Overview of Monroe County Jail Population
10-2-2017 Roster and Census

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Introduction

The objective of this working paper is to describe the local jail and correctional facility populations in Monroe County. We are also interested in comparing the population data between the Monroe County Jail and the Monroe Correctional Facility to identify similarities and differences. This paper is an extension from Working Paper 2017-20 which used Bureau of Justice Statistics data to compare Monroe County Jail population data to Orange County and Niagara County jail data.

Methods

The Monroe County jail holds mostly pre-sentenced individuals. The average daily population is about 1,000 inmates. Once individuals are convicted and sentenced to up to one year, they are moved to the Monroe Correctional Facility. Longer sentences usually result in a state prison stay. The data for the current working paper are for both the Monroe County Jail (MCJ) and Monroe Correctional Facility (MCF). The Monroe Sheriff's Department publicly posts the inmate census and roster online and updates it daily. The data for this study was retrieved on October 2, 2017. This date was chosen because it was the first date researchers started working with the data.

The areas of focus in this paper are similar to those in WP1 [2017-20], and includes: demographics, crime type, crime class and title, and number of charges. Additional areas include inmate classification and the facility they were housed in. As previously done, each area of focus includes at least one chart displaying the data with an accompanying narrative describing the data, results, and conclusions. After these discussions, the future uses for this data is described.

In this paper, 'class' refers to the class of charged-for crimes, and can be anywhere between a class A Misdemeanor and an AII Felony. 'Classification' refers to sentencing used in the Monroe County Census. An individual can be classified as locally sentenced, non-sentenced, or a state or federal detainee. Non-sentenced means that they have not yet been sentenced and so are probably still held in

the MCJ, locally sentenced means that they have been sentenced to less than one year and are likely in the MCF, and state or federal detainee means that they are being held in either the MCF or MCJ while they are awaiting transport to a state or federal penitentiary.

<div align="center">

Results

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Total Population

On October 2, 2017 there were a total of 1,228 inmates in Monroe County. The Monroe County Jail (MCJ) had 979 inmates, and the Monroe County Facility (MCF) had 249 current inmates. According to the Monroe County Jail Bureau website, the MCJ has an average of 1,000 inmates which is consistent with the census and roster data. But the MCF is reported having an average of 475 inmates, which is almost 100 more than the number individuals reported being in this facility on October 2nd. However, the jail bureau also has a third facility that houses inmates – The Rochester Psychiatric Center. There is no mention of this third facility anywhere in the roster or census which may account for these missing inmates or data, but without any additional information, we cannot speculate further as this discrepancy. Nevertheless, we continue our description with the information given.
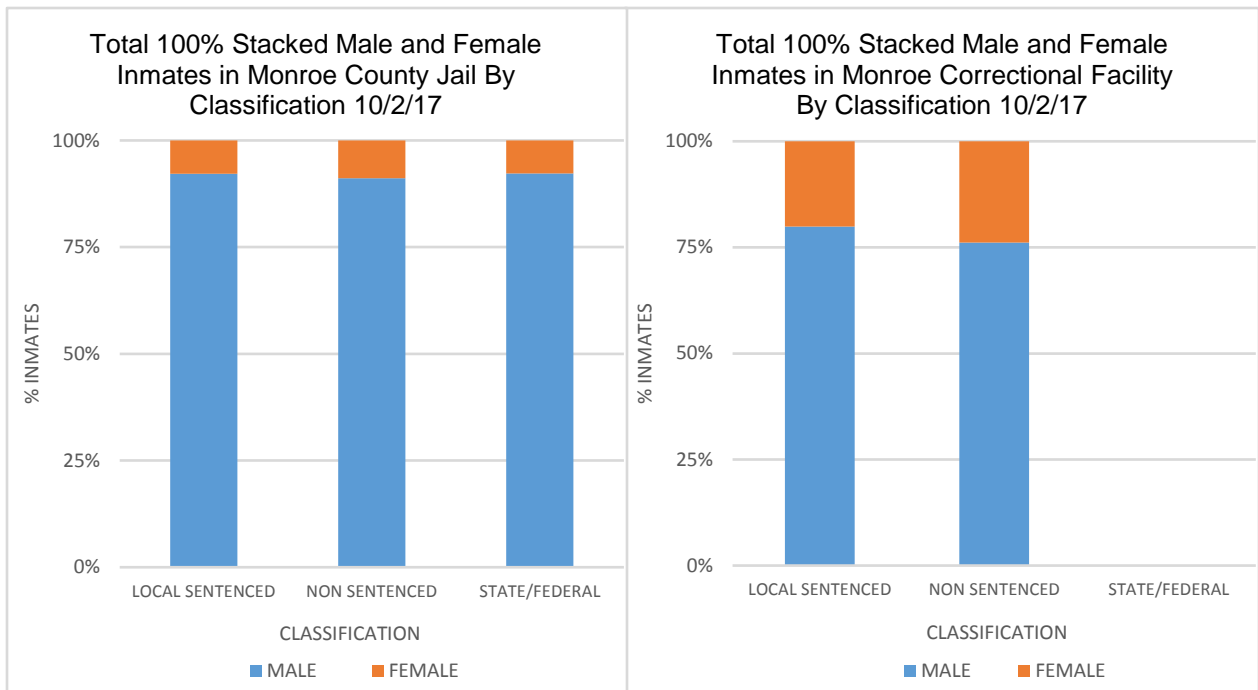
Demographics

 Gender

 Figure 1.[1]   *Figure 2.*

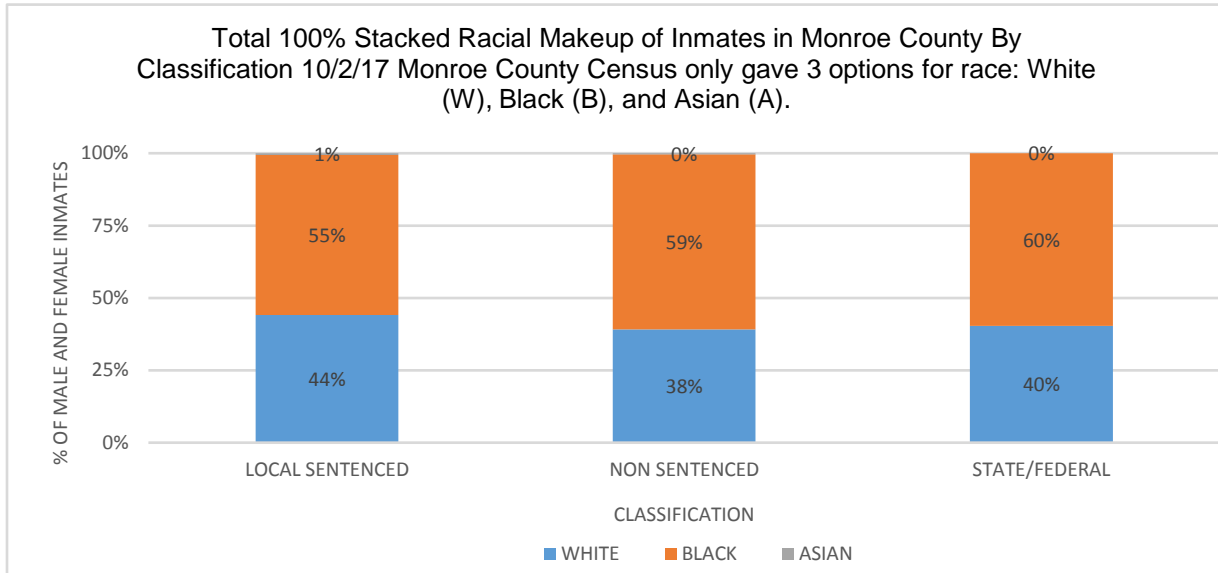[1]Both the Monroe County Jail Roster and Census are updated daily. This date was chosen because it was the first date the researchers started analyzing the data.

Total 100% Stacked Male and Female Inmates in Monroe County Jail By Classification 10/2/17

Total 100% Stacked Male and Female Inmates in Monroe Correctional Facility By Classification 10/2/17

The majority of the Monroe County inmate population is male, with the total incarcerated population being 89% male and 11% female. The MCF has a higher percentage of females housed within it (22% females, 78% males) than the MCJ (8% females, 92% males). This can potentially be due to a number of factors such as available space and facilities or purposeful selection and placement, although there is no information to suggest or allow for further exploring in this data. By classification, the percentage of female inmates is highest in those locally sentenced (14% females), followed by the non-sentenced population (10% females), with the state and federally sentenced inmates only having 8% female inmates.
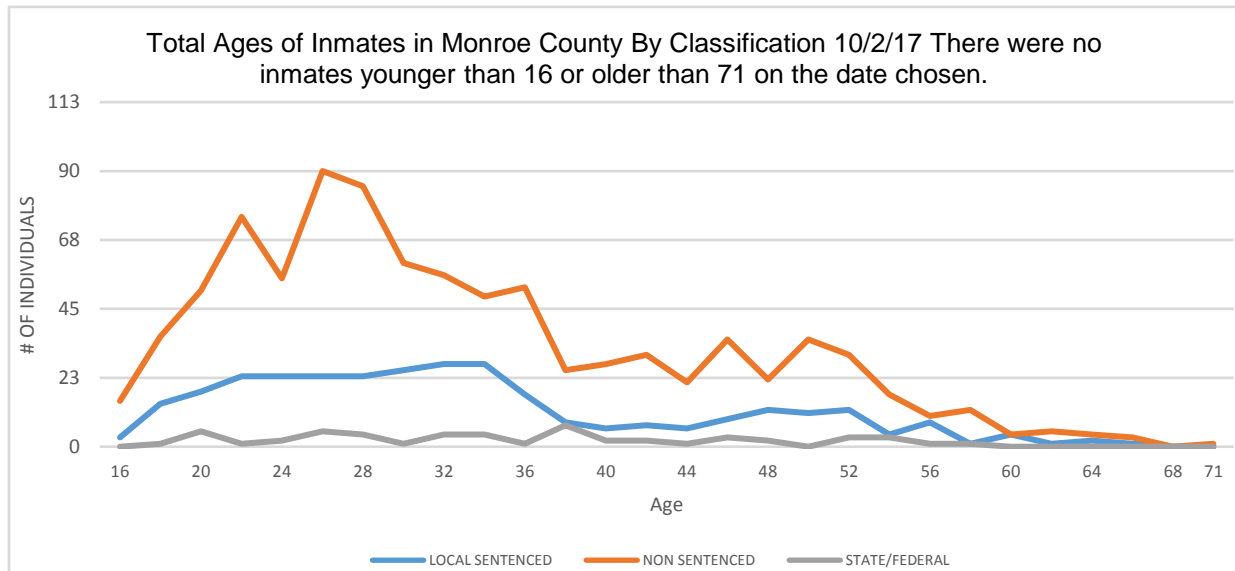
Race

Figure 3.

Total 100% Stacked Racial Makeup of Inmates in Monroe County By Classification 10/2/17 Monroe County Census only gave 3 options for race: White (W), Black (B), and Asian (A).

According to the Monroe County roster and census data, the majority of the regions' inmate population is black at 59.1%, followed by white at 40.4%, and least frequent is Asian at 0.5%. The black inmate population is the highest represented race for all classifications as well as the Monroe County Jail, but in the Monroe County Facility there is a larger majority of white inmates (51.7% white, 47.6% black, and 0.7% Asian). An important note about race is that the only options are white, black, and Asian; these three categories miss mixed race, other races, and ethnicity (e.g., Hispanic). Therefore the data above should be interpreted with caution.

Age

Figure 4.[2]

Total Ages of Inmates in Monroe County By Classification 10/2/17 There were no inmates younger than 16 or older than 71 on the date chosen.

The majority of the inmate population is less than 39 years old, with the highest fre-

quency of age being 26. This holds constant for the MCJ and the non-sentenced populations, but

the similarity of ages differs for the other facility and classifications.

The overall trend is the first and largest bell-shaped curve starting at age 16, increasing

until age 26, and then decreasing until age 38. Another smaller bell-shape curve starts at age 38,

peaks at ages 50-51, and then decreases sharply after. The MCJ and MCF separately follow the

same general trend, with some minor differences in proportion.

Crimes

Crime Section

Overall the most common crime is petit larceny, a class A Misdemeanor charge (section

155.25). This holds true for the total Monroe County inmate population, for each facility, and all

the classifications except for the state and/or federally classified individuals. The second most

charged for crime in the total inmate population is criminal possession of a weapon in the second

degree, which is a class C Felony charge (section 265.03). The third and fourth most charged for

crimes in the population as a whole are sections 220.16 and 220.03, which are both drug-related

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[2] There were no inmates younger than 16 or older than 71 on the date chosen.

crimes. Section 220.16 is a B Felony for the criminal possession of a controlled substance in the third degree, and section 220.02 is for the same crime except in the seventh degree and so is only an A Misdemeanor. One of these two drug-related sections are in the top-3 highest charged crime for both facilities and all three classifications.
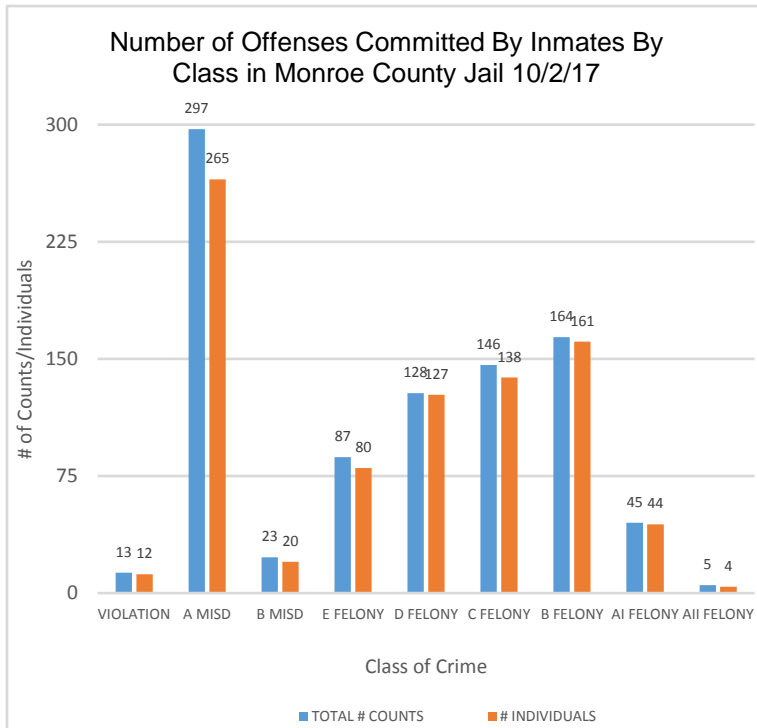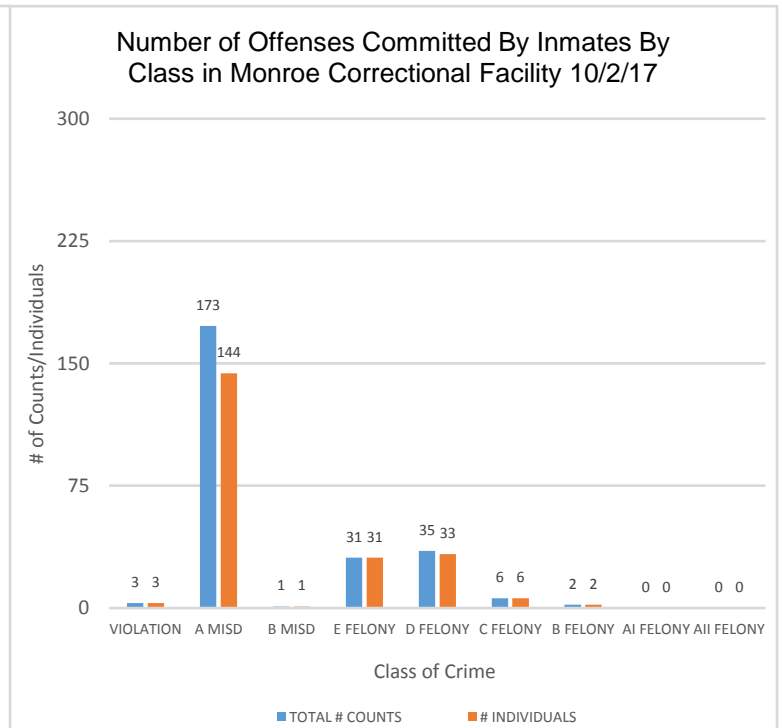
Class

Figure 5.[3]

Number of Offenses Committed By Inmates By Class in Monroe County Jail 10/2/17

Figure 6.[4]

Number of Offenses Committed By Inmates By Class in Monroe Correctional Facility 10/2/17

According to the New York State Penal Code a Class A Misdemeanor is "an offense, other than a 'traffic infraction,' for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment in excess of 15 days may be imposed, but for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment in excess of one year cannot be imposed". Class A Misdemeanors had the highest frequency for the inmate population of Monroe County as a whole, for both facilities, and for sentenced and non-sentenced populations.
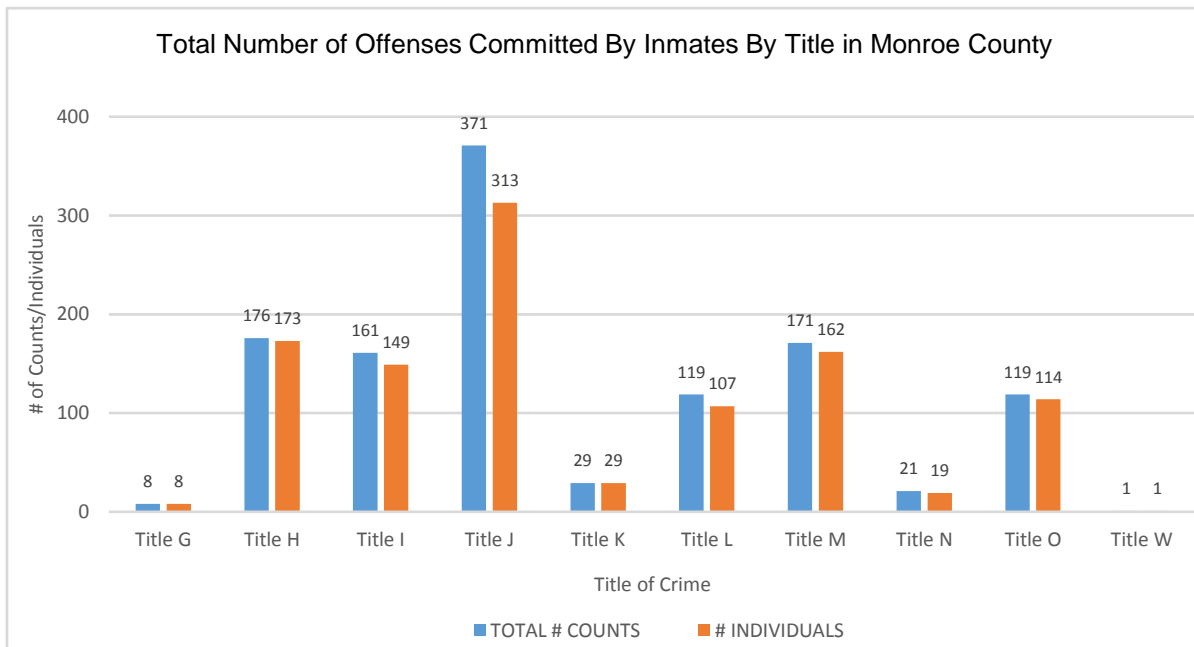
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[3] The offenses in this graph are those committed under the penal code, NOT correctional law, criminal procedure law, executive law, vehicle and traffic law, or tax law.

[4] This variable is split into these 2 categories for multiple reasons: 1) researchers are also working with other data sets that only refer to the jail or facility and 2) since the roster an census data gave the information separately about the jail and facility, researchers compared the populations of the jail and facility.

The only population for which this was not the most common class was for the state and federally classified population, which had class B Felonies as the highest frequency of class charges. Felonies are defined in the NY penal code as "an offense for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment in excess of one year may be imposed." B Felonies had the second highest frequency of class charges for the total Monroe County inmate population, the MCJ, and non-sentenced inmates. One of the types of drug charges that had a very high frequency in all of the different Monroe inmate populations studied here is a class B Felony.
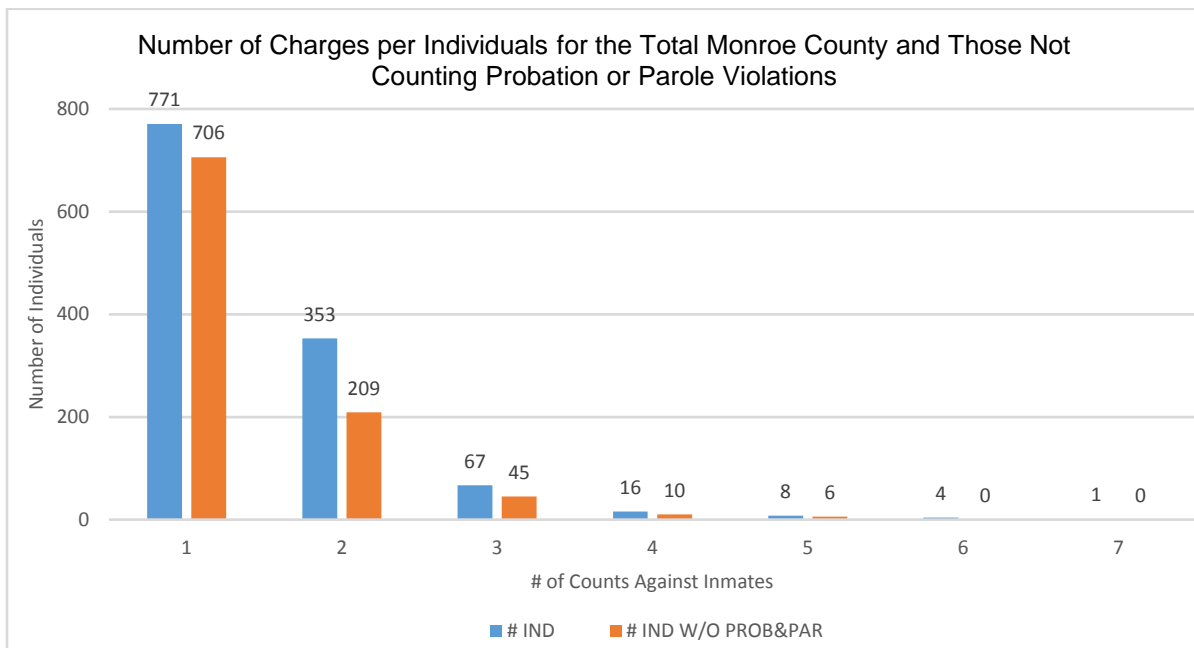
Title

Figure 7.[5]

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[5] Title G offenses are Anticipatory Offenses that includes all crimes between sections 100.00-115.20 of the New York State Penal Code.
Title H offenses are Offenses Against the Person Involving Physical Injury, Sexual Conduct, Restraint and Intimidation that includes all crimes between sections 120.00-135.75.
Title I offenses are Offenses Involving Damage to and Intrusion Upon Property that includes all crimes between sections 140.00-150.20
Title J offenses are Offenses Involving Theft that includes all crimes between sections 155.00-165.74.
Title K offenses are Offenses Involving Fraud that includes all crimes between sections 170.00-190.86.
Title L offenses are Offenses Against Public Administration that includes all crimes between sections 195.00-215.80.
Title M offenses are Offenses Against Public Health and Morals that includes all crimes between sections 220.00-235.30.
Title N offenses are Offenses Against Public Order, Public Sensibilities and the Right to Privacy that includes all crimes between sections 240.00-250.65.
Title O offenses are Offenses Against Marriage, The Family, and The Welfare of Children and Incompetents that includes all crimes between sections 255.00-275.45.

The most common offense in both MCJ and MCF and local and non-sentenced inmates are offense involving theft (Title J, 28% of total individuals). In MCJ and non-sentenced inmates the second most common offenses are offenses against the person involving physical injury, sexual conduct, restraint and intimidation such as assault, homicide, and forcible touching (Title H, 17% of total individuals). The third most common type of offense for the Monroe county inmate population as a whole, the MCJ, and second most common for locally and state/federally sentenced individuals are drug-related crimes including the selling and possession of illegal substances (Title M, 16% of total individuals).

Probation & Parole and # of Charges

Figure 8.[6]

According to this data, 30% of the 1,228 inmates were *previously* on probation or parole before this current arrest for a violation. This indicates that of the total incarcerated population, about one-third have recidivated.

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[6] The separation of these two variables is done in order to show the large impact that probation and parole violations has on the number of offenses per person. Those who are on probation or parole and are arrested and charged with a crime are also charged with a violation, raising the total counts of crimes total as well as the number of charges brought up against individuals under those conditions.

The majority of inmates are incarcerated for one single charge (63%). The most any one person was charged for was seven individual charges.

Discussion

There are many potential takeaways from this data, some have higher implications than others. Monroe County's incarcerated population is clearly predominantly male, which aligns with the previous WPXX using the data from the Bureau of Justice's Annual Jail Survey. This is important because males have different reentry needs than females to successfully assimilate back into the community. For example, a study done by Freudenberg, Daniels, Perkins & Richie (2005) conducted a study in the year after release of men and women returning home from jails in New York City. Analysis of the responses for their intake interview showed that among the top 5 identified problems the former inmates predicted to have, 22% of women specifically identified family problems with children as being one of them. This study also found that almost a quarter were pregnant in the year prior to their arrest identifying maternity, particularly new maternity, as a unique and difficult problem previously incarcerated women face.

An additional significant point identified through these descriptions is the bimodal nature of the age distribution, in which where are two majority peaks, one at age 26 and the other at age 50. This creates a question of the criminal history of those in the second peak which may point to high levels of recidivism.

The data on race should be interpreted with caution, as only three possible response categories are provided: white, black, and Asian. That being said, the Annual Jail survey also shows that the black or African American population was the majority race for the combined populations of the three New York State jails. However the validity of Monroe County's racial data is very questionable as it only has three possible categories for race. The Annual Jail Survey for example has eight difference choices including one ethnicity (Hispanic).

Crime type is also an important factor that can dictate different reentry need. Monroe County shows the highest type of crime committed by its incarcerated population are those involving theft. Both of these are non-violent crimes, as are the offenses against public health and morals which includes drug, gambling, prostitution, and obscenity-related crimes, which in Monroe County accounts for the third highest title of crime committed.

This data is too non-specific to delve deeper into the differences between the facilities and classifications, but that these differences do exist has created more questions that can be answered with additional research in the future. As seen, purely quantitative data from single sources can only provide so much information. The next steps to gaining a full understanding of the Monroe County incarcerated population are to look at different data sets and sources, as well as exploring different sources of qualitative data, which can help fill in the gaps of quantitative data and provide new avenues of research.

Future Use

This working paper is the second in a series of three papers designed to describe and aid us in understanding the jail populations of NY, currently through purely quantitative data description with a particular emphasis on Monroe County. Starting with 20 looking at the whole of the New York State jail population, this paper moves to a narrower view focusing only on Monroe County jail population. The third paper narrows its focus even further to describing the inmate population in Monroe County who commit drug-related crimes.

The culmination of these working papers will then be used as base information to be used in collaboration with dozens of other working papers written by other researchers within the CPSI, which is at the start of a three-year project to combat the opioid epidemic seriously affecting sections of the city of Rochester.

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