

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT SERIES

# *Inmate Profile 2018*



November 2019

**Office of the Secretary  
Research and Policy Unit**

Inquiries regarding this report may be directed to:  
[WIDOCDataandResearchInquiries@wisconsin.gov](mailto:WIDOCDataandResearchInquiries@wisconsin.gov)

State of Wisconsin

**Department of Corrections**



## Profile of Inmates in Prison on December 31, 2018

The information below describes all 23,857 inmates under the custody of the Wisconsin Department of Corrections (WI DOC) on December 31, 2018. This population includes inmates serving Wisconsin sentences, Federal sentences, and sentences from other states. It does not include offenders under the supervision of the Division of Community Corrections held in a prison as a temporary hold. Offense related information excludes inmates who are not serving the confinement portion of a Wisconsin prison sentence (e.g., those in prison for an alternative to revocation, those serving another state's sentence, etc.). Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

### Key Points:

- ∂ 93% of the population is male.
- ∂ 51% of males and 68% of females identify themselves as White.
- ∂ 44% of males and 23% of females identify themselves as Black.
- ∂ 8% of males and 3% of females identify themselves as Hispanic.
- ∂ 39% of males and 86% of females have a mental health condition.
- ∂ 71% of males and 65% of females report they have never been married.
- ∂ 92% of males and 97% of females report they have had no prior military experience.
- ∂ 55% of males and 53% of females report having no dependent children.
- ∂ 69% of males and 74% of females report that they have completed high school, have a High School Equivalency Diploma or have a GED (General Educational Development), or have completed some post-secondary education.
- ∂ 66% of inmates have committed a violent offense.
- ∂ Approximately 32% of inmates have five years or more left to serve in prison.
- ∂ 24% of inmates have an active conviction for a sex offense.
- ∂ Slightly less than half (48%) of inmates are experiencing their first episode of adult prison incarceration in Wisconsin.

Facility Characteristics

**Number of Prison Facilities** ..... **37**

**Male**

Maximum ..... 6  
 Medium ..... 11  
 Minimum ..... 17

**Female**

Maximum/ Medium ..... 1  
 Minimum ..... 2

Inmate Characteristics

Inmate Characteristics

**Total Inmates in Prison** ..... **23,857**

Male ..... 22,282  
 Female ..... 1,575

**Gender**

Male ..... 93%  
 Female ..... 7%

**Average Age**

Male ..... 38  
 Female ..... 36

**Race**

|                                      | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| White .....                          | 51%         | 68%           |
| Black .....                          | 44%         | 23%           |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native ..... | 4%          | 8%            |
| Asian/Pacific Islander .....         | 1%          | 1%            |

*Of these*

Hispanic or Latino ..... 8% ..... 3%

**Mental Health Condition** ..... **39%** ..... **86%**

Inmate Profile - Inmates in Prison on December 31, 2018

---

**Lifers**

|              |    |
|--------------|----|
| Male .....   | 5% |
| Female ..... | 3% |

**First Wisconsin Adult Prison Incarceration**

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Yes ..... | 48% |
| No .....  | 52% |

**Marital Status**

|                             | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Single, Never Married ..... | 71%         | 65%           |
| Divorced .....              | 13%         | 17%           |
| Married .....               | 11%         | 13%           |
| Other Status .....          | 5%          | 4%            |

**Military Experience**

|               |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|
| No .....      | 92% | 97% |
| Yes .....     | 6%  | 2%  |
| Unknown ..... | 1%  | 1%  |

**Religion**

|                                  |     |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Protestant/Other Christian ..... | 51% | 61% |
| Catholic .....                   | 12% | 12% |
| Islam .....                      | 13% | 2%  |
| Native American .....            | 6%  | 8%  |
| Pagan .....                      | 7%  | 6%  |
| Jewish .....                     | 3%  | 2%  |
| Other Religion .....             | 3%  | 6%  |

**Number of Dependents**

|                   |     |     |
|-------------------|-----|-----|
| None .....        | 55% | 53% |
| 1 to 3 .....      | 37% | 39% |
| 4 to 5 .....      | 6%  | 7%  |
| More than 5 ..... | 2%  | 1%  |

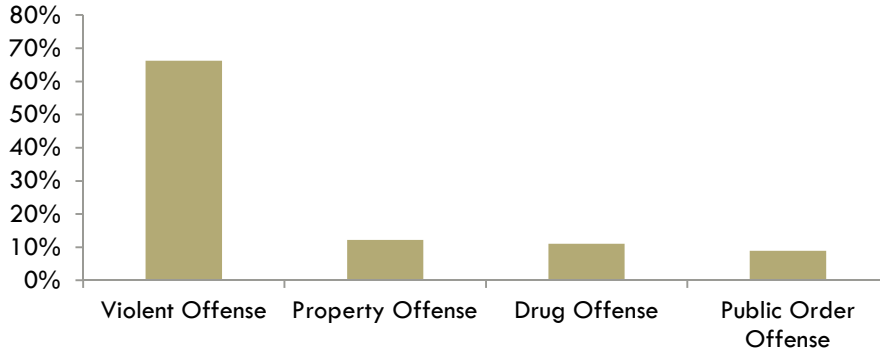
**Highest Grade Completed**

|   |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|
| < 9th grade .....                             | 4%  | 3%  |
| 9th through 12th grade- no HSED .....         | 26% | 22% |
| HSED/GED .....                                | 46% | 44% |
| Some Graduate work or Vocational School ..... | 17% | 23% |
| Associates, Bachelors, Masters, or PhD .....  | 5%  | 7%  |
| Unknown .....                                 | 2%  | 1%  |

**Current Offense and Length of Stay**

**Most Serious Offense Type**

|                      |       |     |
|----------------------|-------|-----|
| Violent Offense      | ..... | 66% |
| Property Offense     | ..... | 13% |
| Drug Offense         | ..... | 12% |
| Public Order Offense | ..... | 9%  |



**Active Conviction for a Sex offense**

|     |       |     |
|-----|-------|-----|
| Yes | ..... | 24% |
| No  | ..... | 76% |

**Time Left to Serve (from 12/31/2018 forward)**

|                  |       |     |
|------------------|-------|-----|
| Less than 1 year | ..... | 25% |
| 1 year           | ..... | 18% |
| 2 years          | ..... | 12% |
| 3 years          | ..... | 7%  |
| 4 years          | ..... | 5%  |
| 5 or more years  | ..... | 27% |
| Life Sentence    | ..... | 5%  |

