

IOWA PRISON POPULATION FORECAST FFY 2024 - FFY 2034

SHORT TERM (by FFY 2025): LONG TERM (by FFY 2034): increase by 4.9%

increase by 9.1%

8,805 9/30/2025

9.156 9/30/2034

8,390 9/30/2024

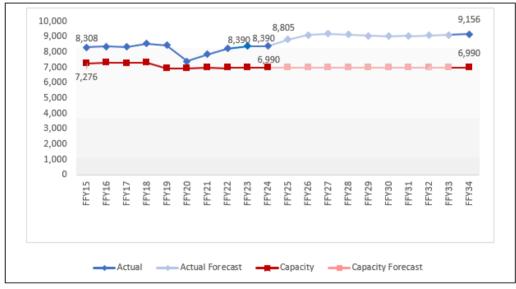
> The forecast projects an increase of 12.5% for New Admissions and a decrease of 1.1% for Returns by FFY 2034

8,390

9/30/2024

Over the last federal fiscal year, the prison population remained the same, and continues to be lower than FFY 2019.

8 of 9 prisons are at 20.0% overcapacity, and projected to be at 31.0% overcapacity in FFY 2034.

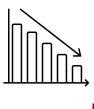


Source: Justice Data Warehouse and Prison Forecast Estimates

In FFY 2025, incarcerated females are projected to be at 11.2% undercapacity

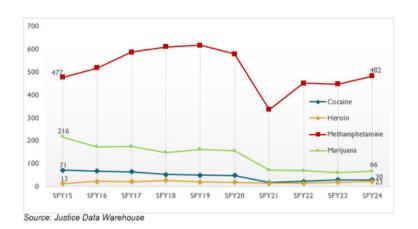
Prison Capacity In FFY 2025, incarcerated males are projected to be at 30.6% overcapacity

DRUG OFFENSE ADMITS



24.9% decrease over the past decade

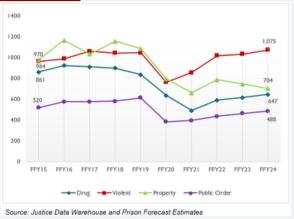
Methamphetamines continue to be the primary drug involved in new drug prison admissions.



ADMITS BY CHARGE TYPE

Of the 2,930 New Admits 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



TEN-YEAR CHANGES (FFY 2015 to FFY 2024)*:

Average length of stay for prison returns increased 36.0%.

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

27.1% of incarcerated individuals in FFY 2024. New admits for Black individuals decreased by 13.3%.

Prison admissions for violent offenses increased 11.5%, while new admits for drugs, property, public order, and other offenses decreased.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE

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 allow judicial discretion on the length of special sentences.
- Reducing mandatory minimum prison sentences.
- Increasing the use of effective treatment courts throughout the state.
- Identifying and utilizing appropriate services to address mental health issues.
- Expanding apprenticeship and other skill education programs in the correctional institutions.