

Felon Disenfranchisement in Minnesota

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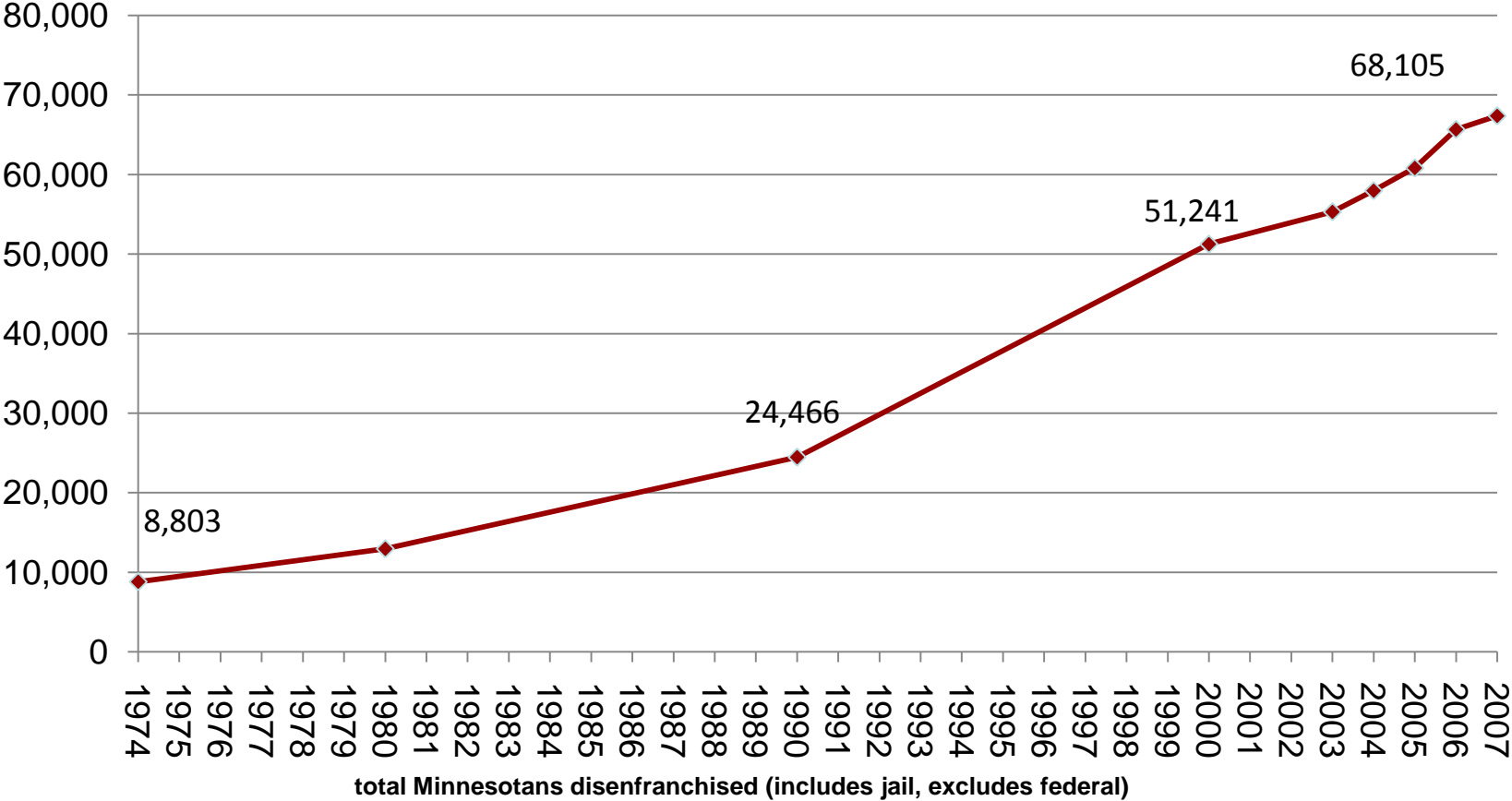
University of Minnesota

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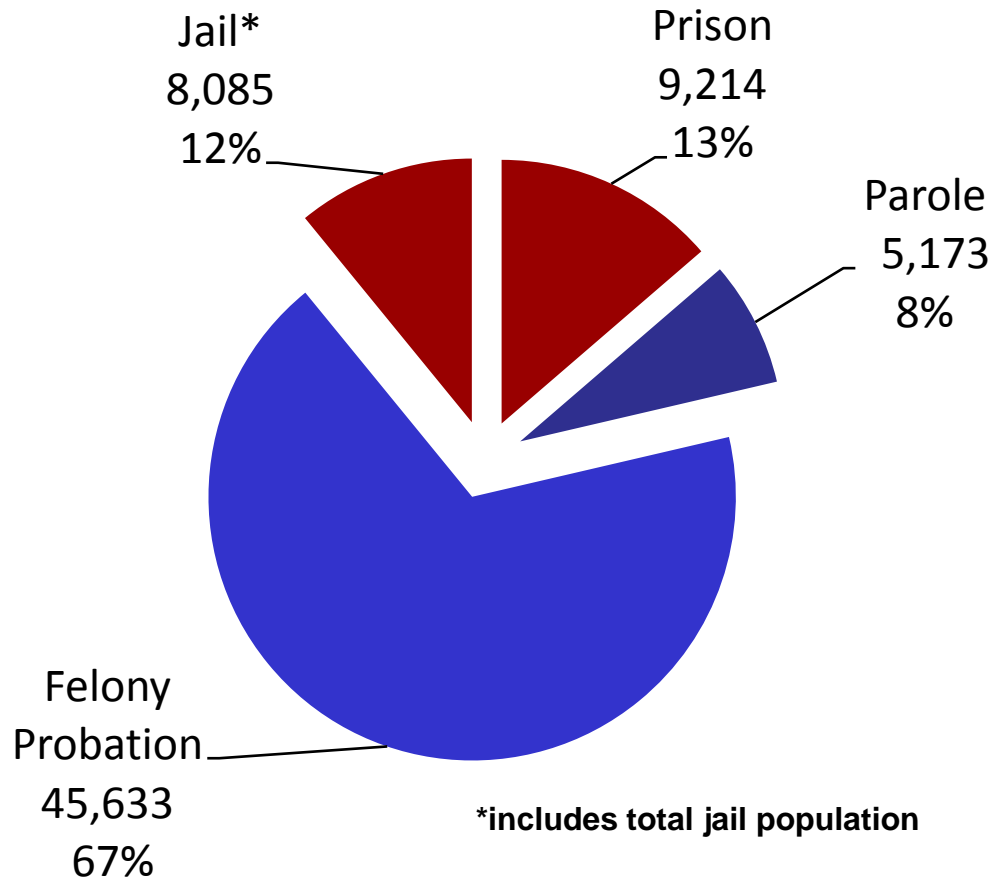
Background

- Minnesota currently disenfranchises people convicted of a felony until the completion of their sentence.
 - *current prison inmates*
 - *parolees/conditional release*
 - *felony probationers*
 - *jail inmates convicted of a felony*
- Notification practices are inconsistent

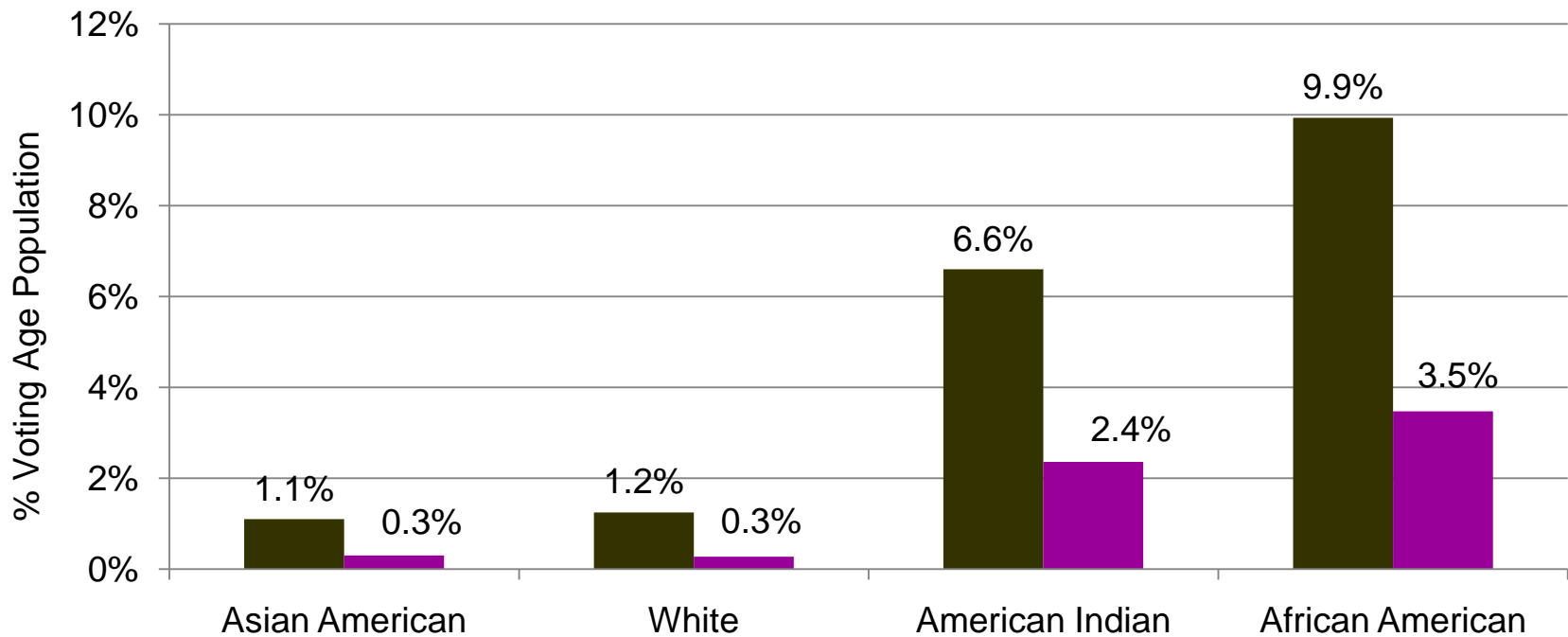
Disenfranchisement is rising in Minnesota.



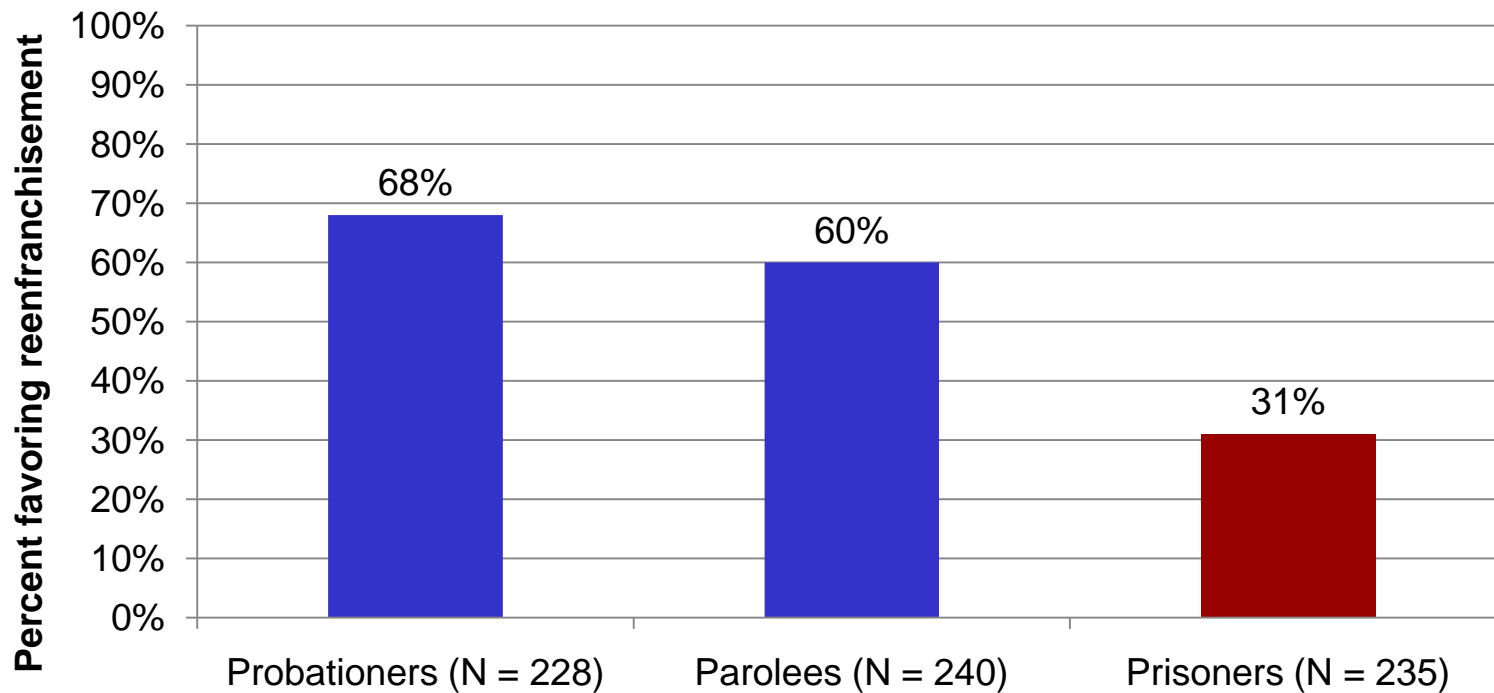
Only 1 in 4 disenfranchised Minnesotans are incarcerated. (2007)



The Minnesota felon voting ban now disenfranchises about 10% of African Americans and 7% of American Indians. The proposed legislation would reduce these rates to 3.5% and 2.4%, respectively.

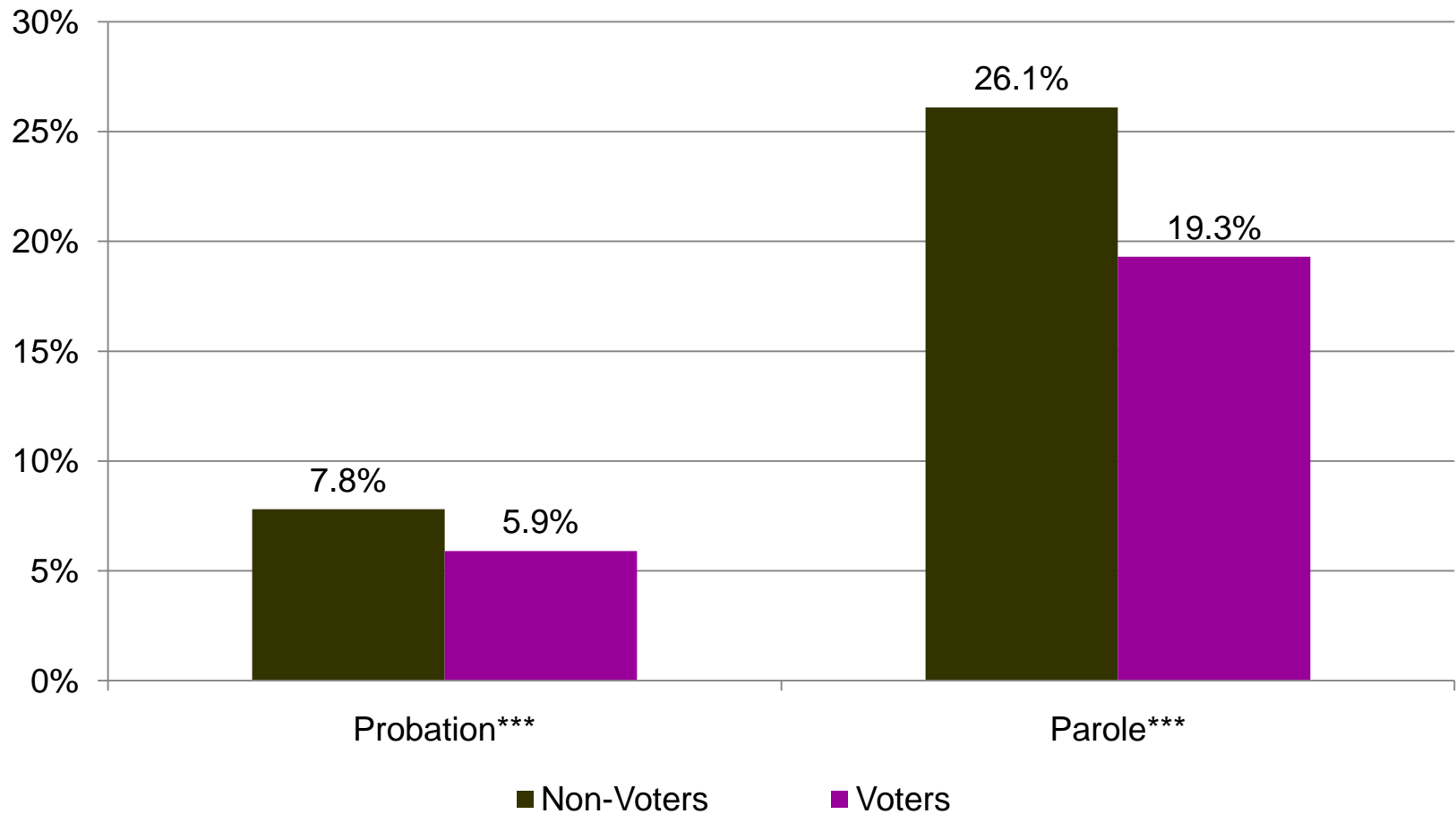


The U.S. public supports voting rights for probationers (68%) and parolees (60%), but not prisoners (31%).



(U.S. Harris Poll in Manza and Uggen 2006)

Probationers and parolees who vote in Oregon have significantly lower recidivism rates.



U.S. State Disenfranchisement Law (2009)

- No restrictions (2):
 - *Maine, Vermont*
- Inmates only (15 + DC):
 - *Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts*, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island*, South Dakota, Utah*
- Inmates, Parolees (4):
 - *California, Colorado, Connecticut*, New York,*
- Inmates, Parolees, Probationers (18):
 - *Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa*, Kansas*, Maryland*, **Minnesota**, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico*, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Washington*, West Virginia, Wisconsin*
- Inmates, Parolees, Probationers, Certain Ex-felons (11):
 - *Alabama*, Arizona*, Delaware*, Florida*, Kentucky*, Mississippi, Nebraska*, Nevada*, Tennessee*, Virginia, Wyoming*

* Indicates recent change or complexity