

**State Reports**  
  
**Kentucky**

**IMPRISONMENT GROWTH AT A GLANCE**

Imprisonment Rate 1977: 106 (23rd)	Female Imprisonment Rate 1977: 8 (25th)
Imprisonment Rate 2004: 412 (21st)	Female Imprisonment Rate 2004: 69 (17th)
Total Female Sentenced Prisoners 1977: 138	
Total Female Sentenced Prisoners 2004: 1,447	
Percent Increase 1977-2004: 949%	
Average Annual Percent Increase 1977-2004: 10%	
Percent Increase 1999-2004: 32%	

**IMPRISONMENT IN KENTUCKY**

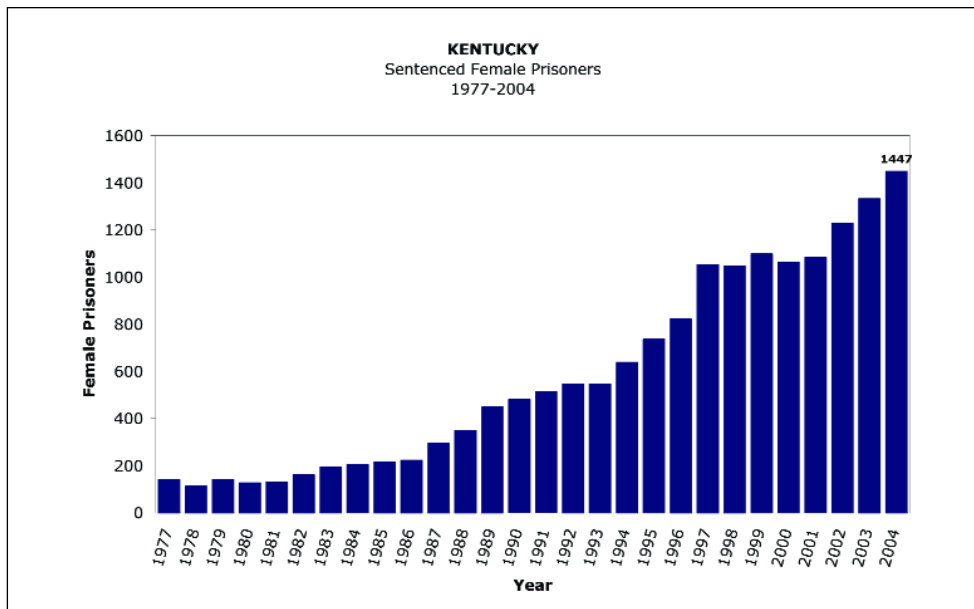
At year-end 2004, Kentucky prisons housed 17,140 inmates serving sentences of more than one year. Of these inmates, 15,693 were male and 1,447 were female. With a female imprisonment rate of 69 female prisoners per 100,000 female residents, Kentucky ranked 17th in 2004. With an overall imprisonment rate of 412 prisoners per 100,000 residents, Kentucky ranked 21st relative to other states in 2004.

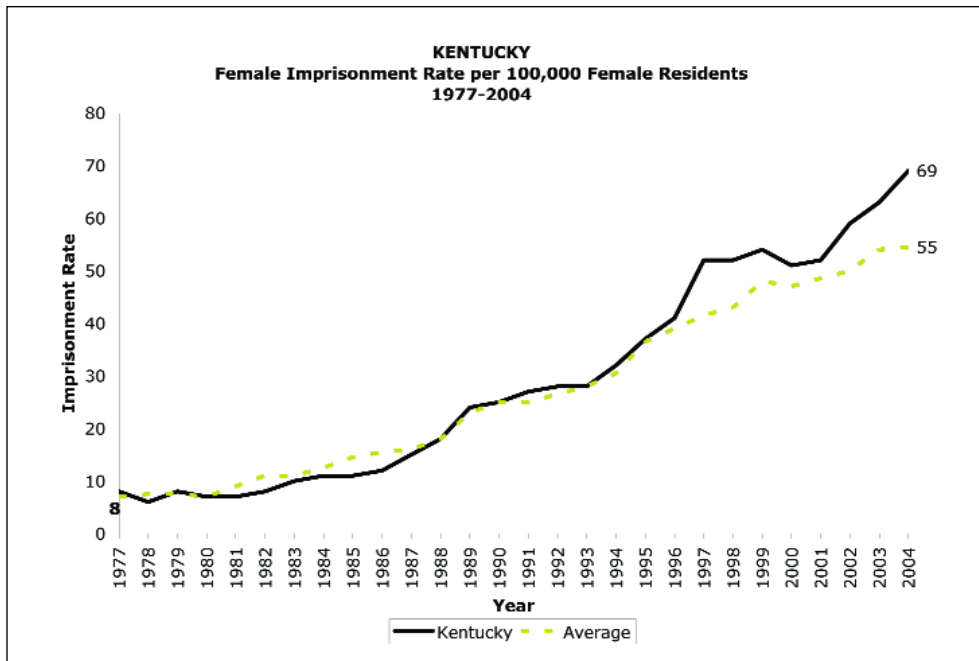
In 1977, Kentucky prisons housed 138 female inmates; by 2004, the female prison population had reached 1447. Kentucky's female prison population was at its lowest with 111 female prisoners in 1978 and peaked at 1,447 female inmates in 2004.

**GROWTH IN FEMALE IMPRISONMENT RATE**

Between 1977 and 2004, Kentucky's female prison population grew by 949% with an average annual percent change of 9.8% per year.

For most of the period between 1977 and 2004, Kentucky's female imprisonment rate hovered at or below average. In the late 1990s, Kentucky's female imprisonment rate jumped quite suddenly and then fell just as quickly before resuming a more stable upward trend. In 2004, Kentucky's female imprisonment rate of 69 female inmates per 100,000 female residents was above the average across states.





**MALE TO FEMALE IMPRISONMENT RATIO**

The male to female imprisonment ratio indicates the number of male inmates for every female inmate. Although both female and male imprisonment rates have increased over the period of study, a shrinking ratio suggests that the number of female prisoners has increased at a faster pace. In 1977, across the states, there were an average of 26 male prisoners for every female prisoner; by 2004, this ratio had fallen to 13 male prisoners for every female prisoner. Kentucky’s 1977 ratio was slightly lower than average with 25 male prisoners for every female prisoner. In 2004, Kentucky’s male to female imprisonment ratio (11:1) remained lower than the average across states.

**CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES**

According to the 2000 Census of State and Federal Correctional Facilities, Kentucky has 25 correctional facilities. Of Kentucky’s 25 correctional facilities, 18 house male prisoners only, three house female prisoners only, and four house both male and female prisoners.