



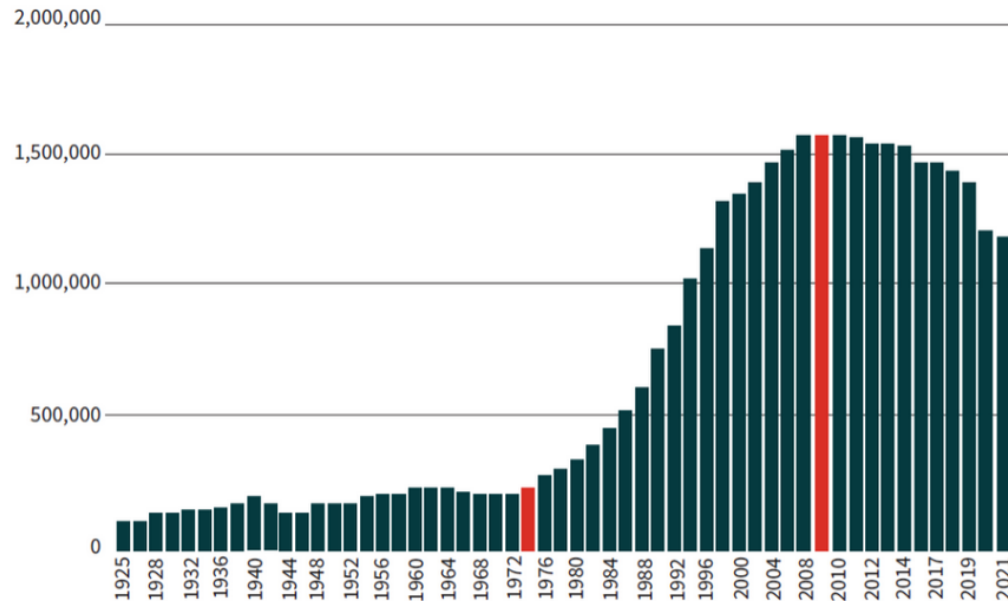
# Improving Library Services to the Incarcerated

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San Francisco Public Library



# Introduction/background on incarceration

**Figure 1. U.S. State and Federal Prison Population, 1925-2021**



<https://www.sentencingproject.org/reports/mass-incarceration-trends/>

# Introduction/background on incarceration



<https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie2023.html>

# Incarceration disproportionately impacts people of color and families who are low-income

Black adults are

***50% more likely***

than white adults to have had an immediate family member incarcerated (63 percent compared to 42 percent)

Latino adults are

***70% more likely***

than white adults to have had an immediate family member incarcerated for longer than one year (17 percent compared to 10 percent)

Black adults are

***3 times more likely***

than white adults to have had an immediate family member incarcerated for longer than one year (31 percent compared to 10 percent)

Adults with household incomes less than \$25,000 per year are

***61% more likely***

than adults with household incomes more than \$100,000 to have had a family member incarcerated, and three times more likely to have had a family member incarcerated for one year or longer

<https://everysecond.fwd.us/downloads/everysecond.fwd.us.pdf>

# SFPL Services to Incarcerated People

Weekly library service at two county jails;  
every three weeks at JJC

Reference by Mail

Reentry and outreach (including new family  
visiting room!)

Hoopla access

*Expanding Information Access to Incarcerated  
People* Mellon-funded grant project



County Jails  
& Juvenile  
Hall Library  
Service

# Reference by Mail



# Reentry Resources & Outreach



## SFPL Reentry Resources for People Who Recently Experienced Incarceration

Main Library  
800 Larkin Street (at Grove Street)  
415) 557-4400  
sfpd.org

Call your neighborhood library for info about similar programs at your branch. See the back of this brochure for branch information.

Get a free library card at any location to use our public computers.

All library programs are free.

### On the 4th floor

Call 415) 557-4400 and ask for the Business Desk for more information or to schedule an appointment.

#### Smart Money Coaching

One-on-one virtual sessions with a financial coach

- make a budget
- plan for your future
- address identity theft

By appointment only. Call or go to [sfpd.org/jail-reentry/financial-coach](http://sfpd.org/jail-reentry/financial-coach) to schedule an appointment. Provided by BALANCE (formerly CCCSI), a non-profit writer and a member of the National Association for Credit Counseling.

#### Career Coaching

Half-hour sessions with a career coach, resume review, help with your job search, and more.

By appointment only. Wednesdays 2:00-5:00 PM. Call or go to [reentrycenter.yourbook.me](http://reentrycenter.yourbook.me) to schedule an appointment.

#### Job-Search Programs

- resume writing
- networking
- interviewing
- more!

Call or go to [sfpd.org/events](http://sfpd.org/events) and select "Work it" in the "Sign-up" drop-down menu.

To find nearby-friendly job information, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera or go to [sfpd.org/jobresources](http://sfpd.org/jobresources) and select "Resources for Groups" and click on "Reentry."

Any librarian can help you sign-up for virtual events.

#### Small Business Center

- Learn about entrepreneurship and how to start your own small business.
- Get connected to free advising and free entrepreneurship classes from our partner organizations.

Call or email [business@sfpd.org](mailto:business@sfpd.org). Subscribe to its monthly newsletter listing free events and programs. [bit.ly/sfpdbusinesscenter](http://bit.ly/sfpdbusinesscenter)

### In The Bridge at Main

The Bridge at Main is on the 3th floor of the Main Library. It is closed on Sundays. Call 415) 557-4400 for more information on any of these programs or to schedule an appointment.

#### Computer Drop-In

Learn how to:

- get an email address
- use the internet
- type and use a mouse
- use your phone or other device
- get started with Word, Excel, and other Office programs.

Tuesdays, 2:00-2:30 PM

#### Veterans Resources

Resources on veterans' benefits and local services. Call for a one-on-one appointment.

#### Read Better!

- English-speaking adults get FREE one-on-one tutoring to improve reading and writing skills.
- ESL tutoring for English-language learners.

### Online learning

We have everything!

- coding
- language learning
- online high school
- more!

Call, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera, or go to [sfpd.org/research-team](http://sfpd.org/research-team), [sfpd.org/learning](http://sfpd.org/learning) for more information about our online learning resources.

### Fun for kids

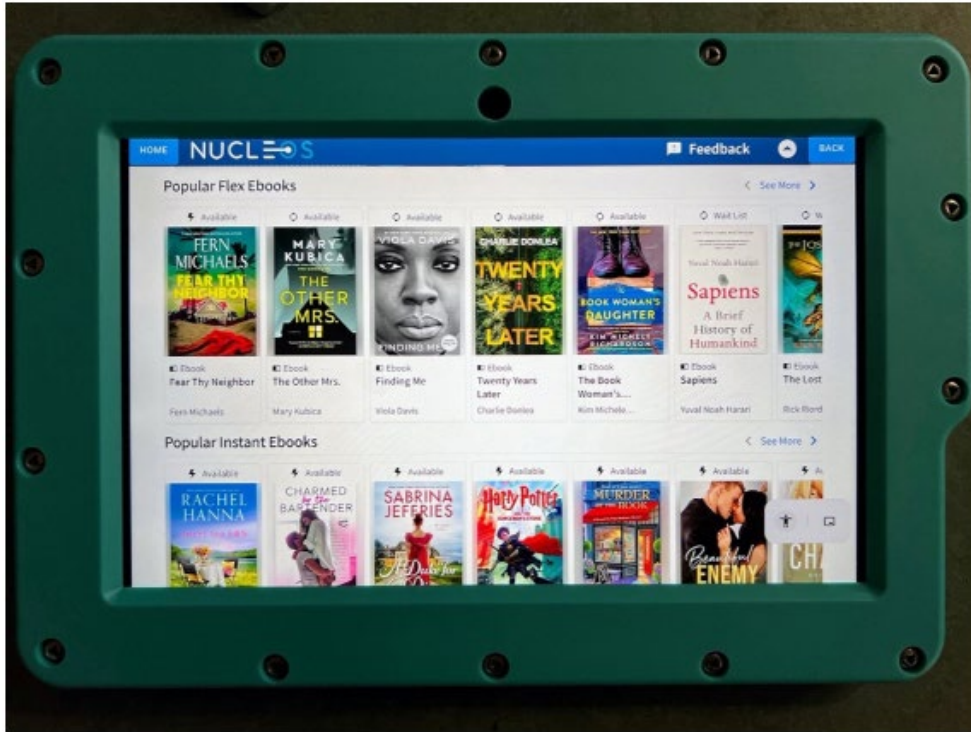
Bring your kids to the library! Ask at your neighborhood branch about children's storytimes and special events.

Looking for more reentry support? Ask for the social worker at the Main Library.



<b>Anza</b> 415) 557-5717	<b>Clare Park</b> 415) 557-2938	<b>New Valley / Sally Brown</b> 415) 557-5707	<b>Peralta</b> 415) 557-2883
<b>Bayshore / Linda Brooks- Butler</b> 415) 557-5757	<b>Golden Gate Valley</b> 415) 557-5666	<b>North Beach Marky</b> 415) 557-5636	<b>Richmond / San Milton Marky</b> 415) 557-5600
<b>Beaumont Heights</b> 415) 557-2880	<b>Ingleside</b> 415) 557-2936	<b>Ocean View</b> 415) 557-5605	<b>Sunset</b> 415) 557-2898
<b>Chinatown / Miss York La</b> 415) 557-3888	<b>Main Library</b> 415) 557-4400	<b>Orange</b> 415) 557-5700	<b>Visitacion Valley</b> 415) 557-2848
<b>Excelsior</b> 415) 557-2864	<b>Marina</b> 415) 557-2823	<b>Park</b> 415) 557-5636	<b>West Portal</b> 415) 557-2886
	<b>Forest Hill / Herman Milk Memorial</b> 415) 557-5636	<b>Parkside</b> 415) 557-5776	<b>Western Addicks</b> 415) 557-5727
	<b>Midtown</b> 415) 557-2800	<b>Potrero</b> 415) 557-5668	
	<b>Mission Bay</b> 415) 557-2838		





*Available on the Tablet: E-books and audiobooks provided by the Public Library*

## People Over Profits: A Truly Free, No Cost Tablet Program for Incarcerated People in San Francisco

[https://sfgov.org/financialjustice/files/2023-05/FINAL%20People%20Over%20Profits\\_SF%20Free%20Tablet%20Program\\_May%2023.pdf](https://sfgov.org/financialjustice/files/2023-05/FINAL%20People%20Over%20Profits_SF%20Free%20Tablet%20Program_May%2023.pdf)

# Expanding Information Access for People who are Incarcerated





New Standards for Library Services for the Incarcerated and Detained



Interactive digital map of library services for incarcerated people



Publicly available professional development video series



White paper on digital literacy

## PROJECT OUTCOMES

## Advisory Committee

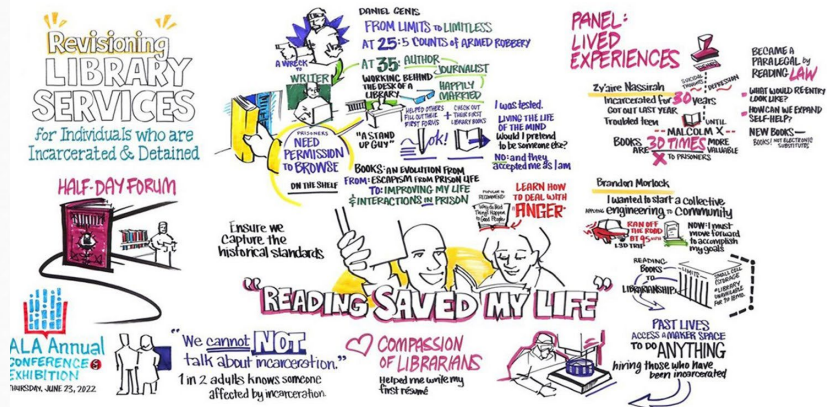
Jail and Reentry Services staff are especially grateful for our advisory committee, which helps to guide our grant-related work. This committee consists of individuals who have been incarcerated or have incarcerated and previously incarcerated loved ones, groups that consist of currently and formerly incarcerated members, and experts on the types of information that people who are incarcerated most need and desire. The Advisory Committee members are:

- Michelle Dillon, representing [Books to Prisoners](#)
- Carmen Garcia, representing [Root & Rebound](#)
- Lee Gibson, representing [Initiate Justice](#)
- [Rebecca Hernandez](#), PhD, Community Archivist, UC Santa Cruz University Library
- Wendy Jason, [Justice Arts Coalition](#)
- Jodi Lincoln, representing [Pittsburgh Prison Book Project](#)
- Zy'aire Nassirah, representing [TGJP](#)
- Marilyn Perez, representing [Young Women's Freedom Center](#)



Expanding Information Access for Incarcerated People

## Beginning Library Services for Incarcerated People



# Expanding Information Access for People who are Incarcerated



Bureau of Justice Statistics



**ArcGIS**



*San Francisco  
Public Library*





General

Books to Prisoners Programs

## Welcome to the Demo EIAIP WebApp!



[DEMO PRODUCT] This is a demo app created by the SFPL JARS Team as part of its Mellon grant-funded project, Expanding Information Access for Incarcerated People. Click on a tab to view map visuals on data the team has collected so far. When a tab is highlighted, click on the "i" icon to view further details on how to use/navigate the tab. In alignment with the SFPL JARS Team's core values, this app prioritizes the use of people-first language when referring to people who are incarcerated, but there may still be some elements that copy the language used in their corresponding data source.

We'd love to hear any feedback you have on the map. It can be related to anything from user experience to suggestions for additional content to include. Use [this form](#) to let us know what you think!

-SFPL JARS Team

Continue

Books to Prisoners Program Sites

External Library Partners

Incarceration Rates by State, 2020

% Change in Total Incarcerated People (per 1,000 Residents) 2019-2020



Total Incarcerated People per 1,000 Residents, 2020

Books to Prisoners Program Sites

External Library Partners

Incarceration Rates by State, 2020

Total People Incarcerated by State, 2020

% of Individuals under DOJ Jurisdiction Held in Custody by State, 2020

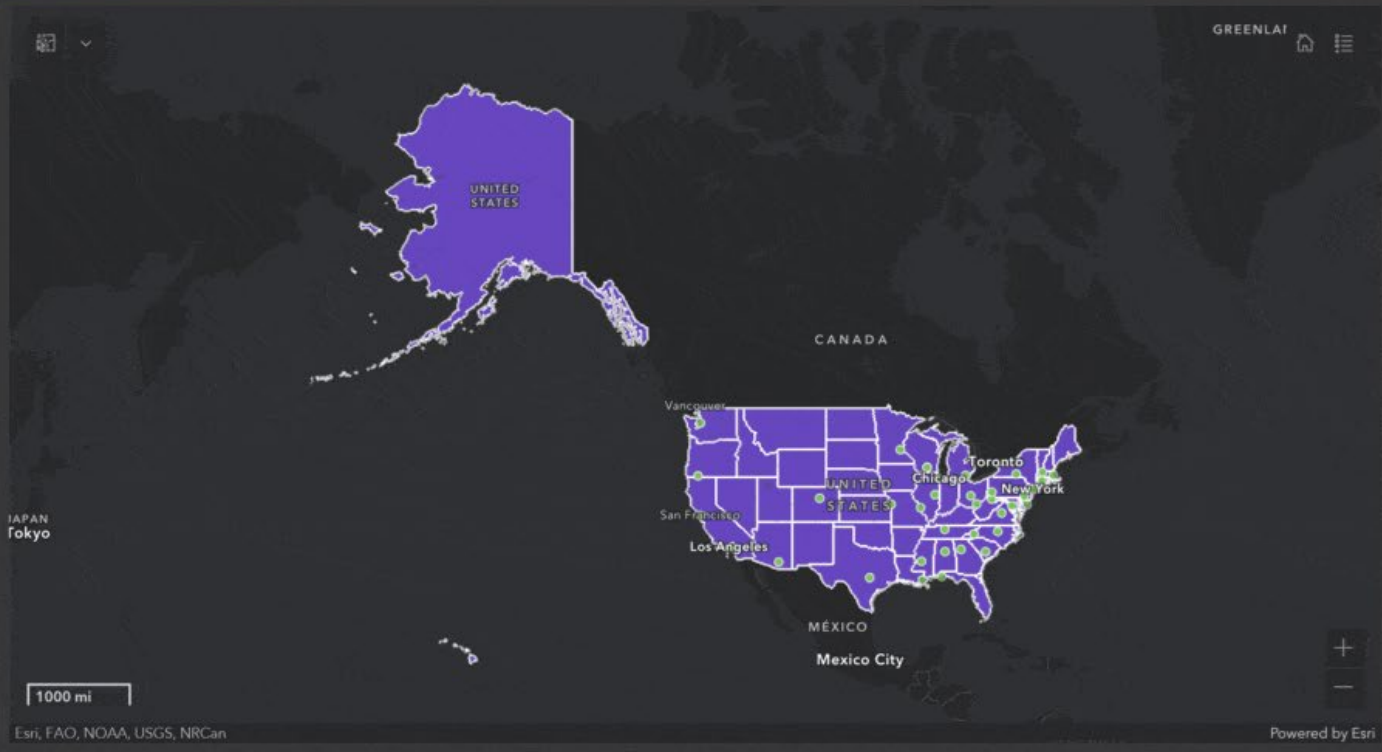
Correctional Spending by State, 2017



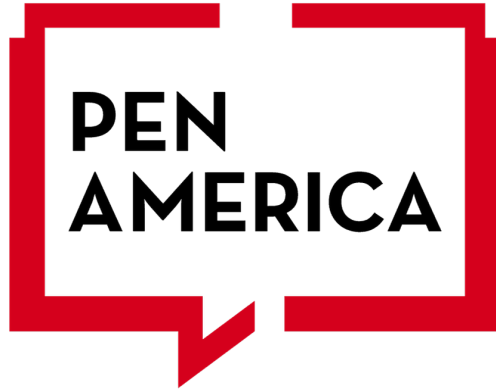
General

Books to Prisoners Programs ⓘ

- Alabama Books to Prisons
- Appalachian Prison Book Project
- Asheville Prison Books Program
- Athens Books to Prisoners
- Big House Books
- Books Behind Bars (NJ)
- Books Behind Bars (VA)
- Books Beyond Bars
- Books Through Bars
- Books to Prisoners Seattle
- Connecticut Prison Book Connection
- DC Books to Prisons Project
- Great Falls Books Through Bars
- Inside Books
- Ithaca College Books Thru Bars
- LGBT Books to Prisoners
- Liberation Library
- Liberation Lit
- Louisiana Books 2 Prisoners
- Missouri Prison Books Program
- NYC Books Through Bars
- Open Books Prison Book Project



# Next Steps: future research goals and partnerships



## **Revisioning** Standards for Library Services for the **Incarcerated and Detained**

An expanded, forward-looking new edition  
of the American Library Association's  
1992 *Library Standards for Adult  
Correctional Institutions*



# Next Steps: future research goals and partnerships

- Future plans for map
  - Carceral Library Staffing Levels
  - Carceral Library Budgets
- Building collaborations
  - Ithaka S+R collaboration ([flat maps visualizing findings from media review policies](#))
  - PEN America collaboration (Creative writing programs inside)
  - Freedom Reads Collaboration (Locations)
- White paper drafting
- ALA publishing *Standards* next year
- Digital literacy development





# Contact us

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