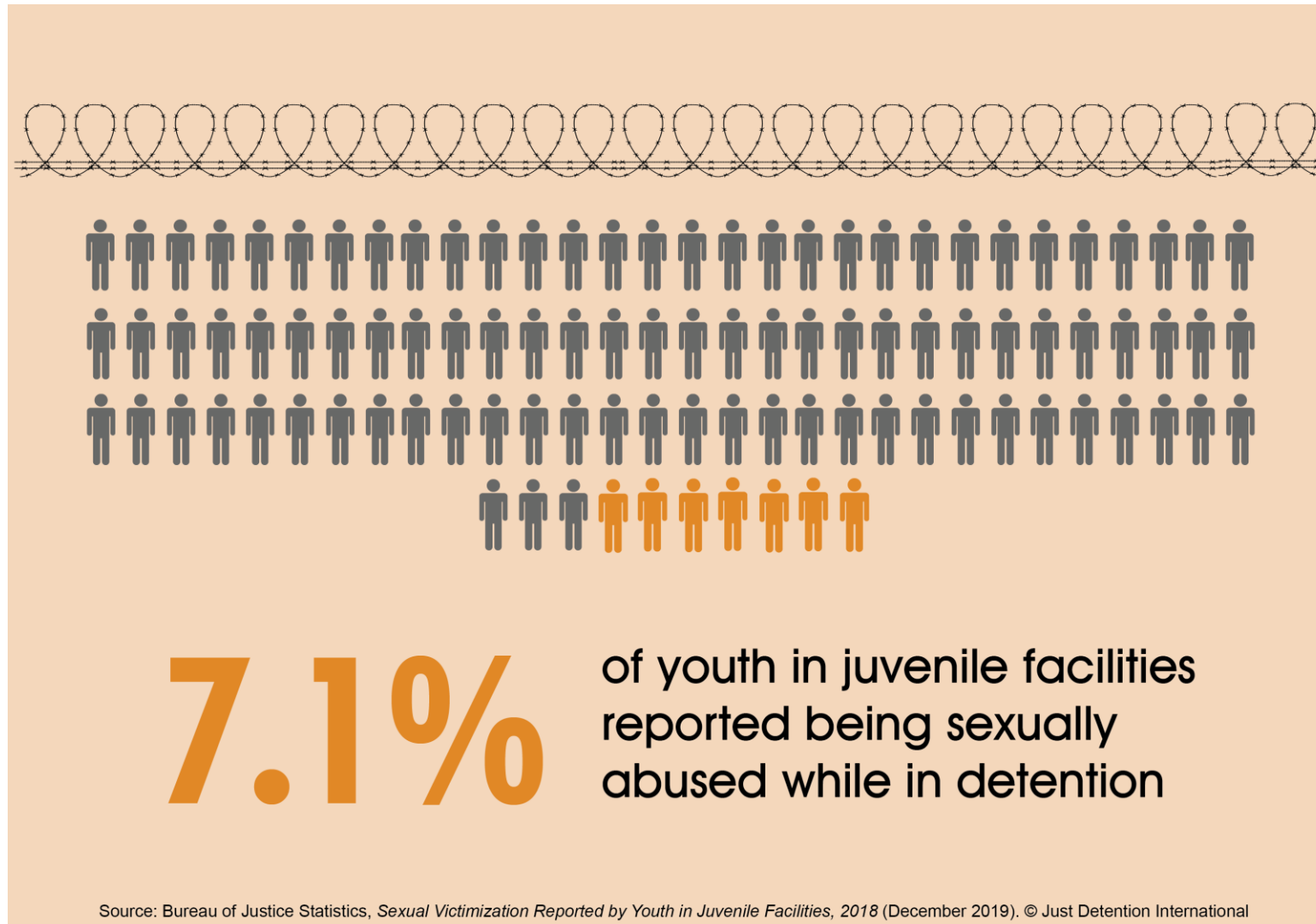


Approximately 200,000 adults are sexually abused behind bars every year in the U.S.

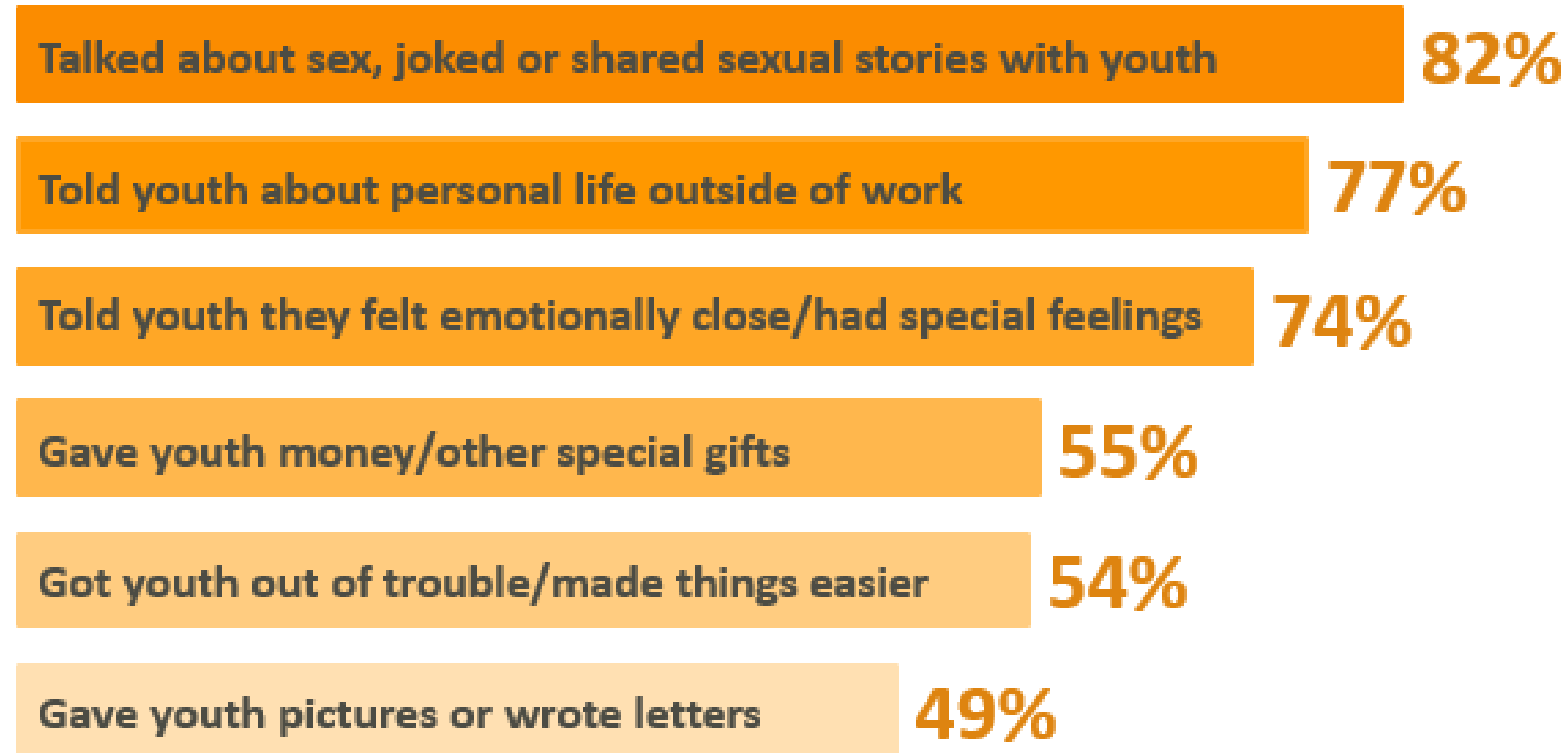
STUDY SHOWS NEARLY EQUAL RATES OF SEXUAL ABUSE BY STAFF AND OTHER INCARCERATED PEOPLE



Rates of Sexual Abuse in Juvenile Facilities



Staff-on-Youth Sexual Abuse



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Victim, Perpetrator, and Incident Characteristics of Sexual Victimization of Youth in Juvenile Facilities, 2018 – Statistical Tables, 2018* (November 2020). © Just Detention International

Dynamics of Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse may include:

- Sexual harassment
- Protective pairing
- Domestic violence
- Sexual exploitation
- Gang abuse
- Rape
- Abusive searches



Chat Question – Groups at Risk

Which groups do you think are most likely to be targeted for sexual abuse?

Individuals at Increased Risk

Incarcerated people with an increased risk of sexual victimization:

People who have a mental illness or developmental disability	> 3X more likely than the overall population
Previously Sexually Victimized	6X more likely
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual	> 6X more likely
Transgender	> 8X more likely

In Her Words

"Although you may think that I'm not like you, we may not be so different. I want to have control over my own body and my life, just as you do. I absolutely did not want to have sex with that man in the jail, but I felt powerless to refuse him."

- Cecilia, a trans woman and former member of JDI's Survivor Council



The PREA Standards

Poll – PREA Experience

How comfortable are you with the PREA standards?

1. Very comfortable – I have a strong understanding of the standards and my role
2. Sort of comfortable – I understand the intent, but still have questions
3. New to PREA – I don't know too much about PREA

PREA Standards Checklist

- ✓ Keep people safe
- ✓ Protect survivors from abusers
- ✓ Provide multiple ways to report
- ✓ Offer medical and mental health care
- ✓ Increase accountability
- ✓ Provide survivors access to victim services



PREA Violation vs Rule Violation

Sexual Abuse / Sexual Harassment

- Perpetrator: Staff or other incarcerated person
- PREA violation
- Crime

Consensual Sex

- Between incarcerated people
- Never with staff
- Rule violation
- Not a crime

PREA Applies to All Corrections Agencies

- The PREA standards are not binding on rape crisis centers
- It is the responsibility of corrections agencies to implement and comply with the PREA standards
- Under the standards, corrections agencies are required to “attempt to” establish an MOU with local rape crisis centers

Keep People Safe

- Create good policies and procedures
- Designate a PREA Coordinator¹
- Ensure adequate staffing and supervision²
- Limit cross-gender viewing and searches³

(1) PREA Standard §115.11 (Zero tolerance of sexual abuse and sexual harassment; PREA Coordinator)

(2) PREA Standard §115.13 (Supervision and monitoring)

(3) PREA Standard §115.15 (Limits to cross-gender viewing and searches)



Photo credit: CDCR

Protect Survivors From Abusers

- Conduct staff training¹
- Provide education to the incarcerated population²
- Review screening and classification processes³
- Protect those who report sexual abuse from retaliation⁴

(1) PREA Standard §115.31 (Employee training)
(2) PREA Standard §115.33 (Inmate education)
(3) PREA Standards §§115.41 (Screening for risk of victimization and abusiveness)
(4) PREA Standard §115.67 (Agency protection against retaliation)



Photo credit: New York Times

Provide Access to Medical and Mental Health Care¹

- For emergencies
- For ongoing care
- Provided at no cost to the survivor



Photo credit: CDCR

(1) PREA Standards §115.81 (Medical and mental health screenings; history of sexual abuse) §115.82 (Access to emergency medical and mental health services), and §115.83 (Ongoing medical and mental health care for sexual abuse victims and abusers)

Provide Access to Victim Services

- Forensic exam and accompaniment¹
- Accompaniment at investigatory interviews²
- Confidential follow-up services³
- Confidential emotional support via phone or letter⁴
- Equal opportunity and meaningful access to services

(1) PREA Standard §115.21 (Evidence protocol and forensic medical examinations)

(2) Ibid.

(3) PREA Standard §115.53 (Inmate access to outside confidential support services)

(4) Ibid.



Photo credit: grasswire.com

Increase Accountability

- All reports taken seriously and investigated¹
- Perpetrators held accountable²
- All incidents reviewed³



Photo credit: Richard Ross, Juvenile-in-Justice

(1) PREA Standards §115.61 (Staff and agency reporting duties), §115.71 (Criminal and administrative agency investigations), §115.72 (Evidentiary standard for administrative investigations), and §115.73 (Reporting to inmates)

(2) PREA Standards §115.76 (Disciplinary sanctions for staff), §115.77 (Correction action for contractors and volunteers), and §115.78 (Disciplinary sanctions for inmates)

(3) PREA Standard §115.86 (Sexual abuse incident reviews)

Reporting and Investigations in Detention

Agencies must provide multiple, internal ways for incarcerated people to privately report:

- Sexual abuse and sexual harassment
- Retaliation by other inmates or by staff for reporting sexual abuse and sexual harassment
- Staff neglect or violation of responsibilities that may have contributed to the sexual abuse and sexual harassment
- Agencies must also have at least one external option

The Differences Explained

External (Outside) Reporting 115.51

- Purpose: Official reporting option not part of corrections agency
- Who: Staff and incarcerated individuals
- Advocate involvement? NO

Third-Party Reporting 115.54

- Purpose: Report sexual abuse or sexual harassment on someone's behalf
- Who: Family, friends, others
- Advocate involvement? NO

Confidential Support Services 115.53

- Purpose: Services to any survivors, no matter where or when abuse occurred
- Who: Incarcerated individuals
- Advocate involvement? YES



Photo Credit: www.theatlantic.com

The corrections agency must establish:

- A method to receive third-party reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment
- Make third-party reporting information publicly available

Anyone can report abuse on behalf of an incarcerated person at adult facilities via:

- PREA Investigative Unit hotline: **(770) 743-7783**
- PREA Director's Office, in writing or by phone:

Dave McNeil
945 Highland Ave.
Cheshire, CT 06410

(203) 250-8136

Investigations

After an initial report is made, an investigation will be initiated

- If the sexual abuse was within 120 hours, a forensic exam may be done to gather evidence
- Specially trained investigators will gather any additional evidence
- Investigators will interview alleged victims, suspected perpetrators, and witnesses

Substantiated

- Report that was investigated and determined to have occurred

Unfounded

- Report that was investigated and determined to not have occurred

Unsubstantiated

- Report that was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred

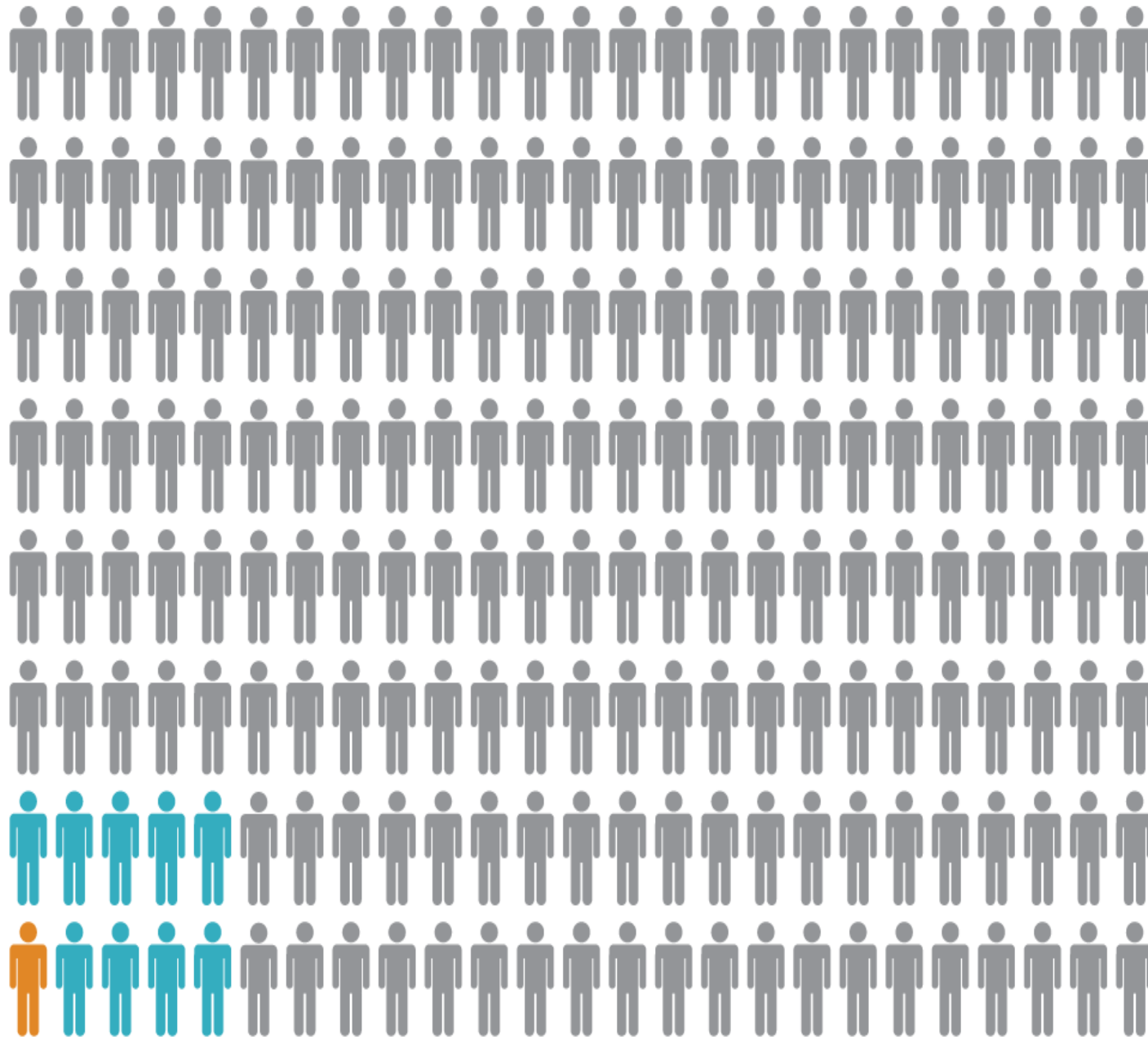
Following an Investigation

- If the abuse was perpetrated by a **staff member**, and was determined to be substantiated or unsubstantiated a survivor should also be notified when:
 - The staff member is no longer posted within their unit or is no longer employed at the facility
- If the abuse was perpetrated by **another incarcerated individual**, and was determined to be substantiated or unsubstantiated a survivor should also be notified when:
 - The agency learns that the alleged abuser has been indicted or convicted of a charge related to sexual abuse within the facility

200,000
PEOPLE
WERE
SEXUALLY
ABUSED IN
DETENTION
IN 2011

8,763 REPORTS
WERE FILED

902 REPORTS WERE
SUBSTANTIATED*



What's Next?

Join us for Providing Services to Incarcerated Survivors, the second webinar in this series on January 19th!

We will be discussing best practices for advocates who are working with incarcerated survivors:

- On the hotline
- Via letters
- At forensic exams
- And more!



Questions & Answers

Additional Resources

- PREA prison and jail standards for adults and youth facilities:
<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/implementation/prea-standards/prisons-and-jail-standards>
<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/implementation/prea-standards/juvenile-facility-standards>
- PREA Standards in Focus:
<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/StandardsinFocus>
- JDI Advocate resources: <https://justdetention.org/resources/service-providers-resources/service-provider-resources/>
- JDI Resource Guide for Survivors of Sexual Abuse Behind Bars:
<https://justdetention.org/service/>

Additional Resources

- OVW Webinar Series – Vulnerable and Underserved: <https://justdetention.org/webinar/#archived>
- Fact Sheets for Service Providers: <https://justdetention.org/resource/publication/>
- Justice for Victims Behind Bars: <http://bit.ly/1KPyui3>
- Recommendations for Administrators of Prisons, Jails, and Community Confinement Facilities for Adapting the U.S. Department of Justice’s A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations, Adults/Adolescents: <http://1.usa.gov/1LSIID5>

Additional Resources

- JDI PREA Resources (*No One Left Behind*)
<https://justdetention.org/resources/prea-resources/>
- FAQ: Are rape crisis centers or other victim service providers appropriate entities to serve as external reporting entities, pursuant to PREA Standard 51(b)?
<https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/frequently-asked-questions/are-rape-crisis-centers-or-other-victim-service-providers-appropriate>

PRC Library

The screenshot displays the National PREA Resource Center Library interface. At the top, the logo and navigation menu (About, Implementation, Library, Audit, DOJ FAQ) are visible. The main content area is titled "Resource library" and shows 423 results, sorted by Date. A left-hand filter sidebar includes sections for Facility, Standards, Term, Type, Toolset, and Keyword, each with search and selection options. The resource grid contains six cards, each with a title, icon, category, standards, facility, and terms.

Category	Title	Standards	Facility	Terms
TOOL: AUDIT	Documentation Requirements - Juvenile PREA Standards	All	Juvenile Facility	Audit, Audit Instrument (+1)
TOOL: AUDIT	Documentation Requirements - Prisons and Jail PREA Standards	All	Prisons and jails	Compliance, Audit (+1)
FEATURED RESOURCE WEBINAR	Power Hour: Chat with a PREA Expert on Standard 115.32	115.32	Community Confinement, Juvenile Facility (+2)	Volunteers, Contractors (+2)
WEBINAR	PRC Website Revision: Overview and Q&A	None		
FEATURED RESOURCE WEBINAR	Developing a PREA-Compliant Language Access Plan for Incarcerated...	115.16, 115.21, 115.51, 115.55		Accessibility, Limited English proficient
TOOL: AUDIT	Audit Report Template - Juvenile Facilities	115.403	Juvenile Facility	Audit, Audit Instrument (+2)

Request Assistance

Jurisdictions can request assistance by completing a web form on the PRC website under the “Implementation” tab and clicking “Request for assistance” under “Training”.

The screenshot shows the National PREA Resource Center website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with the following items: "About", "Implementation" (which is underlined and highlighted), "Library", "Audit", and "DOJ FAQ". The "Implementation" tab is selected, and the page title is "Implementation". Below the title, there is a breadcrumb trail: "Implementation | Training | Request for assistance".

On the left side, there is a sidebar menu with the following items: "PREA Standards", "PREA toolsets", "PREA in action", "Training", "PREA Academy", "Field training audit", "Webinars", "Upcoming events", and "Request for assistance". The "Request for assistance" item is highlighted with a blue box.

The main content area is titled "Request for assistance" and contains the following text:

Please fill out the form below in order to request PREA-related training and/or technical assistance for your jurisdiction or agency. The more detail provided in your request will improve the PREA Resource Center's (PRC) ability to meet your needs. For jurisdictions less familiar with PREA, the PRC would encourage you to browse the resources on the [Where to begin page](#). If your jurisdiction has general questions or comments for the PRC you can communicate those through the [Contact us form](#).

To submit information on complaints or concerns about the conduct of a DOJ-certified PREA auditor, please refer to the [Auditor feedback form](#).

The PRC collects the information below in order to efficiently route and respond to inquiries. While all fields are not required, please fill out as much information as possible so that we may better assist you.

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For more information about the National PREA Resource Center, visit www.prearesourcecenter.org.

To ask a question, please visit our [Contact us](#) page

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