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Department of Management  
Division of Data, Planning, and  
Improvement

# Annual Prison Population Forecast

2024-2034

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Iowa Department of Management, Division of Data, Planning, and Improvement developed this report to assist the Iowa Department of Corrections (IDOC), in addition to the executive and legislative branches of government, in annually assessing the impact of current criminal justice policy on Iowa's prison population. The forecast is a guide for programmatic and policy changes to improve outcomes for incarcerated individuals.

In January 2023, Governor Reynolds announced her intent to realign state government to improve efficiency and effectiveness. This resulted in reducing the number of cabinet-level departments from 37 to 16. Beginning in July 2023, agencies with similar functions and services were consolidated.

Within Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP), the administrator, data and research staff, and IT staff were moved to the Department of Management (DOM), Division of Data, Planning, and Improvement, while the remainder of CJJP staff remained in various units within Health and Human Services (HHS). This change allowed the data and research staff to continue to conduct high-quality, objective research and analysis. The move also allows for the increased promotion and utilization of data assets and analytics to improve decision-making.

## Reporting Time Period

Please note, starting in 2022, counts were provided for the federal fiscal year (October 1- September 30). Prior to that, counts were provided for the state fiscal year (July 1- June 30). This change was made to provide more recent numbers to the Iowa Department of Corrections.

## Current prison population (as of September 30, 2024)

- Iowa's prison population was 8,390 incarcerated individuals, which was the same as one-year prior on September 30, 2023.
- Prisons were overcapacity by 20.0%.
- 92.1% of the prison population were male and 7.9% were female.

## Ten-year changes (FFY 2015 to FFY 2024)

Unless otherwise noted, all 10-year percent changes in this report are a comparison between FFY2015 and FFY2024. That is, data from the years in between are not included.

- Admissions to prison decreased 18.7% (5,251 to 4,267).
- Prison releases decreased 11.2% (4,781 to 4,244).
- Probation revocations decreased 9.2% (1,696 to 1,540).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This number includes all probation revocations; it is not a count of only the probation revocations resulting in a prison admission

- Non-probation revocations decreased 15.9% (1,644 to 1,383).<sup>2</sup>

## **Forecast**

The short-term forecast predicts an increase in the prison population from 8,390 incarcerated individuals on September 30, 2024 to 8,805 on September 30, 2025; an increase of 415 incarcerated individuals (4.9%).

The long-term forecast predicts the population will increase to 9,156 incarcerated individuals (9.1%) by the end of FFY 2034, resulting in overcapacity of 31.0%.

## **Parole**

Over the past 10 years:

- The number of individuals served on parole increased 0.7% (from 6,462 to 6,507),
- Releases from prison to parole decreased by 9.7% (1,918 to 2,104), and
- Parole revocations decreased 0.8% (825 to 818).

## **Special sentence**

The special sentence places all people convicted of sex offenses on either 10-year or life-time community supervision. Information on this distinct group is reported separately from parole.

- From FFY 2015 to FFY 2024, admissions for special sentence decreased 10.4% (154 to 138).
- Over the last 10 years, there has been a 76.8% increase in individuals serving special sentences in the community (1,124 to 1,987). This number is projected to continue to steadily increase over the next decade.

## **New admissions to prison**

- New admissions decreased by 12.7% (3,357 to 2,930) over the past 10 years. The numbers were on an upward trajectory until 2020 (the pandemic), then dropped, and have steadily increased since the pandemic.
- From FFY 2015 to FFY 2024, the average time served for newly admitted incarcerated individuals increased from 19.0 months to 21.8 months (14.7%).
- In FFY 2024, new admissions for methamphetamine (482) were more prevalent than those for marijuana (66), cocaine (30), prescription drugs (22), and heroin (23).
- New admissions are projected to increase from 2,930 in FFY 2024 to 3,295 in FFY 2034.

## **Return admissions to prison**

- Returns decreased 29.4% from FFY 2015 to FFY 2024 (1,894 to 1,337).

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<sup>2</sup> Non-probation revocations include parole, work release, OWI, and special sentence revocations.

- Average length-of-stay (ALOS) for prison returns increased 36.0% over the past 10 years, from 11.1 months to 15.1 months.
- Returns to prison due to parole violations decreased 25.0% over the same period from 1,058 to 793.

### **Demographics**

- In FFY 2024, 61.2% of the prison population were White, 27.1% Black, 8.1% Hispanic, 2.3% Native American or Alaskan, and 1.3% Asian or Pacific Islander.
- From FFY 2015 to FFY 2024, admissions for White and Black populations decreased 23.8% and 13.3%, respectively. Releases for White and Black populations decreased 13.2% and 11.9%, respectively.

## **Possible Actions for Altering the Forecasted Prison Population**

Based on the analysis of the data there are several actions, which if taken, could alter the prison population forecasted in this report, including, but not limited to:

- Assessing institutional and community-based programming to mitigate and divert revocations of individuals in the community.
- Reserving the lifetime special sentence for the highest risk individuals and allowing judicial discretion on the length of special sentences.
- Reducing mandatory minimum prison sentences.
- Increasing the use of effective treatment courts throughout the state.
- Examining the effectiveness of mental health treatment courts.
- Conducting a comprehensive needs assessment to identify mental health resources available to justice-involved individuals across the state.
- Identifying and utilizing appropriate services needed in the criminal justice system to address mental health issues.
- Expanding apprenticeship and other skill education programs in the correctional institutions.
- Assessing the policies/laws allowing youth under 18 years of age to be prosecuted in adult court and the impact on the prison population. This could include working with the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (JJAC).
- Expanding the research partnership between IDOC and DOM-DPI to allow for predictive analytics for prison releases and returns. Expanding this initiative will assist in determining the likelihood and potential reduction of recidivism.



# INTRODUCTION

The Annual Prison Population Forecast is one of several tools which inform the Iowa Department of Corrections (IDOC) and Board of Parole (BOP) regarding expected prison growth. The forecast is a guide for programmatic and policy changes to improve outcomes for incarcerated individuals.

This is the 33rd Iowa Prison Population Forecast, as part of the Correctional Policy Project, prepared by the Department of Management (DOM).

This report has been developed to assist the executive and legislative branches of government in annually assessing the impact of current criminal justice policy on Iowa's prison

The report is not an attempt to *predict* the future of the prison population in Iowa. Instead, it is meant to provide an indication of the direction the prison population will likely move under current laws, policies, and procedures. As these are modified, different results can be anticipated in future forecasts, but it is important to

note that it can take several years for legislative changes to have an effect and to be reflected in the data. It is possible that legislative modifications enacted in the recent past are not accounted for in current projections.

The current report utilizes data obtained from Iowa's Justice Data Warehouse (JDW). The JDW is a central repository of key criminal and juvenile justice information from the Judicial Branch Case Management System and information from the Iowa Correctional Offender Network (ICON). The overall mission of the JDW is to provide the judicial, legislative, and executive branches of state government and other entities, with improved statistical and decision support information pertaining to justice system activities.

The Federal Fiscal Year (October 1-September 30) was used, providing data through September 30, 2024. Prior to 2022, the State Fiscal Year (July 1-June 30) was used. Throughout this report, charts and tables have been updated to reflect Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) for the past 10 years and projections for the next 10 years. There are several places that still report State Fiscal Year (e.g., Figure 1 and Table 4 which provide projections from previous forecasts). Figure 5 and Table 19, which provide the number of new prison admissions involving drugs, report SFY for all years as this data was collected by the IDOC.

In FFY 2020 and 2021, the counts observed in the prison population were abnormally low compared to earlier years. Contributing factors of the decrease were related to policies and practices to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by IDOC, courts, the Board of Parole, as well as other changes in the justice system operations.

## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Over the course of the last several years, the Iowa Department of Corrections (IDOC) has had to creatively manage prison populations, with public safety at the forefront of the decision-making process. As a result, several practices were put in place to mitigate prison growth as a long term, sustainable solution to population management.

### **Identifying the Best Candidates for Release Consideration**

In May of 2021, the IDOC launched a "Release Candidate" dashboard, with a multitude of information and functionalities, providing corrections staff with an additional tool to ensure public safety when identifying appropriate candidates for release consideration by the Board of Parole (BOP) for review and release consideration. The dashboard serves as a secondary function to community-based corrections (CBC), providing insight on inmates who have been approved for release, their transfer status, and receiving region. The dashboard also allows CBC staff the opportunity to safely expedite the transition from prison to community placement for individuals. This dashboard continues to be a valuable tool to the Department helping in prison population management.

### **Community-Based Corrections Population Management and Public Safety Strategies**

The Department of Correction's (DOC) Community-Based Corrections Districts have a working alliance with their local law enforcement, judges, county attorneys, and community service providers. The CBCs are mindful of revocation considerations, sometimes processing those decisions through multiple layers of supervisory review prior to issuing a revocation recommendation; helping to mitigate prison populations for those who can be managed in the community without public safety concerns. The process of a rigorous review was practiced historically; however, it became even more critical during the pandemic. Today, the CBCs are excelling in their ability to divert people from prison who can be safety managed in the community. The CBCs have also done an extraordinary job of assisting in prison population management, by expediting the transfer process from prison to community placement for those approved by the BOP for work release or parole.

### **BOP and IDOC Partnership**

The BOP and the IDOC have and continue to maintain a strong working relationship. The IDOC employs a liaison whose duties are to cross collaborate with the BOP for release considerations. When the BOP and IDOC disagree regarding a release decision, their strong working relationship allows both entities the opportunity to work together to find a mutually beneficial solution which balances release considerations, and public safety.

### **Apprenticeship Programs**

Recent data shows the positive impact registered apprenticeship programs have on Iowa's recidivism rate, employment rate upon release, and wages upon release. One area IDOC has focused on, is implementing shorter term apprenticeship programs. Apprenticeships can be anywhere from 2000 hours (1 year) to 8000 hours (4 years) of required on-the-job training. Instead of focusing on the longer, more in-depth programs, IDOC has pivoted and allocated more resources to shorter term programs with additional third-party credentials. This enables apprentices to complete their program in a shorter amount of time and receive an industry recognized credential in addition to their apprenticeship completion certificate. The IDOC recently registered a competency-based program, which eliminates the on-the-job training hours requirement, and focuses on competencies to be mastered. This allows apprentices the ability to decrease the time it takes them to complete the on-the-job training requirement, potentially cutting that time in half. Although the longer-term apprenticeships will always be an integral part of IDOC programming, the shorter-term programs allow more individuals to obtain in demand job skills employers are looking for, while directly correlating with the flow and population with IDOC facilities.

## TERMINOLOGY

<b>New admissions</b>	New admissions include court-ordered commitments and probation revocations.
<b>Returns</b>	Returns include all incarcerated individuals who had one or more prior, unsuccessful conditional release. Length-of-stay for this category is defined as the time served in prison from the last admission (or return) to release (which may be parole, work release, expiration of sentence, etc.). Please note that, while this category is labeled “returns,” it includes some individuals who were not previously incarcerated; examples include those convicted of an OWI who were directly placed in community-based OWI treatment but were later revoked.
<b>Active-at-end (AAE)</b>	AAE counts are point-in-time estimates of the number of prisoners, parolees, or probationers in Iowa. AAE estimates throughout this report refer to samples drawn at the end of the federal fiscal year (i.e., September 30 at 12:00:00 AM).
<b>Most-serious offense or supervision status</b>	The Justice Data Warehouse (JDW) uses a hierarchical system of business rules to organize information according to severity, displaying the most serious offenses, offense types, sub-types, supervision statuses, etc. which are used throughout this report when a supervised individual has multiple offenses or supervision statuses.
<b>Projected prison admissions</b>	Projections are accomplished through Auto-Regressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) modeling with adjustments based on knowledge of recent law and conviction changes that may not yet be reflected in observed trends.
<b>Average length-of-stay (ALOS)</b>	This estimate is calculated utilizing correctional data extracted from the JDW for individuals who are released from prison during the most recent FFY.
<b>Projected releases</b>	Projected releases of individuals who are incarcerated at the onset of the projection period (referred to as “decay”).

# METHODS

## Basic components of the model

**Projected prison admissions:** Projections are based on thorough analysis of historical prison admissions data as well as felony charges and convictions from the JDW. Projected admissions are made for various offense classes and types of offenses (e.g., Class C “70% mandatory”, Class C “violent crimes against persons”, Class C “sex crimes”, and Class C “not against persons”) in two separate categories: new admissions and returns. Sex offenses are a separate category because they tend to serve higher percentages of their sentences than other incarcerated individuals.

**Projected average length-of-stay (ALOS):** Projections for ALOS are made for the most serious offense classes and types of offenses. These estimates are also categorized by admission type: new or return.

**“Decay”:** Projected releases of individuals who are incarcerated at the onset of the projection period. This involves analysis of the prison population at the beginning of the period and historical data on numbers of incarcerated individuals released. The forecast uses two different calculations: the average length of time incarcerated individuals with mandatory terms have served and the average length of time served prior to release.

## IOWA’S FORECASTING MODEL

This analysis used Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) modeling to perform prison-population forecast analysis. ARIMA modeling constitutes “a class of statistical models for analyzing and forecasting time series data.”<sup>3</sup> The ARIMA models in this report take the difference between consecutive, lagged time points to forecast 10 non-stationary future time points. The statewide prison-population forecast and policy simulation model used in this analysis is a matrix that distributes Iowa’s prison population over the projection period by quarter.

Prison admissions and ALOS data are analyzed within two broad categories based on the type of prison admission: new admissions and returns. A point-in-time estimate of the prison population also known as – Active-At-End (AAE) is also examined. AAE is the population of currently incarcerated individuals on the specific date, September 30.

Admissions are further categorized by whether the most serious crime was a sex offense or crime against persons. Crimes against persons are crimes classified as “violent” if they involved death, injury, attempted injury, abuse, threats, coercion, intimidation, or duress.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://machinelearningmastery.com/arima-for-time-series-forecasting-with-python/>

## Forecasting Assumptions

- It is assumed that certain historical phenomena such as trends in population growth, prison admissions rates, and the length-of-stay of incarcerated individuals will eventually return to pre-pandemic levels. It is further assumed that the data provided as measurements of these phenomena accurately reflect actual conditions.
- It is assumed there will be minimal legislative changes in the state criminal code and criminal procedures during the projection period.
- It is assumed there will be minimal changes in judicial sentencing, parole board release policies, or probation/parole revocation policies and practices during the projection period.

There may be slight discrepancies in findings and figures reported by the Prison Forecast, IDOC, and the BOP. These variations are attributable to several factors, including but not limited to, changes within ICON and the JDW at the time of data extraction, variation in data parameter reporting, and variations in prison population estimates. Prison forecast analysis requires active-at-end (AAE) case-level data. IDOC largely reports population estimates, using averages over the course of a year. Please note that Class A felonies are not included in ALOS or release tables.

Unless otherwise noted, all 10-year percent changes in this report are a comparison between FFY2015 and FFY2024. That is, data from the years in between are not included.

# FORECASTED POPULATION AND CAPACITY

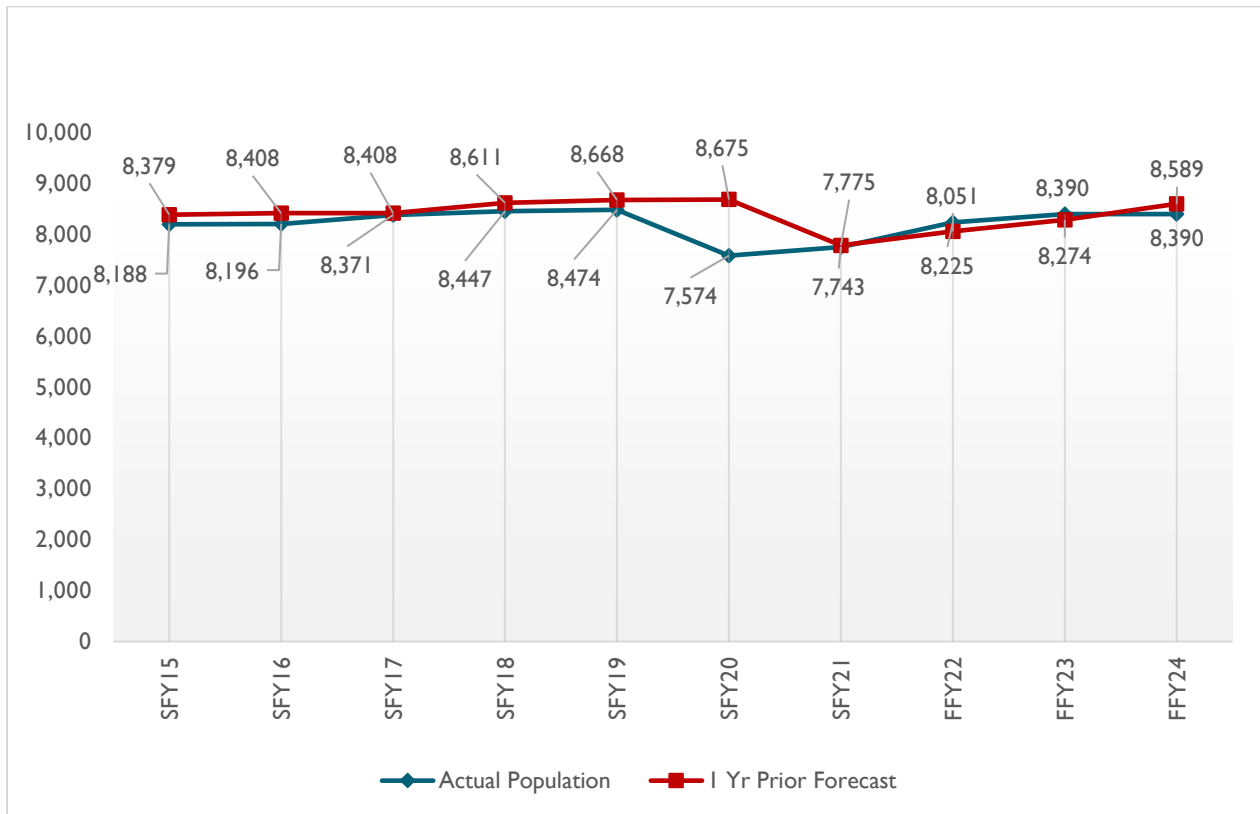
## ACCURACY OF HISTORIC FORECASTS

Pandemic-related changes in policy and procedure that went into effect in 2020 had lingering effects on the justice system. The prison population has since increased.

Except for the pandemic in 2020, the one-year prison population projections have been consistently accurate. Last year's projection was 8,589 (through September 30, 2024) and this year's actual prison population was 8,390 (see Figure 1 and Appendix I, Table 4).

Figure 1 shows prison forecast estimates for the past 10 fiscal years and highlights the accuracy of the short-term projections. Please note that projections in years prior to 2022 were based on State Fiscal Year (SFY), which differs from the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) currently reported.

**FIGURE 1: PRISON FORECAST ESTIMATES COMPARED TO ACTUAL POPULATION**



Source: Justice Data Warehouse and Prison Forecast Estimates

## SHORT-TERM PROJECTION

The population remained exactly the same; 8,390 individuals were incarcerated both at the end of FFY 2023 and at the end of FFY 2024 (see Appendix VI, Table 14).

Iowa's prison population is projected to increase 4.9% from 8,390 incarcerated individuals on September 30, 2024, to 8,805 incarcerated individuals on September 30, 2025. This will exceed capacity<sup>4</sup> by approximately 1,815 incarcerated individuals, or by 26.0% (see Appendix I, Table 1).

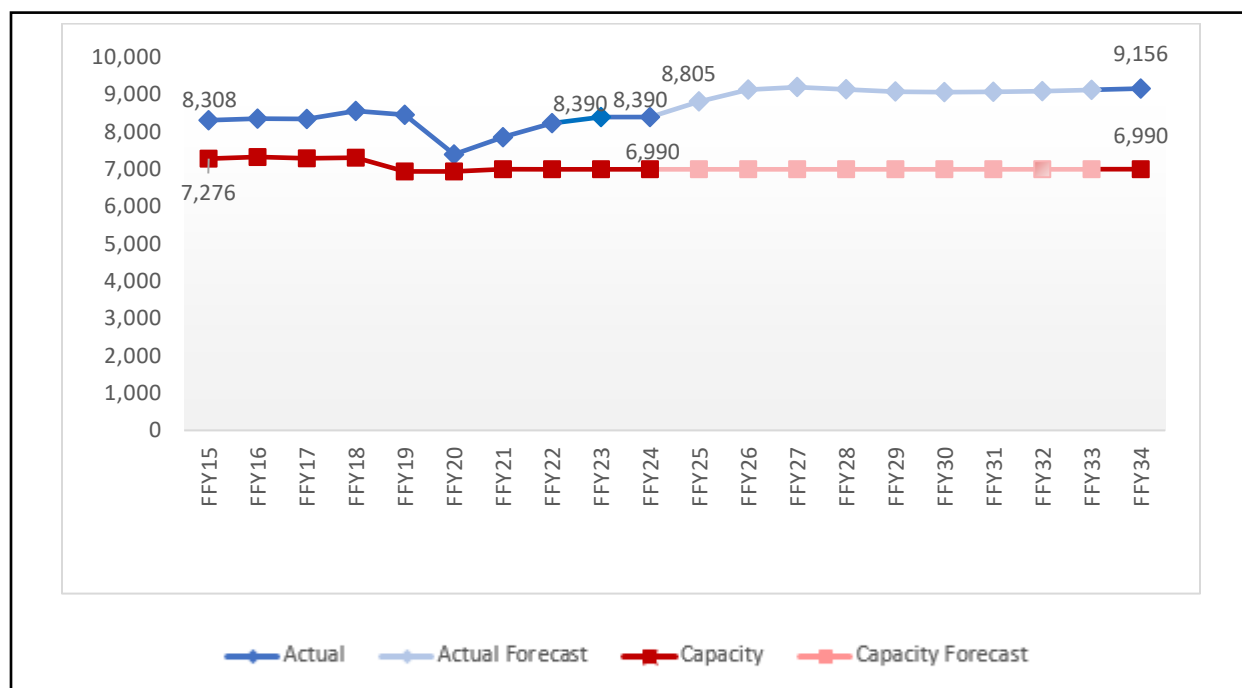
## LONG-TERM PROJECTIONS

If current criminal behaviors and justice system trends, policies, and practices continue over the next decade, the **total population** is expected to increase from 8,390 in FFY 2024 to **9,156 individuals** in FFY 2034, **31.0% overcapacity** (see Figure 2; Appendix I, Table 1).

## PRISON CAPACITY

Figure 2 (see Appendix I, Table 1) shows the actual and projected number of the total incarcerated individuals over the prior and future 10 years, and prison capacity.

**FIGURE 2: TOTAL INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS AND PRISON CAPACITY**

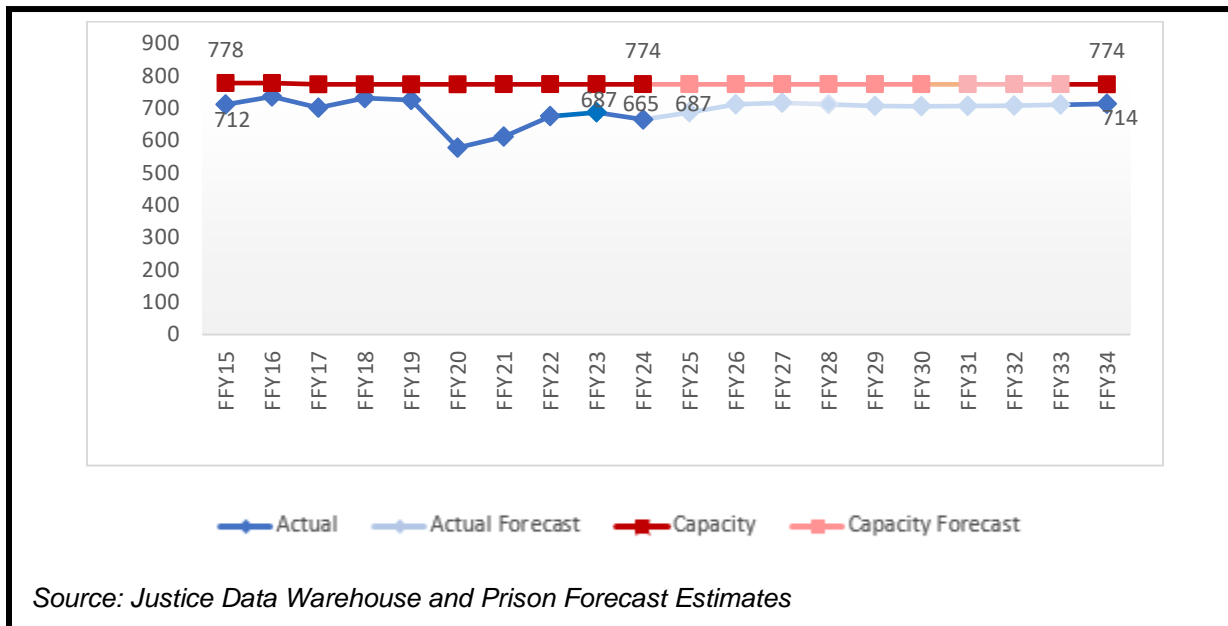


Source: Justice Data Warehouse and Prison Forecast Estimates

<sup>4</sup> In August 2016, the IDOC established a principle that official prison capacity should reflect the actual beds present in their institutions. While an institution has a specified design capacity when opened, official capacity may change as units and spaces are repurposed to best meet the needs of the institution and its population.

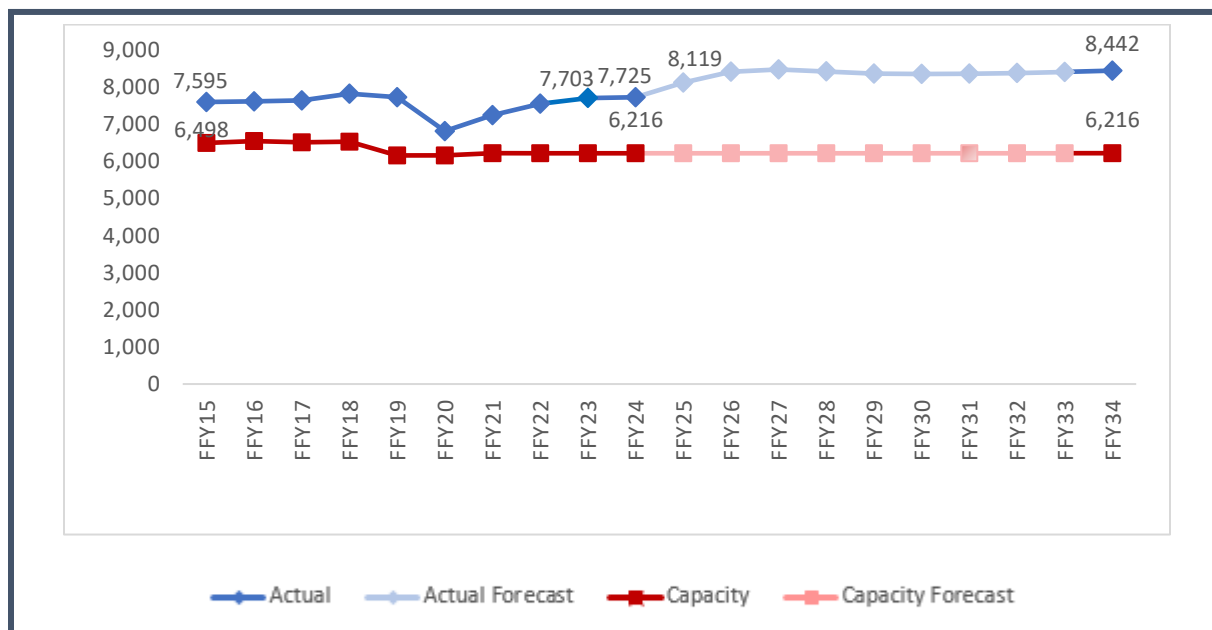
Figure 2A shows that in FFY 2025, incarcerated **females** are projected to be **11.2% undercapacity** (see Appendix I, Table 2). Over the next 10 years, the forecast predicts the number of incarcerated females will increase by 7.4%, reaching 714 individuals in FFY 2034 (7.8% undercapacity).

**FIGURE 2A: INCARCERATED FEMALES AND PRISON CAPACITY**



In FFY 2025, incarcerated **males** are projected to be at **30.6% overcapacity** (see Figure 2B; Appendix I, Table 3). Over the next 10 years, the population of incarcerated males is expected to increase by 9.3%, reaching 8,442 individuals in FFY 2034 (35.8% overcapacity).

**FIGURE 2B: INCARCERATED MALES AND PRISON CAPACITY**





# ADMISSIONS AND RETURNS

New prison admissions and prison returns are projected to increase in the following years. Figure 3 shows the actual and forecasted prison admissions and returns.

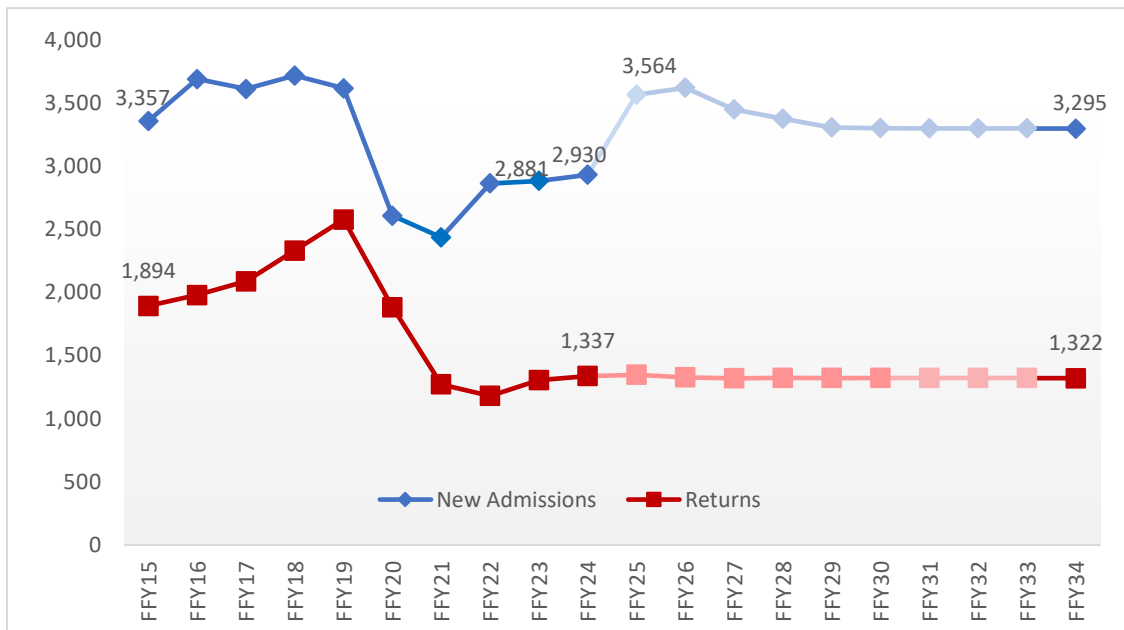
### **New Prison Admissions**

In the past decade, new admissions decreased 12.7% from 3,357 to 2,930 (see Appendix II, Table 5). Since last year, they have increased by 1.7% from 2,881 in FFY 2023 to 2,930 in FFY 2024. In FFY 2034, this number is predicted to be 3,295 individuals.

### **Prison Returns**

In the past decade, prison returns decreased 29.4% from 1,894 to 1,337 (see Appendix II, Table 5). Since last year, returns increased 2.5% from 1,305 in FFY 2023 to 1,337 in FFY 2024. All return types decreased over the past ten-year period (see Appendix II, Table 5).

**FIGURE 3: ACTUAL AND FORECASTED PRISON ADMISSIONS AND RETURNS**



Source: Justice Data Warehouse and Prison Forecast Estimates

## OFFENSE TYPE

In FFY 2024,  
Of the 2,930 new admissions to prison:

- 36.7% were **violent** offenses,
- 24.0% were **property** offenses,
- 22.1% were **drug** offenses,
- 16.7% were **public order** offenses, and
- 0.5% were **other** offenses

In the past decade,

**Decreases** in new admits for:

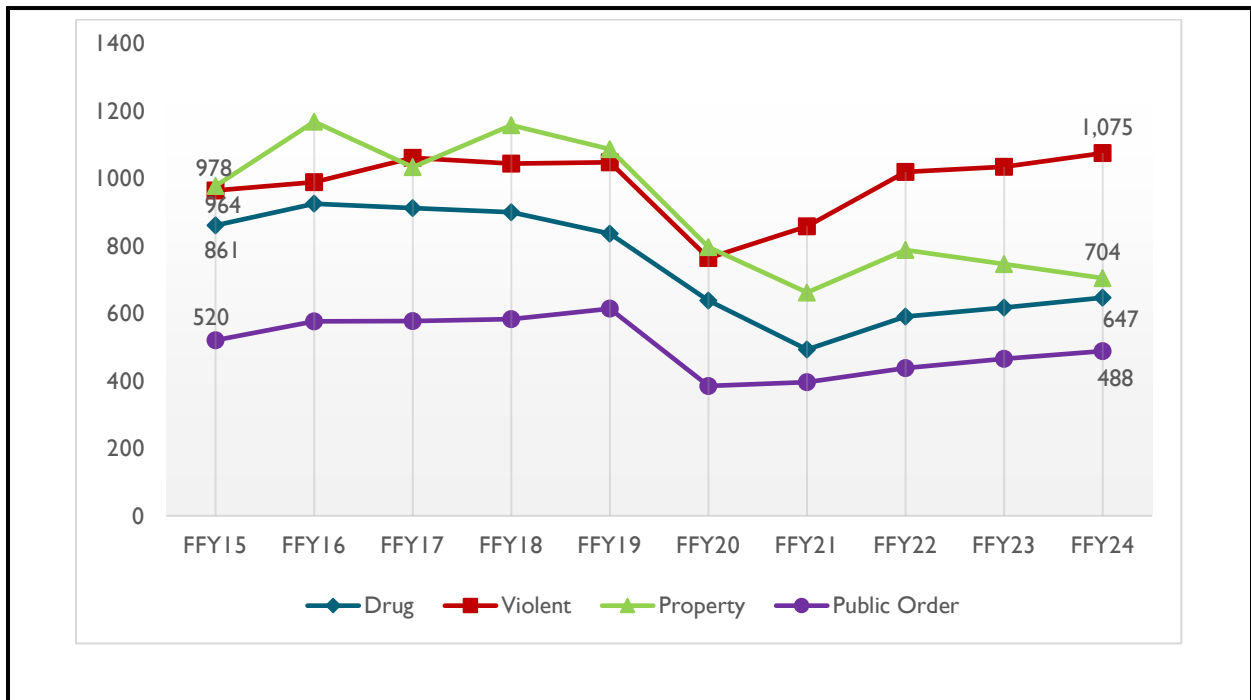
- **drug** offenses, 24.9%,
- **property** offenses, 28.0%,
- **public order** offenses, 6.2%
- **other** offenses, 52.9%

**Increases** in new admits for:

- **violent** offenses, 11.5%

Please refer to Figure 4, and Appendix II, Table 6

**FIGURE 4: FFY 2015 TO FFY 2024 NEW PRISON ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE**



**TYPE**

Source: Justice Data Warehouse

Note: "Other" offenses were not included in Figure 4

# DRUG OFFENSES

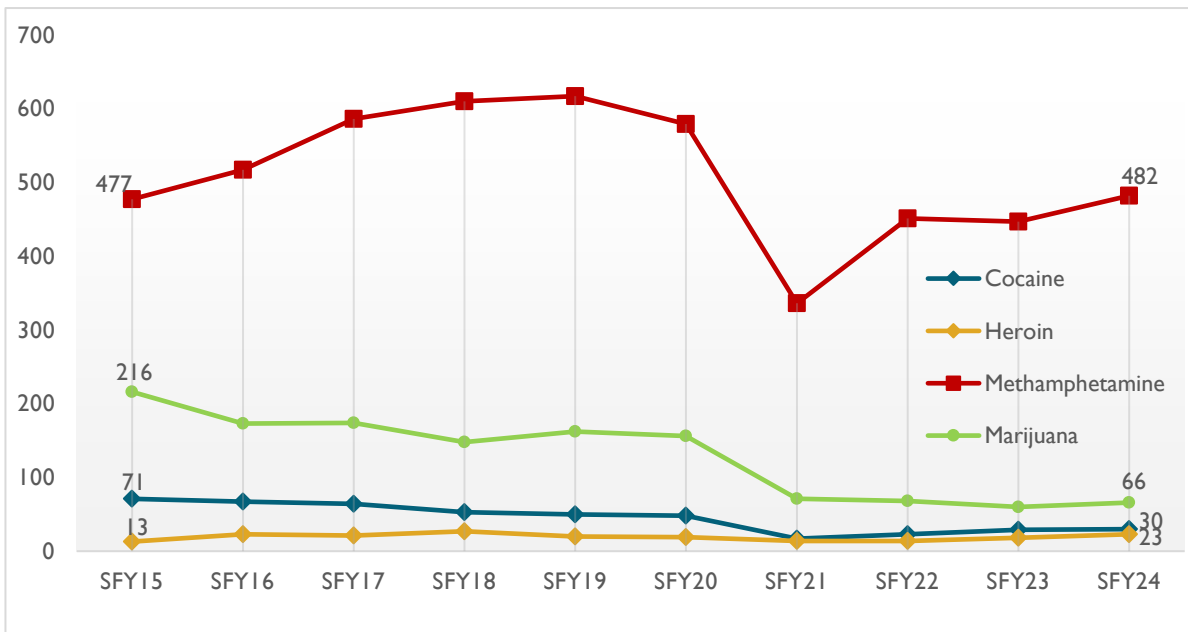
Within the last decade, new prison admissions for a most serious drug offense have decreased by 24.9% (see Appendix II, Table 6).<sup>5</sup>

*As time passes, it is more evident that admissions for drug offenses are related to the manufacture and trafficking of methamphetamines (Figure 5; Appendix VIII, Table 19).*

There were 482 prison admissions for a new most serious drug offense for methamphetamine in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024. While there are only a very small number of prison admissions with a most serious heroin offense, it increased from 13 to 23 in the past decade. There have been decreases in the number of admissions for cocaine, marijuana, and prescription drugs (see Appendix VIII; Table 19).

One continued opportunity for change lies in the response to drug crimes. It is possible that those convicted and committed to prison for drugs could be more effectively rehabilitated elsewhere (e.g., community and inpatient treatment programs) or committed to prison for shorter periods of time.

**FIGURE 5: PRIMARY DRUG INVOLVED IN NEW DRUG PRISON ADMISSIONS<sup>5</sup>**



Source: Justice Data Warehouse

**HF 2166<sup>6</sup> was passed in 2024, designating additional chemical substances as controlled substances under Iowa Code 124.** This law aligns Schedule I, II, and IV controlled substances under Iowa Codes 124 and 124B to conform to the specific chemical designations in Federal Regulations for Title 21. A violation involving a controlled substance is a B felony, in addition to the 25-year mandatory minimum term of imprisonment, a C felony, or an aggravated misdemeanor. Making additional chemical substances illegal could impact future prison forecasts.

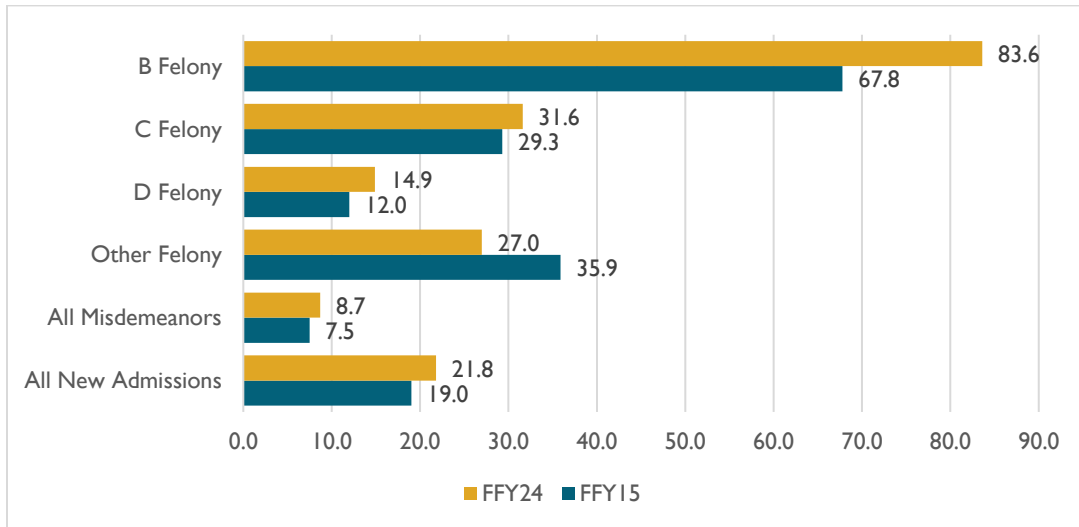
<sup>5</sup> Includes new admissions within a particular State Fiscal Year whose most serious offense was a drug offense.

<sup>6</sup> [HF2166](#)

## AVERAGE LENGTH-OF-STAY (ALOS)

In the past decade, ALOS **increased 14.7%** for incarcerated individuals, who were identified as new admissions, from 19.0 months to 21.8 months (see Figure 6; Appendix IV, Table 10).

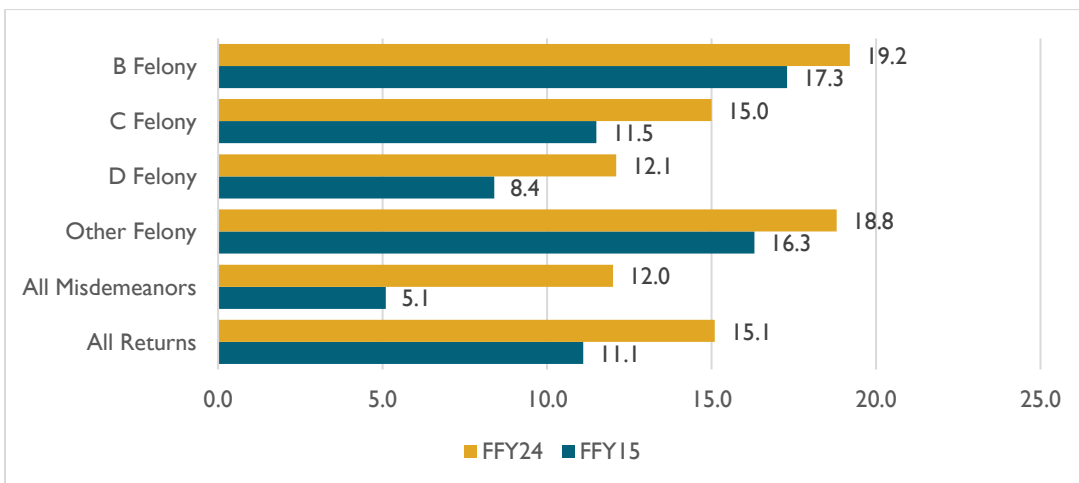
**FIGURE 6: AVERAGE LENGTH-OF-STAY FOR NEW ADMISSIONS IN MONTHS BY CLASS, FFY 2015 & FFY 2024**



Source: Justice Data Warehouse. Other Felony category includes: felony enhancements, mandatory minimum sentences, and “other.”

In the past decade, ALOS **increased 36.0%** for incarcerated individuals, who were identified as returns from 11.1 months to 15.1 months (see Figure 7; Appendix IV, Table 11). Increases for all crime categories were observed. Average time served for prison returns tends to be shorter than new admissions due to serving a significant portion of their sentences prior to their original release.

**FIGURE 7: AVERAGE LENGTH-OF-STAY FOR RETURNS IN MONTHS BY CLASS, FFY 2015 & FFY 2024**

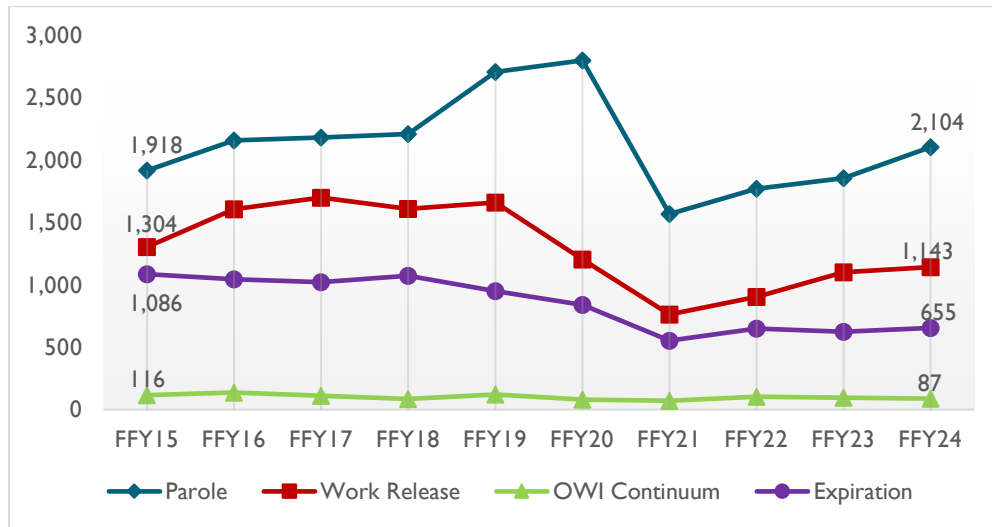


Source: Justice Data Warehouse. Other Felony category includes: felony enhancements, mandatory minimum sentences, and “other.”

# COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONS

Releases without community supervision (expiration of sentence) decreased 39.7% in the past decade. All the types of release to community supervision, except parole, have also decreased in the past decade (see Figure 8; Appendix III; Table 9).

**FIGURE 8: PRISON RELEASES BY TYPE FROM FFY 2015 TO FFY 2024**



Source: Justice Data Warehouse

## PAROLE

From FFY 2015 to FFY 2024, parole has been the most common release type (see Figure 8; Appendix III, Table 9). In FFY 2024, there were 6,507 individuals served on parole, a 0.7% increase from FFY 2015 (see Appendix V, Table 13).

## WORK RELEASE

Work release is the second most common release type (see Figure 8; Appendix III, Table 9). In FFY 2024, there were 1,613 individuals served on work release, 31.7% decrease from FFY 2015 (see Appendix V, Table 13).

## PROBATION

In FFY 2024, there were 35,319 individuals on probation (see Appendix V, Table 12).<sup>1</sup> Prison admits for probation revocations decreased 22.0% from FFY 2015 (see Appendix II, Table 5).

## REVOCATIONS

In the past decade,

**Decreased revocations for:**

- Probation, 9.2% (Appendix V, Table 12)
- Parole, 0.8%
- Work release, 37.3% and
- OWI continuum, 46.4% (Appendix V, Table 13).

**Increased revocations for:**

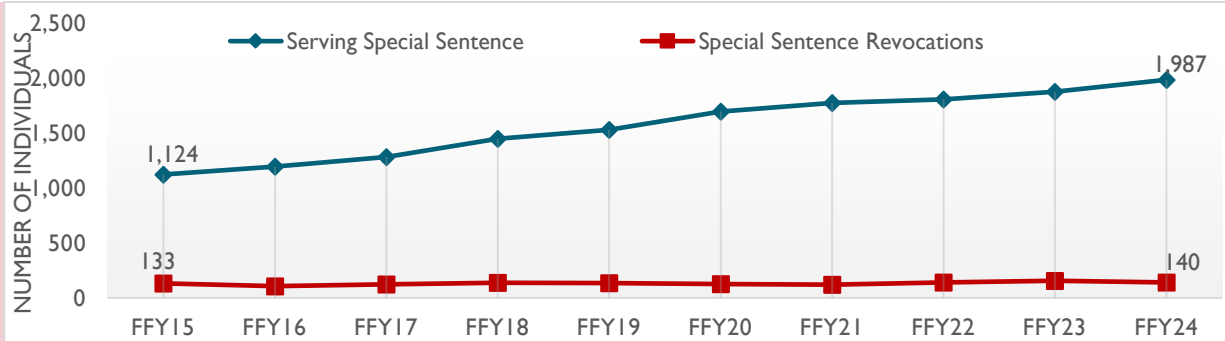
- Special sentence, 5.3% (Appendix V, Table 13).

## SPECIAL SENTENCE

The special sentence places people convicted of offenses under *Iowa Code* §709 (sex offenses), §726.2 (incest), and §728.12 (1), (2), or (3) (sexual exploitation) on either 10-year or lifetime community supervision. Individuals convicted of A, B, and C felony sex offenses receive life-time community supervision and those convicted of a D felony and misdemeanor receive 10-year supervision sentences (*Iowa Code*, §903B).

Over the past 10 years, there has been a 76.8% increase in individuals serving special sentences in the community from 1,124 to 1,987 (see Figure 9; Appendix V, Table 13). During the same time, special sentence revocations increased 5.3% from 133 in FFY 2015 to 140 in FFY 2024 (see Appendix V, Table 13).

**FIGURE 9: INDIVIDUALS ON SPECIAL SENTENCE**



Source: Justice Data Warehouse

**Passed in 2024, SF2243<sup>7</sup> adds clarifications to sexual exploitation of a minor under Iowa Code 728.12(3).** The law doesn't require proof of the actual identity of a minor in the creation or modification of a photo or film depiction of a minor engaging in a sex act. A first offense is a D felony.

**HF 2602<sup>8</sup> creates a new offense of "Grooming" under Code 709.8A.** It is defined as knowingly electronically luring a child to engage in sexual conduct. The offense is a Class D felony. These laws could impact future forecasts.

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*DOM staff recently completed a study of 6,345 registered sex offenders in Iowa. Among these offenders, 12.5% were convicted of a subsequent sex offense and 26.5% were convicted of a monitoring violation. Being under age 18, victimizing both minors and adults, and higher registry classification were associated with higher recidivism.<sup>9</sup>*

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Without modifying the length of special sentence supervision or who is subject to lifetime supervision, those placed on special sentence will constitute an ever-larger proportion of people under community supervision.

<sup>7</sup> [SF2243](#)

<sup>8</sup> [HF2602](#)

<sup>9</sup> Yates, C., and Mattingly, M. (2024). "Analysis of Iowa's Sex Offender Registry." Department of Management Division of Data, Planning, and Improvement.

# RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS IN ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

The prison population racial trend has remained relatively steady from FFY 2015 to FFY 2024. Please refer to Appendix VI, Table 14.

In FFY 2024, Black individuals comprised 4.1%<sup>10</sup> of the state’s total population but were 27.1% of the state’s prison population.

**In FFY 2024, the prison population compositions:**

- 61.2% White
- 27.1% Black
- 8.1% Hispanic
- 2.3% Native American or Alaskan
- 1.3% Asian/Pacific Islander

## ADMISSIONS

Over the past ten years, the number of White and Black individuals admitted to prison decreased 23.8% and 13.3%, respectively (see Figure 10; Figure 11; Appendix VII, Table 15).

## RELEASES

Over the past ten years, prison releases for White and Black individuals decreased 13.2% and 11.9%, respectively (see Figure 10; Figure 11; Appendix VII, Table 16).

**FIGURE 10: PRISON ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES FOR WHITE INDIVIDUALS**

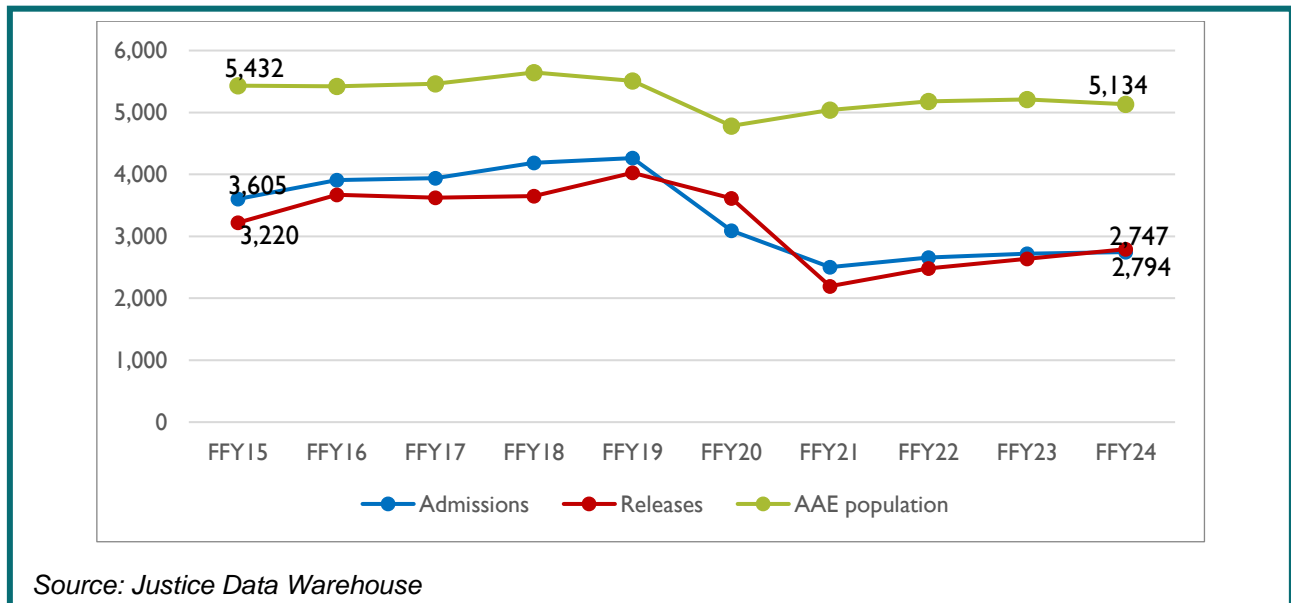
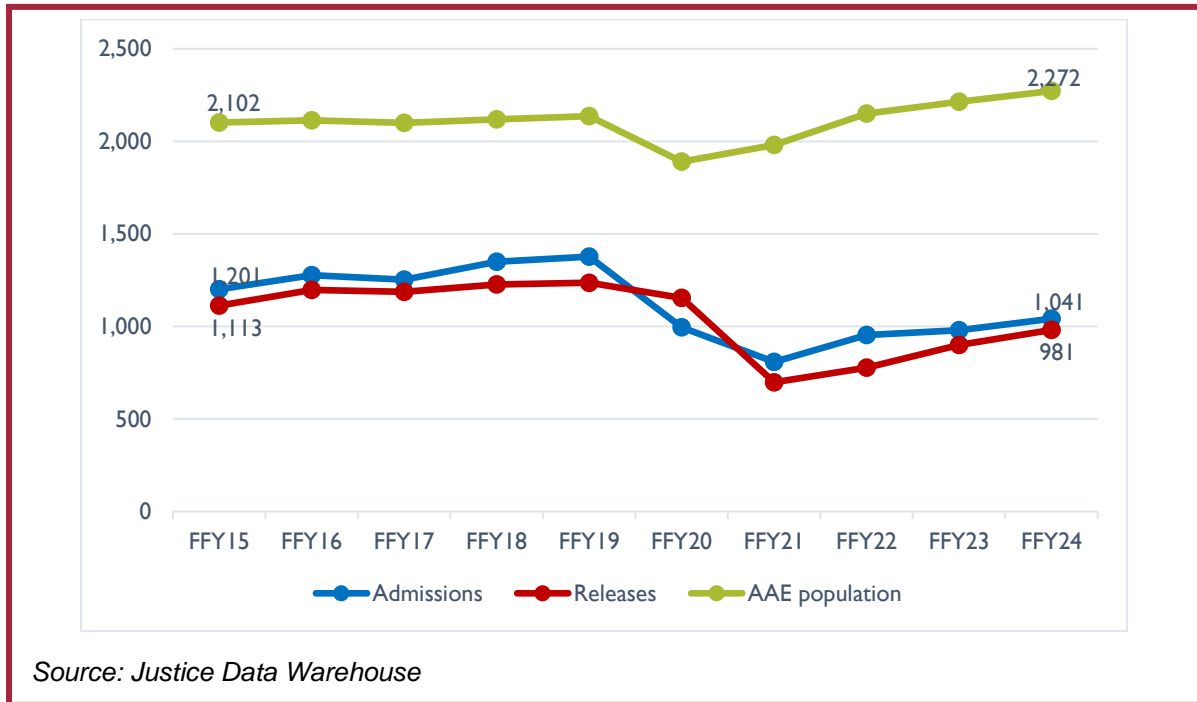


Figure 10 shows the actual numbers of prison admissions, releases, and current active-at-end (AAE) population for White individuals over the past 10 Federal Fiscal Years (see Figure 10; Appendix VII, Table 17).

<sup>10</sup> [Easy Access to Juvenile Populations: 1990-2022.](#)

Figure 11 shows the actual numbers of prison admissions, releases, and current AAE population for Black individuals (see Figure 11; Appendix VII, Table 18).

**FIGURE 11: PRISON ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES FOR BLACK INDIVIDUALS**





## SUMMARY

This report is a tool to inform the IDOC and BOP regarding historical trends, current population, and expected prison growth. The IDOC has taken efforts to minimize prison population and have continued efforts with state officials and policy makers to help ensure that prison populations do not reach their projected numbers.

The prison population has increased by 1.0%, from 8,308 in SFY 2015 to 8,390 incarcerated individuals in FFY 2024. The population was on an upward trajectory until the pandemic greatly reduced the numbers in 2020. Compared to FFY 2023, the number of new prison admissions increased by 1.7% (2,881 to 2,930), the number of returns to prison increased by 2.5% (1,305 to 1,337), while releases increased by 7.2% (3,958 to 4,244).

Except for the state's only women's prison, the other eight prisons were overcapacity as of November 2024.<sup>11</sup> The forecast predicts that at the end of FFY 2034, assuming status quo and in the absence of any changes to current policy and legislation, the prison population will reach 9,156 incarcerated individuals. Which will result in a 9.1% increase in the prison population and a 31.0% increase in overcapacity.

### CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO PRISON POPULATION CHANGE

Mandatory minimums, violent crimes, and drug offense sentencing are contributors to Iowa's overpopulation. Individuals may be more effectively rehabilitated through community-based programs, when appropriate, to minimize the prison population. Future forecasts may show the impacts of HF 2166, which aligned the Federal Regulations with State regulations under Iowa Codes 124 and 124B, designating chemical substances as controlled substances.

The number of individuals serving special sentences in the community has increased 76.8% in the past 10 years. This trend is expected to continue as more individuals convicted of sex crimes are gradually released from prison onto the special sentence. New legislation passed in 2024 penalizing sex offenders may also have future impacts. SF 2243 does not require proof of the identify of a minor in the creation or modification of a photo or film depiction of a minor engaging in a sex act under Code 728.12(3). HF 2602 created a new offense of "grooming" under Code 709.8A, a D felony.

While new admits to prison decreased by 18.7% over the past decade and prison returns decreased by 29.4%, both are projected to increase over the coming years and would contribute to the overall prison population growth in Iowa.

Over the past decade, the average length of stay for individuals admitted to prison has increased by 14.7% for new admissions and by 36.0% for returns. In sum, incarcerated individuals are spending more time in prison, thus, contributing to the overpopulation.

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<sup>11</sup> [Prison Daily Statistics](#). Iowa Department of Corrections.

# APPENDIX I: Prison Population Forecast

**TABLE 1: ACTIVE-AT-END PRISON POPULATION, FORECAST POPULATION, AND CAPACITY: TOTAL**<sup>12 13</sup>

*All Tables Contained in Appendices are from the Justice Data Warehouse unless otherwise noted*

Fiscal Year	Total Incarcerated individuals	Increase/Decrease	1 Yr. % Change	Total Prison Capacity	% Overcapacity
<b>ACTUAL</b>					
FFY2015	8,308	--	--	7,276	14.2%
FFY2016	8,350	42	0.5%	7,322	14.0%
FFY2017	8,343	-7	-0.1%	7,288	14.5%
FFY2018	8,550	207	2.5%	7,305	17.0%
FFY2019	8,450	-100	-1.2%	6,936	21.8%
FFY2020	7,392	-1,058	-12.5%	6,933	6.6%
FFY2021	7,855	463	6.3%	6,993	12.3%
FFY2022	8,225	370	4.7%	6,990	17.7%
FFY2023	8,390	165	2.0%	6,990	20.0%
FFY2024	8,390	0	0.0%	6,990	20.0%
<b>FORECAST</b>					
FFY2025	8,805	415	4.9%	6,990	26.0%
FFY2026	9,123	318	3.6%	6,990	30.5%
FFY2027	9,190	67	0.7%	6,990	31.5%
FFY2028	9,129	-61	-0.7%	6,990	30.6%
FFY2029	9,068	-61	-0.7%	6,990	29.7%
FFY2030	9,057	-11	-0.1%	6,990	29.6%
FFY2031	9,065	8	0.1%	6,990	29.7%
FFY2032	9,083	18	0.2%	6,990	29.9%
FFY2033	9,116	33	0.4%	6,990	30.4%
FFY2034	9,156	40	0.4%	6,990	31.0%

Prison Capacity: <https://doc-search.iowa.gov/dailystatistics>

<sup>12</sup> In August of 2016, the IDOC established a principal that official prison capacity should reflect the actual beds present in their institutions. While an institution has a specified design capacity when opened, official capacity may change as units and spaces are repurposed to best meet the needs of the institution and its population.

<sup>13</sup> Populations exclude the sex offender civil commitment unit.

**TABLE 2: ACTIVE-AT-END PRISON POPULATION, FORECASTED POPULATION, AND CAPACITY: FEMALES**

Fiscal Year	# Women	Increase/ Decrease	1 Yr. % Change	Female Prison Capacity	% Undercapacity
<b>ACTUAL</b>					
FFY 2015	712	--	--	778	-8.5%
FFY 2016	736	24	3.4%	778	-5.4%
FFY 2017	702	-34	-4.6%	774	-9.3%
FFY 2018	731	29	4.1%	774	-5.6%
FFY 2019	725	-6	-0.8%	774	-6.3%
FFY 2020	578	-147	-20.3%	774	-25.3%
FFY 2021	612	34	5.9%	774	-20.9%
FFY 2022	675	63	10.3%	774	-12.8%
FFY 2023	687	12	1.8%	774	-11.2%
FFY 2024	665	-22	-3.2%	774	-14.1%
<b>FORECAST</b>					
FFY 2025	687	22	3.3%	774	-11.2%
FFY 2026	712	25	3.6%	774	-8.0%
FFY 2027	717	5	0.7%	774	-7.4%
FFY 2028	712	-5	-0.7%	774	-8.0%
FFY 2029	707	-5	-0.7%	774	-8.7%
FFY 2030	706	-1	-0.1%	774	-8.8%
FFY 2031	707	1	0.1%	774	-8.7%
FFY 2032	708	1	0.1%	774	-8.5%
FFY 2033	711	3	0.4%	774	-8.1%
FFY 2034	714	3	0.4%	774	-7.8%

Prison Capacity: <https://doc-search.iowa.gov/dailystatistics>

**TABLE 3: ACTIVE-AT-END PRISON POPULATION, FORECASTED POPULATION, AND CAPACITY: MALES**

Fiscal Year	# Men	Increase/Decrease	1 Yr. % Change	Male Prison Capacity	% Overcapacity
<b>ACTUAL</b>					
FFY2015	7,595	--	--	6,498	16.9%
FFY2016	7,614	19	0.3%	6,544	16.4%
FFY2017	7,641	27	0.4%	6,514	17.3%
FFY2018	7,819	178	2.3%	6,531	19.7%
FFY2019	7,725	-94	-1.2%	6,162	25.4%
FFY2020	6,814	-911	-11.8%	6,159	10.6%
FFY2021	7,243	429	6.3%	6,219	16.5%
FFY2022	7,549	306	4.2%	6,216	21.4%
FFY2023	7,703	154	2.0%	6,216	23.9%
FFY2024	7,725	22	0.3%	6,216	24.3%
<b>FORECAST</b>					
FFY2025	8,119	394	5.1%	6,216	30.6%
FFY2026	8,411	292	3.6%	6,216	35.3%
FFY2027	8,473	62	0.7%	6,216	36.3%
FFY2028	8,417	-56	-0.7%	6,216	35.4%
FFY2029	8,361	-56	-0.7%	6,216	34.5%
FFY2030	8,351	-10	-0.1%	6,216	34.3%
FFY2031	8,358	7	0.1%	6,216	34.5%
FFY2032	8,375	17	0.2%	6,216	34.7%
FFY2033	8,405	30	0.4%	6,216	35.2%
FFY2034	8,442	37	0.4%	6,216	35.8%

Prison Capacity: <https://doc-search.iowa.gov/dailystatistics>

**TABLE 4: ACTIVE-AT-END PRISON POPULATION COMPARED TO PRIOR YEAR FORECAST**

	<b>Actual Population</b>	<b>1 Yr. Prior* Forecast</b>	<b>1 Yr. % Change</b>
SFY15	8,188	8,379	-2.3%
SFY16	8,196	8,408	-2.5%
SFY17	8,371	8,408	-0.4%
SFY18	8,447	8,611	-1.9%
SFY19	8,474	8,668	-2.2%
SFY20	7,574	8,675	-12.7%
SFY21	7,743	7,775	-0.4%
FFY22**	8,225	8,051	2.2%
FFY23	8,390	8,274	1.4%
FFY24	8,390	8,589	-2.3%

\* This column lists the forecasted figure (for the year listed in the column on the left) from the year prior to the year listed in the column. For example, in FFY 2023, the forecast projected a prison population of 8,589 for FFY 2024.

\*\* Please note that forecasts prior to FY2022 used the State Fiscal Year (SFY) through June 30, 2022. Beginning in 2022, the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) was reported.

## APPENDIX II: Prison Admission Populations and Forecasts

**TABLE 5: PRISON ADMISSIONS BY ADMISSION REASON**

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>Admission Type</b>												
New Court Commitments	1,747	1,971	1,925	1,971	1,914	1,422	1,343	1,542	1,530	1,677	-4.0%	1,704.20
New/Probation Revocations	1,603	1,710	1,682	1,738	1,694	1,183	1,090	1,313	1,347	1,251	-22.0%	1,461.10
Prison Compact	7	7	3	7	8	2	2	6	4	2	-71.4%	4.80
<b>NEW ADMISSIONS</b>	<b>3,357</b>	<b>3,688</b>	<b>3,610</b>	<b>3,716</b>	<b>3,616</b>	<b>2,607</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>2,861</b>	<b>2,881</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>-12.7%</b>	<b>3,170.10</b>
Parole Return <sup>14</sup>	1,058	1,054	1,231	1,450	1,569	1,154	711	655	758	793	-25.0%	1,043.30
Work Release Return	618	732	677	647	781	558	420	355	370	382	-38.2%	554
OWI Continuum Return	43	46	22	30	36	25	14	17	17	20	-53.5%	27
Special Sentence Return	154	124	141	184	171	128	112	141	146	138	-10.4%	143.90
Prison Compact	1	4	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	-100.0%	0.80
Other Return <sup>15</sup>	20	20	16	20	20	19	12	12	14	4	-80.0%	15.70
<b>RETURNS</b>	<b>1,894</b>	<b>1,980</b>	<b>2,088</b>	<b>2,331</b>	<b>2,577</b>	<b>1,884</b>	<b>1,271</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>1,305</b>	<b>1,337</b>	<b>-29.4%</b>	<b>1,784.70</b>
<b>TOTAL ADMISSIONS<sup>16</sup></b>	<b>5,251</b>	<b>5,668</b>	<b>5,698</b>	<b>6,047</b>	<b>6,193</b>	<b>4,491</b>	<b>3,706</b>	<b>4,041</b>	<b>4,186</b>	<b>4,267</b>	<b>-18.7%</b>	<b>4,954.80</b>

<sup>14</sup> Parole returns include short-term stays and releases to county jail.

<sup>15</sup> Other returns tend to include inmates who returned to prison to serve an original sentence, a sentence which was under appeal, a county jail contract, or those who had escaped/absconded.

<sup>16</sup> Excludes safe keeper, violators, and other admissions as they are not included in the prison forecast calculations

**TABLE 6: NEW PRISON ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE TYPE AND SUBTYPE**

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>OFFENSE TYPE</b>												
Drug	861	925	912	900	836	638	493	591	617	647	-24.9%	742.0
Violent	964	989	1,061	1,044	1,048	764	858	1019	1,035	1,075	11.5%	985.7
Property	978	1,168	1,034	1,158	1,087	796	662	788	746	704	-28.0%	912.1
Public Order	520	576	577	583	614	385	396	438	465	488	-6.2%	504.2
Other	34	30	26	31	31	24	26	25	18	16	-52.9%	26.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,357</b>	<b>3,688</b>	<b>3,610</b>	<b>3,716</b>	<b>3,616</b>	<b>2,607</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>2,861</b>	<b>2,881</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>-12.7%</b>	<b>3,170.1</b>
<b>OFFENSE SUBTYPE</b>												
Alcohol	50	48	37	31	20	1	1	0	0	0	-100.0%	18.8
Arson	27	20	26	36	21	21	16	26	28	23	-14.8%	24.4
Assault	538	558	586	578	554	434	462	512	534	588	9.3%	534.4
Burglary	370	426	421	421	375	290	280	337	293	250	-32.4%	346.3
Drug Offenses*	861	925	912	900	836	638	493	591	617	647	-24.9%	742.0
Flight/Escape	6	11	5	12	11	8	7	8	5	2	-66.7%	7.5
Forgery/Fraud	178	207	164	204	216	149	105	98	95	112	-37.1%	152.8
Kidnapping	12	19	17	13	16	21	21	28	27	25	108.3%	19.9
Murder/Manslaughter	67	87	96	80	92	61	73	118	100	89	32.8%	86.3
OWI	228	269	242	200	245	136	139	174	167	176	-22.8%	197.6
Pimping/Prostitution	2	1	2	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	-100.0%	1.1
Robbery	73	75	80	88	86	52	66	66	63	46	-37.0%	69.5
Sex Offenses	189	182	212	210	215	146	185	239	240	261	38.1%	207.9
Theft	358	449	369	439	416	302	223	281	263	258	-27.9%	335.8
Traffic	67	80	72	95	93	54	65	70	70	100	49.3%	76.6
Vandalism	45	66	53	58	59	34	38	45	66	60	33.3%	52.4
Weapons	94	90	121	140	146	113	102	120	135	126	34.0%	118.7
All Other Offenses	192	175	195	211	215	144	156	148	178	167	-13.0%	178.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,357</b>	<b>3,688</b>	<b>3,610</b>	<b>3,716</b>	<b>3,616</b>	<b>2,607</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>2,861</b>	<b>2,881</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>-12.7%</b>	<b>3,170.1</b>

\*Drug Offenses include "drug," "other drug," and "drug trafficking" subtypes.

**TABLE 7: NEW PRISON ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE CLASS**

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
OFFENSE CLASS												
A Felony	22	21	28	20	28	17	21	28	31	31	40.9%	24.7
B Felony	162	195	173	189	202	123	130	207	191	220	35.8%	179.2
C Felony	824	872	888	900	810	625	645	715	718	685	-16.9%	768.2
D Felony	1,492	1,657	1,603	1,666	1,680	1,317	1,173	1,412	1,447	1,508	1.1%	1,495.5
Other Felony <sup>17</sup>	57	55	64	52	55	36	29	30	29	49	-14.0%	45.6
Aggravated Misd.	769	846	813	856	806	468	424	449	453	417	-45.8%	630.1
Serious Misd.	23	35	38	23	26	18	10	14	7	18	-21.7%	21.2
Other Misd.	1	0	0	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	-100.0%	0.7
Unknown <sup>18</sup>	7	7	3	7	8	2	2	6	5	2	-71.4%	4.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,357</b>	<b>3,688</b>	<b>3,610</b>	<b>3,716</b>	<b>3,616</b>	<b>2,607</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>2,861</b>	<b>2,881</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>-12.7%</b>	<b>3,170.1</b>

<sup>17</sup> Other Felony category includes: felony enhancement, mandatory minimum sentences, special sentence, and “other.”

<sup>18</sup> Unknown category includes: out-of-state and missing class.



**TABLE 8: PRISON ADMISSIONS: ACTUAL AND PROJECTED**

	# of New Admissions	1 Yr. % Change	# of Returns	1 Yr. % Change
<b>ACTUAL</b>				
FFY2015	3,357	--	1,894	--
FFY2016	3,688	9.9%	1,980	4.5%
FFY2017	3,610	-2.1%	2,088	5.5%
FFY2018	3,716	2.9%	2,331	11.6%
FFY2019	3,616	-2.7%	2,577	10.6%
FFY2020	2,607	-27.9%	1,884	-26.9%
FFY2021	2,435	-6.6%	1,271	-32.5%
FFY2022	2,861	17.5%	1,180	-7.2%
FFY2023	2,881	0.7%	1,305	10.6%
FFY2024	2,930	1.7%	1,337	2.5%
<b>FORECAST</b>				
FFY2025	3,564	21.6%	1,347	0.7%
FFY2026	3,619	1.5%	1,327	-1.5%
FFY2027	3,447	-4.8%	1,319	-0.6%
FFY2028	3,374	-2.1%	1,323	0.3%
FFY2029	3,304	-2.1%	1,321	-0.2%
FFY2030	3,299	-0.2%	1,322	0.1%
FFY2031	3,297	-0.1%	1,322	0.0%
FFY2032	3,297	0.0%	1,322	0.0%
FFY2033	3,297	0.0%	1,322	0.0%
FFY2034	3,295	-0.1%	1,322	0.0%

## APPENDIX III: Prison Release Population

**TABLE 9: PRISON RELEASES BY SUPERVISION STATUS<sup>19</sup>**

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
To Parole	1,918	2,159	2,181	2,209	2,708	2,800	1,568	1,771	1,855	2,104	9.7%	2,127.3
To Work Release	1,304	1,607	1,700	1,609	1,662	1,205	763	905	1,102	1,143	-12.3%	1,300.0
To OWI Continuum	116	137	110	84	121	81	71	102	96	87	-25.0%	100.5
Expiration of Sentence	1,086	1,044	1,022	1,073	949	839	553	651	623	655	-39.7%	849.5
Other Releases <sup>20</sup>	184	181	144	127	108	123	101	92	119	84	-54.3%	126.3
Special Sentence	173	167	179	254	224	194	141	115	163	171	-1.2%	178.1
<b>TOTAL RELEASES</b>	<b>4,781</b>	<b>5,295</b>	<b>5,336</b>	<b>5,356</b>	<b>5,772</b>	<b>5,242</b>	<b>3,197</b>	<b>3,636</b>	<b>3,958</b>	<b>4,244</b>	<b>-11.2%</b>	<b>4,681.7</b>

<sup>19</sup> Closure types among individuals who were released from prison supervision. Does not include releases from other types of supervision.

<sup>20</sup> Other releases include inmates released via shock probation, transferred from county jail contract, those returning to sending jurisdiction, work unit transfers from county jail contracts, overturned conviction, and death.

## APPENDIX IV: ALOS for Prison Release Cohorts

**TABLE 10: AVERAGE LENGTH-OF-STAY (IN MONTHS) FOR PRISON RELEASE POPULATION, BY FISCAL YEAR AND OFFENSE CLASS<sup>21</sup>**

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>NEW ADMISSIONS</b>												
B Felony Persons	122.5	150.1	127.0	107.7	130.7	124.9	130.9	115.8	132.1	118.9	-2.9%	126.1
B Felony Non-Persons	34.1	29.4	30.2	28.4	29.3	32.8	40.8	41.5	42.5	32.6	-4.4%	34.2
B Felony Sex	96.6	222.6	219.7	220.2	171.7	240.8	222.3	184.5	218.9	188.8	95.4%	198.6
C Felony Persons	51.0	51.7	53.3	49.5	43.7	44.3	59.6	50.1	50.3	46.6	-8.6%	50.0
C Felony Non-Persons	18.2	18.9	16.0	16.2	15.3	15.8	19.0	20.9	19.4	19.0	4.4%	17.9
C Felony Sex	58.5	68.1	60.9	65.1	61.0	65.8	58.8	65.0	65.2	60.0	2.6%	62.8
D Felony Persons	15.8	16.5	15.2	17.2	16.0	15.5	19.9	19.7	20.5	19.8	25.3%	17.6
D Felony Non-Persons	10.8	10.8	11.1	12.0	11.3	11.0	14.1	13.9	13.0	13.3	23.1%	12.1
D Felony Sex	27.3	32.5	29.6	37.5	25.8	30.6	26.4	25.6	32.3	21.3	-22.0%	28.9
Other Fel Persons	--	--	32.2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	32.2
Other Fel Non-Persons	35.5	31.1	29.5	26.7	25.6	25.5	26.7	32.1	29.9	27.0	-23.9%	29.0
Other Fel Sex	72.2	--	--	--	11.6	--	79.0	38.5	115.4	--	--	63.3
Agg Misd. Persons	8.4	8.8	8.6	8.6	8.1	8.6	9.8	9.7	10.6	9.7	15.5%	9.1
Agg Misd. Non-Persons	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.8	6.6	7.4	7.2	7.5	7.8	7.3	7.4%	7.0
Agg Misd. Sex	9.1	10.4	13.0	11.6	11.3	11.7	14.7	12.6	8.6	12.7	39.6%	11.6
Serious Misd.	9.3	5.6	5.8	6.3	5.4	9.4	7.5	5.5	6.6	4.7	-49.5%	6.6
Drunk Driving	6.1	5.3	6.2	6.2	6.0	5.9	7.9	5.8	6.4	6.9	13.1%	6.3
<b>TOTAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>23.9</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>21.2</b>

<sup>21</sup> Length of Stay among individuals who were released from prison supervision. Does not include releases from other types of supervision. “Persons” refers to Violent, non-sex crimes. “Non-Persons” includes Property, Drug, Public Order, and Other crimes. “Sex” refers to sex crimes, which are mutually exclusive from the “persons” category.

**TABLE 11: AVERAGE LENGTH-OF-STAY (IN MONTHS) FOR PRISON RELEASE POPULATION, BY FISCAL YEAR AND OFFENSE CLASS (CONT.)<sup>22</sup>**

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>RETURNS</b>												
B Felony	17.3	16.8	18.5	18.2	16.5	14.7	29.9	24.9	25.4	19.2	11.0%	20.1
C Felony	11.5	10.8	10.9	11.5	10.8	10.2	12.8	15.0	16.0	15.0	30.4%	12.5
D Felony	8.4	8.9	9.1	9.4	9.3	9.2	12.5	12.8	13.5	12.1	44.0%	10.5
Other Felony <sup>23</sup>	16.3	15.4	14.7	14.9	12.2	14.3	17.9	19.2	21.3	18.8	15.3%	16.5
Drunk Driving	7.1	7.4	6.8	8.0	7.5	8.6	10.9	11.7	10.7	9.4	32.4%	8.8
Special Sentence	17.8	18.6	21.9	20.3	17.9	18.8	24.5	21.1	18.3	10.6	-40.4%	19.0
All Misdemeanors	5.1	7.3	5.9	5.5	5.8	7.4	9.2	8.4	11.6	12.0	135.3%	7.8
<b>TOTAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>36.0%</b>	<b>12.8</b>

<sup>22</sup> Length of Stay among individuals who were released from prison supervision. Does not include releases from other types of supervision.

<sup>23</sup> Other Felony category includes: felony enhancements, mandatory minimum sentences, and “other.”

## APPENDIX V: Individuals Served on Community-Based Corrections and Revocations

**TABLE 12: PROBATION REVOCATIONS, PROBATION POPULATION (INDIVIDUALS SERVED) \*, AND PERCENT REVOKED**

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
Probation revocations	1,696	1,851	1,849	1,915	1,931	1,366	1,229	1,416	1,487	1,540	-9.2%	1,628
Probation population	40,298	39,372	38,699	37,600	36,521	33,058	33,164	34,718	35,202	35,319	-12.4%	36,395
<b>% REVOKED</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>

\*Includes individuals served on supervision in both field and residential facilities. Counts include offenders that may have one or more supervision statuses during the report period. Like Supervision Statuses are consolidated. Offenders Served includes those that were included in Active-at-Start and New Admissions.

**TABLE 13: REVOCATIONS (NON-PROBATION), INDIVIDUALS SERVED\*, AND CHANGE OVER TIME**

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>REVOCATIONS</b>												
Parole	825	850	959	1,084	1,198	1,027	765	678	800	818	-0.8%	900.4
Work Release	630	736	689	676	784	584	410	351	395	395	-37.3%	565.0
OWI Continuum	56	63	32	46	43	38	20	26	21	30	-46.4%	37.5
Special Sentence	133	107	124	137	135	127	121	140	156	140	5.3%	132.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,644</b>	<b>1,756</b>	<b>1,804</b>	<b>1,943</b>	<b>2,160</b>	<b>1,776</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,195</b>	<b>1,372</b>	<b>1,383</b>	<b>-15.9%</b>	<b>1,634.9</b>
<b>INDIVIDUALS SERVED</b>												
Parole	6,462	6,619	6,826	6,971	7,455	7,845	6,643	5,878	6,160	6,507	0.7%	6,736.6
Work Release	2,361	2,746	2,863	2,839	2,841	2,157	1,286	1,330	1,628	1,613	-31.7%	2,166.4
OWI Continuum	459	485	485	409	460	317	247	268	263	232	-49.5%	362.5
Special Sentence	1,124	1,197	1,285	1,451	1,530	1,698	1,776	1,807	1,879	1,987	76.8%	1,573.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,406</b>	<b>11,047</b>	<b>11,459</b>	<b>11,670</b>	<b>12,286</b>	<b>12,017</b>	<b>9,952</b>	<b>9,283</b>	<b>9,930</b>	<b>10,339</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>	<b>10,838.9</b>
<b>% REVOKED</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>15.9%</b>	<b>15.7%</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>17.6%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>-15.3%</b>	<b>15.1%</b>

\*Includes individuals served on supervision in both field and residential facilities. Counts include offenders that may have one or more supervision statuses during the report period. Like Supervision Statuses are consolidated. Offenders Served includes those that were included in Active-at-Start and New Admissions.

## APPENDIX VI. Prison Population Demographics

**TABLE 14: ACTIVE-AT-END PRISON POPULATION DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS**

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>RACE</b>												
White	65.4%	64.9%	65.5%	66.0%	65.2%	64.7%	64.1%	63.0%	62.2%	61.2%	-6.4%	64.2%
Black	25.3%	25.3%	25.2%	24.8%	25.3%	25.6%	25.2%	26.1%	26.4%	27.1%	7.1%	25.6%
Hispanic <sup>24</sup>	6.7%	7.1%	6.9%	6.5%	6.9%	6.8%	7.2%	7.5%	8.0%	8.1%	20.9%	7.2%
Asian/ Pacific Islander	0.8%	0.9%	0.7%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	1.1%	1.0%	1.1%	1.3%	62.5%	0.9%
Native	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	2.1%	2.3%	2.3%	2.4%	2.3%	27.8%	2.0%
<b>SEX</b>												
Male	91.4%	91.2%	91.6%	91.5%	91.4%	92.2%	92.2%	91.8%	91.8%	92.1%	0.8%	91.7%
Female	8.6%	8.8%	8.4%	8.5%	8.6%	7.8%	7.8%	8.2%	8.2%	7.9%	-8.1%	8.3%
<b>AGE</b>												
17 and Under	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	-100%	0.1%
18-20	3.6%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.1%	3.0%	2.4%	2.4%	2.6%	2.5%	-30.56%	3.0%
21-25	17.2%	16.6%	16.2%	14.6%	14.2%	12.5%	12.2%	12.2%	11.5%	11.2%	-34.88%	13.8%
26-30	16.9%	17.6%	18.1%	17.7%	17.4%	16.8%	16.2%	14.5%	14.1%	13.7%	-18.93%	16.3%
31-35	15.2%	16.1%	15.4%	15.6%	15.6%	16.4%	16.5%	16.7%	16.3%	16.0%	5.26%	16.0%
36-40	12.4%	12.8%	12.8%	14.2%	14.4%	14.0%	14.6%	14.9%	15.0%	15.0%	20.97%	14.0%
41-50	18.4%	17.5%	17.3%	17.1%	17.6%	18.4%	19.0%	19.6%	20.6%	21.2%	15.22%	18.7%
51-60	11.8%	11.3%	11.6%	11.9%	11.8%	12.0%	12.5%	12.4%	12.3%	12.2%	3.39%	12.0%
61-70	3.3%	3.5%	3.8%	4.1%	4.2%	5.2%	5.1%	5.6%	5.7%	5.9%	78.79%	4.6%
71-80	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%	1.8%	80%	1.3%
81+	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	300%	0.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,308</b>	<b>8,350</b>	<b>8,343</b>	<b>8,550</b>	<b>8,450</b>	<b>7,392</b>	<b>7,855</b>	<b>8,225</b>	<b>8,390</b>	<b>8,390</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>8,225.3</b>

<sup>24</sup> In this display of data, Hispanic is identified as a mutually exclusive race category.

## APPENDIX VII. Race by Offense Class

**TABLE 15: ADMISSIONS TO PRISON BY RACE AND CLASS\***

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>A Felony</b>												
White	16	11	15	12	20	13	15	11	14	14	-12.5%	14.1
Black	9	6	11	9	11	7	7	15	19	21	133.3%	11.5
Hispanic	1	2	2	2	4	1	2	4	3	1	0.0%	2.2
Other	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	--	0.5
<b>B Felony</b>												
White	226	254	249	261	294	201	164	214	228	237	4.9%	232.8
Black	71	72	87	107	111	59	61	87	71	84	18.3%	81.0
Hispanic	34	40	43	33	30	30	14	26	25	26	-23.5%	30.1
Other	7	11	9	17	12	6	11	7	8	7	0.0%	9.5
<b>C Felony</b>												
White	919	973	1,018	1,078	1,038	819	675	717	695	646	-29.7%	857.8
Black	385	410	414	391	424	327	278	291	286	295	-23.4%	350.1
Hispanic	79	91	100	95	113	73	75	75	90	94	19.0%	88.5
Other	41	40	36	45	42	39	40	38	57	41	0.0%	41.9
<b>D Felony</b>												
White	1,618	1,777	1,736	1,888	1,989	1,501	1,249	1,271	1,340	1,423	-12.1%	1,579.2
Black	487	512	493	550	561	447	334	432	456	479	-1.6%	475.1
Hispanic	121	118	137	121	154	107	96	121	130	143	18.2%	124.8
Other	69	79	77	89	91	83	90	80	99	95	37.7%	85.2
<b>Other Felony<sup>25</sup></b>												
White	72	93	118	102	114	82	41	58	54	65	-9.7%	79.9
Black	46	55	45	56	60	42	21	24	30	36	-21.7%	41.5
Hispanic	3	8	5	5	10	2	4	4	5	7	133.3%	5.3
Other	1	1	2	1	2	5	3	2	2	1	0.0%	2.0

<sup>25</sup> Other Felony category includes: felony enhancement, mandatory minimum sentences, and “other.”



**TABLE 15: ADMISSIONS TO PRISON BY RACE AND CLASS (CONT.)\***

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>Aggravated Misd.</b>												
White	692	731	733	767	749	440	347	372	383	350	-49.4%	556.4
Black	186	203	188	207	187	102	105	101	112	121	-34.9%	151.2
Hispanic	45	53	60	55	58	33	35	42	50	45	0.0%	47.6
Other	35	30	26	37	28	23	19	23	15	16	-54.3%	25.2
<b>Serious Misd.</b>												
White	15	27	28	15	18	15	7	10	5	10	-33.3%	15.0
Black	7	6	7	8	8	3	1	3	4	5	-28.6%	5.2
Hispanic	2	3	3	2	0	0	3	1	0	3	50.0%	1.7
Other	0	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	--	0.7
<b>Other/Unknown Class<sup>26</sup></b>												
White	47	43	42	66	41	19	5	7	2	2	-95.7%	27.4
Black	10	12	8	22	15	7	1	1	2	0	-100.0%	7.8
Hispanic	6	3	4	2	6	4	2	2	1	0	-100.0%	3.0
Other	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	-100.0%	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,251</b>	<b>5,668</b>	<b>5,698</b>	<b>6,047</b>	<b>6,193</b>	<b>4,491</b>	<b>3,706</b>	<b>4,041</b>	<b>4,186</b>	<b>4,267</b>	<b>-18.7%</b>	<b>4,954.8</b>

\*Includes New Admissions and Returns

<sup>26</sup> Unknown category includes: out-of-state, special sentence and missing class.

**TABLE 16: RELEASES FROM PRISON BY RACE AND CLASS**

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>B Felony</b>												
White	179	226	218	201	240	215	149	174	184	205	14.5%	199.1
Black	50	72	72	63	85	89	44	53	74	63	26.0%	66.5
Hispanic	21	43	33	35	25	29	18	21	19	19	-9.5%	26.3
Other	12	12	14	11	8	6	3	5	9	6	-50.0%	8.6
<b>C Felony</b>												
White	825	998	956	964	1,000	916	606	714	731	746	-9.6%	845.6
Black	381	384	400	387	381	345	232	268	289	295	-22.6%	336.2
Hispanic	76	70	117	91	99	79	37	81	78	87	14.5%	81.5
Other	32	34	45	35	46	31	24	36	35	51	59.4%	36.9
<b>D Felony</b>												
White	1462	1631	1605	1654	1937	1718	1053	1202	1,290	1,415	-3.2%	1,496.7
Black	431	466	469	504	527	509	306	333	398	475	10.2%	441.8
Hispanic	138	101	120	120	135	138	67	98	95	145	5.1%	115.7
Other	68	67	76	72	89	87	60	80	98	80	17.6%	77.7
<b>Other Felony<sup>27</sup></b>												
White	67	99	89	86	84	86	50	44	69	63	-6.0%	73.7
Black	49	63	55	58	45	46	21	25	32	38	-22.4%	43.2
Hispanic	6	6	9	6	3	12	4	1	1	9	50.0%	5.7
Other	1	3	0	1	2	2	4	0	2	2	100.0%	1.7
<b>Aggravated Misd.</b>												
White	666	693	736	718	747	664	325	335	358	357	-46.4%	559.9
Black	191	205	186	207	191	159	93	96	102	106	-44.5%	153.6
Hispanic	47	43	64	55	49	55	37	23	50	45	-4.3%	46.8
Other	29	28	28	36	34	25	17	19	17	13	-55.2%	24.6

<sup>27</sup> Other Felony category includes: felony enhancement, mandatory minimum sentences, and “other.”

**TABLE 16: RELEASES FROM PRISON BY RACE AND CLASS (CONT.)\***

	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>Serious Misd.</b>												
White	17	22	21	23	16	13	11	11	7	8	-52.9%	14.9
Black	11	7	5	7	7	6	2	2	4	4	-63.6%	5.5
Hispanic	3	2	4	3	1	0	2	1	1	2	-33.3%	1.9
Other	0	1	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	--	0.7
<b>Other/Unknown Class<sup>28</sup></b>												
White	4	2	0	5	2	1	1	1	0	0	-100.0%	1.6
Black	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0.1
Hispanic	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100.0%	0.2
Other	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	--	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,767</b>	<b>5,279</b>	<b>5,322</b>	<b>5,345</b>	<b>5,756</b>	<b>5,233</b>	<b>3,166</b>	<b>3,623</b>	<b>3,943</b>	<b>4,234</b>	<b>-11.2%</b>	<b>4,666.8</b>

\* Individuals who were released from prison supervision. Does not include releases from other types of supervision.

<sup>28</sup> Unknown category includes: out-of-state, special sentence and missing class.

**TABLE 17: ADMISSIONS, RELEASES, AND ACTIVE-AT-END FOR WHITE INDIVIDUALS**

	<b># of Admissions</b>	<b>1 Yr. % Change</b>	<b># of Releases</b>	<b>1 Yr. % Change</b>	<b># Active at End</b>	<b>1 Yr. % Change</b>
FFY2015	3,605	--	3,231	--	5,432	--
FFY2016	3,909	8.4%	3,684	14.0%	5,422	-0.2%
FFY2017	3,939	0.8%	3,634	-1.4%	5,462	0.7%
FFY2018	4,189	6.3%	3,658	0.7%	5,646	3.4%
FFY2019	4,263	1.8%	4,039	10.4%	5,511	-2.4%
FFY2020	3,090	-27.5%	3,618	-10.4%	4,783	-13.2%
FFY2021	2,503	-19.0%	2,215	-38.8%	5,038	5.3%
FFY2022	2,660	6.3%	2,491	12.5%	5,181	2.8%
FFY2023	2,721	2.3%	2,648	6.3%	5,212	0.6%
FFY2024	2,747	1.0%	2,794	5.5%	5,134	-1.5%

**TABLE 18: ADMISSIONS, RELEASES, AND ACTIVE-AT-END FOR BLACK INDIVIDUALS**

	# of Admissions	1 Yr. % Change	# of Releases	1 Yr. % Change	# Active at End	1 Yr. % Change
FFY2015	1,201	--	1,116	--	2,102	--
FFY2016	1,276	6.2%	1,199	7.4%	2,114	0.6%
FFY2017	1,253	-1.8%	1,191	-0.7%	2,100	-0.7%
FFY2018	1,350	7.7%	1,231	3.4%	2,118	0.9%
FFY2019	1,377	2.0%	1,239	0.6%	2,136	0.8%
FFY2020	994	-27.8%	1,157	-6.6%	1,890	-11.5%
FFY2021	808	-18.7%	706	-39.0%	1,981	4.8%
FFY2022	954	18.1%	779	10.3%	2,150	8.5%
FFY2023	980	2.7%	904	16.0%	2,213	2.9%
FFY2024	1,041	6.2%	981	8.5%	2,272	2.7%

## APPENDIX VIII. Primary Drug for Admissions

**TABLE 19: PRIMARY DRUG INVOLVED IN NEW DRUG PRISON ADMISSIONS, BY STATE FISCAL YEAR\***

Primary Drug	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019	FFY 2020	FFY 2021	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	10 Yr. % Change	10 Yr. Average
<b>Methamphetamine</b>	477	517	586	610	617	579	336	451	447	482	1.0%	510.2
<b>Marijuana</b>	216	173	174	148	162	156	71	68	60	66	-69.4%	129.4
<b>Cocaine</b>	71	67	64	53	50	48	17	23	29	30	-57.7%	45.2
Powder	22	20	27	22	26	36	13	14	22	19	-13.6%	22.1
Crack	49	47	37	31	24	12	4	9	7	11	-77.6%	23.1
<b>Heroin</b>	13	23	21	27	20	19	14	14	18	23	76.9%	19.2
<b>Prescription</b>	39	50	36	27	27	33	7	10	22	22	-43.6%	27.3
<b>Ecstasy (MDMA)</b>	3	6	4	8	5	3	5	4	8	11	266.7%	5.7
<b>LSD</b>	3	1	4	5	11	8	4	2	4	3	0.0%	4.5
<b>Other</b>	5	8	13	20	14	28	7	11	17	17	240.0%	14.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>902</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>-20.9%</b>	<b>755.5</b>

\* Source: Iowa Department of Corrections. Data is provided for State Fiscal Year (SFY) rather than Federal Fiscal Year (FFY).