

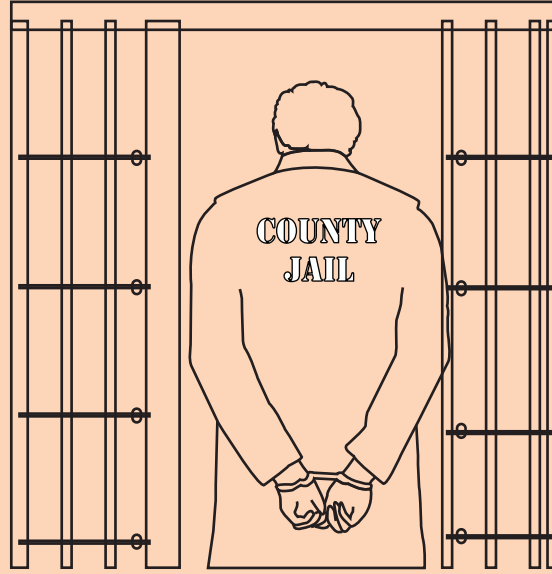
# BEHIND BARS IN BOONE COUNTY

The U.S. has been long known to have one of the highest incarceration rates in the modern day. Because of this, Boone County Jail faces a specific problem: overcrowding. While inmate numbers have continued to increase, Boone County Jail stands as the only detention center for the entire county. This has forced many inmates to be housed out of county, driving up expenses.

By Aleissa Bleyl

Boone County is one of the fastest-growing counties in the state.

The population rate in Boone County grew  
**7.58%**  
from 2010 -2015.



Since 1986, sentencing has grown by  
**270%**

In the meantime, felony sentencing in the county has grown significantly.

As the county has grown, the jail has not.

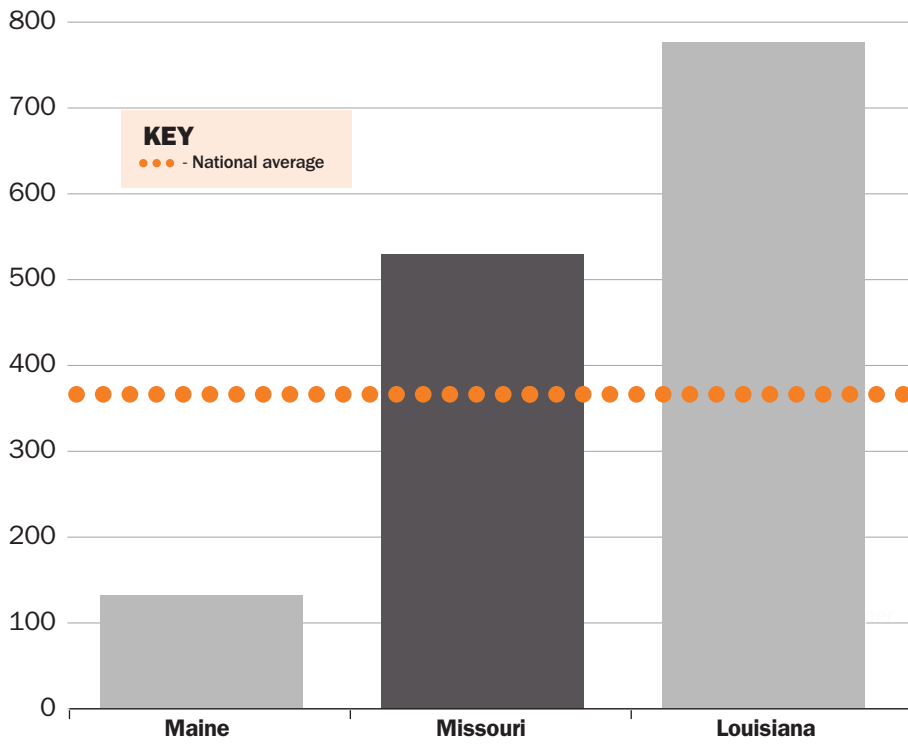
The Boone County Jail can hold  
**210**  
people at maximum capacity.

**\$200,000**  
over the annual allotted \$300,000 budget in 2016

This extra spending was due to overcrowding and supporting inmates out of county.

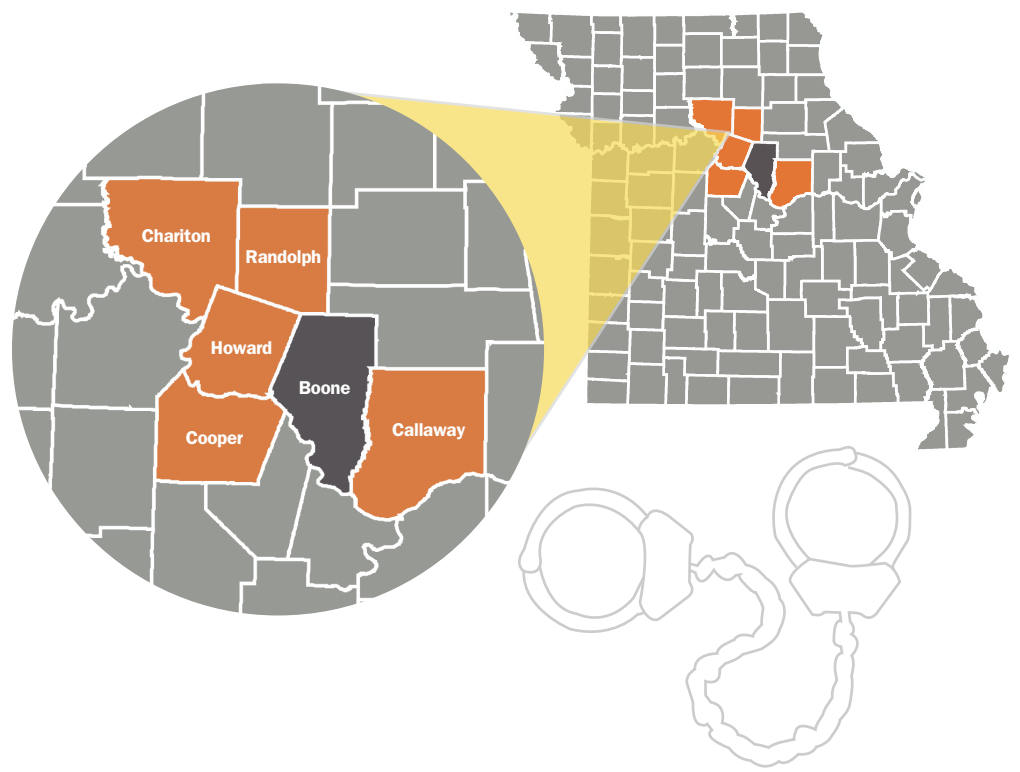
## INCARCERATION: HOW WE COMPARE

Boone County Jail is overcrowded, and a lot of it has to do with our rate of incarceration. According to the National Institute of Corrections, Missouri's rate of incarceration was 38 percent higher than the national average in 2015. On average, 530 out of every 100,000 people are incarcerated in the state of Missouri. This is compared to the national minimum in Maine and the national maximum in Louisiana.



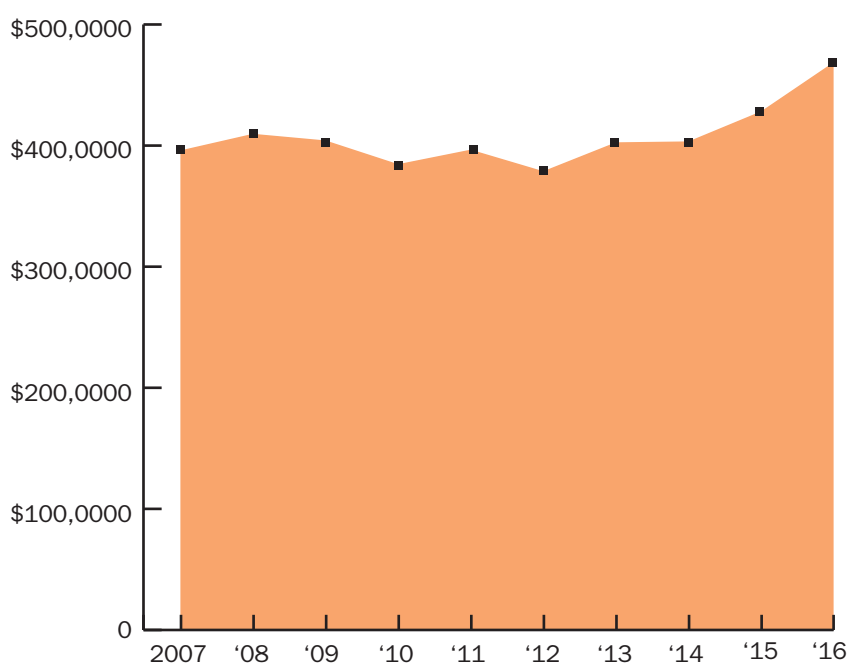
## WHERE DO THE INMATES GO?

If Boone County Jail is over capacity, officers are forced to redirect inmates to facilities in other counties. According to the Boone County Sheriff's department, inmates who exceed the jail's housing capacity go to the counties below. Since 2015, officials have only used jails in Cooper, Montgomery and Howard counties to house inmates over capacity according to the Columbia Tribune. However, Cole, Callaway and Chariton counties have been used in the past.



## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The spike in inmates housed out of county has driven up expenses for Boone County Jail overall. In 2016, the jail was forced to spend \$500,000, which was \$200,000 over its allotted budget for the year. On average, accommodating an inmate out of county typically costs \$40 a day.



## INMATES HOUSED OUT OF COUNTY

In the last year, the rate of inmates housed out of jail has skyrocketed, with 7,779 in 2016 and over 16,000 in 2017. This is the highest rate it has been at in a decade. This has contributed to the mounting costs at Boone County Jail overall.

