

State Reports

Vermont

IMPRISONMENT GROWTH AT A GLANCE

Imprisonment Rate 1977: 57 (43rd)	Female Imprisonment Rate 1977: 4 (43rd)
Imprisonment Rate 2004: 233 (43rd)	Female Imprisonment Rate 2004: 25 (45th)
Total Female Sentenced Prisoners 1977:	9
Total Female Sentenced Prisoners 2004:	80
Percent Increase 1977-2004:	789%
Average Annual Percent Increase 1977-2004:	17%
Percent Increase 1999-2004:	95%

IMPRISONMENT IN VERMONT

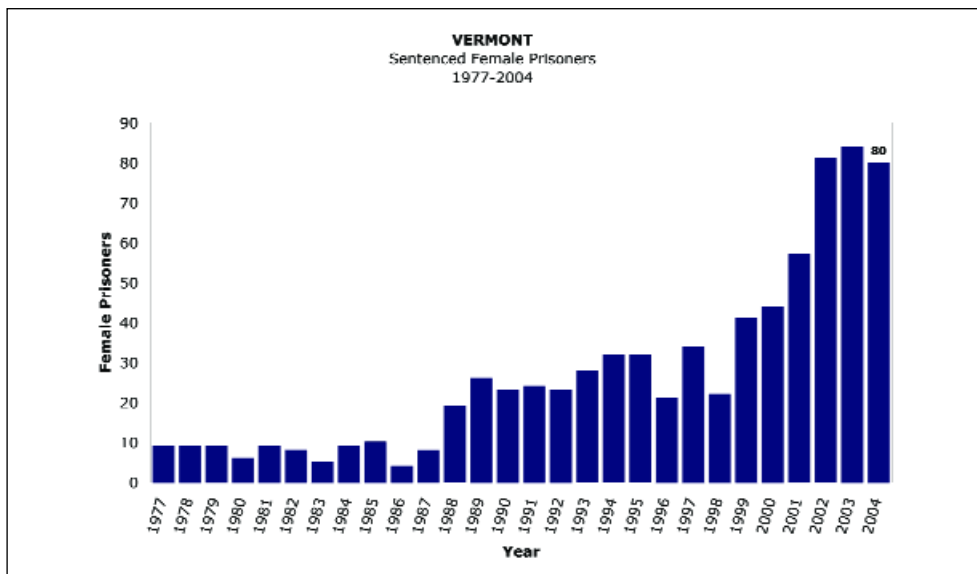
At year-end 2004, Vermont prisons housed 1,451 inmates serving sentences of more than one year. Of these inmates, 1,371 were male and 80 were female. Vermont is among the ten least punitive states both in overall imprisonment and female imprisonment. Vermont ranked 45th in its 2004 female imprisonment rate with 25 female prisoners per 100,000 female residents, and 43rd in its 2004 overall imprisonment rate with 233 prisoners per 100,000 residents.

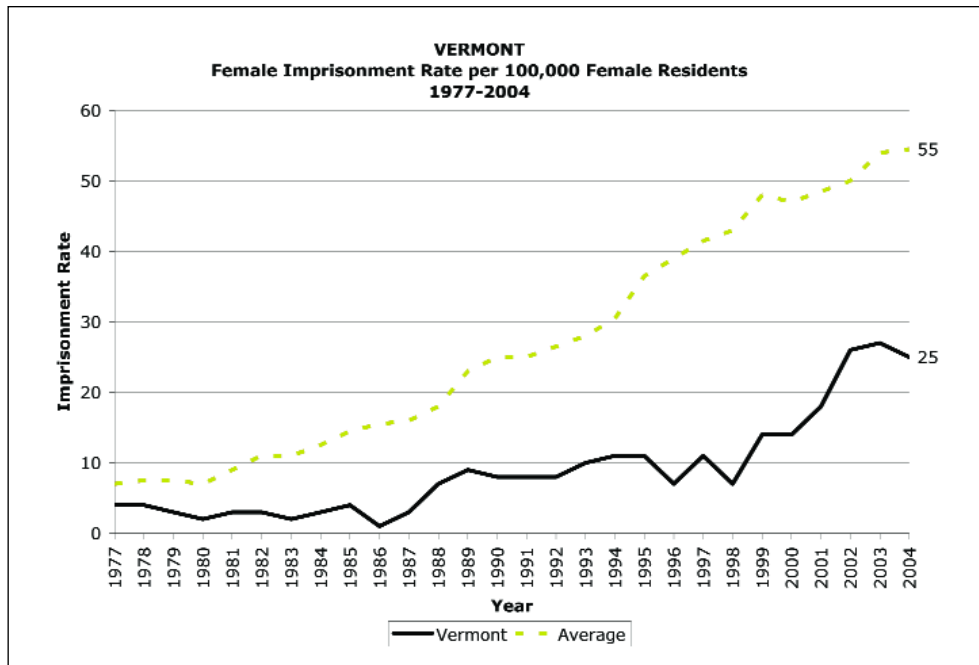
In 1977, Vermont prisons housed nine female inmates; by 2004, the female prison population had reached 80. Vermont's female prison population was at its lowest with four female prisoners in 1986 and peaked at 84 female inmates in 2003.

GROWTH IN FEMALE IMPRISONMENT RATE

Between 1977 and 2004, Vermont's female prison population grew by 789% with an average annual percent change of 16.8% per year.

Throughout the period from 1977 to 2004, Vermont's female imprisonment rate was substantially lower than the average female imprisonment rate across the states. With a female imprisonment rate of 25 female prisoners per 100,000 female residents, Vermont is among the 10 least punitive states in its imprisonment of female offenders in 2004 (ranked 45th).





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. Vermont’s 1977 ratio was substantially higher than average with 41 male prisoners for every female prisoner. In 2004, Vermont’s male to female imprisonment ratio (17:1) remained somewhat higher – though less dramatically so – than the average across states.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

According to the 2000 Census of State and Federal Correctional Facilities, Vermont has nine correctional facilities. Of Vermont’s nine correctional facilities, seven house male prisoners only, one houses female prisoners only, and one houses both male and female prisoners.