



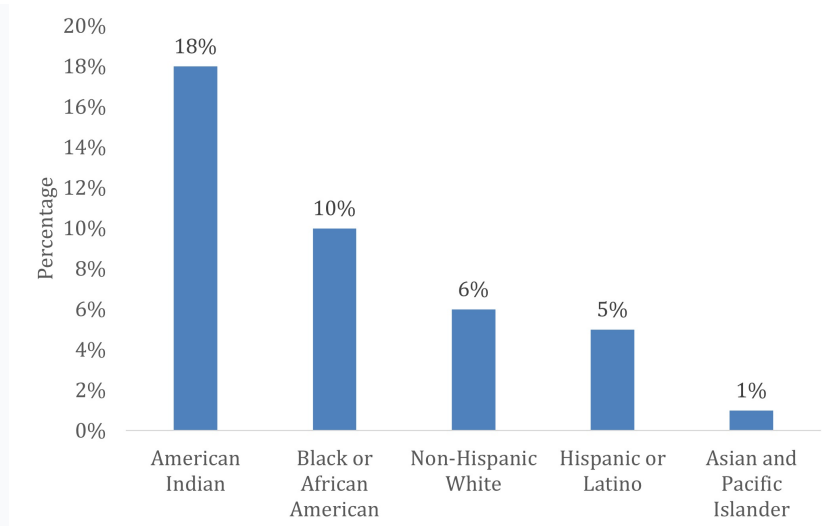
Greetings from the Family-Based Justice Center



November is Native American Heritage Month. This month, and every month, we celebrate the culture and heritage of tribal nations, territories, and communities that enrich the quality and character of our country. The Family-Based Justice Center strives to ensure that cultural diversity is reflected in and supported across all facets of our work.

Native youth are disparately impacted by parental incarceration (see the figure below for the most recently available data). Eighteen percent have a parent who has been incarcerated, three times the national average. The Prison Policy Initiative is a useful resource for data visualizations, compiled from several sources that show the impact the criminal justice system has had on Native communities; read their report [here](#). And for those looking for promising practices for addressing these impacts, a recent [report](#) by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice Challenge describes the historical roots of the over-incarceration of Native Americans and shares recommendations for how to support Native people.

Children Who Had a Parent Who Was Ever Incarcerated (2020-2021), by Race and Ethnicity



Data source: Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count data compiled from the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH).

In our work at the FBJC, we hope that by prioritizing family unity, we can help alleviate some of these impacts and provide greater opportunities for Native youth to thrive.

Staff Highlight:



During the 80th National Congress of American Indians conference in New Orleans, Janelle Prueter and Isabel Coronado from the Family-Based Justice Center, along with Leanetta Jessie from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, presented on the impact of incarceration on Native youth. Their presentation focused on tailoring Family-Based Alternative Justice programs for tribal nations and identifying opportunities to enhance support for tribes seeking federal funding.



On October 26, Janelle Prueter from the Family-Based Justice Center attended a panel discussion, Centering Impacted Youth and Families, hosted by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in Washington, D.C., in support of Youth Justice Action Month (YJAM). Each October, in honor of YJAM, youth-justice advocates organize activities and events to raise awareness and inspire action on behalf of young people impacted by the justice system. The panel included parents whose children were victims of violence or whose children were incarcerated and young people who were formerly incarcerated, some of whom were also in the child-welfare system.

In the News:

Learn of the impact of Sesame Street in prison visiting rooms throughout the years in an article [here](#).

New Hampshire Family Connections Center is reevaluating their visiting policies and allowing unsupervised contact visits for parents and their children. Read about the program [here](#).

Read [here](#) about the experiences of incarcerated mothers and fathers in Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin in parenting behind bars.

A new program in Etowah Co., Alabama, is helping parents newly released from prison adjust to life and connect their children to resources. Read about it [here](#).

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