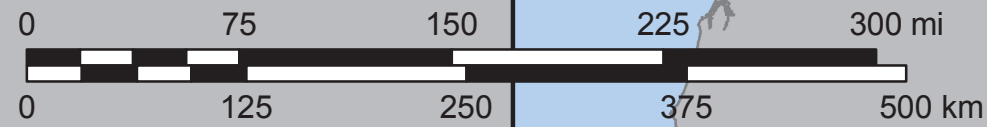
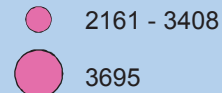


Distanced Incarceration



On December 31, 2010, California had 146,701 inmates in its state prisons. 33 facilities warehouse people convicted of crimes from across the state. This means that California prisoners can be taken far away from their communities, removing vital support systems during their sentences. Female prisons are much more limited in number, funneling women from across the state into the towns of Chowchilla and Corona. In 2010 there were three female prisons in California, but in 2012 Valley State Prison was converted to a male prison. Get on the Bus is a program that helps children from urban areas visit their parents in distant prisons, but runs only once a year.

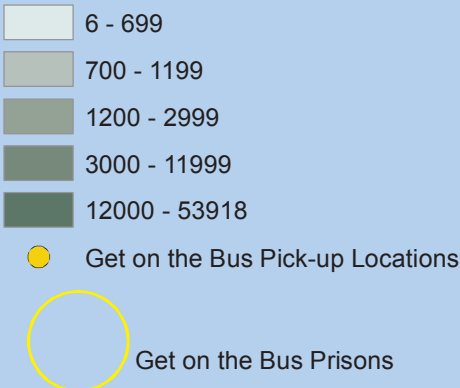
Women's Prisons Population, Dec. 2010



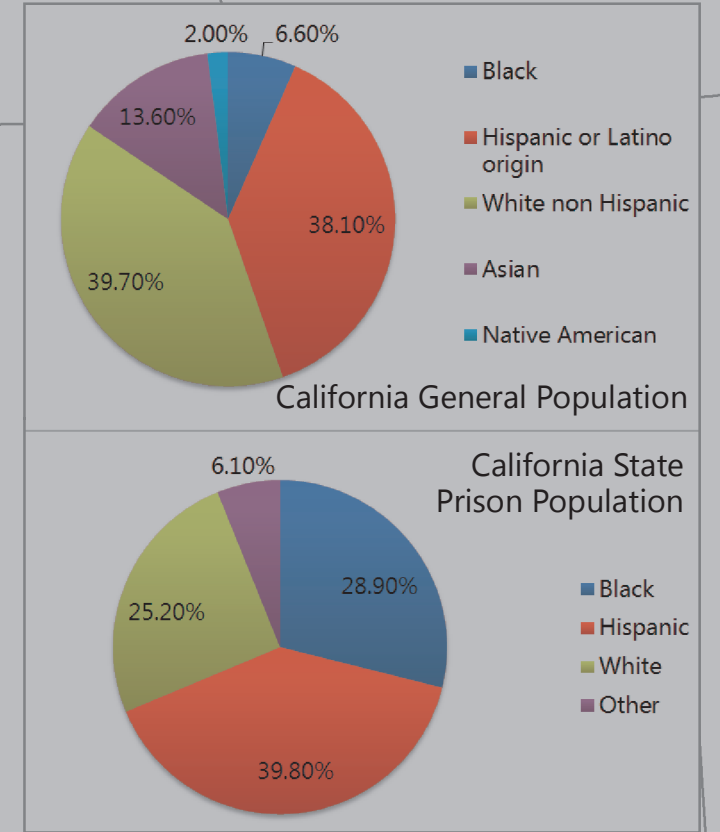
California State Prisons Population, Dec. 2010



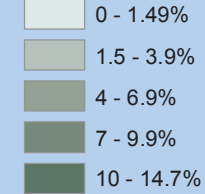
California Counties Inmates Committed, 2010



The Racialization of Crime



California Counties Percent Black, 2010



California State Prisons Population, Dec. 2010



"Rather than rely on race, we use our criminal justice system to label people of color 'criminals' and then engage in all the practices we supposedly left behind."
--Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow*

People of color are incarcerated at far higher rates than white people in the United States. The percentage of black people in California state prisons is more than 4 times the percentage of black people throughout the state. People of all ethnic backgrounds commit crimes, but people of color are disproportionately targeted by the criminal justice system. For example, black people represent 12% of American drug users, 38% of drug related arrests and 59% of state prisoners incarcerated for drug related offenses (NAACP).

Data on the racial breakdown of specific prisons and inmates committed by county is unavailable. This map shows the percentage of black people by county, and it shows significant similarities to the number of inmates committed by county.