



Warrant of Committal Woman Offenders: 2014-15 Profile

June 2015 | SR 15-05

Profile of Woman Offender Warrant of Committal Admissions to Federal Custody, 2014/15

KEY WORDS: *Profile, Woman offenders, warrant of committal, sentence, offence, risk, dynamic need, motivation, reintegration potential, engagement*

Overview

- In 2014/15 there were 363 women offenders admitted to federal custody on a warrant of committal (WOC). This number has fluctuated over the past 5 years, with 334 women admitted in 2010-11, 347 in 2011/12, 273 in 2012-13, and 329 admitted in 2013/14.
- In 2014/15, 30% of women offenders admitted on a WOC were Aboriginal. This proportion has remained relatively constant over the past five years.
- The largest proportion of women offenders admitted on a WOC were between 30 and 49 years of age (45%) followed by those under 30 years of age (42%).

Sentence and Offence Information

- In 2014/15, most admissions involved sentences under three years in length (66%) followed by sentences of three to six years (26%), six to ten years (4%), life or indeterminate (3%), and ten years or more (1%). This pattern remained consistent over the past five years.
- The most common major offences among women offenders admitted in 2014/15 were drug (35%), property (18%), robbery (12%), and assault (12%). A small proportion of major offences involved homicide (9%), other non-violent (7%), other violent (4%), and sexual (3%).

Risk

- Just over half (53%) of WOC admissions were medium security, followed by minimum (42%) and maximum security (7%).
- Upon admission, most women offenders were assessed as having medium static risk (40%; measured using their criminal history, offence severity, and sex offence history) or low static risk (35%), and only 25% were assessed as having high static risk.

- Most women offenders upon admission were rated as having medium (57%) reintegration potential, 22% were rated as having low reintegration potential, and 21% were rated as having high reintegration potential.

Dynamic Need

- At admission, the majority of women offenders were considered to have high (55%) and moderate (33%) levels of need in areas amenable to intervention.
- More than half of the women offenders admitted in 2014/15 were considered to have moderate or high needs in the following domains personal/emotional (83%), substance-abuse (67%), associates (66%), marital/family (65%), employment (57%), and attitudes (50%).

Correctional Plan Involvement Indicators

- Overall, 90% of women offenders were considered to be engaged in their correctional plan upon admission. To obtain this rating, the offender had to be rated as having medium or high on motivation (53% and 42%, respectively) to follow their correctional plan and on accountability (i.e., accepting responsibility and recognizing problems); 58% and 32%, respectively.

For more information

Please e-mail the Research Branch research@csc-scc.gc.ca or contact us by phone at (613) 995-3975.

You can also visit the Research Publications section for a full list of reports and one-page summaries.

Prepared by: Keown, L.A., Wardrop, K., & Cousineau, C.

Data retrieved on April 19th 2015 from CJIL year-end snapshot databases.

