

## Parole and Probation in Alaska, 2002–2016

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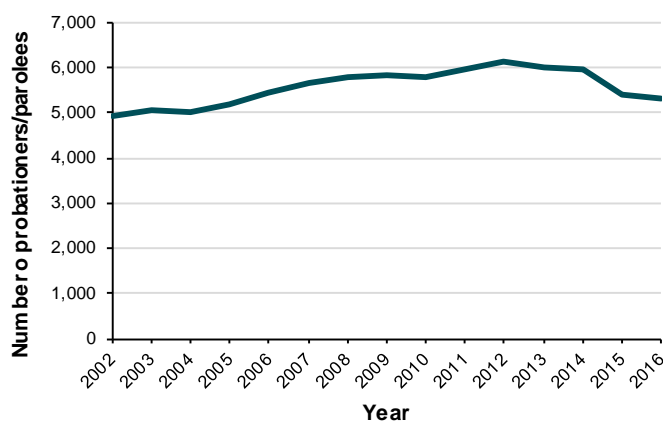
This fact sheet presents data on the characteristics of offenders who came under the supervision of the Alaska Department of Corrections, Division of Probation and Parole (DOC-PP) between 2002 and 2016. Probation and parole offender data are from the Alaska Department of Corrections' annual Offender Profile publication. Offender statistics are not differentiated by probation or parole designation. For this reason, the numbers presented in the figures and tables in the fact sheet describe the combined characteristics of probationers and parolees who came under the supervision of DOC-PP each calendar year from 2002 to 2016.

### Overall

Figure 1 displays the overall number of probationers and parolees. **The number of probationers/parolees increased from 2002 to 2012, then decreased**

**Figure 1.**

Overall probation and parole population, 2002–2016



Source of data: Alaska Department of Corrections, Offender Profile (2002–2016)

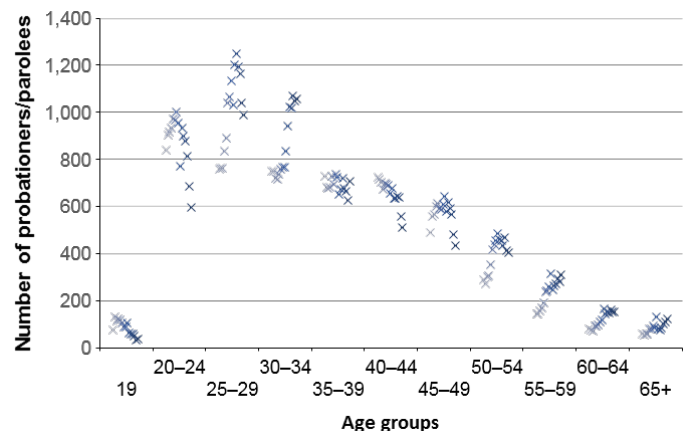
**through 2016.** In 2002, the number of persons on parole or probation was 4,927, the lowest recorded number of probationers/parolees during the time period. The highest number of persons on parole or probation was recorded in 2012 at 6,143 offenders. In 2016, after a period of declining numbers, the number of persons on parole or probation was 5,309.

### Age

Figure 2 displays the number of probationers/parolees across age groups and years. The lightest cross indicates the year 2002 and darkens as time goes on through 2016. From 2002 to 2016 the trend is that **the majority of probationers/parolees are in the age categories between 20 and 34 years old.** The smallest number of probationers/parolees fall in the lowest and highest age groups: 19 and under and 60 plus. The trend for the 19 and under and 40 to 44 age

**Figure 2.**

Number of probationers/parolees over time, by age group, 2002–2016



Source of data: Alaska Department of Corrections, Offender Profile (2002–2016)

groups decreased for the period 2002 to 2016. The trend for the 20 to 24 age group increased from 2002 to 2008 then decreased through 2016. The trend for the 25 to 29 age group increased from 2002 to 2012 then decreased through 2016. The trend for the 45 to 49 age group increased from 2002 to 2010 then decreased through 2016. The trend for the 30 to 34 and 50 plus age groups increased for the period 2002 to 2016.

## Gender

Figure 3 displays the number of male and female probationers and parolees. **The trend for both males and females increased from 2002 to 2012, then decreased through 2016.** In 2002, the number of female and male probationers or parolees was 860 and 4,067, respectively. Both male and female probationers/parolees

were at their lowest number in 2002. The highest number was recorded in 2012 with 1,332 females and 4,811 males. In 2016, the number of female probationers and parolees was 1,106, the number of males were 4,203.

## Ethnicity

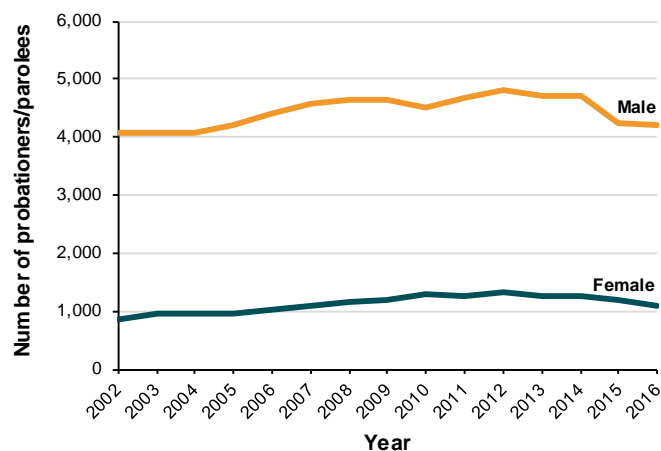
Figures 4 and 5 (page 3) compare the percent that different races are represented in Alaska’s total population with the percent different races are represented in the population of probationers/parolees. Data on race was limited to Alaska Natives, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Black, White, and Other. On average, from 2002 to 2016, Alaska Natives made up 16.2% of the total population, Asian/Pacific Islander 6.7%, Black 4.1%, White 70.1%, and Other 2.8%. On average, Alaska Natives were 27.5% of the probation/parole population, Asian/Pacific Islander 4.2%, Black 9.0%, White 57.7%, and Other 1.6%. The Alaska Native and Black population represent a higher proportion in the probation/parole population than they do in the general Alaska population.

## SUMMARY

The overall trends we see for probation and parole is increasing numbers from 2002 to 2012, then decreasing through 2016. The majority of probationers and parolees are between 20 and 34 years old. The trend for both males and females followed the overall trend, increasing from 2002 to 2012 then decreasing. On average, from 2002 to 2016, Alaska Natives were 27.5% of the probation and parole population, Asian/Pacific Islander 4.2%, Black 9.0%, White 57.7%, and Other 1.6%.

**Figure 3.**

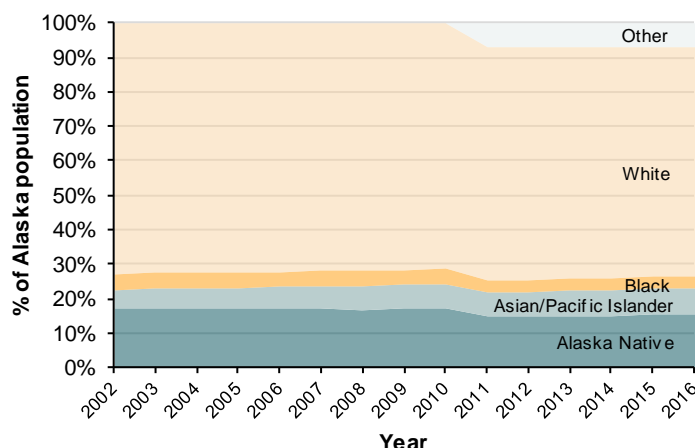
Alaska probation/parole population by gender, 2002–2016



**Source of data:** Alaska Department of Corrections, *Offender Profile* (2002–2016)

**Figure 4.**

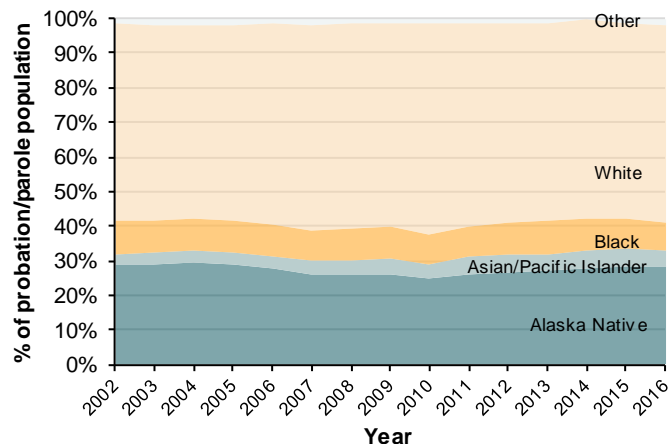
Alaska population by race, 2002–2016



Source of data: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

**Figure 5.**

Alaska probation/parole population by race, 2002–2016



Source of data: Alaska Department of Corrections, Offender Profile (2002–2016)

## Notes

### REFERENCES

Population data for all years were retrieved from the State of Alaska, Department of Labor and Workforce Development at: <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/pop/index.cfm>

Department of Correction data is available online at:

<http://www.correct.state.ak.us/administrative-services/research-records>

### DEFINITIONS

The State of Alaska Department of Corrections Policies and Procedures define the following:

**Parole** — In the case of discretionary parole, the conditional release by the Parole Board of a prisoner serving a sentence exceeding 180 days; or in the case of mandatory parole, the conditional release of a prisoner serving a term or terms of two years or more and released by operation of law before the expiration of the term.

**Parolee** — An offender serving a sentence for violation of state law who has been granted parole by the Alaska Board of Parole or who has been released from incarceration by operation of law to parole supervision; or a parolee from another jurisdiction.

**Probation** — Except as authorized under AS 12.55.086, is a procedure under which a defendant, found guilty of a crime upon verdict or pleas, is released by the superior court subject to conditions imposed by the court and subject to the supervision of the probation service as provided in AS 33.05.

**Probationer** — An offender who has been convicted of a felony crime and ordered to a term of probation; may infrequently include a misdemeanor.

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# Alaska Justice Information Center



## ABOUT

The Alaska Justice Information Center (AJiC) was established in 2015, with a mission to compile, analyze, and report on criminal justice topics to policymakers, and practitioners in order to improve public safety, to increase criminal justice system accountability, and to reduce recidivism. In 2017, AJiC merged with the Alaska Justice Statistical Analysis Center (AJSAC), which was designated as Alaska's statistical analysis center in 1986 by Governor William Sheffield. The fact sheet series was previously published under the AJSAC masthead.

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 Alaska SAC 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 Information Center (AJiC) 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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## ON THE WEB

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

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