

DOC/HMIS Data Match Results

In order to estimate the extent to which Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) offenders experience homelessness before or after incarceration, DOC admissions and release data were matched with data from the Minnesota Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). In particular, the match tested whether offenders had an HMIS program entry – which included Emergency Shelters, Permanent Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, Safe Haven Shelter, Street Outreach, or Transitional Housing, but excluded those who responded “Not currently homeless” – within 30 days, 90 days, and one year before their admission date and within 30 days, 90 days, and one year after their release date.

DOC data were taken from fiscal years (FY) 2016-2018, and the HMIS data extends from one year before the DOC start date through one year after the DOC end date. The match was conducted twice, using two sets of overlap criteria. Maximum overlap required a match on last name and date of birth. Minimum overlap required a match on last name, date of birth, race, ethnicity, and gender.¹

Admissions

Table 1 presents the results of the DOC/HMIS match for the pre-admission period. Overall, depending upon the criteria used, there were between 82 and 91 offenders (<1% of admissions) with an HMIS program entry 30 days or less before their admission, between 239 and 274 (1-2%) with entries 90 days or less before their admission, and between 718 and 831 (4-5%) with entries within one year before their admission. In the one-year pre-admission match, offenders’ HMIS entries were, on average, about 180 days before their admission to prison.

Of those with HMIS entries, the Continuum of Care in which the HMIS entry occurred was examined.² Among those with entries a year prior to admission, a majority occurred in MN-500 Hennepin (44%), but sizable percentages were also observed in MN-501 Ramsey (19%), MN-505 Central (10%), and MN-503 SMAC (9%).

Offenders with HMIS entries a year before their admission had an average age of about 38 years. The majority were male (88%). Nearly half (48%) were Black, 40% were White, 10% were American Indian or Alaskan Native, and 2% were Asian or Pacific Islander. About 1% were Hispanic. Four percent were veterans. The majority of offenders with HMIS entries one year before admission were not living in a family group; only 1.26% lived in households with more than one person. Of those living in family groups, the average number of family members in the household was 2.95, with an average of 1.37 children.

Releases

Table 2 shows the results of the DOC/HMIS match examining the post-release period. The match using release dates shows that offenders are somewhat more likely to experience homelessness following

¹ HMIS data includes more options for race and gender than DOC data. These options were recoded to match DOC categories as follows: Gender non-conforming = Other Gender, Trans Female = Other Gender, Trans Male = Other Gender, Other Multi-Racial = Other Race, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander = Asian or Pacific Islander, Asian = Asian or Pacific Islander, Client doesn’t know = Unknown Race, Client refused = Unknown Race, Data not collected = Unknown Race, (blank) = Unknown Race.

² A person may have more than HMIS program entry in the data – thus it is possible that a single person is counted in more than one Continuum of Care category.

Table 1: HMIS Matches for DOC Admissions, FY 2016 - FY 2018

	Total Admissions	Matches Using Minimum Overlap			Matches Using Maximum Overlap		
		30 days	90 days	1 year	30 days	90 days	1 year
Total number	17,957	82 (0.46%)	239 (1.3%)	718 (4.0%)	91 (0.51%)	274 (1.5%)	831 (4.6%)
MN-500 Hennepin		56.63%	50.40%	44.25%	54.35%	50.69%	44.41%
MN-501 Ramsey		25.30%	20.24%	18.93%	22.83%	19.44%	19.16%
MN-502 Southeast		0%	0.40%	1.41%	1.09%	1.04%	1.66%
MN-503 SMAC		2.41%	6.75%	9.34%	3.26%	6.94%	9.63%
MN-504 Northeast		2.41%	2.38%	2.56%	2.17%	2.08%	2.33%
MN-505 Central		4.82%	9.13%	9.72%	5.43%	8.68%	8.86%
MN-506 Northwest		1.20%	3.17%	4.48%	2.17%	3.47%	4.43%
MN-508 West Central		2.41%	1.98%	3.96%	3.26%	2.43%	4.10%
MN-509 St. Louis		4.82%	4.76%	3.84%	5.43%	4.51%	4.10%
MN-511 Southwest		0%	0.79%	1.53%	0%	0.69%	1.33%
Average Age		41.91	39.26	37.61	41.05	38.49	36.97
Average Size of Family Group		0	3.33	2.95	0	2.67	2.86
Average Number of Children in Family Group		0	1.67	1.37	0	1	1.29
Average Days Between HMIS Entry and Admission		20.96	51.05	179.9	21.01	51.39	181.36
Percent Hispanic	4.39%	1.22%	1.26%	0.97%	1.10%	2.19%	2.17%
Percent Non-Hispanic	95.61%	98.78%	98.74%	99.03%	98.90%	97.81%	97.83%
Percent in a Family Group (Size > 1)	0%	0%	1.26%	5.29%	0%	2.19%	5.90%
Percent Female	12.43%	13.41%	10.46%	11.56%	12.09%	9.49%	11.90%
Percent Male	87.57%	86.59%	89.54%	88.44%	87.91%	90.51%	88.10%
Percent American Indian or Alaskan Native	11.89%	8.54%	10.46%	10.17%	8.79%	10.95%	10.71%
Percent Asian or Pacific Islander	2.30%	1.22%	2.09%	1.67%	1.10%	1.82%	1.44%
Percent Black	29.10%	54.88%	50.63%	48.05%	53.85%	48.91%	46.69%
Percent Unknown Race	0.40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.36%	0.36%
Percent White	56.31%	35.37%	36.82%	40.11%	36.26%	37.96%	40.79%
Percent Non-Veteran	97.71%	96.34%	97.07%	95.82%	96.70%	97.08%	95.91%
Percent Veteran	2.29%	3.66%	2.93%	4.18%	3.30%	2.92%	4.09%

Table 2: HMIS Matches for DOC Releases, FY 2016 - FY 2018

	Total Releases	Matches Using Minimum Overlap			Matches Using Maximum Overlap		
		30 days	90 days	1 year	30 days	90 days	1 year
Total number	17,637	433 (2.5%)	608 (3.4%)	1,109 (6.3%)	480 (2.7%)	677 (3.8%)	1,241 (7.0%)
MN-500 Hennepin		40.36%	39.62%	41.44%	40.89%	39.94%	41.89%
MN-501 Ramsey		12.56%	14.15%	17.11%	12.75%	13.88%	16.87%
MN-502 Southeast		2.24%	2.67%	3.24%	2.63%	2.83%	3.27%
MN-503 SMAC		16.59%	13.21%	9.16%	15.79%	12.75%	9.02%
MN-504 Northeast		2.47%	2.52%	2.43%	2.43%	2.41%	2.47%
MN-505 Central		6.73%	8.65%	8.76%	6.28%	7.93%	8.15%
MN-506 Northwest		8.07%	7.08%	5.19%	8.70%	7.51%	5.38%
MN-508 West Central		4.48%	4.87%	4.95%	4.66%	5.38%	5.16%
MN-509 St. Louis		5.16%	5.66%	5.60%	4.66%	5.95%	5.82%
MN-511 Southwest		1.35%	1.57%	2.11%	1.21%	1.42%	1.96%
Average Age		39.82	39.62	39.22	39.43	39.28	38.89
Average Size of Family Group		2.57	2.65	2.74	2.57	2.6	2.77
Average Number of Children in Family Group		0.86	1.09	1.16	0.86	1.08	1.22
Average Days Between Release and HMIS Entry		12.43	34.65	191.57	12.3	34.95	191.46
Percent Hispanic	4.95%	1.39%	2.14%	2.98%	2.50%	2.95%	3.46%
Percent Non-Hispanic	95.05%	98.61%	97.86%	97.02%	97.50%	97.05%	96.54%
Percent in a Family Group (Size > 1)	0%	1.62%	3.78%	5.23%	1.46%	3.69%	5.56%
Percent Female	12.46%	9.01%	9.87%	11.36%	8.96%	9.60%	11.52%
Percent Male	87.54%	90.99%	90.13%	88.64%	91.04%	90.40%	88.48%
Percent American Indian or Alaskan Native	11.69%	9.01%	10.86%	11.72%	9.79%	11.37%	12.56%
Percent Asian or Pacific Islander	2.31%	1.85%	1.64%	1.89%	1.88%	1.77%	1.85%
Percent Black	28.26%	42.49%	42.27%	41.66%	41.67%	41.21%	40.90%
Percent Unknown Race	0.31%	0%	0%	0%	0.42	0.3	0.16
Percent White	57.44%	46.65%	45.23%	44.72%	46.25%	45.35%	44.52%
Percent Non-Veteran	97.22%	94.46%	93.59%	94.41%	94.79%	93.65%	94.36%
Percent Veteran	2.78%	5.54%	6.41%	5.59%	5.21%	6.35%	5.64%

release from prison than before admission to prison. For FY 2016-2018, depending upon the criteria used, between 433 and 480 offenders (2-3% of releases) had an HMIS program entry 30 days or less after release, between 608 and 677 (3-4%) had entries 90 days or less after release, and between 1109 and 1241 (6-7%) had entries within one year after release. In the one-year post-release match, offenders' HMIS entries occurred at an average of about 192 days after release from prison.

Regarding the Continuum of Care in which entries occurred, of those with HMIS entries a year after release, a majority occurred in MN-500 Hennepin (41%); substantial amounts also occurred in MN-501 Ramsey (17%), MN-503 SMAC (9%), and MN-505 Central (8%).

Offenders with HMIS entries a year after release had an average age of about 39 years. The majority were male (89%). Nearly half were White (45%), 42% were Black, 12% were American Indian or Alaskan Native, and 2% were Asian or Pacific Islander. About 3% were Hispanic. Six percent were veterans. Few offenders with HMIS matches one year after release lived in households with other family members (3.78%). Of those living in family groups, the average number of family members was 2.65, with an average of 1.16 children living in the household.

Yearly Trends

Table 3 breaks down the number of matches for each fiscal year. There were slight increases each year in the number of matches and the percentage of offenders matched. For example, using the maximum criteria, there were 266 offenders (3.6% of admissions) with HMIS entries one year before their admission in FY 2016, 287 offenders (3.8%) with entries in FY 2017, and 351 offenders (4.9%) with entries in FY 2018.

As with admissions, there were slight increases in matches from FY 2016 to FY 2018. Using the maximum criteria, there were 408 offenders (5.6% of releases) with HMIS entries a year after release in FY 2016, 496 (6.7%) with entries in FY 2017, and 519 (7.1%) with entries in FY 2018.

	Total	Matches Using Minimum Overlap			Matches Using Maximum Overlap		
		30 days	90 days	1 year	30 days	90 days	1 year
<i>Admissions</i>							
FY 2016	7,447	24 (0.32%)	75 (1.00%)	217 (2.91%)	27 (0.36%)	87 (1.17%)	266 (3.57%)
FY 2017	7,527	23 (0.31%)	79 (1.05%)	251 (3.33%)	25 (0.33%)	93 (1.24%)	287 (3.81%)
FY 2018	7,146	38 (0.53%)	98 (1.37%)	317 (4.44%)	42 (0.59%)	109 (1.53%)	351 (4.91%)
<i>Releases</i>							
FY 2016	7,347	124 (1.69%)	177 (2.41%)	362 (4.94%)	141 (1.92%)	201 (2.74%)	408 (5.55%)
FY 2017	7,398	141 (1.91%)	211 (2.85%)	448 (6.06%)	156 (2.11%)	236 (3.19%)	496 (6.70%)
FY 2018	7,277	183 (2.51%)	253 (3.48%)	463 (6.36%)	198 (2.72%)	275 (3.80%)	519 (7.13%)