

Board of County Commissioners

Quarterly Report on Conditions of Confinement and Security at the Washoe County Jail

As the commission is aware, the Washoe County Consolidated Jail was opened in 1988 with a bed capacity of 448 beds. In 1999 an additional wing was opened which created an additional 256 bed open bay dorm-style consisting of 4 pods. Again, in 2008, the facility expanded to include three additional units, a medical triage center, E-Kitchen and laundry facility. The last expansion, coupled with double bunking, has raised the total bed count to 1301.

The jail has maintained an average daily population (ADP) of 1,087 during this FY and we are on track to book over 22,000 people during 2017. The ADP has increased slightly, at 1.87% over the previous year.

Staffing has been challenging in both authorized totals and recruitment and retention. We have hired 134 deputy sheriffs in the past 5 years and our budgeted allotment of deputy sheriffs has remained flat since FY 14/15. To properly staff the facility, overtime is used at an alarming rate.

Security

The security aspects of the jail are truly multifaceted. For the purposes of this report, the physical security of the jail will be the focus. The most fundamental purpose of a jail is to secure prisoners and prevent their escape. After some challenging escapes in the late 1990s and early 2000s, the WCJ has not had an escape from secure custody since 2002. The staff take security seriously and the checks and balances in place have prevented any such escapes for the past 15 years. Physical improvements, to include increased cameras, window mesh, additional gates, added razor wire and improved locks have all occurred since the 2002 escape.

Other important components of security include the safety of the staff, visitors and the safety of the inmates. Despite in excess of 500,000 bookings in the past 25 years, the facility has never suffered an in-custody murder and violent inmate on inmate attacks are rare. Staff are equally safe, with significant attacks on staff equally rare. The facility has noted an uptick of both inmate on inmate batteries and inmate on staff batteries the past three years, which coincides with a more violent inmate population and an increase in gang-affiliated inmates.

The facility faces additional challenges as it ages; to include the need to replace worn locks, doors, sinks, toilets, cameras and other CIP repairs such as roofing and HVAC systems. The facility at Parr Blvd is the largest contiguous building owned by Washoe County, with over 1 million square feet and is one of the few that sees around the clock usage.

Welfare of the Inmates

The welfare of inmates in a custodial situation is best measured by several factors, to include: the health of the inmates, their access to medical care, infectious disease and vermin control, food services, environmental controls, the safety of the inmates, and out of cell time. Each of these important components can be a measure of the overall welfare of the inmate population. For this quarterly report, the focus will be the health of the inmates and their access to medical care.

The population of this jail, not unlike jails in other communities, has a generally unhealthier population than a traditional general sampling of the public. This unhealthy population often has poor nutrition, poor hygiene and a lack of patient responsibility. The same person who uses illicit drugs and commits crimes is less likely to have the personal responsibility needed to lead a healthy lifestyle. The contracted medical Doctor for WCJ, who has been a practicing physician in this community for 25 years and a Doctor since 1978, describes nearly half of the jail population as extremely ill.

As of August 2017, 802 inmates were under treatment for a chronic medical condition. During the month of August 2017, 551 inmates were receiving some type of medication while in jail and 261 of them were on a mental health medication.

Just in the month of August, 440 inmates were seen by a mental health professional. (LCSW or Doctor). In the month of August, 188 inmates were on an alcohol detox protocol and 152 were on an opioid withdrawal protocol, up from 127 in June 2017.

The contracted medical vendor, Naphcare, logged 7,700 hours of staff time during a 30 day period June 30– July 30, 2017.

The medical contract with Naphcare was extended in June 2017 through May 31, 2018, to ensure continuous health care while a new Request for Proposal was developed.

Staffing

Total authorized deputy sheriff's for Detention is 210 deputy sheriffs. Currently we have 208

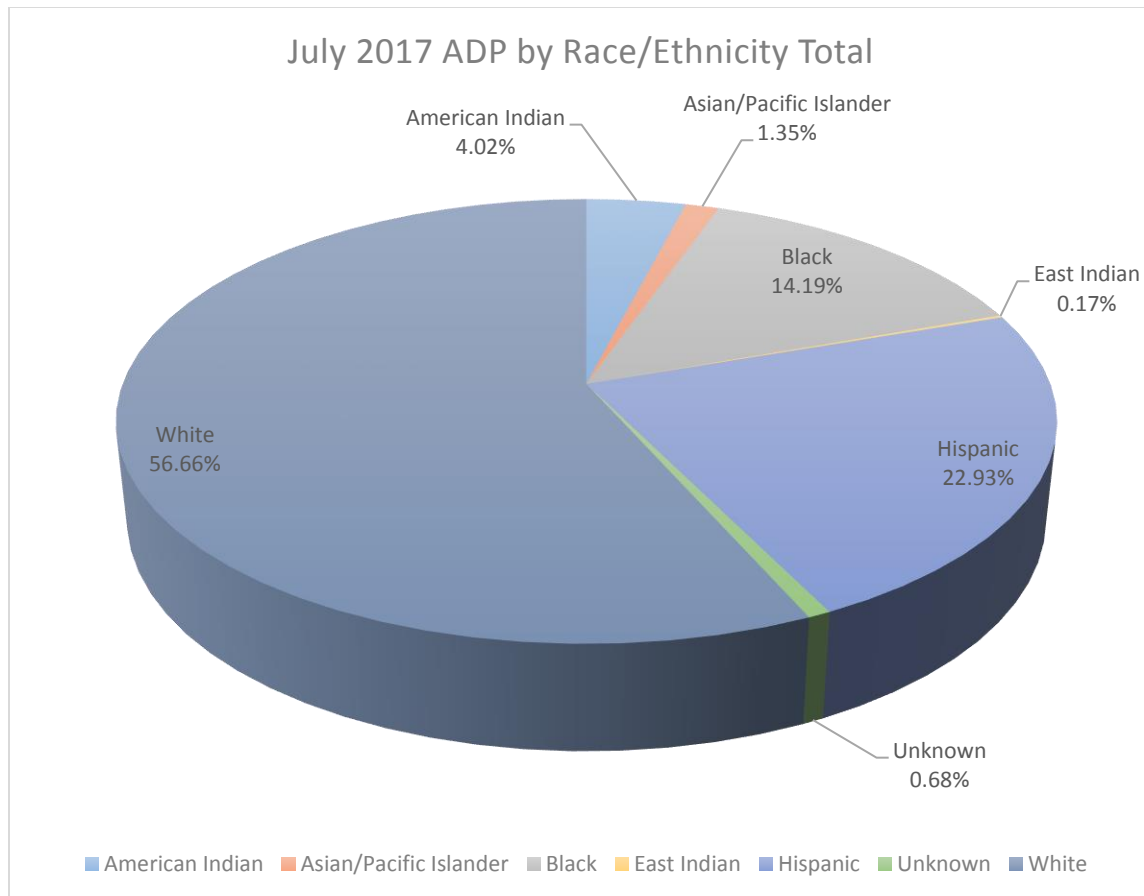
The 210 is broken down into 162 for operation of the jail. The services side of Detention (Courts, IMU, ASU) is assigned 48 deputies.

As of September 26, 2017, there are 11 unavailable (maternity leave, extended medical, military). In addition 5 are assigned to patrol in a training program.

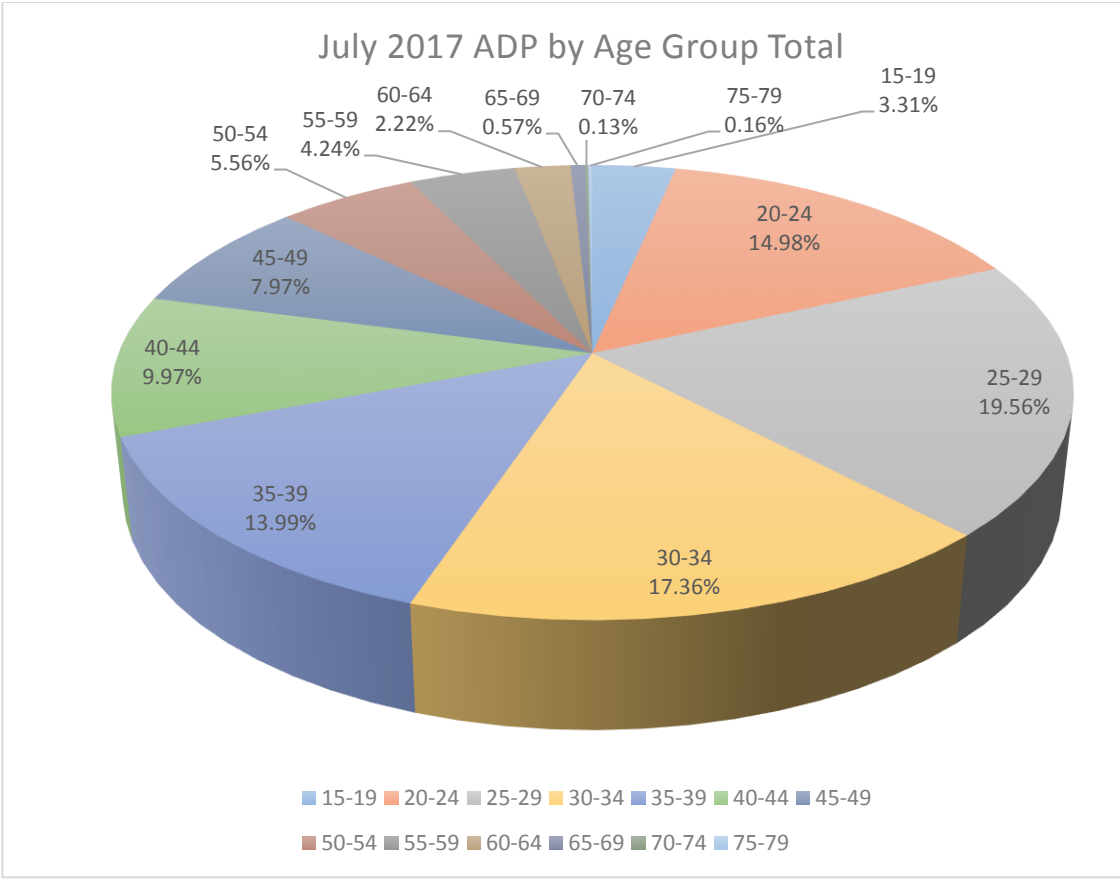
This leaves 149 available for the line. Each day, the minimum staffing to operate the jail is not met and this is before any sick calls, training leave or vacation leave. The result is overtime backfill, which during this quarter totaled \$615,406 for Detention operations alone from a \$1,274,265 budgeted authority.

Inmate Demographics

Race and Ethnicity of the Inmate Population

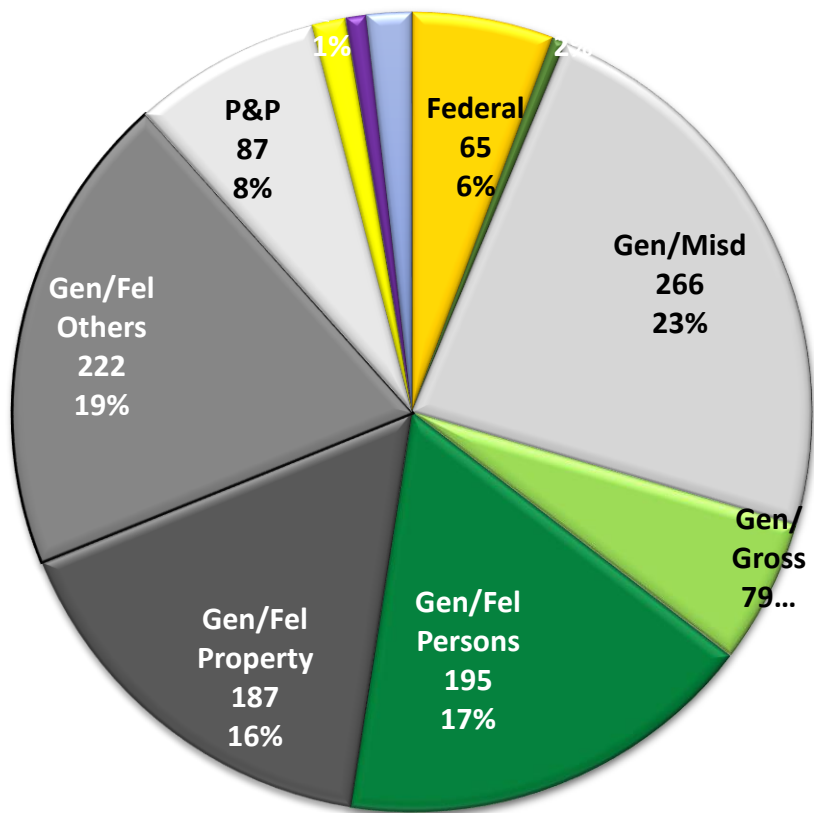


American Indian	4.02%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.35%
Black	14.1%
East Indian	0.17%
Hispanic	22.9%
White	56.66%
	%

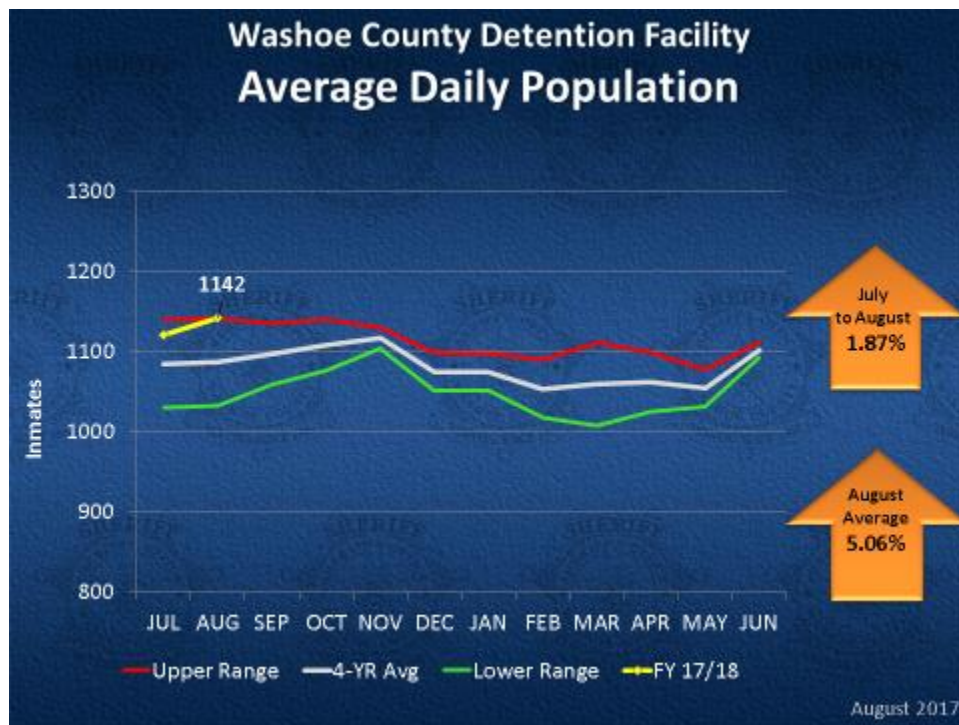


15-19	3.31%
20-24	14.98%
25-29	19.56%
30-34	17.36%
35-39	13.99%
40-44	9.97%
45-49	7.97%
50-54	5.56%
55-59	4.24%
60-64	2.22%

Inmate Population



Average Daily Population



The average ADP for July was 1121 and August was 1142. Historically, ADP for 2014 was 1104, 2015 was 1050 and 2016 was 1089.

