The Prison Industrial Complex: Mapping Private Sector Players



About Worth Rises

Worth Rises is a non-profit advocacy organization dedicated to dismantling the prison industrial complex and ending the exploitation of those it touches. Partnering deliberately with directly impacted people, we work to expose the commercialization of the criminal legal system and advocate and organize to protect and return the economic value extracted from affected communities. We envision a society in which no entity or individual relies on human caging or control for their wealth, operation, or livelihood. Through our work, we strive to help pave the road toward police and prison abolition.

As part of our public education strategy, we conduct research, collect data, and perform innovative analyses aimed at unmasking the harms caused by the prison industrial complex. Understanding the mobilizing power of knowledge, we transform our analyses into accessible and compelling content designed to increase awareness and shift discourse around the commercialization of the criminal legal system. Our flagship report, The Prison Industrial Complex: Mapping Private Sector Players, equips and empowers change agents—consumers, investors, public agents, elected officials, influencers, litigators, advocates, and the public with critical information needed to challenge those who capitalize on our nation's carceral crisis.

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Introduction

Today, more than half of the \$80 billion spent annually on incarceration by government agencies is used to pay the thousands of vendors that serve the criminal legal system. They are healthcare providers, food suppliers, and commissary merchants, among others. And many have devised strategies to extract billions more from the directly impacted communities supporting their incarcerated loved ones.

Companies like Securus and Keefe charge as much as \$25 for a simple 15-minute phone call and \$6 for mere \$20 deposit, respectively. Focused on their bottom line, advantaged by an obscure environment, and often empowered by monopolistic contracts, these private, for-profit corporations that operate within the prison industrial complex exploit the 2.2 million people incarcerated in the U.S. and their support networks, both vulnerable to corporate abuse.

This report exposes roughly 4,000 corporations that profit from the devastating mass incarceration of our nation's marginalized communities. Growing by nearly 800 companies this year, it continues to serve as the largest lens into the prison industrial complex ever published. While this report still far from covers all the private sector companies in this space, it captures all its major players.

At Worth Rises, our hope is that advocates, litigators, journalists, investors, and the public will use the report to further understand the expansive nature of the prison industrial complex and familiarize themselves with its players. This report should serve as a resource in the fight against the commercialization of our criminal legal system.

A Note From The Authors

All engagement is not equal, but all engagement is an opportunity for action.

The inclusion of a corporation in this report does not itself signify anything about the corporation's values or even perspective with respect to the travesty of our carceral crisis. Due to the vast reach of our criminal legal system, companies have found themselves unintentionally implicated in the prison industrial complex without even knowing it. It is for this reason that we chose not to simply publish a list of names, but rather a rich data set that includes important corporate information and our sources.

The data provided in this report should serve as a launching pad for further exploration. Readers should engage and analyze the data but follow up with their own investigations before making decisions about what approach to take in challenging each corporation's involvement in the prison industrial complex.

- To **organizers and advocates**, we hope this report will help you identify targets for corporate campaigns, layer in an understanding of public-private partnerships, and build power among the public through exposure and education.
- To **elected officials**, we hope this report will help you challenge the corporate exploitation of vulnerable communities and turn down political contributions from corporations looking to expand the reach of the criminal legal system.
- To **litigators**, we hope this report will help you identify potential targets for litigation using consumer and other types of commercial law and return extracted resources to exploited people.
- To **media**, we hope this report will serve as a starting point for your critical coverage of the detrimental impact and expansive grasp of the prison industrial complex and its unique players.
- To investors and financial advisors, we hope this report will help you screen your investment portfolios for exposure to the prison industrial complex and determine what form of economic activism—shareholder engagement or divestment—is appropriate.
- To artists, we hope this report inspires you to create works that amplify the harms caused by the commercialization of the criminal legal system and reach masses often inaccessible to other advocates.

We look forward to seeing your action.

What's New This Year

Over the past year, the authors made the following additions and updates to *The Prison Industrial Complex:* Mapping Private Sector Players.

- Expanded geographic coverage into the west with the addition of California's correctional vendors
- Added corporations involved in immigration detention and flagged previously included corporations also involved in immigration detention
- Added major bail bonds agencies and the surety companies that back them
- Added stock tickers for all publicly traded corporations and their subsidiaries
- Added corporate campaign contributions made by the largest private sector players in the prison industrial complex since 2010
- Updated all financials with the most recently available data as of year-end 2018
- Continued research into the prison industrial complex and added newly identified corporations
- Vetted and, as appropriate, added corporations submitted to Worth Rises online

This year's edition of *The Prison Industrial Complex: Mapping Private Sector Players* includes 3,905 companies.

As of 2019, the corporate data underlying *The Prison Industrial Complex: Mapping Private Sector Players* is available by online download only at www.worthrises.org/resources.

Sector Summary & Developments

S	Subsectors	Notable Players	Developments
Communi	Bail & Surety Day Reporting Center Electronic Monitoring Outpatient Programs Residential Programs	 Attenti CoreCivic/Avalon GEO Group, The/BI (GEO Care) Libre by Nexus Numerex Tokio Marine Track Group 	 In August 2018, California passed legislation that abolished the cash bail system and replaced it with a risk assessment-based bail system. With its business threatened, the bail bonds industry pushed back by getting the issue of cash bail put up for a vote on the 2020 ballot. In December 2018, the U.S. Congress passed the First Step Act with the support of private prison giants, The GEO Group and CoreCivic, both positioned to benefit from the bills provision for private-public partnerships in reentry services.
ruction	Architecture & Engineering Construction Maintenance Services Utility/Energy	 AECOM GEO Design HOK Johnson Controls Kane Detention Turner Construction United Technologies 	
Infe	Arrest, Court, & Probation Data Systems Corrections Data Systems Immigration Data Systems IT & Communications Infrastructure & Services Medical Records Systems	 Amazon Equivant Hexagon Safety Microsoft Northrop Gumman Palantir Tyler Technologies 	 In April 2018, the Trump administration announced the zero-tolerance immigration policy, which led to a boost in immigration detention business for the technology companies fueling deportations, including Palantir, which may IPO in 2019. In August 2018, California passed legislation that abolished the cash bail system and replaced it with a risk assessment-based bail system. In April 2019, Partnerships on A.I., a consortium of technology companies and civil rights groups, released a report warning against the use of risk assessment tools.
Equipment	Furnishings & Supplies Security Equipment Security Technology	 Berkshire Hathaway Bob Barker Hewlett Packard Ingersoll Rand Stanley Black & Decker Vista Outdoors VF Corp 	
	Agency Payment Processing Money Transfers Cash & Release Cards	 Keefe/Access Corrections Citigroup Securus/JPay NIC Global Tel Link/TouchPay Western Union WEX 	

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	Subsectors	Notable Players	Developments
Food & Commissary	Care Packages Commissary Kitchen Equipment Prison Food Vending Machines	 Aramark Compass Group, The Elior Group Keefe Group Trinity Services Union Supply Sodexo 	
	 Ambulance Services Medical Equipment Medical Healthcare Mental Health Services Medical Records Systems Pharmacy Substance Abuse Treatment Third Party Staffing 	 Armor Correctional Health Centene/Centurion Corizon Correct Rx NaphCare Wellpath Wexford 	In October 2018, H.I.G. Capital acquired Correct Care Solutions and combined it with its portfolio company, Correctional Medical Group Companies, to form the largest correctional healthcare company, reported to have \$1.5 million in annual revenues.
Operations & Management	Immigration Detention Operator Private Prison Operator Procurement, Contracting, & Other Admin Services	 CoreCivic Emerald Correctional G4S GEO Group, The LaSalle Southwest MTC Sodexo 	 In April 2018, the administration announced the zero-tolerance immigration policy, which led to a boost in immigration detention business for the two largest private prison operators, The GEO Group and CoreCivic. In July 2018, New York State pensions divested from private prisons. In August 2018, Chicago Teachers Pension Fund divested from private prisons. In November 2018, California State Teachers Retirement System divested from private prisons. In March 2019, immigration and criminal justice activists scored a major victory when J.P. Morgan Chase agreed to stop funding private prison construction. In January 2019, California Governor Newsome announced his intentions to end the states use of private prisons during his inaugural speech.
Personnel	 Staff Management System Staff Training Third Party Staffing 	 Akima Global Services CorrectionsOne Defense Technology G4S InTime MHS Assessments Securitas 	

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	Subsectors	Notable Players	Developments
9)	Education Services, Materials, & Technology Rehab Programming Vocation/Industries (Prison Labor)	 3M Dauphin Corrective Education Co Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Milliken & Co MTC Pearson/Certiport 	In August 2018, incarcerated people across the U.S. participated in a labor strike to demand an end to slavery and that incarcerated workers be paid prevailing wages.
Telecom	Prison Communications Tablets Telecom Surveillance & Security	 CenturyLink Global Tel Link (GTL) ICSolutions Legacy Inmate PayTel Securus Securus/JPay Unisys 	 In July 2018, Securus, a Platinum Equity portfolio company, submitted a merger application to the FCC to acquire ICSolutions, an H.I.G. Capital portfolio company. Thanks to challenges from criminal justice advocates, in April 2019, the FCC decided the deal was against public interest and blocked the merger. In July 2018, New York City became the first city to pass legislation making all calls out of its city jails free, setting the stage for similar state and local efforts across the country and undermining the correctional telecom industry. In September 2018, Pennsylvania became the first state to outsource mail processing to a private company. The new contract with Smart Communications is valued at \$16 million over three years and introduces a new service in the telecom space. In January 2019, an Intercept investigation revealed new surveillance technology voice printing and voice biometrics being used by correctional telecom giant Securus in contracted facilities. Securus is hoping to create voice databases of incarcerated people to sell to law enforcement agencies.
Transportation	Agency Transportation Prison Transportation Visitor Transportation	 G4S GEO Group, The/GEO Transport Greyhound Motor Coach Industries PTS of America CoreCivic/TransCor America Valley Metro Security 	• In June 2018, major airlines barred ICE from using their flights to transport migrant
Investors	Construction, Equipment, & Acquisition Financing Securities Investor	 Bank of America Blackrock Fidelity J.P. Morgan U.S. Bancorp Vanguard Wells Fargo 	In March 2019, immigration and criminal justice activists scored a major victory when J.P. Morgan Chase finally agreed to stop funding private prison construction.

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Methodology

I. Corporate Identification

A. State Correctional Spending

The authors analyzed the annual corrections spending of five states, each of which has the largest incarcerated population within its geographic region: California (West; 129,593), Florida (Southeast; 101,424), New York (Northeast; 51,727), Ohio (Midwest; 52,233), and Texas (Southwest; 163,909). From the annual spending data of each state, the authors included the name of every for-profit, private vendor paid \$150,000 or more by the state's correctional agency. By focusing on the largest correctional systems in each region, the authors captured not just the largest national players, but also the largest regional players.

State detail and sources:

- For California, the authors analyzed the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's CY 2018 spending using the State Contracting and Procurement Registration System (caleprocure.ca.gov/pages/public-search.aspx).
- For **Florida**, the authors analyzed the Florida Department of Corrections' FY 2017 spending using the State of Florida Vendor/Payee Payments System (fs.fldfs.com/dispub2/newvpymt4.shtml) and contracts, grant awards, and purchase orders using the Florida Accountability Contract Tracking System (facts.fldfs.com/Search/ContractSearch.aspx).
- For New York, the authors analyzed the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision's FY 2017 spending using New York Open Book Spending (wwe2.osc.state.ny.us/transparency/spending/spndMain.cfm). The authors also analyzed current contracts as of February of 2018 using New York Open Book Contracts (wwe2.osc.state.ny.us/transparency/contracts/contractsearch.cfm) and included any for-profit, private vendor with a contract valued at \$1,000,000 or more.
- For Ohio, the authors analyzed the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections' FY 2017 spending using Ohio Checkbook (ohiotreasurer.gov/Transparency/Ohios-Online-Checkbook).
- For **Texas**, the authors analyzed the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's FY 2016 spending using the Texas State Spending Transparency Visualizations (comptroller.texas.gov/transparency/spending/visualizations.php) and included any for-profit, private vendor that was paid \$50,000 or more.

B. Federal Spending

Correctional Spending

The authors reviewed the U.S. Department of Justice spending data available at USAspending.gov (www.usaspending.gov/). However, this source does not cleanly parse out spending specific to the Federal Bureau of Prisons nor does it aggregate total agency payments by vendor. Consequently, the authors could not conduct a systematic analysis of federal correctional spending to identify for-profit, private vendors paid \$150,000 or more by the Federal Bureau of Prisons as intended. It is possible that vendors to the Federal Bureau of Prisons are underrepresented in this report.

Immigration Detention Spending

The authors analyzed the annual immigration detention spending of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from July 2017 to June 2018 using GovSpend (www.govspend.com/) and the agency's current contracts as of July of 2018 compiled by *Sludge* (readsludge.com/2018/07/06/who-is-making-money-from-ice-in-your-state/) and included the name of every for-profit, private vendor paid \$150,000 or more by the agency.

C. Corrections and Law Enforcement Associations

The authors reviewed and included the corporate sponsors, partners, affiliates, and members of national corrections and law enforcement associations as well as the vendors listed in their professional marketplaces where available and accessible as of April 2018. More specifically, the authors reviewed the American Correctional Association, Association of State Correctional Administrators, American Jail Association, American Parole and Probation Association, Association of Women Executives in Corrections, National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, National Organization of Hispanics in Criminal Justice, National Sheriffs' Association, National Correctional Industries Association, Corrections Technology Association, Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials, Integrated Justice Information Systems Institute, and the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System.

D. Advocacy Resources, Media Articles, and General Search

The authors reviewed hundreds of reports, articles, and resources published by other criminal justice and immigration detention organizations and reputable media outlets covering the prison industrial complex and its corporate players. The authors also conducted broader web searches using keywords that produced additional corporate names.

E. Other

For simplicity, the authors aggregated or omitted certain types of corporate correctional vendors:

- The authors **aggregated** local car dealership franchises under the corporate car manufacturer.
- The authors **excluded** single or limited partner medical and legal practices, single or limited partner property realty companies, and hotels or lodging used for staff travel.

II. Corporate Data & Sources

Most information provided for each listed corporation was taken directly from its website or the online presence of its subsidiary or parent company. State budget data, press releases, advocacy reports, and media articles also provided critical information about the listed corporations. The source columns provide the major information sources for each listed corporation.

A. Active Brand

Demarcates corporations that are still active under the listed corporate name and those that are not. Corporations marked "N" are no longer operating under the listed corporate name but may have been acquired and rolled into another corporation. See "Notes" for details.

B. Headquarters Location

State or country of corporate headquarters of the listed corporation.

C. Number of Employees

Number of people employed by the listed corporation.

D. Year Founded

Year the listed corporation or its direct predecessor(s) was founded.

E. Year Last Acquired

Year the listed corporation was last acquired either directly or indirectly through the acquisition of a parent company by either an industry competitor or financial investor (e.g. private equity firm). See "Parent Company," "Owner/Major Investor," and "Notes" for more information.

F. Corporate Structure

Parent Company

The parent company of the listed corporation if it is a subsidiary of a larger corporation or holding company. See "Notes" for acquisition information.

Owner/Major Investor

Any major private equity investors of the listed corporation. Some major investors may hold a minority stake. See "Notes" for acquisition and investment information.

Stock Ticker

The stock ticker of the listed corporation or its parent company if publicly traded on any international stock market.

Public Exposure

The listed corporation's level of public exposure based of its parent company or investor:

- o **Tier 1a Publicly Traded Targeted Correctional Exposure**: Corporations that are publicly traded on any international stock market and have a business segment targeting the prison industrial complex in their business model or through marketing, advertising, or sponsorships.
- o **Tier 1b Publicly Traded Other:** Corporations that are publicly traded on any international stock market and are presumed to be unintentionally or unknowingly engaged in the prison industrial complex.
- o **Tier 2 Private Equity-Owned:** Corporations that are privately held and owned or heavily invested in by private equity investors.
- o Tier 3 Large Privately-Owned, Requires Outside Financing: Corporations that are privately held and have or are estimated to have \$200 million or more in annual revenues and likely require corporate financing for growth.
- Tier 4 Small Privately-Owned: Corporations that are privately held and have or are estimated to have less than \$200 million in annual revenues.

G. Business Sectors

Using publicly available information, the authors assigned each listed corporation to at least one sector and one subsector. For corporations that operate in more than one sector or subsector, the authors assigned a secondary sector and subsector. For corporations that operate in

more than two distinct sectors or subsectors, the authors listed the two most dominant. Because not all business models fit neatly into the defined sectors or subsectors, the authors encourage readers to delve further into the business models of corporations that draw their interest.

H. Immigration Detention Engagement

Demarcates corporations that engage in immigration detention.

Financials

The authors collected financial information from U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) filings, annual reports, and Intrinio for publicly traded companies; acquisition announcements for acquired corporations and parent companies; and PrivCo for privately held corporations, as available. Intrinio maintains a public company financial database for members. PrivCo maintains a private company financial database for members. The authors also used data from the National Institute on Money in Politics to report political spending.

Annual Revenues (\$Mn)

The actual or estimated annual revenues of the listed corporation in USD million for the last available year. Figures are specific to the listed corporation, not its parent company or a subsidiary. Revenue figures include all reported revenues for the listed corporation and should not be interpreted as revenues generated specifically from the prison industrial complex.

Revenue Year

Fiscal year of the reported revenue figure.

PIC Revenue Only

Demarcates corporations with business models that are entirely dependent on the prison industrial complex (PIC) from those that are only partially engaged.

J. Political Spending Since 2010

Working with the National Institute on Money in Politics, the authors gathered date on corporate campaign contributions made to federal and state candidates, major party committees, and ballot measure committees since 2010 by the largest private sector players in the prison industrial complex. The data also included contributions made to political campaigns in a few local races, namely city elections in Chicago, New York City, and Washington D.C. and supervisor elections in Orange County, California.

K. Notes

Any information detail that may add color beyond what the data already offers.

L. Sources

Website

Corporate website for the listed corporation.

Corrections Source

Source for proof of engagement in corrections for the listed corporation. Corrections sources may be references to the corporation's general website, a specific page on its website, its relation to a subsidiary or parent in the data, a trusted advocacy report, a credible media article, or a corrections agency's spending data.

Immigration Detention Source

Source for proof of engagement in immigration detention for the listed corporation. Immigration detention sources may be references to the corporation's general website, a specific page on its website, its relation to a subsidiary or parent in the data, a trusted advocacy report, a credible media article, or an immigration agency's spending data.

Financials Source

Source of financial information for the listed corporation.

Other Source

Any other direct source relevant to the listed corporation. The most common other sources are press releases providing acquisition details, proof of the sponsorship of correctional or law enforcement associations, and other media coverage.

III. Limitations

A. Corporate Identification

Regional, Size, and Agency Coverage

This report systematically looked at the correctional spending of five states and, in large part, only included corporations collecting over \$150,000 annually. Looking broader into other states and local agencies or lowering the payment threshold would likely produce thousands of additional corporate names. As discussed above, the report is also limited in its coverage of correctional vendors serving the federal government.

Accurate not Exhaustive

The authors chose to include only companies that they could determine with confidence are currently engaged in the prison industrial complex whether as standalone corporations, active subsidiaries, or absorbed predecessor companies.

There are lists that charge major publicly-traded consumer products corporations with profiting from prison labor. And while likely accurate accusations at the time of their publishing, they may now be outdated. Choosing to preserve the integrity of the corporate identification process, the authors have decided against including these corporations without additional corroboration of their continued engagement.

Obscurity of Prison Labor

Given the lack of transparency in corporate supply chains, this report is likely limited in its coverage of corporations benefiting from prison labor. However, it does capture suppliers of raw materials to correctional industries, an aspect of prison labor that is often overlooked, given that their purchases are reflected in state spending data. Unfortunately, state revenue data, which would capture corporations that consume products created using prison labor, is not readily accessible.

B. Corporate Data

• Dominance of Privately Held Companies

The overwhelming majority of corporations that operate in the prison industrial complex are privately-held. Thus, collecting information about their business models, corporate structures, and financial performance is incredibly difficult. Accordingly, there are gaps in corporate data for many of the listed corporations, including major players in the prison industrial complex.

Limitations of Sector Designations

In an effort to organize the thousands of corporations that operate in the prison industrial complex, the authors created a set of 12 industry sectors plus investors and a structure of subsectors that fits within them. However, not every corporation neatly fits into one of these sectors. While the authors have made their best effort to appropriately categorize every listed corporation, they encourage readers to follow the provided sources for clarity.

Underestimate of Political Influence

Political contributions are generally difficult to trace. The authors worked with the National Institute on Money in Politics to analyze the political spending of the largest private sector players in prison industrial complex. While the spending data captures campaign contributions to federal and state candidates, major party committees, and ballot measure committees, it is short on contributions made to local campaigns and initiatives. The data also omits corporate contributions made to political action committees and individual campaign contributions made by affiliated corporate executives, two common vehicles for political contributions. Finally, importantly, lobbying spending is also not captured in the data. Accordingly, the authors warn that the political spending figure is likely to be a significant underestimate.