



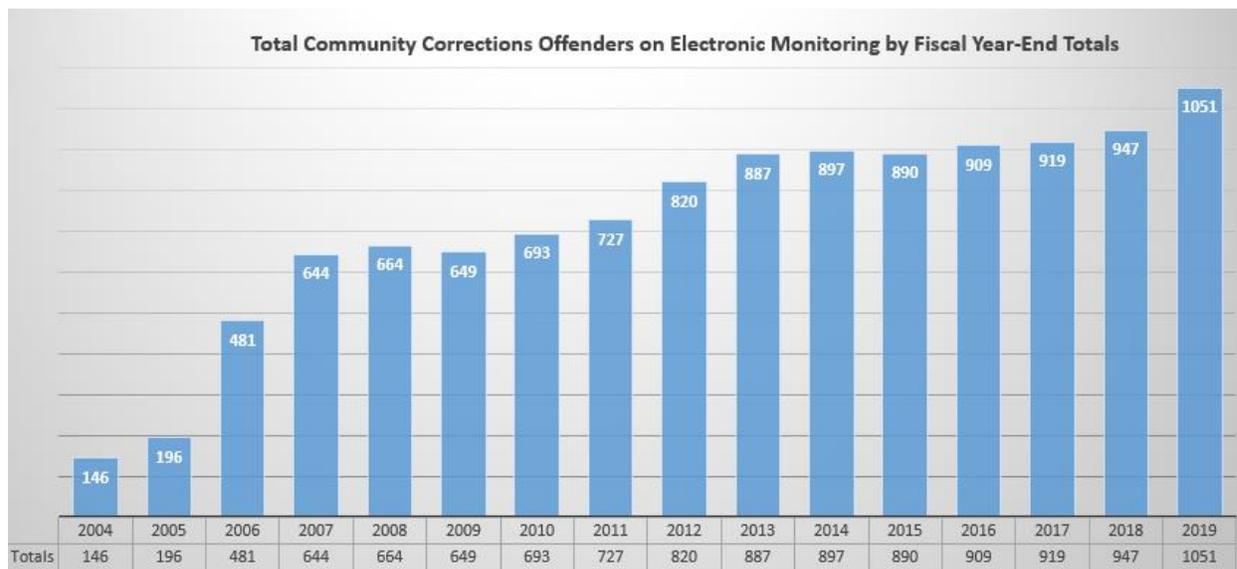
Electronic Monitoring Report

January 2020

Overview

Effective FY2006, the *Iowa Code* mandated a minimum of 5 years of electronic monitoring for persons under community supervision who had committed certain offenses against a minor, including sexually violent offenses. As a result of this law, the number of community corrections offenders on electronic monitoring systems (EMS) more than doubled during FY2006, from 196 to 481 offenders. Between FY2006 and FY2019 the EMS population grew by another 570 offenders, or by about 119%. At fiscal year-end 2019, 1051 offenders are on some form of electronic monitoring in the community.

Community Corrections Offenders on EMS: FY2004-2019



Source: ICON;JDW

Sex Offenders on EMS in Community Corrections

In FY2004, about 22% of offenders on EMS were sex offenders compared to 45% in FY2019. Sex offenders are defined by offense or status as a release from sex offender civil commitment to Iowa Department of Corrections (IDOC) supervision; still others are required to register as sex offenders based on requirements in Iowa Code Chapter 692A.

In 2009 the law mandating electronic monitoring for certain offenders whose offenses involved minors was changed to permit discretion to the district departments of correctional services, to base these decisions on validated sex offender risk assessments and other factors. However, EMS populations will continue to grow due to passage of legislation in 2005 establishing special sentences for sex offenders to commence upon completion of the original sentence (per *Iowa Code* §903B.1 and §903B.2); special sentences are for ten years or life, depending on the level of the sex offense.

Beginning in FY2010 the IDOC began an electronic monitoring program for prison inmates convicted of serious offenses who the Iowa Board of Parole indicated should begin preparing for reentry. The offenders are minimum custody inmates, and are required to be on GPS monitoring while working outside the secure perimeter of the institutions. **As of fiscal year-end 2019, a total of 15 inmates were on GPS (10 at the North Central Correctional Facility in Rockwell City, 2 at Mount Pleasant Correctional Facility and 2 at Iowa Correctional Institution for Women in Mitchellville) and are included in the counts for the remainder of this report.**

Types of Electronic Monitoring Systems Currently in Use:

Radio Frequency. A monitoring receiver unit in the home is attached to the offender’s phone and plugged into the phone jack as well as an electrical outlet. The offender wears a waterproof transmitter on the ankle that detects and alerts for tampering (for example, if the strap is opened or cut, or if the transmitter is not against the skin). This unit monitors the offender’s arrivals and departures and is useful in assessing curfew compliance.

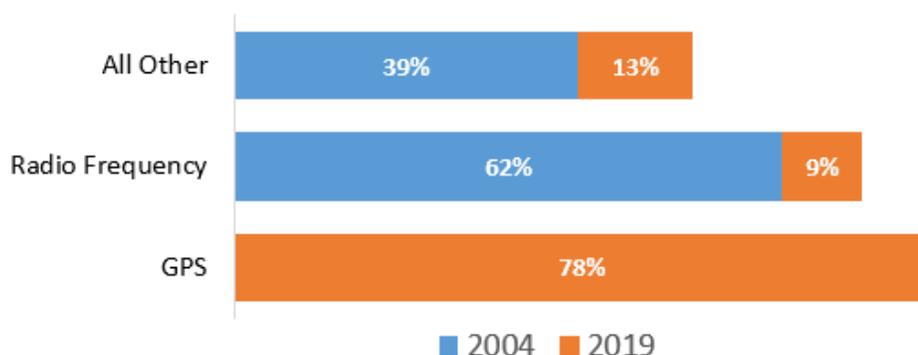
Global Positioning Satellite (GPS). The offender wears the Radio Frequency transmitter described above. Additionally, this system reports: a) time and date of arrival and departure from home; b) the travel path and times while out of the home; c) any removal or tampering of the transmitter or monitoring unit; and d) any violations of exclusion zone criteria (designated area(s) the offender is restricted from entering, such as a victim’s home). This unit will report in as soon as the offender arrives home. A cell phone can be added to provide capability for immediate reporting.

SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitor). The offender wears a bracelet that uses transdermal technology to sample alcohol use as often as every half hour, which automatically sends that data to a modem in the offender’s home. The modem transmits the data to the SCRAM service provider on a pre-determined schedule (at least once a day). This system is primarily used to assess compliance with alcohol consumption restrictions.

SCRAM (Remote Breath). The offender has a device that is portable, hand-held, and cellular that tests for alcohol as it takes a high-definition photo as well as detecting any abnormality with the tests or photo that is taken. This system is primarily used to assess compliance with alcohol consumption restrictions.

In addition to the growth in the numbers of offenders on EMS, there has been a shift to higher tech global positioning system (GPS) equipment. There was no GPS in use in 2004; offenders started being placed on GPS in late 2005 and by fiscal year-end 1% of offenders on EMS were on GPS. As of fiscal year-end 2019, 78% were on GPS.

Offenders on EMS by Type of System FY2004 vs. FY2019



Offenders on Electronic Monitoring: 2019

Between 2018 and 2019 the number of offenders on EMS increased.

Offenders on EMS by Type of System

| EMS Type | June 30 Populations | | % Change |
|---|---------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | 2018 | 2019 | |
| Global Positioning Satellite | 733 | 833 | 13.6% |
| Radio Frequency | 94 | 98 | 4.3% |
| SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitor) | 32 | 42 | 31.3% |
| SCRAM (Remote Breath) | 93 | 93 | 0% |
| Video Display/Breath Alcohol Test/Radio Frequency | 2 | 0 | -100.0% |
| Total: | 954 | 1066 | 11.7% |

As shown below, the 5th judicial district is the largest user of electronic monitoring, accounting for about 30% of total EMS usage (and is also the most populous district).

Offenders on EMS by Judicial District & Prison: June 30, 2019

| | Global Positioning Satellite | Radio Frequency | SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitor) | SCRAM (Remote Breath) | Totals |
|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------------|-------------|
| 1JD | 64 | | 1 | | 65 |
| 2JD | 141 | | 3 | 23 | 167 |
| 3JD | 44 | 47 | 2 | 17 | 110 |
| 4JD | 34 | | 2 | | 36 |
| 5JD | 203 | 51 | 25 | 38 | 317 |
| 6JD | 87 | | 3 | 15 | 105 |
| 7JD | 79 | | | | 79 |
| 8JD | 166 | | 6 | | 172 |
| ICIW | 3 | | | | 3 |
| MPCF | 2 | | | | 2 |
| NCCF | 10 | | | | 10 |
| Totals | 833 | 98 | 42 | 93 | 1066 |

Note: Community corrections districts are labeled by number. ICIW is the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women, MPCF is the Mount Pleasant Correctional Facility and NCCF is the North Central Correctional Facility in Rockwell City.

The following lists offenders on EMS as of June 30, 2019 by most serious offense. Please note not all sex offenders are identifiable by their most serious offense. For example, certain kidnapping and burglary offenses involved attempted or completed sexual assault. Also, some offenders have discharged their sex offenses but are still required to be on the Iowa Sex Offender Registry, and are currently under supervision for other types of offenses.

Offenders on EMS by Offense Type and Sub Type

| Offense Type | Offense Sub Type | Total |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Violent | Assault | 71 |
| Violent | Kidnap | 7 |
| Violent | Murder/Manslaughter | 24 |
| Violent | Other Violent | 9 |
| Violent | Robbery | 10 |
| Violent | Sex | 469 |
| Property | Arson | 5 |
| Property | Burglary | 66 |
| Property | Forgery/Fraud | 12 |
| Property | Theft | 42 |
| Property | Vandalism | 17 |
| Drug | Drug Possession | 49 |
| Drug | Other Drug | 19 |
| Drug | Trafficking | 55 |
| Public Order | Alcohol | 2 |
| Public Order | Flight/Escape | 3 |
| Public Order | Other Public Order | 42 |
| Public Order | OWI | 88 |
| Public Order | Prostitution/Pimping | 1 |
| Public Order | Traffic | 10 |
| Public Order | Weapons | 40 |
| Other | Other Criminal | 24 |
| Other | Other Violent | 1 |
| | | 1066 |