

Conducting Justice and Corrections Research for Effective Policy Making

Nevada Department of Correction Ten Year Prison Population Projections 2017-2027

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#### NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TEN-YEAR PRISON POPULATION PROJECTIONS

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The Nevada State Budget Office has asked JFA Associates, LLC (JFA) to produce three separate forecasts for the state prison population to be completed in April 2016, October 2016, and February 2017. JFA, under the direction of Ms. Wendy Ware, utilized the Wizard 2000 simulation model to produce prison population projections for male and female offenders. This briefing document represents the results of the analysis and simulation for the third forecast cycle, February 2017.

For the current forecast, JFA reviewed current inmate population trends and analyzed computer extract files provided by the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC). This briefing document contains a summary of projections of male and female inmates through the year 2027, a summary of recent offender trends, and an explanation of the primary assumptions on which the projections are based. The contents that follow are based on the analysis of computer extract files provided by the Department of Corrections in January 2017 as well as general population and crime trend data. All figures are contained in Appendix A of this document.

#### **Accuracy of Past Forecast**

Overall, the October 2016 moderate forecast accurately estimated the Nevada state prison population from January through December 2016 (with an average monthly difference in the projected and actual populations of -0.1 percent).

The October 2016 forecast of the male inmate population very closely estimated the actual population throughout 2016, at an average of 0.0 percent per month (an average accuracy of  $\pm 2.0$  percent is considered accurate). In April 2016, the forecast underestimated the actual population to its greatest degree in the 12-month period by a modest -0.6 percent.

The October 2016 forecast of the female population accurately estimated the actual population from January through December 2016 by an average monthly difference of -0.2 percent, well within acceptable standards. The forecast, however, increasingly underestimated the actual female population at the end of 2016, with the forecast coming in -2.4 percent lower than the actual population in December 2016.

#### II. BACKGROUND

The forecast of correctional populations in Nevada was completed using Wizard 2000 projection software. This computerized simulation model mimics the flow of offenders through the state's prison system over a ten-year forecast horizon and produces monthly projections of key inmate groups. Wizard 2000 represents a new version of the previously used Prophet Simulation model and introduces many enhancements over the Prophet Simulation model. The State of Nevada utilized the Prophet Simulation software to produce its prison population forecast for more than ten years. JFA upgraded the existing Nevada model into the latest Wizard 2000 software in order to take full advantage of the model's newest features.

Prior to 1995, sentenced inmates in Nevada received a maximum sentence and were required by law to serve at least one-third of the maximum sentence before a discretionary parole release hearing was held. Those offenders not granted discretionary parole release were released on mandatory parole three months prior to their maximum sentence expiration date. Under SB 416, offenders in Nevada are assigned both a maximum and a minimum sentence as recommended by Nevada State Parole and Probation officers. A

complex grid was developed to recommend these sentences. The grid was revised several times between July 1995 and March 1996 before a final formula was agreed upon. The resulting statute-mandated offenders are not eligible for discretionary parole release until they have served their entire minimum sentence (less jail credits). Monthly good-time earned credits are no longer applied to the reduction of the time until discretionary parole eligibility. The system of mandatory parole release remained unchanged under the new statute. In addition to these sentence recommendation changes, SB 416 also put in place the diversion of all E felony offenders from prison.

The current simulation model mimics the flow of inmates admitted under two sentencing policies: 1) inmates admitted to prison with "old law" sentences and 2) inmates admitted under SB 416. Within the simulation model, all inmates admitted to prison are assigned minimum and maximum sentences for their most serious admitting offenses. The model performs time calculations, simulates the parole hearing process, and releases offenders from prison based on existing laws and procedures.

In July 2007, the State of Nevada passed AB 510 which changed three main aspects of a prisoner's good time credit calculations. First, under AB 510 the monthly earning of good time for an offender who engages in good behavior increased from 10 days to 20 days. Second, AB 510 increased the amount of good time awarded for all education, vocations training and substance abuse treatment programs completed while incarcerated. Credits for program completion would apply to both the minimum and maximum sentences. Lastly, AB 510 provided that certain credits to the sentence of an offender convicted of certain category C, D or E felonies (that do not involve violence, a sexual offense or a DUI) will be deducted from the minimum term imposed by the sentence. Previously, these credits could not be applied to the minimum term imposed, only the maximum.

AB 510 was passed and went into effect on all offenders to be admitted to the NDOC in July 2007. Also, offenders housed within the NDOC at that time were made retroactively eligible for all credits listed in the bill (to July 1, 2000). This caused an immediate and dramatic increase in the number of offenders who were parole eligible reflected in the 2007-2008 data.

#### III. TRENDS IN POPULATION AND CRIME IN NEVADA

Significant Finding: The Nevada population grew at an astonishing rate for over two decades through 2007. The average annual rate of growth from 2000 to 2007 was estimated at 3.8 percent by the U.S. Census. Since 2007, the state's population has grown at a much slower rate (an average annual rate of 1.4 percent from 2007 to 2016 according to the U.S. Census). The Nevada State Demographer projects that the state's population (as well as the subset of the population ages 20-39) will grow at even slower rate, averaging 0.9 percent per year from 2017 to 2027.

Significant Finding: Levels of serious crime in Nevada rose in the first part of the 1990s (average annual increases of 6.8 percent for UCR Part I crimes from 1990 to 1995), fell in the latter part of that decade (average annual decreases of -4.2 percent from 1995 to 1999), and then increased every year from 1999 to 2006 (average annual increases of 5.3 percent). From 2006 through 2011, UCR Part I crimes in Nevada declined each year with an average decrease of -6.7 percent. From 2011 to 2012, UCR Part I crimes in Nevada rose by 10.9 percent, and again by 1.5 percent from 2012 to 2013, before declining by -3.2 percent from 2013 to 2014. From 2014 to 2015, UCR Part I crimes in Nevada rose by 5.0 percent.

Significant Finding: Rates of UCR Part I crimes in Nevada were high and generally rising for the first half of the 1990s – hitting a high in 1994 of any rate observed in the past two decades -and then fell distinctly the latter part of the decade. The UCR Part I crime rate rose from 2001 to 2003, and remained fairly level from 2003 through 2006. From 2006 through 2011, the state's serious crime rate decreased each year at an average rate of -8.3 percent per year. In a distinct departure from that downward trend, the UCR Part I crime rate in Nevada rose 9.4 percent from 2011 to 2012. It was essentially unchanged from 2012 to 2013 before declining by -4.8 percent from 2013 to 2014. From 2014 to 2015, UCR Part I crime rate in Nevada rose by 3.1 percent.

#### A. Population

The U.S. Census Bureau conducts a decennial census and the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program publishes population estimates between censuses. After each decennial census, the Census Bureau examines its estimates and revises them, where necessary. In September 2011, the U.S. Census undertook such a revision, and the new estimates for 2001 to 2009 appear in TABLE 1. The decennial census results for Nevada for 2000 and 2010 are shown in bold in TABLE 1, while the remainder of the column shows the US Census estimates for July 1 of each year. We also present population estimates issued by Nevada's State Demographer (which has not issued estimates since 2014).

For over two decades through 2007, Nevada experienced a phenomenal growth in population and was the nation's fastest-growing state between 2000 and 2010.<sup>1</sup> The state population growth slowed for a couple years, but since 2012, Nevada has been among the top 10 fastest growing states in the country each year.<sup>2</sup> From 2015 to 2016, Nevada was the 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest growing state in the nation.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau Press Release 12/20/2016

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. Press Release 12/21/2011

<sup>[</sup>http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/population/cb11-215.html]<sup>2</sup> Population change and rankings: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016 (NST-EST2016-popchg2010-2016) [http://www.census.gov/data/datasets/2016/demo/popest/state-total.html]

<sup>[</sup>http://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2016/cb16-214.html]

Year	Population Estimates (US Census)	% change	Population Estimates (Nevada State Demographer)	% change
2000	1,998,250*		2,023,378	
2001	2,098,399	5.0%	2,132,498	5.4%
2002	2,173,791	3.6%	2,206,022	3.4%
2003	2,248,850	3.5%	2,296,566	4.1%
2004	2,346,222	4.3%	2,410,768	5.0%
2005	2,432,143	3.7%	2,518,869	4.5%
2006	2,522,658	3.7%	2,623,050	4.1%
2007	2,601,072	3.1%	2,718,337	3.6%
2008	2,653,630	2.0%	2,738,733	0.8%
2009	2,684,665	1.2%	2,711,206	-1.0%
2010	2,700,551*	0.6%	2,724,634	0.5%
2011	2,718,379	0.7%	2,721,794	-0.1%
2012	2,752,565	1.3%	2,750,217	1.0%
2013	2,786,464	1.2%	2,800,967	1.8%
2014	2,833,013	1.7%	2,843,301	1.5%
2015	2,883,758	1.8%	N/A	
2016	2,940,058	2.0%	N/A	
Numeric Change 2006-2016	417,400			
Percent Change 2006-2016	16.5%			
Average Annual Change 2006-2016		1.5%		

TABLE 1: ESTIMATES OF NEVADA'S POPULATION: 2000 -	- 2016
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\* Actual April 1, 2000 and 2010 US Census figures. All other figures are July 1 estimates from the US Census Bureau and the Nevada State Demographer. Note that the US Census Bureau occasionally updates prior year estimates. As such, the estimates shown will sometimes differ from prior year's reports.

Both sets of numbers in Table 1 demonstrate a staggering rate of growth in Nevada's population between 2000 and 2007, with average annual growth estimates of 3.8 and 4.0 percent from the U.S. Census and the Nevada State Demographer, respectively. From 2000 to 2010, Nevada's population increased by over 700,000 people to exceed 2.7 million people in 2010. However, since 2007, the pace of growth has slowed substantially. According to the U.S. Census estimates, from 2007 to 2016, the average annual rate of growth was 1.4 percent, with the increase in Nevada's population from July 2015 to July 2016 estimated at 2.0 percent.

In October 2014, the Nevada State Demographer issued population projections.<sup>4,5</sup> From 2017 to 2027, average annual growth for the total state population is expected to be 0.9 percent; while the projected average annual growth for the population ages 20-39 is also 0.9 percent. (See Figure 1.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The October 2014 report is no longer available on the Nevada State Demographer's website. The October 2013 report of population estimates and projections is still available.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> In March 2015, the Nevada State Demographer issued population projections for 2015 to 2019, with the state population projected to increase at an average annual rate of 1.0 percent over that time frame. As the projection did not cover the same time frame as our prison population projections, we note them only in this footnote.

#### B. Crime

Observing crime rates can provide some anecdotal evidence that allows some insight into state prison admission trends. Observing historical levels of crime can provide some guidance in projecting future admissions to prison. During the 1990s, the level of the most serious violent and property crimes (defined by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports Part I Crime category) in Nevada increased steadily during the first part of the decade, and then displayed a generally decreasing trend during the latter. From 1990 to 1995, the number of UCR Part I crimes in Nevada increased each year, rising at an average annual rate of 6.8 percent. From 1995 to 1999, the number of UCR Part I crimes fell at an average annual rate of -4.2 percent. Serious crime increased each year from 2000 to 2006 at an average of 6.0 percent per year. From 2006 to 2011, UCR Part I crimes in Nevada fell at an average of -6.7 percent per year. Bucking the downward trend, UCR Part I crimes in Nevada rose by 10.9 percent from 2011 to 2012, and by 1.5 percent from 2012 to 2013. From 2013 to 2014, UCR Part I crimes in Nevada dropped by -3.2 percent, before rising by 5.0 percent from 2014 to 2015 (See Figure 2).

It is worth noting that the total number of UCR Part I violent crimes reported are at the highest level observed in at least the past 25 years, with the FBI reporting 20,118 Part I violent crimes in Nevada in 2015.<sup>6</sup> Since the number of UCR Part I property crimes (77,137 reported in Nevada by the FBI in 2015) far outnumber the violent crimes, the general upward trend in serious violent crimes is not readily observed in the overall trends of serious crime in Nevada. The number of serious property crimes in Nevada for each of the past seven years has been below the average of the past 25 years.

The area served by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) has generally exhibited similar changes in crime levels as the state as a whole. This area represents approximately half of the state's population and over half of the state's Part I crime. The area served by the LVMPD experienced a decline in UCR Part I crimes from 1995 to 2000, but posted increases each year from 2000 to 2006. The average annual increase from 2000 to 2006 was 7.9 percent. Like the statewide trend, serious crime in the LVMPD's jurisdiction fell each year from 2006 to 2011 with an average annual decrease of -6.8 percent. From 2011 to 2012, serious crime increased by 11.1 percent in the LVMPD's jurisdiction, and from 2012 to 2013, it increased by 2.3 percent, before falling by -2.9 percent from 2013 to 2014, and then increasing by 6.1 percent from 2014 to 2015. (See Figure 2A). Similar to the state picture, the raw number of serious violent crimes reported in the LVMPD's jurisdiction in 2015 was at its highest level in the past 20 years, while the raw number of serious property crimes reported are below the 20-year average and have been for the past seven years.

### C. Putting Population and Crime Together: Crime Rates

The decline in serious crime in the later part of the 1990's occurred as the state population continued its dramatic increase -- resulting in a distinct shift in crime *rates*. From 1990 to 1997, the UCR Part I crime rate in Nevada remained fairly steady, while from 1997 to 2001, the rate fell significantly at an average annual rate of -8.3 percent. After increases from 2001 to 2003, there was little movement in the overall Part I crime rate from 2003 to 2006. Then, each year from 2006 to 2011, Nevada experienced a sharp decline in its UCR Part I crime rate. The average annual decrease in UCR Part I crime rate from 2006 to 2011 was -8.3 percent. From 2011 to 2012, the UCR Part I crime rate in Nevada rose 9.6 percent, from 2012 to 2013 it was essentially unchanged, and from 2013 to 2014, it fell -4.8 percent. From 2014 to 2015, the UCR Part I crime rate in Nevada rose 3.1 percent. Notably, the Nevada UCR Part I crime rates are among the lowest observed in the past 25 years, as displayed in the following chart.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Uniform Crime Reports, Crime in the United States – 2015, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Table 4.



In the area served by the LVMPD, the crime rate dropped by an average annual rate of -8.2 percent from 1995 to 2001.<sup>7</sup> Like the statewide trends, the large percentage declines in the crime rates for the LVMPD jurisdiction in the late 1990s did not continue as the serious crime rate rose notably from 2001 to 2003. After remaining largely unchanged from 2003 to 2006, the LVMPD crime rate declined each year from 2006 to 2011 dropping at an average annual rate of -8.7 percent. From 2011 to 2012, the UCR Part I crime rate in the LVMPD's jurisdiction rose 9.5 percent, rose a slight 0.8 percent from 2012 to 2013, and declined by -4.8 percent from 2013 to 2014, before rising by 4.0 percent from 2014 to 2015.

### D. Comparison of Nevada and the United States

In the discussion above, the population and crime data are observed in terms of changes over time within Nevada. In TABLE 2, we present Nevada's population and crime data compared to the national levels and trends. TABLE 2 makes clear the striking increases in Nevada's population relative to the national trends over the past decade. From 2006 to 2016, Nevada's population growth (16.5 percent) far outpaced the national population growth (8.4 percent). From 2015 to 2016, the increase in population for Nevada (2.0 percent) still exceeded the rise in the nation's population (0.7 percent).

In terms of crime rates in 2015, Nevada had a notably higher serious *violent* crime rate per 100,000 inhabitants as compared to the nation, while it had a higher but more similar serious *property* crime rate to the nation as a whole. The long term trends in the crime rates for Nevada and the nation over the past 10 years were similar, although Nevada posted a larger ten-year decline than the entire country, with Nevada's serious crime rate dropping -30.7 percent compared to the nationwide decline of -26.7 percent from 2005 to 2015. In the recent term, from 2014 to 2015, Nevada's serious crime rate and the national serious crime rate took different paths with Nevada's increasing by 3.1 percent while the nation saw a decline of -2.6 percent.

In terms of state prison populations, Nevada has seen much larger percentage growth (34.6 percent from 2000 to 2015) than the nation as a whole (6.8 percent) since 2000. After increases each year from 2000 until 2009, the US state prison population has declined each year aside from an uptick in 2013. In Nevada, the state prison population posted increases from 2000 until 2007, followed by decreases from 2008 to 2010, and by increases in the years from 2011 to 2015. From 2005 to 2014, the nationwide state

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The FBI did not show the reported crime for the LV MPD for 1997. For the 1995-2000 average, it was assumed that the 1997 figure was the average of the 1996 and 1998 figures.

prison population grew at an average annual rate of 0.1 percent, while Nevada's prison population grew at an average annual rate of 0.9 percent.<sup>8</sup>

The 2015 state prisoner incarceration rate in Nevada (474.8 per 100,000 residents) exceeded that of the nation (414.6 per 100,000).

#### TABLE 2: COMPARISON BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND NEVADA ON POPULATION, **CRIME AND CORRECTIONS MEASURES**

	United States	Nevada
POPULATION <sup>9</sup>		
Total Population (7/1/16)	323,127,513	2,940,058
Change in Population		
1-year change $(7/1/15 - 7/1/16)$	0.7%	2.0 %
10-year change (7/1/06 – 7/1/16)	8.4%	16.5%
<b>CRIME RATE</b> <sup>10</sup> (Rate per 100,000 inhabitants)		
UCR Part I Reported Crime Rates (2015)		
Total	2,859.6	3,364.2
Violent	372.6	695.9
Property	2,487.0	2,668.3
Change in Total Reported Crime Rate		
1-year change (2014-2015)	-2.6%	3.1%
10-year change (2005-2015)	-26.7%	-30.7%
<b>PRISON POPULATION</b> <sup>11</sup> (State Prisoners Only)		
Total Inmates 2015	1,330,337	13,692
1-year change (2014-2015)	-1.6%	4.6%
10-year change (2005-2015)	-0.6%	13.3%
Average annual change (2005-2014)	0.1%	0.9%
Incarceration Rate (per 100,000 inhabitants) <sup>12</sup>	414.6	474.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Prisoners in 2015, Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin (December 2016). Nevada data provided by the Nevada Department of Corrections is from CY2015. <sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Population estimates for July 1, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Uniform Crime Reports, Crime in the United States – 2015, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Tables 1 and 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Prisoners in 2015, Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin (December 2016). Nevada data provided by the Nevada Department of Corrections is from CY2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Rates were generated by using U.S. Census population estimates from 7/1/2015.

#### IV. INMATE POPULATION LEVELS AND ACCURACY OF THE OCTOBER 2016 PROJECTION

*Significant Finding:* Overall, the October 2016 forecast estimated the Nevada state prison population from January through December 2016 with an extremely high level of accuracy (an average monthly difference in the projected and actual populations of -0.1 percent).

**Significant Finding:** The forecast of the male inmate population very closely estimated the actual population through the 12-month period at an average of 0.0 percent per month, obviously, well within acceptable standards. The largest monthly deviation of the forecast from the actual counts was in April 2016 when the forecast underestimated the actual male population by -0.6 percent.

*Significant Finding:* The forecast of the female population accurately estimated the actual population from January through December 2016, at an average monthly difference of -0.2 percent.

TABLE 3 and Figures 3 and 4 illustrate the accuracy of the October 2016 projections of the male and female inmate populations. The monthly inmate projections are compared with the actual population counts reported by the NDOC.

The October 2016 forecast of the male inmate population for January through December 2016 accurately estimated the actual male inmate population. The average monthly numeric error for the male forecast for January through December 2016 was -6 offenders and the average monthly percent difference was 0.0 percent. (See Figure 3 and TABLE 3.)

Female prison populations are historically more volatile than male populations because of their smaller sizes and facility constraints, and projections are generally less accurate. The October 2016 forecast of the female inmate population accurately estimated the actual female inmate population from January through December 2016. The average monthly numeric error for the female forecast for the 12-month period was -2 offenders and the average monthly percent difference was -0.2 percent. (See Figure 4 and TABLE 3.) The forecast of the female population increasingly underestimated the actual population at the end of 2016, with the forecast underestimating the actual female population by -2.4 percent in December 2016.

	TOTAL INMATE FOI OLATION JANUART - DECEMBER 2010											
		Ma	le		Female					Total		
	Actual	Projected	# Diff	% Diff	Actual	Projected	# Diff	% Diff	Actual	Projected	# Diff	% Diff
2016												
January	12,441	12,427	-14	-0.1%	1,229	1,231	2	0.2%	13,670	13,658	-12	-0.1%
February	12,446	12,458	12	0.1%	1,239	1,239	0	0.0%	13,685	13,697	12	0.1%
March	12,585	12,531	-54	-0.4%	1,242	1,246	4	0.3%	13,827	13,777	-50	-0.4%
April	12,638	12,560	-78	-0.6%	1,257	1,259	2	0.2%	13,895	13,819	-76	-0.5%
May	12,668	12,613	-55	-0.4%	1,270	1,263	-7	-0.6%	13,938	13,876	-62	-0.4%
June	12,718	12,676	-42	-0.3%	1,271	1,268	-3	-0.2%	13,989	13,944	-45	-0.3%
July	12,731	12,722	-9	-0.1%	1,271	1,274	3	0.2%	14,002	13,996	-6	0.0%
August	12,748	12,769	21	0.2%	1,263	1,279	16	1.3%	14,011	14,048	37	0.3%
September	12,751	12,795	44	0.3%	1,270	1,280	10	0.8%	14,021	14,075	54	0.4%
October	12,759	12,818	59	0.5%	1,291	1,285	-6	-0.5%	14,050	14,103	53	0.4%
November	12,790	12,832	42	0.3%	1,304	1,288	-16	-1.2%	14,094	14,120	26	0.2%
December	12,836	12,840	4	0.0%	1,317	1,286	-31	-2.4%	14,153	14,126	-27	-0.2%
Numeric Change												
Jan – Dec 2016	395	413			88	55			483	468		
Average Monthly												
Difference												
Jan – Dec 2016			-6	0.0%			-2	-0.2%			-8	-0.1%

# TABLE 3: ACCURACY OF THE OCTOBER 2016 FORECAST:TOTAL INMATE POPULATION JANUARY - DECEMBER 2016

#### V. INMATE POPULATION TRENDS

#### A. Trends in Admissions

**Significant Finding:** From 2003 to 2006, total male admissions grew significantly at an average annual rate of 7.3 percent. From 2007 to 2010, however, male admissions were either virtually unchanged from the prior year or showed distinct declines. After increasing in 2011, male admissions exhibited further declines in 2012 and 2013, and in 2013 were at their lowest level in the past decade. However, in 2014, male admissions rose by 4.1 percent and rose again by 5.2 percent in 2015 to their highest level since 2007. In 2016, male admissions grew by 0.9 percent.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The male admissions trends of the past two years are driven primarily but the admission of recent parole grants to the to the Parole Housing Unit (PARHU). It is important to note these offenders are granted parole, are recorded as a release and then recorded as an immediate admission in the PARHU. The net effect is an offsetting of the admission count with an equal count for release, altering the resulting trends in both movement types.

Starting in 2015, 68 male offenders who were released to parole and were determined to not have place to live. As a result, these offenders were temporarily housed in an NDOC transitional housing unit that is included in the total prison population count. In 2016, the number of released offenders admitted to this unit increased to 243. If those PARHU admissions are not included in the total admissions counts, then the increase in male admissions in 2015 would be 3.9 percent (instead of 5.2), and in 2016, male admissions would have declined by -2.5% (rather than grow by 0.9 percent).

**Significant Finding:** Male new commitment admissions declined or held steady from 2007 to 2013, changing at an average annual rate of -2.6 percent. In 2014, male new commitment admissions increased by 3.9 percent and further increased by 5.5 percent in 2015. In 2016, male new commitment admissions declined by -2.9 percent.

Significant Finding: After decreasing substantially each year from 2003 through 2008, male parole violator admissions increased at an average annual rate of 17.2 percent from 2008 through 2011. After holding steady in 2012, male parole violator admissions dropped -13.2 percent in 2013, followed by an increase in 2014 and then a decrease in 2015, both of about 5 percent. Male parole violator admissions in 2016 were virtually unchanged from the prior year.

**Significant Finding:** For the past decade, female admissions have been quite erratic. After growing at an average annual rate of 15.3 percent from 2003 to 2006 – rising from 535 females admitted in 2003 to 815 in 2006 – female admissions declined notably for two years and then largely erased those declines with increases over the following two years. After a decline of -6.4 percent in 2011, female admissions grew at an average annual rate of 4.6 percent from 2011 to 2015, and grew again by 3.3 percent in 2016 to 908 female admissions (the highest annual count observed to date). If the female PARHU admissions in 2016 are excluded, then total female admissions actually declined by -1.9 percent in 2016.

TABLE 4 and TABLE 5 present the male and female admissions to prison from 2006 to 2016. The NDOC provided a data file of admissions to prison in 2016. Figures 5 and 6 show the male and female admissions to prison over the past decade, distinguishing the new court commitments from the

parole violators (except for 2007 when only total admissions are shown). In the admissions tables and figures, the Parole Housing Unit admissions are captured in the "Other/Missing" column.

After reaching a high of nearly 6,300 in 2006 and 2007, total admissions to NDOC declined notably over the next two years to approximately 5,800 in 2009. After two years of modest increases followed by two years of slightly larger decreases, total admissions hit 5,617 in 2013 – the lowest level since 2004. In 2014, total admissions posted an increase of 4.6 percent, followed by an increase of 5.2 percent in 2015 (to almost 6,200). In 2016, total admissions grew by 1.2 percent. If the offenders admitted to the Parole Housing Unit are not included in the total admissions counts, then in 2015, total admissions would increase by 4.1 percent (rather than 5.2), and the 2016 total admissions would decline by -2.4% to just under 6,000 (rather than increase by 1.2 percent).

### 1. Males Admitted to Prison

From 2006 to 2016, the average annual change in the number of males admitted to prison for any reason was -0.2 percent.<sup>13</sup> From 2003 to 2006, male admissions to NDOC grew at an average annual rate of 7.3 percent. From 2006 to 2013, the number of male admissions followed a generally downward path, declining at an average annual rate of -1.7 percent. In 2012 and 2013, male admissions were below 5,000 for the first time since 2004. In 2014 and 2015, total male admissions to NDOC increased by approximately 4 percent each year. The 2016 count of male admissions increased by 0.9 percent (or declined -2.5 percent if the PARHU admissions are excluded).

Male new commitment admissions declined at an average annual rate of -3.2 percent from 2007 to 2012. After being almost unchanged in 2013, male new commitment admissions rose by 3.9 percent in 2014 and again by 5.5 percent in 2015. In 2016, male new commitment admissions declined by -2.9 percent. Male parole violator admissions have been quite erratic over the past decade. They increased at an average annual rate of 13.1 percent from 2008 through 2012 (after decreasing at an average annual rate of -10.8 percent from 2003 through 2008). Male parole violator admissions exhibited a sharp decline of -13.2 percent in 2013 before rising by 4.9 percent in 2014, and then falling by -5.1 percent in 2015. In 2016, male parole violator admissions were virtually unchanged compared to 2015.

Note that male new commitment admissions have ranged from 82 to 88 percent of total male admissions to NDOC each year throughout the past decade. In 2016, male new commitment admissions accounted for 81.3 percent of all male admissions.

### 2. Females Admitted to Prison

From 2006 to 2016, the average annual change in the number of females admitted to prison was 1.3 percent. Female admissions fluctuated with alternating increases and decreases every year from 1996 to 2004. Fluctuations have continued. After growing by 20.0 percent from 2005 to 2006, female admissions either declined or held steady from 2006 to 2009 at an average annual rate of -4.0 percent. From 2010 to 2013, female admissions alternately rose (9.2 percent), fell (-6.4 percent) and rose again (5.2 percent). They held fairly steady in 2013, before increasing by 7.9 percent in 2014 and by 5.1 percent in 2015. In 2016, total female admissions increased by 3.3 percent to reach the highest number of female admissions to date (908). However, as highlighted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> In order to calculate average annual percent change for the 10-year time frame, JFA estimated the admissions subcategories for 2007. To do so, JFA utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for 2006 and 2008 (combined), and then applied those proportions to the total admissions in 2007.

above in the IMOPORTANT NOTE, if the PARHU admissions are excluded, total female admissions in 2016 declined by -1.9 percent.

After peaking in 2006, female new commitments declined each year through 2009, then showed an 8.0 percent increase in 2010 that was erased in 2011. Female new commitment admissions have grown at an average annual rate of 4.7 percent from 2011 to 2015. The number of female new commitments in 2015 was 733 – lower only than the peak of female new commitment admissions of 746 observed in 2006. In 2016, female new commitment admissions decreased by - 2.3 percent. Female parole violator admissions either rose or remained the same each year from 2006 to 2012, growing at an average annual rate of 13.9 percent. In a distinct shift, female parole violator admissions declined by -14.6 percent in 2013. That decline has been erased by increases of 12.2 percent and 5.1 percent in 2014 and 2015, respectively. In 2016, female parole violator admissions remained the same as 2015.

Note that female new commitment admissions have ranged from 81 to 92 percent of total female admissions to NDOC each year throughout the past decade. In 2016, female new commitment admissions accounted for 78.9 percent of all female admissions.

Year	New Court Commitments & Probation Violators	Safekeepers	Int. Sanction Probation**	NPR/CC	Total New Commitments <sup>≈</sup>	Discretionary Parole Violators	Mandatory Parole Violators	Total Parole Violators	Other/ Missing	TOTAL
2006	4,389	285		70	4,744	520	213	733		5,477
2007*		247								5,489
2008^	4,318	245		59	4,622	493	44	537	77	5,236
2009	4,118	286		71	4,475	577	6	583	17	5,075
2010	4,089	258		58	4,405	663	1	664	11	5,080
<b>2011</b> <sup>+</sup>	3,897	262	38	70	4,269	723	128	858++	61^^	5,188
<b>2012</b> <sup>+</sup>	3,732	265	8	70	4,081	743	120	863	0	4,944
2013	3,769	220	44	53	4,088	639	110	749	5	4,842
2014	3,804	291	73	79	4,247	658	128	786	7	5,040
2015	4,123	268	28	60	4,481	628	118	746	76##	5,303
2016	4,042	221	9	76	4,350	642	103	745	254##	5,349
Numeric Change 2006–2016	-347	-64		6	-394	122	-110	12		-128
Percent Change 2006–2016	-7.9%	-22.5%		8.6%	-8.3%	23.5%	-51.6%	1.6%		-2.3%
Average Annual Percent Change					0.00/		#	4.00/		
2006-2016	-0.7%	-1.5%		3.4%	-0.8%	2.5%	#	1.0%		-0.2%
Percent Change 2015–2016	-2.0%	-17.5%	-67.9%	26.7%	-2.9%	2.2%	-12.7%	-0.1%		0.9%

#### TABLE 4: HISTORICAL ADMISSIONS TO PRISON BY ADMISSION TYPE: MALES: 2006 –2016

NOTE: The admissions data shown for 2008 to present are from the NDOC admissions data file. Prior to 2007, this table was populated by counts from NDOC reports.

\* NDOC monthly reports were unavailable for 2007, so the admissions data shown for 2007 is from the NDOC admissions data file. The admissions data file for 2007 provided unreliable data for admissions by type. As a result, only the safekeeper and total admissions populations are presented for 2007. In order to calculate average annual percent change for the 10-year time frame, JFA estimated the admissions subcategories for 2007. To do so, JFA utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for 2006 and 2008 (combined), and then applied those proportions to the total admissions in 2007.

<sup>^</sup> The 2008 admissions datafile did not contain admissions by type for July and August. JFA utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for the 10 months of 2008 for which the data were available and applied those proportions to the total admissions for July and August to obtain estimated subcategory counts for July and August.

<sup>+</sup> The admissions data shown for 2011 and 2012 have been updated to reflect data from an NDOC report provided to JFA in March 2013. Changes to the counts are mostly minor, but due to differences in how small populations of admitted offenders are categorized, past data is not fully comparable with data from 2011 and beyond. Prior years' data has not been re-categorized.

\*\* Prior to the March 2013 data update, the Intermediate Sanction Probation admissions had been included in the New Commitment & Probation Violator column.

<sup>\*</sup> The following admissions are included in the Total New Commitments column for the year indicated; these small numbers of admissions are not shown in a separate column:

2011: 2 Intermediate Sanction Parole admissions

2012: 5 Interstate Compact admissions and 1 PRC admission

2013: 2 PRC admissions

2015: 2 PRC admissions

2016: 2 PRC admissions

<sup>++</sup> Includes 7 SafeKeeper Misdemeanor admissions not shown in a separate column.

<sup>AA</sup> The 61 admissions shown in the Other/Missing column for 2011 were for the PRIDE program.

<sup>#</sup> The drop in mandatory parole violators down to 1 in 2010, followed by an increase to 128 in 2011 (which is an increase of 12700%) generates a misleading result for the average annual change in mandatory parole violators over the past 10 years (1240%).

<sup>##</sup> Prisoners admitted to the Parole Housing Unit (PARHU) after release to parole are shown in the Other/Missing column. The 68 offenders admitted to PARHU in 2015 were moved to the Other/Missing column (they had been counted with Discretionary Parole Violators). In 2016, 243 offenders were admitted to PARHU.

Year	New Court Commitments & Probation Violators	Safekeepers	NPR/CC	Total New Commitments <sup>≈</sup>	Discretionary Parole Violators	Mandatory Parole Violators	Total Parole Violators	Other/ Missing	TOTAL
2006	734	1	11	746	46	23	69	0	815
2007*		0							792
2008^	615	3	3	621	72	3	75	21	708
2009	603	2	6	611	104	2	106	2	719
2010	646	5	9	660	117	1	118	7	785
<b>2011</b> <sup>+</sup>	605	0	5	611	108	9	118++	6^^	735
<b>2012</b> <sup>+</sup>	623	2	3	629 <sup>≈≈</sup>	138	6	144	0	773
2013	644	2	5	651	114	9	123	1	775
2014	685	4	8	697	123	15	138	1	836
2015	723	1	9	733	139	6	145	1	879
2016	707	1	8	716	143	2	145	47##	908
Numeric Change 2006–2016	-27	0	-3	-30	97	-21	76		93
Percent Change 2006–2016	-3.7%	0.0%	-27.3%	-4.0%	210.9%	-91.3%	110.1%		11.4%
Average Annual Percent Change 2006–2016	-0.2%		10.1%	-0.2%	13.4%	55.4%	8.6%		1.3%
Percent Change 2015–2016	-2.2%	0.0%	-11.1%	-2.3%	2.9%	-66.7%	0.0%		3.3%

#### TABLE 5: HISTORICAL ADMISSIONS TO PRISON BY ADMISSION TYPE: FEMALES: 2006 – 2016

NOTE: The admissions data shown for 2008 to present are from the NDOC admissions data file. Prior to 2007, this table was populated by counts from NDOC reports.

\* NDOC monthly reports were unavailable for 2007, so the admissions data shown for 2007 is from the NDOC admissions data file. The admissions data file for 2007 provided unreliable data for admissions by type. As a result, only the safekeeper and total admissions populations are presented for 2007. In order to calculate average annual percent change for the 10-year time frame, JFA estimated the admissions subcategories for 2007. To do so, JFA utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for 2006 and 2008 (combined), and then applied those proportions to the total admissions in 2007.

The 2008 admissions datafile did not contain admissions by type for July and August. JFA utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for the 10 months of 2008 for which the data were available and applied those proportions to the total admissions for July and August to obtain estimated subcategory counts for July and August.

<sup>+</sup> The admissions data shown for 2011 and 2012 have been updated to reflect data from an NDOC report provided to JFA in March 2013. Changes to the counts are mostly minor, but due to differences in how small populations of admitted offenders are categorized, past data is not fully comparable with data from 2011 and beyond. Prior years' data has not been re-categorized.

<sup>\*</sup> The following admissions are included in the Total New Commitments column for the year indicated; these small numbers of admissions are not shown in a separate column:

2011: 1 Intermediate Sanction Probation admission

2012: 1 Interstate Compact admission

<sup>++</sup> Includes 1 SafeKeeper Misdemeanor admission not shown in a separate column.

<sup>AA</sup> The 6 admissions shown in the Other/Missing column for 2011 were for the PRIDE program.

## Prisoners admitted to the Parole Housing Unit (PARHU) after release to parole are shown in the Other/Missing column. In 2016, 46 offenders were admitted to PARHU.

#### **B.** Trends in Parole Release Rates

*Significant Finding:* In 2016, overall discretionary release rates for male and female offenders declined as compared to 2015, while overall mandatory release rates went up for male and female offenders. The overall release rate in 2016 was 51.2 – the lowest rate since 2008.

*Significant Finding:* Overall discretionary release rates for 2016 fell to 48.6 (from 53.5 in 2015). Both the male and female discretionary release rates dropped by -4.8 and -4.7 percentage points, respectively, compared to 2015.

*Significant Finding:* Overall mandatory release rates for 2016 rose slightly from 2015. The male mandatory release rate rose by 0.7 percentage points, while the female mandatory release rate increased by 2.2 percentage points.

TABLE 6 compares parole release rates from 2006 through 2016 by type of parole hearing.

TABLE 7 and TABLE 8 present the parole release rate characteristics for male and female inmates in 2016. Figures 7 and 8 present recent parole release rate data: Figure 7 shows the overall release rates from 2010 to 2016 by type of hearing while Figure 8 presents the data from 2013 to 2016 disaggregated by gender. Since 1999, JFA has generated release rate statistics disaggregated by gender. The simulation model utilizes these gender-based release rates. For discretionary release hearings, the release rates for female offenders are higher than for male offenders. The rates for mandatory release hearings used to be fairly similar for males and females, but have become consistently higher for females as well.

Release rates issued in the report are actually release rates rather than grant rates. If an offender is temporarily granted parole and then it is rescinded before an offender is released or if an offender is not heard within 30 days of their minimum eligibility date, it is counted in JFA's statistics as a denial. Parole board statistics would label this as a grant and then a denial in the former case or a grant in the latter case. To avoid confusion, all rates presented in this report are labeled release rates rather than grant rates.

- For male inmates in 2016, the total discretionary release rate ranged from 40.5 for B felons to 67.3 for E felons. The 2016 discretionary release rates for males are lower than those observed in 2015 for all felony categories, except for A felons.
- From 2004 to 2007, the overall male discretionary release rate hovered around 47 to 48. In 2008, the male discretionary release rate fell to 43.5, before jumping to 51.3 in 2009, and to 60.4 in 2010. Since then, they have declined each year, hitting 44.9 in 2016.
- For female inmates in 2016, the total discretionary release rates ranged from 65.0 for A felons to 90.7 for E felons. Female inmates experienced lower discretionary release rates in 2016 in every felony level, except for the small group of A Felons, as compared to 2015.
- In 2005, the total discretionary release rate for female offenders was 57.2 percent (the lowest it had been in the prior five years). The female discretionary release rate jumped to 68.9 in 2006. After dipping in 2007, female discretionary release rate rose markedly each year to reach 84.8 in 2010. The female discretionary release rate bounced around in the upper 70s from 2012 to 2015 before falling to 72.1 in 2016.

- The mandatory parole release rate for male offenders in 2016 was 54.7 percent, up slightly from 54.0 percent in 2015. The mandatory parole release rate for male offenders had declined each year from 2009 to 2014. The mandatory parole release rate for female offenders in 2016 was 76.3, up from 74.1 in 2015. The mandatory parole release rate for female offenders hit 73.6 2013 -- its lowest level since 2005.
- The total discretionary release rate for males and females together was in the high-40/low-50 range from 2003 to 2007. The total discretionary release rate fell to 46.3 in 2008, and then shot up to 63.1 in 2010 the highest level observed in the past decade. Aside from a slight uptick in 2014, the total discretionary release rate has declined each year, dropping to 48.6 in 2016.
- The mandatory release rate for males and females combined was around 60 for 2003 to 2005, before jumping to around 70 for 2006 and 2007. In 2008, the mandatory release rate dropped significantly to 55.6, and then it rebounded to 69.2 in 2009. From 2009 to 2015, the mandatory release rate has declined each year, hitting 56.0 in 2015. In 2016, the mandatory release rate edged up slightly to 56.6 in 2016. (See Figures 7 and 8.)

	Discretionary	Mandatory	Total
	Release Rate	Release Rate	Release Rate
Males			
2006	48.5	69.4	54.7
2007	47.9	70.0	52.2
2008	43.5	53.0	46.8
2009	51.3	66.9	55.3
2010	60.4	64.4	61.4
2011	59.7	62.7	60.5
2012	55.6	59.8	56.8
2013	52.6	57.2	54.0
2014	52.3	54.6	53.0
2015	49.7	54.0	51.1
2016	44.9	54.7	48.2
Females			
2006	68.9	84.1	73.4
2007	63.1	76.4	65.0
2008	67.2	78.4	70.7
2009	75.9	88.0	78.7
2010	84.8	81.6	84.0
2011	84.3	82.8	84.0
2012	79.9	82.4	80.4
2013	77.4	73.6	76.5
2014	79.4	79.7	79.5
2015	76.8	74.1	76.2
2016	72.1	76.3	73.1
Total			
2006	50.9	71.1	56.9
2007	50.0	70.6	53.9
2008	46.3	55.6	49.5
2009	54.4	69.2	58.2
2010	63.1	65.9	63.9
2011	62.7	64.2	63.1
2012	58.7	61.7	59.5
2013	55.7	58.7	56.6
2014	55.9	57.0	56.2
2015	53.5	56.0	54.3
2016	48.6	56.6	51.2

## TABLE 6: PAROLE RELEASE RATES 2006 –2016

Offender		Discretio	nary Parole Relea	ase Rates		Total Discretionary	*Average Wait Time (months) to	Total Mandatory	Total Parole
Category	Hearing #1	Hearing #2	Hearing #3	Hearing #4	Hearing #5	Parole Release Rate	Discretionary Release Hearing	Parole Release Rate	Release Rate
A Felons	38.9	43.8	50.7	53.4	47.3	45.5	28.0	43.9	45.4
<b>B</b> Felons	35.8	44.9	58.0	62.3	68.5	40.5	13.9	54.6	46.0
C Felons	43.0	64.7	(0/3) = 0.0	N/A	N/A	44.1	12.0	53.0	47.3
D Felons	45.7	50.0	(2/2) = 100.0	N/A	N/A	46.0	12.0	54.1	48.4
E Felons	67.5	(1/2) = 50.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	67.3	12.0	57.4	65.3
TOTAL	42.7	47.5	55.1	57.7	52.9	44.9	15.0	54.7	48.2

#### TABLE 7: INMATE PAROLE RELEASE HEARINGS HELD: MALES 2016

### TABLE 8: INMATE PAROLE RELEASE HEARINGS HELD: FEMALES 2016

Offender		Discretionary Parole Release Rates				Total Discretionary	*Average Wait Time (months) to	Total Mandatory	Total Parole
Category	Hearing #1	Hearing #2	Hearing #3	Hearing #4	Hearing #4 Hearing #5		Discretionary Release Hearing	Parole Release Rate	Release Rate
A Felons	60.0	(2/3) = 66.7	(1/1) = 100.0	(2/3) = 66.7	(2/3) = 66.7	65.0	(n=7) 34.5	N/A	65.0
B Felons	65.3	64.7	80.0	N/A	(1/1) = 100.0	66.0	12.4	79.6	70.4
C Felons	66.5	(6/9) = 66.7	(1/1) = 100.0	N/A	N/A	66.7	12.0	61.7	65.6
D Felons	90.3	(3/3) = 100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	78.1	12.0	73.9	77.5
E Felons	90.3	(3/3) = 100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	90.7	(n=7) 12.0	(8/8) = 100.0	91.6
TOTAL	72.1	69.6	84.6	(2/3) = 66.7	(3/4) = 75.0	72.1	13.1	76.3	73.1

\* Many of the cases in the parole hearing data file were missing a next hearing entry, and so the calculation of the "Average Wait Time (months) to Discretionary Release Hearing" is based on an unusually small number of cases.

#### C. Trends in the Prison Inmate Population

*Significant Finding:* From year-end 2015 to 2016, the Nevada State prison population rose by 461 offenders, or 3.4 percent, to 14,153 – the highest month-end total for the Nevada State prison population up to that point.

Significant Finding: Looking at the Nevada State prison population over the past decade or so, the Nevada prison population exhibited modest growth in 2001 and 2002, followed by stronger growth from year-end 2002 to 2006 (posting average annual increases of 6.0 percent). In 2007 through 2014, the population declined or posted relatively small increases. The 4.6 percent increase in the Nevada State prison population from 2014 to 2015 was the largest observed since 2006. In 2016, the prison population grew by 3.4 percent.

*Significant Finding:* From year-end 2015 to 2016, the male prison population grew by 3.0 percent, while the female prison population increased by 7.4 percent.

**Error! Reference source not found.** and Figure 9 present the year-end inmate populations for male and female inmates from 2006 to 2016.

- The male prison population increased by 833 offenders from end of year 2006 to 2016 a total increase of 6.9 percent with an average increase of 0.7 percent per year. From year-end 2015 to 2016, the male inmate population increased by 370 offenders, or 3.0 percent, for a total of 12,836 male inmates.
- The female prison population increased by 134 offenders from end of year 2006 to 2016 a total increase of 11.3 percent with an average increase of 1.2 percent per year. From year-end 2015 to 2016, the female confined population increased by 91 offenders, or 7.4 percent, for a total of 1,317 female inmates.
- Females made up 9.3 percent of the state prison population at the end of 2016. In the past decade, the percentage of the prison population that is female has ranged from 7.6 to 9.0 percent.
- When looking at the changes in the population over the past decade or so, the population grew rapidly from year-end 2002 to 2006 before showing a mix of much slower growth and declines through year-end 2014, and then growing notably again in the past two years. The male population grew at an average annual rate of 5.7 percent from year-end 2002 to 2006. After growing by 2.0 percent from 2006 to 2007, the male population declined or posted modest increases in 2007 through 2014 declining at an average annual rate of -0.3 percent. The increase of 4.2 percent from 2014 to 2015 is a sharp departure from the trends observed through much of the past decade, and that upward trend continued in 2016, with the male population increasing 3.0 percent.
- The female population has shown greater fluctuation: the average annual rate of change was 13.3 percent from year-end 2003 to 2006, and -6.1 percent from year-end 2006 to 2009. In 2010 and 2011, the female population continued to decline, but at a slower pace. From year-end 2011 to 2016, the female population grew at a steady and significant rate -- an average annual rate of 6.4 percent, including a 7.4 percent increase in the female population in 2016.

11101			2010
Year	Male Population	Female Population	Total Population
2006	12,003	1,183	13,186
2007	12,245	1,096	13,341
2008	12,223	1,042	13,265
2009	11,911	980	12,891
2010	11,790	979	12,769
2011	11,811	967	12,778
2012	11,845	1,038	12,883
2013	11,963	1,091	13,054
2014	11,961	1,130	13,091
2015	12,466	1,226	13,692
2016	12,836	1,317	14,153
Numeric Change			
2006–2016	833	134	967
Percent Change			
2006–2016	6.9%	11.3%	7.3%
Average Annual			
Percent Change			
2006–2016	0.7%	1.2%	0.7%
Percent Change			
2015-2016	3.0%	7.4%	3.4%

 TABLE 9: HISTORICAL INMATE POPULATION: 2006 – 2016

Numbers represent end of calendar year figures.

#### D. Trends in Length of Stay

*Significant Finding:* The overall average length of stay for male and female inmates paroled in 2016 was higher compared to the past three years.

*Significant Finding:* For males and females discharged from prison, their average length of stay in 2016 was virtually the same as 2015, which was distinctly shorter than lengths of stay for offenders discharged in 2013 and 2014.

**Important Note:** The average length of stay calculations have been modified from past reports. Starting in the April 2016 report, offenders sentenced to Life With Parole are included in the analysis in their appropriate felony categories. In addition, parole violators with no new convictions have been excluded from the length of stay analysis. Results presented in the tables for prior years have been re-analyzed and updated using the new criteria, and will not be comparable to results presented in reports prior to April 2016. Finally, offenders released from the Parole Housing Unit are excluded from the analysis.

**Important Note:** While Tables 10 and 11 display the average length of stay for inmates in the various felony categories by release type, it is important to note that the proportion of inmates who are released in the various felony categories changes from year to year, and thus the overall average lengths of stay are influenced by those changing proportions.

**Error! Reference source not found.** and **Error! Reference source not found.** present the average length of stay for male and female inmates by felony category and release type (parole or discharge) for 2013 to 2016.

- The average length of stay for males released to parole (excluding the relatively small population of A felons) increased slightly from 23.8 months in 2013 to 24.0 months in 2014. In 2015, the average length of stay for males released to parole (excluding A felons) declined to 22.8 months, before rebounding to 24.5 months in 2016.
- The average length of stay for females released to parole (excluding the very small number of A felons) was 13.0 months in 2013, jumping to 14.5 months in 2014. In 2015, the average length of stay for females released to parole (excluding A felons) declined slightly to 14.0 months, before rising to 15.0 months in 2016.
- The average length of stay for males discharged from prison (excluding the relatively small population of A felons) has been on a downward path for the past several years: from 29.3 months in 2013 to 28.8 months in 2014 to 26.8 months in 2015. In 2016, the average length of stay for males discharged from prison (26.9 months) was virtually unchanged from 2015.
- The average length of stay for female inmates discharged from prison (excluding the very small number of A felons) was 21.6 months in 2013, before increasing to 23.9 months in 2014. In 2015, the average length of stay for female inmates discharged from prison (excluding A felons) fell sharply to 19.7 months. In 2016, the average length of stay for females discharged from prison (19.8 months) was virtually unchanged from 2015.

Offender	LENGTH OF STAY (months)										
Category	2	2013	2014 201		)15	2016					
	Parole	Discharge	Parole	Discharge	Parole	Discharge	Parole	Discharge			
A Felons	150.6	49.8	117.4	42.3	141.3	56.2	145.0	81.5			
B Felons	29.6	32.7	29.9	32.4	32.7	32.3	37.5	35.6			
C Felons	9.8	18.9	9.5	18.6	8.8	15.9	10.1	17.1			
D Felons	7.7	15.7	7.7	16.9	7.0	12.2	8.3	14.4			
E Felons	5.6	11.5	6.7	12.5	5.7	10.2	7.4	13.4			
TOTAL	30.2	30.3	27.8	29.5	27.2	28.0	30.7	28.5			
TOTAL											
(No A Felons)	23.8	29.3	24.0	28.8	22.8	26.8	24.5	26.9			

## TABLE 10: AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR MALEINMATES BY RELEASE TYPE: 2013-2016

## TABLE 11: AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR FEMALEINMATES BY RELEASE TYPE: 2013-2016

Offender	LENGTH OF STAY (months)									
Category	2	013	2014		2015		2016			
	Parole	Discharge	Parole	Discharge	Parole	Discharge	Parole	Discharge		
A Folong	175.0	14.6	88.5	210.6	153.0	19.5	109.8	55.3		
A reions	(n=4)	(n=1)	(n=7)	(n=1)	(n=3)	(n=1)		(n=2)		
B Felons	18.8	25.3	20.6	27.8	22.2	23.7	24.9	27.3		
C Felons	7.4	14.6	8.5	14.1	7.2	15.6	8.8	15.0		
D Felons	6.5	13.0	6.1	14.0	6.0	13.3	7.7	13.5		
E Felons	5.4	11.1 (n=7)	5.2	8.9 (n=4)	5.4	11.8 (n=9)	7.4	12.5		
TOTAL	14.4	21.6	15.4	25.5	14.7	19.7	17.0	20.3		
TOTAL										
(No A Felons)	13.0	21.6	14.5	23.9	14.0	19.7	15.0	19.8		

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT TABLES 10 & 11: If comparing these tables to previous versions of this report, please note that offenders sentenced to Life With Parole are now included in the analysis in their appropriate Felony Category. The very small number of offenders with a Life or Death sentence who are released continue to be excluded from these tables. Safekeepers discharged from prison also continue to be excluded from these tables. Prior year data has been re-analyzed using the same criteria listed above so that the results are comparable across the years shown. These tables, however, are not comparable to the ones in reports issued prior to April 2016. Offenders released from the Parole Housing Unit are excluded from these tables.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL: AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR PAROLE VIOLATORS: 2013-2016

Donala Vialatana	LENGTH OF STAY (months)						
Parole violators	2013	2014	2015	2016			
PVs: No new offense	7.1	8.0	9.6	10.7			
PVs: With new offense	17.6	28.0	23.0	24.6			

The table above presents the results of a separate analysis of the average length of stay of parole violators released over the past several years. For parole violators with no new offense, their average length of stay has displayed a steady upward trend from 7.1 months in 2013 to 10.7 months in 2016. For the small number of parole violators with a new offense, their average length of stay has been more erratic with alternating increases and decreases over the past few years.

### VI. KEY POPULATION PROJECTION ASSUMPTIONS

The inmate population projections contained in this report were completed using the Wizard 2000 simulation model. The model simulates the movements of inmates through the prison system based on known and assumed policies affecting both the volume of admissions into the system and the lengths of stay for inmates who are housed in prison. It simulates the movements of individual cases, by felony class subgroup, and projects each separately. Males and females, as well as inmates sentenced under different sentencing policies, move through the system differently. The forecast presented in this document was produced using the CY 2016 data presented in this report.

The list below summarizes the key additional assumptions not inherently reflected in the CY 2016 data.

#### A. Future Release Rates:

Future discretionary release rates will reflect what was observed in 2016 (44.9 for males and 72.1 for females). Future mandatory parole release rates will be consistent with release rates associated with hearings held in 2016. During that time frame, the mandatory release rate for males was 54.7 and the female rate was 76.3.

For the baseline projections presented in this document, probabilities of parole release are assumed to be the same as those observed in 2016. The release rates associated with each gender and felony class subgroup, for each of five hearings, are assumed to remain unchanged over the forecast horizon. As noted earlier in the report, these assumed release rates are lower than what was observed over the past several years.

The overall discretionary release rate for male inmates decreased notably from 49.7 in 2015 to 44.9 in 2016, with declines observed for males in all but the A felony level. Overall male mandatory releases rose slightly in 2016 to 54.7 as compared to 54.0 in 2015. Overall female discretionary rates also dropped notably from 76.8 in 2015 to 72.1 in the first half of 2016, including declines for females in all but the A felony level. Overall female mandatory rates were up from 74.1 in 2015 to 76.3 in 2016.

It is assumed that parole grant rates will maintain the levels observed in 2016 throughout the forecast horizon.

#### **B.** Future Admissions Composition:

## The composition of future new commitment admissions is assumed to be the same as the composition of new commitment admissions during 2016.

Projections in this report are based on admission and release data provided to JFA Associates by the NDOC for 2016. Future admissions are assumed to "look like" these admissions in terms of the proportion of admitting charges, sentences received, jail credit days earned, good time credit awards, and serving times to parole eligibility. (See **Error! Reference source not found.** and **Error! Reference source not found.**.)

The composition of new commitment admissions has shifted notably in the past few years. This trend first emerged in 2014, continued in 2015, and leveled off in 2016. As we noted in this section of the February 2015 JFA report: "For both the males and females, we see a slightly lower percentage of new commitment admissions in 2014 who are A and B felons and a correspondingly higher percentage of C and D felons, as compared to 2013." The same shift occurred in 2015 but to a larger degree: the percentage of new commitment admissions who are A and B felons dropped significantly for males and females with corresponding increases in the percentage of C, D, and E felons. Again, the composition of new commitment admissions by felony level in 2016 looked very similar to 2015. These trends are illustrated in the following charts.





The trends can be seen more plainly when one looks at A & B felons jointly and comparing them to C, D and E felons jointly. The tables below illustrate the changing trends. In 2012 and 2013, the percentage of male new commitment admissions that were A or B felons was nearing 75 percent; in 2015 and 2016, it was just over 50 percent. For females in 2012 and 2013, A and B felons represented approximately 55 percent of total female new commitment admissions; in 2015 and 2016, that had dropped closer to 45 percent.





The following analysis focuses on 2014 to 2015 as the largest shifts occurred between those years. As noted above, the profile of new commitment admissions in 2016 was fairly similar to 2015, demonstrating a leveling off of the changes.

A comparison of the count of new commitment B felons in 2014 and 2015 also demonstrates the shift. In 2014, there were 2,405 male new commitments in the B felony level; in 2015, even though the total male new commitment admissions increased by over 300 (an increase of 7.8 percent), the number of B felon new commitments declined to 2,060 (a decrease of -14.3 percent). The same general result was observed among female new commitments in 2014 and 2015.

This shift toward more offenders in lower felony levels, however, does not necessarily indicate a decline in the severity of the offenses of those being newly admitted. Further analysis of data provided by NDOC shows the shift is due in part to more A and B felons being assigned to a lower felony level than the default felony level associated with their offense. A comparison of the percentage of offenders who were assigned to a lower felony level than their default felony level in 2014 and 2015 illustrates the change:

- In 2014, among male new commitments with a default felony level of A, 26.3 percent were assigned a lower felony level. In 2015, among male new commitments with a default felony level of A, 53.9 percent were assigned a lower felony level.
- In 2014, among male new commitments with a default felony level of B, 9.2 percent were assigned a lower felony level. In 2015, among male new commitments with a default felony level of B, 16.3 percent were assigned a lower felony level.
- In 2014, among female new commitments with a default felony level of B, 13.0 percent were assigned a lower felony level. In 2015, among female new commitments with a default felony level of B, 22.2 percent were assigned a lower felony level.

This shift in the assignment of felony levels also appears to have affected the sentence lengths of those remaining in each felony level. Presumably, the offenders with less serious offenses (and thus shorter sentences) are the ones more likely to be assigned a lower felony level. Taking away more of the less serious offenders from a felony level would result in a higher average sentence among those that remain. This has been observed in 2015 and is displayed in TABLES 13-15.

The average maximum and minimum sentences for male new commitments in felony levels A and B in 2015 were far higher than in 2014. Male new commitment B felons saw an increase in their average maximum sentence from 86.1 months in 2014 to 100.7 months in 2015 and an increase in average minimum sentence from 32.4 months in 2014 to 38.2 months in 2015. (Error! Reference source not found. and Error! Reference source not found. and FIGURE 10.)

A similar result appears in an analysis of the female new commitments. The average maximum sentence for female new commitments in felony level B in 2015 was notably higher than in 2014. Female new commitment B felons saw an increase in their average maximum sentence from 74.5 months in 2014 to 84.1 months in 2015. The average minimum sentence for female new commitments rose from 27.5 months in 2014 to 30.8 months in 2015. (Error! Reference source not found. and Error! Reference source not found. and FIGURE 11).

Although it appears there is a trend to assign lower felony levels for certain crimes, sentences for male new commitments were higher overall. Among male new commitments, the overall average maximum sentence in 2014 was 90.9 months while in 2015, it was 94.3 months; their overall minimum sentence in 2014 was 31.5 months, while in 2015, it was 42.9 months.

Among female new commitments, the overall average maximum sentence in 2014 was 66.1 months while in 2015, it was lower: 64.7 months; their overall minimum sentence in 2014 was 21.9 months, while in 2015, it was up slightly to 23.2 months.

It should be noted that minimum average sentences for both male and female new commitments in felony levels C, D and E remained at similar levels over the past few years. Unlike A and B felons, offenders in felony levels C, D and E (excluding sex and violent crimes) are eligible for monthly goodtime earning credits to be applied to reduce time to discretionary parole eligibility. Thus, the trend of the past two years toward a lower assigned felony level for some A and B felons to C, D and E levels has had an overall neutral/slightly downward impact on the prison population.

It is assumed that the composition, felony level assignment and sentences of new commitments by gender will remain as observed in 2016 throughout the forecast horizon.

#### C. Future Parole Revocation Rates: We assume that both male and female parole violators will grow slightly over levels observed in 2016 over the forecast horizon.

After hovering around 1,000 for the first part of the 2000s, the number of parole violators admitted to NDOC declined by approximately -8 percent each year from 2004 to 2006 to hit 802. (See **Error! Reference source not found.**.) Then from 2006 to 2008, parole violator admissions declined by -23.7 percent. The decrease in parole violations was a result of AB 510 which shortened the time on parole for most offenders. With less time on parole, there is less opportunity for revocation. After 2008, the number of parole violators returned to prison increased substantially until 2012 when the number admitted to NDOC was again around 1,000. After a decline of -13.4 percent in 2013, parole violator returns increased by 6.0 percent in 2014, followed by a decline of -3.6 percent in 2015. In 2016, parole violator admissions were virtually unchanged from 2015 (See **Error! Reference source not found.**.)

It is assumed that as the prison population is forecasted to grow over the ten-year period, the number of violators returned from parole will also continue to increase at the current revocation rate. Both male and female parole violators returned to prison are assumed to increase at the same rate as new commitments, by 0.4 percent per year.

Year	Total Parole	Percent Change
	Violators	_
2000	1,006	
2001	972	-3.4
2002	1,021	+5.0
2003	1,048	+2.6
2004	961	-8.3
2005	885	-7.9
2006	802	-9.4
2007*		
2008**	612	-23.7
		(change from 2006)
2009	689	+12.6
2010	782	+13.5
2011^	976	+24.8
2012^	1,007	+3.2
2013	872	-13.4
2014	924	+6.0
2015	891#	-3.6
2016	890	-0.1

#### TABLE 12: PAROLE VIOLATORS ADMITTED BY YEAR: 2000-2016

Prior to 2007, this table utilized counts from the NDOC monthly reports. After 2008, this table was populated using counts from the NDOC admissions datafiles.

\* The admissions data file for 2007 from NDOC provided unreliable data for admissions by type, so the parole violator admissions could not be established.

\*\* The admissions data file for 2008 did not contain admissions by type for July and August 2008. JFA utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for the 10 months of 2008 for which the data were available and applied those proportions to the total admissions for July and August to obtain estimated subcategory counts for July and August.

^ 2011 and 2012 counts were updated using NDOC monthly reports provided in March 2013.

<sup>#</sup> In 2015, 68 offenders admitted to the Parole Housing Unit (PARHU) after release to parole had been included in the count of parole violators in the April 2016 report. Those 68 have been removed from the 2015 count shown above.

#### **D. Future Admissions Counts:**

# Male and female new commitment admissions are projected to increase slightly (0.7%) every year through the year 2027.

Male new commitment admissions increased each year from 2002 to 2006, at an average annual rate of 8.9 percent. JFA does not know the count of male new commitments in 2007, but male new commitment admissions declined approximately<sup>14</sup> -2.6 percent from 2006 to 2008. Male new commitment admissions continued a fairly steady decline from 2008 to 2012, falling at an average annual rate of -3.1 percent. In 2013, male new admissions were largely unchanged. In 2014, male new commitment admissions increased by 3.9 percent, followed by an increase of 5.5 percent in 2015. In 2016, male new commitment admissions declined by -2.9 percent.

Over the past two decades, female new commitment admissions have fluctuated widely with several years of increases and decreases of varying magnitudes. From 2004 to 2006, female new commitments grew at an average annual rate of 14.7 percent. Again, JFA does not know the count of female new commitments in 2007, but female new commitment admissions declined approximately -16.8 percent from 2006 to 2008, and dropped by another -1.6 percent in 2009. Altering course, the female new commitment admissions grew by 8.0 percent in 2010, before declining by -7.4 percent in 2011. From 2011 to 2015, female new court commitments increased at an average annual rate of 4.7 percent. In 2016, female new commitment admissions declined by -2.3 percent.

With the stabilization of both male and female new court commitments in 2016, it is assumed that future new court commitments will grow the average rate of growth observed in the most recent four-year period (0.7% per year). For this iteration of the forecast report, we have added total admissions to the table to highlight the impact of the admitted populations that are not new commitments. As noted earlier in the report, for both male and female admissions, the portion of annual admissions that are new commitments dropped to their lowest levels in well over a decade. The proportion of male admissions that were new commitments in 2016 dropped to 81.3 percent of total male admissions, while female new commitments comprised 78.9 percent of total female admissions in 2016.

Of particular note is the jump in the number of admissions to the Parole Housing Unit (PARHU) which skews the overall admissions trends. Again, as noted earlier, male total admissions increased by 0.9 percent in 2016 as compared to 2015, unless one excludes the "admissions" to PARHU in which case total male admissions would have declined by -2.5 percent. Similarly, female total admissions increased by 3.3 percent in 2016 as compared to 2015, unless one excludes the "admissions" to PARHU in which case total male admissions would have declined by -2.5 percent. Similarly, female total admissions" to PARHU in which case total female admissions would have declined by -1.9 percent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Again, since the admissions datafile for 2008 did not contain admissions by type for July and August 2008. JFA utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for the 10 months of 2008 for which the data were available and applied those proportions to the total admissions for July and August to obtain estimated subcategory counts for July and August. Thus, the full count of new commitments for 2008 is an estimate.

Offender	Number	Percent	Average	Average Jail	Average	Average
Felony	Admitted	Admitted	Good Time	Time (Days)	Maximum	Minimum
Category			Days Per		Sentence	Sentence
			Month		(Months)	(Months)
A Felons	192	5.0%	28.0	1,118.9	478.9	148.6
B Felons	2,405	62.1%	29.3	235.7	86.1	32.4
C Felons	765	19.7%	28.8	152.7	44.8	11.8
D Felons	374	9.7%	29.0	119.7	38.2	8.9
E Felons	139	3.6%	29.8	159.1	37.4	8.3
Subtotal	3,875	100.0%				
Missing	8					
Total	3,883					

## TABLE 13: NEW COURT COMMITMENT ADMISSIONCHARACTERISTICS BY CATEGORY: MALES: 2014^

#### TABLE 14: NEW COURT COMMITMENT ADMISSION CHARACTERISTICS BY CATEGORY: MALES: 2015^

Offender	Number	Percent	Average	Average Jail	Average	Average
Felony	Admitted	Admitted	Good Time	Time (Days)	Maximum	Minimum
Category			Days Per	-	Sentence	Sentence
			Month		(Months)	(Months)
A Felons	151	3.6%	28.1	763.8	680.5	469.1
B Felons	2,060	49.3%	28.4	201.6	100.7	38.2
C Felons	1,089	26.0%	27.8	139.2	45.5	12.0
D Felons	603	14.4%	28.4	125.0	39.9	9.8
E Felons	279	6.7%	29.0	129.8	37.9	8.0
Subtotal	4,182	100.0%				
Missing	3					
Total	4,185					

## TABLE 15: NEW COURT COMMITMENT ADMISSIONCHARACTERISTICS BY CATEGORY: MALES: 2016^

Offender	Number	Percent	Average	Average Jail	Average	Average
Felony	Admitted	Admitted	Good Time	Time (Days)	Maximum	Minimum
Category			Days Per		Sentence	Sentence
			Month		(Months)	(Months)
A Felons	153	3.7%	28.3	762.2	647.5	404.1
B Felons	2,006	48.9%	29.1	206.2	105.4	37.2
C Felons	1,085	26.4%	28.5	131.7	46.6	12.2
D Felons	626	15.3%	28.7	126.0	40.1	9.6
E Felons	233	5.7%	29.8	108.4	37.6	7.6
Subtotal	4,103	100%				
Missing	13					
Total	4,116					

^ These tables include New Commitments admissions as well as a small population of offenders who were 'Not Physically Received (NPR)." They do not include Safe Keepers or Intermediate Sanction Probationers. Offenders sentenced to Life and Life With Parole were put in their assigned felony categories; the vast majority of the time, they are A felons.

Offender	Number	Percent	Average	Average Jail	Average	Average
Felony	Admitted	Admitted	Good Time	Time (Days)	Maximum	Minimum
Category			Days Per		Sentence	Sentence
			Month		(Months)	(Months)
A Felons	11	1.6%	29.1	598.9	583.6	121.4
B Felons	363	52.9%	30.0	192.6	74.5	27.5
C Felons	155	22.6%	28.6	133.6	40.6	9.9
D Felons	106	15.5%	28.9	122.0	37.7	8.7
E Felons	51	7.4%	29.2	170.5	39.4	8.9
Subtotal	686	100.0%				
Missing	7					
Total	693					

## TABLE 16: NEW COURT COMMITMENT ADMISSIONCHARACTERISTICS BY CATEGORY: FEMALES: 2014^

## TABLE 17: NEW COURT COMMITMENT ADMISSION CHARACTERISTICS BY CATEGORY: FEMALES: 2015^

Offender	Number	Percent	Average	Average Jail	Average	Average
Felony	Admitted	Admitted	Good Time	Time (Days)	Maximum	Minimum
Category			Days Per	-	Sentence	Sentence
			Month		(Months)	(Months)
A Felons	7	1.0%	27.5	927.7	665.7	453.7
B Felons	306	41.8%	29.0	147.1	84.1	30.8
C Felons	191	26.1%	28.3	116.1	43.6	10.6
D Felons	152	20.8%	28.1	93.7	37.6	8.3
E Felons	76	10.4%	28.8	132.2	38.3	8.1
Subtotal	732	100%				
Missing	0					
Total	732					

## TABLE 18: NEW COURT COMMITMENT ADMISSION CHARACTERISTICS BY CATEGORY: FEMALES: 2016^

Offender	Number	Percent	Average	Average Jail	Average	Average
Felony	Admitted	Admitted	Good Time	Time (Days)	Maximum	Minimum
Category			Days Per		Sentence	Sentence
			Month		(Months)	(Months)
A Felons	8	1.1%	29.0	736.6	620.0	560.1
B Felons	318	44.5%	28.8	150.6	86.7	30.4
C Felons	194	27.1%	27.9	129.3	43.7	10.4
D Felons	127	17.8%	27.9	116.3	37.7	8.2
E Felons	68	9.5%	28.1	115.5	38.6	8.6
Subtotal	715	100.0%				
Missing	0					
Total	715					

^ These tables include New Commitments admissions as well as a small population of offenders who were 'Not Physically Received (NPR)." They do not include Safe Keepers or Intermediate Sanction Probationers. Offenders sentenced to Life and Life With Parole were put in their assigned felony categories; the vast majority of the time, they are A felons.

		81 2000 2021	
Year	Males	Females	Total
Admit Group:	NC / Total	NC / Total	NC / Total
2006	4,744 / 5,477	746 / 815	5,490 / 6,292
2007**			
2008^	4,622 / 5,236	621 / 717	5,243 / 5,953
2009	4,475 / 5,075	611 / 719	5,086 / 5,794
2010	4,405 / 5,080	660 / 785	5,065 / 5,865
2011#	4,269 / 5,188	611 / 735	4,880 / 5,923
2012#	4,081 / 4,944	629 / 773	4,710 / 5,717
2013	4,088 / 4,842	651 / 775	4,739 / 5,617
2014	4,247 / 5,040	697 / 836	4,944 / 5,876
2015	4,481 / 5,303	733 / 879	5,214 / 6,182
2016	4,350 / 5,349	716 / 908	5,066 / 6,257
	Projected	Projected	Projected
2017	4,380 / 5,386	721 / 914	5,101 / 6,300
2018	4,411 / 5.424	726 / 921	5,137 / 6,345
2019	4,442 / 5,462	731 / 927	5,173 / 6,389
2020	4,473 / 5,500	736 / 934	5,209 / 6,434
2021	4,504 / 5,539	741 / 940	5,246 / 6,479
2022	4,536 / 5,578	747 / 947	5,283 / 6,525
2023	4,568 / 5,617	752 / 953	5,320 / 6,570
2024	4,600 / 5,656	757 / 960	5,357 / 6,616
2025	4,632 / 5,696	762 / 967	5,394 / 6,663
2026	4,664 / 5,735	768 / 974	5,432 / 6,709
2027	4,697 / 5,776	773 / 980	5,470 / 6,756
Numeric Change			
2006–2016	-394 / -128	-30 / 93	-424 / -35
Percent Change			
2006-2016	-8.3% / -2.3%	-4.0% / 11.4%	-7.7% / -0.6%
Average Annual			
Percent Change			
2006-2016	-0.8% / -0.2%	-0.2% / 1.3%	-0.7% / 0.0%
Percent Change			
2015-2016	-2.9% / 0.9%	-2.3% / 3.3%	-2.8% / 1.2%
Numeric Change			
2017 - 2027	316 / 389	52 / 66	369 / 455
Percent Change			
2017 - 2027	7.2% / 7.2%	7.2% / 7.2%	7.2% / 7.2%
Average Annual			
Percent Change			
2017 - 2027	0.7% / 0.7%	0.7% / 0.7%	0.7% / 0.7%

#### **TABLE 19: HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED NEW COMMITMENT AND TOTAL ADMISSIONS: 2006-2027**

\*\* NDOC monthly reports were unavailable for 2007, and the admissions data file for 2007 provided unreliable data for admissions by type, so JFA could not report the count of new commitment admissions for 2007. In order to calculate average annual percent change for the 10-year time frame, JFA estimated the admissions subcategories for 2007. To do so, we utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for 2006 and

2008 (combined), and then applied those proportions to the total admissions in 2007. <sup>^</sup> The 2008 admissions datafile did not contain admissions by type for July and August. JFA utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for the 10 months of 2008 for which the data were available and applied those proportions to the total admissions for July and August to obtain estimated subcategory counts for July and August # 2011 and 2012 counts were updated from NDOC monthly reports provided in March 2013

### VII. PRISON POPULATION PROJECTIONS

This section contains the inmate population projections based on the assumptions set forth above. Projections are presented for male and female inmates, and the total inmate population.

**Error! Reference source not found.** presents the summary table of male, female and total population projections from 2016 to 2027.

#### A. Projected Male Inmate Population

**Error! Reference source not found.** displays a summary of the historical and projected male inmate population for the period 2006 to 2027.

Figure 12 presents the February 2017 forecasts of male new commitment admissions and stock population.

#### **Baseline Forecast**

- In 2027, 14,907 male offenders are projected to be housed in the Nevada Department of Corrections system.
- The male inmate prison population was 12,836 at the end of 2016. The population is projected to increase to 13,952 in 2022 and to 14,907 inmates by the end of 2027. The projected growth represents average increases of 1.4 percent per year through the year 2027.
- The male forecast for this cycle closely resembles the fall 2016 forecast. Although this forecast is based on a lower volume of new commitments entering prison over the forecast horizon, the slightly decreased discretionary parole release rates result in offsetting impacts.

101		
Year	Historical	
2006	12,003	
2007	12,245	
2008	12,223	
2009	11,911	
2010	11.790	
2011	11.811	
2012	11,845	
2013	11,963	
2014	11,961	
2015	12.466	
2016	12,836	
	,	Projected
2017		12,963
2018		13,192
2019		13,424
2020		13,561
2021		13,742
2022		13,952
2023		14,171
2024		14,333
2025		14,496
2026		14,720
2027		14,907
Numeric Change		
2006–2016	833	
Percent Change		
2006–2016	6.9%	
Average Annual		
Percent Change		
2006–2016	0.7%	
Percent Change		
2015-2016	3.0%	
Numeric Change		
2017 - 2027		1,944
Percent Change		
2017 - 2027		15.0%
Average Annual		
Percent Change		
2017 - 2027		1.4%

# TABLE 20: HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED INMATEPOPULATION: MALES: 2006 – 2027

Numbers represent end of calendar year figures.

#### **B. Projected Female Inmate Population**

**Error! Reference source not found.** displays a summary of the historical and projected female inmate population for the period 2006 to 2027.

Figure 13 presents the February 2017 forecasts of female new commitment admissions and stock population.

#### **Baseline Forecast**

- In 2027, 1,502 female offenders are projected to be housed in the Nevada Department of Corrections system.
- The female inmate prison population was 1,317 at the end of 2016. The population is projected to increase to 1,425 in 2022 and to 1,502 inmates by the end of 2027. The projected growth represents average increases of 1.2 percent per year through the year 2026.
- The female forecast presented in this report is very similar to the Fall 2016 forecast. Three factors contributing offsetting trends in this forecast is the stabilization of female new commitment admissions and decreased dictionary parole release rates. The results of these competing factors are a similar ten-year female prison forecast as the October 2016 forecast.

Veen	Historical	
2005	Historical 1.008	
2005	1,000	
2000	1,105	
2007	1,050	
2000	980	
2009	979	
2010	967	
2011	1 038	
2012	1,030	
2013	1,001	
2014	1,130	
2015	1,220	
2010	1,517	Projected
2017		1 330
2017		1 349
2010		1 371
2019		1 392
2020		1.409
2022		1.425
2023		1.442
2024		1,456
2025		1,472
2026		1,486
2027		1,502
Numeric Change		
2006–2016	134	
Percent Change		
2006-2016	11.3%	
Average Annual		
Percent Change		
2006-2016	1.2%	
Percent Change	7.40/	
2015-2016	7.4%	
Numeric Change		170
<u>2017 – 2027</u>	 	172
Percent Change		10.00/
$\frac{2017 - 2027}{4 \text{ wave as } 4 \text{ wave } 1}$		12.9%
Average Annual Doroont Chongo		
2017 - 2027		1 204
2017 - 2027		1.2%

# TABLE 21: HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED INMATEPOPULATION: FEMALES: 2006 – 2027

Numbers represent end of calendar year figures.

Year	Male Population	Female Population	<b>Total Population</b>
2016	12,836	1,317	14,153
2017	12,963	1,330	14,293
2018	13,192	1,349	14,541
2019	13,424	1,371	14,795
2020	13,561	1,392	14,953
2021	13,742	1,409	15,151
2022	13,952	1,425	15,377
2023	14,171	1,442	15,613
2024	14,333	1,456	15,789
2025	14,496	1,472	15,968
2026	14,720	1,486	16,206
2027	14,907	1,502	16,409
Numeric Change			
2017 - 2027	1,944	172	2,116
Percent Change			
2017 - 2027	15.0%	12.9%	14.8%
Average Annual			
Percent Change			
2017 - 2027	1.4%	1.2%	1.4%

## TABLE 22: ACTUAL AND PROJECTED INMATE POPULATION: 2016 – 2027

Projections numbers represent end of calendar year figures.

**APPENDIX A: FIGURES** 







FIGURE 3: Accuracy of JFA's October 2016 Forecast Total Male Inmate Population: January through December 2016



FIGURE 4: Accuracy of JFA's October 2016 Forecast Total Female Inmate Population: January through December 2016



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\*\* 2007 data represents total male admissions. \*\*\*The 2008 admissions datafile did not contain admissions by type for July and August. We utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for the 10 months of 2008 for which the data were available and applied those proportions to the total admissions for July and August to obtain estimated subcategory counts for July and August. Almost all of the "Others" in 2015 & 2016 are Parole Housing Unit admissions.



\*\*\* The 2008 admissions datafile did not contain admissions by type for July and August. We utilized the proportion of admissions in each subcategory for the 10 months of 2008 for which the data were available and applied those proportions to the total admissions for July and August to obtain estimated subcategory counts for July and August.













FIGURE 12: Projected Male New Commitment and Total Admissions and Stock Population February 2017 Forecasts

