Adult Justice in Nebraska 2019

Nebraska Center for Justice Research - University of Nebraska at Omaha

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FROM THE DIRECTOR
RYAN E. SPOHN

The Nebraska Center for Justice Research was established in 2014 with a mission to develop and sustain research capacity internal to the State of Nebraska, assist the Legislature in research, evaluation, and policymaking to reduce recidivism, promote the use of evidence-based practices in corrections, and improve public safety. The primary purpose of this report is to provide an overview of recent trends in Nebraska's adult criminal justice system.

Most of the data in this report is presented statewide as well as separated into Nebraska's twelve judicial districts. Nebraska's two most metropolitan counties are represented by District 4 (Douglas County) and District 3 (Lancaster County). The classification of the remainder of the state's 93 counties can be found in the table on page 4. Please contact NCJR for any questions regarding county-level estimates of the data included in this report.

The data in this report represent years ranging from 2014 to 2018. The most recent data available to NCJR at the time of report writing is included in each section and trends across years are included when the data is available and informative.

The report is organized according to the stages of the process of the criminal justice system with major highlights in the front portion and an appendix with detailed tables for additional information:

- Environmental context provides an overview of the population and demographic trends in Nebraska
- System context provides an overview of law enforcement employment
- Offenses provide an overview of crimes reported or known to the police
- County and District Courts include data on the court needs for judges compared to the current number of judges by judicial district
- Problem-Solving Courts provides a map of current problem-solving courts, as well as trends describing court participation
- Corrections provide data on admissions and correctional populations, as well as population trends and projections provided by the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS)
- Adults on community supervision includes trends in admissions, discharges, and revocations for those on probation or parole
- How Nebraska Ranks shows state-level trends of various criminal justice system processes and how these compare to the entire United States

Our hope is that this report serves as a reference guide for providing a clearer understanding of recent trends in crime and criminal justice activities in the state of Nebraska. This report was made possible by the financial support provided to the Nebraska Center for Justice Research by LB 907. Questions, suggestions, and comments should be directed to Dr. Ryan Spohn, Director, at rspohn@unomaha.edu. Thank you for your hard work in sustaining and improving criminal justice in Nebraska.
2017 Census Estimates by Judicial District

Besides District 2, Judicial Districts that are more urban than rural have higher percentages of non-white residents and residents in poverty.

![Population Chart](chart)

*Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for 2017, U.S. Census Bureau*

2018 Percent Full-Time Officers by Sex for Nebraska

Females are more likely to be employed as civilians.

![Officer Distribution](chart)

*Source: 2018 Law Enforcement in Nebraska, Nebraska Crime Commission*

For more information on law enforcement employment statistics, see TABLE 2 on page 14.
2018 Property Offense Rate by County

Property offenses occur at higher rates along the I-80 corridor and in counties with higher populations.

Nebraska total property offenses per 1,000 residents = 20.64

2018 Violent Offense Rate by County

Violent crimes are rare events, but are more likely to occur in counties with higher populations.

Nebraska total violent offenses per 1,000 residents = 2.81

Nebraska County Courts Judicial Needs

Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019)

Source: Offense Data Query, Nebraska Crime Commission

For more offense data, see TABLE 3 on page 14.

Nebraska District Courts Judicial Needs

Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019)

Source: Weighted Caseload Reports for County and District Courts, Nebraska Judicial Branch
During FY 2017-2018 it cost approximately $7.85 per day to supervise those participating in Nebraska Problem-Solving Courts.

(In 2016, it cost approximately $98.49 per day to incarcerate someone in the state of Nebraska¹).

For more information on risk reduction for problem-solving court participants, see TABLE 4 on page 15.

**Nebraska Problem-Solving Court Locations**

Over a three year period, 598 defendants participated in Nebraska’s Problem-Solving Courts. At discharge, these problem-solving court participants reduced their risk to reoffend on average by 51%.

During FY 2017-2018 it cost approximately $7.85 per day to supervise those participating in Nebraska Problem-Solving Courts.

(In 2016, it cost approximately $98.49 per day to incarcerate someone in the state of Nebraska¹).
Completed 10,132 presentence investigations (PSIs), and 763 post-release supervision (PRS) plans. Both numbers represent an increase over the previous fiscal year (10,098 PSIs, 443 PRS plans).

Provided case management for 8,731 new, high-risk individuals in their communities.

Supervised 1,040 individuals under post-release supervision.

The number of individuals being revoked off of probation to a state prison for a new law violation dropped 5%, (57% to 42%), while those revoked to prison for technical violations dropped 16% points from 45% to 29%.

Approximate cost per day during FY 2017-2018:

$6.67 to supervise a high-risk probationer

$9.68 to supervise those individuals in alternatives to incarceration programs such as Specialized Substance Abuse Supervision (SSAS), Reframe, Post-release Supervision (PRS) and Transitional Intervention (TIP)

Administrative sanctions rose to 16,432 in FY17-18, while 1,759 custodial sanctions were deployed during the fiscal year.

Parole Admissions
Admissions to Nebraska Parole have decreased between FY 2017 and FY 2019

Parole Discharge
1,237 persons were discharged from Nebraska Division of Parole Supervision in FY 2019

Parole Recidivism
The most recent data indicates declines in parolees returning to prison, and of those who return, 80% are returned due to technical violation or a new felony conviction after discharge from parole

Source: Jennifer Miller, Ph.D., Division of Parole Supervision
Notes: Parole clients may be considered recidivists if they are returned to prison up to three years after paroling.
12.0% of Nebraskans live in poverty¹

Nebraska maintains the lowest number of police officers assaulted in the United States

30 per 1,000 officers²

Nebraska has a violent offense rate of

284.8 per 100,000 persons³

Nebraska has a property offense rate of

2,079.9 per 100,000 persons³

As of 2017, for every 100,000 adult residents in Nebraska,

362 were imprisoned⁴

On average, prisons in the United States are

operating at 127% of operational capacity (ranked 47th out of 47 reporting)

and 154% of design capacity (ranked 29th out of 30 reporting)³

In 2016, 1,013 persons per 100,000 adult residents were under either probation or parole in the state of Nebraska³

In 2016, 1,815 persons per 100,000 adult residents were under either probation or parole in the United States⁵

14.6% of Americans live in poverty¹

Across the United States, the rate of officers assaulted is

108 per 1,000 officers²

The U.S. has a violent offense rate of

368.9 per 100,000 persons³

The U.S. has a property offense rate of

2,199.5 per 100,000 persons³

As of 2017, for every 100,000 adult residents in the United States,

568 were imprisoned⁴

On average, prisons in the United States are

operating at 95% of operational capacity

and 105% of design capacity³

In 2016, 1,815 persons per 100,000 adult residents were under either probation or parole in the United States⁵

14.6% of Americans live in poverty¹

Across the United States, the rate of officers assaulted is

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As of 2017, for every 100,000 adult residents in the United States,

568 were imprisoned⁴

On average, prisons in the United States are

operating at 95% of operational capacity

and 105% of design capacity³

In 2016, 1,815 persons per 100,000 adult residents were under either probation or parole in the United States⁵

TABLE 2
2018 Law Enforcement Employment Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Judicial District</th>
<th>Full-Time Sworn Officers</th>
<th>Full-Time Civilian Officers</th>
<th>Part-Time Sworn Officers</th>
<th>Part-Time Civilian Officers</th>
<th>Number of Reserve Officers</th>
<th>Full-Time Sworn Officers per 1,000 Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,246</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Agencies</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,921</td>
<td>1,838</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Due to non-reporting by some agencies for 2018, missing data were replaced with values from previous years (2015-2017) for the following districts: 1, 6, 7, 8, 11, and 12.


TABLE 4
Adult Problem-Solving Court Risk Reduction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Average LS/CMI Score at Entrance</th>
<th>Average LS/CMI Score at Discharge</th>
<th>Difference in Score</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 15-16</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>-12.9</td>
<td>-43.2%</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 16-17</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>-12.5</td>
<td>-41.4%</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 17-18</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>-10.4</td>
<td>-47.3%</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Notes: The Level of Service/Crime Management Inventory (LS/CMI) identifies the risk/need areas and specific criminogenic factors most likely to influence the individual’s probability of continuing criminal behavior. These areas are Criminal History, Education/Employment, Family/Marital, Leisure/Recreation, Comparisons, Alcohol/Drug Problems, Pro-Criminal Attitude/Orientation, and an Anti-Social Pattern.

TABLE 5
Nebraska Department of Correctional Services Average Daily Population and Capacity by Facility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Correctional Center</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>190%</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>127%</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>127%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correctional Center (Lincoln)</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>186%</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>124%</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>124%</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska State Penitentiary</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>296%</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>173%</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>173%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galt Correctional Institution</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>165%</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>106%</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>106%</td>
<td>104%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska State Penitentiary</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>122%</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>104%</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>104%</td>
<td>102%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska State Hospital for Women</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska State Penitentiary</td>
<td>1,330</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>185%</td>
<td>1,139</td>
<td>117%</td>
<td>1,139</td>
<td>117%</td>
<td>117%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska State Penitentiary</td>
<td>771</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>195%</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>116%</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>116%</td>
<td>116%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska State Penitentiary</td>
<td>1,029</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>107%</td>
<td>1,051</td>
<td>104%</td>
<td>1,051</td>
<td>104%</td>
<td>104%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska State Penitentiary</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>118%</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska State Penitentiary</td>
<td>5,220</td>
<td>3,275</td>
<td>160%</td>
<td>4,547</td>
<td>115%</td>
<td>4,547</td>
<td>115%</td>
<td>115%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Notes: ADP = Average Daily Population. Design capacity refers to the number of inmates that can be accommodated based on a facility's staff, existing programs, and services. Operational capacity refers to the number of inmates that can be accommodated based on a facility's staff, existing programs, and services. N/A = design capacity at Community Correctional Center in Lincoln.

TABLE 3
Offense Data for 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Judicial District</th>
<th>Violent Offenses</th>
<th>Violent Rate</th>
<th>Property Offenses</th>
<th>Property Rate</th>
<th>Total Offenses</th>
<th>Total Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>921</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>1,087</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>2,634</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>2,891</td>
<td>13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,091</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>8,713</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>9,804</td>
<td>30.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2,732</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>17,284</td>
<td>30.5</td>
<td>20,016</td>
<td>39.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1,181</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>1,276</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1,465</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>1,507</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>848</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>2,983</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>2,376</td>
<td>30.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>1,107</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>1,186</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1,798</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>1,990</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1,220</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>1,316</td>
<td>16.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,420</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>39,779</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>45,199</td>
<td>23.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
