



Greg Gianforte, Governor | Brian M. Gootkin, Director

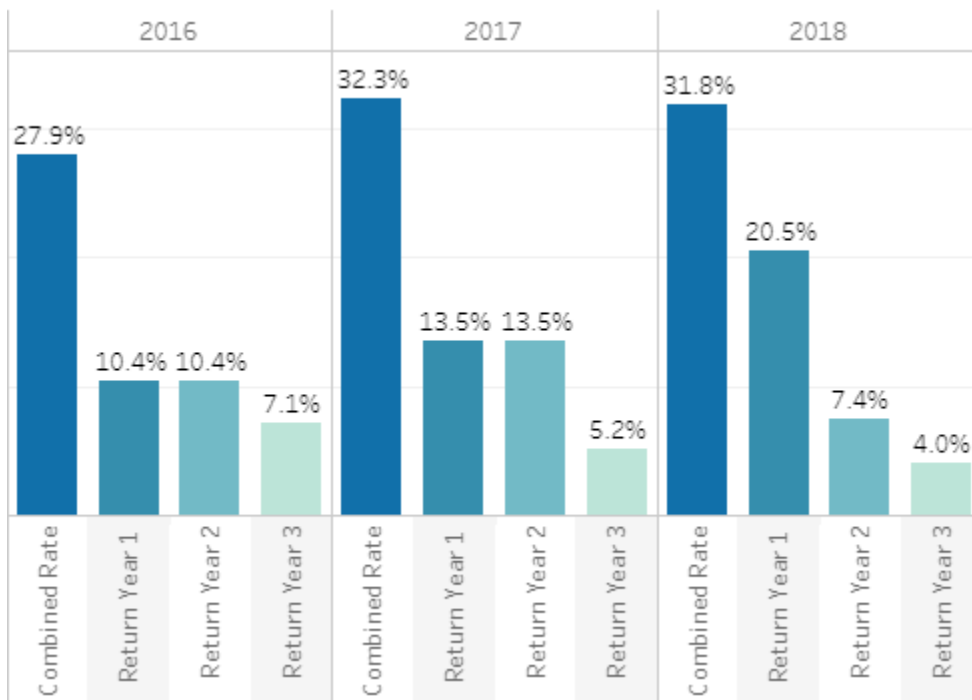
April 25, 2022

Members of the Law and Justice Interim Committee,

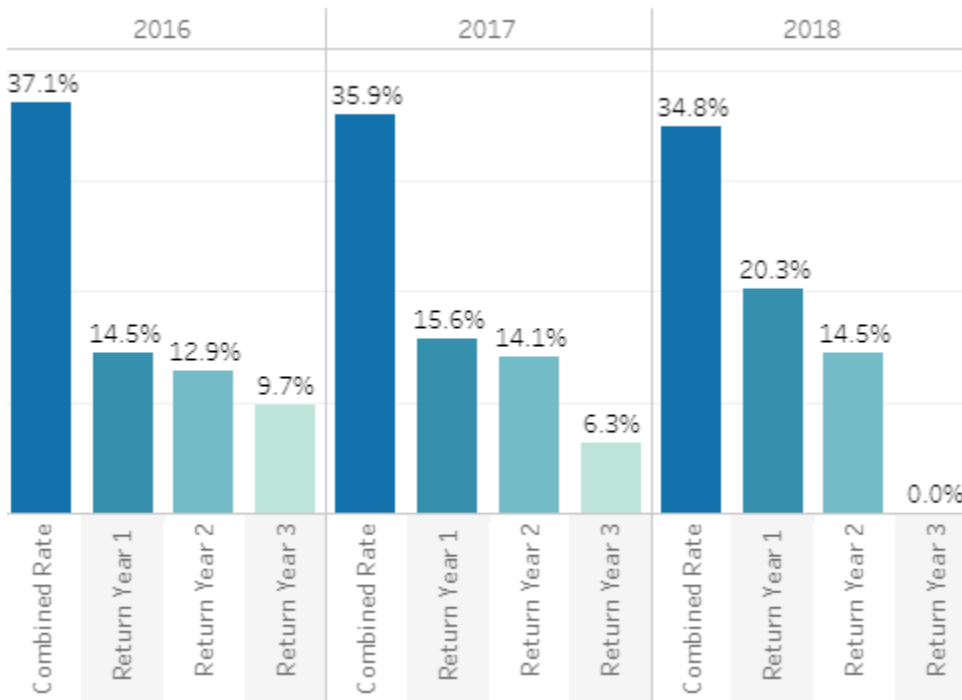
The Montana Department of Corrections respectfully submits the following information in response to questions posed by members of the Law and Justice Interim Committee at its March 21, 2022 meeting.

Recidivism related to women leaving MWP? By race?

Recidivism rate by year recidivated (Female)



Recidivism rate by year recidivated (American Indian Females)



Tracking of how MWP inmates leverage the skills they learned through MCE when they return to the community? Montana Correctional Enterprises is collaborating with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry to obtain this post-release data moving forward. At this time, however, the only way MCE is able to collect this information is if a former inmate contacts MCE with information about where they are working, or an employer calls for a reference.

Provide an update of projected population growth at MWP specifically. Also, do we have need to accommodate increasing population at other DOC facilities? An updated projection of secure populations is in progress, and the preliminary results have been compared to the projections provided in the July 2020 Strategic Master Planning Report. Some differences from those projections have been identified.

The Strategic Master Planning Report contains projections using data from before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic; therefore, the projections in that document do not reflect the impact of the virus on the flow of individuals through the justice and correctional systems. For both male and female prison populations, COVID-19 resulted in a large drop in the incarcerated population, especially during FY 2021. This was due to the limitation of offenders being admitted to facilities in an effort to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19 to Montana's prisons.

Considering the effects of COVID-19 on the population projections, the male population appears to be growing at a similar rate as reported in the Strategic Master Planning Report; however, because of the decrease in the incarcerated population due to COVID-19 measures, the updated population projections are suggesting that projections provided in the report may be an overestimation.



For the female population, the rate of growth appears to be higher than what was reported in the Strategic Master Planning Report, and despite the effects of COVID-19, may reach or even exceed the projections found in the report.

Please note, these projections do not take into account any policy changes at the state level. Additionally, the department continues to focus on helping offenders succeed on community supervision, thereby lowering the number of revocations to prison.

Provide more detail on aging infrastructure of facilities.

<i>Location</i>	<i>Building/Unit/Area</i>	<i>Condition</i>	<i>Additional Comments</i>
Montana State Prison at	Low side housing units A B C D	Buildings are deteriorating at a rapid pace and maintenance is ongoing. The existing infrastructure presents challenges to ensuring appropriate supervision of inmates.	
Montana State Prison at	Potable water system	The system will be upgraded using ARPA funds, but that project is limited to well pump and controls. The remaining portion of the water delivery system is in need of replacement. This includes an inadequate fire suppression system which presents safety concerns.	
Montana State Prison at	Waste water system	The treatment lagoons are at capacity and will not accommodate any expansion at the prison.	We are waiting on the second round of ARPA grants to possibly do a study on the sewer system.
Montana State Prison at	Roads and parking	The roads and parking lot are in bad shape and require repaving.	
MCE Deer Lodge	Industries Building	The furniture factory has served its purpose but requires significant upgrades including fire suppression and alarms, HVAC, ventilation dust collection.	

MCE Deer Lodge	Motor Vehicle Maintenance	The maintenance building is in reasonable shape but the autobody shop requires ventilation and filtering systems.
Womens Prison Billings	Main Building, Housing, programs	MWP has restricted space for programs and housing. The facility needs an addition that can accommodate a new infirmary and mental health treatment area. The building has limited educational and vocational education space.
Womens Prison Billings	Main Building, Plumbing and HVAC	Numerous problems with plumbing and HVAC.
Womens Prison Billings	Exterior improvements	Parking lot needs to be resurfaced, concrete repaired, fence around Dog Yard replaced.
MCE Billings	Industries building	Needs roof replacement and new HVAC equipment. Possible replacement and expansion of building.
Pine Hills Miles City	Infrastructure	The main steam tunnel that runs through the campus needs replacement and sewer line needs repair in Fox Trot building.

Riverside	Building 15	DOC requires additional special needs beds. This building could add 23-25 new beds to the existing 26 in building 14.
Watch West	Dr X Building	Building needs roof replacement and kitchen renovation.
Watch East	Glendive	Two buildings at this facility need general upgrades including paint, floor coverings, window replacement. Two additional buildings on the property are not in use.
Door Controls	MSP, MWP, Pine Hills, Watch West	Installation of new door control systems is planned for these facilities (funded by LRBP). Costs appear to be considerably higher than estimated. Additional funds may be required to complete the projects.

Does the DOC track monthly volunteer hours at MWP? How does that compare to the men's prison? At Montana Women's Prison, about 96 hours of volunteer-led groups occur each month. This number does not include the number of volunteers who are on campus to assist with these volunteer activities and the time they each commit to the activities.

At **Montana State Prison**, about 70 hours of volunteer-led activities occur each month. Again, this does not include the number of volunteers who are on campus to assist with these volunteer activities and the time they each commit the activities.

Provide information about conditional release population

The department's total conditional release population as of April 12, 2022 was 1,134.

The graph on the next page demonstrates the DOC Probation and Parole region in which offenders on conditional release are located and the region from which they were sentenced.

Explanations of the regions are as follows:

Region 1 (Blue): Missoula, Mineral, Powell, Granite, Ravalli, Deer Lodge and Silver Bow counties.

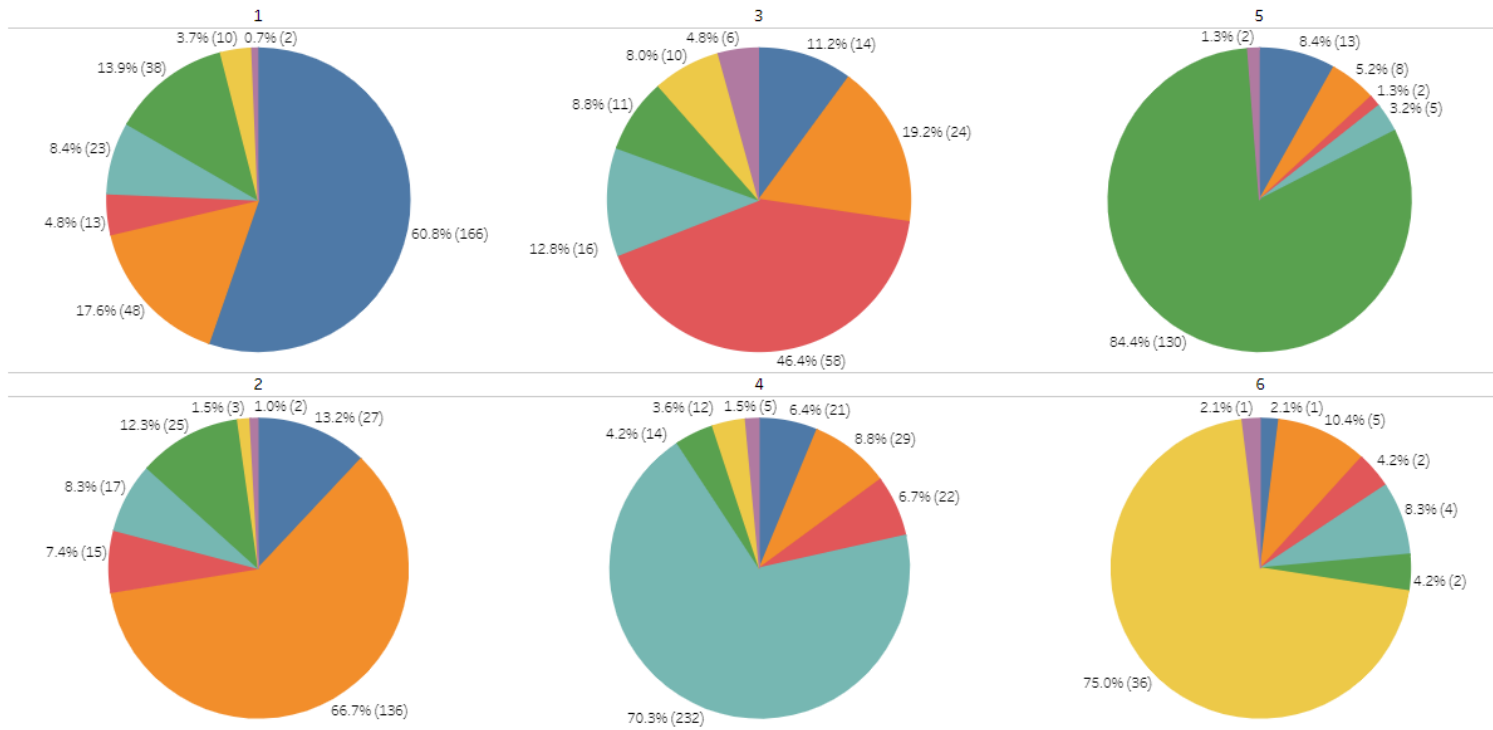
Region 2 (Orange): Lewis and Clark, Broadwater, Jefferson, Gallatin, Park, Sweet Grass, Madison, and Beaverhead counties.

Region 3 (Red): Glacier, Toole, Pondera, Teton, Cascade, Meagher, Judith Basin, Wheatland, Fergus, Golden Valley, Musselshell, and Petroleum counties.

Region 4 (Turquoise): Stillwater, Carbon, Big Horn, Yellowstone, Treasure, Rosebud, Garfield, Powder River, Custer, Carter, and Fallon counties.

Region 5 (Green): Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders, and Lake counties.

Region 6 (Yellow): Liberty, Choteau, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Valley, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt, Richland, McCone, Dawson, Prairie, and Wibaux counties.



Update on 3.5 programming, waitlist. Eight hundred and eighty-four inmates are slated for re-assessment of treatment or programming needs using the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) assessment. This effort will be completed by May 31, 2022. The results will be used to determine which types of programs will be offered at MSP and in which settings. This reassessment is due, in part, to procedural questions regarding the initial assessment and an effort to ensure these individuals are provided accurate and adequate programming. After this process is complete, the department plans to transition from ASAM assessments.

Please let us know if there is any additional information we can provide related to these items.

Respectfully,
Brian Gootkin, Director