



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Governor Tony Evers / Secretary Kevin A. Carr

Date: January 10, 2022

To: Division Administrators

From: Dr. Silvia Jackson, Reentry Director *SJ*

Re: Medicaid Application Data FY21 Annual Report

The Department of Corrections and the Department of Health Services have collaborated since 2015 to assist persons in our care applying for Medicaid programs before their release from prison. In 2016, the departments also approved an information-sharing agreement. This agreement provides an opportunity to review and evaluate Medicaid application outcomes at the facility level. Eligibility determination rates are also compared by demographic characteristics in the report.

This FY21 report indicates 74.6 percent of individuals releasing from DOC custody were determined eligible for Medicaid at release, a 4.3 percentage point increase compared to FY20. The data are important in recognizing the work that release planners do as a critical part of reentry. The evaluation also illustrates where improved advocacy may increase enrollment. Increased enrollment will likely provide individuals leaving prison greater access to medical and psychiatric care, substance abuse treatment, and needed medications.

Please review the report and distribute within your divisions. For discussion about the report or assistance increasing health care access for individuals in the community, please contact me via email at silvia.jackson@wisconsin.gov.

Cc: Kevin Carr, Secretary

Jared Hoy, Deputy Secretary

Melissa Roberts, Assistant Deputy Secretary



MEDICAID

APPLICATION DATA

FY2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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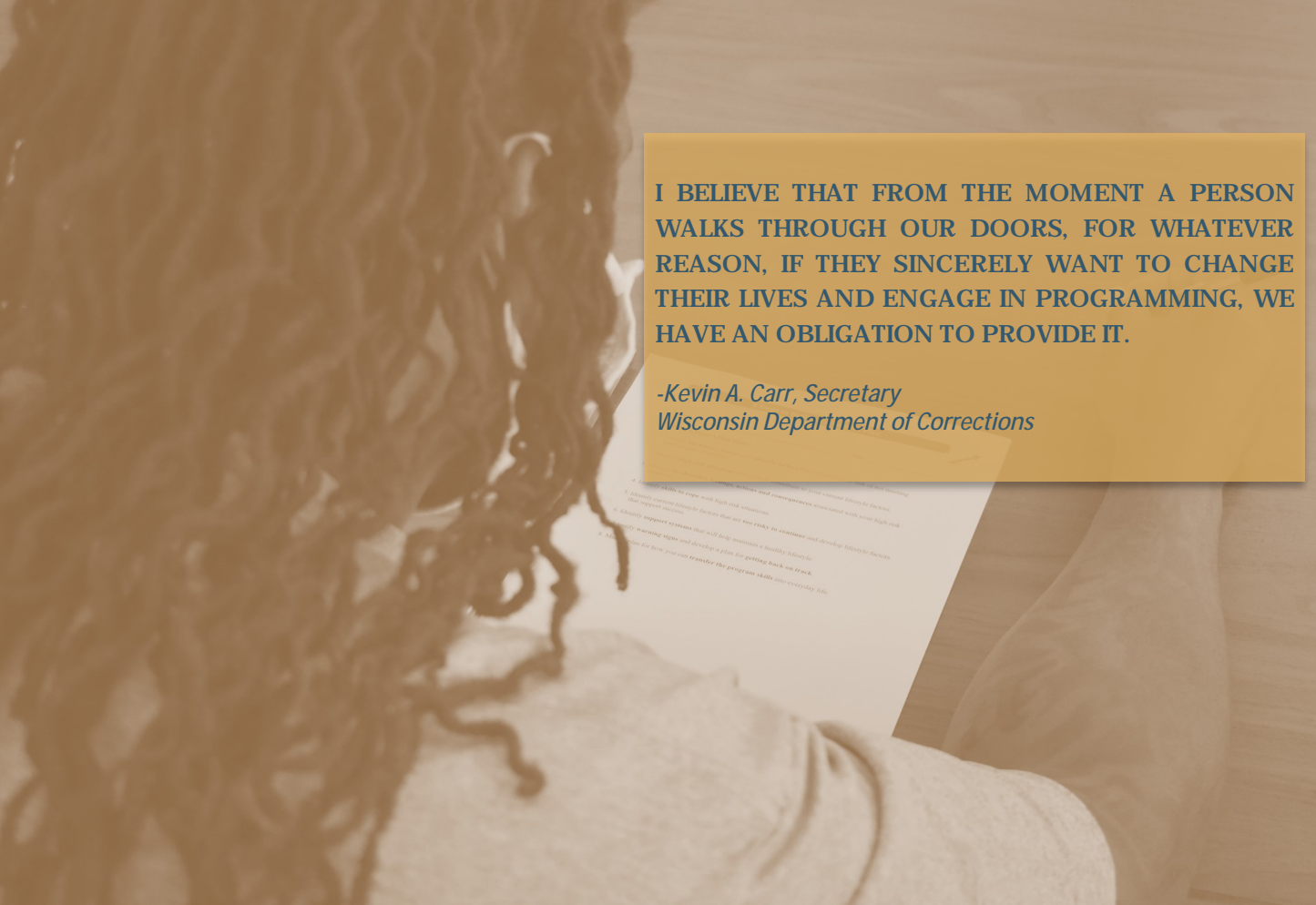
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INTRODUCTION



I BELIEVE THAT FROM THE MOMENT A PERSON WALKS THROUGH OUR DOORS, FOR WHATEVER REASON, IF THEY SINCERELY WANT TO CHANGE THEIR LIVES AND ENGAGE IN PROGRAMMING, WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE IT.

*-Kevin A. Carr, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Corrections*

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections collaborates with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and Income Maintenance (IM) agencies to facilitate Medicaid application assistance prior to release from DOC facilities. This application assistance is a critical step in the release planning process.

Individuals incarcerated in Wisconsin can apply by calling IM agencies prior to their release from prison. Callers will generally know the outcome of their Medicaid applications at the completion of these phone calls. Knowing the outcome prior to release from prison allows those determined eligible to plan on having access to health care, including mental health and substance use disorder treatment, immediately upon release.

As part of the inter-governmental agreement, agencies exchange information to study and improve application advocacy. The information exchange also provides the data evaluated in this report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The COVID-19 pandemic covered state fiscal year 2021 and impacted every aspect of the criminal justice system. Concerns about the virus likely increased interest in health care access among individuals releasing from prison, increasing eligibility determination rates. DOC leaders can use this report to identify facilities with successful application processes and employ them at other locations. Increased advocacy prior to release supports Division of Community Corrections work and increases the likelihood of client success.

The trend analysis included in the this year's report indicates the pandemic has likely increased interest in Medicaid application assistance among those leaving DOC incarceration. The overall DOC eligibility determination rate has increased by 4.3 percentage points, with 70.3 percent of individuals determined eligible in state Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 compared to 74.6 percent of individuals determined eligible in FY21. There were also decreases in percentages of individuals not applying and those denied in FY21 compared to the previous fiscal year.

During the pandemic, DOC facilities continued to provide telephone access to individuals wishing to apply prior to release. Most persons in our care are able to call the Income Maintenance (IM) agency unaided. Individuals with mental health issues, intellectual disabilities, difficulties reading, or limited English proficiency are screened for assistance with the phone call. At the end of the call, IM agencies share a final status or request additional information.

This year's report includes year-over-year trend comparisons at the security classification level. The graphs include data from all previously published DOC Medicaid reports from FY18 to FY21, and compare annual average eligibility determination, did not apply, and denial rates for all of the institutions in the security classification.

Since the first analysis for FY18, eligibility determinations generally increase, denials decrease, and the percentage of individuals choosing not to apply decreases as well, highlighting the hard work of DOC staff.

The most significant changes occur from FY20 to FY21, and are likely associated with the pandemic and emergency measures taken by state agencies to curb the spread of the virus.

In FY21, there were far fewer people released overall, with 7,849 individuals released from the listed facilities fitting the described criteria. There were 5,855 individuals with an eligibility determination, indicating a 74.6 percent eligibility determination rate. There were 1,851 individuals who did not apply, representing 23.6 percent of the total. There were only 143 individuals who were denied eligibility, or 1.8 percent of the total. In previous years, an estimated 10-15 percent of individuals releasing from prison would not qualify for Medicaid programs due to work-release income and other reasons. In FY21, this estimate likely decreased as a result of emergency operations and the reduction or elimination of work-release programs due to the pandemic.

DOC has an information-sharing agreement with the Department of Health Services (DHS). DHS matches individuals releasing from DOC facilities to existing Medicaid application records and returns the information to DOC. The eligibility determinations occurred the month before, the month of, or the month after release. The Medicaid eligibility determinations referenced in this report refer to approved applications for Wisconsin Medicaid programs. The individuals included in the report are described in the definition of [facility releases](#) on page 22. The release facilities are listed on pages 16-18.

KEY FINDINGS

Population

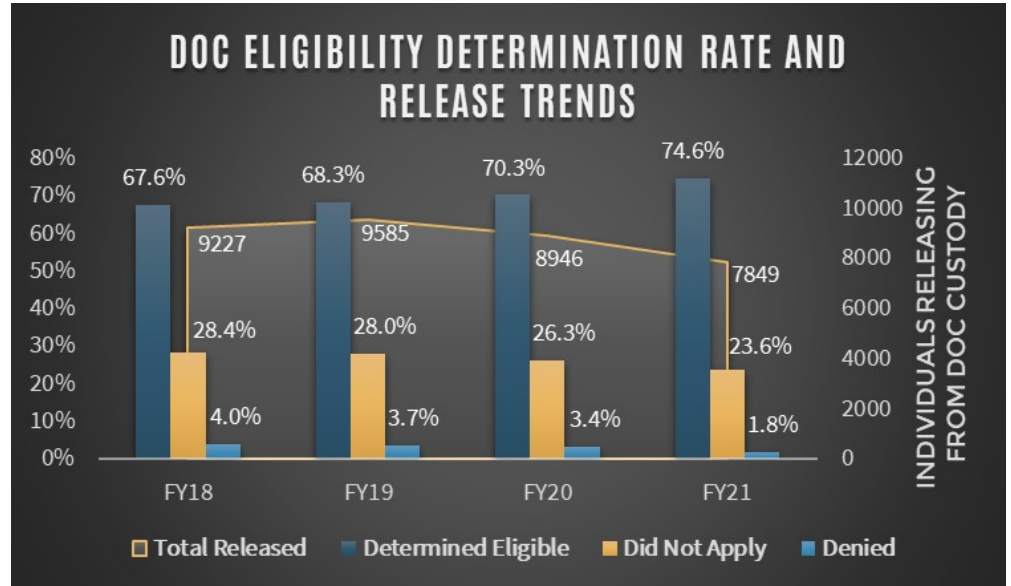
- 7,849 individuals released from DOC incarceration met criteria for inclusion.
- 74.6% were determined eligible for Medicaid the month prior to, the month of, or the month after their release date.
- 23.6% of individuals released did not apply for Medicaid eligibility, while only 1.8% were denied.
- Of those determined eligible, 49% applied the month prior, 46% applied the month of, and 5% applied the month after release.

Facilities (pages 6-12)

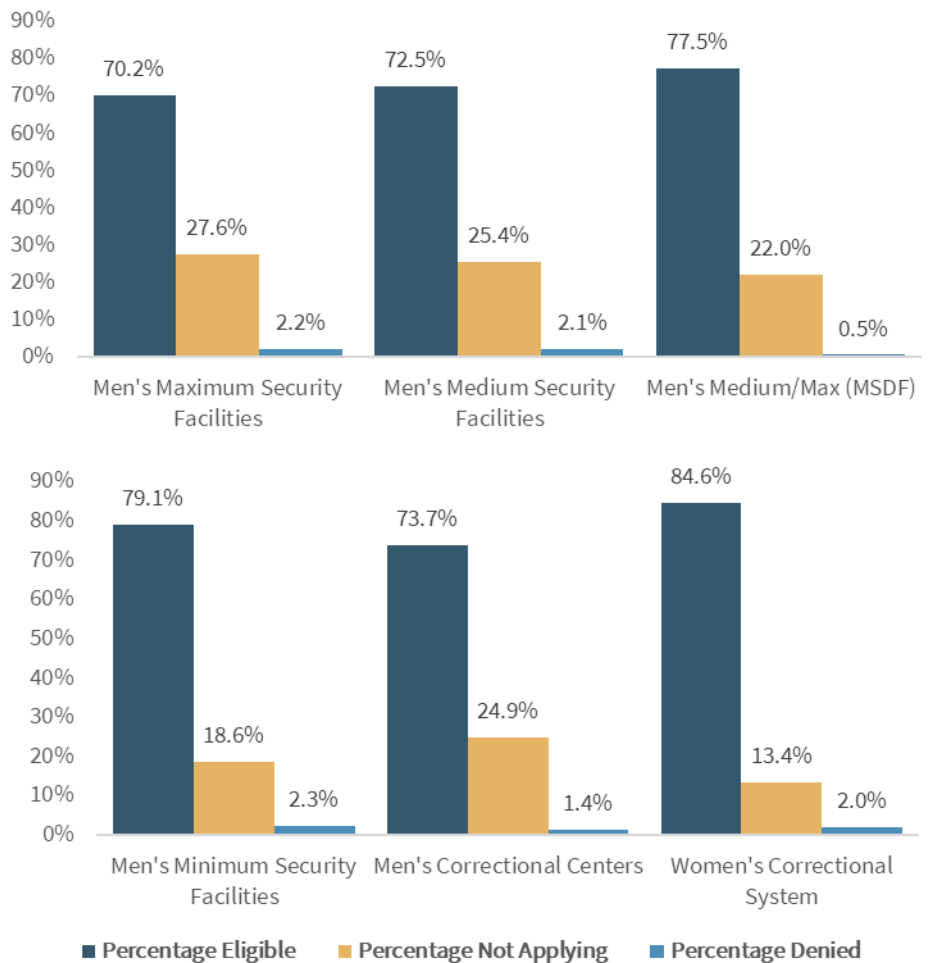
- 94% of the population released from DOC custody is covered by the Security Classification graph to the right.
- Of DOC Facilities, Milwaukee Women’s Correctional Center had the highest facility eligibility determination rate at 91%, followed by REECC, FCC, TCI, DACC, and BRCC.

Demographics (pages 13-14)

- Males were 91%, females were 9% of releases, and females had a higher eligibility determination rate at 83%, compared to males at 74%.
- American Indians and Alaska Natives continue to have the lowest eligibility determination rate and the highest not applying and denial rates among minority groups.
- As an ethnicity, Hispanics and Latinos continue to be similar to American Indians and Alaskan Natives in eligibility, not applying, and denial rates.



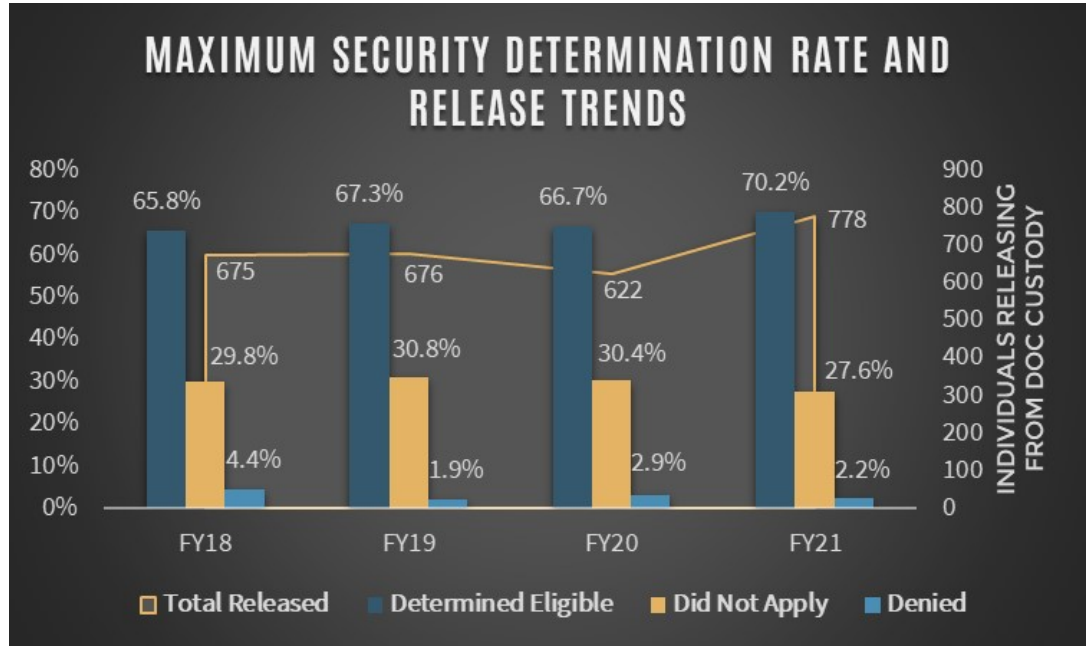
FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION AVERAGES BY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION



FACILITY OUTCOMES

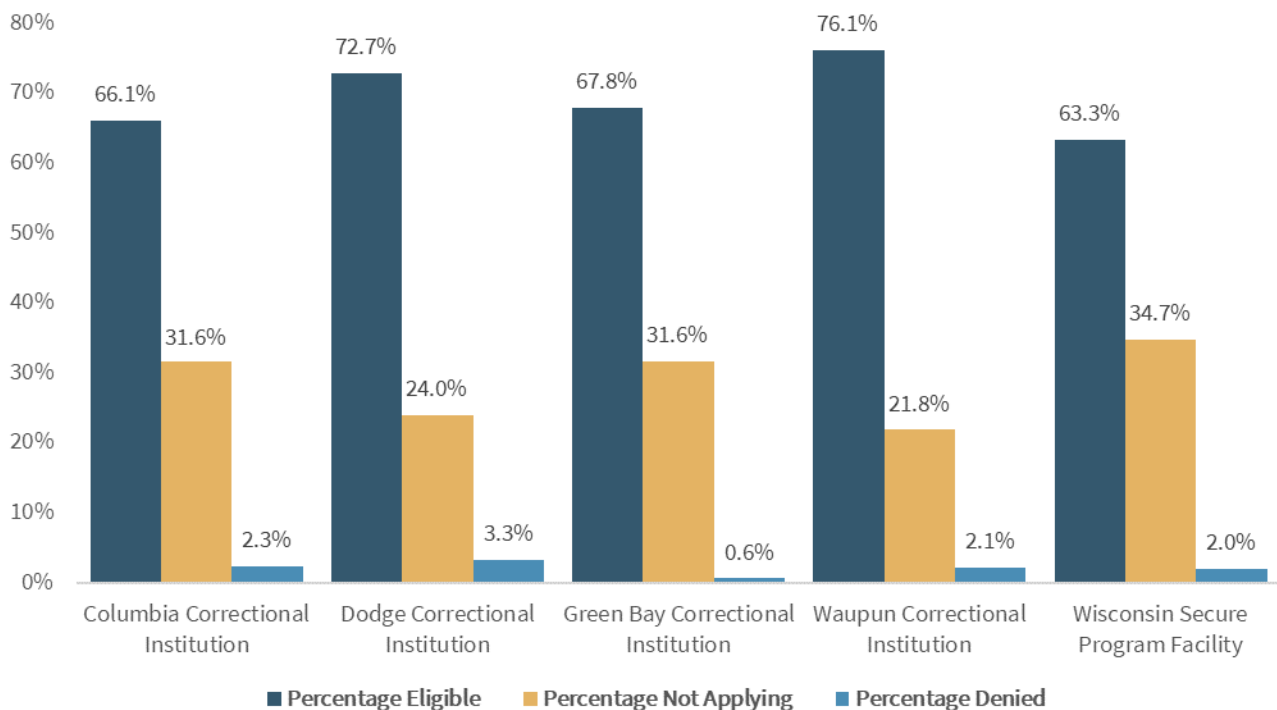
This fiscal year's report includes Medicaid eligibility determination rate and release trends over time by security classification and system. The trend graphs are easily distinguishable by their darker color. The lighter colored graphs depict FY21 data, and compare facility rates across their respective security classifications.

The men's maximum security facilities increased eligibility determinations by 3.5 percentage points over FY20, a raw number increase of 131 individuals determined eligible.



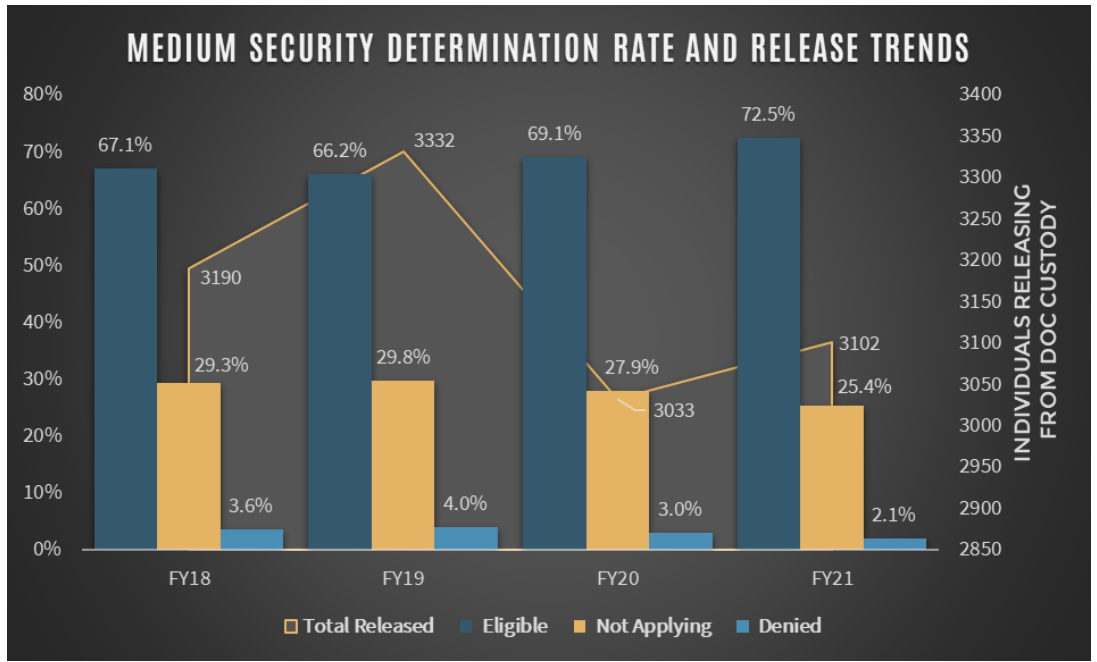
The FY21 data show a 25 percent increase in releases from the men's maximum security facilities compared to releases in FY20, a potential impact of emergency pandemic operations, which may have increased the pool of eligible applicants. Waupun Correctional Institution (WCI) exceeded the overall DOC average for eligibility determinations in FY21. This is an increase of nearly seven percentage points during emergency operations that often limited movement in the institutions and challenged release planning processes. DOC release planners increased the overall eligibility determination average in the max facilities, while supporting essential tasks in the institutions. The increase may have also been aided by pandemic-related factors, including individuals' heightened interest in access to health care upon release. (Please note that the provided percentages in the graphs may not always total 100 percent due to rounding.)

MEN'S MAXIMUM SECURITY FACILITIES FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES AT RELEASE



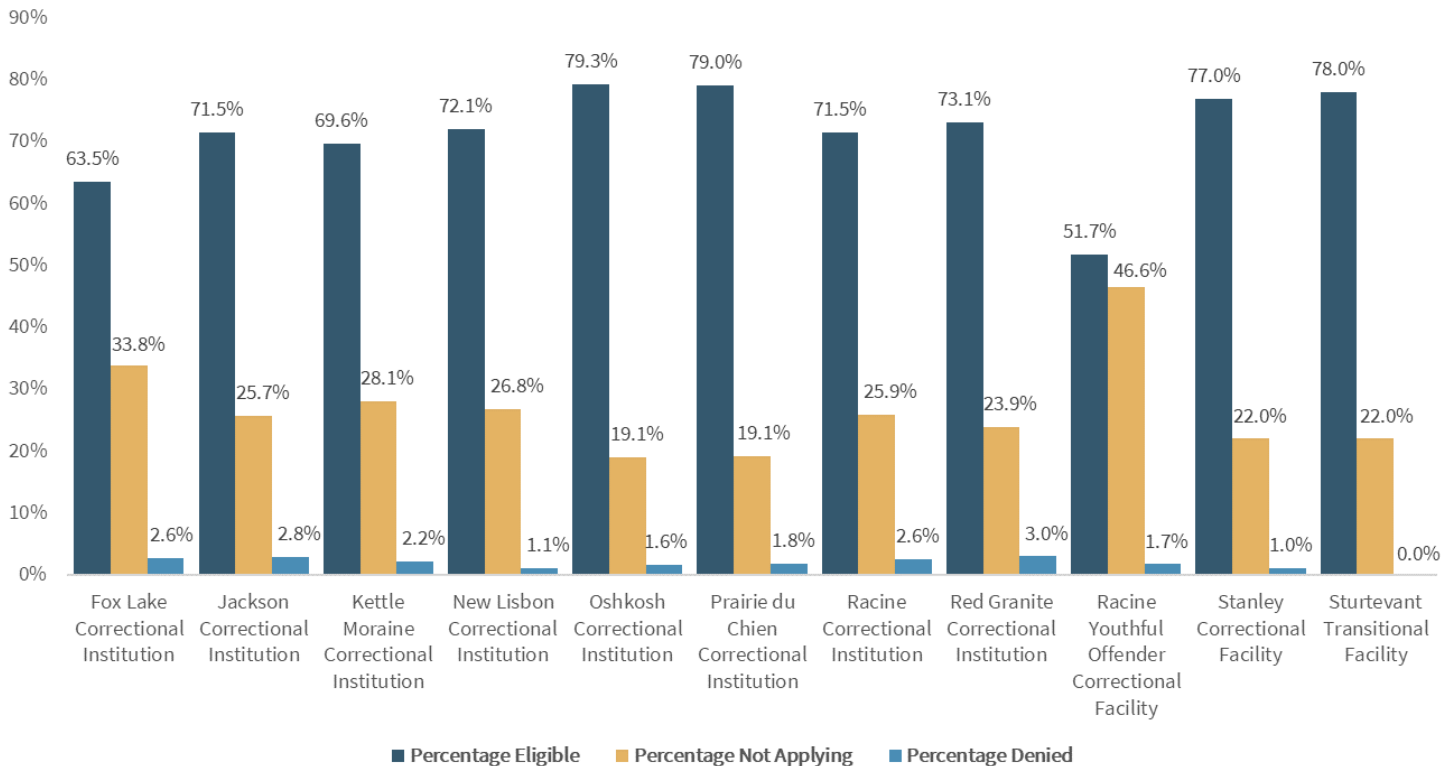
Over the last three years, the men's medium security classification has trended positively with increased eligibility determination and decreased not applying and denied rates each year. These are important trends because the men's medium security classification represents the largest block of the population releasing from prison each year.

These trends may indicate a growing familiarity with the state Medicaid system among persons in our care.



The men's medium security facilities show a fair amount of variation. The Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility (RYOCF) eligibility determination rates indicate the challenges advocating for health care access among young men. The average age of persons in our care at RYOCF is 21. Individuals may anticipate employment and health benefits upon release, be returning to a parent's health plan, or just not prioritize health care access as a necessity. The remaining variation is more difficult to explain, as the average age of individuals releasing from the rest of the medium facilities is between 37 and 43 years of age. However, the average eligibility determination rate among medium facilities continues to increase, due in large part to the hard work of DOC release planners. It is not likely that the new DHS policy suspending Medicaid upon incarceration is having an impact in FY21, because a limited number of individuals would have entered incarceration after implementation of suspension on October 24, 2020, and been released prior to the end of the fiscal year. Suspension will likely impact determination rates in FY22 and FY23.

MEN'S MEDIUM SECURITY FACILITIES FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES AT RELEASE

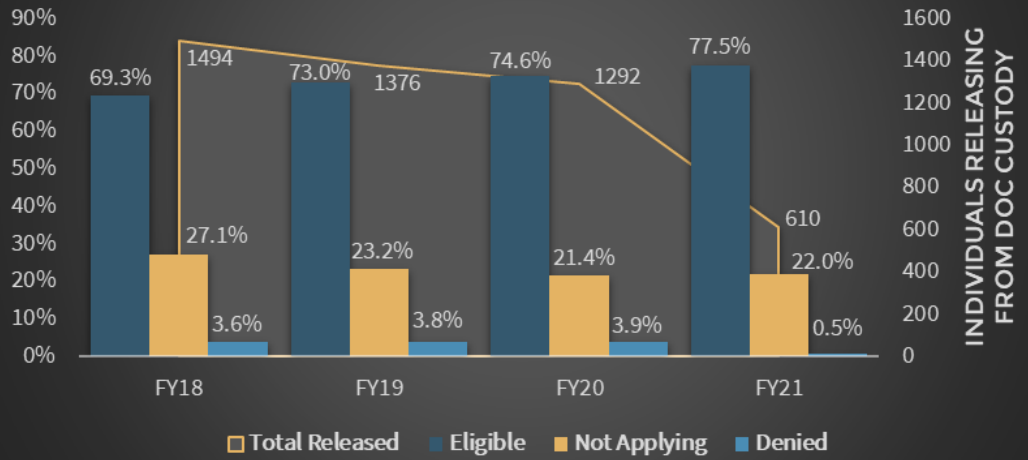


Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility (MSDF) is listed separately in the report because of its uniqueness, housing males and females, as well as different security classifications and statuses. MSDF accounted for 610 releases, down dramatically from previous years, likely due to a combination of emergency operations, programmatic, and DCC business process changes. However, MSDF release planners and a contracted Reentry Legal Services staff member continue to work together to facilitate Medicaid applications for individuals returning to the community.

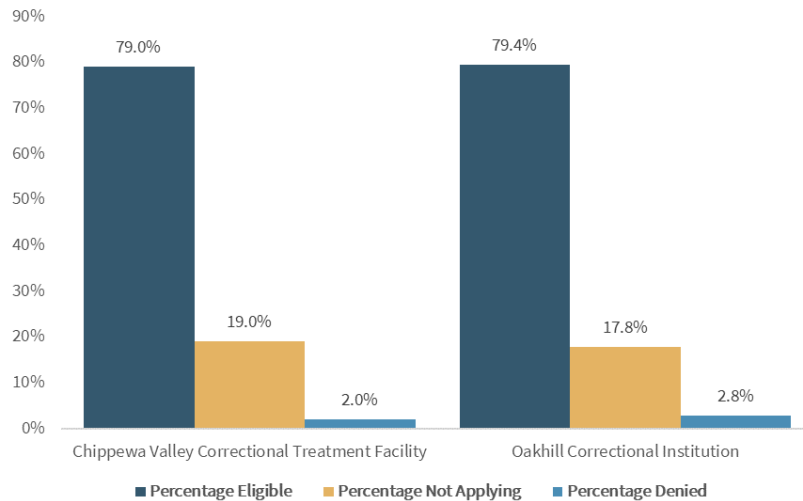
CVCTF and OCI provide Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment, and demonstrate a very successful organizational commitment to the Medicaid application assistance process with high Medicaid eligibility determination rates and low rates of individuals who do not apply. Low denial rates also indicate staff are working with persons in our care and providing information about the eligibility requirements prior to the telephonic application.

The minimum security facility eligibility determination rates over the last four years represent a historical commitment assisting persons in our care with connections to mental health care, substance use disorder treatment, and chronic disease management in the community. OCI and CVCTF staff have consistently offered assistance and advocacy to every candidate who is likely eligible for Medicaid programs.

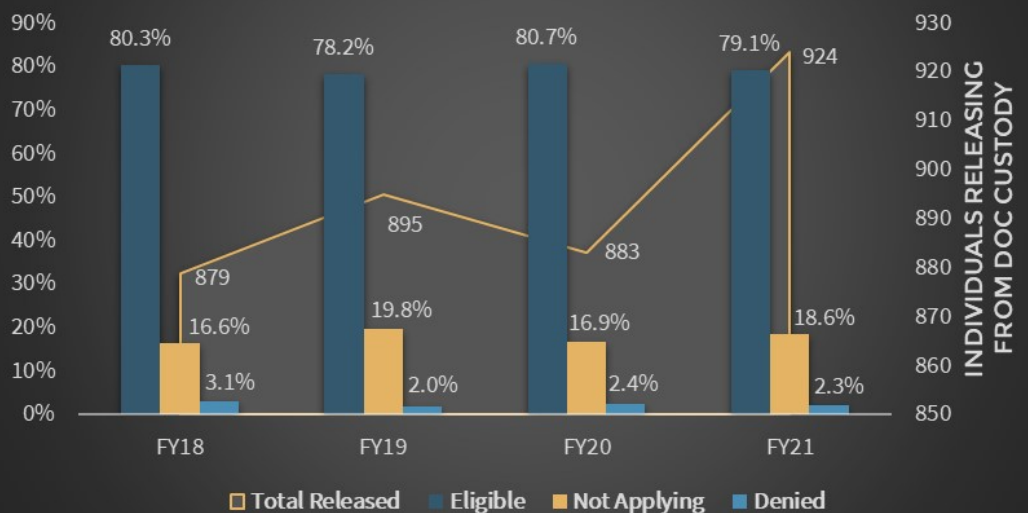
MAXIMUM/MEDIUM SECURITY FACILITY (MSDF) DETERMINATION RATE AND RELEASE TRENDS



MEN'S MINIMUM SECURITY FACILITIES FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES AT RELEASE

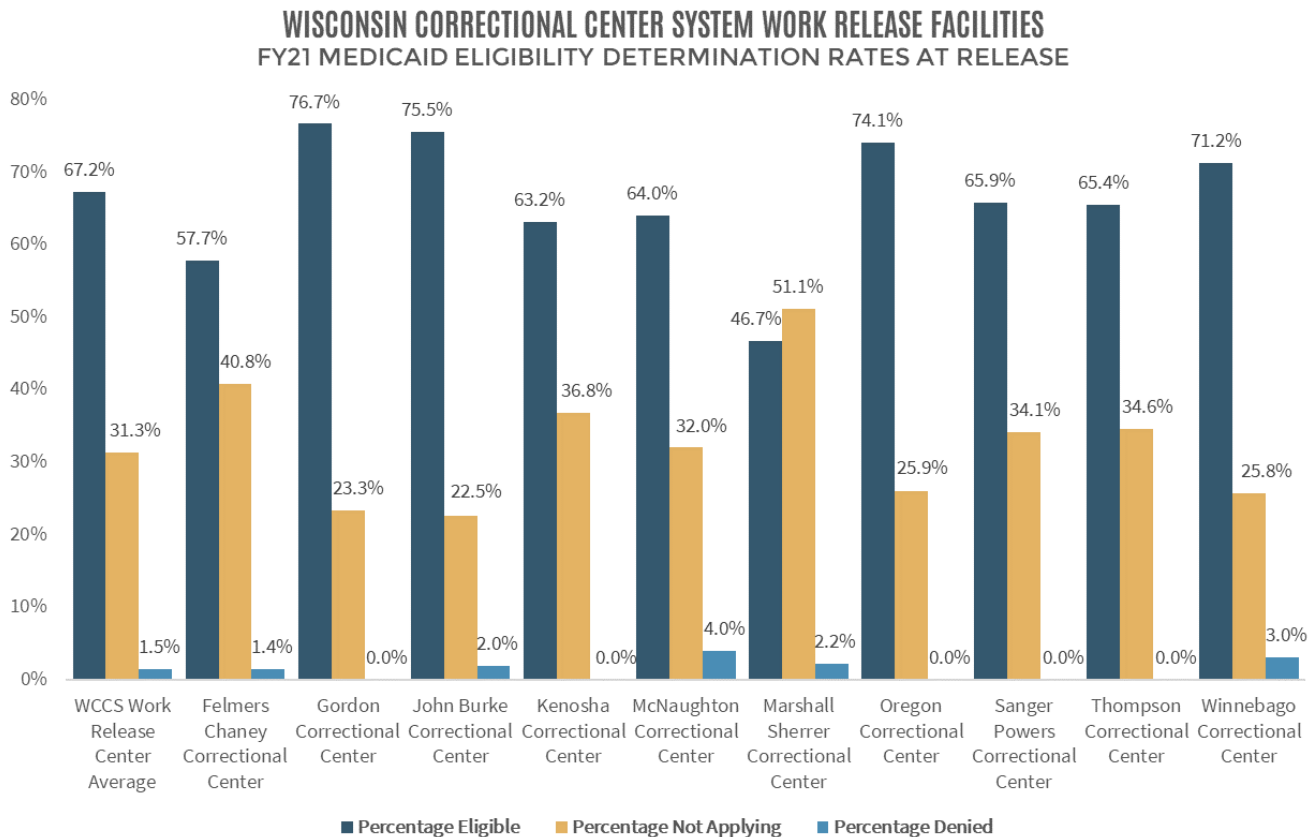
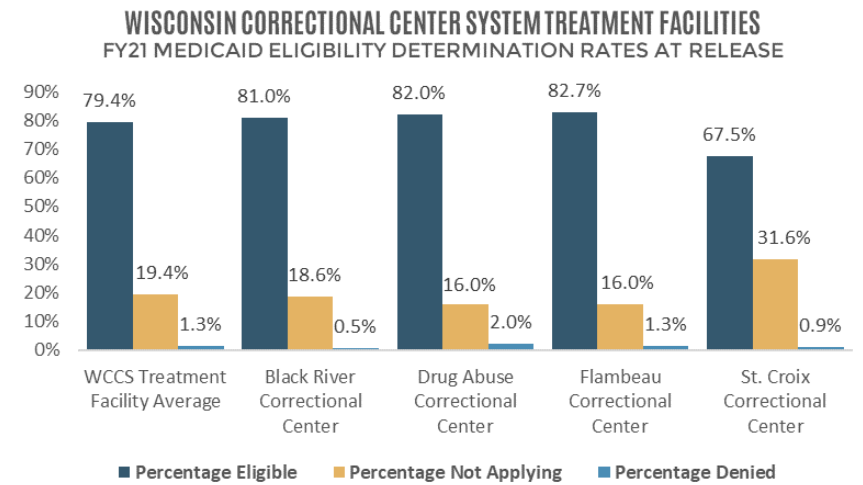
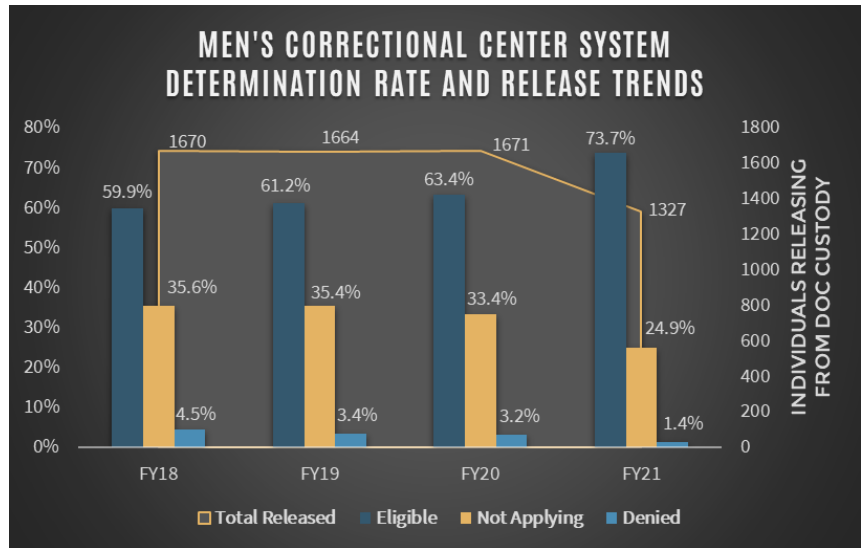


MINIMUM SECURITY FACILITY DETERMINATION RATE AND RELEASE TRENDS



Overall, the Wisconsin Correctional Center System (WCCS) eligibility determination rate trends have been positive, with a sharp improvement in all areas during the last fiscal year. These increases are likely because DOC emergency pandemic operations curtailed work-release opportunities, reducing wages, increasing the number of individuals eligible for Medicaid programs, and increasing their opportunities to apply during business hours. As work opportunities and living wages return, we'll expect these eligibility rates will decline in FY22.

The WCCS treatment facilities offer substance abuse treatment programs. Individuals participating in these programs forego work release opportunities, often to earn an earlier release date. Medicaid eligibility provides real benefits for individuals in need of further treatment, aftercare, or Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) in the community, covering most, if not all of the associated costs. These rates at the treatment centers reflect the commitment of the staff to establish eligibility. At the work-release centers, increases in eligibility determination rates indicate staff recognized the change in operations and advocated with persons in our care to apply.

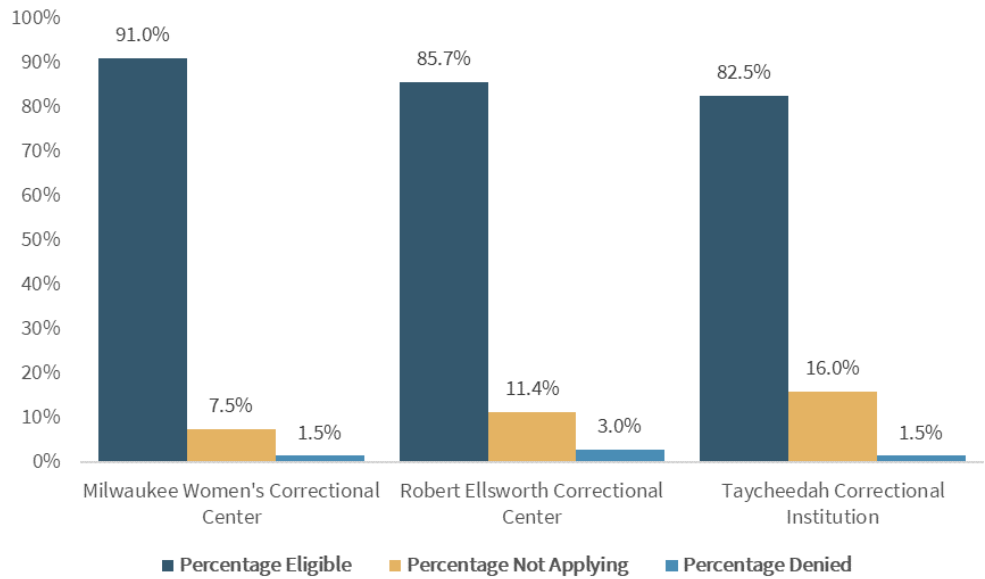


The Wisconsin Women's Correctional System (WWCS) had the highest eligibility determination rate of security classifications and systems in FY21. All three facilities ranked in the top five highest rates in the agency. The women's system is likely providing assistance to every eligible person interested in applying for Medicaid, providing continuity of care for mental health, substance use disorder, and medical treatment upon release. WWCS release planners deserve recognition for this effort.

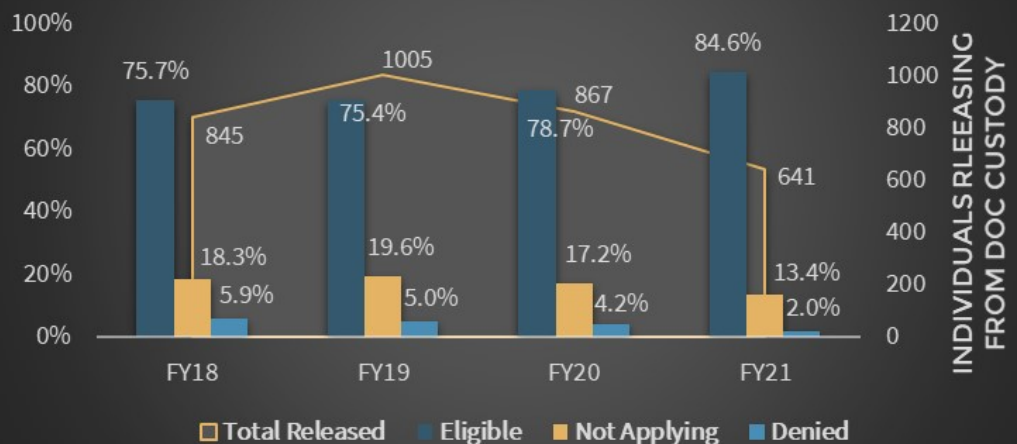
The trend analysis further demonstrates the WWCS commitment to release planning and access to health care. WWCS has established a very successful application assistance process, exceeding the DOC average eligibility determination rate each year. This is critical for the continuity of care for the female population, who release from prison with higher rates of serious mental illness.

The Division of Juvenile Corrections houses a small, high-needs population at its two facilities, releasing two (2) individuals from Copper Lake School and 41 from Lincoln Hills School in FY21. DJC staff work closely with aftercare agencies and guardians to recommend health care options, but decision-making is complex. Youth returning to in-home settings may have access to employer-sponsored health plans, reducing the need for Medicaid coverage, and out-of-home placements may prevent enrollment. The small release populations limit the benefit of trend analysis.

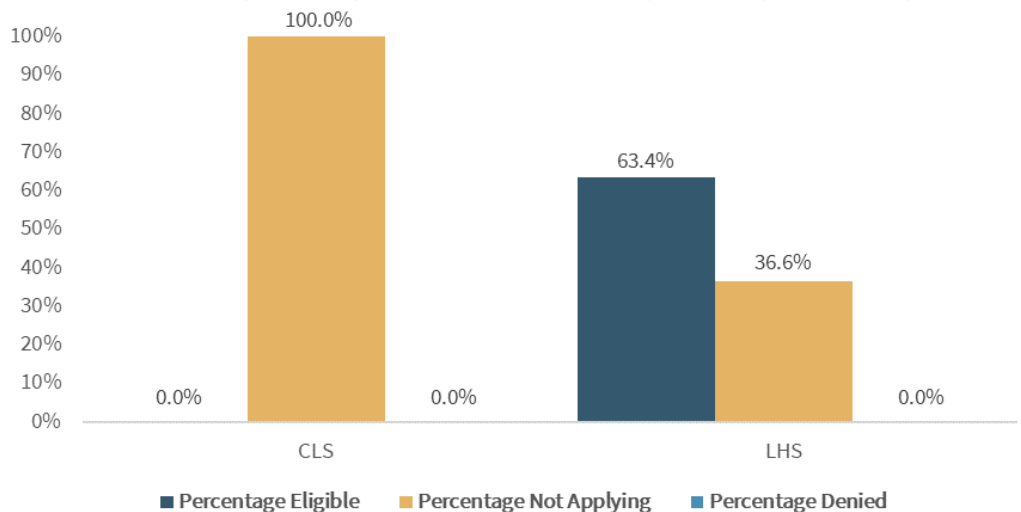
WISCONSIN WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES AT RELEASE



WISCONSIN WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM DETERMINATION RATE AND RELEASE TRENDS

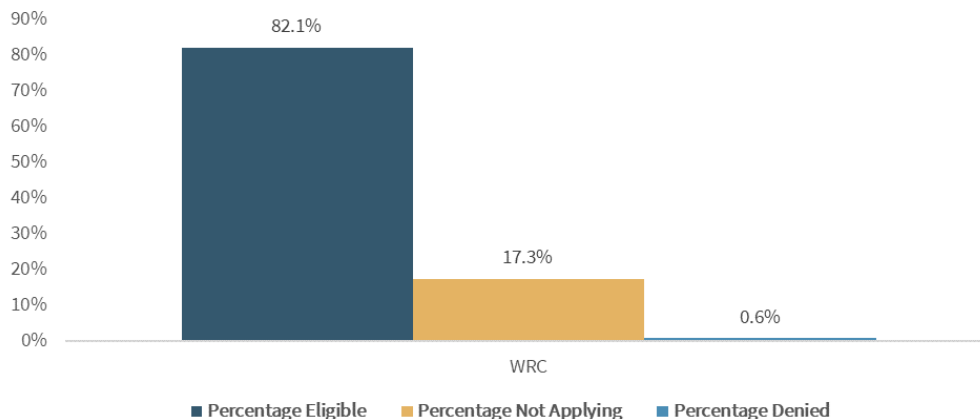


DIVISION OF JUVENILE CORRECTIONS FACILITIES FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES AT RELEASE



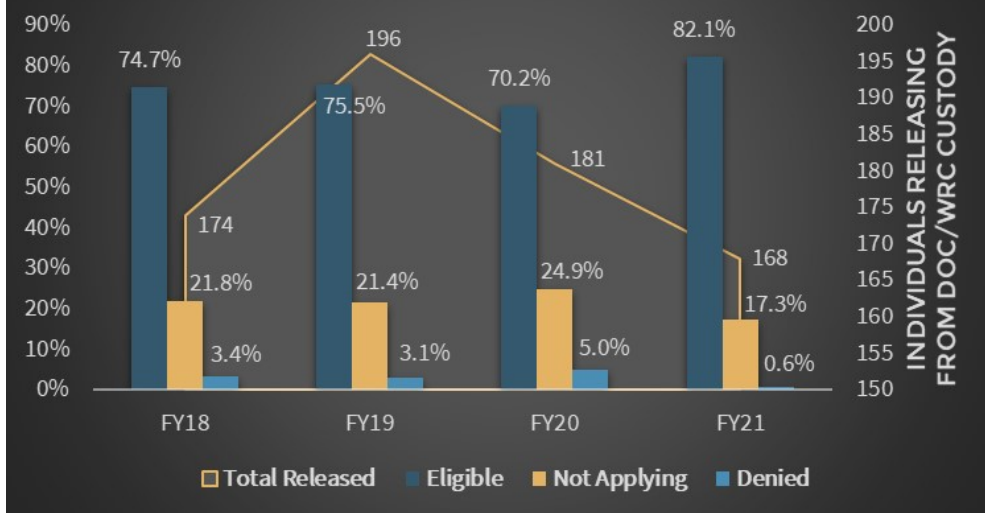
The Wisconsin Resource Center (WRC) provides mental health treatment and programming to individuals with serious mental illness in DOC custody. WRC release planners facilitate applications for individuals, and the facility has exceeded the statewide DOC eligibility determination rate in FY21. WRC's release planners have also facilitated applications for Long Term Care programs to meet the needs of individuals preparing to return to Wisconsin communities.

WISCONSIN RESOURCE CENTER (WRC) FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES AT RELEASE



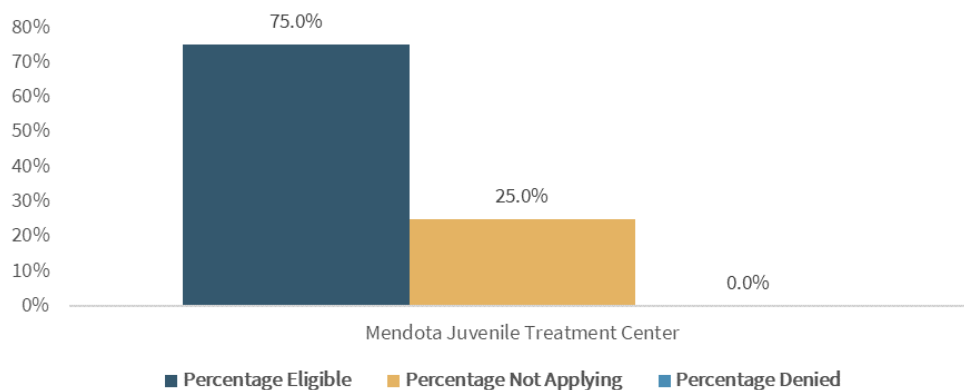
The eligibility determination rate trend for WRC has been consistently high over the four-year period, with only FY20 lagging the DOC average slightly. Release planners at WRC do critical work aiding individuals releasing from the facility in establishing access to health care, psychiatric, and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment. These Medicaid programs can provide individuals the continuity of care vital to their successful reintegration into Wisconsin communities.

WISCONSIN RESOURCE CENTER (WRC) DETERMINATION RATE AND RELEASE TRENDS



Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (MJTC) and the Division of Juvenile Corrections (DJC) facilities house similar small populations and share similar challenges facilitating Medicaid applications. In FY21, MJTC released a total of 16 individuals, 12 of whom were determined eligible, four (4) did not apply, and there were no denials.

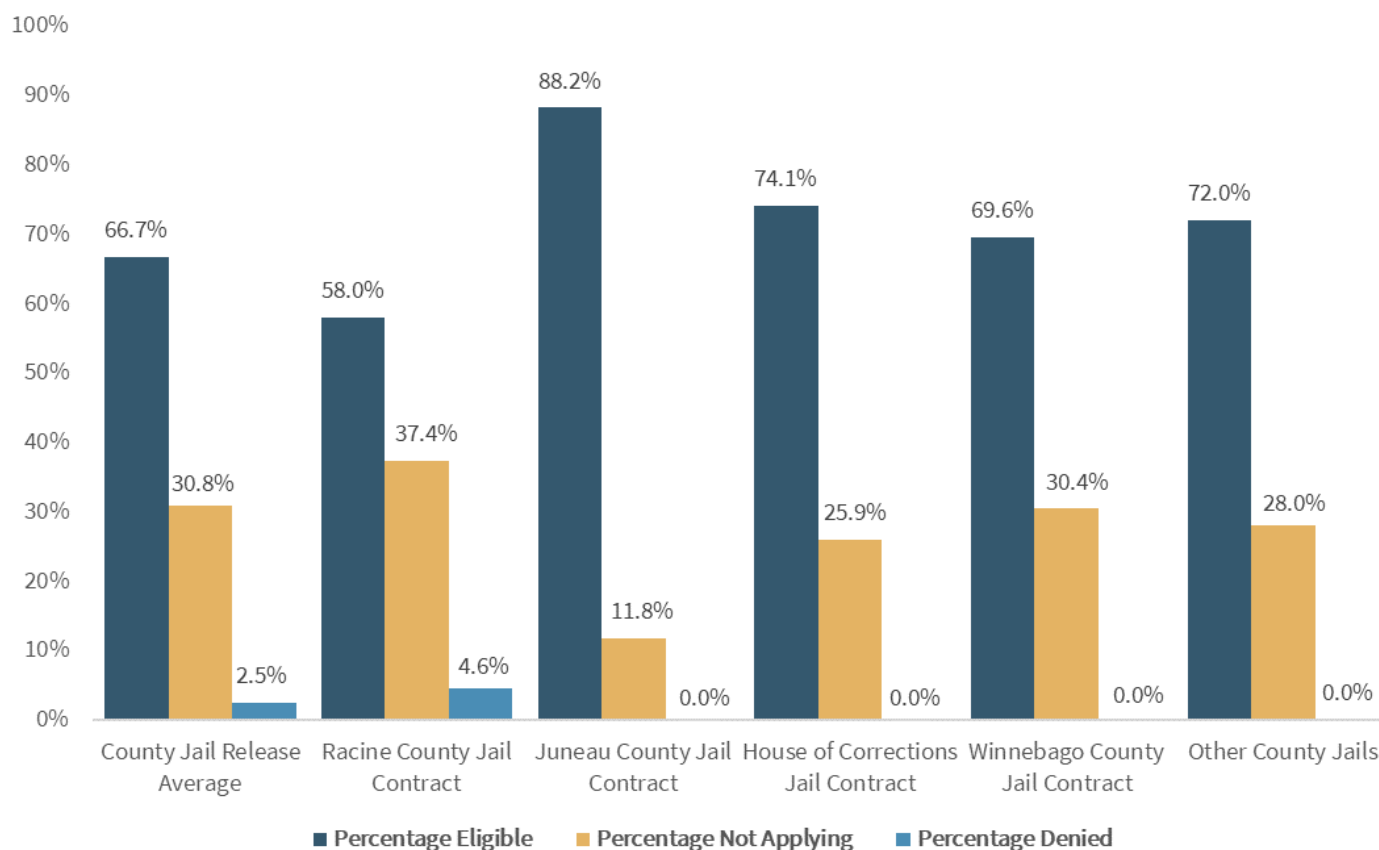
MENDOTA JUVENILE TREATMENT CENTER FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES AT RELEASE



REENTRY LEGAL SERVICES

The Department of Corrections partners with Legal Action of Wisconsin to operate the Reentry Legal Services (RLS) program. RLS provides individuals with potentially disabling mental illness and other disabling conditions access to civil legal services as they prepare to release from prison. Legal Action of Wisconsin attorneys represent individuals in DOC custody, providing application assistance and advocacy, primarily for Social Security and Medicaid programs. The RLS attorneys provide this assistance in 13 DOC facilities and the Wisconsin Resource Center. RLS also employs three paralegals who facilitate applications at Oshkosh Correctional Institution (OSCI), Taycheedah Correctional Institution (TCI), Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility (MSDF), Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center (REECC), and Racine Correctional (RCI)/Sturtevant Transitional Facility (STF). RLS submitted 858 successful applications, representing 15% of the total in FY21.

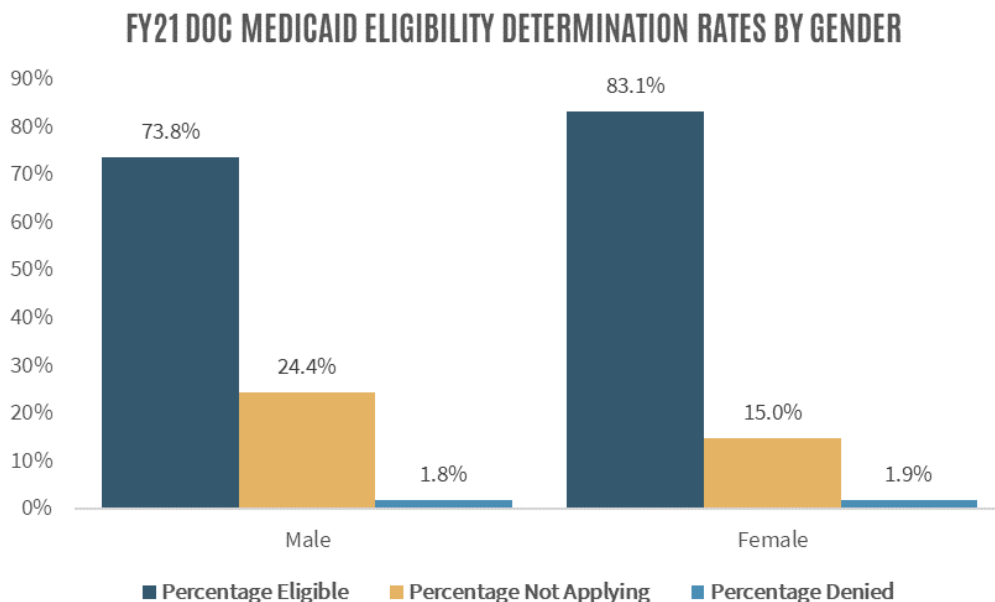
COUNTY JAILS RELEASING INDIVIDUALS FROM DOC INCARCERATION MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES AT RELEASE



The Department of Corrections works closely with county jails as stakeholders in the criminal justice system. DOC contracts with county jails to house individuals incarcerated by the DOC and conduct releases. DOC staff members provide release planning and facilitate application assistance at these contracted locations. Some facilities also provide temporary holding for nearby correctional centers, and applications conducted at release facilities prior to moves to jails may account for additional eligibility determinations. Some jails also participate in a program that allows individuals with short sentences the opportunity to be housed at the jail when releasing to that county. Racine County Jail and Juneau County Jail are responsible for the largest number of jail releases. While county jails lag the DOC average in eligibility determinations for Medicaid programs, two-thirds of individuals releasing from DOC incarceration at county jails are determined eligible for Medicaid programs prior to release from prison. Jails with more than five releases annually are listed separately in the graph, and remaining releases are included in the Other County Jails category. All jails are listed individually in the data tables.

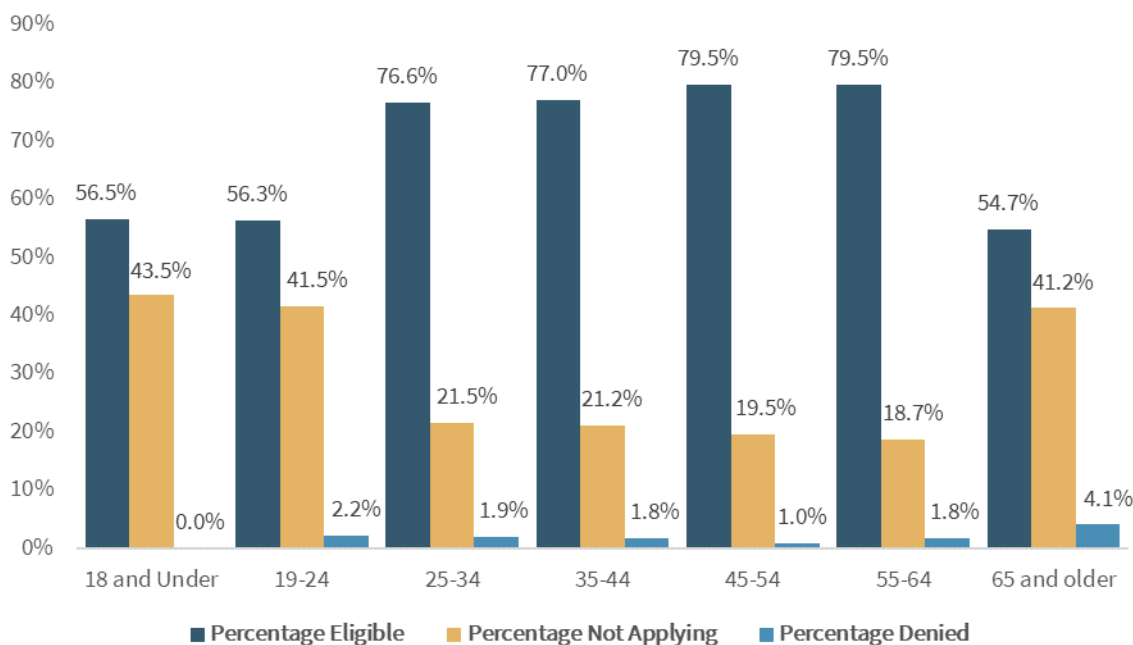
DEMOGRAPHICS INFORMATION

This section of the report compares rates of eligibility determination by demographic category, as well as certain classifications used by the Department. The first graph to the right considers gender. There were 7161 males and 688 females released in FY21. The majority of female releases were completed by WWCS, and high eligibility determination rates there account for the difference between the groups.



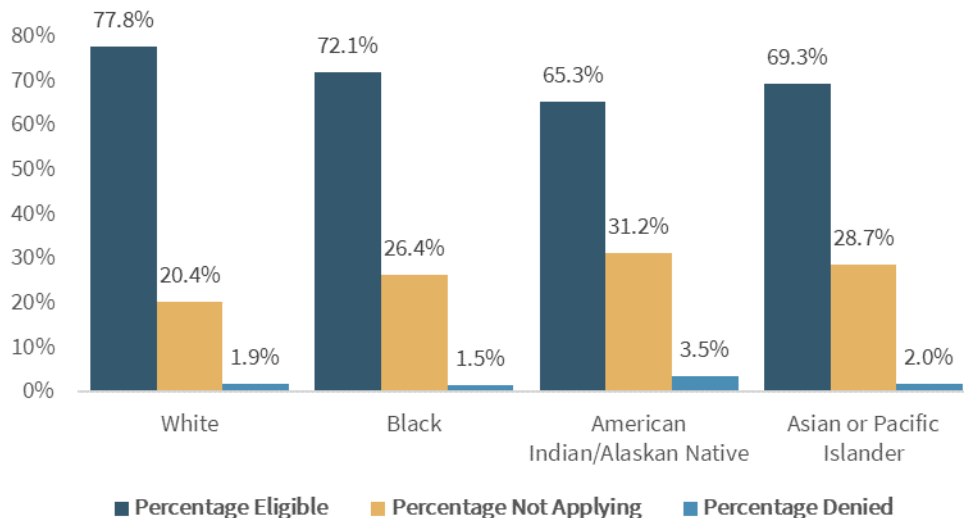
Determination rates are also split by age group below. The data continues to support challenges involving application advocacy for younger individuals in FY21, with the two groups under age 24 accounting for 888 individuals releasing with only 500 eligibility determinations; a rate of 56.3 percent. Middle groups all exceed the DOC average in eligibility determinations, with the percentage decreasing significantly for those 65 and older. This decrease can be attributed to the BadgerCare Plus upper limit of 64 years of age. For many, Medicare starts. Individuals with limited assets 65 and older can still access Medicaid through Elderly, Blind, and Disabled (EBD) Medicaid, which may account for the percentage determined eligible in the age group.

FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES BY AGE GROUP



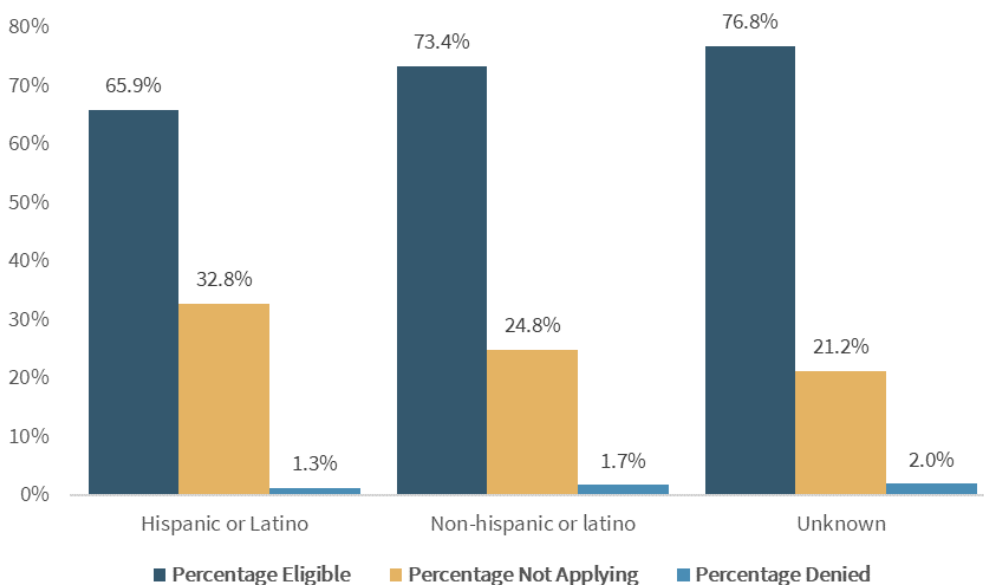
Race is reported by persons in the care of the Department at intake. The unknown category is not presented in the FY21 graph, but the data is included in the appendix. This race data continues to show fewer persons of color are determined eligible for Medicaid and more do not apply. American Indians and Alaskan Natives are the most disparate group. Challenges may exist with the pre-release application process for Native Americans applying through tribal agencies. The Indian Health Service (IHS) may also be the preferred health care for Native Americans leaving prison, though Medicaid programs can provide coverage to individuals even where IHS may not be available.

FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES BY RACE

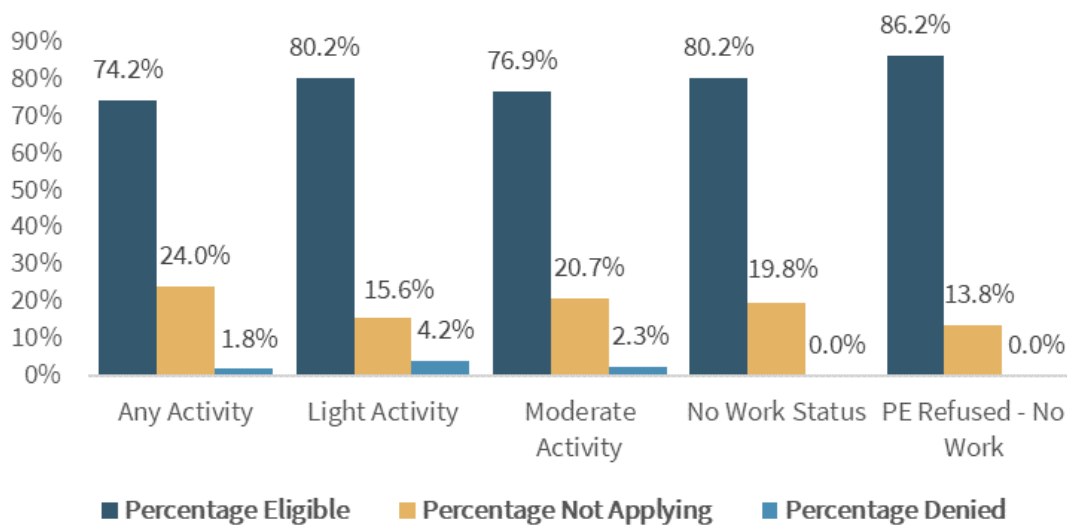


Individuals identifying with a Hispanic or Latino ethnicity have eligibility determination rates most similar to the American Indian and Alaskan Native race category, with the notable exception of the denial rate. Many of the Medicaid fliers and handouts are published both in English and Spanish, but the eligibility determination rates by race and ethnicity indicate the need for specific, culturally-appropriate staff outreach and advocacy with persons of color prior to release from incarceration.

FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES BY ETHNICITY

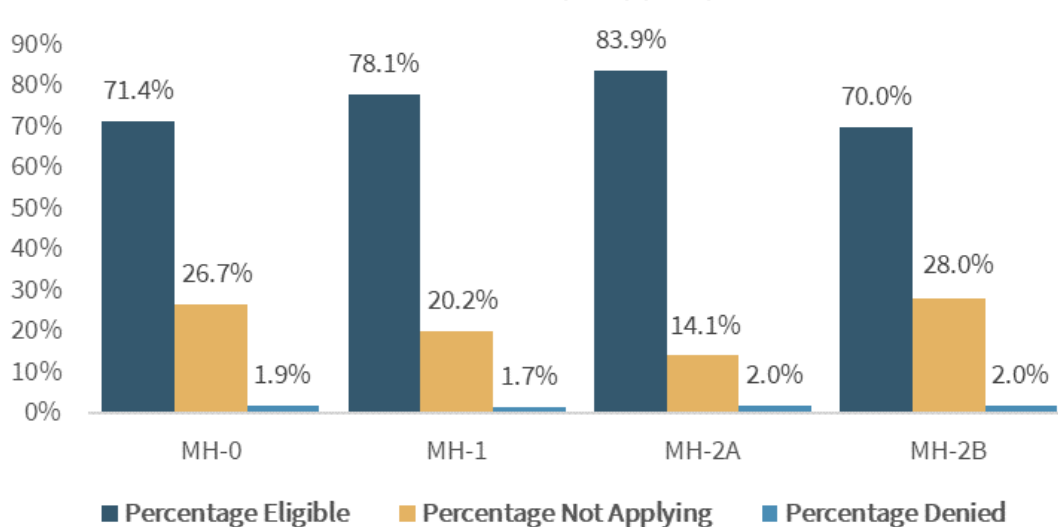


FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES BY MEDICAL ACTIVITY CLASSIFICATION DESCRIPTION



The Medical Activity Classification Description comparison serves as an imperfect proxy for various levels of ability within the population, and acts as a check on application assistance for individuals who may have varying levels of limitation. The description is not available for every individual, and 7,691 individuals are reflected in the graph and data table. As one might expect, individuals classified with the ability to do more activities, primarily work, apply for Medicaid less often. However, even this group approached the overall DOC average. Eligibility determination rates then generally increase for individuals with more limited activity. Individuals who refuse the physical exam and therefore cannot work reflect only 1.4 percent of those classified. With high application rates, this group may recognize their own physical limitations or health concerns and the need to establish access to health care at release.

FY21 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION RATES BY MENTAL HEALTH CLASSIFICATION



Mental health screening and classification are used in the Department of Corrections to provide clinically appropriate mental health treatment for persons in our care. As one might expect, individuals with no mental health concerns, indicated by the MH-0 classification, may see less need for establishing access to health care. DOC staff advocate that all eligible individuals releasing from prison enroll in Medicaid programs for those unforeseen medical needs that may arise. The classification increases with mental health treatment need. This graphic indicates that individuals with serious mental health concerns (MH-2A) are assisted with the application process, while individuals with severe personality disorders (MH-2B) may require additional assistance with the application process, although this is a small population with only 50 identified releases. Full definitions of each category are available in Appendix B.

APPENDIX A: DATA TABLES

Division of Adult Institutions (DAI) Men's Maximum Institutions

Facility	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Columbia Correctional Institution	174	115	66.1%	4	2.3%	55	31.6%
Dodge Correctional Institution	242	176	72.7%	8	3.3%	58	24.0%
Green Bay Correctional Institution	171	116	67.8%	1	0.6%	54	31.6%
Waupun Correctional Institution	142	108	76.1%	3	2.1%	31	21.8%
Wisconsin Secure Program Facility	49	31	63.3%	1	2.0%	17	34.7%
Subtotals	778	546	70.2%	17	2.2%	215	27.6%

DAI Men's Medium Institutions (Excluding MSDF)

Facility	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Fox Lake Correctional Institution	266	169	63.5%	7	2.6%	90	33.8%
Jackson Correctional Institution	319	228	71.5%	9	2.8%	82	25.7%
Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution	359	250	69.6%	8	2.2%	101	28.1%
New Lisbon Correctional Institution	183	132	72.1%	2	1.1%	49	26.8%
Oshkosh Correctional Institution	430	341	79.3%	7	1.6%	82	19.1%
Prairie du Chien	272	215	79.0%	5	1.8%	52	19.1%
Racine Correctional Institution	498	356	71.5%	13	2.6%	129	25.9%
Redgranite Correctional Institution	268	196	73.1%	8	3.0%	64	23.9%
Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility	116	60	51.7%	2	1.7%	54	46.6%
Stanley Correctional Institution	291	224	77.0%	3	1.0%	64	22.0%
Sturtevant Transitional Facility	100	78	78.0%	0	0.0%	22	22.0%
Subtotals	3102	2249	72.5%	64	2.1%	789	25.4%

DAI Men's Maximum/Medium Institution (Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility)

Facility	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility	610	473	77.5%	3	0.5%	134	22.0%

DAI Men's Minimum Institutions

Facility	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility	604	477	79.0%	12	2.0%	115	19.0%
Oakhill Correctional Institution	320	254	79.4%	9	2.8%	57	17.8%
Subtotals	924	731	79.1%	21	2.3%	172	18.6%

DAI Men's Wisconsin Correctional Center System (WCCS)

Facility	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Black River Correctional Center	210	170	81.0%	1	0.5%	39	18.6%
Drug Abuse Correctional Center	306	251	82.0%	6	2.0%	49	16.0%
Flambeau Correctional Center	75	62	82.7%	1	1.3%	12	16.0%
Felmers Chaney Correctional Center	71	41	57.7%	1	1.4%	29	40.8%
Gordon Correctional Center	30	23	76.7%	0	0.0%	7	23.3%
John Burke Correctional Center	102	77	75.5%	2	2.0%	23	22.5%
Kenosha Correctional Center	38	24	63.2%	0	0.0%	14	36.8%
McNaughton Correctional Center	25	16	64.0%	1	4.0%	8	32.0%
Marshall Sherrer Correctional Center	45	21	46.7%	1	2.2%	23	51.1%
Oregon Correctional Center	54	40	74.1%	0	0.0%	14	25.9%
St. Croix Correctional Center	117	79	67.5%	1	0.9%	37	31.6%
Sanger Powers Correctional Center	41	27	65.9%	0	0.0%	14	34.1%
Thompson Correctional Center	81	53	65.4%	0	0.0%	28	34.6%
Winnebago Correctional Center	132	94	71.2%	4	3.0%	34	25.8%
Subtotals	1327	978	73.7%	18	1.4%	331	24.9%

DAI Wisconsin Women's Correctional Center (WWCS) System

Facility	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Milwaukee Women's Correctional Center	67	61	91.0%	1	1.5%	5	7.5%
Robert Ellsworth Correctional Center	237	203	85.7%	7	3.0%	27	11.4%
Taycheedah Correctional Institution	337	278	82.5%	5	1.5%	54	16.0%
Subtotals	641	542	84.6%	13	2.0%	86	13.4%

Division of Juvenile Corrections (DJC)

Facility	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Copper Lake School	2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%
Lincoln Hills School	41	26	63.4%	0	0.0%	15	36.6%
Subtotals	43	26	60.5%		0.0%	17	39.5%

Department of Health Services (DHS) Facilities

Facility	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center	16	12	75.0%	0	0.0%	4	25.0%
Wisconsin Resource Center	168	138	82.1%	1	0.6%	29	17.3%
Subtotals	184	150	81.5%	1	0.5%	33	17.9%

County Jail Contracts

Facility	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Fond du Lac County Jail Contract	2	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	1	50.0%
House of Corrections Jail Contract	27	20	74.1%	0	0.0%	7	25.9%
Juneau County Jail Contract	34	30	88.2%	0	0.0%	4	11.8%
Milwaukee County Jail / House of Corrections	2	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	1	50.0%
Oneida County Jail	1	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Outagamie County Jail Contract	1	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Ozaukee County Jail Contract	2	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	1	50.0%
Racine County Jail Contract	131	76	58.0%	6	4.6%	49	37.4%
St Croix County Jail	1	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%
Vilas County Jail Contract	4	4	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Winnebago County Jail Contract	23	16	69.6%	0	0.0%	7	30.4%
Bayfield County Jail Contract	2	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	1	50.0%
Douglas County Jail	1	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Forest County Jail Contract	1	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Jefferson County Jail Contract	4	3	75.0%	0	0.0%	1	25.0%
Langlade County Jail Contract	1	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Oneida County Jail Contract	3	2	66.7%	0	0.0%	1	33.3%
Subtotals	240	160	66.7%	6	2.5%	74	30.8%
Totals:	7849	5855	74.6%	143	1.8%	1851	23.6%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographic Characteristics of Individuals Leaving Prison								
Gender		Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Male		7161	5283	73.8%	130	1.8%	1748	24.4%
Female		688	572	83.1%	13	1.9%	103	15.0%
Race								
White		4108	3194	77.8%	76	1.9%	838	20.4%
Black		3181	2292	72.1%	49	1.5%	840	26.4%
American Indian/Alaskan Native		455	297	65.3%	16	3.5%	142	31.2%
Asian or Pacific Islander		101	70	69.3%	2	2.0%	29	28.7%
Unknown		4	2	50.0%	0	0.0%	2	50.0%
Ethnicity								
Unknown		3935	3022	76.8%	77	2.0%	836	21.2%
Non-Hispanic or Latino		3374	2477	73.4%	59	1.7%	838	24.8%
Hispanic or Latino		540	356	65.9%	7	1.3%	177	32.8%

Eligibility Determination Rates by Age Group of Individuals Leaving Prison							
Age Group	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
18 and Under	62	35	56.5%	0	0.0%	27	43.5%
19-24	826	465	56.3%	18	2.2%	343	41.5%
25-34	2997	2295	76.6%	58	1.9%	644	21.5%
35-44	2177	1676	77.0%	40	1.8%	461	21.2%
45-54	1039	826	79.5%	10	1.0%	203	19.5%
55-64	600	477	79.5%	11	1.8%	112	18.7%
65 and older	148	81	54.7%	6	4.1%	61	41.2%
Totals	7849	5855	74.6%	143	1.8%	1851	23.6%

Medical Activity Classification Description and Enrollment Status								
Medical Activity Class	Gender	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Any Activity	M	6252	4595	73.5%	114	1.8%	1543	24.7%
	F	542	449	82.8%	8	1.5%	85	15.7%
Any Activity	Total	6794	5044	74.2%	122	1.8%	1628	24.0%
Light Activity	M	218	171	78.4%	7	3.2%	40	18.3%
	F	45	40	88.9%	4	8.9%	1	2.2%
Light Activity	Total	263	211	80.2%	11	4.2%	41	15.6%
Moderate Activity	M	388	297	76.5%	9	2.3%	82	21.1%
	F	41	33	80.5%	1	2.4%	7	17.1%
Moderate Activity	Total	429	330	76.9%	10	2.3%	89	20.7%
No Work Status	M	80	62	77.5%	0	0.0%	18	22.5%
	F	16	15	93.8%	0	0.0%	1	6.3%
No Work Status	Total	96	77	80.2%	0	0.0%	19	19.8%
PE Refused - No Work	M	92	78	84.8%	0	0.0%	14	15.2%
	F	17	16	94.1%	0	0.0%	1	5.9%
PE Refused - No Work	Total	109	94	86.2%	0	0.0%	15	13.8%
Individuals With Defined Status	Total	7691	5756	74.8%	143	1.9%	1792	23.3%

Mental Health Classification and Enrollment Status								
Mental Health Code	Gender	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
MH-0	M	4288	3057	71.3%	79	1.8%	1152	26.9%
	F	80	61	76.3%	3	3.8%	16	20.0%
MH-0	Total	4368	3118	71.4%	82	1.9%	1168	26.7%
MH-1	M	2338	1798	76.9%	43	1.8%	497	21.3%
	F	378	322	85.2%	4	1.1%	52	13.8%
MH-1	Total	2716	2120	78.1%	47	1.7%	549	20.2%
MH-2A	M	434	363	83.6%	7	1.6%	64	14.7%
	F	210	177	84.3%	6	2.9%	27	12.9%
MH-2A	Total	644	540	83.9%	13	2.0%	91	14.1%
MH-2B	M	34	24	70.6%	1	2.9%	9	26.5%
	F	16	11	68.8%	0	0.0%	5	31.3%
MH-2B	Total	50	35	70.0%	1	2.0%	14	28.0%
Total		7778	5813	74.7%	143	1.8%	1822	23.4%

INCOME MAINTENANCE AGENCY INFORMATION

Eligibility Determination by Income Maintenance Agency							
Consortia Name	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Capital Consortium	728	605	83.1%	21	2.9%	102	14.0%
Western Consortium	239	194	81.2%	8	3.3%	37	15.5%
State Consortium	2255	1901	84.3%	35	1.6%	319	14.1%
Bay Lake Consortium	552	454	82.2%	10	1.8%	88	15.9%
Northern Consortium	331	261	78.9%	13	3.9%	57	17.2%
East Central Consortium	588	504	85.7%	15	2.6%	69	11.7%
Moraine Lakes Consortium	546	469	85.9%	11	2.0%	66	12.1%
Kenosha Racine Consortium	609	526	86.4%	8	1.3%	75	12.3%
IM Tribal Agency	18	5	27.8%	1	5.6%	12	66.7%
Great Rivers Consortium	428	361	84.3%	4	0.9%	63	14.7%
Southern Consortium	363	298	82.1%	6	1.7%	59	16.3%
Central Consortium	326	276	84.7%	8	2.5%	42	12.9%
N/A	866	1	0.1%	3	0.3%	862	99.5%
	7849	5855	74.6%	143	1.8%	1851	23.6%

Top 10 Most Common Denial Reasons

Denial Reason	Rank	Denial Code
DOES NOT MEET PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.	1	141
DID NOT VERIFY ANSWERS.	2	112
YOUR RENEWAL HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED.	3	077
ALREADY RECEIVES MA THRU SSI	4	068
MONTHLY INCOME EXCEEDS THE NET INCOME LIMIT.	5	754
INCOME EXCEEDS THE NET INCOME LIMIT.	6	014
MEDICARE ENTITLED	7	625
INDIVIDUAL IS INCARCERATED	8	681
INDIVIDUAL BC+ ELIGIBILITY EXPLORED IN OTHER TYPE OF BCP AG	9	570
INDIV IS NOT REQUESTING HEALTHCARE AND MUST APPLY SEPARATELY	10	697

Individuals Determined Eligible by Month

Month of Eligibility	Facility Releases	Releases Eligible	Percentage Eligible	Releases Denied	Percentage Denied	Did Not Apply	Percentage Not Applying
Month Prior to Release	2929	2809	48.0%	120	4.1%	0	0.0%
Month of Release	2763	2758	47.1%	5	0.2%	0	0.0%
Month after Release	306	288	4.9%	18	5.9%	0	0.0%
Did Not Apply	1851	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1851	100.0%
Total	7849	5855	74.6%	143	1.8%	1851	23.6%

APPENDIX B: DEFINITIONS

Did Not Apply: This category includes two populations. The first group contains individuals who do not appear in the DHS data, meaning they have never received benefits. The second group contains individuals who have had previous periods of eligibility, but with no application activity during the timeframes studied in this report.

Eligibility Determination: A technical term used by the Department of Health Services (DHS) describing the decision to enroll the applicant in Medicaid programs after processing the application and collecting the electronic signature of the applicant. In most cases involving telephone applications, this determination is made during the call. Eligibility determination is similar to program enrollment, but eligibility determination is the term used in the report to retain continuity with DHS descriptions.

Ethnicity: Persons in our care report ethnicity during the assessment and evaluation process conducted at Dodge Correctional Institution (DCI) for males and at Taycheedah Correctional Institution (TCI) for females. Categories in this report include: Hispanic or Latino, Non-Hispanic or Latino, and Unknown.

Facility Releases: Includes all youth and adult releases incarcerated longer than 30 days in DOC custody and released from DOC facilities, certain county jails, the Wisconsin Resource Center, and Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center. If an individual had more than one qualifying release during the timeframe, only the first qualifying release was included in this evaluation.

Income Maintenance (IM) Agency: This is a broad term that includes the IM Consortia, Milwaukee Enrollment Services, and the tribal agencies designated by the elected tribal governing body of a federally recognized Wisconsin Indian tribe or band and contracted by DHS to administer an income maintenance program.

Income Maintenance (IM) Consortium: A group of counties that is approved by the Department of Health Services to administer income maintenance programs. These counties staff and maintain a call center, conduct application processing and eligibility determinations, and conduct case management.

Medicaid: Wisconsin Medicaid is a joint federal and state program that provides high-quality health care coverage, long-term care, and other services to over one million Wisconsin residents. There are many types of Medicaid programs. Each program has different rules, such as about age and income, that one must meet to be eligible for the program. (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/index.htm>)

Mental Health (MH) Code 0: There is no current mental health need. The person in our care does not need a follow-up visit with the Psychological Services Unit and is not seeing a psychiatrist for any reason.

Mental Health (MH) Code 1: The person in our care is receiving mental health services but does not have a serious mental illness. This code is not appropriate for individuals who only receive program services, such as substance abuse or sex offender treatment, and have no other mental health needs.

Mental Health (MH) Code 2A: A current diagnosis of, or being in remission from, the following conditions: Schizophrenia, Delusional Disorder, Schizophreniform Disorder, Schizoaffective Disorder, Other Specified (and Unspecified) Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorder, Major Depressive Disorder, Bipolar I Disorder, and Bipolar II Disorder. MH2-A also includes persons in our care with current or recent symptoms of the following conditions: Brief Psychotic Disorder, Substance/Medication-Induced Psychotic Disorder, head injury or other neurological impairments that result in behavioral or emotional dyscontrol, chronic and persistent mood or anxiety disorders, and other conditions that lead to significant functional disability.

Mental Health (MH) Code 2B: Persons in our care with a severe primary personality disorder, accompanied by significant functional impairment, and subject to periodic decompensation; i.e., psychosis, depression, or suicidality. If an individual has stable behavior for two years, the code may be reassessed. Excluded from MH -2B classification are persons in our care who have a primary diagnosis of Antisocial Personality Disorder and whose behavior is primarily the result of targeted goals rather than impairment from diagnosed mental illness.

Medical Activity Classification Description: After completion of a physical exam, persons in our care are classified into the levels of activity that their health will tolerate. The descriptions are used in this report to approximate individuals that may have various levels of limiting health conditions.

- **Any Activity** - The individual is physically fit to perform any type of work/activity.
- **Light Activity** - The individual is restricted from work assignments requiring steady paced activity. Individuals should be allowed to work at own pace.
- **Moderate Activity** - The individual is restricted from work involving heavy lifting over 50 pounds; tasks which demand prolonged physical exertion such as excessive running, climbing, walking or the manual use of heavy machines.
- **No Work Status** - The individual is unable to work.
- **Refused PE/No Work Status** - The individual refused to participate in physical exam and cannot work.

Releases Denied: Individuals who have submitted applications and do not meet the criteria for Medicaid programs. The ten most common denial reasons are listed and discussed earlier in this report. Individuals with at least one denial during the month prior to, the month of, or the month after release without at least one month with an eligibility determination are recorded in this category.

Race: Persons in our care report race during the assessment and evaluation process conducted at Dodge Correctional Institution (DCI) for males and at Taycheedah Correctional Institution (TCI) for females. Categories include: White, Black, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, and Unknown.

Releases Eligible: For the purposes of this report, individuals are recorded as eligible if they have at least one eligibility determination during the month prior to, the month of, or the month after release.

Suspension of Medicaid Status: Wisconsin has developed a suspension policy for inmates of all ages in various correctional facilities such as state prisons, federal prisons, and local jails. The suspension process will allow individuals incarcerated in these settings to maintain health care eligibility to support easier transition to the community and provide continuity of care so that they can immediately access Medicaid-covered services upon release from the facility. (For more information about this policy, see [DHS Operations Memo 20-24](#) dated October 16, 2020.)

Timeframe: The timeframe of this report is state fiscal year 2021, and includes individuals with actual release dates on or after July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.



FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS REPORT, PLEASE CONTACT:

The DOC Reentry Unit

(608) 240-5017

DOCReentry@wisconsin.gov