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The admissions numbers presented below are physical admissions to Wisconsin adult prisons or contracted facilities from 2000 to 2016. The admission counts exclude inmates who were never physically admitted and released from a WI DOC prison or contract facility if they were

determined at the time of sentencing to have already served sufficient time while being held in a county jail. Admissions for temporary holds are also excluded.

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Overall, prison admissions increased between 2000 and 2016 (from 8,343 to 9,324 admissions). In 2006, admissions peaked at 10,547, then decreased to a low of 8,172 in 2012. In 2016, on average, there were 785 admissions per month.



## Highlights:

**Gender.** Males have consistently made up the majority (between 90% and 92%) of admissions to prison across all admission

years. However, the number of females admitted increased considerably (by 22.5%) between 2008 and 2016 (from 733 to 898 admissions).

**Race.** From 2000 to 2016, the proportion of White inmates admitted increased from 47.6% to 56.3% of all admissions, while the proportion of Black inmates admitted decreased from 48.0% to 37.3%.

**Age.** Between 2000 and 2016, admissions for younger inmates decreased while admissions for older inmates increased. In 2000, inmates aged 20-24 made up the largest number of admissions (23.3%), while in 2016, those aged 25-29 made up the largest number (21.1%). In that timeframe, admissions for inmates 50 or older more than tripled, increasing from 3.8% to 11.7% of all admissions.

Admissions by Type. In 2016, about a third (30.6%) of admissions were for new sentence only and about a third (35.2%) were for revocation only.

**Most Serious Offense.** The majority of new sentence only admissions between 2000 and 2016 were for inmates whose most serious offense was a violent offense (45.7% in 2016).

**Conviction County.** Convictions from Milwaukee County represented the largest percentage of new sentence only admissions in 2016 (35.8%), followed by Racine (6.7%), Waukesha (5.5%), Brown (5.1%), and Dane County (4.2%).

Any Drug, Sex, or OWI Offense. While admissions for drug offenders (26.6% in 2016) and sex offenders (12.1% in 2016) have remained relatively stable, the proportion of inmates admitted with an OWI offense increased substantially from 4.6% in 2000 to 12.3% in 2016.

**Estimated Confinement Time.** Confinement time for new sentence only admissions increased in recent years, with confinement times of two or more years representing the majority of admissions since 2005.

For more detail, see the full Prison Admissions report on the WI DOC website: Prison Admissions: 2000-2016

Inquiries regarding this report may be directed to the Data and Research Inquiries mailbox: WIDOCDataandResearchInguiries@wisconsin.gov