

Fiscal Year 2019/2020

Annual Report

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY & CORRECTIONS



Corrections Services
Headquarters

504 Mayflower Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70804
www.doc.la.gov

Vision & Mission

Vision

The Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections creates a safer Louisiana by providing correctional programs committed to the protection of the public; safety of our staff; security of people in prison; services to those victimized by crime; and opportunities for positive behavioral change in those remanded to our custody and/or supervision.

Mission

We achieve our vision through safe, secure prison operations and community correctional programs, development and implementation of effective criminal justice policies for Louisiana, and the provision of rehabilitative opportunities for imprisoned people that supports their successful transition into the community.



Goals

Staff and Offender Safety

We provide for the safety of staff and offenders by maintaining an organized and disciplined system of operations. All employees are provided training on the principles of the Code of Ethics of the American Correctional Association to demonstrate our commitment to professional and compassionate service. Our employees conduct their duties and responsibilities with a high degree of integrity and a respect for the value and dignity of human life.

Provision of Essential Services

We provide services relating to food, clothing, and shelter. We are further committed to delivering quality and cost effective health care services that maintain medical and behavioral health services during the offender's incarceration and to prepare him / her for release by providing linkage to care in the community.

Opportunity for Change

We promote moral rehabilitation through program participation and provide an environment for offenders that encourages positive behavior change. On behalf of individuals demonstrating motivation for change and a desire to participate in programming, the Department seeks educational, rehabilitative, and productive work opportunities, either within the institution or in the community for individuals under supervision.

Opportunity for Making Amends

Through the opportunities to work and volunteer in prison jobs and educational programs, make restitution, participate in community restorative initiatives, and communicate in victim-initiated victim-offender dialogue, offenders are able to repair and/or learn from the harm caused by their crime. We believe that victims of crime have the right to an active role in shaping how their needs can be met.

Reentry

We recognize the role of community participation and support in the successful delivery of our vision and mission. By using evidence-based practices and following criminal justice reform legislation, we will increase compliance with conditions of parole supervision and the ability of the offenders to reintegrate with the end goal of safely reducing recidivism within Louisiana. We are committed to working with the public to reduce barriers and stigma faced by returning offenders that hinder their successful reintegration upon their return to our communities.

Secretary's Message

Fiscal Year 2019/2020 began with hope and excitement about the lasting legacy we are making in the Louisiana criminal justice system. We continued this past year to see the rewards of Louisiana's criminal justice reform initiative through reductions in our prison and community supervision populations and our crime rates. This Department and our agency and community partners are restoring lives for Louisiana citizens through second chances, while also ensuring smart public safety.

The *Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement's 2018 Crime Report* released this past year reflects that Louisiana's murder, robbery, and aggravated assault rates all decreased between 2017 and 2018, the first year following our reform efforts. This is one indicator of our success, especially when compared to the decline in our prison population which is highlighted in the statistics within this report. This work is far from over, but we must stand proud of the progress we've made so far and continue to work towards holding people accountable while also giving them the helping hand they need to be successful.

What we didn't expect when we began this year, was a worldwide pandemic that would change the day-to-day operations and focus of our work. You'll read in this report about how we responded to the COVID-19 pandemic and the commitment of the heroes who work for this Department to keeping people safe.

Lastly, this report will include the annual statistics about our Department operations. While we continue to fight the COVID-19 battle, our staff are also striving to continue to build better lives for those remanded to our custody and to our supervision. You will see the outcomes of their work throughout this report.



Organizational Overview

There are six distinct divisions of Corrections Services, each with an executive team member who has responsibility for their respective areas.



DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
THOMAS BICKHAM, UNDERSECRETARY



DIVISION OF EXECUTIVE & COMMUNITY SERVICES
MALCOLM MYER, DEPUTY SECRETARY



DIVISION OF POLICY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS
NATALIE LABORDE, EXECUTIVE COUNSEL



DIVISION OF PRISON OPERATIONS
SETH SMITH, CHIEF



DIVISION OF REENTRY & EDUCATION SERVICES
RHETT COVINGTON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY

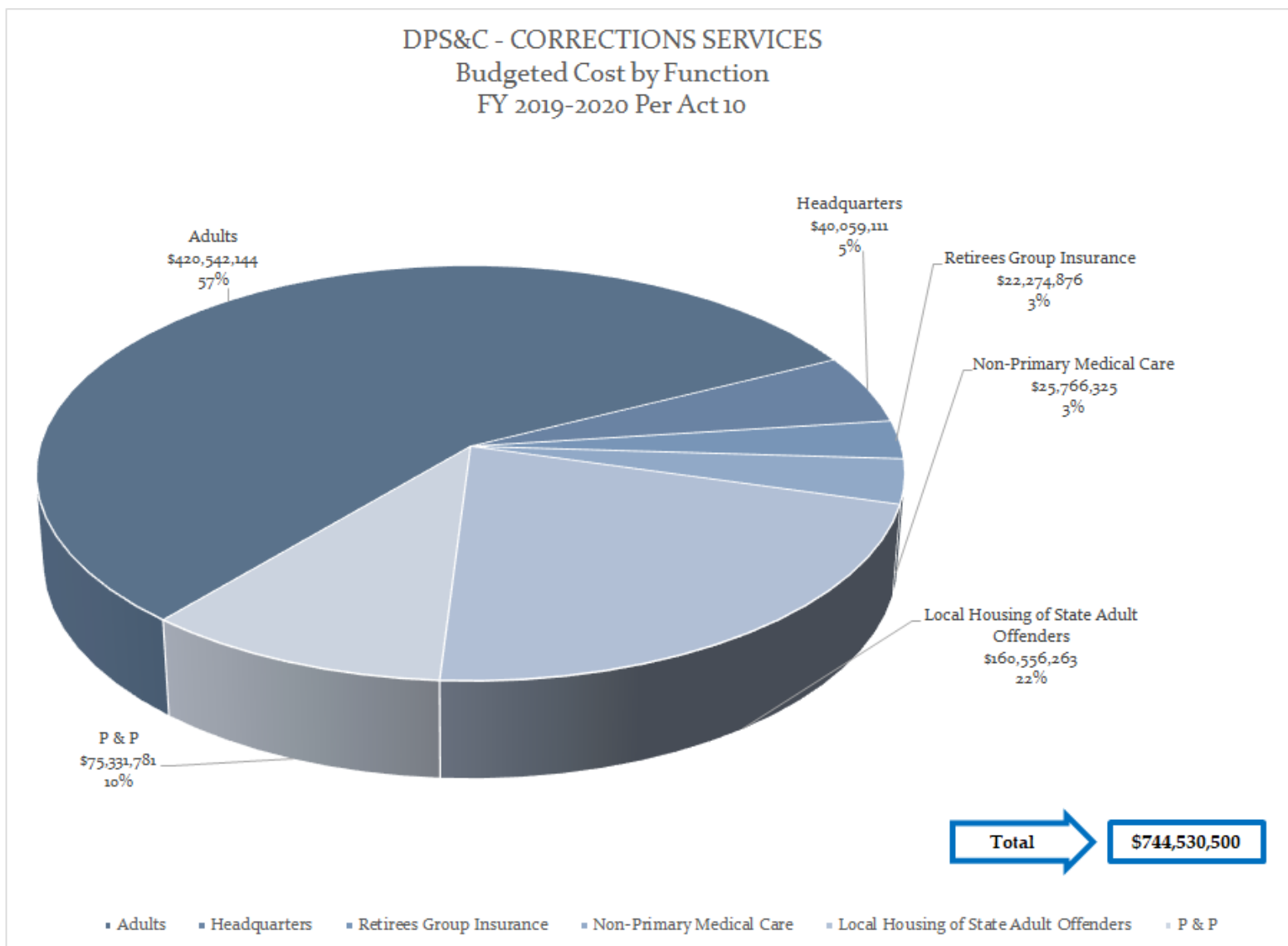


DIVISION OF PROBATION & PAROLE
PETE FREMIN, DIRECTOR

Division of Administrative Services

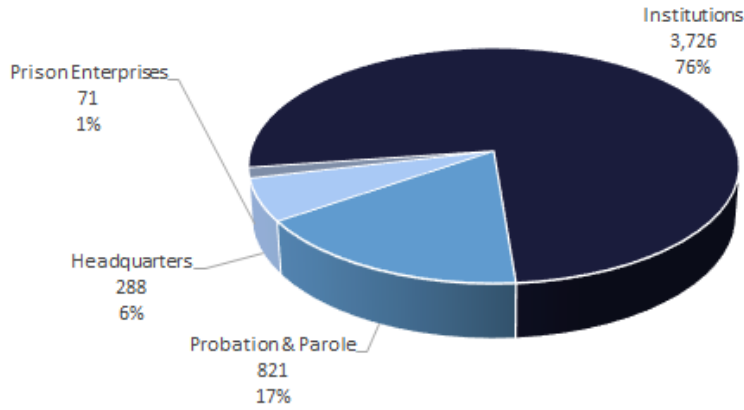
Under the authority of the Undersecretary, Thomas Bickham, the Office of Management and Finance provides management support to all units in activities involving fiscal management, grant administration, information services, food services, maintenance and construction, performance audit, procurement and contractual review, human resources, and the Prison Enterprises Division. The Undersecretary serves as Chief of Staff for Headquarters operations and, as such, coordinates policies and addresses organizational issues that impact the Department.

Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget

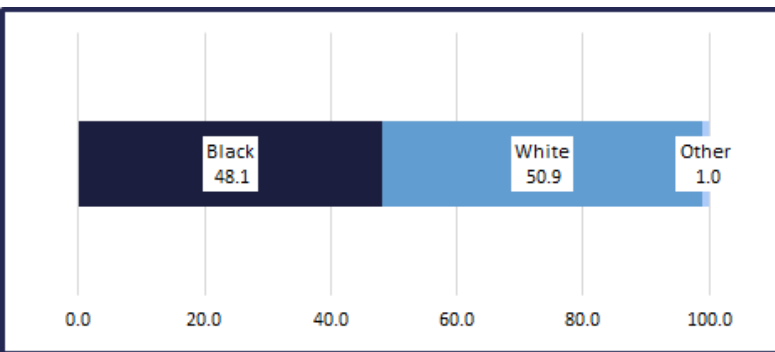


Human Resources

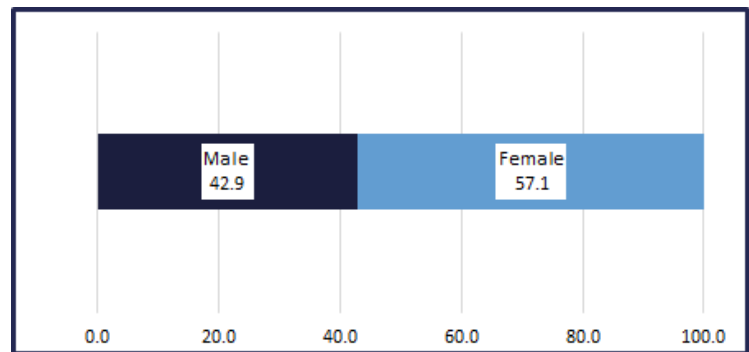
As of June 30, 2020, DPS&C employed 4,906 individuals. The charts below reflect the demographics of the Department's workforce.



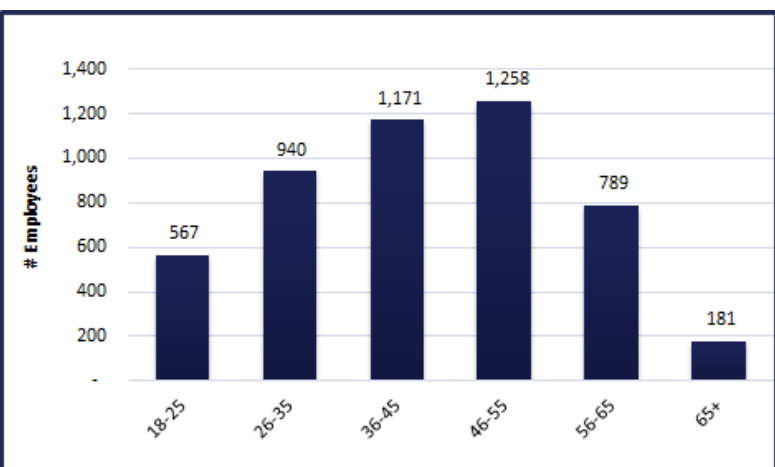
Staff by Organizational Unit



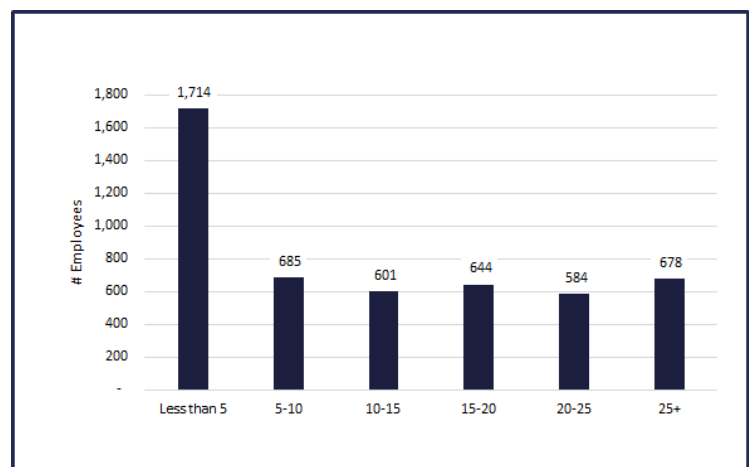
Staff by Race



Staff by Gender



Staff by Age



Staff by Years of Service

Correctional Careers Steering Committee



In January 2020, DPS&C established a Correctional Careers Steering Committee to review all aspects of correctional careers within Louisiana and asked the committee to conduct a deep dive into areas that had an impact on morale, turnover and retention. The Committee make-up was intentionally diverse in age, gender, race, years of service, and fields of work. It included staff from prisons, Probation and Parole, and Headquarters, as well as members who held various job titles including varying ranks in Security, Mental Health, Training, and Human Resources.

Based on Human Resources reports regarding turnover, vacancies and retention, as well as staff surveys that indicated staff morale at the institutions was an issue, the decision was made to focus on careers within the institutions as the first priority since they make up the greatest percentage of staff and all indications were that employees in this job series were the largest driver of employee dissatisfaction. Elayn Hunt Correctional Center and Louisiana State Penitentiary have experienced security vacancy rates as high as 25% and while the Department's overall institutional security turnover rate for FY 2020 was at 35%, if we only look at the entry level positions of Cadet and Sgt. this percentage rises to 70% for the same time frame. If we look at Corrections Cadet alone it rises dramatically to 179%. Based on this data, the committee decided to focus its attention on front line security staff within the institutions/prisons.

The Steering Committee was asked to identify issues they believed impacted morale, turnover and/or retention. Three members of the Steering Committee then held a focus group with front line security staff to identify issues that they believed impacted morale, turnover and/or retention. The focus group was diverse in terms of age, gender, race, years of service and types of assignments (12 hour shifts, day/night shifts, 8 hour day staff, cell block and administrative security) and in many cases the focus group identified many of the same issues that had been discussed among the leadership team and the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee took the information from the staff surveys, focus groups, and leadership meetings to develop a plan for addressing issues. The result was four distinct work groups assigned to research and develop resolutions for each of the identified issues. The Steering Committee is finalizing its work with plans of submitting a final report with recommendations to be presented in December to the Leadership Team.

Prison Enterprises

Under the umbrella of the Undersecretary is Louisiana Prison Enterprises. Prison Enterprises operates a diversified group of industry, agriculture, and service programs locations at seven correctional facilities throughout Louisiana. The programs provide unique work opportunities and job training that provides valuable skills and a sense of work ethic and responsibility to those preparing to return to the community. Details about the work of Prison Enterprises can be found in the organization's annual report at www.doc.la.gov or www.prisonenterprises.org.

Division of Executive & Community Services

Deputy Secretary, Malcolm Myer, manages executive services, including Legal Services, Internal Auditing, and the Office of Offender Reentry. The Deputy Secretary's Office also represents the Department's support of community service and philanthropic initiatives such as Combined Charitable Campaign, Keep Louisiana Beautiful, American Heart Association, and The Correctional Peace Officer Foundation.

Legal Services

During fiscal year 2018/2019, this team received notification of 300 lawsuits filed against the Department and its staff in district courts in Louisiana. There have been two significant legal cases handled by the legal team this year:

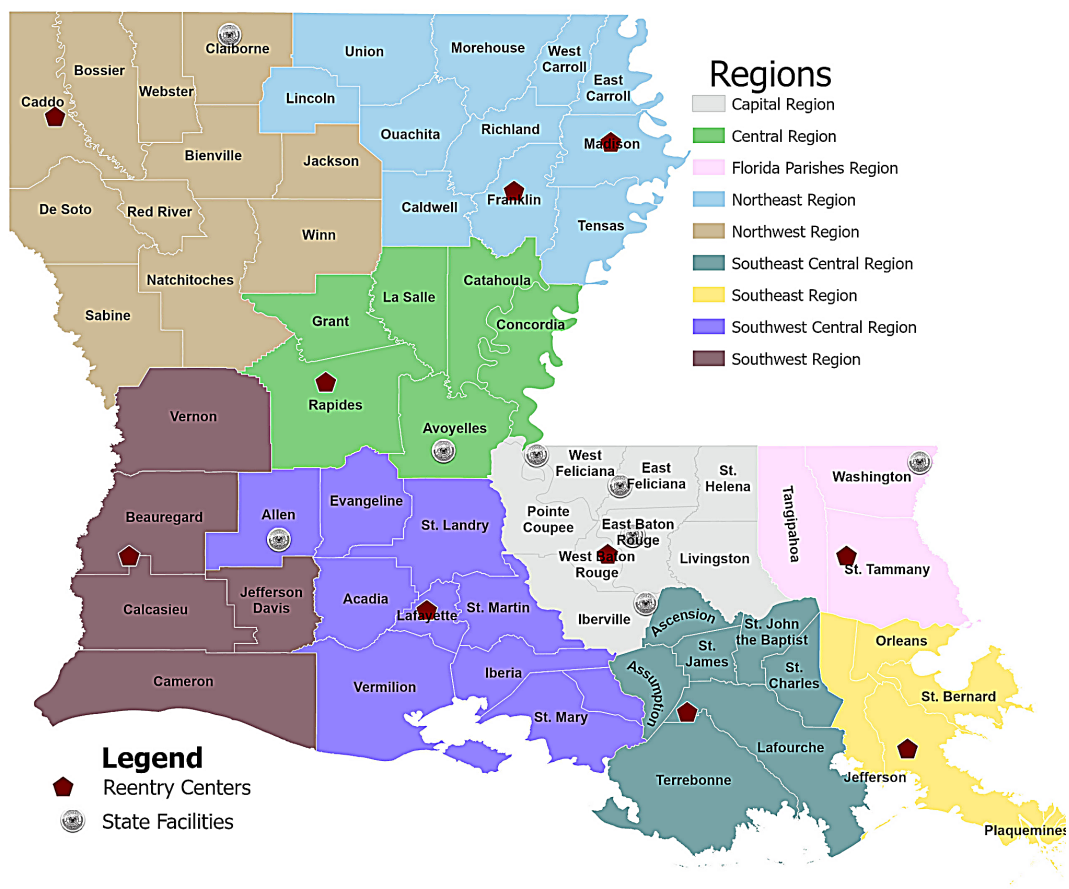
Lewis v. Cain (Middle District La. 15-318) - A class action litigation whereby the Advocacy Center representing offenders of Louisiana State Penitentiary sued the Department alleging deficiencies in the delivery of health care services to all offenders housed at LSP. There was a three week trial in October of 2018 and post-trial briefs were completed in April 2019. A final judgement on liability remains pending.

Tellis v. Le Blanc (Western District La. 18-161) - A class action litigation whereby the Advocacy Center representing offenders housed within cellblocks at David Wade Correctional Center sued the Department alleging the conditions cause harm to their mental health and violated their rights under the Eighth Amendment. Discovery is set to close in January 2020 with expert reports due soon thereafter.



Division of Reentry and Educational Services

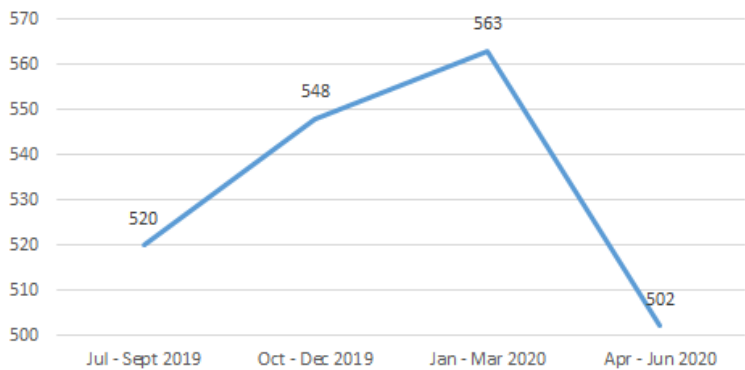
The Office of Reentry operates under the authority of the Assistant Secretary, Rhett Covington, and is responsible for the development and management of reentry programming, to include the Louisiana Prisoner Reentry Initiative. The program uses innovative approaches such as resource building, sound policy, and collaborative efforts among agencies to support an offender’s successful reintegration into society so that he/she can be productive citizens upon release from prison.



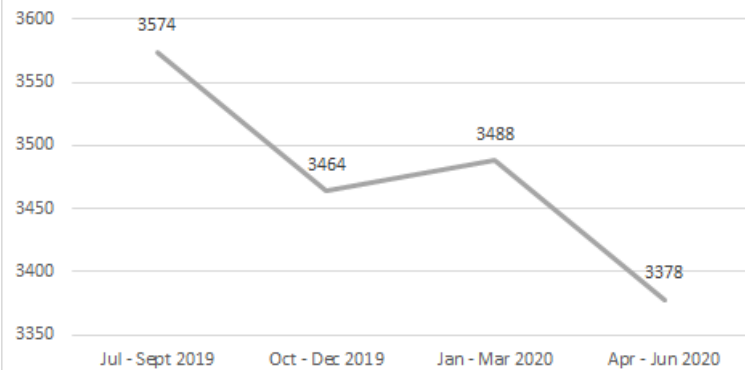
Departmental reentry staff in state prisons focus on providing education and vocational training to improve opportunities for employability upon release; they provide cognitive behavioral therapy programs such as Thinking for a Change; they teach and model soft skills; and they teach a uniform pre-release curriculum that includes courses such as goal setting, problem solving, job placement assistance, anger management, money management, and victim awareness. They work with releasing populations to identify housing and transportation needs and plans. They develop a Reentry Accountability Plan for each releasing offender that serves to ease the transition upon release and to notify community service providers for continued support. We are also able to provide these services to those housed in local jails through a regionalized reentry approach. In these Regional Reentry Centers, staff are working to provide reentry programming and services similar to those offered in state prisons to offenders releasing from local jails and returning to that particular region of the state. There are currently ten regional reentry centers (9 male and 1 female) across the state.

Reentry

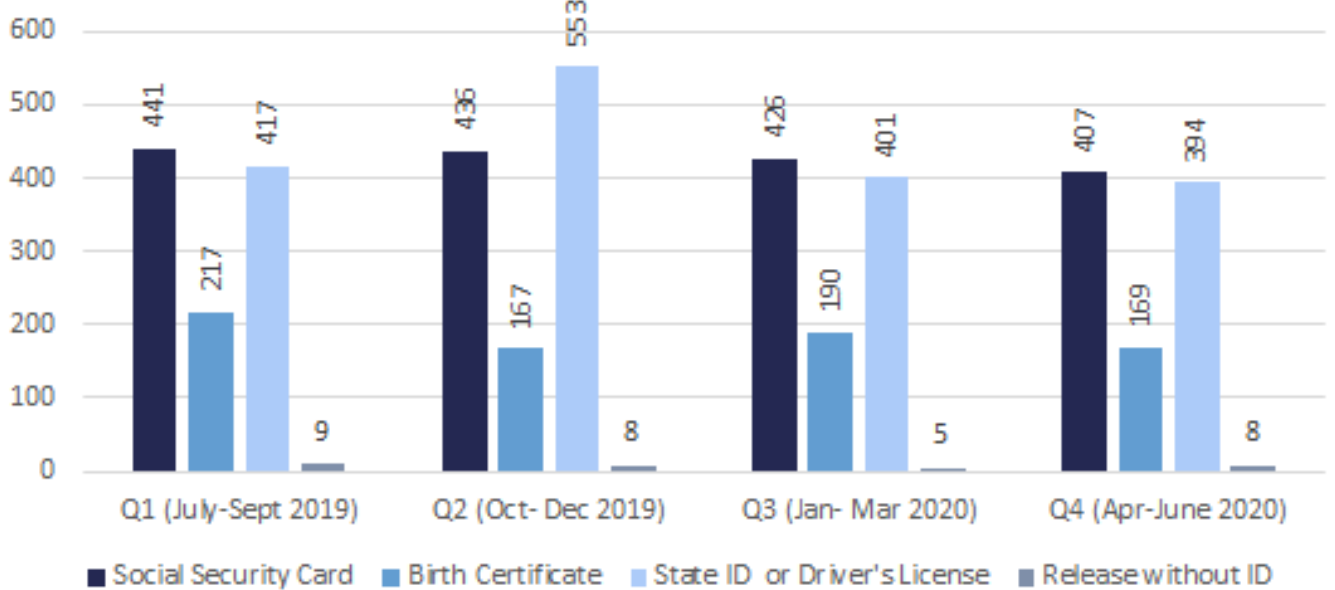
State Prison Releases FY 2020



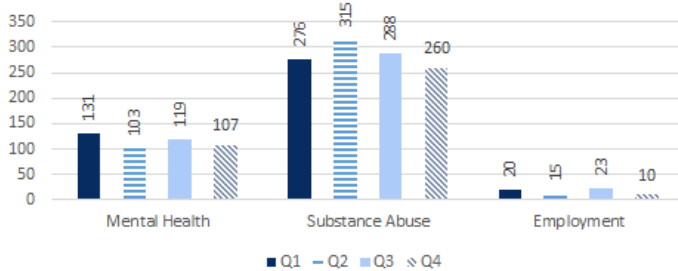
Local Jail DOC Releases FY 2020



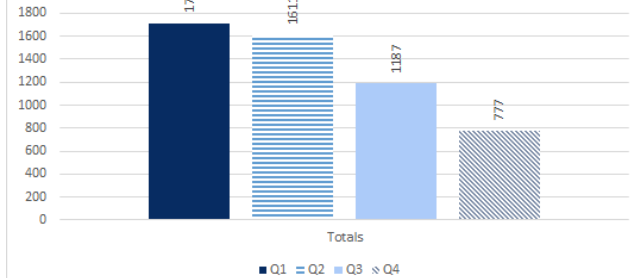
Released from State Prisons with



Total Referrals to Community Resources by Quarter

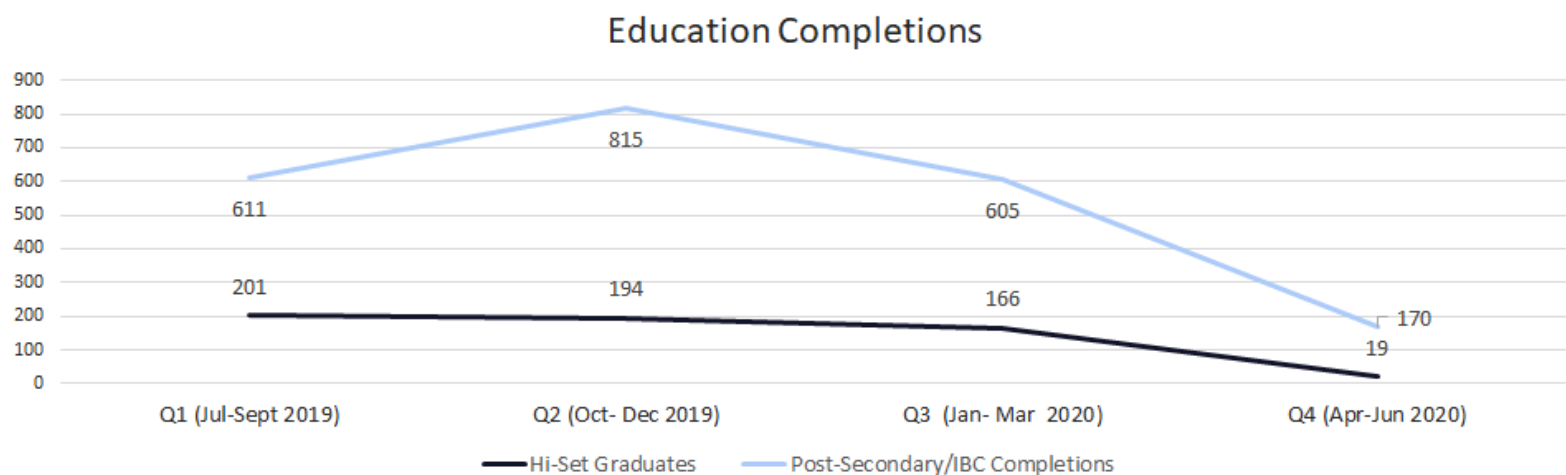
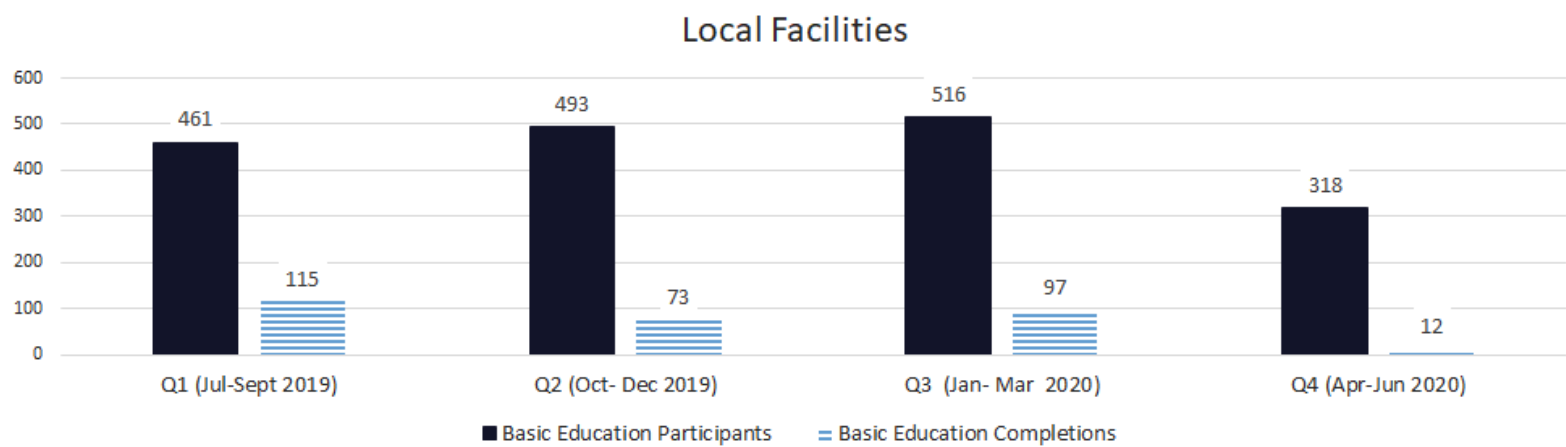
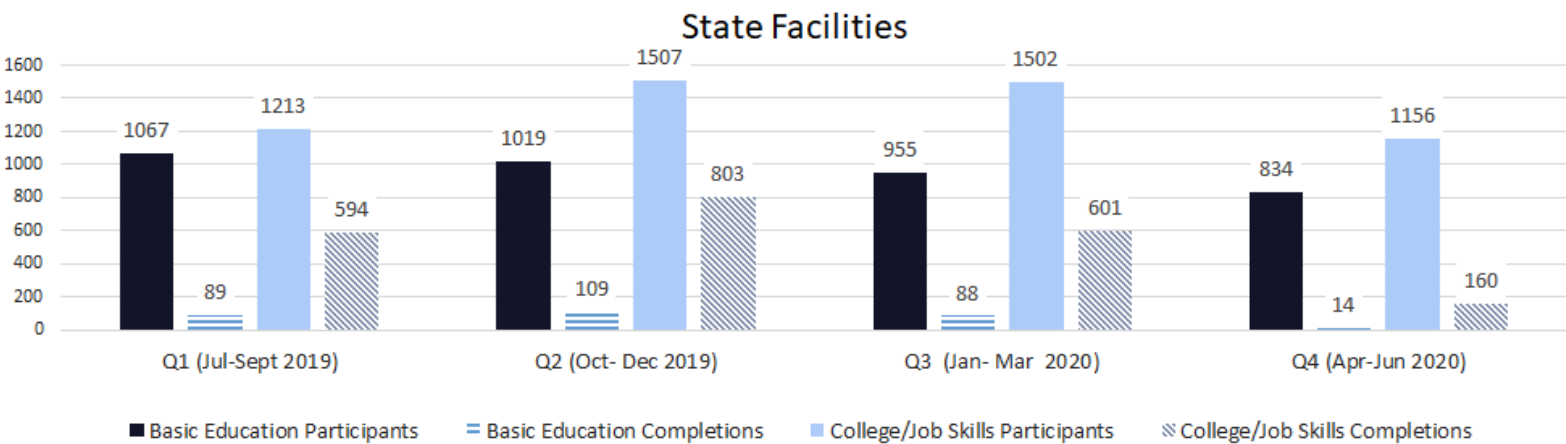


Total Local Reentry Program (Pre-Release) Graduates by Quarter



Education

Certified Treatment & Rehabilitation Program Participants and Completions for Basic Education and College/Job Skills Programs

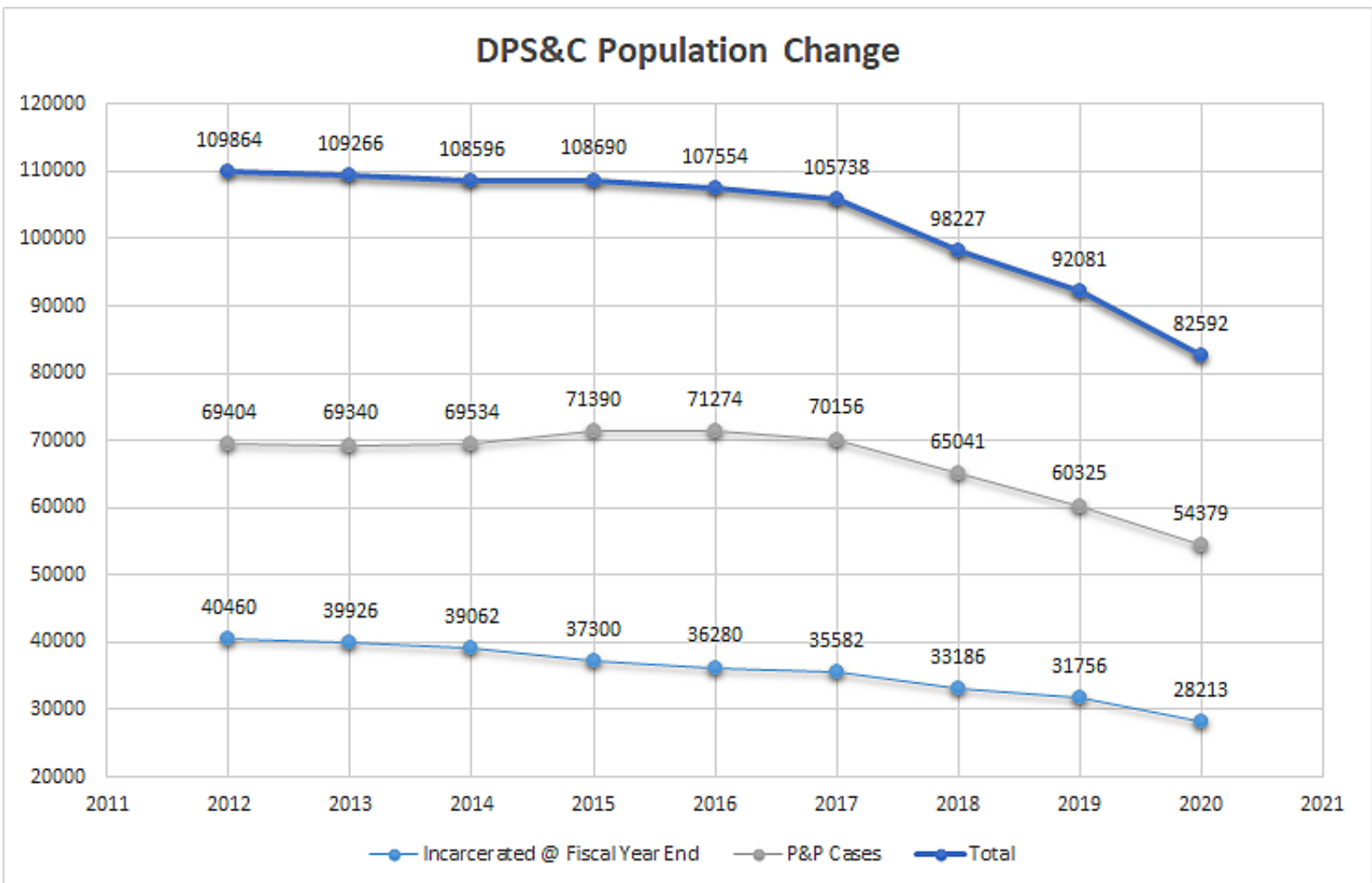


Division of Policy Development & Communications

Executive Counsel Natalie LaBorde oversees the Department's policy development, communications, and healthcare staff. Additionally, the Executive Counsel serves as the Department's Legislative Liaison and manages the team responsible for the DPS&C implementation of Louisiana's Criminal Justice Reform efforts.

Criminal Justice Reform

Since last year, there are 3,543 fewer individuals incarcerated & 5,427 fewer individuals on community supervision in Louisiana.



For more information about Louisiana's Justice Reform Progress, refer to the Justice Reinvestment Initiative Annual Report at www.doc.la.gov.

Policy Development

Families of the Incarcerated Advisory Board

In 2019, the creation of the Secretary's Families of the Incarcerated Advisory Board (FIAB) was initiated to support connections between incarcerated people and their families through improved communication, shared information, issue identification, and resolution. In 2020, FIAB members were divided into two subcommittees: 1) Communications and 2) Pre- and Post-release. These subcommittees identified problems in their subject areas and recommended solutions. The communications subcommittee proposed creating a Louisiana Department of Corrections (DOC) newsletter for friends and families of incarcerated people. The pre-release subcommittee proposed designing a pre-release program taught by formerly incarcerated people. The Department is currently working to implement both proposals. Applications for new FIAB members will be sought at the beginning of 2020 and the new board will determine at its initial meetings the the subject areas that will be the focus of next year's work.

Incarcerated Women's Task Force

In 2018, Louisiana lawmakers passed House Concurrent Resolution 27 (HCR 27), creating the Louisiana Women's Incarceration Task Force. This Task Force was created out of a desire to continue the work started by the state through the passage of Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) legislation in 2017 but with a specific focus on justice-involved women. HCR 27 directed the Task Force to study the state's criminal justice system as it relates to women and recommend strategic changes to reduce recidivism and increase health and public safety.

The Task Force completed its work and issued a final report in February 2020, after a year of work reviewing research, national and state data, and DPS&C policies and practices. The final report, issued in February 2020, detailed findings and issued 20 recommendations. The DPS&C was involved with the Task Force throughout their study and is currently evaluating ways to align DPS&C policies and practices with the recommendations of the Task Force.

As a first step, the DPS&C is in the process of updating its Discipline and Sanctions Policy and Rulebook to be gender-responsive. In addition, DPS&C is working with a technical assistance provider to create a strategic plan to transform women's services and align with the other report recommendations to be gender-responsive and trauma-informed. We anticipate this work will continue into the next year and be foundational to the design and development of a new women's facility.



Division of Prison Operations

There are 8 state prisons under the authority of the Chief of Operations, each state prison has a Warden and its own leadership team to manage day-to-day operations. Headquarters Audit Teams conduct operational audits at each facility annually to ensure compliance with Department Regulations and the American Correctional Association expected practices for Adult Correctional Institutions. Any findings are included in written audit reports and require plans of action be submitted to the Chief of Operations.

There are also 85 local facilities who house DPS&C offenders through an agreement to meet the Basic Jail Guidelines (BJG). The state is separated into 9 Basic Jail Guidelines Regions, as depicted in the map on the next page. Each of the regions have an assigned BJG Team Leader based out of our state prisons, who is responsible for monitoring jail compliance with the guidelines. Similarly, operational compliance reviews are conducted to provide the Sheriff and Warden or Jail Administrator with an informative assessment of operational activities. Frequency of these audits is determined by the Chief of Operations or by contract, but audits are conducted at a minimum of annually at each location.

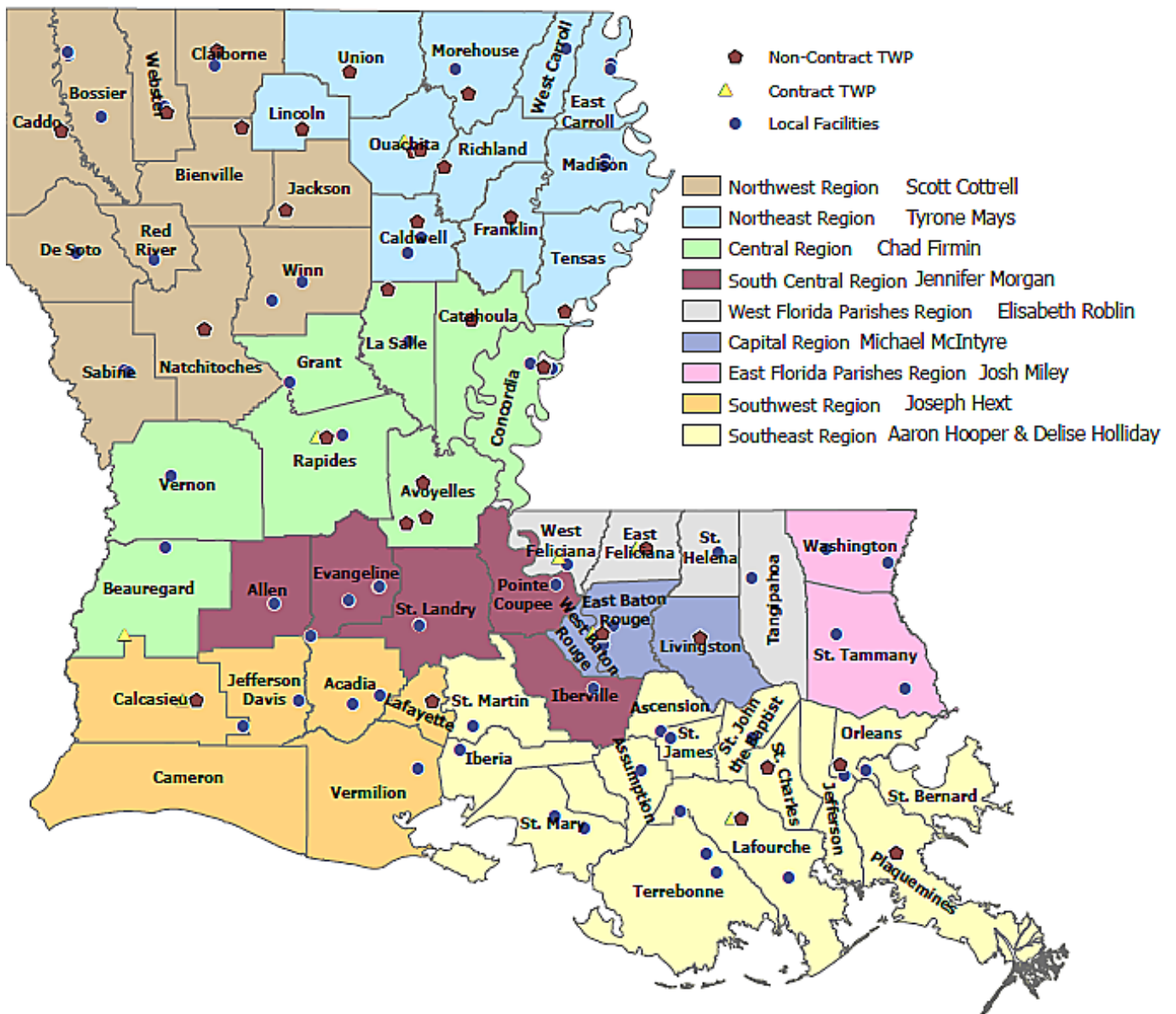
During Fiscal Year 2019/2020, audits were directly affected by the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Because of the increased number of COVID-19 cases in the State of Louisiana, all on-site inspections were postponed March 13, 2020. Although on-site inspections were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic response, Headquarters Audit Team Members, and BJG Team Leaders continued to work closely with facilities to ensure the highest compliance levels were maintained.



Basic Jail Guidelines Regions

Each Region is anchored by a state prison facility and the assigned a Basic Jail Guidelines Team Leader is housed at the anchor facility with assigned responsibility for jail monitoring and auditing.

BJG REGIONS AND TEAM LEADERS

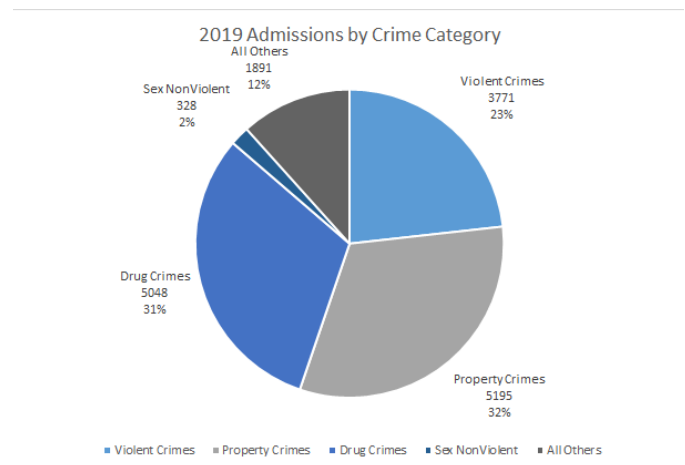
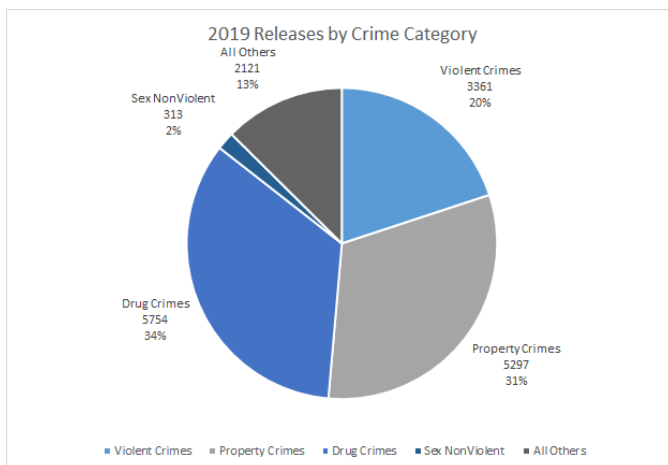
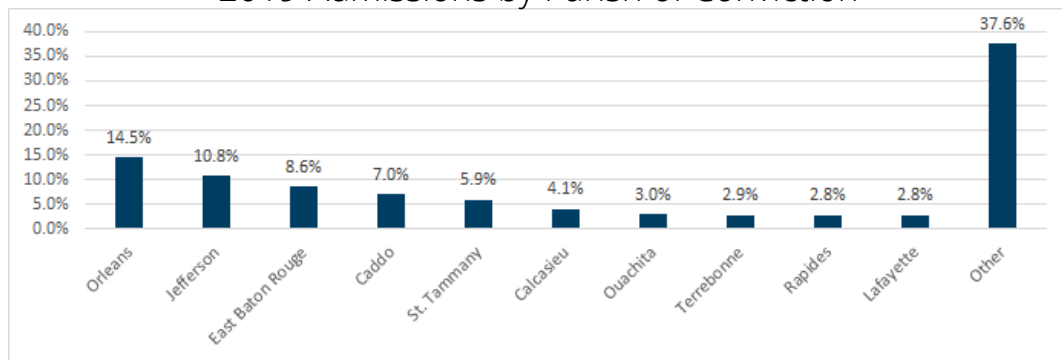


Calendar Year 2019 Admissions & Releases

Below is a summary of the type of admissions and releases from custody in 2019. This data is not pulled by fiscal year, thus the 2020 calendar year update will be available in the next fiscal year report.

2019 Admissions	Total Admissions	Avg. Length of Sentence (Yrs)	New Felony	Revocation New Felony	Revocation Technical	Waiver-Technical	Waiver-Pending
Violent Crimes	3771	8.7	57.1%	11.9%	13.0%	3.3%	14.7%
Property Crimes	5195	4.6	39.5%	16.4%	19.7%	3.7%	20.7%
Drug Crimes	5048	4.4	44.9%	13.2%	21.9%	3.8%	16.1%
Sex NonViolent	328	8.7	73.5%	7.3%	14.0%	2.1%	3.0%
All Others	1891	4.1	71.1%	4.5%	12.0%	2.3%	10.2%
Grand Total	16233	5.5	49.6%	12.8%	17.8%	3.5%	16.3%

2019 Admissions by Parish of Conviction



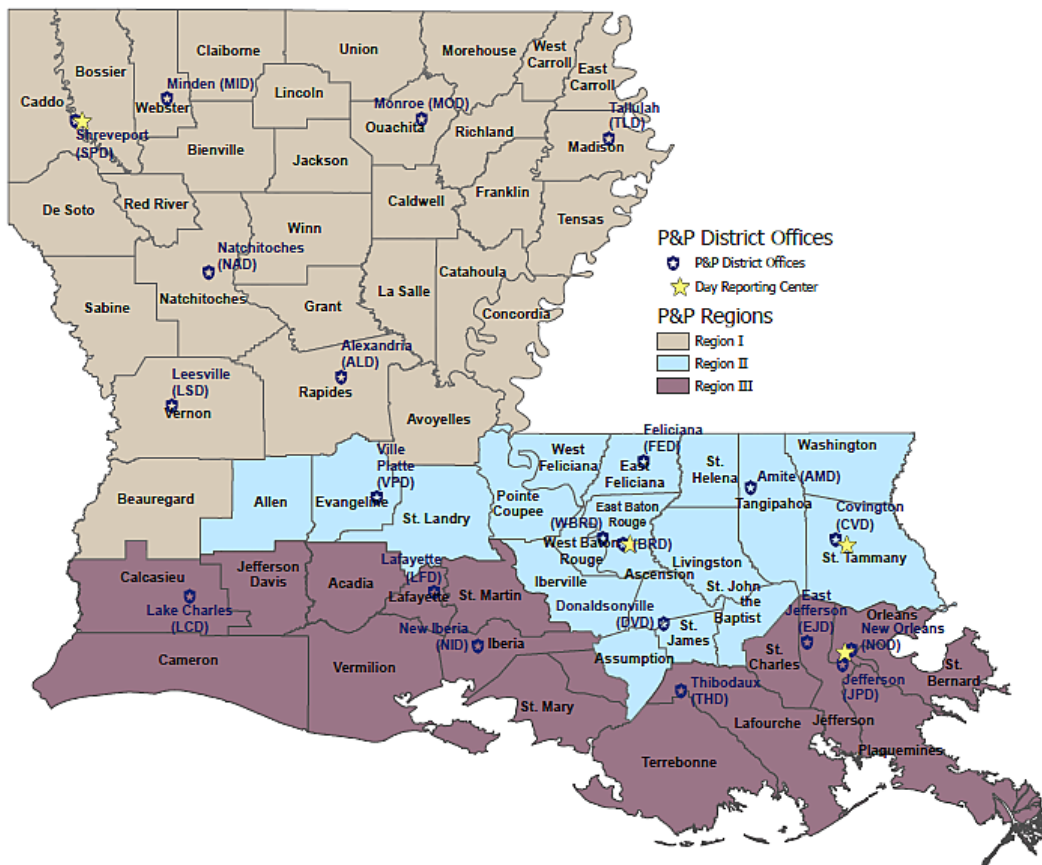
2019 Releases	Total Releases	Avg. Length of Sentence (Yrs)	Avg. Time Served (Yrs)	GTPS	Good Time	Full Term	Parole	Other
Violent Crimes	3361	8.1	4.8	79.0%	0.1%	12.5%	3.4%	5.0%
Property Crimes	5297	4.9	1.2	90.6%	0.0%	4.6%	3.4%	1.4%
Drug Crimes	5754	5.3	1.4	89.6%	0.0%	4.0%	5.3%	1.1%
Sex NonViolent	313	5.3	3.8	12.1%	0.0%	47.0%	6.4%	34.5%
All Others	2121	4.4	1	86.6%	0.0%	9.5%	0.6%	3.3%
Grand Total	16846	5.6	2	86.0%	0.1%	7.4%	3.7%	2.8%

Division of Probation and Parole

The Division of Probation and Parole functions as the community corrections component of the Department and is comprised of twenty-one district offices located throughout the state. Officers serve to support probationers and parolees in the transition to becoming law abiding citizens while ensuring they meet the conditions of supervision. Officers provide case support in identifying problems and solutions, referrals for community services and/or Day Reporting Centers, general counseling and guidance, and direction on goal oriented decision making. DPS&C contracts with eight Day Reporting Centers around the state that provide education, employment, job skill development, and counseling services to those who need it.

Officers typically visit individuals at their homes, at their work places, and during office appointments. The impact of COVID-19 has caused the growth of the use of technology tools to improve supervision activities while keeping staff and individuals on supervision safe. Through tools such as smart phone applications and telephone and video reporting options, officers have worked through obstacles presented by the pandemic while finding new and innovative ways to service clients.

Probation & Parole District Offices



Fiscal Year 2019/2020

Statistics

Crime Rate Comparison

Type of Crime	Percent Change From 2007 to 2019	Percent Change From 2014 to 2019	Percent Change From 2017 to 2019
	<i>Prior to Reentry Focus</i>	<i>Since Implementation of Reentry Focus</i>	<i>Since JRI Implementation</i>
Murder	-17.61%	13.59%	-4.88%
Rape ¹	50.93%	65.20%	23.48%
Robbery	-38.88%	-29.31%	-24.89%
Aggravated Assault	-25.70%	14.10%	3.34%
Motor Vehicle Theft	-34.81%	8.37%	-2.95%

¹ The definition of rape was expanded in UCR reporting in 2017, so comparisons between the two definitions should be done so cautiously

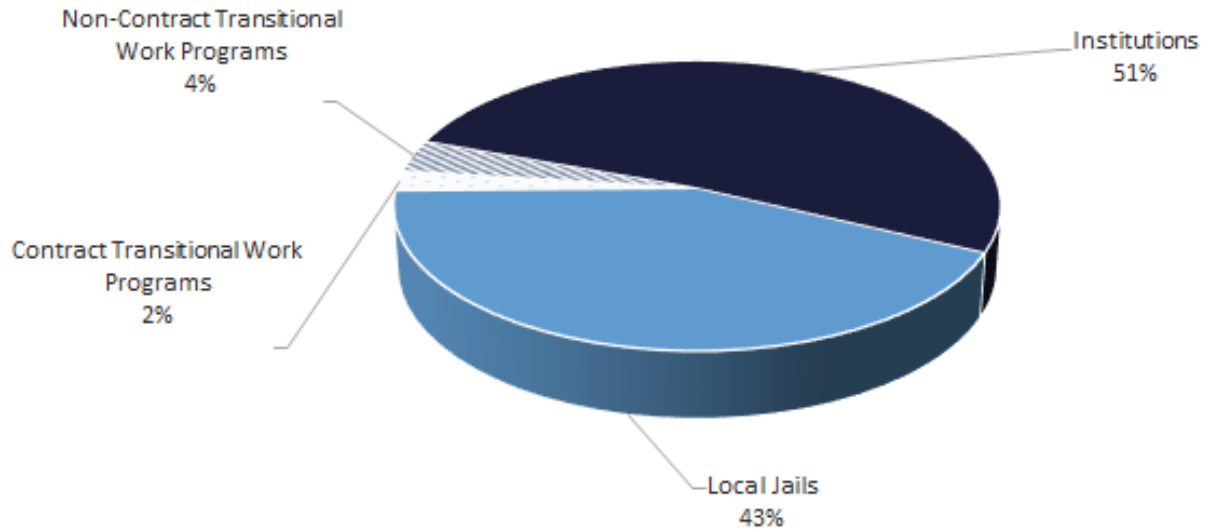
2020 Recidivism Summary

Recidivism is defined as a return to custody following a conviction for a new felony or a technical revocation of supervision after having been released from incarceration upon completion of sentence or released to supervision. Offenders are tracked for a period of time from date of release based on the year of return to determine recidivism rate. Offenders released to a detainer, deceased, or transferred to another jurisdiction are not included in recidivism statistics. If an offender releases more than one time in the year, he/she is only counted once per release cohort for the purposes of this report.

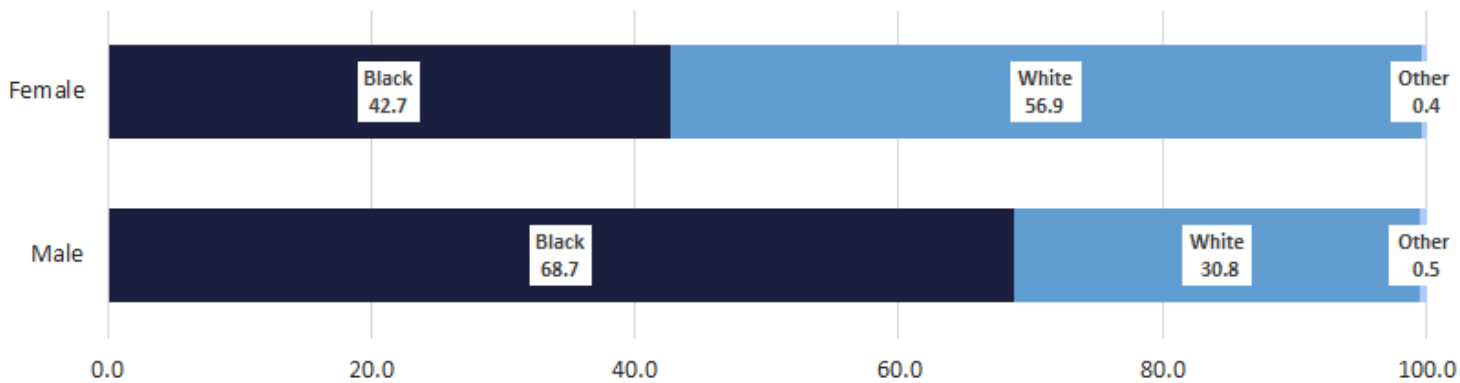
	Total Releases	1st Year Returns (12 months)	%	2nd Year Returns (24 months)	%	3rd Year Returns (36 months)	%	4th Year Returns (48 months)	%	5th Year Returns (60 months)	%
2005	13,550	2,485	18.3%	4,188	30.9%	5,124	37.8%	5,762	42.5%	6,234	46.0%
2006	13,032	2,301	17.7%	3,827	29.4%	4,736	36.3%	5,376	41.3%	5,875	45.1%
2007	12,650	2,235	17.7%	3,732	29.5%	4,646	36.7%	5,265	41.6%	5,731	45.3%
2008	12,846	2,141	16.7%	3,676	28.6%	4,733	36.8%	5,375	41.8%	5,831	45.4%
2009	12,938	2,087	16.1%	3,729	28.8%	4,625	35.7%	5,197	40.2%	5,623	43.5%
2010	14,760	2,265	15.3%	4,229	28.7%	5,231	35.4%	5,895	39.9%	6,354	43.0%
2011	14,218	2,249	15.8%	4,188	29.5%	5,174	36.4%	5,848	41.1%	6,300	44.3%
2012	14,487	2,343	16.2%	4,254	29.4%	5,249	36.2%	5,877	40.6%	6,323	43.6%
2013	15,246	2,453	16.1%	4,393	28.8%	5,346	35.1%	6,040	39.6%	6,512	42.7%
2014	15,030	2,317	15.4%	4,058	27.0%	5,126	34.1%	5,841	38.9%	6,278	41.8%
2015	14,825	2,194	14.8%	4,193	28.3%	5,360	36.2%	6064	40.9%		
2016	13,326	2,045	15.3%	3,738	28.1%	4748	35.6%				
2017	14,464	2,077	14.4%	3,940	27.2%						
2018	13,153	1,919	14.6%								

Prison Population Demographics

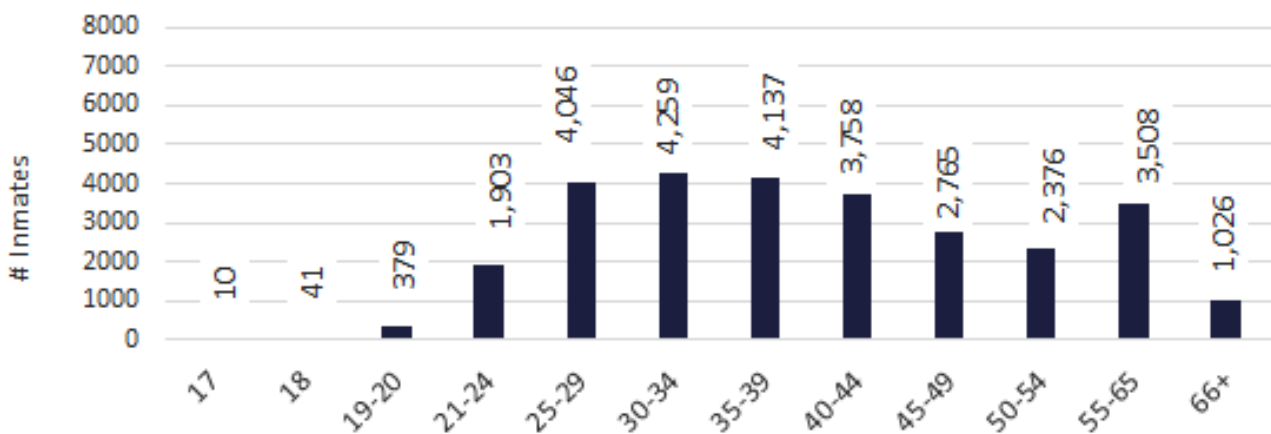
As of June 30, 2020, DPS&C houses 14,528 individuals in state prison facilities and 13,685 individuals in local jail facilities. The charts below reflect the demographics of the 28,213 individuals.



Population by Race and Gender

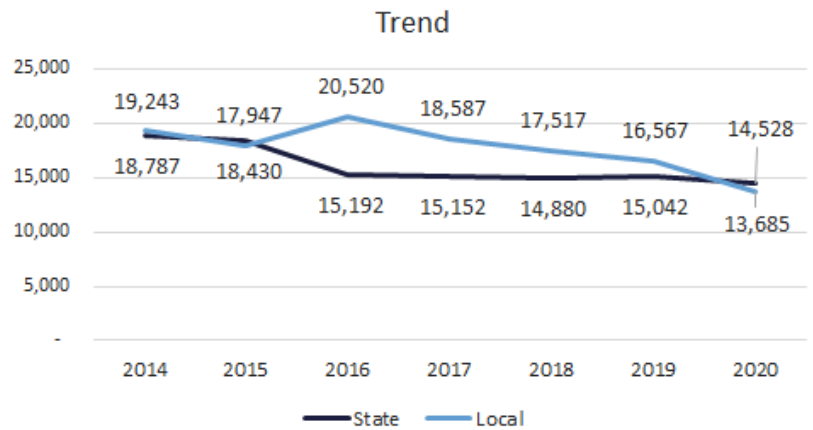
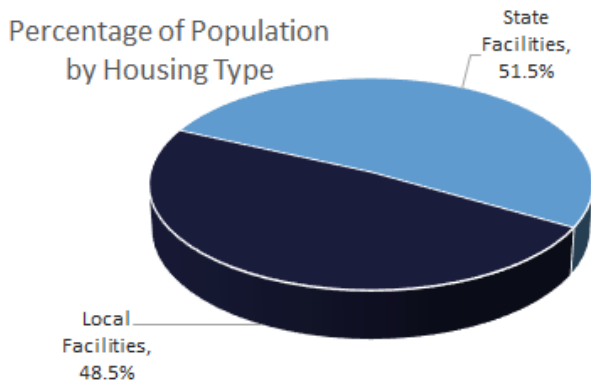


Population by Age



Average Age of Current Population is 40.5 years.

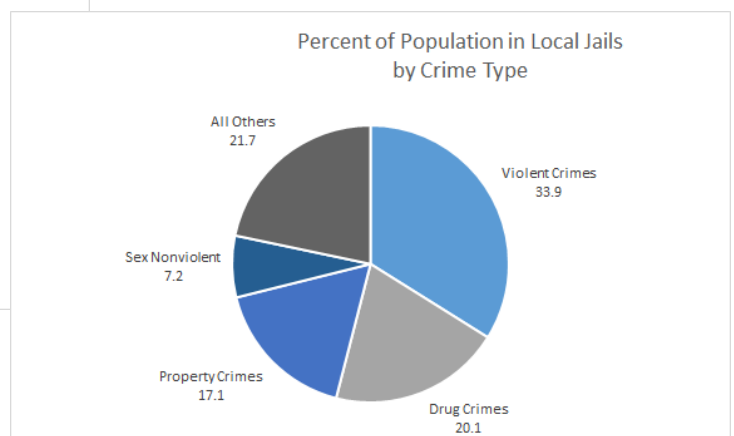
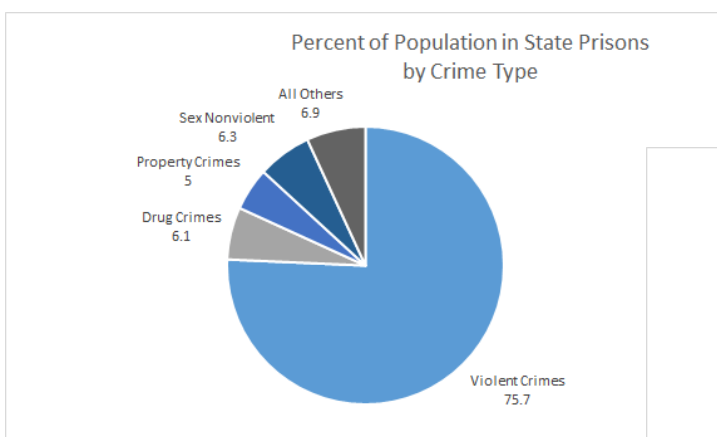
Comparison of Prison Population by Housing Location



The average time served for those individuals housed in state prisons is currently 11.4 yrs. The average sentence length for those housed in state prisons is 25.3 years.

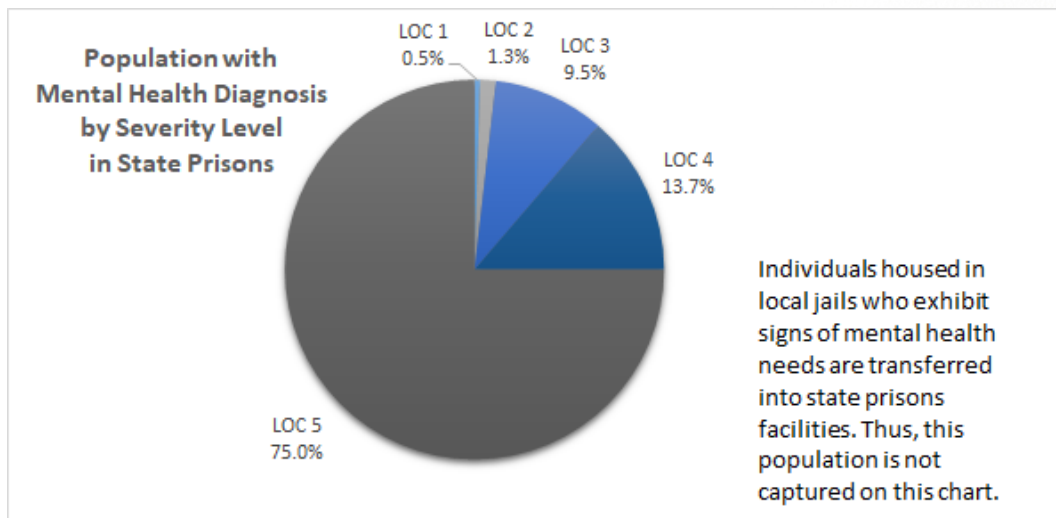
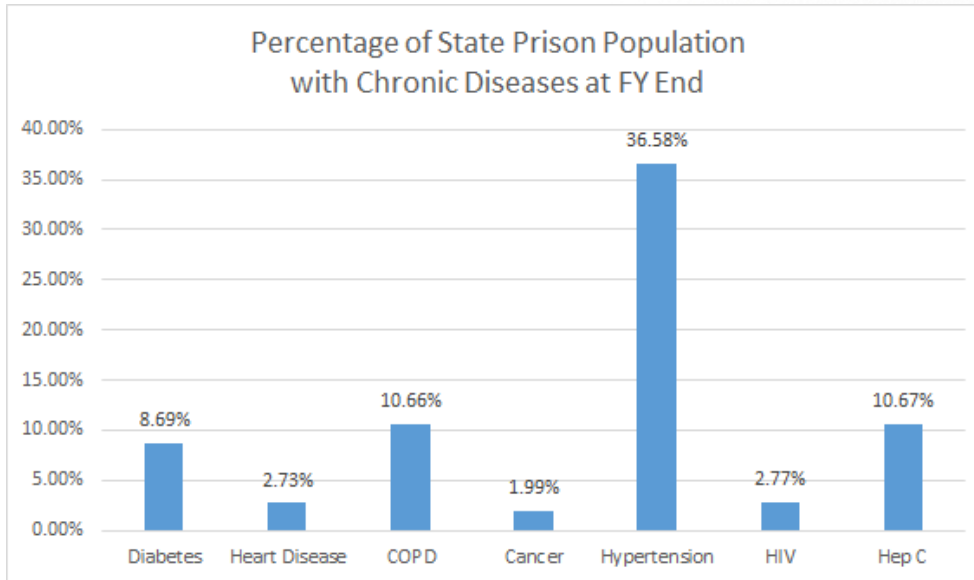
The average time served for those individuals housed in local jails is 2.5 yrs. The average sentence length for those housed at the local level is 10.2 years.

Nearly 85% of those individuals housed in local jails have served 5 years or less of their current sentence.



Population Healthcare Demographics

Fiscal Year 19/20 ended with a unique set of circumstances given the national pandemic. Our healthcare staff spent much of the last five months of the year responding to and implementing COVID-19 protocols, in addition to ensuring the day-to-day operations of our healthcare system continued to provide quality care to those in our custody. Information about our COVID-19 response is available at www.doc.la.gov. The information below provides a snapshot of the health/mental health conditions of those housed in our state prisons.

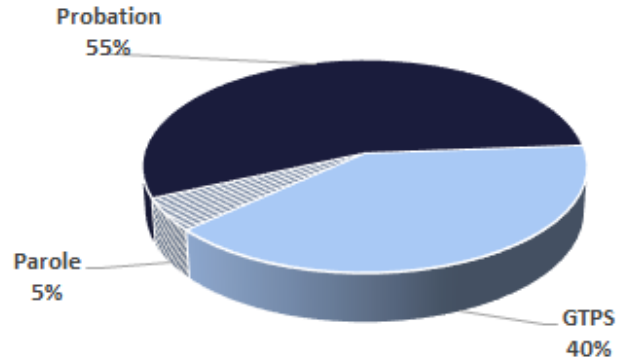


Level of Care (LOC) designations are used to identify individuals who have mental health needs and the severity of those needs. This chart breaks down the percentage of population in our state prisons by the level of disability or need.

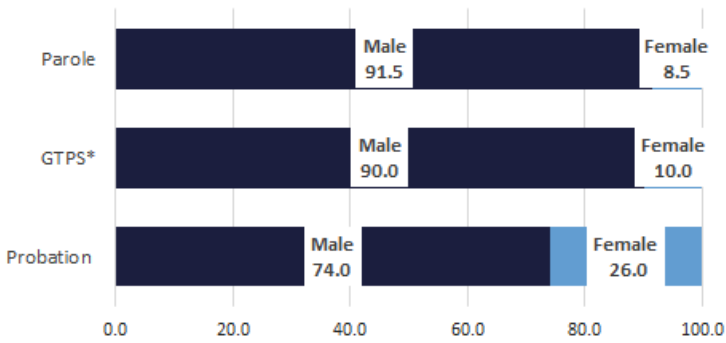
- LOC 1 refers to those with the most significant mental health needs and represents those who are diagnosed to need ongoing, intensive interventions and assistance with daily living.
- LOC 2 includes those diagnosed with a serious mental illness (SMI) and who have been in remission for less than 6 months or who have displayed a pattern of instability.
- LOC 3 are those diagnosed with an SMI who have been in remission or stable for at least 6 months and are stable, functional and having no major problems.
- LOC 4 are those with any diagnostic impression, excluding SMI, addiction disorders, or anyone requiring mental health intervention in the past 12 months.
- LOC 5 are those not prescribed any psychotropic medications and who have had no mental health intervention for more than one year.

Community Supervision Population Demographics

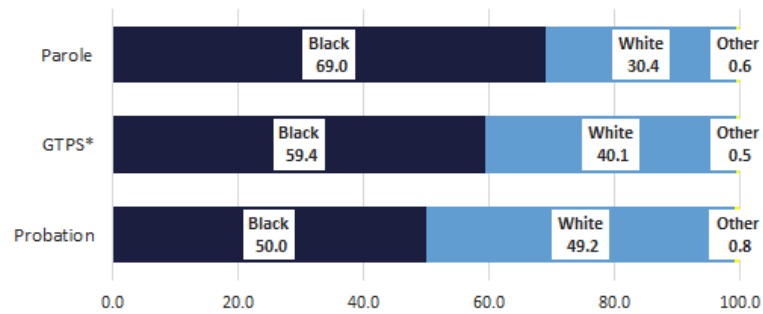
At year end, there are 54,379 individuals on community supervision in Louisiana.



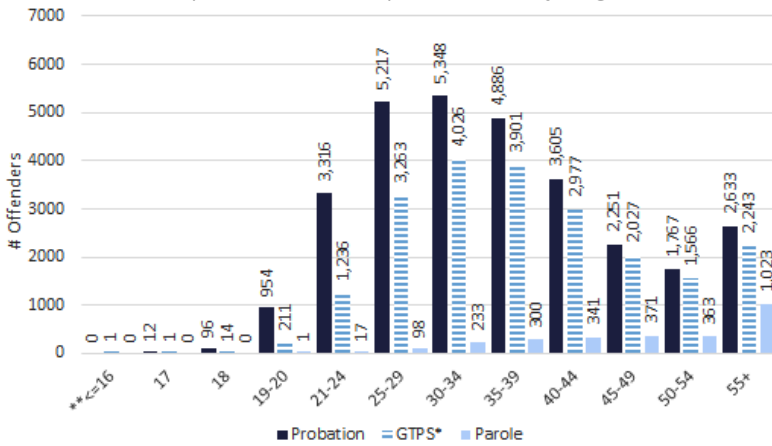
Supervision Population by Gender



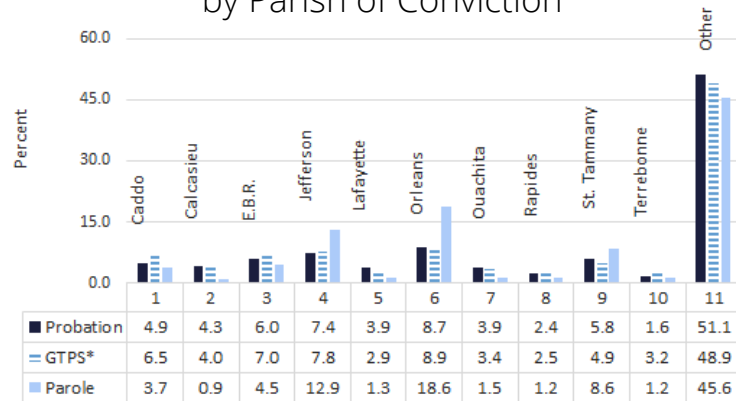
Supervision Population by Race



Supervision Population by Age



Supervision Population by Parish of Conviction



FY 2020-2021 Legislative Priorities

During the 2020 Legislative Session, the Department was focused on our response to COVID-19. We did participate in a hearing of the bill that recreated the Department as an agency, which is heard every six years, and are happy to be compiling this report as our agency was indeed reestablished.

Proposed 2021 Legislation of Interest to the Department (if filed):

1. Deaths/Autopsies: Specify in law that if the coroner declines to do an autopsy on death of an individual while in DOC custody, the Department of Corrections would have the ability to request and pay for the associated costs.
2. Pre-class/Release Processing: Specify time frames in law for the processing of sentencing documents and clarify limitation of liability for over-detention as it relates to this process.
3. Expand Educational Certified Treatment and Rehabilitative Program (CTRP): Specify the allowance of CTRP credits (above 360) for college and masters' degree completions.
4. Reentry Council: Add a provision to law relating to the Reentry Council statute which specifies attendance requirements for council members.
5. Step-Down Custody Pilot (Halfway House): Authorize DPS&C to pilot a half-way house/step down custody level/status upon availability of funding.



FY 2020-2021 Agency Top 10 Priorities

In addition to normal operational management that meets our Department's core vision, mission, and goals, the Department has identified the following 10 priorities for the coming year. Many of these goals are continuations of last year's priorities as a result of the Department's focus in the last half of this fiscal year on our response to the national COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Continue risk reduction efforts to protect our staff and our prisoner population from COVID-19 to include deployment of vaccines when they are received.
2. Planning for the reestablishment of programs and services that have been put on hold as part of our COVID-19 response, especially in person educational/ rehabilitative programs and family visitation.
3. Implementation of recommendations by the Correctional Careers Steering Team aimed to address staff recruitment, retention, and turnover.
4. Continued development of the Corrections Information and Program Record System (CIPRS) in partnership with the Office of Technology Services.
5. Contracting a vendor to support the automation of time computation functions as part of our new management system.
6. Redesigning and developing the Department's Youthful Offender Program, providing educational opportunities and services to individuals 21 and younger who have been convicted as adults.
7. Modernizing the incarceration of females to include stabilizing housing; redesigning and rebuilding the female facility following modern design practices, and redeveloping policy and programming changes focused on gender specific approaches.
8. Providing Hepatitis C screening and treatment to our prison population as a result of the state's Hepatitis C Elimination project.
9. Deploying the Restrictive Housing redesign plan statewide to all state prisons with written policy, procedure, and practice.
10. Continuing to implement Justice Reinvestment initiatives that reduce incarceration and recidivism and improve transitional and wrap-around services for those returning to the community.

Research

The Department Regulation regarding social science research was revised in September 2019 to establish a Research Review Committee and formalize the process for review and approval of research requests. Since that time, the Research Review Committee has approved three research requests. These approved projects have not been finalized to date.

Voices of the Incarcerated: Speaking from Prison on the Impact of Dropping out of School

Graduate Student, Kim Littles, will use surveys and interviews with incarcerated males to identify high school drop-outs and then determine what factors contributed to that decision and if that decision had an impact on them being incarcerated. She aims to identify the connection between high school drop outs and the incarcerated and identify the impact of family and peer experiences, school experiences, neighborhood experiences, and self-perception on their path to prison.

Microanalysis of the Impact of Correctional Education on Employment & Recidivism

Dr. Tracy Andrus, Director of Lee P. Brown Criminal Justice Institute, will evaluate outcomes of post secondary graduates who earned their credentials while incarcerated. He aims to identify and follow 500 formerly incarcerated graduates and 500 formerly incarcerated who did not participate in educational programs for five years to capture information on the impact of educational programs on employment and recidivism.

Southern Women's Pathways To and Through Prison

Dr. Susan Dewey, Professor in Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Alabama, will use surveys and interviews with incarcerated women in Alabama, Louisiana, and other southern states (approval pending) to research, evaluate, and develop evidence-based, culturally competent, and gender responsive approaches for female rehabilitation that will be shared with participating states for implementation.

This report is compiled in accordance with R.S. 15:827.A.(2) (Duties of the Department of Public Safety & Corrections) - Make an annual report to the governor with respect to the work of the Department, which shall include but not be limited to statistical and other data, accounts of research work performed by the department, the results of inspections of local detention and correctional facilities and statistical and other data on persons detained in such facilities, and any recommendations for legislation affecting the Department.