

What Works

Portland, Oregon // January 16th, 2020

**Mai Fernandez, National Center for
Victims of Crime**



A Survivor's Story

- Mai describes a person with childhood trauma who is later involved in the criminal justice system



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Behavior

- 90% of youth who are justice-involved have at least one ACE and often far more
- One study found that compared to youth in the general population, youth who are justice-involved have a greater likelihood of having experienced multiple forms of trauma, including multiple types of trauma each year
- Another study found that youth who are justice-involved had roughly three times more ACEs than the population surveyed in the original 1999 ACEs study and that those with higher ACE scores are more likely to recidivate
- More ACEs for youth who are justice-involved also means greater likelihood of substance abuse, self-harm behaviors, and school-related problems such as disruptive behaviors, substandard performance, and truancy



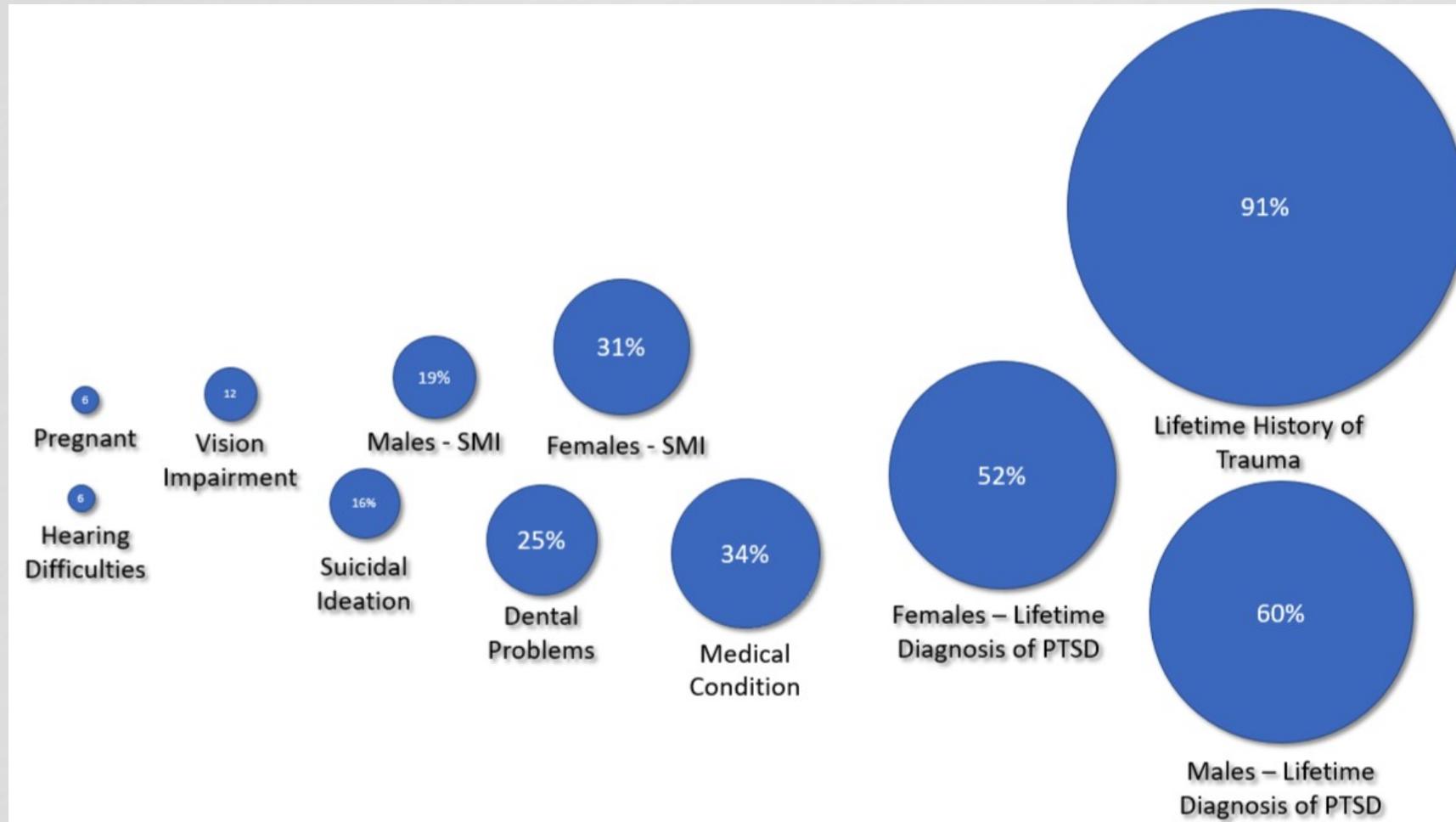
Trauma and Incarceration

- A 2016 study found that over 90% of incarcerated Black Americans have experienced at least one general traumatic incident at some point.
- The study also found that over 70% of individuals with a juvenile incarceration history had experienced more than 4 traumatic incidents in their lifetime.



Jäggi, L. J., Mezuk, B., Watkins, D. C., & Jackson, J. S. (2016). The Relationship between Trauma, Arrest, and Incarceration History among Black Americans: Findings from the National Survey of American Life. *Society and mental health, 6*(3), 187–206. doi:10.1177/2156869316641730

Percentage of in-jail populations who are or have:



Victim Services Providers Partnering with Jails/Prisons

- Through These Doors – Maine
 - TTD (part of the Maine SJC site) provides services to women who are incarcerated and are survivors of intimate partner violence at the Maine Correctional Center and the Cumberland County Jail.
 - They hold educational support groups focusing on healthy relationships, self-care, and other skill building topics. They have also implemented creative writing workshops into their programming.
- Seeking Safety, Healing Trauma, and Beyond Violence – Iowa
 - The Iowa Correctional Institution for Women (ICIW) conducts three different courses -- Seeking Safety, Healing Trauma, and Beyond Violence. All are evidence-based programs, are offered to all women in custody, and are taught by Polk County Crisis and Advocacy Services and the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Courses focus on attaining safety and rehabilitation from past and/or current victimization, trauma, and/or substance abuse.
 - ICIW also offers other trauma-based programming including a grief support group, winners circle (support group), and trauma yoga.

