Snapshot of Current Incarceration Statistics

Department of Public Safety
Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice

Task Force on Sentencing Reforms for Opioid Drug Convictions
March 6, 2018
The NC Department of Public Safety works to improve the quality of life for North Carolinians by reducing crime and enhancing public safety.

The adult correction mission – To promote public safety by the administration of a fair and humane system which provides for adjudicated offenders to develop progressively responsible behavior.
Prisons Population

- As of 12/31/2016, NC had an incarceration rate of 339 inmates per 100,000 state population, compared to 450 inmates per 100,000 US population – 29 states had higher rates.

- NC had the 13th highest total prisons population among the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

- Bureau of Justice Statistics (2018)
NC Prisons

- 55 prisons, statewide
- Total authorized budget: $1.27B
- FTEs: 16,195
NC Prisons
Inmate Average Daily Costs (FY 2016-17)

- Minimum Custody $85.18
- Medium Custody $98.49
- Close Custody $114.26
Prisons Population

Average Yearly Populations

- 2002 – 32,982
- 2003 – 33,646
- 2004 – 34,988
- 2005 – 36,263
- 2006 – 37,038
- 2007 – 37,985
- 2008 – 38,957
- 2009 – 40,203
- 2010 – 39,899
- 2011 – 40,406
- 2012 – 38,104
- 2013 – 37,182
- 2014 – 37,433
- 2015 – 37,066
- 2016 – 36,462
- 2017 – 36,373
Prisons Population

Prisons population, as of 2/28/18: 36,578

- By custody:
  - Close 18%
  - Medium 45%
  - Minimum 37%

- By gender:
  - Male 92%
  - Female 8%

- By race:
  - White 40%
  - Black 52%
  - Other 8%
Prisons Population

- By conviction status:
  - Felony: 98%
  - Misdemeanant: 2%

- By age:
  - > 55: 12%
  - > 20: 97%
  - Youths < 18: < 1%
Prisons Admissions

- Prisons admissions (CY 2017)

  - By gender:
    - Male: 86%
    - Female: 14%

  - By race:
    - White: 47%
    - Black: 47%
    - Other: 6%
Prisons Admissions

- Prisons admissions (CY 2017)

  - By age:
    - Adults > 20: 93%
    - Young adults 18 to 20: 6%
    - Youths < 18: 1%

  - Education Level of Felon Admissions
    | Grade  | Highest Grade Claimed |
    |--------|------------------------|
    | 0-6    | 1%                     |
    | 6.1 – 11.9 | 76%                |
    | 12.0 + | 23%                    |
Prisons Population

- 118%
  - % increase over the last 10 years of inmates age 55+

- 60%
  - % increase over the last 10 years of inmates diagnosed with chronic illnesses

- 65%
  - % increase over the last 10 years of inmates diagnosed with mental illness (approximately 17% of total population)

- Majority of inmates with these illnesses have co-occurring disorders

- 95%
  - % of inmates expected to return to society after incarceration
  - = approximately 24,000/year
Substance Use Disorder Treatment

- Treatment provided by the Alcoholism and Chemical Dependency Programs (ACDP) Section.

- Mission is “to deliver effective and comprehensive services to eligible NC Department of Public Safety offenders who meet criteria for a substance abuse disorder and are appropriate for treatment.”

- Provides both community-based and prison-based treatment environments.

- Implements best practices for treatment, based on cognitive-behavioral interventions.

- Prison-based program average inmate daily cost = $16.98
Treatment Needs

For FY 2016-17:

- Of the 17,366 inmates screened, 71% indicated a need for intermediate or long-term substance use disorder treatment = 1% increase from previous year.
  - Of the 2,259 adult female inmates screened, 78% indicated a need for intermediate or long-term substance use disorder treatment.
  - Of the 13,556 adult male inmates screened, 70% indicated a need for intermediate or long-term substance use disorder treatment.
  - Of the 1,551 youthful male inmates (under age 22) screened, 67% indicated a need for intermediate or long-term substance use disorder treatment.
Prison-based treatment resources:

- Intermediate Intensive Outpatient treatment (90-180 days) slots = 774
- Long-Term Intensive Outpatient treatment (180-365 days) slots = 238
- Total = 1,012 slots

- One in two inmates have an opportunity for placement in an intermediate program.
- One in six inmates have an opportunity for placement in a long-term program.
Prisons Population

- Most Frequent Crimes of Inmates Entering Prison (CY 2017)
  - Drugs Possession/Sell (or intent) 17% (4,476)
  - Breaking and Entering 12%
  - Larceny 11%
  - Assault 7%
  - Fraud/Forgery 7%
  - DWI 6%
  - Robbery 6%
  - Weapons Offenses 5%
  - Habitual Felon 5%
  - Sexual Assault/Sexual Offenses 4%
  - Drugs Trafficking 4% (1,119)
  - Other Public Order Crimes 2%
  - Murder First Degree 1%
  - Burglary 1%
  - Other Traffic Violations 1%
  - Violation Sex Offense Conditions 1%
  - Kidnapping and Abduction 1%
  - Auto Theft 1%
  - Murder Second Degree 1%
Questions?