

PART II. A Look at the United States Prison Population

According to the 2010 Census Bureau:

Race (cube)	Percent of Total US Population (Bag 1)	Percent of US Prison Population (Bag 2)
white (Blue)	61.3	39.0
Black/African American (Green)	13.3	40.0
Hispanic/Latinx (Orange)	17.8	19.0
Asian (Red)	5.7	1.2
Other	1.9	0.8

Record any noticings/wonderings about the data:

7. In 2016, there were approximately 323,100,000 total people in the United States, and 2,298,000 of them were in prison. Use the percentages in the table above to complete the two-way table.

Race	Incarcerated (in prison)	Not Incarcerated	Total
white			
Black/African American			
Hispanic/Latinx			
Asian			
Other			
Total	2,298,000		323,100,000

8. For each race, determine what percent of their total population was incarcerated in 2016.

Race	Percent of Population Incarcerated
white	
Black/African American	
Hispanic/Latinx	
Asian	
Other	

9. What form of data visualization might be most appropriate to represent the US prison population based on race?

PART III. Discussion

10. Since the white and Black populations each make up about 40 percent of our prisons' population, many people think that both groups are incarcerated at the same rate. Do you agree with this? Why or why not? Use data in your reasoning.
11. Does a proportional relationship exist between the representation of racial groups as they make up the total population of the United States and that of our prison population? What evidence helped you arrive at this conclusion?
12. What does it mean for there to be a disproportionate representation of Black/African Americans in prisons?