



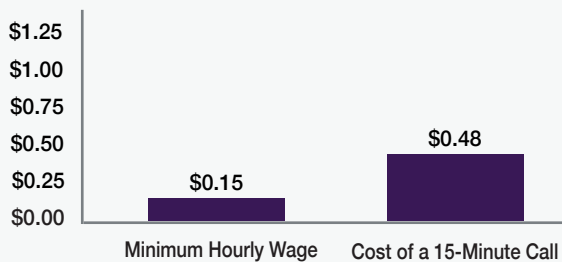
Correctional agencies contract with prison telecom corporations to provide communication services to incarcerated people and their support networks. Today, the national average cost of a 15-minute call is \$1.01 from prison and \$2.17 from jail. In most states, incarcerated people are also charged for video calls and electronic messages. Due to meager wages paid in prisons and jails, if any, the cost of staying in touch falls largely on families. Nationally, one in three families with an incarcerated loved one falls into debt trying to stay connected. Incarcerated people whose families cannot afford these communication service are often cut off entirely, with grave consequences for their reentry success and public safety.

### PRISONS

#### Phone Calls

**\$0.48** Cost of a 15-minute call from prison

With wages as low as **\$0.15 per hour**, most incarcerated people in Maryland have to work **3.2 hours** to afford a phone call with loved ones.



#### Video Calls

**\$5.00** Cost of a 20-minute video call from prison

#### E-Messages

**\$0.20** Cost of sending an e-message in prison

**\$0.40** Cost of sending an e-message with a photo attachment in prison

Telecom Provider



### JAILS

#### Phone Calls

**\$2.45** Average cost of a 15-minute call from jail

**\$3.15** Max cost of a 15-minute call from jail (Dorchester County Jail)

#### Video Calls

**\$5.00** Cost of a 20-minute video call from Washington County Jail

**\$6.00** Cost of a 20-minute video call from Frederick County Jail