

Criminal Justice Advisory Board

Quality Assurance Sub-Committee
Point in Time Study of the Prison Population
February 2025

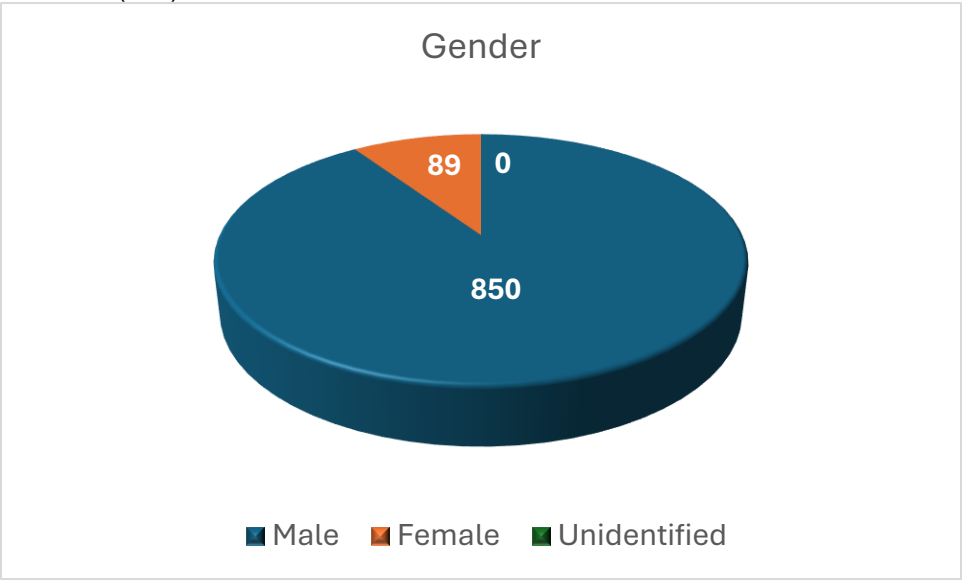
In February of 2003, Dauphin County established the Dauphin County Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) to enhance the criminal justice system and public safety through collaborative efforts and the use of evidence-based practices. Dauphin County's CJAB goals are comprehensive, incorporating participation from various county departments. Every three years a new strategic framework is established. As time went on CJAB members knew there was a need for subcommittees to ensure these initiatives were executed successfully. From this the Quality Assurance Subcommittee was created. The CJAB-QA Subcommittee was tasked with providing and evaluating information. In 2024, a "Point in Time Prison Population" study was completed. Results were shared with CJAB members and the community to work on understanding the needs of individuals incarcerated in Dauphin County Prison.

Last year's study focused on why individuals were incarcerated in Dauphin County Prison. Specifically what detainers or commitments individuals were being held on so that processes could be established with in Dauphin County.

This year's study focused on individuals, the nature of charges holding individuals and demographic information, in an attempt to understand what processes could be established to aid in the reduction of the prison population. On February 20, 2025, there were a total of nine hundred and thirty-nine people incarcerated in Dauphin County Prison with these individuals having a total of one thousand two hundred sixty-three charges. Note multiple individuals have more than one charge. The Common Pleas Case Management System reported for the year 2024, that Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas had sentencing dispositions for four thousand five hundred and ninety-nine criminal dockets. These individuals could be sentenced, unsentenced, being held on State, federal or other county detainers. It is imperative to understand that interpreting this data can be very difficult due to the complex nature and nuances within the criminal justice system. Pretrial and probation reforms, along with the implementation of specialty courts and other initiatives, have contributed to a reduction in the Dauphin County Prison population. However, these changes have also complicated data interpretation, as there is no single, definitive explanation for why individuals are incarcerated; rather, the causes are numerous and varied.

Dauphin County Prison
Point in Time Study from February 20, 2025
Inmate Total- 939

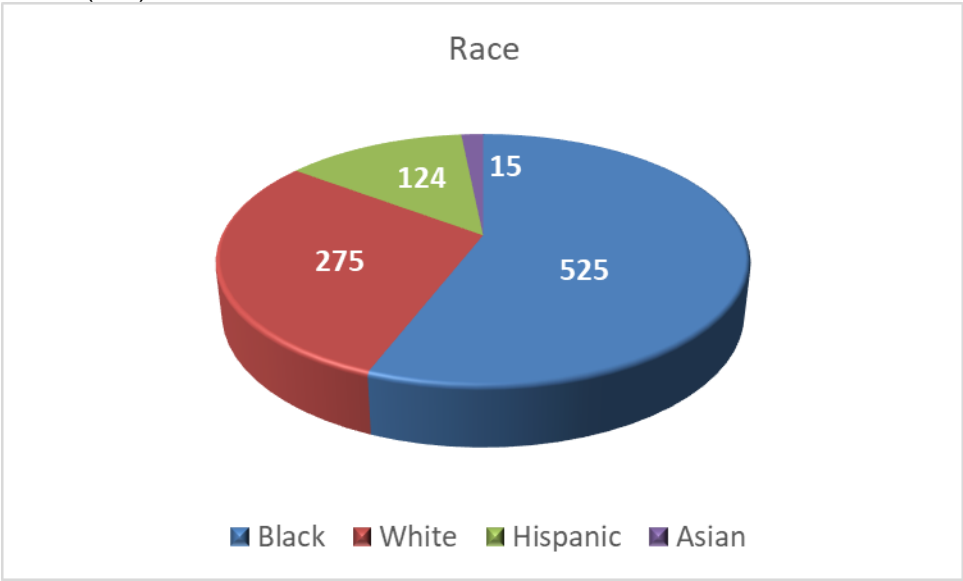
Gender (939)



Gender		
Male	850	91%
Female	89	9%

This is comparable to national trends that are being seen throughout the country.

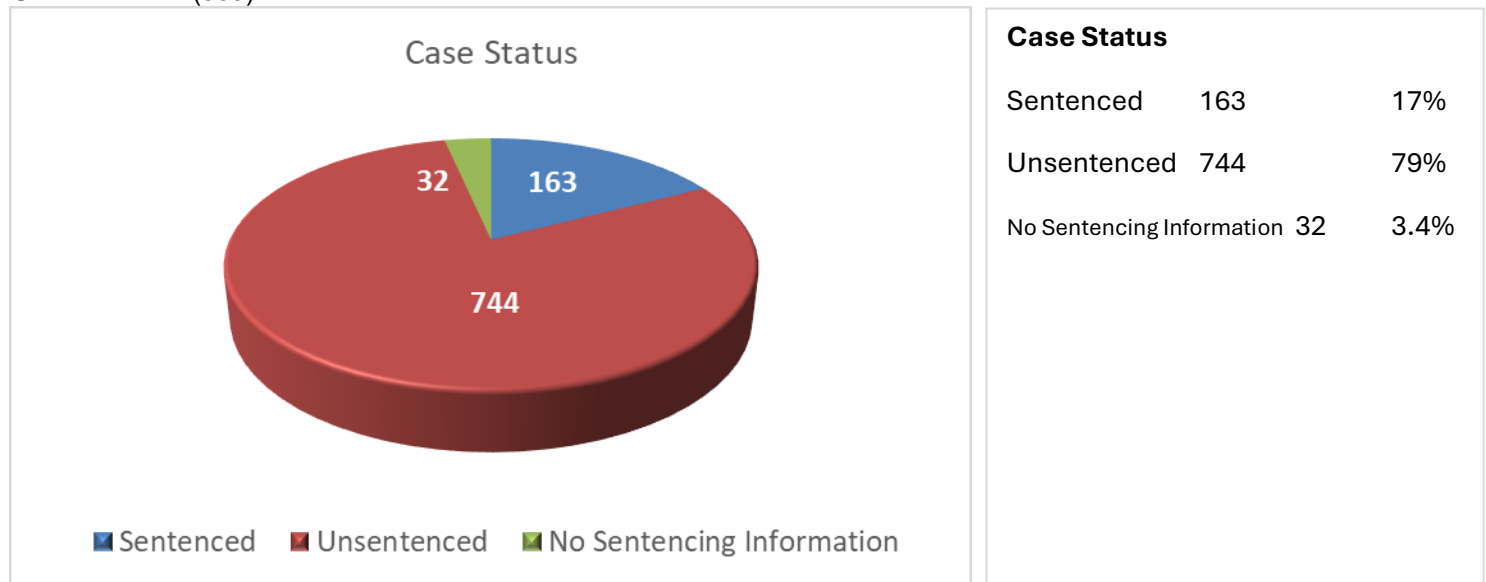
Race (939)



Race		
Black	525	56%
White	275	29%
Hispanic	124	13%
Asian	15	2%

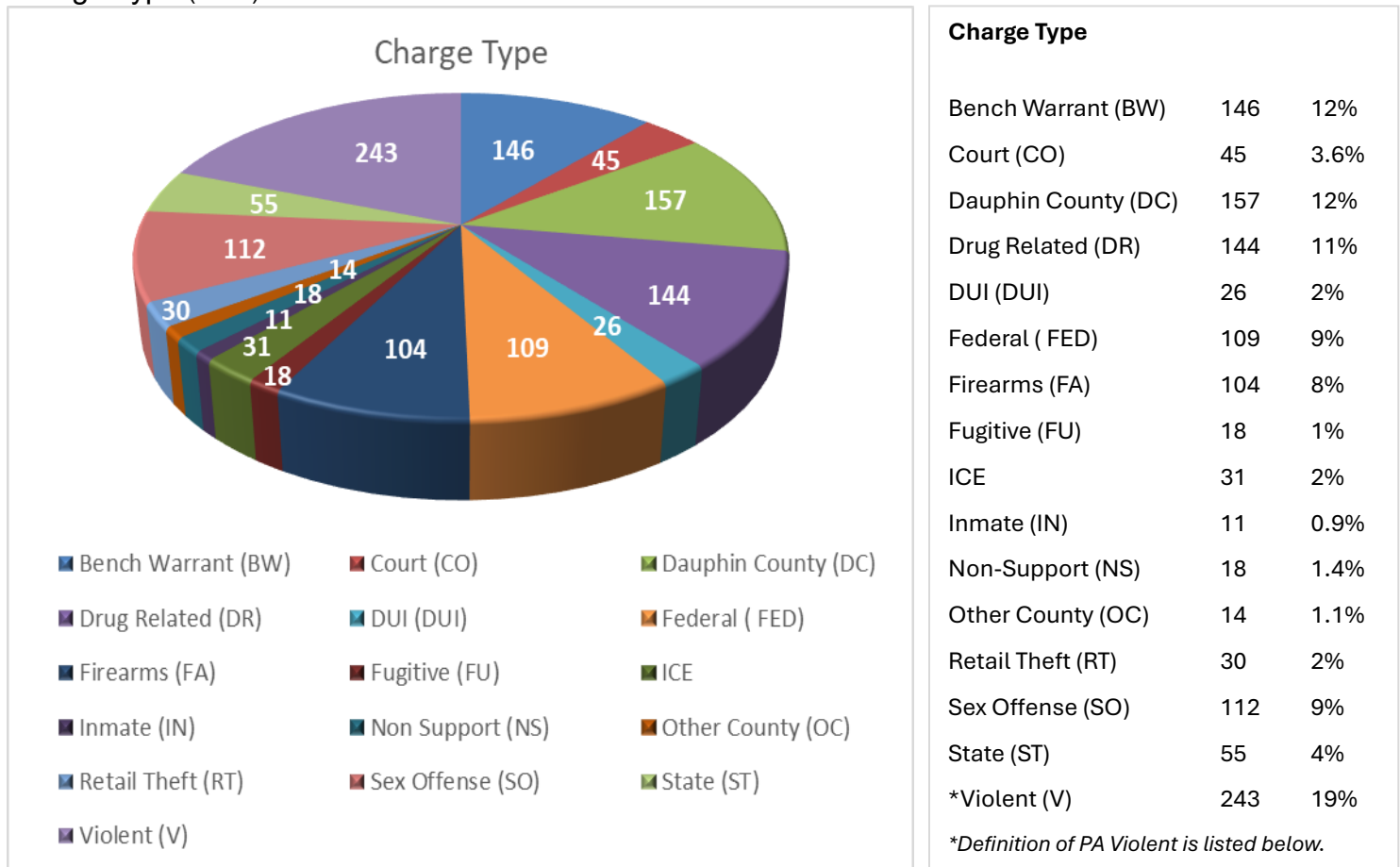
When comparing this information to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, they are reporting a larger white race than here in Dauphin County. Information is available on Federal Bureau of Prisons website and can be obtained at bop.gov.

Case Status (939)



Sentenced individuals are those who have been found guilty of a criminal offense in a court of law and have received a formal judgment imposing a specific penalty or term of confinement, probation, or another court-ordered sanction. Unsented individuals are defined as people awaiting sentencing. No sentencing information is available because the date the data was received had no information.

Charge Type (1263)



Note: Individuals can have one or more charges holding them.

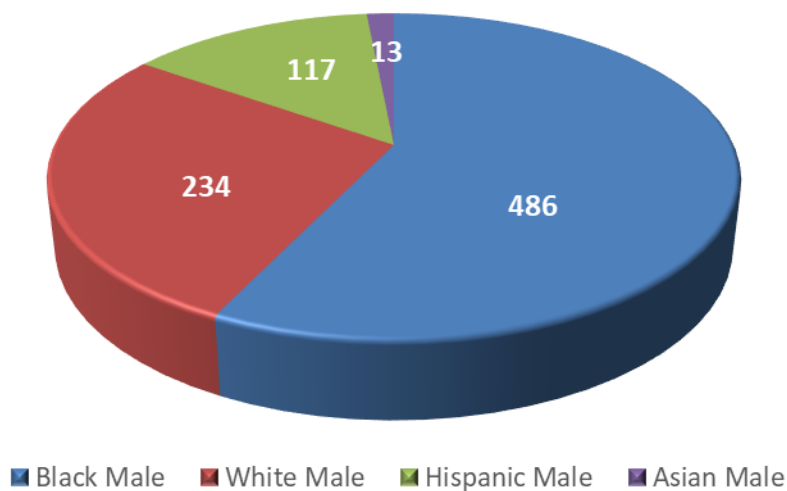
Note: Individuals may not have their charge(s) counted because they don't fall into designated categories.

PA Crimes Code

Violent (V)-Definition.--As used in this section, the term "crime of violence" means murder of the third degree, voluntary manslaughter, manslaughter of a law enforcement officer as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 2507(c) or (d) (relating to criminal homicide of law enforcement officer), murder of the third degree involving an unborn child as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 2604(c) (relating to murder of unborn child), aggravated assault of an unborn child as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 2606 (relating to aggravated assault of unborn child), aggravated assault as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 2702(a)(1) or (2) (relating to aggravated assault), assault of law enforcement officer as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 2702.1(a)(1) (relating to assault of law enforcement officer), use of weapons of mass destruction as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 2716(b) (relating to weapons of mass destruction), terrorism as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 2717(b)(2) (relating to terrorism), strangulation when the offense is graded as a felony as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 2718 (relating to strangulation), trafficking of persons when the offense is graded as a felony of the first degree as provided in 18 Pa.C.S. § 3011 (relating to trafficking in individuals), rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, aggravated indecent assault, incest, sexual assault, arson endangering persons or aggravated arson as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 3301(a) or (a.1) (relating to arson and related offenses), ecoterrorism as classified in 18 Pa.C.S. § 3311(b)(3) (relating to ecoterrorism), kidnapping, burglary as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 3502(a)(1) (relating to burglary), robbery as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 3701(a)(1)(i), (ii) or (iii) (relating to robbery), or robbery of a motor vehicle, drug delivery resulting in death as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 2506(a) (relating to drug delivery resulting in death), or criminal attempt, criminal conspiracy or criminal solicitation to commit murder or any of the offenses listed above, or an equivalent crime under the laws of this Commonwealth in effect at the time of the commission of that offense or an equivalent crime in another jurisdiction.

Race and Gender (939)

Race and Gender (Male)



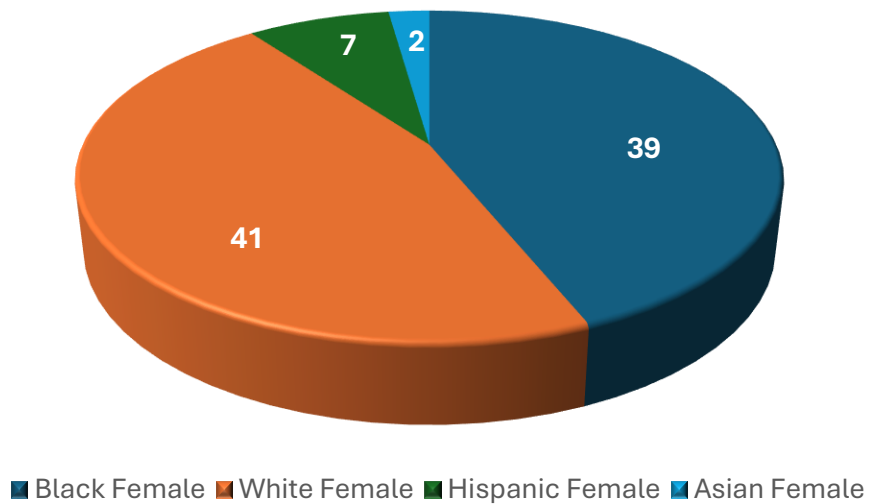
Race and Gender

Black Male	486	52%	57%
White Male	234	25%	28%
Hispanic Male	117	12%	14%
Asian Male	13	1%	1%

% of Specific Race Males v. all offenders (939).

% of Specific Race Males v. all Male offenders (850).

Race and Gender (Female)



Race and Gender

Black Female	39	4%	44%
White Female	41	4%	46%
Hispanic Female	7	1%	8%
Asian Female	2	0%	2%

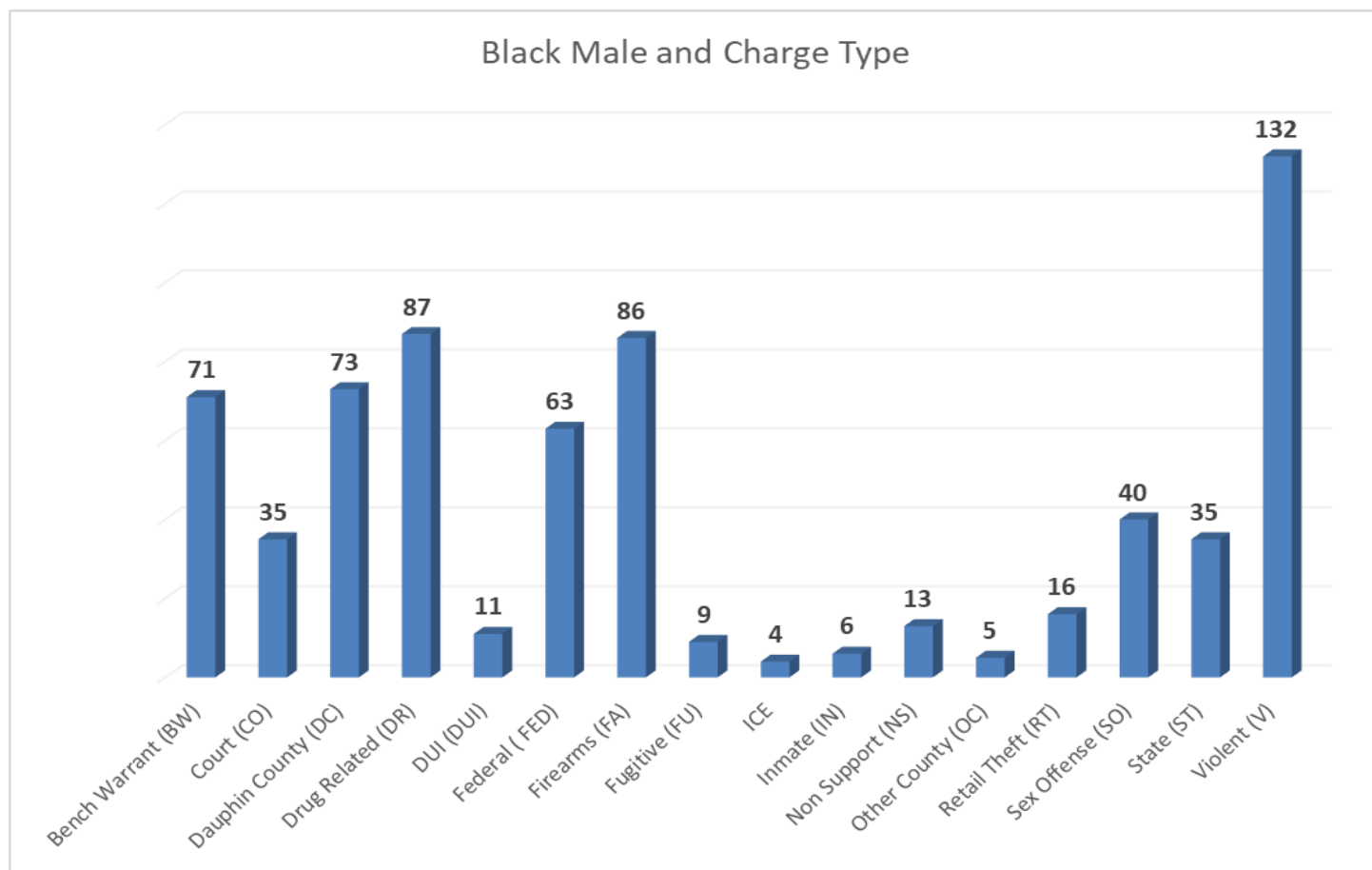
% of Specific Race Females v. all offenders (939).

% of Specific Race Females v. all Female offenders (89).

Race, Gender, and Offense (939)

Total Charges- 686

Black Males- 486



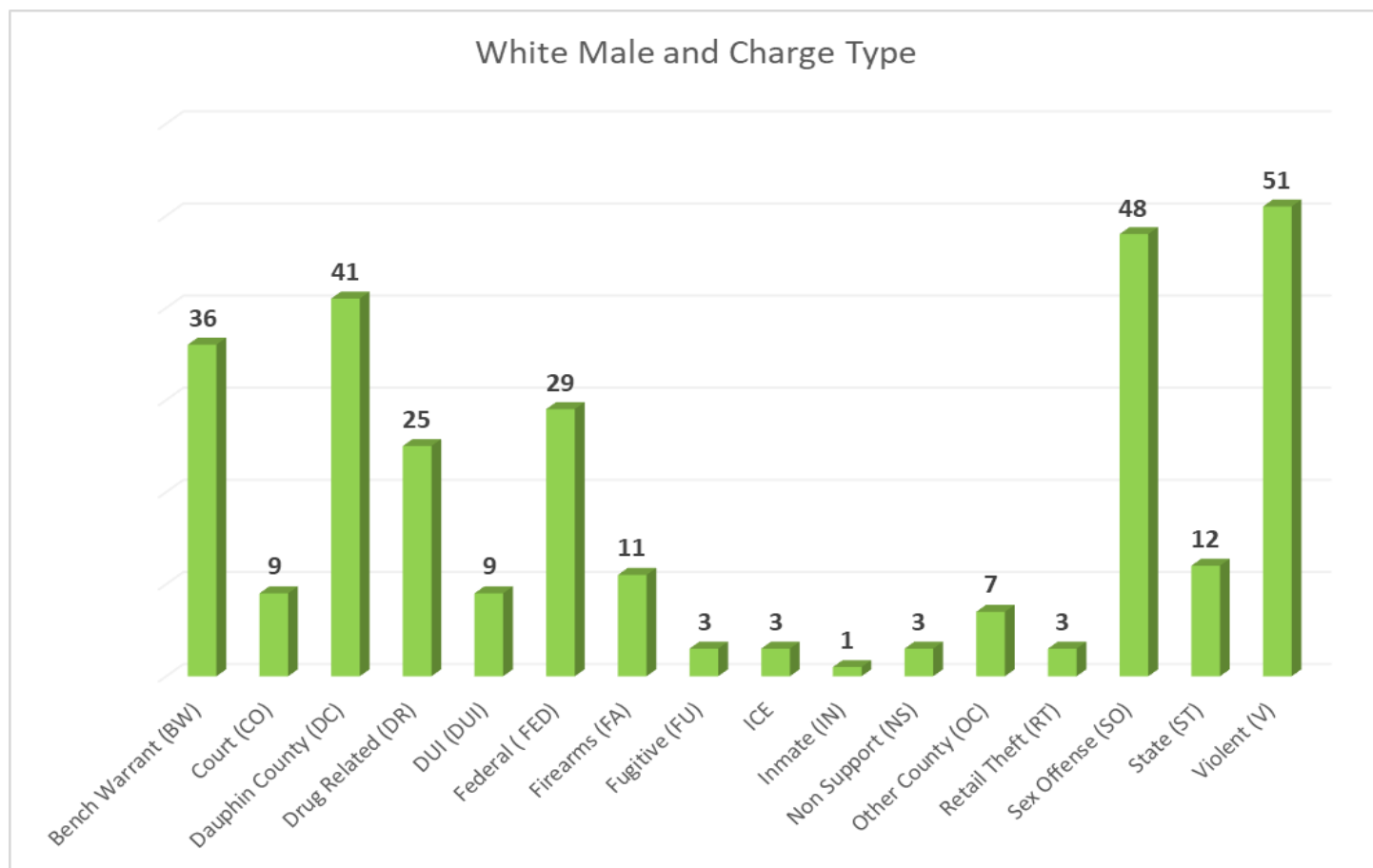
Race, Gender & Offense		Black Male		
Bench Warrant (BW)	71	10%	15%	
Court (CO)	35	5%	1%	
Dauphin County (DC)	73	11%	15%	
Drug Related (DR)	87	13%	18%	
DUI (DUI)	11	2%	3%	
Federal (FED)	63	9%	2%	
Firearms (FA)	86	13%	18%	
Fugitive (FU)	9	1%	2%	
ICE	4	1%	1%	
Black Male charge types v. all charge types.				
Black Male charge types v. all Black Male charge types.				

Race, Gender & Offense		Black Male		
Inmate (IN)	6	1%	1%	
Non-Support (NS)	13	2%	1%	
Other County (OC)	5	1%	1%	
Retail Theft (RT)	16	2%	3%	
Sex Offense (SO)	40	6%	8%	
State (ST)	35	5%	7%	
Violent (V)	132	19%	27%	

Race, Gender, and Offense (939)

Total Charges- 291

White Males- 234

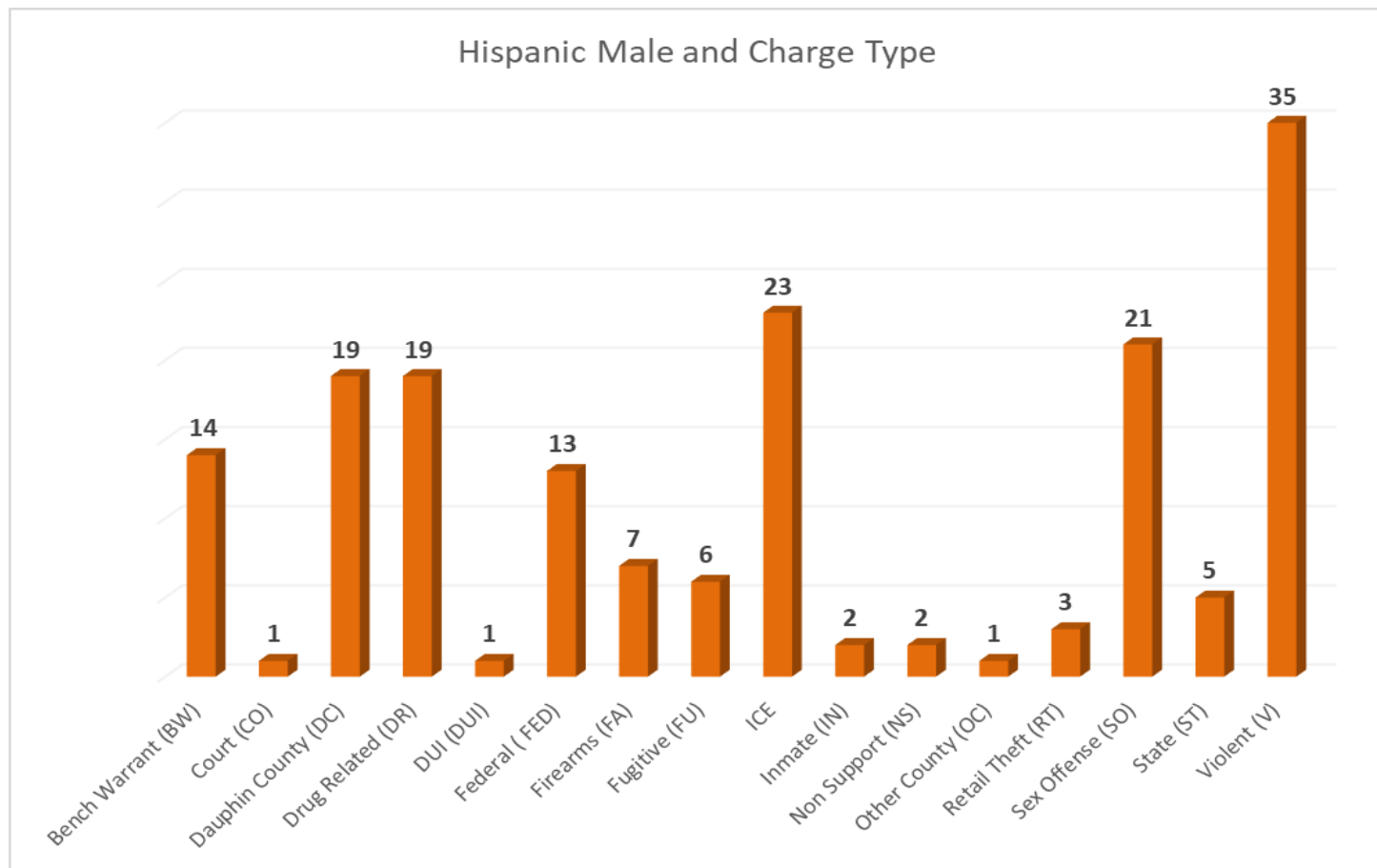


Race, Gender & Offense	White Male			Race, Gender & Offense	White Male		
Bench Warrant (BW)	36	12%	15%	Inmate (IN)	1	0%	0%
Court (CO)	9	3%	4%	Non-Support (NS)	3	1%	1%
Dauphin County (DC)	41	14%	18%	Other County (OC)	7	2%	3%
Drug Related (DR)	25	9%	11%	Retail Theft (RT)	3	1%	1%
DUI (DUI)	9	3%	4%	Sex Offense (SO)	48	16%	20%
Federal (FED)	29	10%	12%	State (ST)	12	4%	5%
Firearms (FA)	11	4%	5%	Violent (V)	51	18%	22%
Fugitive (FU)	3	1%	1%				
ICE	3	1%	1%				
White Male charge types v. all charge types.							
White Male charge types v. all White Male charge types.							

Race, Gender, and Offense (939)

Total Charges- 172

Hispanic Males- 117

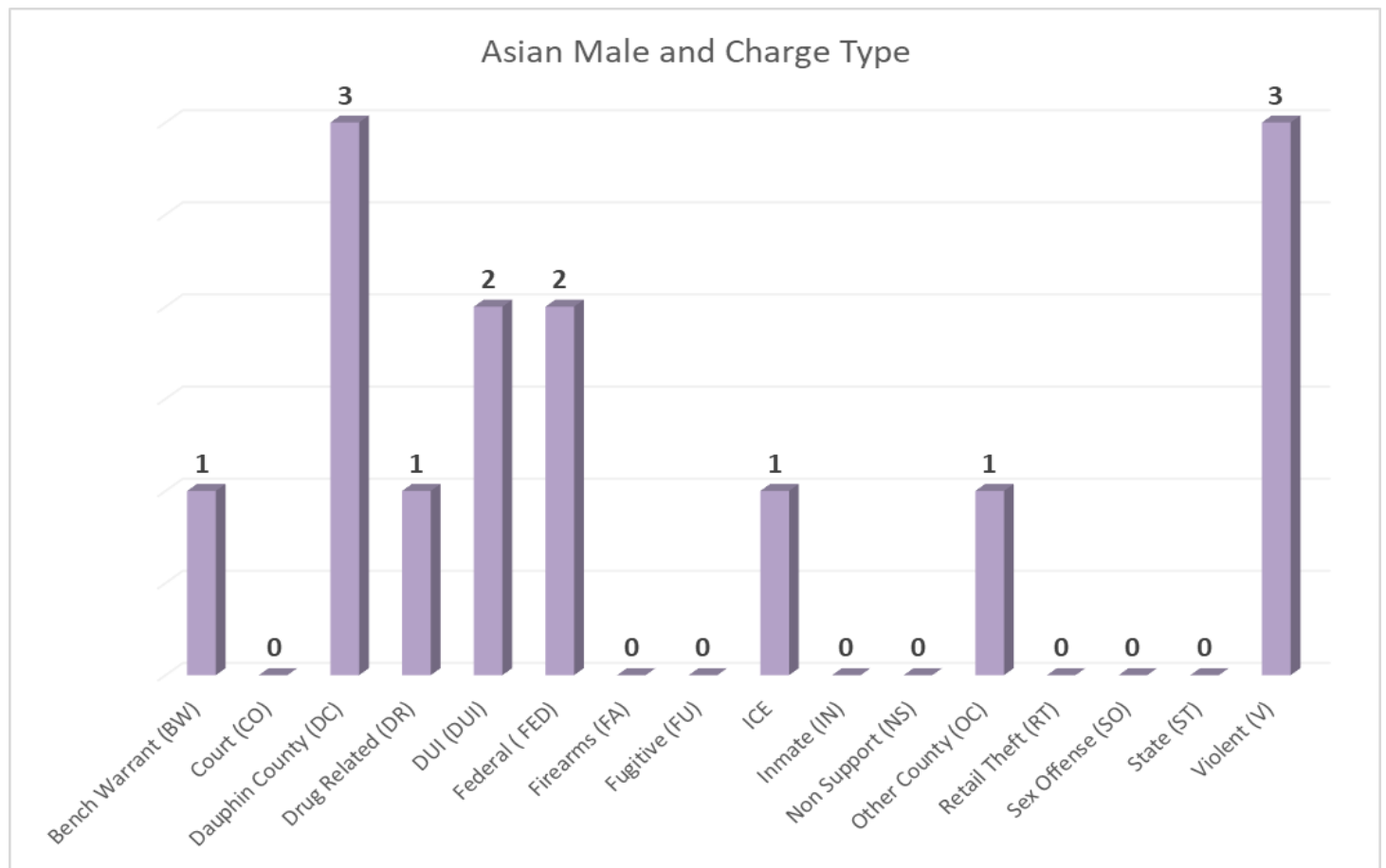


Race, Gender & Offense	Hispanic Male			Race, Gender & Offense	Hispanic Male		
Bench Warrant (BW)	14	8%	12%	Inmate (IN)	1	1%	1%
Court (CO)	1	1%	1%	Non-Support (NS)	3	2%	3%
Dauphin County (DC)	19	11%	16%	Other County (OC)	7	4%	6%
Drug Related (DR)	19	11%	16%	Retail Theft (RT)	3	2%	3%
DUI (DUI)	1	1%	1%	Sex Offense (SO)	48	28%	41%
Federal (FED)	13	8%	11%	State (ST)	12	7%	10%
Firearms (FA)	7	4%	6%	Violent (V)	51	30%	44%
Fugitive (FU)	6	3%	5%				
ICE	23	13%	20%				
Hispanic Male charge types v. all charge types.							
Hispanic Male charge types v. all Hispanic Male charge types.							

Race, Gender, and Offense (939)

Total Charges- 14

Asian Males- 13



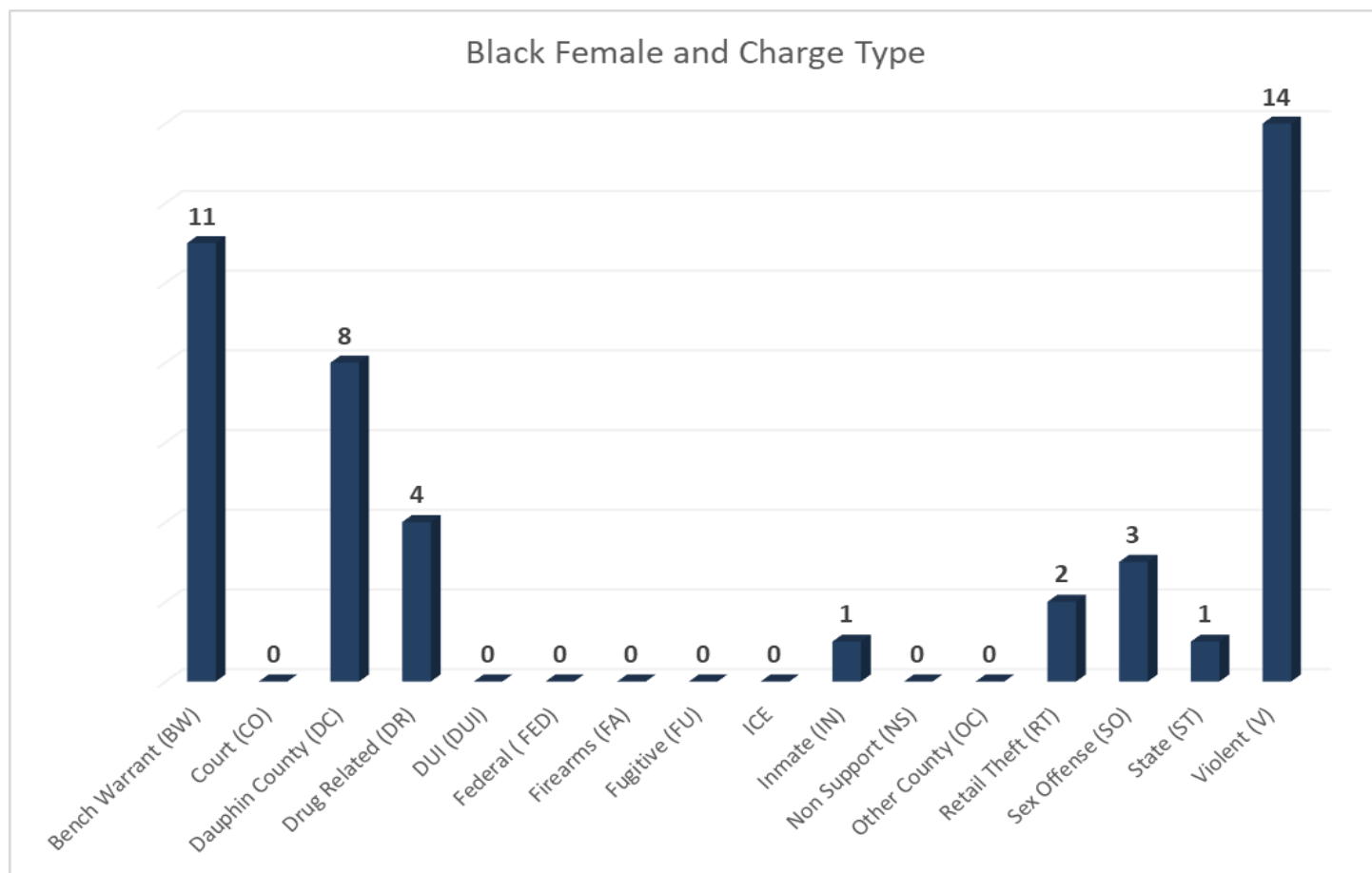
Race, Gender & Offense		Asian Male	
Bench Warrant (BW)	1	7%	7%
Court (CO)	0	0%	0%
Dauphin County (DC)	3	21%	23%
Drug Related (DR)	1	7%	8%
DUI (DUI)	2	14%	15%
Federal (FED)	2	14%	15%
Firearms (FA)	0	0%	0%
Fugitive (FU)	0	0%	0%
ICE	1	7%	8%
Asian Male charge types v. all charge types.			
Asian Male charge types v. all Asian Male charge types.			

Race, Gender & Offense		Asian Male	
Inmate (IN)	0	0%	0%
Non-Support (NS)	0	0%	0%
Other County (OC)	1	7%	7%
Retail Theft (RT)	0	0%	0%
Sex Offense (SO)	0	0%	0%
State (ST)	0	0%	0%
Violent (V)	3	21%	21%

Race, Gender, and Offense (939)

Black Females- 39

Total Charges- 44



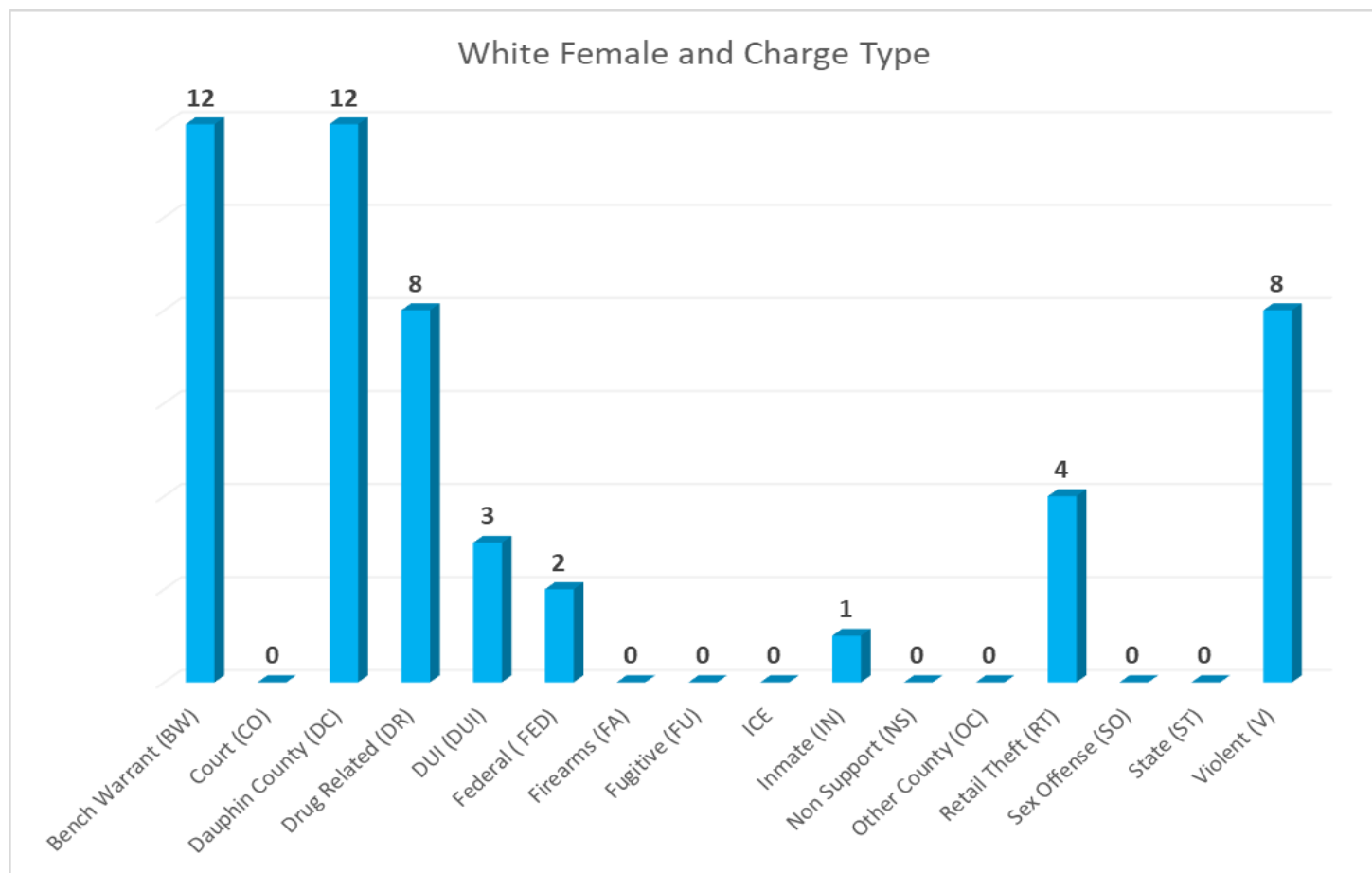
Race, Gender & Offense	Black Females		
Bench Warrant (BW)	11	25%	28%
Court (CO)	0	0%	0%
Dauphin County (DC)	8	18%	20%
Drug Related (DR)	4	9%	10%
DUI (DUI)	0	0%	0%
Federal (FED)	0	0%	0%
Firearms (FA)	0	0%	0%
Fugitive (FU)	0	0%	0%
ICE	0	0%	0%
Black Female charge types v. all charge types.			
Black Female charge types v. all Black Female charge types.			

Race, Gender & Offense	Black Females		
Inmate (IN)	1	2%	2%
Non-Support (NS)	0	0%	0%
Other County (OC)	0	0%	0%
Retail Theft (RT)	2	5%	5%
Sex Offense (SO)	3	7%	8%
State (ST)	1	2%	2%
Violent (V)	14	32%	35%

Race, Gender, and Offense (939)

White Females- 41

Total Charges- 50



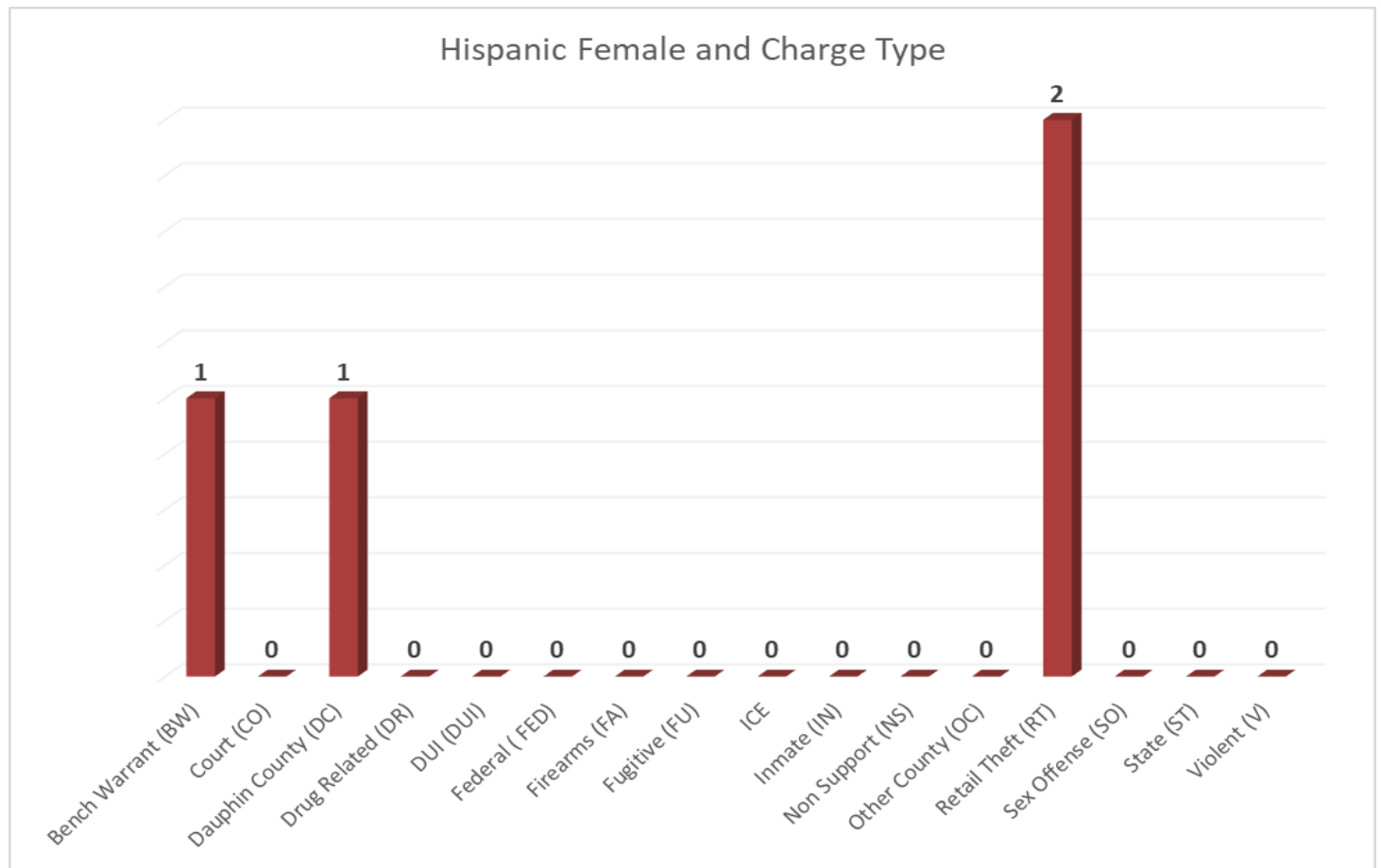
Race, Gender & Offense	White Females		
Bench Warrant (BW)	12	24%	29%
Court (CO)	0	0%	0%
Dauphin County (DC)	12	24%	29%
Drug Related (DR)	8	16%	20%
DUI (DUI)	3	6%	7%
Federal (FED)	2	4%	5%
Firearms (FA)	0	0%	0%
Fugitive (FU)	0	0%	0%
ICE	0	0%	0%
White Female charge types v. all charge types.			
White Female charge types v. all White Female charge types.			

Race, Gender & Offense	White Females		
Inmate (IN)	1	2%	2%
Non-Support (NS)	0	0%	0%
Other County (OC)	0	0%	0%
Retail Theft (RT)	4	8%	10%
Sex Offense (SO)	0	0%	0%
State (ST)	0	0%	0%
Violent (V)	8	16%	19%

Race, Gender, and Offense (939)

Hispanic Females- 7

Total Charges- 4



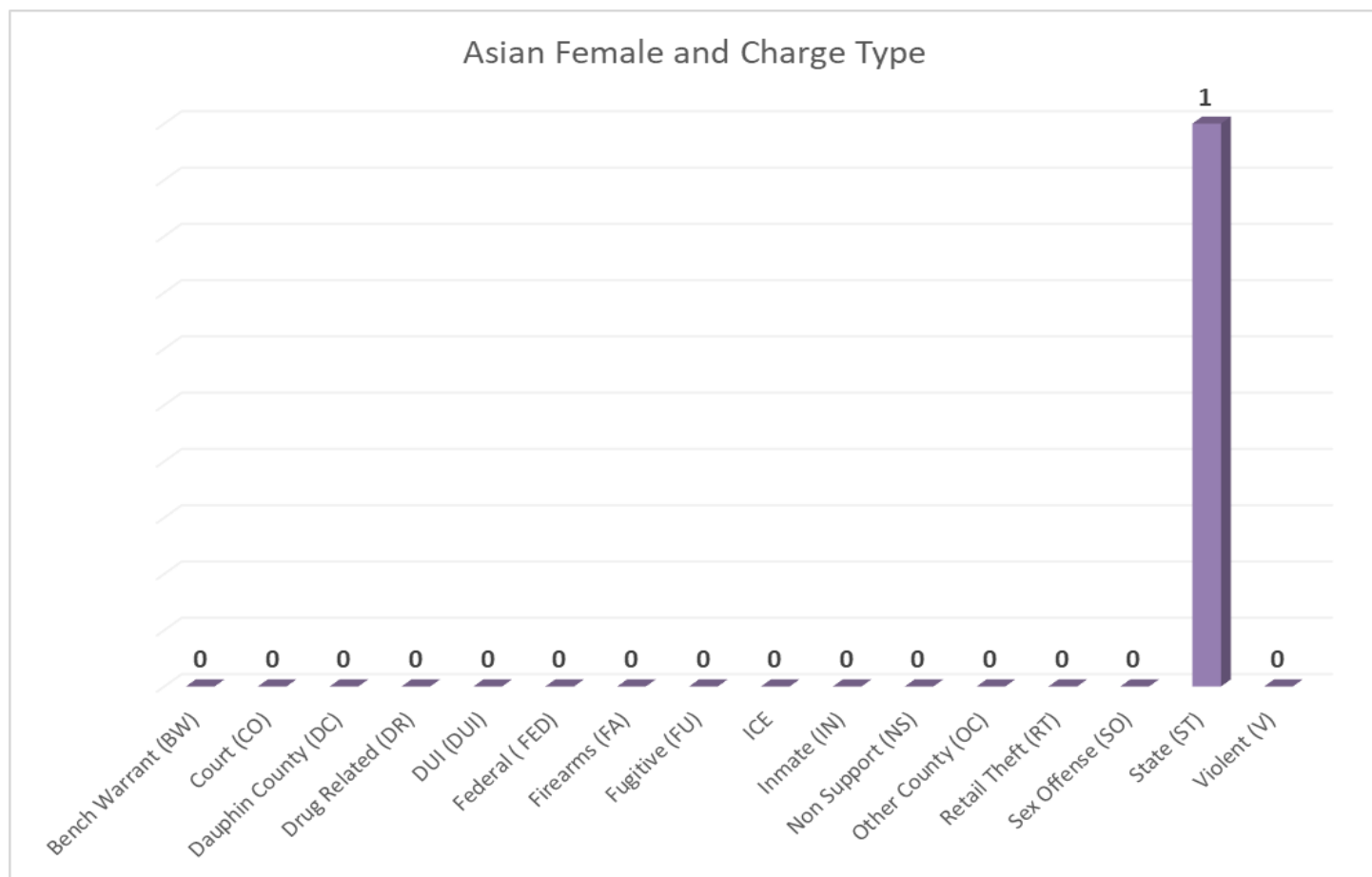
Race, Gender & Offense	Hispanic Females		
Bench Warrant (BW)	1	25%	14%
Court (CO)	0	0%	0%
Dauphin County (DC)	1	25%	14%
Drug Related (DR)	0	0%	0%
DUI (DUI)	0	0%	0%
Federal (FED)	0	0%	0%
Firearms (FA)	0	0%	0%
Fugitive (FU)	0	0%	0%
ICE	0	0%	0%
Hispanic Female charge types v. all charge types.			
Hispanic Female charge types v. all Hispanic Female charge types.			

Race, Gender & Offense	Hispanic Females		
Inmate (IN)	0	0%	0%
Non-Support (NS)	0	0%	0%
Other County (OC)	0	0%	0%
Retail Theft (RT)	2	50%	28%
Sex Offense (SO)	0	0%	0%
State (ST)	0	0%	0%
Violent (V)	0	0%	0%

Race, Gender, and Offense (939)

Asian Females-2

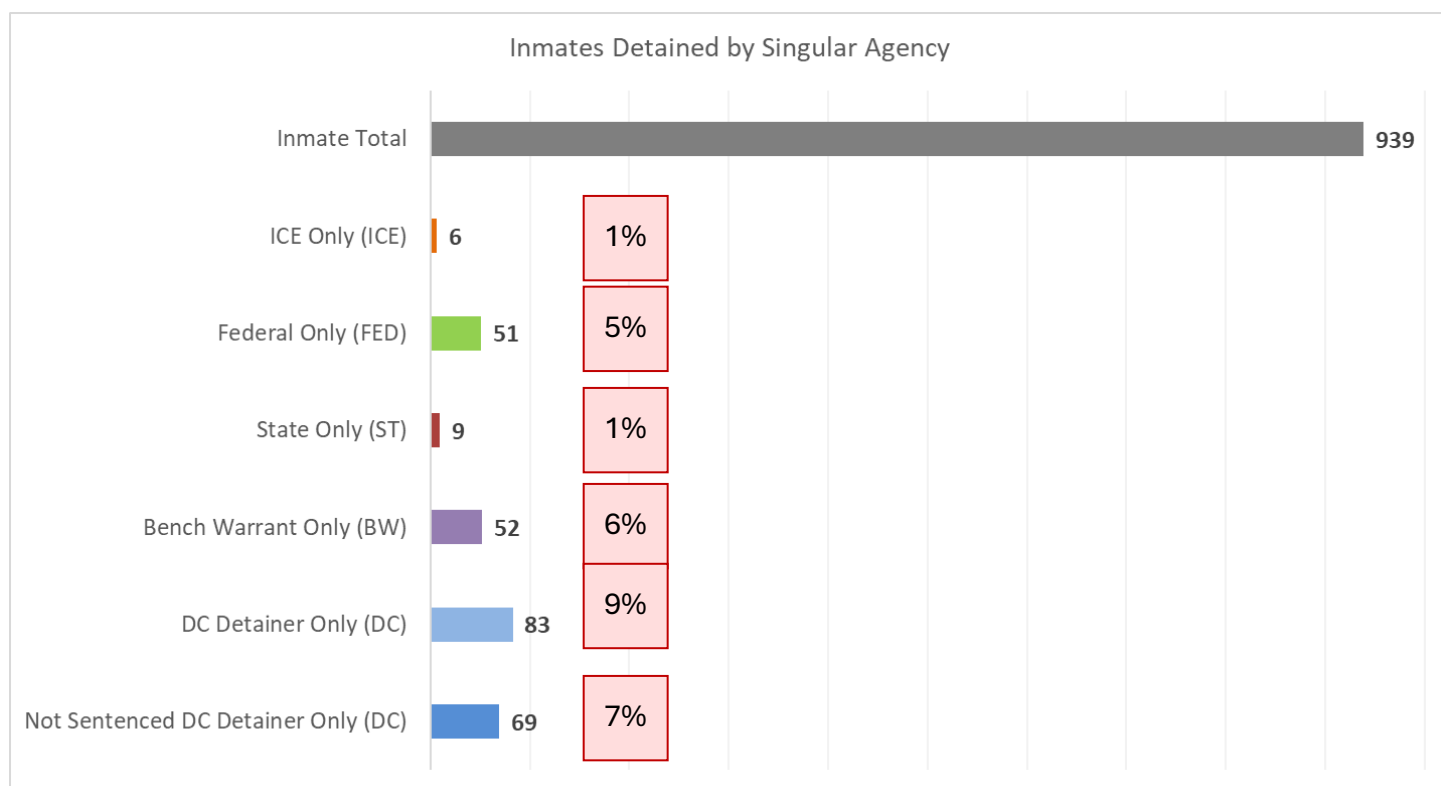
Total Charges- 1



Race, Gender & Offense	Asian Females		
Bench Warrant (BW)	0	0%	0%
Court (CO)	0	0%	0%
Dauphin County (DC)	0	0%	0%
Drug Related (DR)	0	0%	0%
DUI (DUI)	0	0%	0%
Federal (FED)	0	0%	0%
Firearms (FA)	0	0%	0%
Fugitive (FU)	0	0%	0%
ICE	0	0%	0%
Asian Female charge types v. all charge types.			
Asian Female charge types v. all Asian Female charge types.			

Race, Gender & Offense	Asian Females		
Inmate (IN)	0	0%	0%
Non-Support (NS)	0	0%	0%
Other County (OC)	0	0%	0%
Retail Theft (RT)	0	0%	0%
Sex Offense (SO)	0	0%	0%
State (ST)	1	100%	100%
Violent (V)	0	0%	0%

Detained by Singular Agency
Inmate Total- 939



This depicts where an individual is only being held on one of the above offenses.

Of the 939 inmates in DCP on February 20, 2025:

- **69** Inmates are Not Sentenced on new charges, on a Dauphin County Probation Detainer Only (DC) making up **7%** of the total population
- **83** Inmates are Sentenced and on a Dauphin County Probation Detainer Only (DC) making up **9%** of the total population
- **52** Inmates are Being Held on Bench Warrants Only (BW) making up **6%** of the total population
- **9** Inmates are Being Held for the State Only (ST) making up **1%** of the total population
- **51** Inmates are Being Held for the Federal Gov't Only (FED) making up **5%** of the total population
- **6** Inmates are Being Held for ICE Only (ICE) making up **1%** of the total population

A way to combat incarceration is to understand why an individual is committing offenses. This can be done with validated assessments so that we can better understand the needs of individuals who are incarcerated.

The implementation of the Vantage Needs Assessment began in October 2023, marking an important step in strengthening our ability to identify and address the individual needs of those in our care. This tool was introduced to provide a more consistent, evidence-based approach to assessing risk factors, treatment priorities and reentry planning.

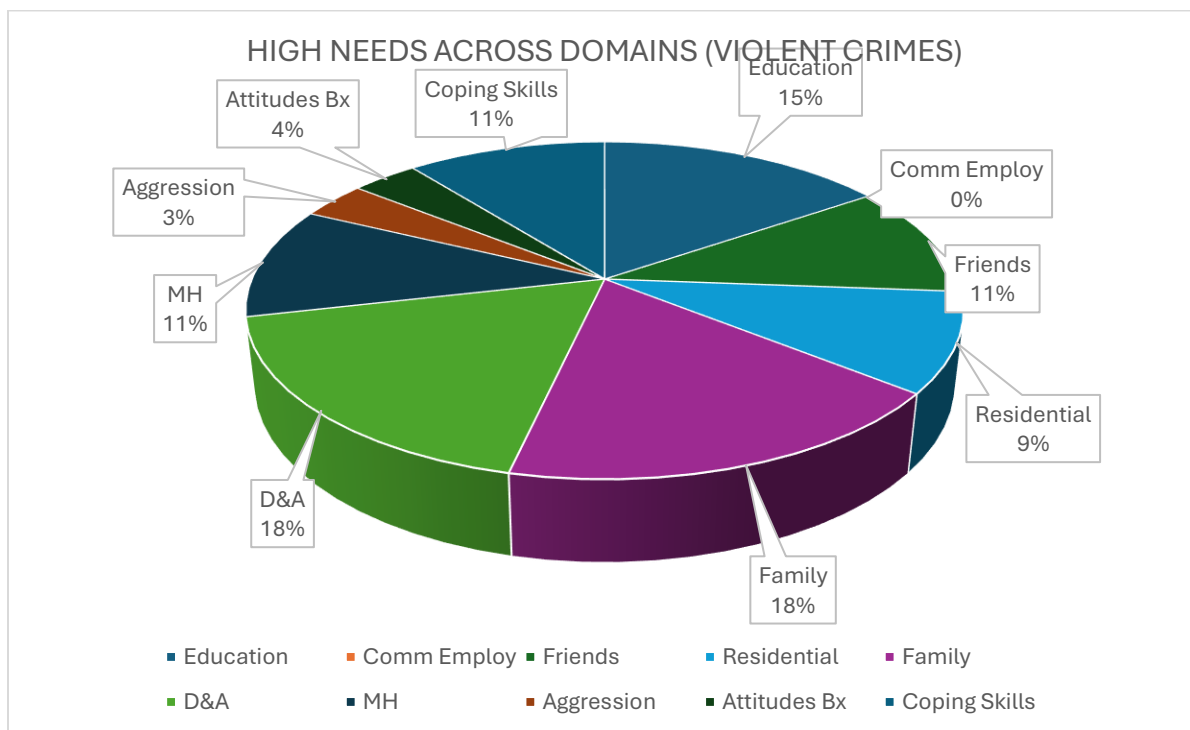
Vantage Offender Needs Guide – Analysis

High Needs Analysis – Violent Crime Charges

Between February 20 and June 30, 2025, more than 200 Needs Assessments were completed at Dauphin County Prison. Of these, 43 were conducted with individuals facing violent crime charges. The **results** of these assessments highlight several domains where high needs are most prevalent, including Education, Drug and Alcohol, Coping Skills, Family, Friends, Mental Health, Aggression, Attitudes & Behaviors, Residential, and Community Employment.

Among this group, the most frequently reported high needs were in the domains of Family and Drug & Alcohol, together accounting for 36% of all identified needs. Education emerged as the second most reported need at 15%. Mental Health, Coping Skills and Friends followed closely, each representing 11% of reported high needs indicating the need for education inclusionary of healthy coping skills and mental health education.

Residential stability accounted for 9 %, indicating the need for long-term housing stability while Attitudes & Behaviors presented with 4% underscoring the need for cognitive behavioral change programming. Aggression only accounted for 3% and Community Employment was not representative in this group.



Summary & Implications for Reentry

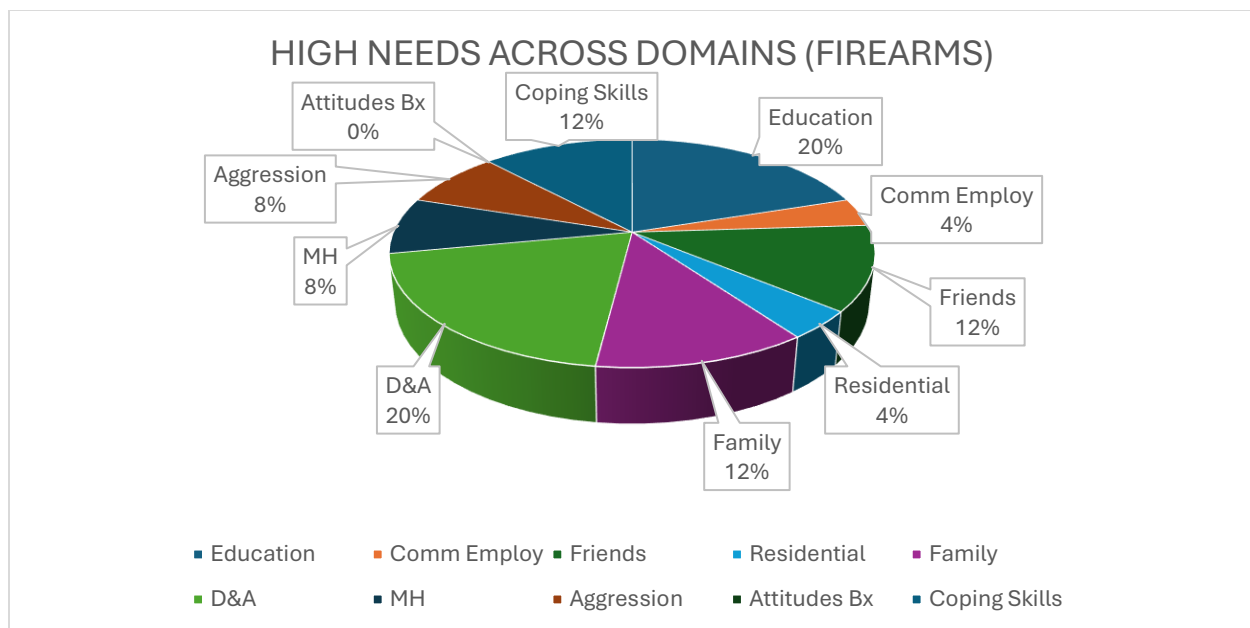
In total, the 43 assessments identified 84 high needs across ten domains, highlighting the multifaceted challenges faced by individuals charged with violent offenses. These results suggest that effective reentry planning for individuals involved in violent offenses should prioritize strengthening family relationships and addressing substance use issues, as represent the most critical areas of need. Enhancing educational and vocational opportunities can support long-term stability and reduce recidivism, while mental health interventions and social support through positive pro-social peer networks are essential to foster coping skills and positive behavioral changes. We recognize the need for a comprehensive, multi-domain approach that simultaneously addresses these interconnected needs, and we are actively moving in this direction to strengthen reentry outcomes and support successful reintegration into the community.

High Needs Analysis – Firearms Charges

Of the over 200 assessments completed, 17 assessments were completed on individuals charged with Firearms charges. Among individuals charged with firearms-related offenses, the greatest needs were reported in Education and Drug & Alcohol use, each representing 20% of total identified needs. These findings highlight the importance of improving educational opportunities and addressing substance use disorders as key areas of focus for this group.

Coping Skills, Family, and Friends each accounted for 12%, indicating challenges with emotional regulation, family stability, and peer associations. These domains suggest that many individuals require both social and behavioral support to successfully reintegrate into the community.

Mental Health and Aggression were also notable (8% each), underscoring the role of untreated behavioral health conditions in firearms-related offenses. Residential stability (4%) and Community Employment (4%) appeared less frequently but remain critical stabilizers for long-term success. Attitudes/Behavior was not identified as a significant need in this assessment group.



Summary & Implication for Reentry

The findings suggest that individuals charged with firearms-related offenses face multi-dimensional barriers that require comprehensive intervention. The combination of educational deficits, substance use concerns, and limited coping skills increases vulnerability to recidivism without targeted support.

Effective reentry planning for this population should adopt a holistic, cross-domain approach aimed at improving long-term outcomes and reducing risks associated with firearms-related offenses. Key priorities include expanding access to educational and vocational programming to enhance employment opportunities, providing integrated substance use treatment and relapse prevention services, and strengthening behavioral health supports such as mental health and aggression management.

Additionally, reinforcing family connections and pro-social networks can help reduce reliance on negative peer influences, while ensuring access to stable housing and employment pathways—though less frequently identified—remains a critical component of successful reentry. Together, these strategies create a comprehensive framework that addresses the multiple, interrelated needs of individuals returning to the community.

Impact of High Needs on Reentry by Domain

Family

- **Impact:** Many returning citizens experience strained or disrupted family relationships. Lack of supportive connections can result in unstable housing, isolation and limited accountability. Unresolved family conflict may also increase stress and contribute to recidivism.
- **Services Needed:** Family counseling, parenting education and reentry planning to strengthen healthy family ties.

DCP Programs that address these needs:

Greater Dad's, Writing Letters with Dad (expanding to include female population), Religious Services – Derrick James, Religious Services – New Covenant Church, Religious Services – Deacon Francis Skoija, Religious Services provided by Dr. Joseph Jones -DCP/CCU staff chaplain and Individual Parenting – Justice Works in partnership with Children & Youth Services.

Drugs & Alcohol

- **Impact:** Substance use disorders are a leading risk factor for recidivism. Relapses can destabilize employment, housing and compliance with supervision, while also serving as a unhealthy coping mechanism for trauma or stress.
- **Services Needed:** Residential and outpatient treatment, medication-assisted treatment (MAT), peer recovery support, relapse prevention planning, and access to sober housing.

DCP Programs that address these needs:

Moral Recognition Therapy, Alcohol & Drug Education, Celebrate Recovery, Men's Narcotics Anonymous Women's Narcotics Anonymous.

Education

- **Impact:** Limited literacy, academic achievement, or vocational skills reduce opportunities for employment and long-term stability. Educational gaps make it harder to navigate systems and achieve financial independence.
- **Services Needed:** General Education and Adult Education and Basic Skills (GED/ABE) programs, vocational certifications, digital literacy training and partnerships with community colleges and workforce agencies.

DCP Programs that address these needs: One DCP full-time teacher, one part-time teacher through partnership with Tri-County OIC, three full-time Central Dauphin teachers and English as a Second Language/Literacy classes through the Central Pennsylvania Literacy Council.

Mental Health

- **Impact:** Unaddressed mental health conditions—such as depression, trauma, or anxiety—can negatively affect judgment, decision-making, and stability. Without treatment, individuals are at higher risk for violations and reoffending.
- **Services Needed:** Mental health screenings, therapy and counseling, psychiatric care, trauma-informed treatment and case management to ensure continuity of care post-release.

How DCP addresses these needs:

DCP Reentry staff provide comprehensive reentry planning for individuals with mental illness to include Serious Mental Illness, Substance Use Disorder and individuals currently on MAT. Reentry staff collaborate with Adult Probation Services, Pathways Forward (formerly CMU), Public Defender's Office, District Attorney's Office, Keystone Intensive Case Management (KICM), Work Release Center, PrimeCare Medical, Mental Health Autism Development Programs, etc. to develop reentry plans.

Friends/Coping Skills

- **Impact:** Returning to environments with peers engaged in crime or substance use increases the likelihood of relapse and recidivism. A lack of positive role models or pro-social networks limits opportunities for growth. Many individuals struggle with managing stress, conflict, or triggers in healthy ways. Poor coping increases impulsivity, aggression and reliance on substances.
- **Services Needed:** Cognitive Behavioral Intervention Program (CBIP), stress management skills, coping skills and resilience-building programs.

DCP Programs that address these needs:

Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT).

Residential

- **Impact:** Lack of safe and stable housing is one of the strongest predictors of recidivism. Homelessness disrupts employment, healthcare and supervision compliance and often increases exposure to risky environments.
- **Services Needed:** Transitional housing, halfway houses, rental assistance, partnerships with landlords, and supportive housing models that combine stability with case management.

How DCP addresses these needs:

Providers throughout the community provide reentry presentations to our population detailing the services they provide which often include housing information. Recently, Jubilee Ministries provided information about their program which includes transitional housing and workforce opportunities.

Attitudes & Behaviors

- **Impact:** Some individuals return home having taken full accountability for their role in their situation while some do not. Noncompliance with authority or a lack of belief in rehabilitation undermines engagement in services. Cognitive Behavior Intervention Programs can help shift mindsets toward growth and effective accountability.
- **Services Needed:** Cognitive Behavior Intervention Programs, incentives for participation and mentorship from peers who have successfully reintegrated.

DCP Programs that address these needs:

Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT), Religious Services.

Aggression

- **Impact:** Aggressive behavior can hinder employment, relationships and supervision compliance. Left unaddressed, it can escalate to violent incidents or reoffending.
- **Services Needed:** Anger management, conflict resolution and structured violence-prevention programs and staff trained in trauma-informed best practice responses.

DCP Programs that address these needs:

Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT).

Community Employment

- **Impact:** Employment is a critical stabilizer, yet many reentrants face barriers such as low skills, stigma and limited work history. Without legitimate income, the risk of criminal involvement increases.
- **Services Needed:** Job readiness, resume/interview training, workforce development programs, apprenticeships, trade certifications and employer partnerships for second-chance hiring.

DCP Programs that address these needs:

None.

Overall

Individuals reentering society after incarceration face layered, interdependent challenges that affect nearly every aspect of stability including housing, employment, health, family and community engagement. Addressing these needs requires coordinated, evidence-based services that emphasize both individual support and community integration. Cross-agency collaboration and personalized case management are critical to reducing recidivism and promoting long-term success.

Veterans

Over the period analyzed, more than 25 veterans received reentry planning services. Of those 25, three participated in structured interviews using the Vantage Needs Assessment. The assessment revealed that all three scored high in the areas of Mental Health and Coping Skills and two also scored high in Family and Attitudes and Behavior.

These findings suggest that while veterans have access to veterans' services, there remains a significant need for specialized support tailored to their unique experiences. The elevated scores in Mental Health and Coping Skills highlight the ongoing impact of trauma, post-traumatic stress and other challenges that may affect stability during reentry. Similarly, the scores in Family and Attitudes and Behavior point to strained personal relationships, difficulty reintegrating into community and family systems and the need for ongoing guidance in developing healthy decision-making patterns.

To address these gaps, our reentry has coordinated releases to treatment centers like Pyramid, Jubilee Ministries and Zomelle Housing, made referrals to Veteran's Court, facilitated phone with the Veteran's Administration are currently reentry planning for 10 of the 25. Fifteen have been released with reentry plans with provider information and veteran-specific support programs. These efforts reflect our commitment to providing veterans with the resources and guidance necessary to promote long-term stability and successful reintegration into the community.

Questions about the report:

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