



To: Members of the Iowa General Assembly
From: Holly M. Lyons, Fiscal Services Division Director
Subject: Minority Impact Statements
Date: February 11, 2013

Pursuant to Iowa Code section [2.56\(1\)](#), the Legislative Services Agency is required to determine the potential impact on minorities of proposed legislation that creates a public offense, changes a current offense, or changes existing correctional procedures. Minority persons are defined in Iowa Code section [8.11](#) as women, persons with a disability, Blacks, Latinos, Asians or Pacific Islanders, American Indians, and Alaskan Native Americans. Disability is defined in Iowa Code section [15.102\(5\)\(b\)\(1\)](#). The statements below provide background information regarding minorities in the correctional system from a national and state perspective.

Iowa Census Information

The U.S. Census estimate for Iowa was 3.1 million people as of 2011 (the most current estimates available). Women comprise 50.5% of the population. Approximately 91.3% of Iowa's population is white. The composition of the remaining 8.7% is: 2.9% Black, 0.4% American Indian or Alaska Native; 1.7% Asian, 0.1% Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 1.8% is of two or more races; and 1.8% unknown. A total of 5.0% of Iowa's population identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino (of any race). Approximately 11.2% of Iowa's population has at least one disability.

Prison System Information

The U.S. Department of Justice estimates there were 1.6 million prisoners incarcerated in federal or State prisons on December 31, 2011 (the most recent data available). Men comprised 93.3% of the total prison population. The following statistics are for offenders sentenced to more than one year of incarceration:

- 37.8% Black;
- 33.6% white;
- 22.8% Hispanic;
- 5.8% of other races or unknown.

Iowa's prison population was 8,333 offenders on June 30, 2012. Men comprised 91.8% of the population. A total of 6.5% of Iowa's prison population identified themselves as Hispanic (nearly all of these identified themselves racially as being white). According to the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division (CJJPD) of the Department of Human Rights, the racial composition of the prison system was:

- 64.5% white;
- 26.2% Black;
- 0.9% Asian or Pacific Islander;
- 1.8% American Indian or Alaska Native.

Probation and Parole Information

According to the Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC), on June 30, 2012, approximately 8.2% of the offenders in prison were women and 25.7% of offenders under supervision in Community-Based Corrections (CBC) were women. Approximately 21.9% of the total offender population under correctional supervision consisted of women.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, on December 31, 2011, 75.0% of offenders on probation nationwide are men. Nationally, the racial composition of the probation population was:

- 54.0% white;
- 31.0% Black;
- 13.0% Hispanic or Latino;
- 1.0% American Indian or Alaska Natives;
- 1.0% Asian or Pacific Islander.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, on December 31, 2011, 11.0% of offenders on parole nationwide are women. Nationally, the racial composition of the parole population was:

- 41.0% white;
- 39.0% Black;
- 18.0% Hispanic or Latino;
- 1.0% American Indian or Alaska Natives;
- 1.0% Asian or Pacific Islander.

Iowa's Corrections System (Prison, Probation, and Parole)

According to the Iowa DOC, the racial composition of offenders under correctional supervision on June 30, 2012 was:

- 74.7% white,
- 17.4% Black;
- 5.2% Hispanic or Latino;
- 1.2% American Indian or Alaska Natives;
- 1.0% Asian or Pacific Islander;
- 0.5% of unknown race.

Please contact Beth Lenstra at 281-6301 or Jennifer Acton at 281-7846 for further assistance.