



Alaska Department of Corrections: Post-conviction Incarcerated Population, 2005–2014

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This fact sheet presents data on crime classifications and categories related to post-conviction offenders who were entered into the Alaska Corrections Offender Management System (ACOMS) database and were incarcerated at in-state or out-of-state institutions. This fact sheet does not include pretrial populations or populations supervised by the Alaska Department of Corrections (DOC) in non-institutional programs. Data were extracted from the ACOMS, and provided to the AJSAC by DOC.

Post-conviction incarcerated population. The post-conviction incarcerated population in this report consists of all post-conviction offenders in institutions (including contracted out-of-state prisons not under the direct control of DOC). Population numbers in this fact sheet were based on point-in-time counts recorded on December 31 for 2005–2012, and June 30 beginning in 2013.

Alaska’s post-conviction incarcerated population decreased 2.0%, from 3,139 individuals in 2005 to 3,077 in 2014.

Overall, the ten-year trend shows fairly stable post-conviction incarcerated population numbers, ranging from a low of 3,077 in 2014 to a high of 3,358 in 2007 (Figure 1).

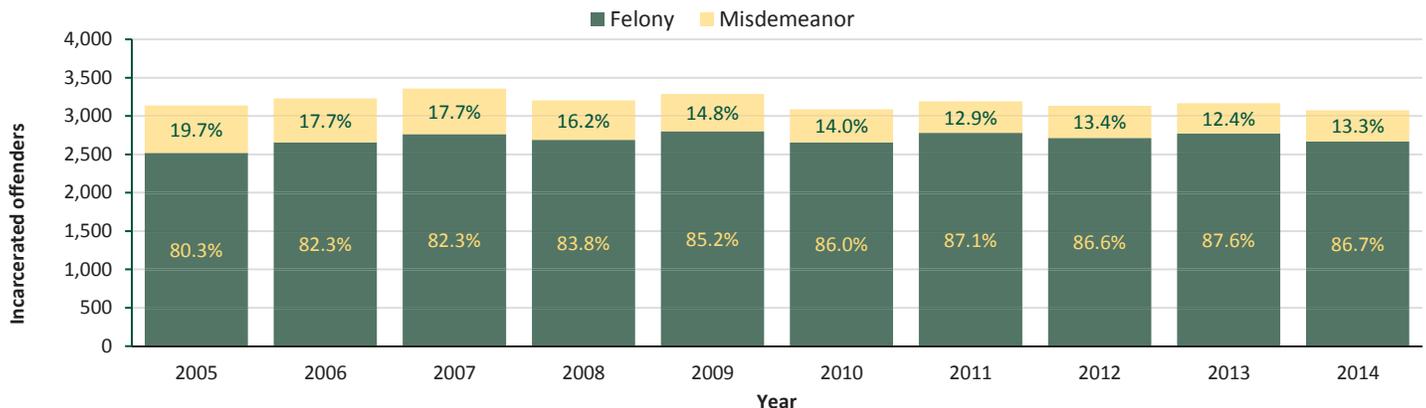
Crime classification. Figure 1 shows the number of offenders in the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of either misdemeanor or felony charges. A misdemeanor is usually defined as a crime which is punishable by up to a year of jail time, while a felony is punishable by a prison sentence exceeding one year.

The number of felony offenders in the post-conviction incarcerated population increased 5.9% from 2,520 in 2005 to 2,669 in 2014. On average, felony offenders were 84.8% of the post-conviction incarcerated population from 2005 to 2014. In 2014, 86.7% of the post-conviction incarcerated population were felons.

The number of misdemeanor offenders in the post-conviction incarcerated population decreased from 619 in 2005 to 408 in 2014 — a decline of 34.1%. On average, misdemeanants were 15.2% of the post-conviction incarcerated population

FIGURE 1.

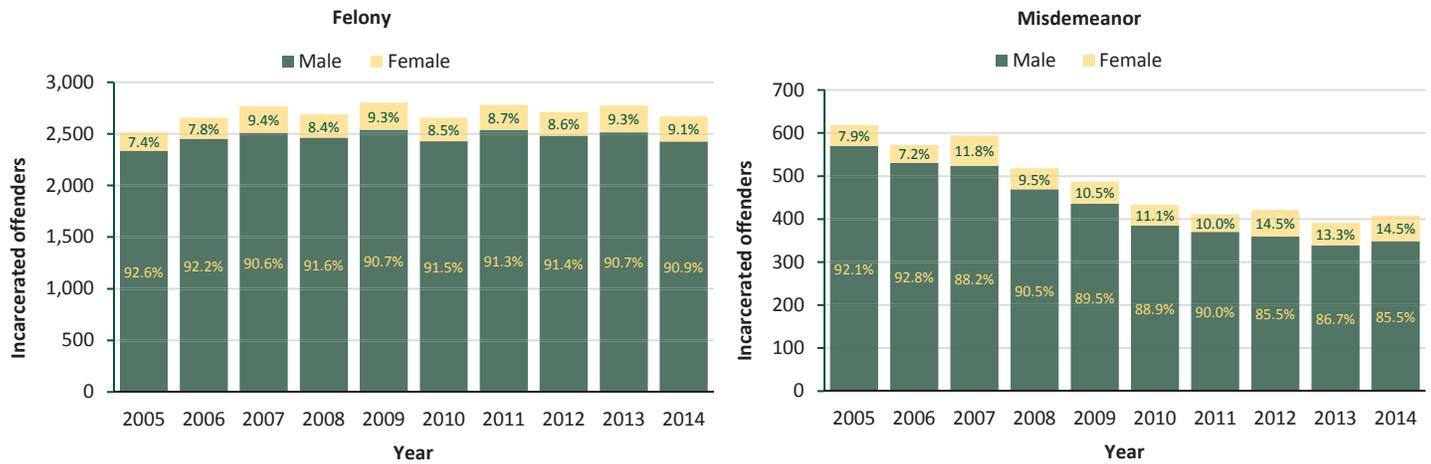
Alaska Department of Corrections incarcerated population by crime classification: 2005–2014



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

FIGURE 2.

Alaska Department of Corrections incarcerated population by crime classification and gender: 2005–2014



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

from 2005 to 2014. In 2014, 13.3% of the post-conviction incarcerated population were misdemeanants.

Felony conviction population. Figure 2 illustrates the number of felons in the post-conviction incarcerated population by gender. From 2005 to 2014, the total number of incarcerated felons increased for both male (+4.0%) and female populations (+29.4%). Over the period, there was an average of 2,702 incarcerated felons (2,468 male and 234 female). The number of incarcerated female felons ranged from a low of 187 in 2005 to a high of 260 in 2009, and the number of incarcerated male felons ranged from a low of 2,333 in 2005 to a high of 2,541 in 2009. In 2014, there were 2,669 incarcerated felons (2,427 male and 242 female) — 90.9% male and 9.1% female.

Misdemeanor conviction population. Figure 2 also shows the number of misdemeanants in the post-conviction incarcerated population by gender. Overall, the incarcerated misdemeanor population decreased 34.1% from 2005 to 2014. The number of incarcerated misdemeanants ranged from a low of 391 in 2013 to a high of 619 in 2005. From 2005 to 2014, the total number of incarcerated misdemeanants decreased 38.8% for males and increased 20.4% for females (Figure 2). Over the period, there was an average of 485 incarcerated misdemeanants (433 male and 52 female). The number of incarcerated female misdemeanants ranged from a low of 41 in 2006 and 2011, to a high of 70 in 2007, and the number of incarcerated male misdemeanants ranged from a low of 339 in 2013 to a high of 570 in 2005. In 2014, there were 408 incarcerated misdemeanants (349 male and 59 female) — 85.5% male and 14.5% female.

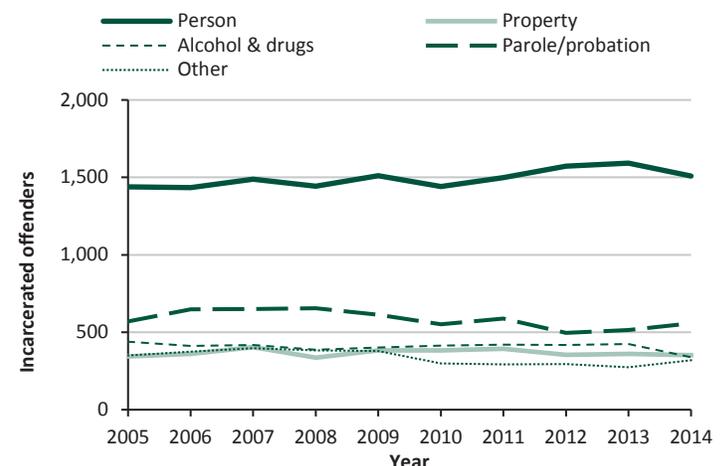
Crime category. The most serious crime for which incarcerated offenders were convicted falls into one of five crime categories: (1) crimes against persons, (2) property

crimes, (3) alcohol & drug crimes, (4) parole and/or probation violations, and (5) all other crimes. Figure 3 illustrates the number of incarcerated offenders grouped into these five crime categories.

Crimes against persons. Crimes against persons include acts such as homicide, assault, sexual assaults, and kidnapping — crimes that cause harm to individual victims. The post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of crimes against persons increased 4.9% from 2005 to 2014 (Figure 3). This population increased steadily over the period, ranging from a low of 1,434 in 2006 to a high of 1,592 in 2013. In 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of crimes against persons decreased from the previous year to 1,508, representing 49.0% of the post-conviction incarcerated population.

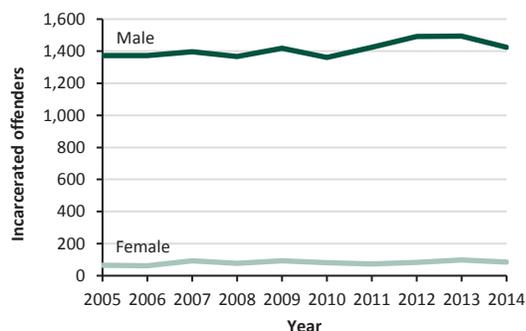
FIGURE 3.

Alaska Department of Corrections incarcerated offenders by crime category: 2005–2014



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

FIGURE 4.
Population incarcerated for crimes against persons, by gender: 2005–2014

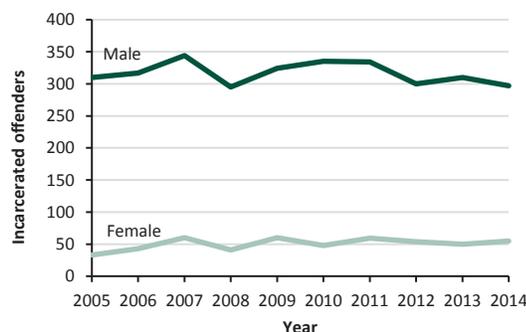


Source of data: State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Division of Administrative Services (2015).

Figure 4 shows the gender breakdown of the post-conviction incarcerated population for crimes against persons. From 2005 to 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of person crimes increased for both female (+29.2%) and male (+3.7%) offenders. On average, of all offenders incarcerated for crimes against persons, 5.4% were female and 94.6% were male. In 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of crimes against persons was 5.6% female and 94.4% male.

Property crimes. Property crimes include crimes such as larceny/theft, burglary, shoplifting, and fraud. The post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of property crimes increased 2.6% from 2005 to 2014 (Figure 3). This population ranged from a low of 336 in 2008 to a high of 404 in 2007. In 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of property crimes was 352, representing 11.4% of the post-conviction incarcerated population.

FIGURE 5.
Population incarcerated for property crimes, by gender: 2005–2014



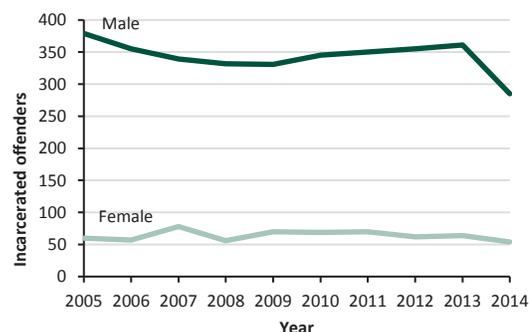
Source of data: State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Division of Administrative Services (2015).

Figure 5 shows the gender breakdown of the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of property crimes. From 2005 to 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population

convicted of property crimes increased for female offenders (+66.7%) and decreased for male offenders (-4.2%). On average, of all offenders incarcerated for property crimes, 13.7% were female and 86.4% were male. In 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of property crimes was 15.6% female and 84.4% male.

Alcohol & drug crimes. Alcohol and drug crimes include activities such as driving while intoxicated (DWI), minor consuming alcohol crimes, and crimes involving controlled substances. The post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of alcohol and drug crimes decreased 22.8% from 2005 to 2014. This population ranged from a low of 339 in 2014 to a high of 439 in 2005. In 2014, the incarcerated offender population convicted of alcohol and drug crimes made up 11.0% of the post-conviction incarcerated population.

FIGURE 6.
Population incarcerated for alcohol and drug crimes, by gender: 2005–2014



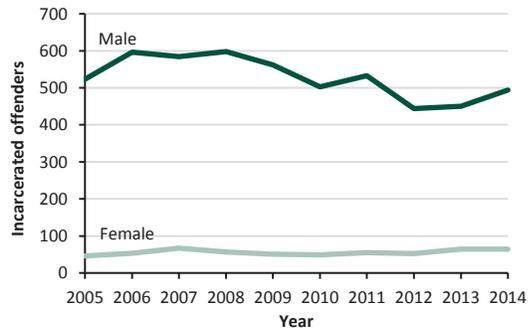
Source of data: State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Division of Administrative Services (2015).

Figure 6 shows the gender breakdown of the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of alcohol and drug crimes. From 2005 to 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of alcohol and drug crimes decreased for both female offenders (-10.0%) and male offenders (-24.8%). On average, of all offenders incarcerated for alcohol and drug crimes, 15.7% were female and 84.3% were male. In 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of alcohol and drug crimes was 15.9% female and 84.1% male.

Parole and probation violations. This category includes activities resulting in a parole or probation violation. The post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of parole and probation violations decreased 1.9% from 2005 to 2014. This population ranged from a low of 496 in 2012 to a high of 655 in 2008. In 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of parole and probation violations was 558, representing 18.1% of the post-conviction incarcerated population.

FIGURE 7.

Population incarcerated for parole or probation violations, by gender: 2005–2014



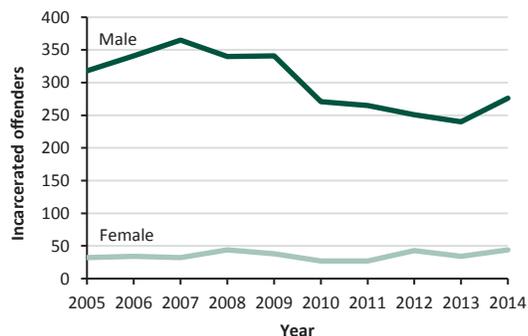
Source of data: State of Alaska, Department of Corrections, Division of Administrative Services (2015).

Figure 7 shows the gender breakdown of the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of parole and probation violations. From 2005 to 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of parole and probation violations increased for female offenders (+39.1%) and decreased for male offenders (-5.5%). On average, of all offenders incarcerated for parole and probation violations, 9.6% were female and 90.4% were male. In 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of parole and probation violations was 11.5% female and 88.5% male.

All other crimes. This crime category includes activities such as fish & game violations, non-DWI traffic-related crimes, and administrative crimes. The post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of all other crimes decreased 8.6% from 2005 to 2014. This population ranged from a low of 274 in

FIGURE 8.

Population incarcerated for all other crimes, by gender: 2005–2014



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

2013 to a high of 397 in 2007. In 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of all other crimes was 320, representing 10.4% of the post-conviction incarcerated population.

Figure 8 shows the gender breakdown of the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of all other crimes. From 2005 to 2014, the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of all other crimes *increased* for female offenders (+37.5%) and *decreased* for male offenders (-13.2%). On average, of the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of all other crimes, 10.7% were female and 89.3% were male. In 2014, the population of offenders incarcerated for all other crimes was 13.8% female and 86.3% male.

SUMMARY

The post-conviction incarcerated population declined 2.0% from 2005 to 2014 as a direct result of the decrease in misdemeanants (-34.1%; n=211), offset by an increase in felons (+5.9%; n=149).

Increases in the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of felonies were evident in both male (+4.0%; n=94) and female (+29.4%; n=55) offenders. The decrease in the post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of misdemeanors was the result of a large *decrease* in male offenders (-38.8%; n=221), offset slightly by a small *increase* in female offenders (+20.4%; n=10).

Slight *increases* were reported in post-conviction incarcerated populations convicted of crimes against persons (+4.9%; n=70) and property crimes (+2.6%; n=9), while *decreases* were seen in post-conviction incarcerated populations convicted for parole and probation violations (-1.9%; n=11) and all other crimes (-8.6%; n=30). The post-conviction incarcerated population convicted of alcohol and drug crimes *declined substantially* (-22.8%; n=100) from 2005 to 2014.

Gender-based analysis of post-conviction incarcerated populations revealed that the *female population increased* (+27.5%; n=65), while the *male population decreased* (-4.4%; n=127). The incarcerated female population saw increases across all crime categories, with the exception of alcohol and drug crimes. The incarcerated male population saw *decreases* in convictions in four crime categories and *increases* in convictions for crimes against persons.

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.

POST-CONVICTION INCARCERATED POPULATION

The post-conviction incarcerated population in this Fact Sheet includes post-conviction offenders incarcerated with a misdemeanor and/or felony conviction who have been entered into the ACOMS database and were housed at in-state and out-of-state correctional institutions. It does not include pretrial populations or post-conviction populations participating in programs outside of institutions.

CRIME CLASSIFICATION

Felony. Felonies are the most serious types of crimes. These crimes are punishable by incarceration exceeding one year.

Misdemeanor. Less serious than felonies, misdemeanor crimes are punishable by up to one year of incarceration.

CRIME CATEGORIES

Crimes against persons include crimes such as homicide, assault, sexual assaults, and kidnapping — crimes that cause harm to individual victims.

Property crimes include crimes such as larceny/theft, burglary, shoplifting, and fraud.

Alcohol and drug crimes include all alcohol-related and/or drug-related crimes such as driving while intoxicated (DWI), minor consumption of alcohol, and crimes involving controlled substances.

Parole or probation violation includes both misdemeanor and felony activities resulting in a conviction for a parole or probation violation.

All other crimes includes activities such as fish & game violations, non-DWI traffic-related crimes, and administrative crimes.

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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