

UPDATE

LAW AND JUSTICE INTERIM COMMITTEE

Feb. 20, 2024

OUT-OF-STATE PRISON BEDS

- 2023 Legislature approved the addition of 120 temporary, out-of-state prison beds to assist with adult male population management
- \$7.8 million/biennium
- DOC moved 120 inmates to CoreCivic's Saguaro Correctional Center in Eloy, Ariz. at the end of 2023



HOW WERE INMATES SELECTED FOR TRANSFER?

- Custody level (no high security)
- Proximity to parole eligibility (more than two years)
- Participation in treatment, other programming
- Health and mental health needs



PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES

- 70 of 120 inmates (58%) are participating in work assignments, education, or programming
- Work assignments include laundry, landscaping, kitchen, and more
- Education includes GED, carpentry, plumbing, barber training
- Programming includes Inside Out Dad (parenting), Victim Impact, Go Further (life and re-entry coaching)



THE RUFF LIFE - DOG PROGRAM

- In cooperation with the Valley Humane Society, Eloy, Arizona
- 10 Montana inmates participating
- Involves socializing, training, grooming dogs from no-kill shelter
- Dogs stay in cells with inmates – 8 weeks per dog



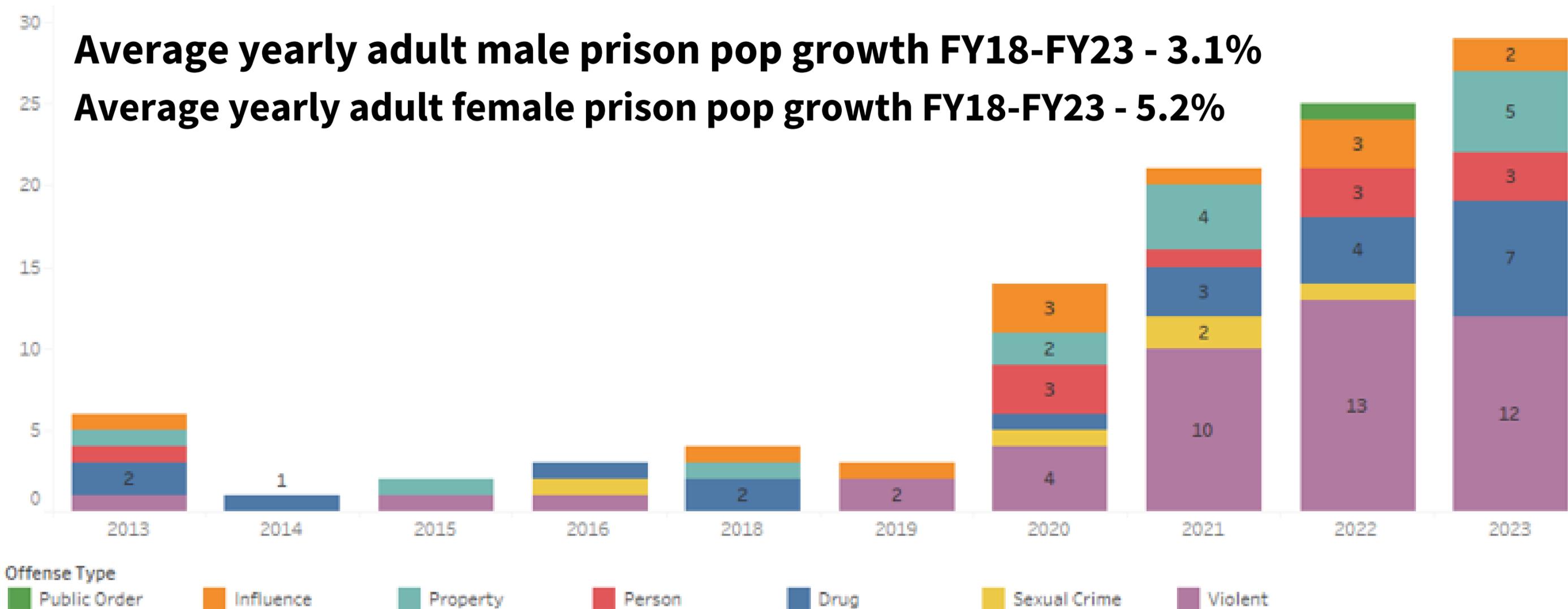
HOW DID THE TRANSFER AFFECT JAIL POPULATIONS?

- 212 inmates transported from county jails to MSP (11/15/23 – 2/8/24)
- 62 of those were transported from the Yellowstone County Detention Center
- 98 inmates were awaiting transport from county jails to prison on 2/15/24
– 53 were males and 45 were females



CHANGES IN MONTANA'S INCARCERATED FEMALE POPULATION

Number of First Time Female Offenders Admitted to Prison by Most Serious Offense Category, by Fiscal Year



DOC POPULATION

Secure beds

Snapshot as of 2/19/2024

Population	Sex	Facility Type	Facility Name	Total Population
Adult	Male	State Facility	Montana State Prison	1,562
			Riverside Special Needs Unit	28
	Contract Facility	Crossroads Correctional Center	763	
		Dawson County Correctional Facility	139	
		Saguaro Correctional Center	120	
	Female	State Facility	Montana Womens Prison	242
Youth	Male	State Facility	Pine Hills Correctional Facility	27
	Female	Out of State Contract	5C Youth Rehabilitation Center	6
Total				2,887

Community beds

Treatment beds - 423

Prerelease beds - 884

Assessment beds - 327

Total - 1,634

TOTAL VACANT - 88
VACANCY RATE - 5.4%

HOW IS THE DOC WORKING TO ADDRESS JAIL POPULATIONS?

- Working with members of the HB 5 Select Committee to seek the most appropriate methods of managing its incarcerated population, including jail holds.
- Implementing a full-time placement team dedicated to ensuring the efficient movement of DOC offenders from jails to treatment and prerelease programs.
- Implementing portions of HB 426 which allow the transfer of inmates who are within 14 months of parole eligibility to prerelease or treatment centers for the purposes of preparing them for release into the community - administrative rules will soon be available for public comment





Questions?