



To: Members of the Iowa General Assembly
From: Holly M. Lyons, Fiscal Services Division Director
Subject: Minority Impact Statement
Date: January 26, 2016

Pursuant to Iowa Code section [2.56\(1\)](#), the Legislative Services Agency is required to determine the potential correctional 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\(10\)\(b\)\(1\)](#). 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 2014 (the most current estimates available). Women comprise 50.3% of the population. Approximately 92.1% of Iowa's population is Caucasian (White). The composition of the remaining 7.9% is 3.4% Black, 0.5% American Indian or Alaska Native; 2.2% Asian, 0.1% Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and 1.7% is of two or more races. The U.S. Census permits people to identify their race and ethnicity. About 5.6% of Iowans that reported themselves as White, Black, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, also identified their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino. Approximately 11.4% of Iowa's population has at least one disability.

Federal and Iowa Prison System Information

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) estimates there were 1.5 million prisoners in federal or State prisons on December 31, 2014 (the most recent data available). These are prisoners sentenced to more than one year. Men comprised 93.0% of the total prison population. The following statistics are for offenders sentenced to more than one year of incarceration:

- 35.8% Black;
- 33.6% Caucasian (White);
- 21.6% Hispanic;
- 9.0% of other races or unknown.

Iowa's prison population was 8,188 offenders on June 30, 2015. Men comprised 91.7% of the population. According to data from the Iowa Corrections Offender Network ([ICON](#)) administered by the [Department of Corrections](#) (DOC), the racial composition of the prison system was:

- 65.3% Caucasian (White);
- 25.5% Black;
- 6.7% Hispanic;

- 0.8% Asian or Pacific;
- 1.7% American Indian or Alaska Native.

Federal and Iowa Probation and Parole Information

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, on December 31, 2014, there were 3.9 million offenders on probation supervision; 25.0% of offenders on probation nationwide were women. Nationally, the racial composition of the probation population was:

- 54.0% Caucasian (White);
- 30.0% 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, 2014, there were 857,000 offenders on parole supervision; 12.0% of offenders on parole nationwide were women. Nationally, the racial composition of the parole population was:

- 43.0% Caucasian (White);
- 39.0% Black;
- 16.0% Hispanic or Latino;
- 1.0% American Indian or Alaska natives;
- 1.0% Asian or Pacific Islander.

According to the ICON, on June 30, 2015, there were 28,991 offenders under supervision in Community-Based Corrections (CBC). Approximately 26.5% of the CBC offender population under correctional supervision consisted of women. According to data from the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division (CJJPD) of the Department of Human Rights (DHR), the racial composition of the CBC offender population was:

- 81.4% Caucasian (White);
- 15.9% Black;
- 1.3% Asian or Pacific Islander;
- 1.0% American Indian or Alaska Native;
- 0.4% of other races or unknown.

Please contact Alice Wisner (alice.wisner@legis.iowa.gov) at 281-6764 or Laura Book (laura.book@legis.iowa.gov) at 725-0509 for further assistance.