

What is the makeup of Montana's offender population?

This group of about 12,000 people is largely white males, has an average age of nearly 36 and is mostly serving sentences on probation or parole.

The chart on Page A-15 page provides a snapshot of the population under supervision of the Department of Corrections. Taken in mid-2006 as the fiscal year ended, it shows 80 percent were male and just over 79 percent of all offenders were white. American Indians accounted for 14.7 percent of the total, more than twice their representation in the state's overall population. About 3 percent were Hispanic and 1.5 percent were black. Female offenders had a slightly larger percentage of Indians than males, 17.7 percent versus 14 percent.

Although Indians accounted for just under 15 percent of all offenders, they made up a greater portion of the prison populations. Eighteen percent of imprisoned male offenders and 26.6 percent of imprisoned female offenders were Indian.

The average age among women offenders was 35.8 years, almost identical to the average age

of 35.9 among men. Average ages varied slightly among the races. Indian offenders were a year younger than white offenders, Hispanic and black offenders averaged two years younger. Offenders on probation or parole tended to be 2-4 years older than the overall population. The oldest population among males was in the drug or felony DUI treatment programs, where the average age was about 39½ years. The eldest population among female offenders was parolees with an average age of 39½ years. The youngest population for men – 30.7 years – was in the Missoula Assessment and Sanction Center (MASC), the START (Sanction, Treatment, Assessment, Revocation and Transition) center, and the boot camp. The same was true for women, where the youngest offenders with an average of 32 years were in the Billings Assessment and Sanction Center and the female boot camp.

Overall, about six out of every 10 offenders were on probation or parole. About 60 percent of men and 76.6 percent of women were in those categories. About 77 percent of offenders were in programs other than prison. Just over 6 percent of offenders were in prerelease centers.

Adult Offender Population Demographics

6/30/2006

| Gender | Correctional Status | Type | Race | | | | | Gender Totals | Combined Totals | |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------|---------|-----------------|----------|------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|-------|
| | | | White | American Indian | Hispanic | African American | Other | | | |
| Female | Inmate | Age | 36.6 | 33.1 | 28.7 | 0.0 | 30.4 | 35.3 | | |
| | | Percent | 68.4% | 26.6% | 3.5% | 0.0% | 1.4% | 11.6% | 2.3% | |
| | BASC/ICP | Age | 32.9 | 27.8 | 0.0 | 29.3 | 40.3 | 32.1 | | |
| | | Percent | 69.4% | 22.2% | 5.6% | 2.8% | 5.6% | 1.5% | 0.3% | |
| | WATCH/Connections | Age | 39.1 | 40.8 | 33.6 | 26.0 | 42.4 | 38.9 | | |
| | | Percent | 62.9% | 25.7% | 5.7% | 2.9% | 2.9% | 1.4% | 0.3% | |
| | Prerelease | Age | 33.4 | 32.7 | 31.8 | 36.5 | 26.7 | 33.1 | | |
| | | Percent | 64.5% | 31.2% | 2.8% | 0.7% | 0.7% | 5.8% | 1.2% | |
| | ISP | Age | 36.3 | 35.4 | 27.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 36.0 | | |
| | | Percent | 81.6% | 15.8% | 2.6% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 3.1% | 0.6% | |
| | Parole | Age | 39.3 | 39.6 | 40.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 39.4 | | |
| | | Percent | 79.8% | 19.2% | 1.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 4.1% | 0.8% | |
| | Probation | Age | 36.0 | 35.8 | 34.6 | 31.2 | 37.9 | 35.9 | | |
| | | Percent | 80.3% | 15.0% | 2.2% | 0.5% | 2.0% | 72.5% | 14.4% | |
| | Overall | Age | 36.1 | 35.1 | 33.2 | 31.0 | 37.1 | 35.8 | | |
| | | Percent | 77.6% | 17.7%* | 2.4%* | 0.5%* | 1.8%* | | 19.9% | |
| | Male | Inmate | Age | 37.5 | 34.9 | 35.1 | 34.8 | 29.9 | 36.8 | |
| | | | Percent | 75.2% | 18.0% | 3.8% | 2.4% | 0.6% | 26.3% | 21.1% |
| MASC/START/TSCIC | | Age | 30.6 | 32.5 | 23.7 | 30.7 | 20.1 | 30.7 | | |
| | | Percent | 72.8% | 20.7% | 3.1% | 2.7% | 0.8% | 2.7% | 2.1% | |
| WATCH/Connections | | Age | 40.0 | 37.5 | 45.5 | 37.8 | 41.7 | 39.6 | | |
| | | Percent | 76.6% | 18.9% | 2.0% | 1.0% | 1.5% | 2.1% | 1.6% | |
| Prerelease | | Age | 33.9 | 33.3 | 34.9 | 43.5 | 34.9 | 34.0 | | |
| | | Percent | 76.0% | 18.3% | 2.8% | 1.8% | 1.0% | 6.2% | 5.0% | |
| ISP | | Age | 35.4 | 35.9 | 32.3 | 38.7 | 24.3 | 35.3 | | |
| | | Percent | 86.1% | 8.8% | 2.7% | 1.4% | 1.0% | 3.0% | 2.4% | |
| Parole | | Age | 38.5 | 38.0 | 38.8 | 35.9 | 36.9 | 38.4 | | |
| | | Percent | 82.0% | 11.7% | 3.1% | 1.7% | 1.5% | 6.2% | 5.0% | |
| Probation | | Age | 35.7 | 35.1 | 34.2 | 32.0 | 29.9 | 35.4 | | |
| | | Percent | 82.1% | 11.6% | 3.3% | 1.5% | 1.6% | 53.6% | 42.9% | |
| Overall | | Age | 36.2 | 35.0 | 34.6 | 34.1 | 30.7 | 35.9 | | |
| | | Percent | 79.7% | 14.0% | 3.3% | 1.8% | 1.2% | | 80.1% | |
| Combined Totals | | Age | 36.2 | 35.0 | 34.4 | 34.0 | 32.4 | 35.8 | | |
| | | Percent | 79.3% | 14.7% | 3.1% | 1.5% | 1.4% | | | |

Inmates include offenders at Montana State Prison, Montana Women's Prison, Crossroads Correctional Center, Cascade County Regional Prison, Dawson County Regional Prison, county jails and those out to court.

Prerelease includes those in prerelease and transitional living.

Extracted from ACIS/Pro-Files 10/13/2006