



PHILADELPHIA
LAWYERS *for*
SOCIAL EQUITY

A PATHWAY TO PRESUMPTIVE COMMUTATION: **PROBATION AND PAROLE**

PLSE Program Committee Meeting
August 17, 2021

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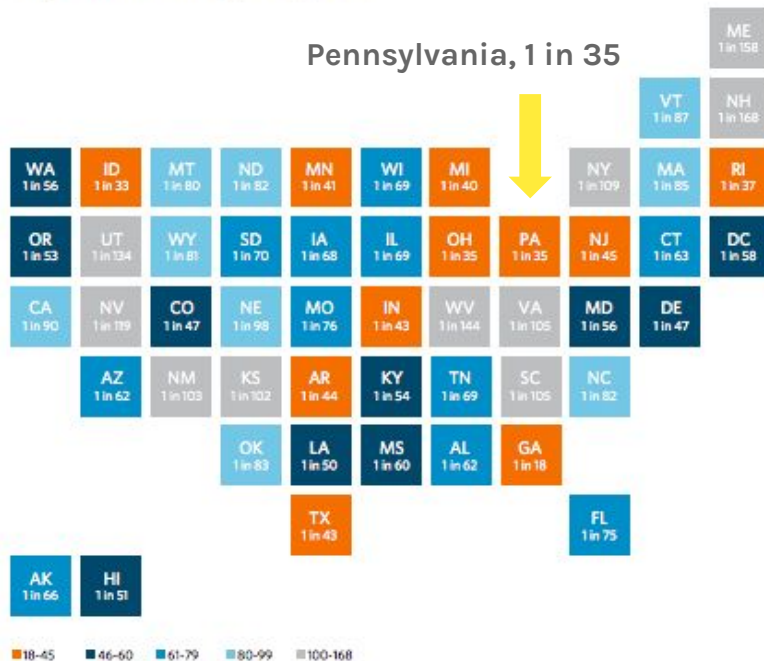
In 2016, Pennsylvania had the **third-highest per capita rate** of people under supervision in the country. In Philadelphia alone that year, roughly **1 out of every 35 people** was under supervision of some kind.”

-- Auditor General **Eugene DePasquale**, “Criminal Justice Reforms to Improve Lives and Save Money”, June 2020

STATE PROBATION AND PAROLE RATES

1 in 55 U.S. Adults Is on Probation or Parole, Though Geographic Variation Is Significant

Supervision rates by state, 2016



Source: Pew and Laura and John Arnold Foundation analysis of data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, Annual Probation Survey, and Annual Parole Survey, 2016; U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Estimates of the Total Resident Population and Resident Population Age 18 Years and Older for the United States, States, and Puerto Rico: July 1, 2016

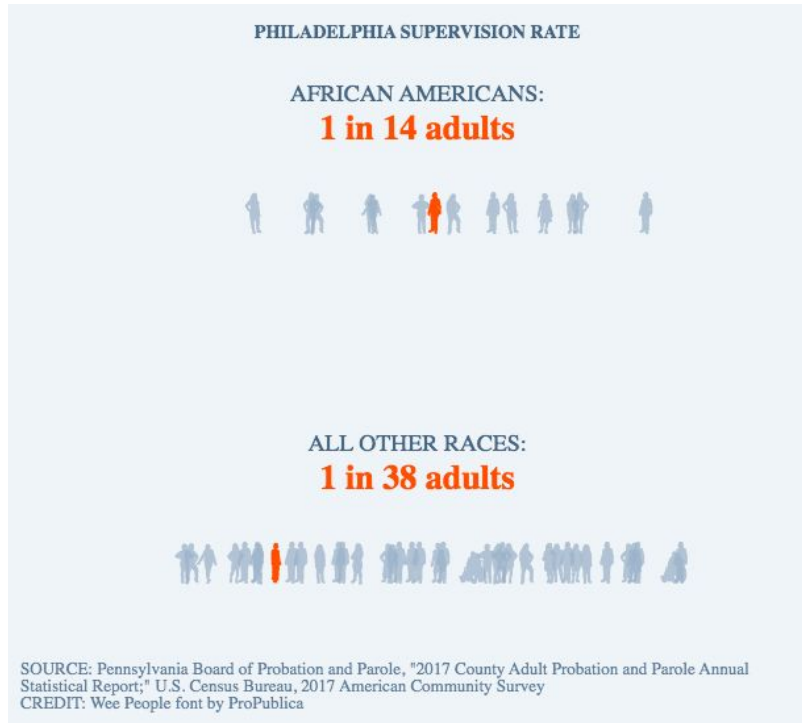
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ONE OUT OF 23 ADULTS IN PHILADELPHIA IS ON PROBATION OR PAROLE.



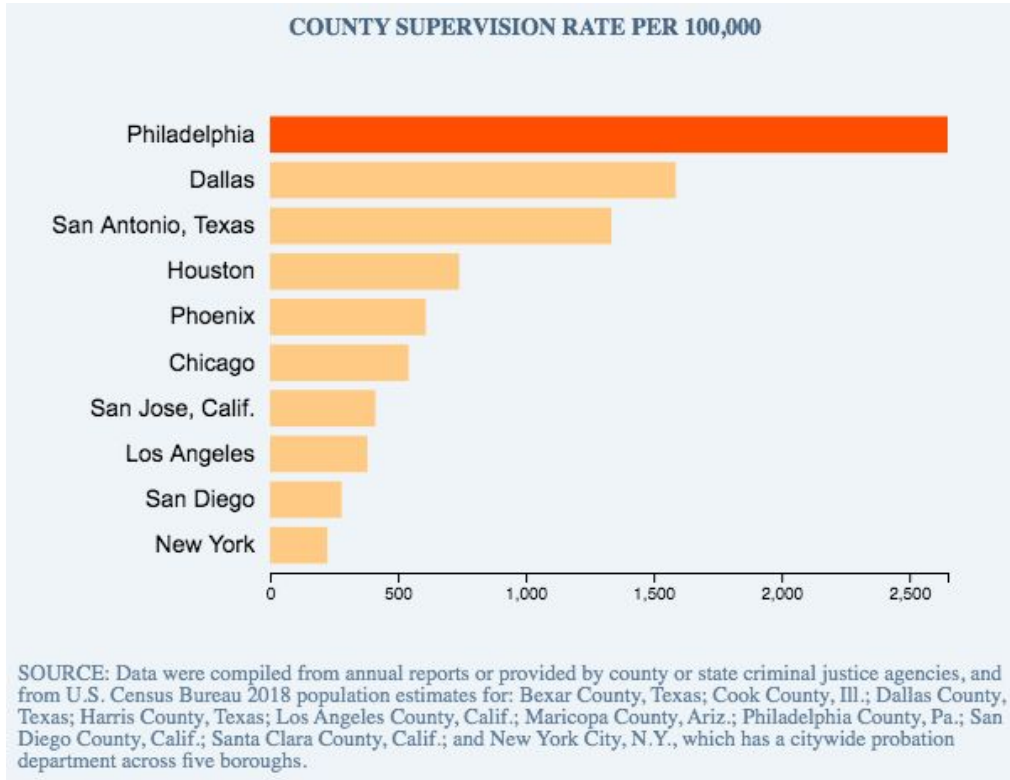
(“The Probation Trap”, The Philadelphia Inquirer)

ONE OUT OF 14 BLACK ADULTS IN PHILADELPHIA IS ON PROBATION OR PAROLE.



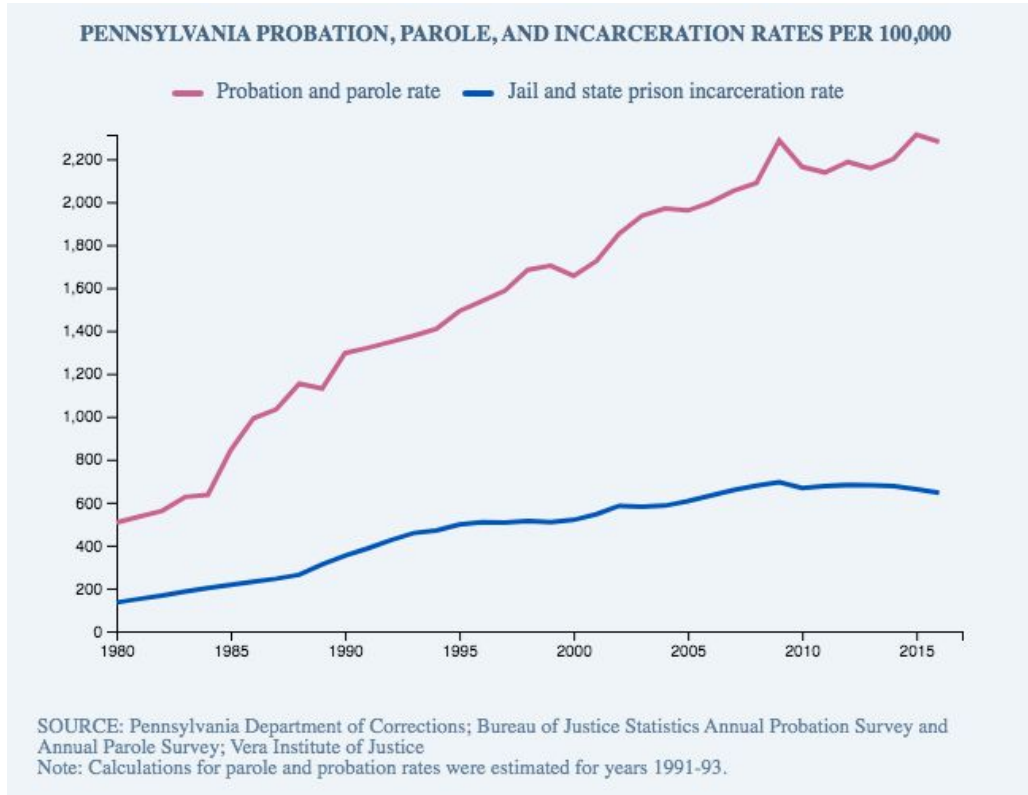
(“The Probation Trap”, The Philadelphia Inquirer)

PHILADELPHIA HAS THE HIGHEST SUPERVISION RATE OF ANY BIG CITY.



(“The Probation Trap”, The Philadelphia Inquirer)

PENNSYLVANIA PROBATION, PAROLE, AND INCARCERATION RATES PER 100,000



(“The Probation Trap”, The Philadelphia Inquirer)

PENNSYLVANIA IS ONLY ONE OF EIGHT STATES WHERE PROBATION CAN LAST UP TO THE **MAXIMUM SENTENCE.**

- New York, New Jersey, Ohio, and Maryland limit felony probation to five years
- Washington, Delaware, and Vermont limit felony probation to one or two years

The Philadelphia Inquirer's review of 13,500 recent cases in Philadelphia showed 90% of violations of probation occurred within the **first three years.**

“

Probation should assist Pennsylvanians with creating stability in their lives. Instead, our excessively long sentences and cumbersome rules are causing **Pennsylvanians** to lose their jobs, **employers** are losing much-needed workers, **families** are losing support systems, and **taxpayer money** is being wasted on a system that is not improving lives or recidivism rates.”

--Governor **Tom Wolf**, November 2019