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.