Minority populations in the United States are incarcerated at rates much higher than their white counterparts. In 2009, the incarceration rate (number per 100,000 population) among African-American males was almost 7 times higher than that among white males (4,749 African-American v. 708 white), and the rate among Hispanic males was more than 2.5 times higher (1,822 Hispanic) than that among white males. The rate among African-American females was more than 3.5 times the rate of white females (333 African-American v. 91 white), and the rate for Hispanic females was 1.5 times higher (142 Hispanic) than that among white females. Racial and ethnic disparities in incarceration rates have been significantly influenced by state and federal sentencing and drug policies.

**Number Incarcerated in the U.S. per 100,000 Population, by Race/Ethnicity and Sex, 2009**

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>4,749</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>1,822</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

**Sources:**

**Notes:**
1. Incarceration in federal and state prisons and local jails.
2. Bureau of Justice Statistics methodology excludes all individuals identified as “Hispanic” from being counted also in racial categories (i.e., “Black” and “White”). As a result, individuals are counted only in one category.

Prepared by the Center for Health and Justice (CHJ) at TASC. CHJ works to build, enhance, and sustain strong and vibrant communities by promoting policies and practices that stop the cycle of drugs and crime. We conduct research and evaluations, and offer policy analysis, trainings, and technical assistance in the fields of health and justice. For more information, visit us online at www.centerforhealthandjustice.org.

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