



Alaska Department of Corrections: Institutional Populations, 2005–2014

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Alaska’s unified correctional system provides secure confinement for pretrial defendants and post-conviction offenders. This fact sheet presents data on institutional populations (excluding probation and parole populations unless they have violated the terms of their release and been returned to incarceration, and individuals on non-criminal holds as per AS 47.37.170) supervised by the Alaska Department of Corrections (DOC). Data was extracted from the Alaska Corrections Offender Management System (ACOMS), and provided to the AJSAC by DOC.

Institutional population and status. As a unified correctional system, the Alaska DOC supervises both pretrial defendants and post-conviction offenders. In some institutions, *pretrial defendants* and *post-conviction offenders* are housed in the same facilities. Populations in this Fact Sheet were based on point-in-

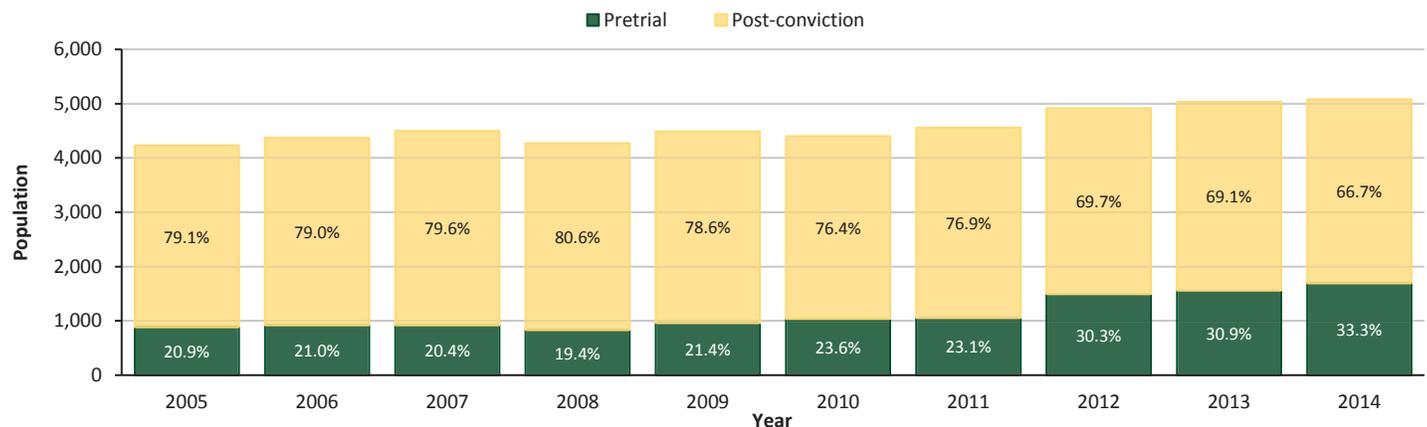
time counts recorded on December 31 for 2005–2012, and June 30 beginning in 2013.

The institutional population subject to DOC supervision increased 20.1%, from 4,231 individuals in 2005 to 5,082 in 2014 (Figure 1). Overall, the ten-year trend shows a steady increase of institutional populations from 2005 to 2014. The institutional population *rate* increased 3.3% over the period (-1.3% male and +35.3% female) to 9.3 per 1,000 adult Alaskans (15.8 males per 1,000 adult male Alaskans and 2.3 females per 1,000 adult female Alaskans) (Data not shown).

The female institutional population increased from 383 in 2005 to 593 in 2014 – an increase of 54.8%. On average, females were 15.1% of all pretrial defendants, 9.0% of all sentenced offenders, and 10.5% of all individuals supervised by DOC in institutions from 2005 to 2014 (Figure 2). In 2014, 15.8% of pretrial defendants, 9.6% of sentenced offenders, and 11.7% of all individuals in institutions were female.

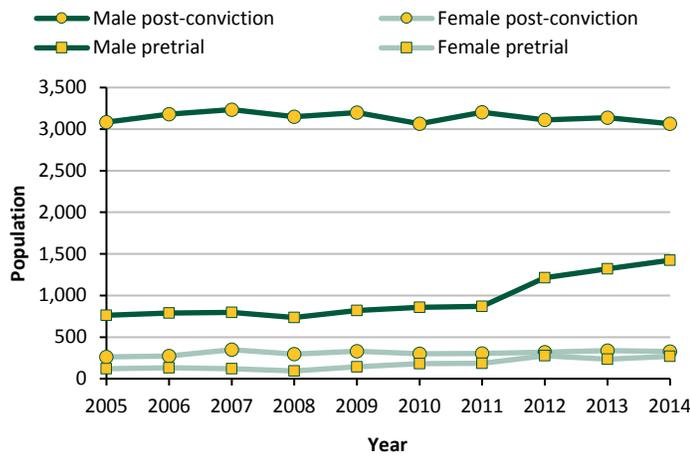
FIGURE 1.

Alaska DOC institutional population by status: 2005–2014



Source of data: State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Division of Administrative Services (2015)

FIGURE 2. Institutional population under the supervision of the Alaska Department of Corrections, by status and gender: 2005–2014

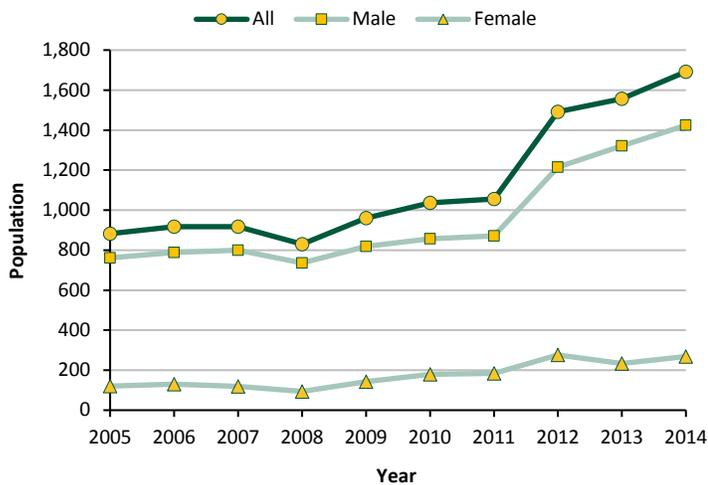


Source of data: State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Division of Administrative Services (2015)

The male institutional population increased from 3,848 in 2005 to 4,489 in 2014 — an increase of 16.7%. On average, males were 84.9% of all pretrial defendants, 91.0% of all sentenced offenders, and 89.5% of all individuals supervised by DOC in institutions from 2005 to 2014 (Figure 2). In 2014, 84.2% of pretrial defendants, 90.4% of sentenced offenders, and 88.3% of all individuals in institutions were male.

Pretrial institutional population. Figure 3 illustrates that the number of pretrial detainees supervised by DOC has nearly doubled (+91.6%) from 883 individuals in 2005 to 1,692 in 2014. The number

FIGURE 3. Alaska DOC pretrial institutional population by gender: 2005–2014



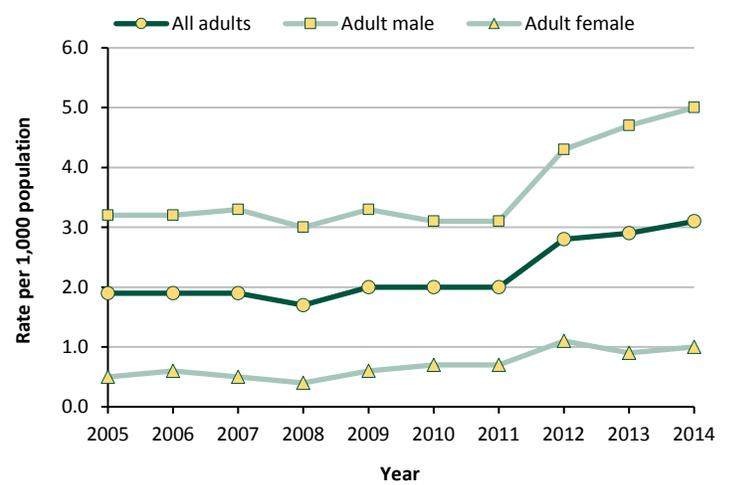
Source of data: State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Division of Administrative Services (2015)

of pretrial detainees supervised by DOC increased every year from 2008. The largest single-year increase in DOC’s institutional population occurred in 2012 when the pretrial population increased from 1,055 individuals to 1,491 (+41.3%).

Pretrial population numbers by gender. From 2005 to 2014, the total number of pretrial detainees increased for both male (86.9%) and female populations (121.5%) (Figure 3). Over the period, there was an average of 1,134 pretrial detainees (959 male and 175 female) in DOC institutions. The number of pretrial female detainees ranged from a low of 94 in 2008 to a high of 276 in 2012, and the number of pretrial male detainees ranged from a low of 736 individuals in 2008 to a high of 1,424 in 2014. In 2014, there were 1,692 pretrial detainees (1,424 male and 268 female) — 84.2% male and 15.8% female.

Pretrial population rates by gender. From 2005 to 2014, the rate of all pretrial detainees averaged 2.2 per 1,000 adults in Alaska (3.6 males per 1,000 Alaska adult males and 0.7 females per 1,000 Alaska adult females) (Figure 4). Over this ten-year period, the rate of all pretrial detainees increased 63.2% (+56.3% male and +100.0% female) in DOC institutions. The rate of pretrial female detainees ranged from a low of 0.4 in 2008 to a high of 1.1 per 1,000 Alaska adult females in 2012, and pretrial male detainees in DOC institutions ranged from a low of 3.0 in 2008 to a high of 5.0 per 1,000 Alaska adult males in 2014. In 2014, the rate of all pretrial detainees in Alaska institutions was 3.1 per 1,000 adult Alaskans

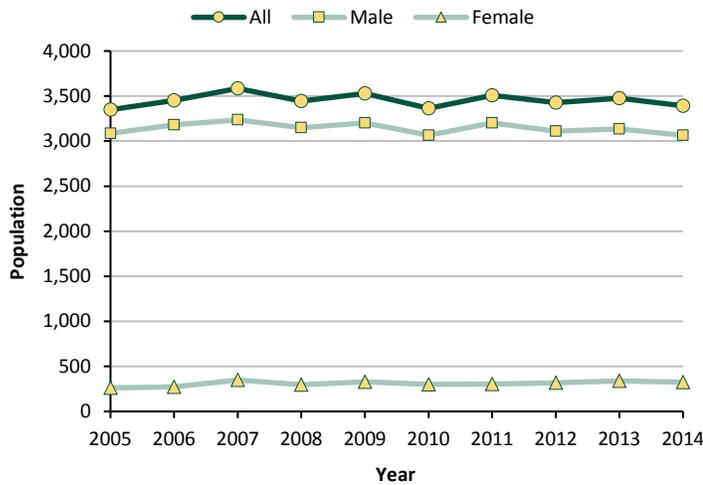
FIGURE 4. Alaska DOC pretrial institutional population rates per 1,000 by gender: 2005–2014



Source of data: State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Division of Administrative Services (2015)

FIGURE 5.

Alaska DOC post-conviction institutional population by gender: 2005–2014



Source of data: State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Division of Administrative Services (2015)

— 5.0 male detainees per 1,000 Alaska adult males and 1.0 female detainees per 1,000 Alaska adult females.

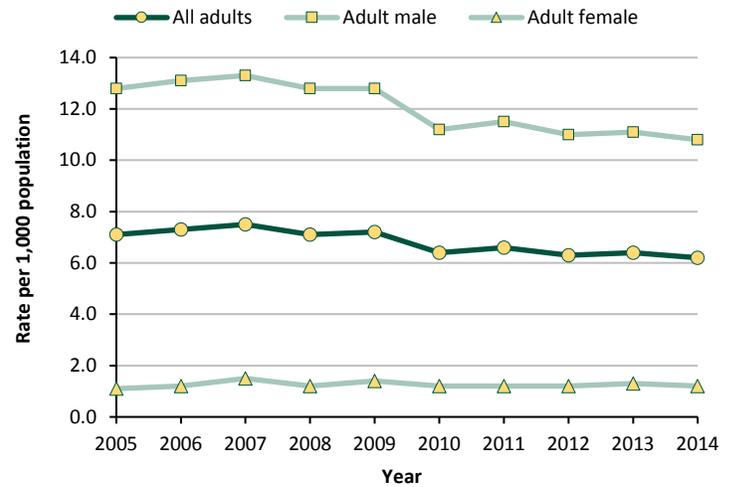
Post-conviction institutional population. The post-conviction — or sentenced offender — population supervised by DOC has increased 1.3% from 3,348 in 2005 to 3,390 in 2014 (Figure 5).

Post-conviction population numbers by gender. From 2005 to 2014, the total number of sentenced male offenders decreased 0.7% and sentenced female offenders increased 24.0% (Figure 5). Over the period, the number of sentenced offenders in DOC institutions averaged 3,452 (3,143 male and 309 female). The number of sentenced female offenders ranged from a low of 262 in 2005 to a high of 349 in 2007, and the number of sentenced male offenders ranged from a low of 3,065 in 2010 and 2014 to a high of 3,235 in 2007. In 2014, there were 3,390 sentenced offenders (3,065 males and 325 females) — 90.4% male and 9.6% female.

Post-conviction population rates by gender. From 2005 to 2014, the rate of post-conviction offenders averaged 6.8 per 1,000 adults in Alaska (12.0 males per 1,000 Alaska adult males and 1.3 females per 1,000 Alaska adult females) (Figure 6). Over this ten-year period, the rate of all sentenced offenders decreased 12.7% (-15.6% male and +9.1% female) in DOC institutions. The rate of sentenced female offenders ranged from a low of 1.1 in 2005 to a high of 1.5 per 1,000 adult females in Alaska in 2007, and the rate of sentenced male offenders ranged from a low of 10.8 in 2014 to a high of 13.3 per 1,000

FIGURE 6.

Alaska DOC post-conviction institutional population rates per 1,000 by gender: 2005–2014



Source of data: State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Division of Administrative Services (2015)

adult males in Alaska in 2007. In 2014, the rate of all sentenced offenders in DOC institutions was 6.2 per 1,000 adult Alaskans — 10.8 male offenders per 1,000 adult male Alaskans and 1.2 female offenders per 1,000 adult female Alaskans.

SUMMARY

Alaska’s unified correctional system provides secure confinement and community-based special supervision programs for pretrial defendants and post-conviction offenders. This fact sheet presents data on populations (excluding probation and parole populations unless they have violated the terms of their release and been returned to incarceration, and individuals on non-criminal holds as per AS 47.37.170) supervised by the Alaska Department of Corrections (DOC) based on their status in the criminal justice system from 2005 to 2014.

The institutional population in DOC increased 20.1% from 2005 to 2014 — 75.3% of which reflects the increase in the male institutional population. *Pretrial detention* populations were accountable for more than 95% of the DOC institutional population growth — nearly 82% of which reflects the increase in the pretrial *male* population. In contrast, the *sentenced offender* population was accountable for about 5% of the DOC institutional population growth — which reflects a 150.0% increase in the female sentenced offender population and a 50.0% decrease in the male sentenced offender population.

NOTES

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

The Alaska Department of Corrections (DOC) represents a unified system of corrections. The DOC is responsible for providing supervision/custody for both pretrial/pre-sentencing custody and post-trial incarceration. It is not unusual to have pretrial detention, pre-sentencing custody, and post-sentencing custody occurring in the same facility in Alaska. Further, DOC is responsible for both institutional and community supervision functions, and the Division of Probation and Parole is part of DOC.

INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION

The institutional population in this Fact Sheet excludes probation and parole populations, as well as individuals on non-criminal holds in DOC facilities as per AS 47.37.170. The populations in this Fact Sheet are comprised of populations in institutions such as jails and prisons operated by the Alaska Department of Corrections.

THE ALASKA JUSTICE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER



ABOUT

The Alaska Justice Statistical Analysis Center (AJSAC) was established by Administrative Order No. 89, signed by Governor William Sheffield on July 2, 1986. Since that time the AJSAC has been housed within the University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center. The AJSAC assists Alaska criminal justice agencies, as well as state and local governments and officials, with the development, implementation, and evaluation of criminal justice programs and policies through the collection, analysis, and reporting of crime and justice statistics.

Since 1972, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and its predecessor agency, the National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service, has provided support to state and territorial governments to establish and operate Statistical Analysis Centers (SACs) to collect, analyze, and report statistics on crime and justice to federal, state, and local levels of government, and to share state-level information nationally. There are currently 53 SACs located in the United States and its Territories. The AJSAC is a member of the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA), a national nonprofit organization comprised of SAC directors, researchers, and practitioners dedicated to policy-oriented research and analysis.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Location

The Alaska Justice Statistical Analysis Center (AJSAC) is housed in the University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center, which is located on the second floor of the UAA/APU Consortium Library, Suite 213.

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To learn more about the AJSAC research, please visit our website at: <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/ajsac/>.

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