

NEW MEXICO PRISON POPULATION FORECAST: *FY 2019—FY 2028*

National Trends

- The total U.S. prison population (state and federal) totaled 1,505,400 at yearend 2016. This was a decrease of approximately 21,200 prisoners over yearend 2015.
- The federal prison population decreased in size for the fourth year in a row. There were 7,300 fewer prisoners under the jurisdiction of federal prisons in 2016 than 2015. At yearend 2016, the number of inmates held in federal prisons was 189,200.
- The aggregate state prison population decreased in 2016. There were 13,900 fewer prisoners under the jurisdiction of state prisons in 2016 than 2015. At yearend 2016, the number of inmates held in state prisons was 1,316,200.
- For sentenced prisoners, the imprisonment rate at yearend 2016 was the lowest since 1997, with 450 prisoners per 100,000 U.S. residents of all ages and 582 per 100,000 U.S. residents age 18 or older.
- The national female prison population decreased by fewer than 100 individuals overall.
- On December 31, 2016, female inmates comprised 7% of the population in all state or federal prisons.

New Mexico Trends

Females: The most notable trend in New Mexico is the increase in the female inmate population over the past six years. In New Mexico, females comprise approximately 10.8% of the total inmate population. New Mexico has a higher female inmate population than the all states female inmate population of 7.5%.

To date in FY 2018, the high count for the female inmate population was 797 inmates.

FY 2017 high count: 764 female inmates.
FY 2016 high count: 791 female inmates;
FY 2015 high count: 782 female inmates;
FY 2014 high count: 704 female inmates;
FY 2013 high count: 661 female inmates.

Males: To date in FY 2018, the high count for the New Mexico male inmate population was 6,605 inmates.

FY 2017 high count: 6,639 male inmates.
FY 2016 high count: 6,727 male inmates;
FY 2015 high count: 6,558 male inmates.
FY 2014 high count: 6,344 male inmates;
FY 2013 high count: 6,188 male inmates.

Short-Term Forecast

Females:

In FY 2019, the projected high count for the female inmate population is 797.

In FY 2020, the projected high count for the female inmate population is 808.

Males:

In FY 2019, the projected high count for the male inmate population is 6,679.

In FY 2020, the projected high count for the male inmate population is 6,774.

While the growth of the prison population in New Mexico has slowed down, the total population continues to grow. This trend is unlike the current national decreasing prison population.

INTRODUCTION

This prison population forecast was prepared by the New Mexico Sentencing Commission (NMSC). The forecast is designed to assist the New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD) in assessing immediate and future inmate populations. This report also includes information that may be of interest to policy makers during discussions of the correctional system. Sentencing Commission staff met three times (October 2017, March 2018, June 2018) with NMCD staff to review inmate population trends and to discuss factors that may affect the forecast.

The prison population time series forecasts used to produce this report are based on historical prison population data. It is understood that there are many factors that drive prison populations, including arrest rates, the number of criminal cases filed in district courts, conviction rates, the availability of diversion programs, sentence lengths, admission and release rates, earned meritorious deductions and parole readiness. The historical prison population data is a result of all those factors.

This report includes national prison population trends, prison population trends in New Mexico, factors that influence prison population, data regarding admissions to and releases from prison, and short-term and long-term forecasts for the male and female populations.

The Sentencing Commission strives to produce inmate population projections within the range of 3% of the actual populations for males and females.

Between January 2017 and January 2018, the prior male prison population forecast was within the 3% range for 5 months out of 12 months.

Between January 2017 and January 2018, the prior female prison population forecast was within the 3% range for 5 months out of 12 months.

Due to the slowing prison population growth, the prior forecasts were overestimating both prison populations. Thus, the prison populations were re-forecasted in February of 2018 to better predict the prison populations based on their recent growth trends.

The new forecast for the male inmate population has been within 3% of the actual population for all 12 months from April 2017 to April 2018 (See Appendix A). For the female inmate population, the projections were inside the 3% range in 11 of the 12 months from April 2017 to April 2018 (See Appendix A).

The Sentencing Commission staff will brief legislators, other policy makers, and Sentencing Commission members on the forecast. Members of the Sentencing Commission include representatives from law enforcement, the judiciary, the District Attorney’s Association, the criminal defense bar and the NMCD.

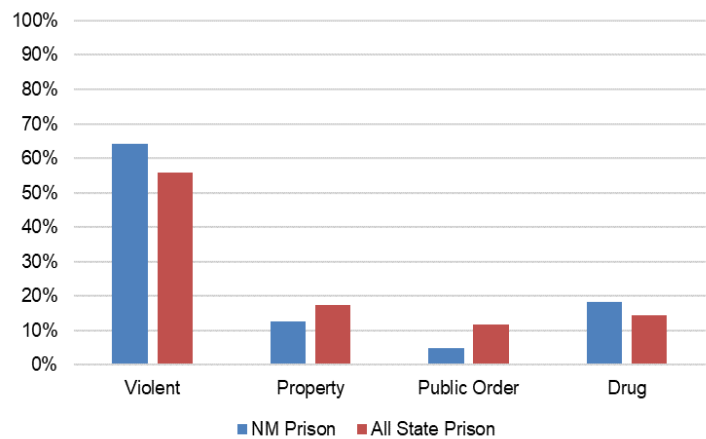
NATIONAL TRENDS

The U.S. Department of Justice publishes annual reports regarding trends in the U. S. prison population. The reports use data collected pursuant to the National Prisoner Statistics Program. Data has been collected on an annual basis since 1926. The most recent full-year reports are [Prisoners in 2016](#) and [Correctional Populations in the United States, 2016](#). These reports provide data on prisoners under the jurisdiction of federal and state correctional authorities from yearend 2015 to yearend 2016.

The following data points were included in the reports:

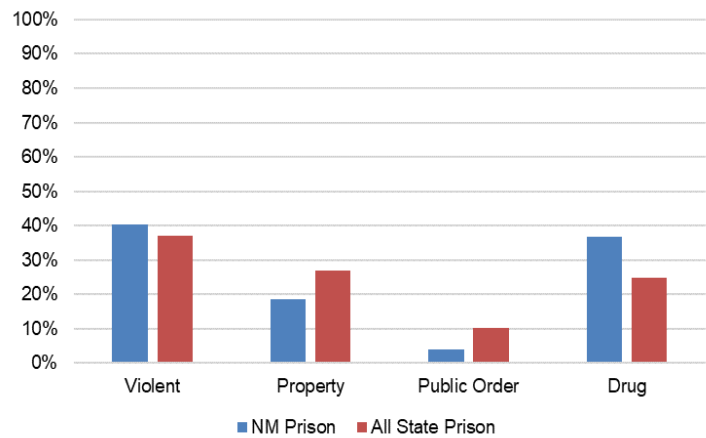
- The total U.S. prison population (state and federal) totaled 1,505,400 at yearend 2016. This was a decrease of 21,200 prisoners over yearend 2015.
- The federal prison population decreased in size for the fourth year in a row. There were 7,300 fewer prisoners under the jurisdiction of federal prisons in 2016 than 2015. At yearend 2016, the number of inmates held in federal prisons was 189,200.
- The aggregate state prison population decreased in 2016. There were 13,900 fewer prisoners under the jurisdiction of state prisons in 2016 than 2015. At yearend 2016, the number of inmates held in state prisons was 1,316,200.
- Adult correctional systems in the United States supervised an estimated 6,613,500 persons at yearend 2016.

Figure 1. Comparison of Confined Male Population By Crime Committed



- For sentenced prisoners, the imprisonment rate at yearend 2016 was the lowest since 1997, with 450 prisoners per 100,000 U.S. residents of all ages and 582 per 100,000 U.S. residents age 18 or older.
- Compared to other state prisons (Figure 1), New Mexico houses a higher percentage of inmates convicted of violent offenses. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, on December 31, 2015, the percentage of male inmates confined in all 50 state prisons convicted of a violent offense was 56%. In New Mexico on June 30, 2017, 64% of males were convicted of a violent offense.
- The percentage of women confined in New Mexico convicted of a violent offense was slightly higher than the national percentage (Figure 2). In New Mexico on June 30, 2017, 40% of female inmates

Figure 2. Comparison of Confined Female Population By Crime Committed



were convicted of a violent offense. On December 31, 2015, the percentage of female inmates confined in all state prisons convicted of a violent offense was 37%.

NEW MEXICO TRENDS

Females: The most notable trend in New Mexico is the increase in the female inmate population over the past six years. In New Mexico, females comprise approximately 10.8% of the total inmate population. The high count in FY 2018 has been 797 female inmates. This is a 4.3% increase compared to FY 2017 high count.

FY 2017 high count: 764 female inmates.
FY 2016 high count: 791 female inmates;
FY 2015 high count: 782 female inmates;
FY 2014 high count: 704 female inmates;
FY 2013 high count: 661 female inmates.

There has also been an upward trend in the percentage of females incarcerated in county jails in New Mexico. From 2010 to 2017, the percentage of female inmates incarcerated in county jails in New Mexico has increased from 12.9% to 18.1 % of the total jail census.

Males: The high count in FY 2018 has been 6,605 male inmates. This is a 0.5% decrease and the second annual decrease in the past five years.

FY 2017 high count: 6,639 male inmates.
FY 2016 high count: 6,727 male inmates;
FY 2015 high count: 6,558 male inmates.
FY 2014 high count: 6,344 male inmates;
FY 2013 high count: 6,188 male inmates.

In FY 2013, the high count for the New Mexico male inmate population was 6,188 inmates. In subsequent fiscal years, the male inmate population has increased by 4.7% from FY 2014 through FY 2017.

FACTORS INFLUENCING PRISON POPULATION

The New Mexico Statistical Analysis Center/Institute for Social Research published a study entitled, [Prison Program Utilization and Recidivism Among Female Inmates in New Mexico](#) (Kristine Denman, April 2015). Findings set forth in the report included the following:

- Women who participated in educational programming were less likely to re-offend;
- Matching, recommending and promoting programming appropriate to criminogenic needs may decrease future offending; and

- Post-release supervision was associated with decreased adjudications and incarcerations for new offenses.

For the Prison Population Forecast, NMSC staff gathered data regarding the female population incarcerated in county jails. From 2010 to 2017, the percentage of female inmates incarcerated in county jails has increased from 12.9% to 18.1% of the total jail census.

As noted in previous population forecast reports authored by the NMSC, there are a number of factors that may explain the relative stability of the **total** New Mexico state inmate population in recent years. Those factors include the following:

- The number of new filings in district courts for criminal cases decreased in FY 2014-FY 2016. However, FY 2017 saw an increase in new filings by 1,148 (See Appendix C).
- Felony drug court programs and other specialty courts are established throughout New Mexico. Drug courts and other specialty courts are not a direct diversion from prison in most cases, but successful participation in specialty court programs may break the cycle of contact with the criminal justice system and eventual imprisonment.
- New Mexico is one of a small number of states where the jail population is similar to the prison population. On June 30, 2017, the jail census in New Mexico was 6,119. On that same date, there were 7,252 inmates held in state prisons. Until recently, the jail population was larger than the population of the state prisons. A reduction in the population of the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Detention Center is responsible for the majority of reduction in the county jail population.
- The adult parole board may impose sanctions other than a return to prison for parole violators whose infractions are technical in nature.

The NMSC provides yearly reports on the current trends of both the earned meritorious deductions (EMD) and controlled release eligible inmates. These reports provide additional information that can inform legislation and policy.

- The [EMD](#) report provides information on the average proportion of time individuals serve for both their prison sentence and their total sentence. The report presents this information by gender and the EMD type of the individual.
- The [Controlled Release](#) report provides information on inmates who might be eligible for controlled release. This report details controlled release by

gender, final custody level assignment, and type of offense.

NMSC staff meet on a regular basis with NMCD staff to review inmate population trends and to discuss factors that may affect the forecast. Discussions have included the following subjects, which may have an impact on prison populations in the future:

- In 2015, the NMCD increased the number of staff assigned to the department's Recidivism Reduction Division. The department has a self-imposed goal of reducing recidivism by 10% within the next three years;
- In 2014, the NMCD revised its policies regarding review of inmate files to better ensure accurate discharge dates;
- In 2014, the NMCD revised its policies regarding lump sum awards of earned meritorious deductions. The criteria for lump sum awards are now more restrictive, including an emphasis on completion of programming. The reduced availability of lump sum awards will increase inmate's length of stay;
- The NMCD continues to work with the Pew-MacArthur Foundation, the Legislative Finance Committee and the New Mexico Sentencing Commission on implementation of the Results First Initiative. The initiative employs an evaluation model to identify cost effective programs that reduce recidivism. Also, the NMCD is working directly with Pew staff on an inventory of inmate programming in facilities and offender programming in communities;
- In 2015, the NMCD adopted policy CD-1000000, regarding utilization of evidence-based programming and promising practices in its development of programming for offenders. The policy includes a stated goal that no less than 70% of programming be evidence-based.
- The number of female, "release eligible inmates", still incarcerated due to not having an approved parole plan, reached a high count of 56 in December 2013. On June 30, 2017, that number had been reduced to 24 female inmates who were release eligible but still incarcerated at NMCD.
- In 2015, the NMCD opted out of the behavioral health collaborative and no longer pays the 12% administrative fee on every dollar spent for services. Based upon those savings and capital outlay dollars received for transitional living facilities, the department will increase the number of transitional living facility beds for offenders.
- The NMCD now contracts with Maya's Place for 16 transitional living facility beds for females in Albuquerque. Also, The Pavilions was recently opened in Los Lunas and currently houses 21 females with a capacity for 30. However, that facility requires more funding to operate at capacity.
- In 2015, the NMCD began working on a project to expand the use of the COMPAS Risk and Needs Assessment. COMPAS has been in use at the agency since 2008. The number of licenses for COMPAS was increased from 50 to 500, and now includes expansion of this tool to the Probation and Parole Division for use with all offenders placed on community supervision.
- In 2015, the New Mexico Supreme Court implemented a new case management system for the Second Judicial District Court. A primary goal of the system is to reduce pre-trial length of stay for inmates in the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Detention Center (BCMDC). If successful, reduced pre-trial stay in BCMDC may yield increased length of stay for inmates subsequently adjudicated and incarcerated in state prisons.
- The enactment of Senate Judiciary Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 42, as amended (Laws 2015, Chapter 127), regarding provision of Medicaid enrollment for incarcerated persons. This should increase the availability of medical and treatment services for inmates upon discharge.

CURRENT OPERATIONAL CAPACITY

Operational capacity is defined as the total number of beds a prison could fill. However, the operational capacity overstates a prison's true ability to manage inmates, as maintenance, staffing and other concerns may limit a prison's functional capacity. The rated capacity represents the number of beds by prisoner classification a prison can reasonably maintain. The NMSC will work with the NMCD in acquiring each prison's rated capacity and will work to provide those numbers in future reports.

On May 10, 2018, the operational capacity for male inmates in the NMCD was 7,124 beds. Correctional facilities for male inmates and their respective operational capacities are as follows:

- Penitentiary of New Mexico, Santa Fe (864)
- Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility, Las Cruces (768)
- Central New Mexico Correctional Facility, Los Lunas (1,219)
- Roswell Correctional Center, Roswell (340)

- Lea County Correctional Facility, Hobbs (1,284)
- Guadalupe County Correctional Facility, Santa Rosa (579)
- Northeast New Mexico Detention Facility, located in Clayton (671)
- Otero County Prison Facility, located in Chaparral (651)
- Northwestern NM Correctional Facility, Grants (748)

On May 10, 2018, the operational capacity for female inmates in the NMCD was 868 beds.

- Springer Correctional Center, Springer (445)
- Western NM Correctional Facility, Grants (423)

SHORT-TERM FORECAST

The short-term forecast sets forth inmate population projections for male and female inmates for the next two fiscal years (FY 2019 and FY 2020).

MALES:

In **FY 2019**, the projected high count for the male inmate population is 6,679.

In **FY 2020**, the projected high count for the male inmate population is 6,774.

The FY 2020 high count of 6,774 is lower than the current operational capacity for male inmates of 7,124 beds.

FEMALES:

In **FY 2019**, the projected high count for the female inmate population is 797.

In **FY 2020**, the projected high count for the female inmate population is 808.

The FY 2020 high count of 808 is lower than the current operational capacity for female inmates of 868 beds.

LONG-TERM FORECAST

It is important to remember that the long-term forecasts are based upon current sentencing statutes and current NMCD policies and practices. It is not difficult to imagine that statutes, policies and practices may be different ten years from the publication of this report. Nevertheless, the long-term forecasts may spur useful discussions among policy makers and criminal justice professionals.

MALES: In FY 2028, the projected high count for the male prison population is 7,668. This expected high count exceeds the current operational capacity for the male prison population of 7,124.

FEMALES: In FY 2028, the projected high count for the female prison population is 899. This expected high count exceeds the current operational capacity for the female population of 868.

NEW TOPICS:

The NMSC seeks to constantly improve the state's understanding of trends within the prison population. This year we sought to illustrate and investigate the age of our prison population as it has changed over the past fiscal years.

PRISON POPULATION AGE

Prisons are constitutionally required to provide health care for prisoners. As the age of the confined population increases, so does the cost of maintaining the health of those confined populations. If those health needs are not adequately met in prisons, then upon release there can be greater burdens upon communities to care for those released (Ahalt et al., 2014).

In 2014, the Pew Charitable Trusts calculated that the number of state and federal prisoners 55 years old or older had increased by 234 % from 1999 to 2013. These increases in the prevalence of older prisoners matter to policy makers as older populations incur substantially higher health care costs (Kim and Peterson, 2014). Specifically, there are estimates that inmates 55 years or older have health care costs two to three times larger than the averaged aged inmate (Luallen and Kling, 2014).

Thus, to appropriately fund the NMCD, the issue of an aging prison population in New Mexico may require further study.

As a means of evaluating the age demographics of New Mexico prisons in comparison to the national age demographics, graphs are included on the following page for both male and female populations as well as the discussed differences.

This year the NMSC has also provided an over time comparison within New Mexico by gender for the confined population over the past three fiscal years.

Confined Age: National Comparison

When comparing confined males in New Mexico in 2017 to confined males nationally in 2016 (Figure 3), New Mexico has a slightly higher percentage of confined males between the ages of 25-44 and for the 60-64 group than the national percentage. The New Mexico male confined population also has a slightly higher percentage of the 55-64 population than the national percentage.

equal percentage for the 65 or older female confined population compared to the national percentage.

For the exact percentages of confinement by age and gender see Appendix A, Tables 9 and 10.

Comparing confined females in New Mexico in 2017 to confined females nationally in 2016 (Figure 4), New Mexico has a larger percentage of females confined between the ages of 30-44. New Mexico has a nearly

Figure 3. Percentage of Males Confined by Age National Comparison

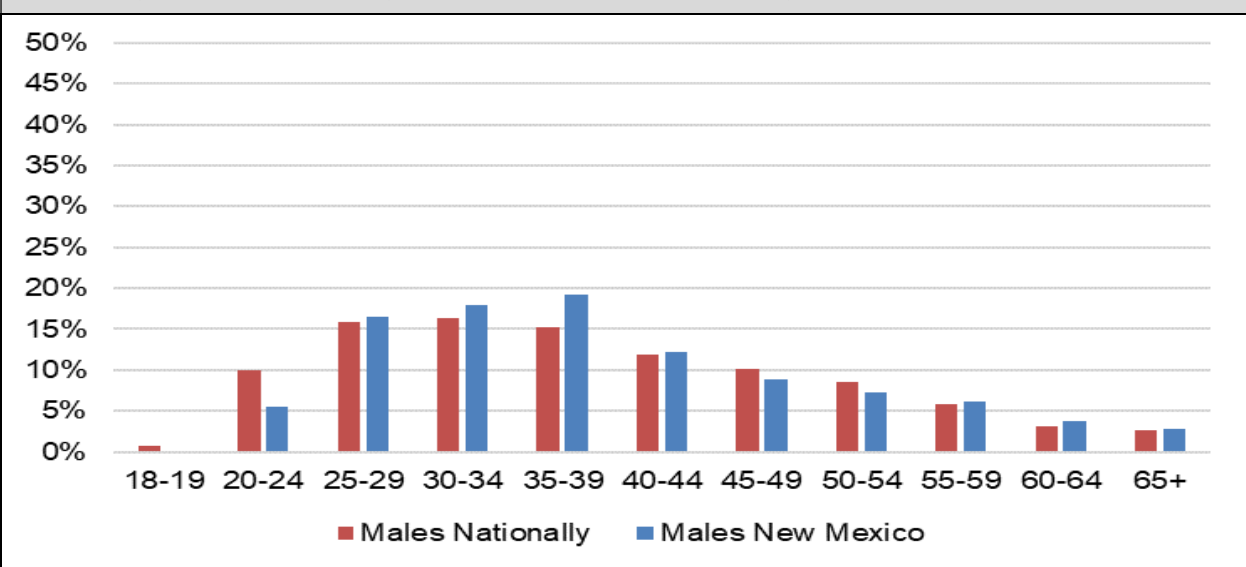
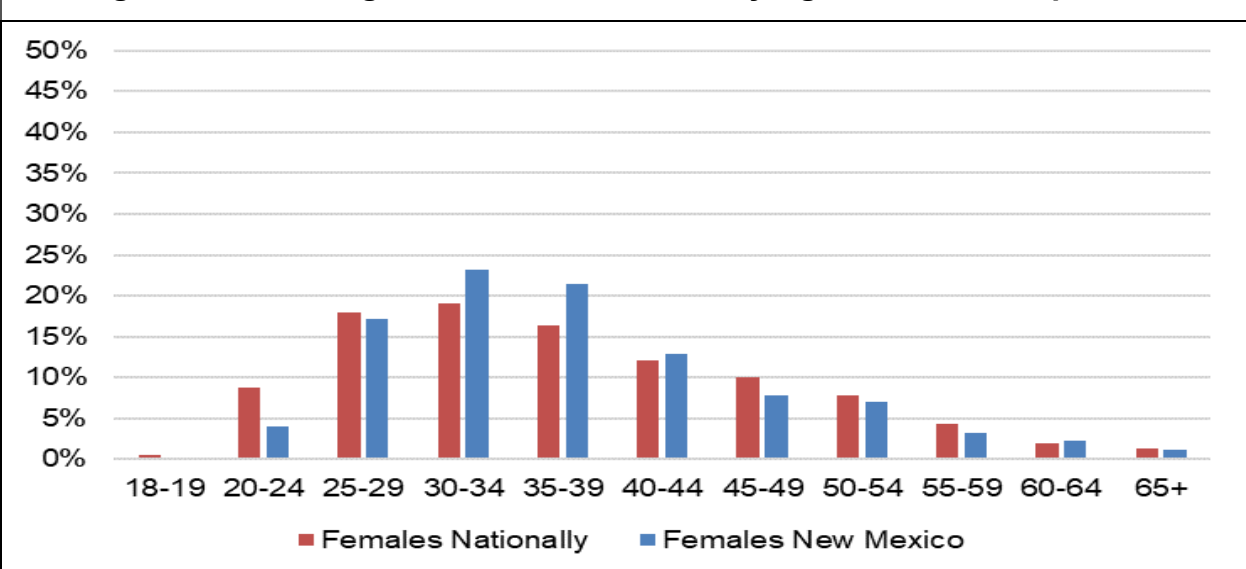


Figure 4. Percentage of Females Confined by Age National Comparison



Confined Age: New Mexico Over Time

The following graphs and comparisons are based upon data of the confined population on the date of June 30th for the fiscal years of 2015-2017.

When comparing confined males in New Mexico from FY 2015-FY 2017 (Figure 5), the male confined population has shifted to a younger population (20-29). The 65 and over male confined population has remained constant.

When comparing confined females in New Mexico from FY 2015-FY 2017(Figure 6), the female confined population has also shifted to a younger population (20-34). The 60 and over female confined population has remained fairly constant.

For the exact percentages of confinement by age and gender see Appendix A, Tables 10 and 11.

Figure 5. Percentage of New Mexico Males Confined by Age FY2015-FY2017

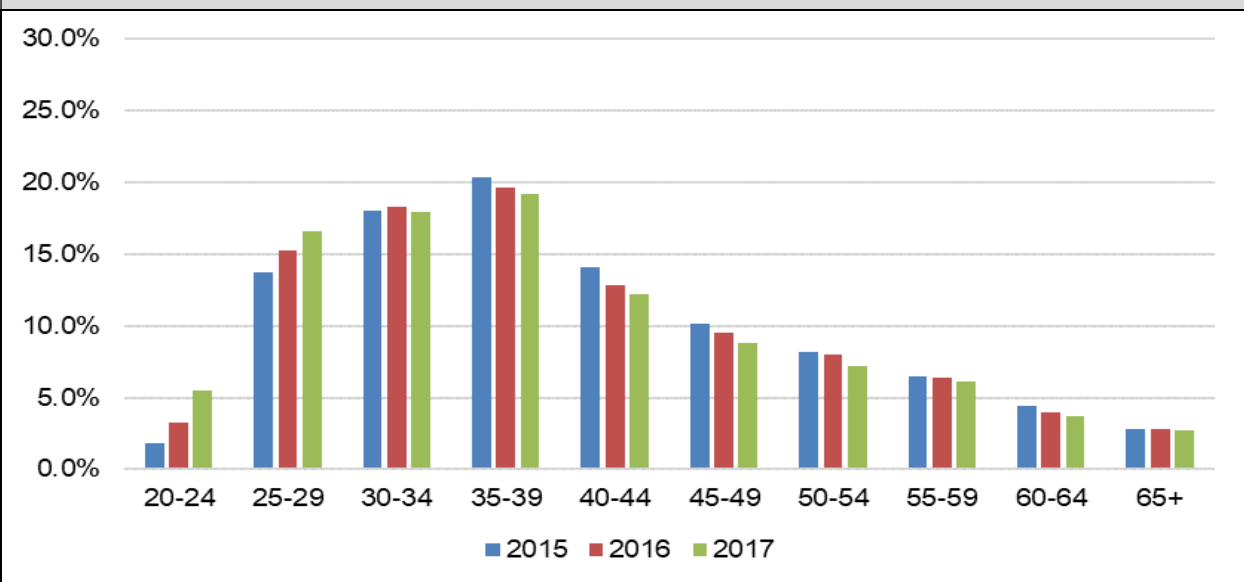


Figure 6. Percentage of New Mexico Females Confined by Age FY2015-FY2017

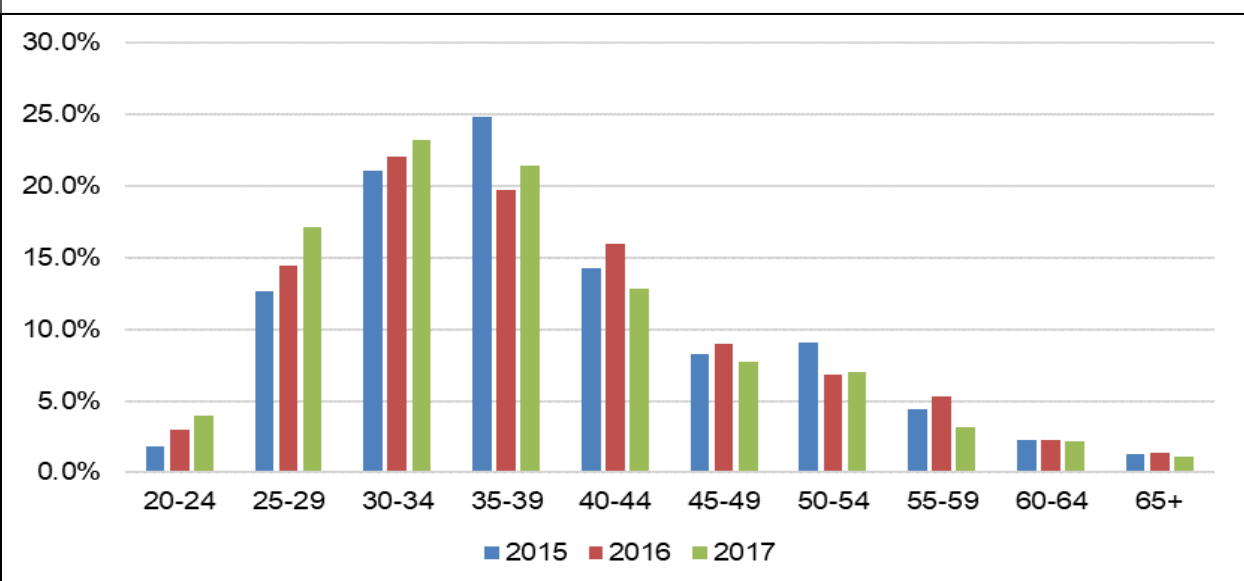


Table 1. Highest Actual Monthly Populations for 2004 through 2018 and Projected Monthly Highs for 2019 through 2028

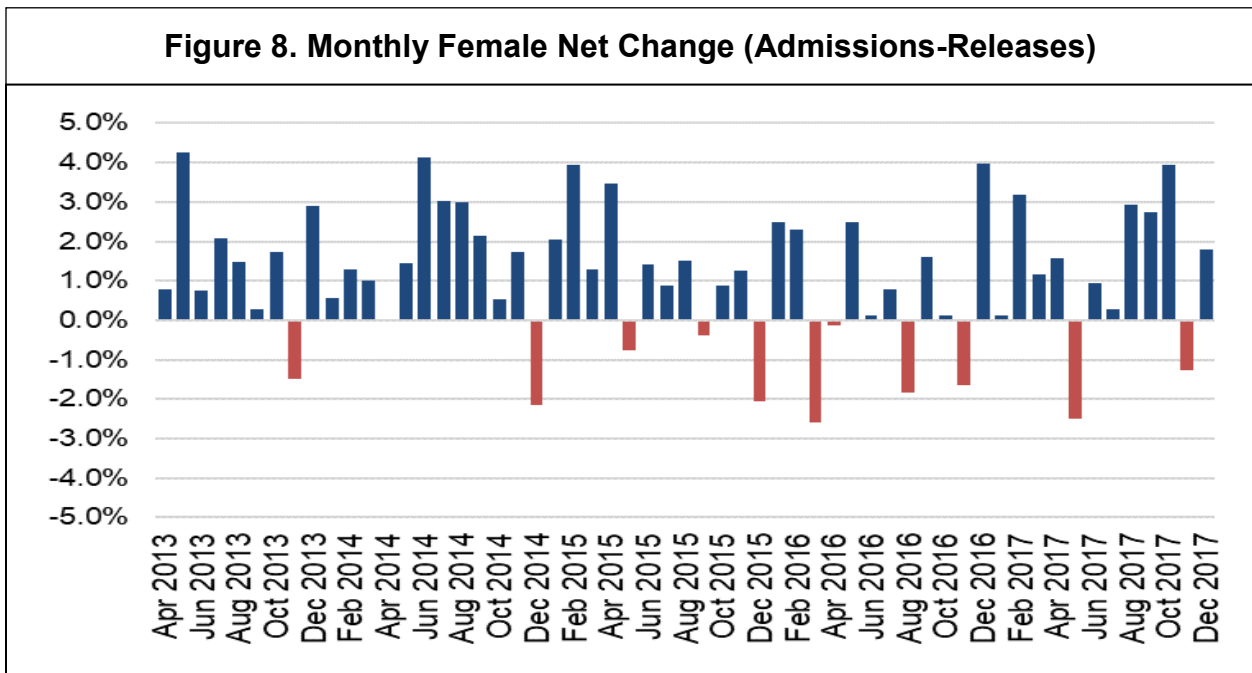
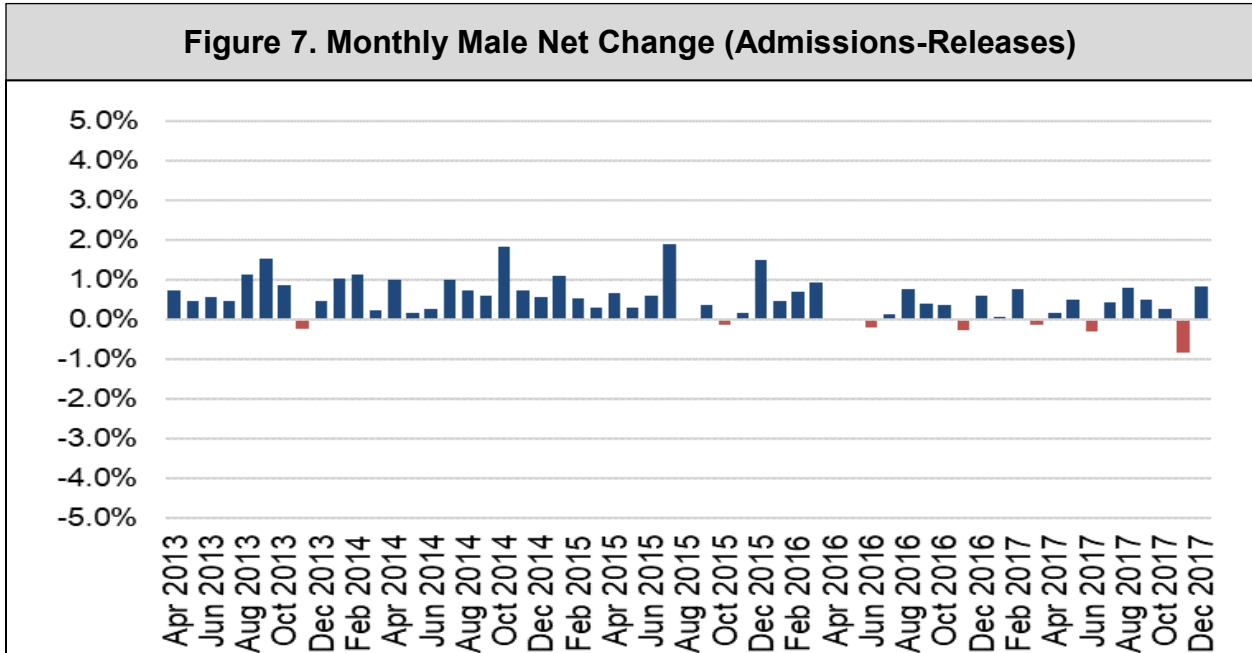
Fiscal Year	Male Population	Female Population	Change in Male Population	Change in Female Population
2004	5,811	600	2.98%	5.63%
2005	6,001	636	3.27%	6.00%
2006	6,134	696	2.22%	9.43%
2007	6,174	713	0.65%	2.44%
2008	6,012	629	-2.62%	-11.78%
2009	5,879	619	-2.21%	-1.59%
2010	6,177	614	5.07%	-0.81%
2011	6,175	629	-0.03%	2.44%
2012	6,157	652	-0.29%	3.66%
2013	6,188	660	0.50%	1.23%
2014	6,344	704	2.52%	6.67%
2015	6,558	782	3.37%	11.08%
2016	6,727	791	2.58%	1.15%
2017	6,639	764	-1.31%	-3.41%
2018	6,605	797	-0.51%	4.32%
2019	6,679	797	1.12%	0.00%
2020	6,774	808	1.42%	1.38%
2021	6,873	820	1.46%	1.49%
2022	6,976	831	1.50%	1.34%
2023	7,082	843	1.52%	1.44%
2024	7,192	854	1.55%	1.30%
2025	7,306	865	1.59%	1.29%
2026	7,423	877	1.60%	1.39%
2027	7,544	888	1.63%	1.25%
2028	7,668	899	1.64%	1.24%

Notes: Highest actual monthly populations for 2004 through 2018 are shown in darker background color.

ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Figure 7 shows the relationship between admissions and releases for male inmates relative to the monthly high population figure for each month from April 2013 - December 2017. Positive percentages indicate months where admissions outpaced releases. Admissions have outpaced releases in nearly every month since November 2013. However, around April 2016 the trend saw an increase in releases. Since then admissions and releases have been minimally fluctuating.

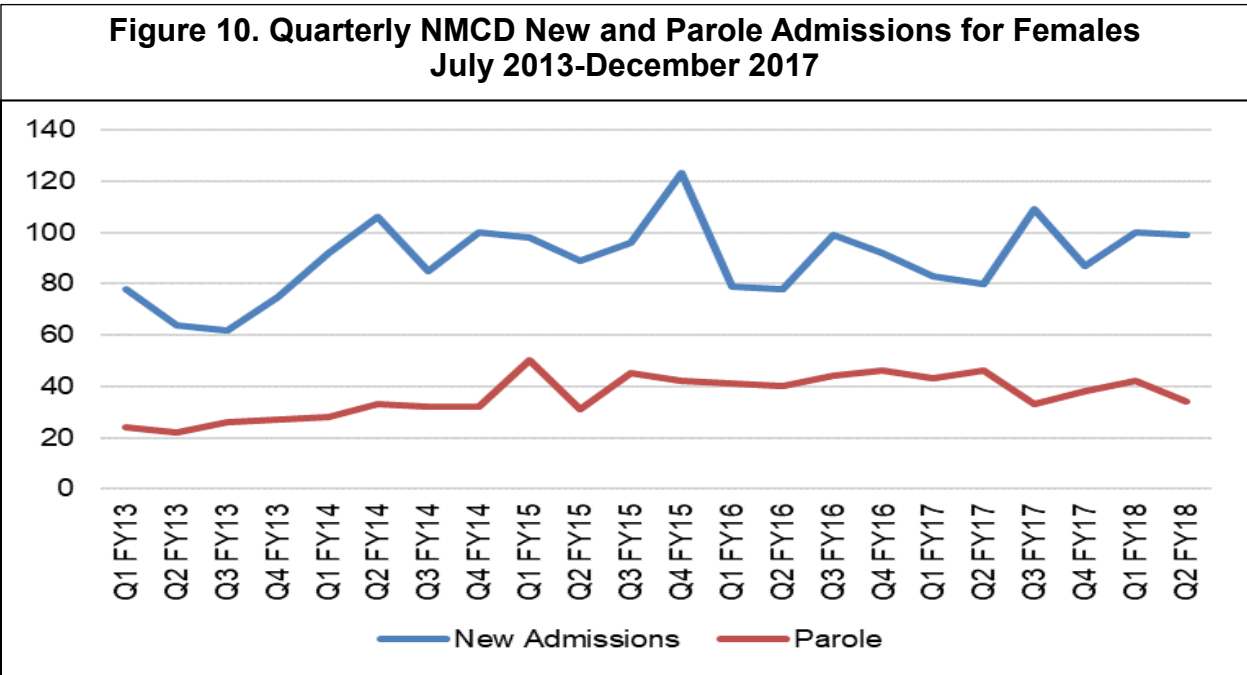
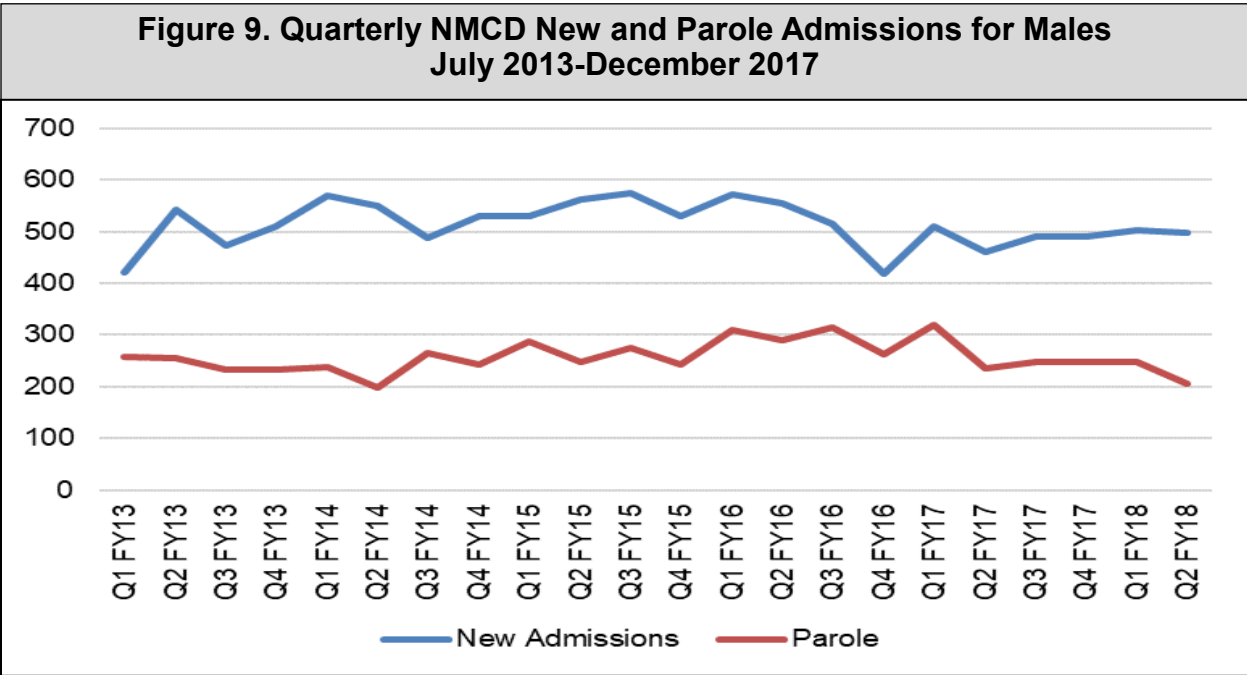
Figure 8 illustrates the relationship between admissions and releases for female inmates relative to the monthly high population figure for each month from April 2013 - December 2017. The difference between admissions and releases is significant, which accounts in part for the growth in the female inmate population. FY 2017 did see a decrease in the female population. However, FY 2018 has seen an increase above the FY 2016 population.



NEW ADMISSIONS AND PAROLE ADMISSIONS

Figure 9 shows the trends for new and parole admissions for male inmates. The data reflects admissions for the time period July 2013 through December 2017. Admissions for new offenses outpace parole admissions in every month during that time period.

Figure 10 shows the trend for new and parole admissions for female inmates. The data reflects admissions for the time period July 2013 through December 2017. Admissions for new offenses outpace parole admissions in every month.



NEW ADMISSIONS BY CHARGE TYPE

Figure 11 illustrates new admissions by the most serious charge type for male inmates. Table 2, on the following page, provides additional detail. For all five fiscal years illustrated in Figure 11, violent, drug, and property offenses are the largest categories for new admissions. New admissions for serious violent offenders have remained constant for the past three fiscal years. For several fiscal years, new admissions for drug offenses have been evenly divided between drug possession and drug trafficking offenses. Within this last fiscal year, however, drug offenses have been predominately drug possession. The number of new

admissions for felony DWI offenses continues to decline. Public order violations began to decrease in FY 2017.

Figure 12 illustrates new admissions by the most serious charge type for female inmates. Table 3 on page 13 provides additional detail. For all five fiscal years, property offenses and drug offenses are the largest categories for new admissions. Serious Violent crime seemed to be rising until FY 2016 where it dropped back below FY 2013 levels by FY 2017. DWI has had an increase between FY2016 and FY 2017.

Figure 11. Males New Admissions by Charge Type and Year (FY 2013-2017)

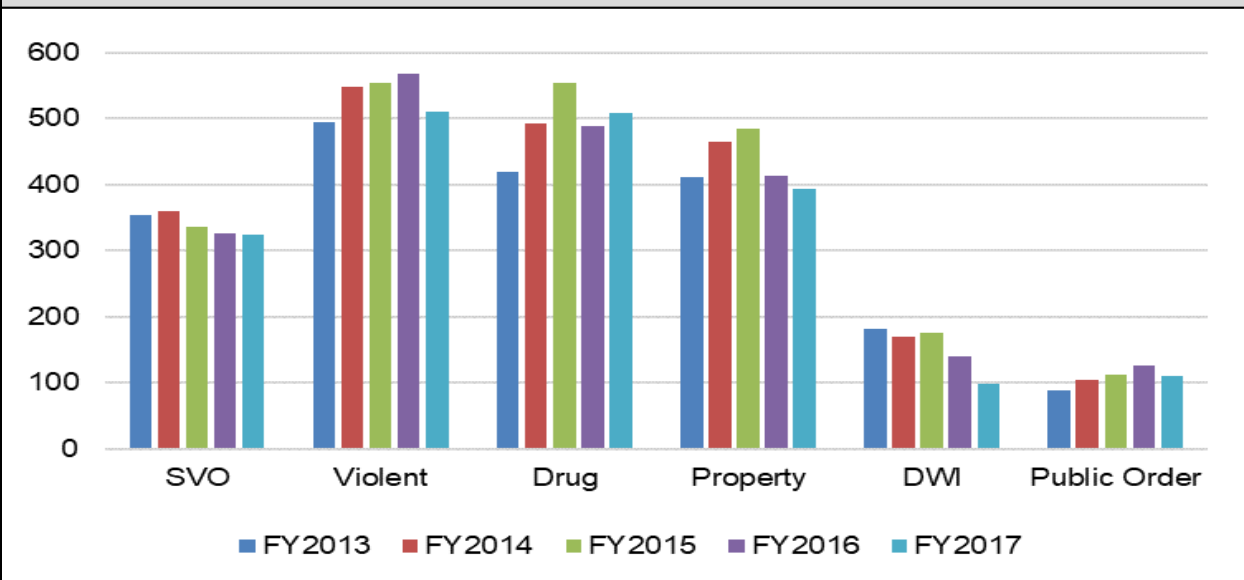


Figure 12. Females New Admissions by Charge Type and Year (FY 2013-2017)

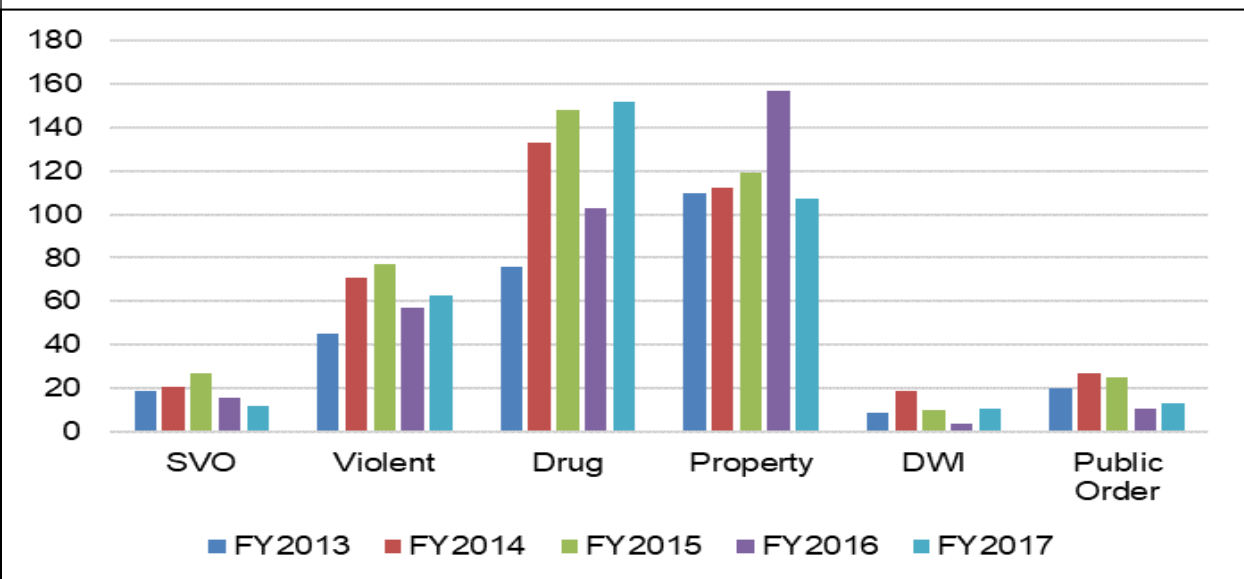


Table 2. Male Admissions Over Time					
	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
New Admissions					
Violent Crimes					
SVO	353	360	336	326	324
Other Violent (e.g., kidnapping, robbery, child abuse)	219	257	238	261	228
Sex Crime	40	57	59	63	48
Assault & Battery	235	234	256	243	234
Property Crimes					
Burglary	203	238	232	175	164
Other Property (e.g., larceny, ar- son, fraud)	208	226	253	238	228
Drug Crimes					
Drug Trafficking	221	235	268	204	209
Drug Possession	199	257	285	285	300
Public Order Crimes					
DWI	182	169	176	140	99
Other Public Or- der (e.g., posses- sion of weapon by felon, bribery of witness, escape from custody)	89	105	113	127	110
Parole	979	945	1074	1177	1050
Other Admission Types (e.g., pro- bation, diagnostic)	422	443	367	352	323
TOTAL	3350	3526	3657	3591	3317

Table 3. Female Admissions Over Time					
	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
New Admissions					
Violent Crimes					
SVO	19	21	27	16	12
Other Violent (e.g., kidnapping, robbery, child abuse)	25	54	51	35	45
Sex Crime	2	2	4	0	1
Assault & Battery	18	15	22	22	17
Property Crimes					
Burglary	19	34	30	25	29
Other Property (e.g., larceny, arson, fraud)	91	78	89	132	77
Drug Crimes					
Drug Trafficking	34	62	74	51	65
Drug Possession	42	71	74	52	87
Public Order Crimes					
DWI	9	19	10	4	11
Other Public Order (e.g., possession of weapon by felon, bribery of witness, escape from custody)	20	27	25	11	12
Parole	99	125	168	171	160
Other Admission Types (e.g., probation, diagnostic)	74	81	82	84	78
TOTAL	452	589	656	603	594

APPENDIX A.

Table 4. MALE PRISON POPULATION ACTUAL, FORECAST AND PERCENT DIFFERENCE: FY 2017			
DATE	ACTUAL	FORE- CASTS	% DIFF
Apr-17	6,559	6,775	3.29%
May-17	6,563	6,757	2.96%
Jun-17	6,560	6,735	2.67%
Jul-17	6,525	6,775	3.83%
Aug-17	6,559	6,783	3.42%
Sep-17	6,577	6,783	3.13%
Oct-17	6,603	6,798	2.95%
Nov-17	6,598	6,804	3.12%
Dec-17	6,547	6,838	4.44%
Jan-18	6,550	6,817	4.08%
*Feb-18	6,585	6,557	-0.43%
Mar-18	6,579	6,565	-0.21%
Apr-18	6,605	6,572	-0.50%

Table 5. FEMALE PRISON POPULATION ACTUAL, FORECAST AND PERCENT DIFFERENCE: FY 2017			
DATE	ACTUAL	FORE- CASTS	% DIFF
Apr-17	760	785	3.32%
May-17	758	785	3.53%
Jun-17	745	786	5.57%
Jul-17	735	796	8.35%
Aug-17	748	801	7.13%
Sep-17	762	805	5.65%
Oct-17	787	807	2.51%
Nov-17	786	804	2.26%
Dec-17	786	803	2.22%
Jan-18	781	798	2.13%
*Feb-18	797	782	-1.88%
Mar-18	795	783	-1.51%
Apr-18	786	784	-0.25%

*The new forecast was adopted in February 2018 and the bolded numbers represent the new forecast. The numbers before February 2018 are from the prior forecasts.

Figure 13. Actual Male Prison Population and Forecast: July 2014 to July 2020

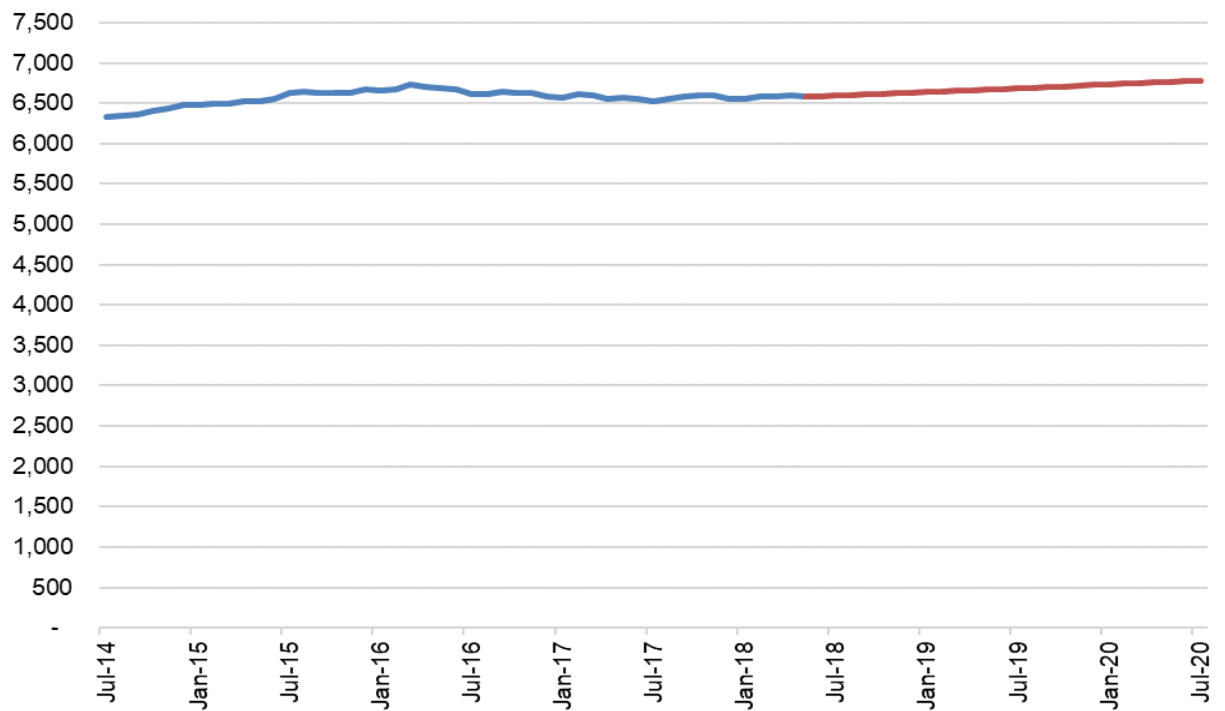


Table 7. MALE POPULATION PROJECTIONS: July 2018 to June 2028

Month	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
January	-	6625	6718	6815	6915	7019	7127	7239	7354	7473	7595
February	-	6632	6726	6823	6924	7028	7136	7248	7364	7483	7606
March	-	6640	6734	6831	6932	7037	7146	7258	7374	7493	7616
April	-	6648	6742	6840	6941	7046	7155	7267	7383	7503	7626
May	-	6655	6750	6848	6950	7055	7164	7277	7393	7513	7637
June	-	6663	6758	6856	6958	7064	7173	7286	7403	7523	7647
July	6595	6671	6766	6865	6967	7073	7183	7296	7413	7534	-
August	6602	6679	6774	6873	6976	7082	7192	7306	7423	7544	-
September	6610	6687	6782	6881	6984	7091	7201	7315	7433	7554	-
October	6617	6694	6790	6890	6993	7100	7211	7325	7443	7564	-
November	6625	6702	6798	6898	7002	7109	7220	7335	7453	7575	-
December	6632	6710	6807	6907	7011	7118	7229	7344	7463	7585	-

Figure 14. Actual Female Prison Population and Forecast: July 2014 to July 2020

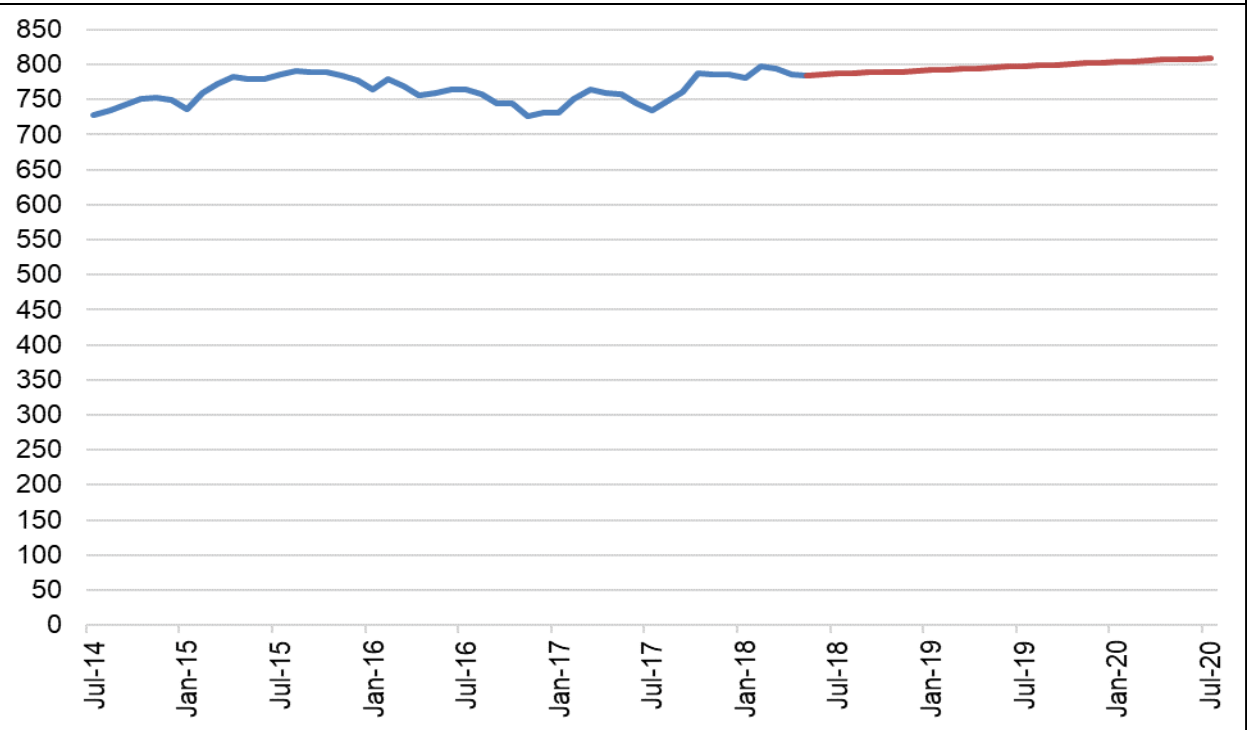


Table 8. FEMALE POPULATION PROJECTIONS: July 2018 to June 2028

Month	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
January	-	792	804	815	826	838	849	861	872	883	895
February	-	793	805	816	827	839	850	861	873	884	896
March	-	794	806	817	828	840	851	862	874	885	897
April	-	795	807	818	829	841	852	863	875	886	897
May	-	796	808	819	830	842	853	864	876	887	898
June	-	797	808	820	831	843	854	865	877	888	899
July	787	798	809	821	832	843	855	866	878	889	-
August	788	799	810	822	833	844	856	867	879	890	-
September	789	800	811	823	834	845	857	868	879	891	-
October	790	801	812	824	835	846	858	869	880	892	-
November	790	802	813	825	836	847	859	870	881	893	-
December	791	803	814	826	837	848	860	871	882	894	-

Table 9. Confined Male Population By Age			
	Nationally 2016	New Mexico 2017	Difference
18-24	11%	5%	-6%
25-29	16%	17%	1%
30-34	16%	18%	2%
35-39	15%	19%	4%
40-44	12%	12%	0%
45-49	10%	9%	-1%
50-54	9%	7%	-1%
55-59	6%	6%	0%
60-64	3%	4%	1%
65+	3%	3%	0%

Table 10. Confined Female Population by Age			
	Nationally 2016	New Mexico 2017	Difference
18-24	10%	4%	-6%
25-29	18%	17%	-1%
30-34	19%	23%	4%
35-39	16%	21%	5%
40-44	12%	13%	1%
45-49	10%	8%	-2%
50-54	8%	7%	-1%
55-59	4%	3%	-1%
60-64	2%	2%	0%
65+	1%	1%	0%

Table 11. New Mexico Confined Male Population Percentage by Age Over Time on the date of June 30				
	2015	2016	2017	Diff. 17-15
18-24	1.8%	3.3%	5.5%	3.7%
25-29	13.7%	15.2%	16.6%	2.9%
30-34	18.0%	18.3%	17.9%	-0.1%
35-39	20.3%	19.6%	19.2%	-1.1%
40-44	14.1%	12.8%	12.2%	-1.9%
45-49	10.1%	9.6%	8.8%	-1.3%
50-54	8.1%	8.0%	7.2%	-0.9%
55-59	6.5%	6.4%	6.2%	-0.4%
60-64	4.4%	4.0%	3.7%	-0.7%
65+	2.9%	2.8%	2.8%	-0.1%

Table 12. New Mexico Confined Female Population Percentage by Age Over Time on the date of June 30				
	2015	2016	2017	Diff. 17-15
18-24	1.9%	3.0%	4.0%	2.1%
25-29	12.7%	14.5%	17.1%	4.5%
30-34	21.1%	22.0%	23.2%	2.1%
35-39	24.8%	19.7%	21.4%	-3.4%
40-44	14.3%	16.0%	12.8%	-1.4%
45-49	8.3%	9.0%	7.7%	-0.5%
50-54	9.1%	6.8%	7.0%	-2.0%
55-59	4.4%	5.3%	3.2%	-1.2%
60-64	2.3%	2.3%	2.2%	-0.1%
65+	1.3%	1.4%	1.1%	-0.2%

APPENDIX B: METHODOLOGY

The prison population time series forecasts used to produce this report are based on observed prison population data. It is understood that there are many factors that drive prison populations, including demographic trends, arrest rates, the number of criminal cases filed in district court, conviction rates, the availability of diversion programs, sentence lengths, admission rates and release rates, availability of earned meritorious deductions and parole readiness. The observed prison population is a result of all those factors and others. When new laws or policies come to bear which significantly affect the prison population, it is recommended that a new long-term forecast be produced which incorporates new data that reflects the changes.

Time series forecasting consists of examining historical prison population data, identifying potential methods for the forecast, fitting the data to a model which will use the data to produce a forecast into the future, and then testing the model. Testing includes assessing the overall model fit, producing estimates and comparing those estimates to actual data to see how well the chosen model performs. Diagnostic checks are applied to the differences between the estimated and actual counts to ensure that the model adequately explains and extracts all information that the historical data has to offer. It may turn out that more than one model specification fits the data well. When choosing between different candidate models, there are fit statistics produced for each model that can be compared.

The methodology described above was augmented at various steps by conversations with colleagues who have historical knowledge regarding prison population trends, factors that drive population and insight into population patterns. Moreover, Sentencing Commission staff held meetings with NMCD staff to discuss inmate population trends. This information was crucial for choosing the starting date from which to forecast for males and females, respectively.

For both the male and female population the preferred forecasting method was an Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) model. We additionally tried to implement other variables into the models such as income inequality, poverty, and others.

MALES

For forecasting the confined male population, an ARIMA model was chosen for its greater predictive validity over other models. When predicting the confined male population, statewide income inequality was found to be statistically significant and was used to improve the forecast. The data used was the monthly high counts limited to July 2010 until February 2018. The male confined population data was found to follow an autoregressive (AR) of order 0, integrated (I) difference of 1, and a moving average (MA) of order 0. When comparing the prior male model to the new one it was found to be more predictive of the current confined male population and has been adopted.

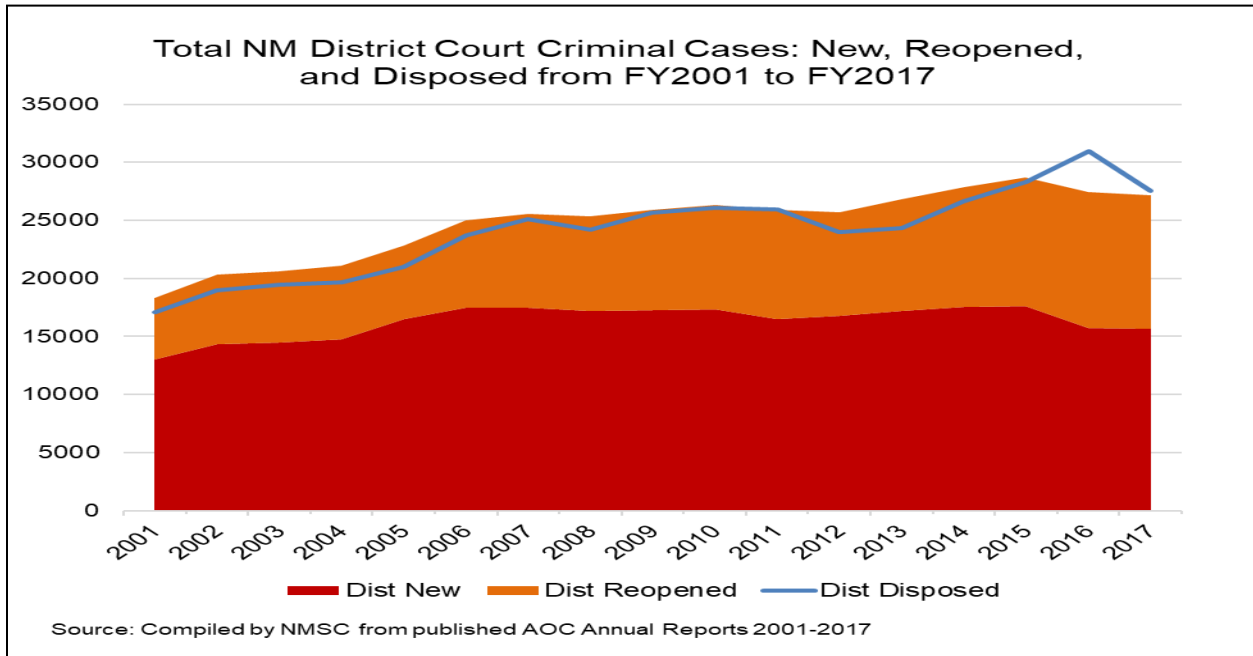
FEMALES

For forecasting the confined female population, an ARIMA model was also chosen. The data was found to follow an autoregressive (AR) of order 0, integrated (I) difference of 1, and a moving average (MA) of order 0. No other variables were found to aid in the predictive validity of the confined female population. The data used was the monthly high counts limited to July 2010 until February 2018. When comparing the prior female model to the new one, the new model was found to be more predictive of the current confined female population and has been adopted.

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APPENDIX C: NEW MEXICO JUDICIARY DATA



New Mexico District Court Criminal Cases FY2001 to FY2017				
Year	New Cases	Reopened	New + Reopened	Total Disposed
2001	14,349	5,991	20,340	18,972
2002	14,449	6,141	20,590	19,453
2003	14,718	6,372	21,090	19,660
2004	16,522	6,349	22,871	21,007
2005	17,439	7,530	24,969	23,708
2006	17,482	8,071	25,553	25,083
2007	17,206	8,139	25,345	24,224
2008	17,226	8,657	25,883	25,648
2009	17,359	8,983	26,342	26,111
2010	16,509	9,396	25,905	25,963
2011	16,796	8,888	25,684	24,018
2012	17,169	9,616	26,785	24,365
2013	17,572	10,285	27,857	26,649
2014	17,591	11,140	28,731	28,304
2015	15,701	11,749	27,450	30,952
2016	15,665	11,519	27,184	27,549
2017	16,813	11,164	27,977	27,741