

Nevada Data Analysis Part III

Presentation to the Nevada Advisory Commission on the Administration of Justice

Thursday, November 8, 2018

Summary Takeaways

Nevada's Prison Population:

- Nevada's **prison population is up 7%** since 2009, driven by a **6% increase** in admissions and a **20% increase** in the amount of time offenders serve in custody since 2008
 - Between 2009 and 2016, the overall U.S. state prison population declined by 7%
- **43% of the prison population** in 2017 was sentenced for **non-person offenses**

Drivers of Nevada's Prison Growth:

- Prison admissions are **up 6% in the last decade**, driven by admissions for supervision violations
 - Parole violator admissions grew 43% and probation violator admissions grew 15%
- **66% of prison admissions** in 2017 were sentenced for **non-person offenses**
 - Burglary and attempted burglary are the most common offenses at admission
 - Admissions for drug possession have increased 53% in the last decade
- Offenders admitted to prison with a **mental health need has increased 35%** since 2008
- Time served for all prisoners has **increased 20% since 2012**
 - Time served is up 30% for non-person offenses, with a 15% increase for property offenses and a 28% increase for drug offenses
- This growth is not the sole result of state population growth, increases in cases, or crime rates

Recidivism:

- Despite the fact more people are being sent to prison and are being kept there longer, **recidivism rates have increased for all offense types** other than DUIs
- **29% of offenders released** in Nevada in 2014 **returned to custody within three years**, that is just over 1,500 people who returned to custody in 2017
- Recidivism rates grew the most for female offenders, drug and property offenders

Female Population:

- **Female prison admissions are up 39%** in the last decade with increases across all admissions types
- The female prison population has **grown 29%** since 2009 to over 1,200, **four times** the rate of the overall prison population
 - 61% of current female prisoners in custody were sentenced for **non-person offenses**
- More than half of the women admitted to prison have **mental health needs**
- **Recidivism rates** for female offenders have **increased at a faster rate than men**

This analysis of data from several state agencies and courts was conducted for the Advisory Commission on the Administration of Justice by the Crime and Justice Institute.