

Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Report

Oklahoma Department of Corrections Female Offender Operations



Our mission is to, "Reduce Oklahoma's female incarceration rate to at, or below, the national average while protecting the public, the employees, and the offenders."

December 2009

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Historical Perspective

In 1998, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections issued Operations Memorandum No. OP-090501 establishing the Female Offender Task Force to review and offer recommendations in all programmatic and operational areas provided in department policies and procedures that may affect or impact female offenders.

Effective January 4, 2002, OP-090501 was retitled, "Female Offender Management," and established the Female Offender Management Group to ensure policies and procedures that affect or impact female offenders provide or ensure a level of parity to avoid discriminatory impact.

The Female Offender Management Group, largely composed of executive staff representatives, was responsible for overseeing subcommittees to address specific areas of concern, propose amendments to policy, ensure parity in programs, keep abreast of legislative action, and monitor trends related to female offenders.

The Female Offender Management Group initially focused on these major areas: training of correctional staff; sexual misconduct and privacy issues; parity in work and programs; medical; mental health; classification and custody levels; contract beds; re-entry programs; and community sentencing.

In coordination with the National Institute of Corrections, an Oklahoma Female Offenders Systems Map was developed to identify the points in the Oklahoma criminal justice system at which an intervention could be made to prevent individuals from entering or progressing deeper into the system.

Building on the previous accomplishments of the Female Offender Management Group and to intensify efforts to address the incarceration of women in Oklahoma, which is at almost twice the national average, Corrections Director Justin Jones established the Division of Female Offender Operations on December 15, 2008.

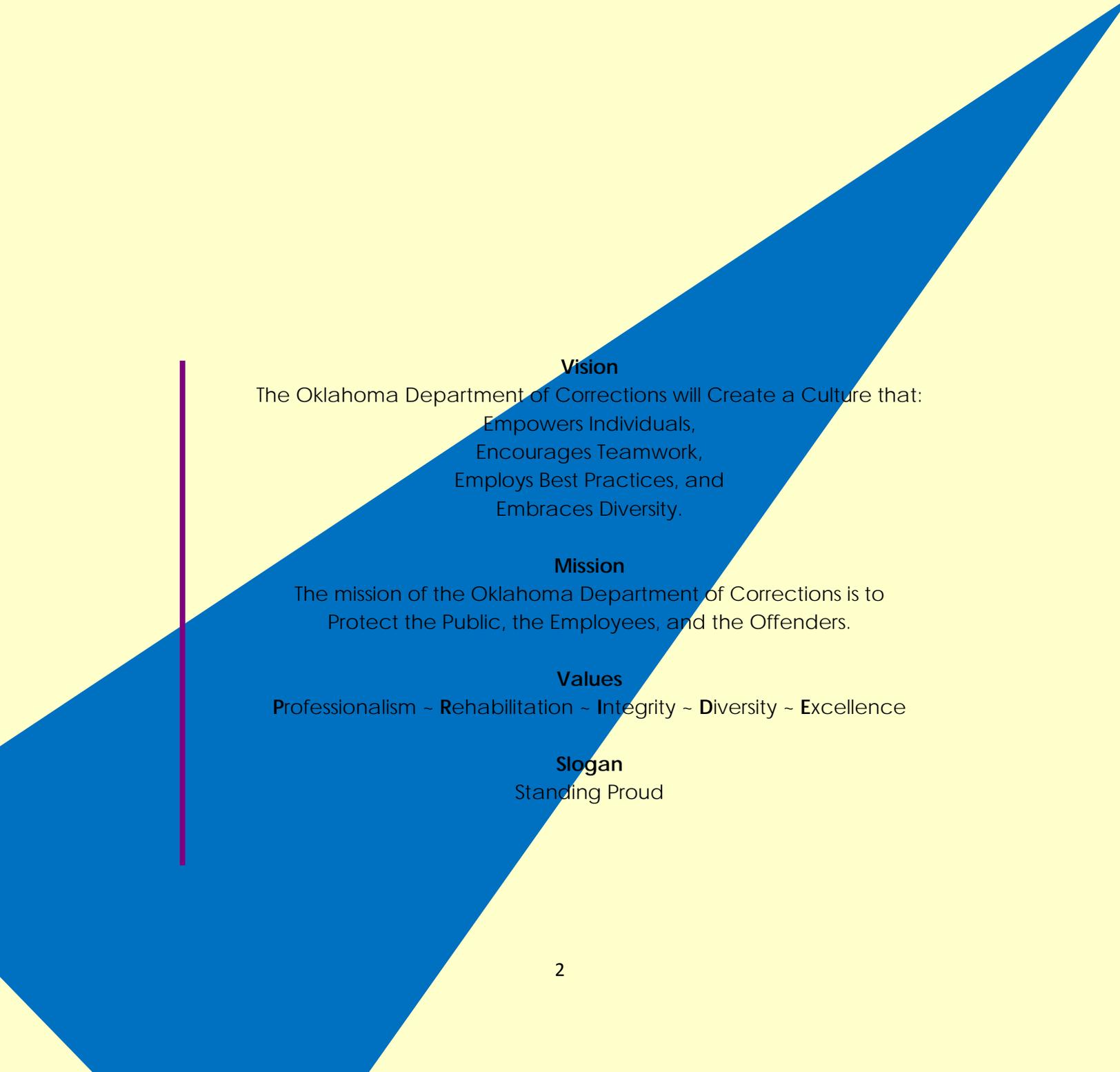
"Oklahoma Department of Corrections Director Justin Jones is tired of being No. 1."

"It's time we took control of our own destiny and addressed the causes of why so many female offenders are coming to prison," Jones said.

" . . . The goal is to reduce recidivism effectively and develop collaborative efforts to provide diversionary programs for women as an alternative to incarceration, as well as to implement programs to help them succeed outside of prison."

Source: DOC Aims to Reduce Female Offenders, Tulsa World, Tom Lindley, World Capitol Bureau, November 26, 2008

This division is responsible for the oversight of female offenders from reception through reentry at two correctional centers, two community corrections centers, one community work center, and two contract residential centers. The division is charged with developing strategies for reducing Oklahoma's female incarceration rate to at, or below, the national average and reducing female offender recidivism through effective preparation of female offenders for successful reentry into society.



Vision

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections will Create a Culture that:
Empowers Individuals,
Encourages Teamwork,
Employs Best Practices, and
Embraces Diversity.

Mission

The mission of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections is to
Protect the Public, the Employees, and the Offenders.

Values

Professionalism ~ Rehabilitation ~ Integrity ~ Diversity ~ Excellence

Slogan

Standing Proud

Introduction

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections *Female Offender Operations Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Report* is provided to increase understanding and awareness regarding:

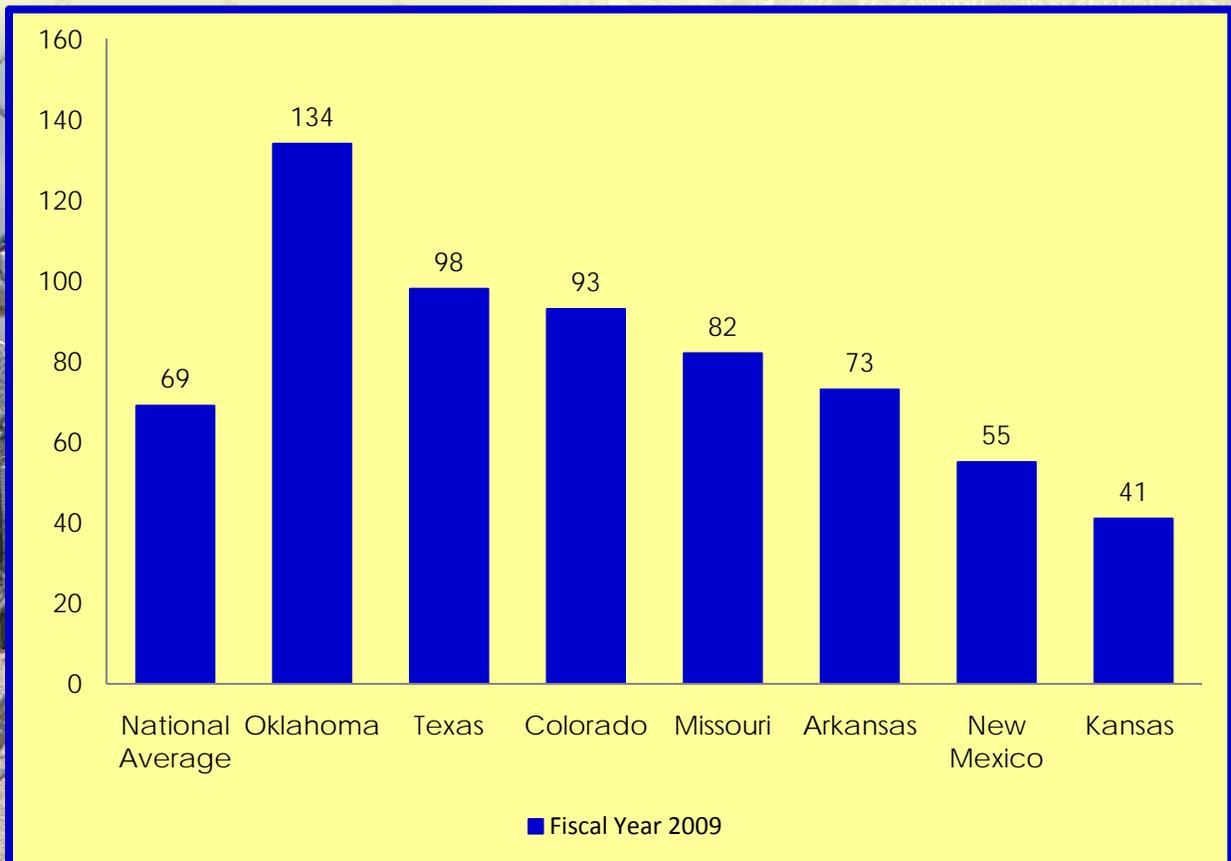
- Female offender incarceration rates nationally, in the state of Oklahoma and contiguous states, as well as how those rates compare county-by-county within Oklahoma;
- Characteristics of female offenders;
- Challenges related to female offenders and how the agency is addressing the challenges;
- Programs and services provided to female offenders during incarceration;
- The importance of volunteers in programmatic delivery;
- Characteristics of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections female offender population including facility capacity, cost, and population;
- Female offender needs upon reentry and reentry services provided;
- Diversionary efforts; and
- Progress made since the creation of the Division of Female Offender Operations in December of 2008.

“Adding up all probationers and parolees, prisoners and jail inmates, you’ll find America now has more than 7.3 million adults under some form of correctional control . . . 1 in every 31 United States Adults.”

Source: “One in 31: The Long Reach of American Corrections,” Public Safety Performance Project, Pew Center on the States; Retrieved December 6, 2009, at http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/PSPP_1in31_report_FINAL_WEB_3-26-09.pdf

Incarceration of Women

Oklahoma currently incarcerates 134 women per 100,000 population compared to the national average of 69.



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Prison Inmates at Midyear 2008 NCJ 225619/March 20, 2009. Table 10. Imprisonment Rates of Sentenced Prisoners Under Jurisdiction of State and Federal Correctional Authorities, by Gender, Region, and Jurisdiction, June 30, 2008.

CAUTION
RAZOR
WIRE

Characteristics of Female Offenders

Female offenders have common characteristics:

- History of family dysfunction and instability;
- History of trauma and violence;
- History of substance abuse and addiction;
- Economic marginalization and poverty;
- Race and ethnicity;
- Medical issues and mental health issues;
- Women offenders as mothers; and
- Relationships.

History of Family Dysfunction and Instability

History of Family Dysfunction/Instability	
Someone in Home With Drinking Problem	61.1% (N=184)
Someone in Home With Drug Problem	46.8% (N=141)
Mental Illness in the Home	47.2% (N=142)
Parents Divorced	61.1% (N=184)
Father Incarcerated	18.3% (N=55)
Mother Incarcerated	9.3% (N=28)
Both Parents Incarcerated	4.0% (N=12)
Ran Away From Home Before Age 18	52.5% (N=158)
Often or Very Often Did Not Have Enough to Eat	14.9% (N=45)
Nobody to Take Them to Doctor When Sick	7.0% (N=21)

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children 2009; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

Note: Sample size was 301 female offenders from Mabel Bassett Correctional Center (N=127), Eddie Warrior Correctional Center (N=114), Hillside Community Corrections Center (N=37), and Kate Barnard Community Corrections Center (N=23).

History of Trauma and Violence

Trauma and Violence in Childhood	
Child Physical and/or Sexual Abuse	66.4% (N=200)
Father Violent in Home	42.9% (N=129)
Mother Violent in Home	28.6% (N=86)
Trauma and Violence in Adulthood	
Domestic Violence	71.1% (N=214)
Rape Past the Age of 18	36.2% (N=109)
Received Abuse Counseling	39.5% (N=79)

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children 2009; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

History of Substance Abuse and Addiction

During Fiscal Year 2009, 1,284 female offenders were received by the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Of those offenders, 63 percent (N=807) were assessed with a moderate to high need for substance abuse treatment.

Economic Marginalization and Poverty

A report issued by the Institute for Women's Policy Research and Wellesley Centers for Women entitled, "Achieving Equity for Women: Policy Alternatives for the New Administration," provided the following national statistics from a symposium presentation made by Congresswoman Rosa De Lauro on April 2, 2009:

- Incomes of women-headed households are down by three percent since 2000;
- Unmarried women have average household incomes that are about \$12,000 less than those of unmarried men;
- One-fifth of women have no health insurance;
- One-third of single mothers live in poverty; and
- Elderly women are more likely to be poor than elderly men.

In Oklahoma, women earn 78 cents for every dollar men earn according to the National Women's Law Center's report entitled, "The Paycheck Fairness Act Would Help Close the Wage Gap for Oklahoma Women," dated April 2009.

The report concludes, "The worsening recession is affecting all Americans, but women—who were already in a more precarious economic position than men because of lower earnings and higher poverty rates—are more likely to rely on public benefits like Medicaid, food stamps, and housing assistance." ". . . If the state cuts programs and essential services as a result of this [budget] shortfall, women will be disproportionately affected."

On August 3, 2009, the United States Census Bureau released new state level data from the American Community Survey on poverty in 2008. The poverty rate for women in the United States is 14.5 percent. The poverty rate for Oklahoma women is 17.7 percent. Among Oklahoma families with children, families headed by single mothers are almost five times as likely to be in poverty as families headed by married couples. Poverty is closely correlated with education . . . one third of poor Oklahomans over age 25 (32.7 percent) did not graduate high school.

A report issued by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation in October 2009 indicates that nationally approximately 17.2 million women are uninsured and that women who are uninsured are more likely to lack adequate access to care, get a lower standard of care when they are in the health system, and have poorer health outcomes.

The same report, entitled, "Putting Women's Health Care Disparities on the Map: Examining Racial and Ethnic Disparities at the State Level," found that in Oklahoma, 30% of White Non-Hispanic women, 42 percent of Black Non-Hispanic women, 62 percent of Hispanic women, and 63 percent of American Indian/Alaska Native women, ages 18-64, either use Medicaid or other public sources for health coverage or they are uninsured.

These difficulties are reflected in the female offender population.



Of the 1,284 female offenders received in Fiscal Year 2009, 1,260 were administered a Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) at the time of reception. The LSI-R is a quantitative survey of offender attributes relevant to level of supervision and treatment decisions. The LSI-R helps identify offender needs that, if not met, may lead to repeat involvement in the criminal justice system.

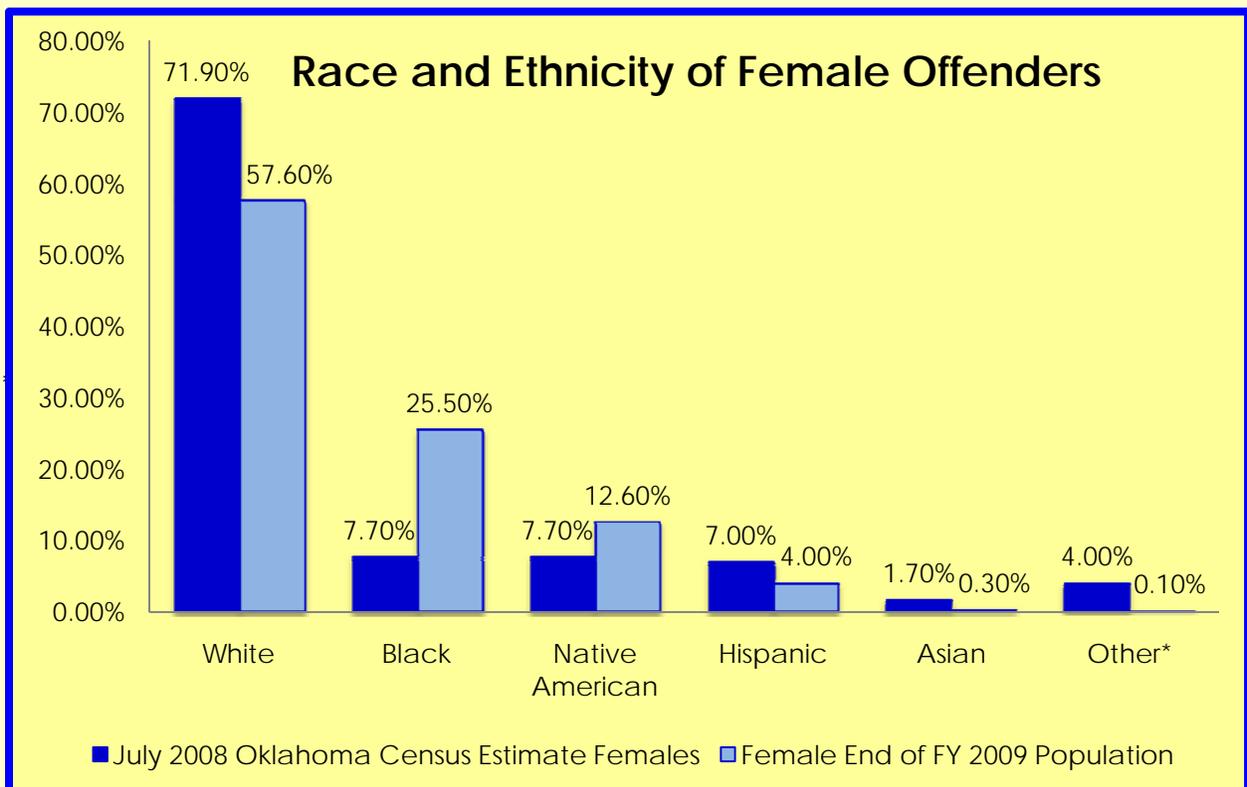
LSI-R results relevant to employment and poverty include:

- 85.7 percent (N=1,080) reported being unemployed at the time of arrest;
- 65 percent (819) reported being frequently unemployed when in the labor market;
- 11.4 percent (N=144) reported severe difficulty and not managing their financial situation at the time of arrest;
- 62.7 percent (N=790) reported some difficulty in managing financial resources at the time of arrest; and
- 45.7 percent (N=576) reported a reliance on social assistance at the time of arrest.

Additionally, of the 1,284 female offenders received in Fiscal Year 2009, 72 percent (N=919) had a need for education (e.g., Literacy, Adult Basic Education, General Equivalency Diploma).

Race and Ethnicity

Minority populations are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system.



Medical and Mental Health Issues

Female offenders are treated for a variety of medical and mental health issues.

Of the 2,651 female offenders incarcerated at the end of Fiscal Year 2009, 69 percent (N=1,828) had a history of or were currently being treated for a mental disorder such as psychotic disorders, major mood disorders (i.e., depression, bipolar disorder), or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Female Offenders as Mothers

“There is now a growing awareness that parents who go to prison do not suffer the consequences alone; the children of incarcerated parents often lose contact with their parents and visits are sometimes rare. Children of incarcerated parents are more likely to drop out of school, engage in delinquency, and subsequently be incarcerated themselves.” (“Incarcerated Parents and Their Children: Trends 1991-2007,” The Sentencing Project, February 2009)

Children of Incarcerated Mothers	
Of the 301 Female Offenders Surveyed . . .	Extrapolated for Entire Population of 2,651 Female Offenders
257 Had At Least One Child	2,264 With Children
257 Offenders Had 760 Children (3 Children Per Offender)	6,792 Children
65.39 Percent of the 760 Children Were Under the Age of 18	4,441 Children Under Age of 18
45.5 Percent (N=137) of Female Offenders Lived With Minor Child Prior to Incarceration (265 Children)	

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children 2009; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.



Placement of Oklahoma Children of Incarcerated Mothers Living With Mother At Time of Incarceration	
Placement of Child	As Percentage of Known Placements (N=187)
Child's Other Parent	31.0% (N=58)
Offender's Mother	28.3% (N=54)
Offender's Sibling	8.0% (N=15)
Offender's Other Relatives	8.0% (N=15)
Partner's Mother	5.9% (N=11)
Foster Care	5.9% (N=11)

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children 2009; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

Children Experiencing Problems Before and Since Mother's Incarceration As Reported by Mothers			
Problem	Before Mother's Incarceration	Since Mother's Incarceration	Both Before and Since Mother's Incarceration
Bad Grades	18	35	16
Expelled	6	12	7
Dropped Out	8	12	--
Trouble With Guardian	10	33	11
Ran Away	2	10	5
Arrested	3	8	5
Drug Problem	4	11	5
Depression	10	47	16
Suicidal	3	14	6

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children 2009; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.

Relationships

The critical issues outlined above ultimately impact female offenders' ability to successfully maintain healthy relationships with children, family, and significant others.

Contact with Children Among Women Living With Children Prior to Incarceration		
Visits	Once a Year or Less	43.8% (N=60)
	Twice a Year or More But Less Than Monthly	14.6% (N=20)
	Once a Month or More	35.1% (N=48)
Telephone Calls	Once a Year or Less	28.5% (N=39)
	Twice a Year or More But Less Than Monthly	24.8% (N=34)
	Once a Month or More	40.9% (N=56)
Mail	Once a Year or Less	27.0% (N=37)
	Twice a Year or More But Less Than Monthly	22.7% (N=31)
	Once a Month or More	44.5% (N=66)

Source: Oklahoma Study of Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children 2009; Susan F. Sharp, Ph.D., Emily Pain, and the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth.



Addressing the Challenges

There are opportunities to impact the female incarceration rate through:

- Prevention and intervention;
- Diversion prior to incarceration;
- Gender-responsive and refined assessment of custody classification, strengths, and needs;
- Specialized training for staff working with female offenders;
- Gender-responsive and effective programs;
- Partnerships with external stakeholders; and
- Support and resources for successful reentry.

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections Division of Female Offender Operations partners with internal and external stakeholders to:

- Educate others regarding female incarceration in Oklahoma and the critical issues facing female offenders;
- Reduce the incarceration rate of female offenders; and
- Provide critical support and resources necessary for female offenders' successful reentry into society.

In order to achieve these goals, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections implements gender-responsive policies and practices that target women's pathways to criminality by providing effective interventions that address: substance abuse; trauma; mental health; and economic marginality.

What Does Gender-Responsive Mean?

Gender responsive means creating an environment through site selection, staff selection, program development, content, and material that reflects an understanding of the realities of women's lives and addresses the issues of the women participants.

Source: Bloom and Covington, 2000

Gender responsive principles include:

- Acknowledging that gender makes a difference;
- Creating an environment based on safety, respect, and dignity;
- Developing policies, practices, and programs that are relational and promote healthy connections with children, family, significant others, and the community;
- Addressing the issues of substance abuse, trauma, and mental health through comprehensive, integrated, culturally-relevant services and appropriate supervision;
- Improving women's economic/social conditions by developing their capacity to be self-sufficient; and
- Establishing a system of community supervision and reentry with comprehensive, collaborative services.

Sexual Misconduct and Privacy Issues

The federal Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 supports the elimination, reduction, and prevention of sexual assault within the corrections systems. The law was designed and passed to establish a zero-tolerance standard for the incidence of rape in prisons in the United States; make the prevention of prison rape a top priority in each prison system; develop and implement national standards for the detection, prevention, reduction, and punishment of prison rape; increase available data and information on the incidence of prison rape; and increase the accountability of prison officials who fail to detect, prevent, reduce, and punish prison rape.

To discover successful strategies and programs for addressing the problem of sexual violence in state prisons, a research team from the Urban Institute and the Association of State Correctional Administrators interviewed prison officials in 45 states and identified promising initiatives and practices in a report entitled, "Strategies to Prevent Prison Rape by Changing the Correctional Culture," published by the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice, in October 2008.

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections has:

- Developed a department-wide strategy and a comprehensive operations memorandum No. OP-030601 entitled, "Oklahoma Prison Rape Elimination Act," that provides guidelines for offender education as well as investigation, prosecution, provision of victim services, and accurate documentation of sexual assaults;
- Cultivated management, staff, and offender buy-in to the strategy;
- Developed staff in-service training programs that specifically address rape, and ensure that staff will be protected from false allegations; and
- Developed offender education programs that explain prison policies and practices regarding rape, inmate rights, and how to avoid assault.

Specialized Training

During Fiscal Year 2009, the agency's training effort continued. Courses offered included:

- Mandatory in-service training entitled, "Prison Rape Elimination Act—Your Role: Responding to Sexual Abuse";
- Mandatory in-service training entitled, "Mental Illness: A Guide for Correctional Employees";
- Mandatory in-service training entitled, "Awareness and Prevention of Sexual Harassment";
- Revised mandatory in-service training entitled, "Working Successfully with Female Offenders"; and
- In-service training entitled, "Staff/Offender Relationships."

It is important to note that completion of mandatory in-service training is required annually based on calendar year.

Investigations

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections considers allegations involving any type of sexual misconduct to be very serious. The department's Office of Internal Affairs conducted 49 investigations involving allegations of civilian-to-offender sexual assault, offender-to-offender nonconsensual sexual acts and abusive sexual acts, staff-to-offender sexual misconduct, staff-to-offender sexual harassment, and inappropriate staff/offender relationships with female offenders during Fiscal Year 2009. (Please note the term staff also includes contractors, volunteers, and non-Oklahoma Department of Corrections work crew supervisors.)

Of the 49 investigations conducted:

- Five were unfounded;
- Nineteen were substantiated;
- Twenty-three were unsubstantiated (evidence was insufficient to determine whether or not the event occurred);
- Nineteen investigations cited staff policy violations;
- Sixteen investigations cited offender policy violations;
- Fourteen cases were referred to the appropriate district attorney for criminal charges. Of those, three investigations resulted in criminal charges being filed by the district attorney. Three are still pending decision by the district attorney.

Female Offender Programs

Female offenders are assessed and screened at the Mabel Bassett Correctional Center Assessment and Reception Center for medical, mental health, and programmatic needs. Assessed program needs are identified on a case plan. Case managers monitor offenders' needs and place them in the appropriate program at the appropriate time.

Primary among the programs available to female offenders are substance abuse treatment and educational services.

The tables below represent unique program participation by program type for Fiscal Year 2009.

Substance Abuse

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections has 188 substance abuse beds available for women. Sixty-three percent (N=807) of female offenders received in Fiscal Year 2009 were assessed with a moderate to high need for substance abuse treatment.

Of the 2,651 female offenders incarcerated at the end of Fiscal Year 2009, 64 percent (N=1,692) had an assessed need for substance abuse treatment.

Substance abuse programs utilize cognitive behavioral strategies to address drug addiction and abuse behaviors.

Fiscal Year 2009 Substance Abuse Program Participation	
Program	Females
Substance Abuse Treatment	255

Education

Seventy-two percent (N=919) of female offenders received in Fiscal Year 2009 had an assessed need for basic education. Of the 2,651 females incarcerated at the end of Fiscal Year 2009, 67 percent (N=1,778) have an assessed need for basic or technical education.

Educational services include Literacy, Adult Basic Education, General Equivalency Diploma, college courses, and Life Skills classes. Research has shown that quality programming reduces recidivism by teaching offenders new skills and behaviors prior to their return to society.

Fiscal Year 2009 Education Program Participation	
Program	Females
Education* Title I**	1,506* 81**
Literacy	298
Adult Basic Education	325
College	462
General Equivalency Diploma	206
CIMC Life Skills	180
Life Skills (Other)	35

*Notes: The educational information in the table above does not limit offenders to one education program only during the fiscal year timeframe. For example, an offender completing Adult Basic Education and participating in General Equivalency Diploma classes would be counted under each heading. **Title I represents the number of offenders in education that, at the time of service, were 21 years old or younger.

Career Technology

CareerTech Skill Center Activity					
Sites	Program	Served	Completed	Retained	NonCompletion
Mabel Bassett Skills Center	Career Development Assessment	33	33	0	0
	Computer Fundamentals	50	35	10	5
	Licensed Trades	23	8	10	5
	Transportation, Distribution, Logistics	32	20	11	1
Dr. Eddie Warrior Skills Center	Business and Information Technology Academy	76	40	30	6
	Manufacturing Academy	45	15	24	6
	Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics	20	10	10	0
TOTAL		279	161	95	23

Offenders do not complete CareerTech for a variety of reasons including disciplinary, discharge, parole, transfer, etc.

Medical Services

Medical services at facilities for females vary based on the location and population served.

The following information excludes medical, dental, and mental health information for the Altus Community Work Center, Turley Residential Center (Tulsa), and Center Point, Inc. (Tulsa).

During this reporting period, the host facility that provided medical services for women residing at the Altus Community Work Center was the Lawton Community Corrections Center, and the host facility for Turley Residential Center was Riverside. These host facilities house male offenders and do not report health information separately for female offenders. Center Point, Inc., accessed services in the community.

Medical services for women housed at Kate Barnard Community Corrections Center were provided by staff at the Hillside Community Corrections Center.

During FY 2009, Medical Services received 15,348 "Request for Medical Services." Not all request forms submitted by offenders are requests to be seen by the medical provider. Some requests are for appointment information, medication refills, etc. A written response is provided to these requests.

There were 12,825 scheduled medical appointments at Mabel Bassett Correctional Center, Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center, and Hillside Community Corrections Center.

Oklahoma Department of Corrections Medical Services utilizes nurses for sick call assessments or visits. Nurses are provided a set of nursing practice protocols or guidelines for problems commonly seen during sick call. These protocols specify the steps to be taken in evaluating a patient's health status and providing interventions. These protocols include acceptable first aid procedures for the identification and care of ailments that ordinarily would be treated with over-the-counter medication or through self-care. Each protocol provides criteria for referral to the health care provider and a sequence of steps to be taken to evaluate and stabilize the patient until a health care provider is contacted. The goal of the sick call triage process is to assess and treat minor health complaints and to refer complaints of a more serious nature to the medical provider.

Medical Services				
Medical Services Activity	MBCC	EWCC	HCCC	Total
Scheduled Appointments	8,314	2,908	1,603	12,825
Request for Medical Services	6,450	4,891	4,007	15,348
Nursing Protocols	593	1,404	472	2,469

Medications

For Fiscal Year 2009, a monthly average of 1,471 offenders received prescription medications.

Medications				
	MBCC	EWCC	HCCC	Total
Average number of offenders on medications monthly	728	493	250	1,471
Average number of medications per offender per month				4.12

Emergencies and After Hours Activities

Medical units handle health issues even when their clinics are not open. Therefore, after-hours callbacks and emergency clinic visits are not rare. Many emergencies are critical enough to require a visit to the emergency room at the local hospital or at Oklahoma University/Oklahoma State University Medical Center (Turley Residential Center and Center Point, Inc.). During Fiscal Year 2009, the three facilities reported 181 visits to the emergency room with 59 of these visits resulting in hospital admissions.

Emergency and After Hours Activities					
Activity	MBCC	EWCC	HCCC	Total	
ER Clinic (Facility)	184	9	52	245	
After Hours Callback	148	41	37	226	
Emergency Room Visits	117	18	46	181	
Hospital Admissions From ER Visits	37	3	19	59	
Hospital Admissions From Non-ER Visits (Direct Admit)	63	20	13	96	

Specialty Care

Female offenders also receive well women services that include mammograms and gynecological exams.

Additionally, female offenders receive health care outside of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. During Fiscal Year 2009, there were 3,080 specialty care visits from Mabel Bassett Correctional Center, Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center, and Hillside Community Corrections Center.

Specialty Care				
Activity	MBCC	EWCC	HCCC	Total
Contracted Provider	450	505	315	1,270
Lindsay Hospital	157	129	62	348
OU Medical Center	967	315	180	1,462
TOTAL	1,574	949	557	3,080

Pregnancy

Each year, Oklahoma Department of Corrections medical units monitor female offenders' pregnancies and births. During Fiscal Year 2009, Mabel Bassett Correctional Center offenders gave birth to 45 children. Most were delivered at Oklahoma University Medical Center. On average, there are 18 females who are pregnant.

When an offender gives birth, guardianship is normally given to an immediate family member (most of the time a grandmother). If this is not possible, the child is placed in foster care. In a few rare instances, the child is placed for adoption. If the offender is placing the baby with a guardian, the offender completes the required paperwork at the facility law library. If the offender does not have a guardian to care for the baby, placements are arranged through a case manager at the hospital. Mabel Bassett Correctional Center does allow children/babies to visit their mothers more often than just regular visiting days.

Chronic Illness and Special Needs

In addition to providing comprehensive care for female offenders, there are special groups who require monitoring due to their special needs or chronic illnesses.

The following tables provide a breakdown of these groups. Numbers are based on a monthly average.

Special Needs*	MBCC	EWCC	HCCC	Total
Walkers, Canes, Crutches	22	1	2	25
Wheelchair	20	1	1	22
Hearing Impaired	5	1	0	6
Prostheses	4	1	1	6
Vision Impaired	2	1	1	4
TOTAL	53	5	5	63

*Note: Some offenders may fall into more than one group. Therefore, these numbers are not cumulative.

Chronic Illness	Percentage	MBCC	EWCC	HCCC
Asthma	12.6%	144	127	64
Hypertension	12.1%	145	112	66
Diabetes	3.8%	46	38	17
Seizures	3.1%	45	26	12
Hepatitis C	2.3%	24	23	16
Pulmonary	1.6%	24	17	3
Endocrine	1.4%	24	14	0
Cardiovascular	0.8%	12	6	5
Cancer	0.4%	11	0	1
AIDS HIV	0.3%	7	1	2
Total		482	364	186

*Note: Some offenders may fall into more than one group. Therefore, these numbers are not cumulative.

Dental Care

Female offenders also receive necessary dental care at the facilities. During Fiscal Year 2009, there were 5,313 dental clinic visits and 227 unscheduled visits by offenders with urgent needs.

For routine dental care Altus Community Work Center utilizes Lawton Community Corrections Center, Turley Residential Center utilizes Northeast Oklahoma Correctional Center, and Center Point, Inc., utilized Morton Satellite Clinic. Male and female offenders requiring oral surgery receive treatment at the Kate Barnard Community Corrections Center.

Dental Visits and Services				
Activity	MBCC	EWCC	HCCC	Total
Routine Visits	3,074	1,679	560	5,313
Sick Call Requests	2,259	964	813	4,036
Unscheduled Visits/ Emergency Visits	151	47	29	227
Oral Surgery Referrals	11	9	22	42

Mental Health Services

Generally, mental health issues are more prevalent as security level increases. The Oklahoma Department of Corrections utilizes a mental health level system as a means of determining the appropriate level of service for each offender based on need and severity of illness.

Of the 2,651 female offenders incarcerated at the end of Fiscal Year 2009, 69 percent (N=1,828) had a history of mental disorder or were currently being treated for mental disorder.

Mental health services provided to Hillside Community Corrections Center, Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center, and Mabel Bassett Correctional Center female offenders include crisis intervention, suicide prevention, individual and group therapy, illness/medication management training and monitoring, and various psycho-educational programs (parenting classes, coping skills classes, assertiveness training, problem-solving skills, etc.).

Psychotropic Medications				
	MBCC	EWCC	HCCC	Total
Average number of offenders prescribed psychotropic medications monthly	404	222	113	739
Average number of psychotropic medications per offender per month				2.04

Offenders whose mental health needs increase to a level which requires more intensive treatment are referred to Mabel Bassett Correctional Center Mental Health Unit. The mental health unit has 71 beds and averages four admissions per month.

Volunteers

Volunteers provide critical services for female offenders including serving as positive role models and providing invaluable programmatic services and opportunities for skill building, support, and self-improvement.

Opportunities for skill building include overcoming experiences of grief, loss, and abuse through classes such as Domestic Violence, Conquering Co-Dependency, Recovery from the Losses of Life, and Shelter from the Storm. Character development opportunities include Search for Significance, Battlefield of the Mind, Victory by Virtue, Women of Character, Faith Based Community Program, and Character Based Community Program. Opportunities for supports to promote recovery from addictions include Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics/Narcotics Victorious, Breaking Free, Medicine Wheel Sobriety Class, and Mom’s Against Meth. Opportunities for self-improvement include parenting and family relations such as Tales for the Rising Moon, Children and Mothers Program, Prevention Relationship Enhancement Program, Girl Scouts Beyond Bars, Genesis One, New Life Behavior, Boundaries, and Handling Anger God’s Way.

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections neither endorses one religious belief over another nor endorses religion over non-religion. Female offenders are provided opportunities for religious services and faith-based programs. Religious services are primarily worship or religious education. Faith-based programs are offered by volunteers and may address specific criminogenic issues such as cognitive behavior skills, family relationships, or substance abuse from a faith perspective. Within community corrections, eligible offenders are transported to local churches or religious groups for services.

The monetary value of hours is calculated at \$16.93 per hour, an estimate for Oklahoma provided by the “Independent Sector” at www.independentsector.org.

Volunteer Hours		
Facility	Hours	Value
Mabel Bassett Correctional Center	7393	\$125,163.49
Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center	5,944	\$100,631.92
Hillside Community Corrections Center	14,755	\$249,802.15
Kate Barnard Community Corrections Center	12,640	\$213,995.20
Altus Community Work Center	5,626	\$95,248.18
Turley Residential Center	9,200	\$155,756.00
Center Point, Inc.	414	\$7,009.02
TOTAL	55,972	\$947,605.96

Female Facilities: Capacity, Cost, and Population

Capacity and Cost

The following table provides information regarding female facilities including security level, location, capacity, and a statement of operating cost per offender based on Fiscal Year 2010 work program (not actuals).

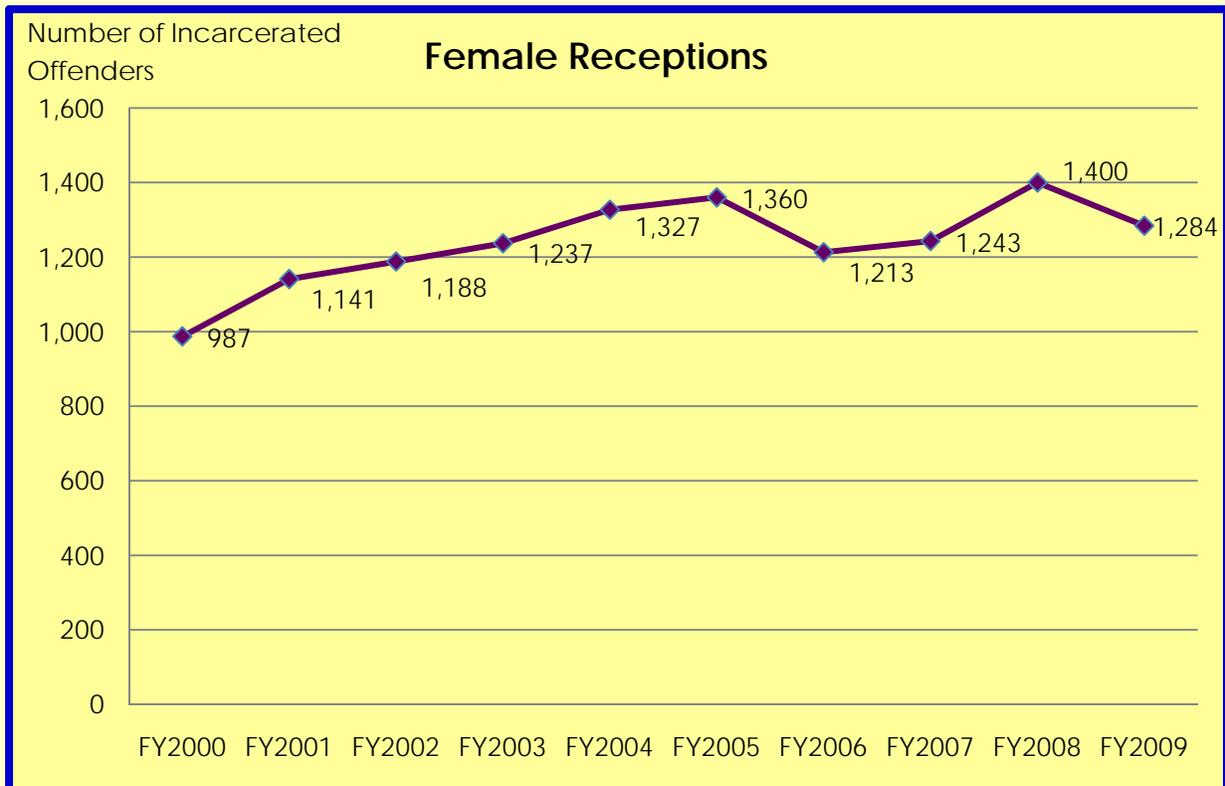
Custody	Facility/Location	Capacity	Cost Per Offender Per Day
Death Row/ Medium/ Minimum	Mabel Bassett Correctional Center (McCloud)	1,043	\$40.49
Maximum	Mabel Bassett Assessment and Reception Center (McCloud)	93	\$40.49
Minimum	Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center (Taft)	783	\$37.87
Community	Hillside Community Corrections Center (Oklahoma City)	249	\$35.76
Community	Kate Barnard Community Corrections Center (Oklahoma City)	164	\$43.67
Community	Altus Community Work Center (Altus)	110	\$29.08
Halfway House	Turley Residential Center (Tulsa)	150	\$37.57
Halfway House	Center Point, Inc. (Tulsa)	32	\$37.57

Source: Oklahoma Department of Corrections Total Cost to State, Statement of Operating Cost per Inmate Based on FY 2010 Work Program (Not Actuals); Finance and Accounting

Top Five Controlling Offense Categories for Female Offender Population

Controlling Offense Category	Percent
Possession, Obtaining Controlled Dangerous Substance	21.4% (N=567)
Distributing Controlled Dangerous Substance	19.2% (N=510)
Forgery	7.7% (N=205)
Assault	6.4% (N=169)
Larceny	6.3% (N=166)

Five Year Population Trends

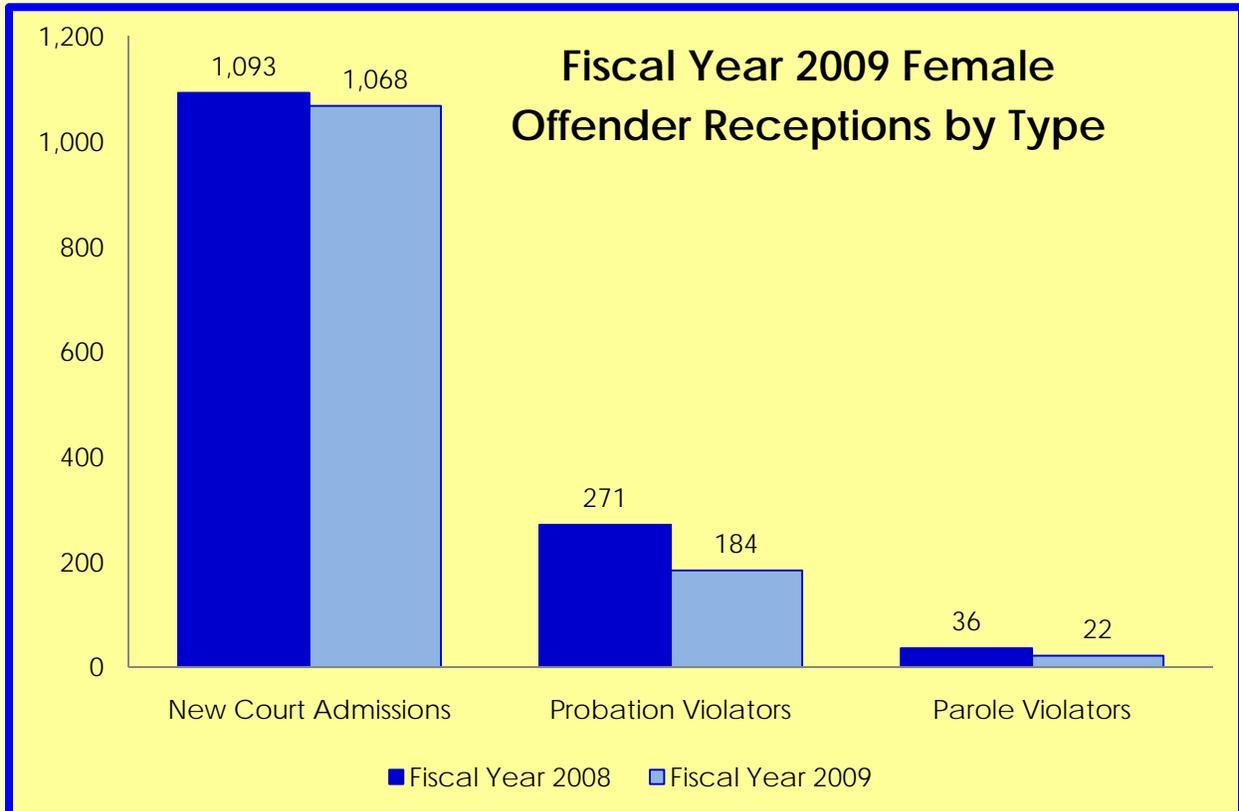


Receptions

During Fiscal Year 2009, 1,284 female offenders were received into the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. The largest numbers of receptions during Fiscal Year 2009 were from Oklahoma, Tulsa, Comanche, Creek, Garfield, and Stephens counties.

Female Offender Receptions by County of Controlling Offense					
County	Number of Receptions	County	Number of Receptions	County	Number of Receptions
Adair	2	Grady	25	Murray	7
Atoka	5	Grant	1	Muskogee	20
Beaver	5	Greer	6	Noble	2
Beckham	16	Harmon	3	Okfuskee	1
Blaine	5	Haskell	3	Oklahoma	273
Bryan	11	Hughes	3	Okmulgee	9
Caddo	14	Jackson	31	Ottawa	20
Canadian	10	Jefferson	5	Pawnee	5
Carter	21	Johnston	8	Payne	25
Cherokee	5	Kay	11	Pittsburg	19
Choctaw	6	Kingfisher	6	Pontotoc	7
Cimarron	1	Kiowa	1	Pottawatomie	32
Cleveland	15	Latimer	2	Pushmataha	1
Coal	5	LeFlore	8	Rogers	22
Comanche	49	Lincoln	13	Seminole	17
Cotton	13	Logan	13	Sequoyah	3
Craig	3	Love	2	Stephens	33
Creek	40	Major	1	Texas	11
Custer	19	Marshall	6	Tillman	4
Delaware	15	Mayes	6	Tulsa	272
Ellis	1	McClain	3	Wagoner	4
Garfield	33	McCurtain	15	Washington	17
Garvin		McIntosh	5	Washita	5
				Woodward	2
Total Receptions					1,284

Of the 1,284 Fiscal Year 2009 receptions, 1,068 were new court admissions (not on probation or parole); 184 were probation violators; and 22 were parole violators. Probation and parole violators include offenders with new cases and those receiving technical violations.



Based on the Initial Custody Assessment, 1,038 (81 percent) of the 1,284 receptions were assessed minimum security, and 238 (19 percent) were assessed medium security.

Of the 1,284 women admitted to prison in Fiscal Year 2009, the majority were assessed with a high LSI-R score (44 percent). The LSI-R is a scoring instrument used to assess the risk of someone continuing criminal behavior if identified needs are not addressed. A score of 0-18 is low risk; a score of 19-28 is moderate risk, and a score of 29-54 is high risk. The average score for female offenders, 24.90, falls within the moderate risk category.

Fiscal Year 2009 Female Offender Receptions by Total LSI-R Score	
LSI Total Score – Low	156 (12.1%)
LSI Total Score – Moderate	545 (42.4%)
LSI Total Score – High	559 (43.5%)
Total	1,260 (98.1%)
No LSI	24 (1.9%)
Total	1,284 (100.0%)

It is important to note that offenders who did not have the LSI-R administered at reception are those offenders with short sentences (generally 30 days or less) and those with very long sentences (Life, Life Without Parole, Death).

Top Five Controlling Offense Categories for Female Offender Receptions	
Controlling Offense Category	Percent
Possession, Obtaining a Controlled Dangerous Substance	29.4%
Distributing Controlled Dangerous Substance	17.8%
Forgery	8.6%
Larceny	7.9%
Assault	6.4%

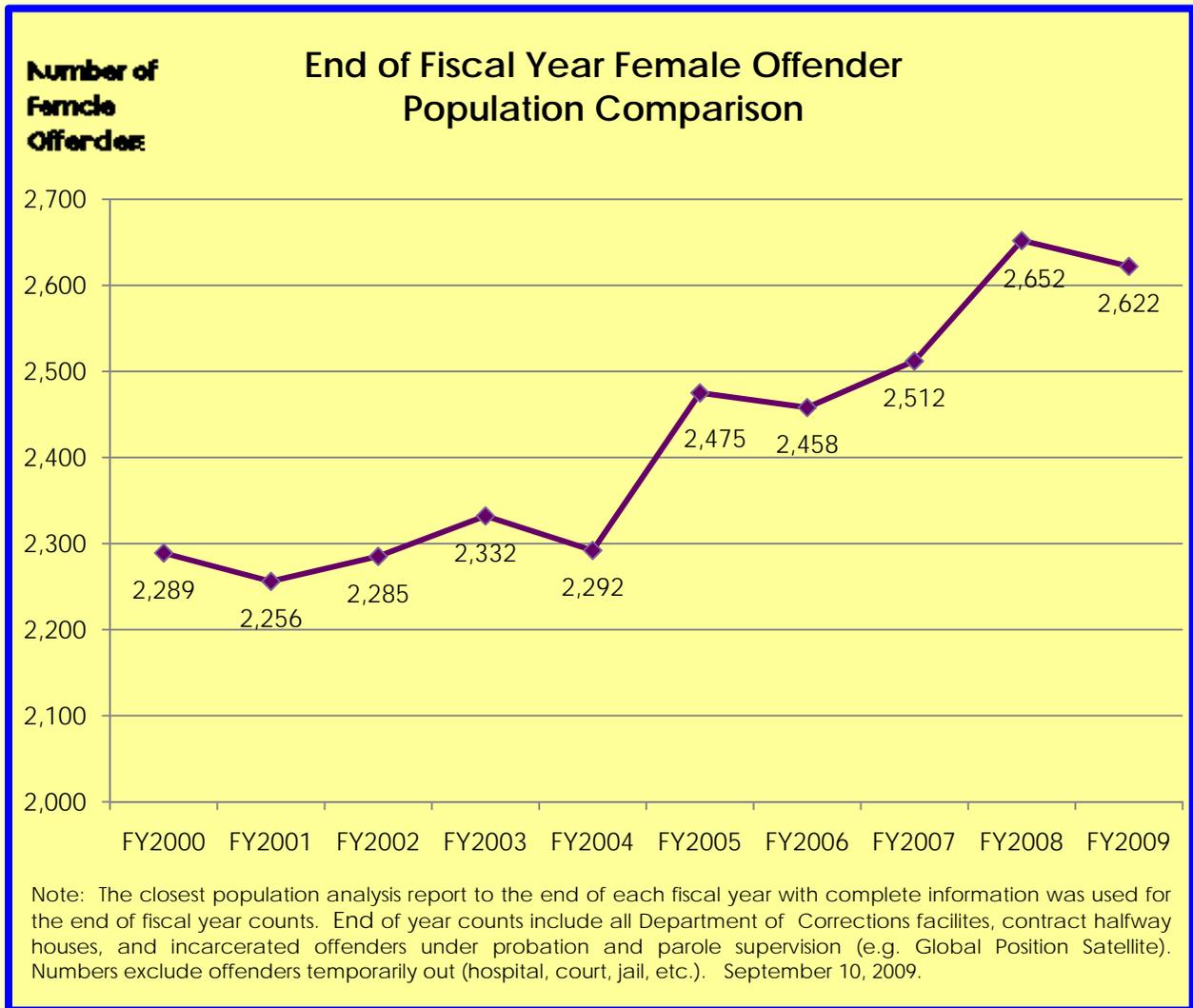
Female Offender Receptions by Age Group	
Age Group	Percent
20 and Under	5.1%
21-25	15.7%
26-30	20.7%
31-35	14.9%
36-40	13.8%
41-45	12.9%
46-50	11.0%
51-55	4.3%
56 and Older	1.8%

As of October 13, 2009, of the 1,284 female offenders received during Fiscal Year 2009, 964 remained incarcerated with one offender having exited and returned.

The average number of days remaining is 958 days or 2.6 years.

As of October 13, 2009, of the 1,284 female offenders received in Fiscal Year 2009, 320 had been released from incarceration with 102 (32 percent) discharging without community supervision and 218 (68 percent) discharging to community supervision.

End of Fiscal Year Comparison



Female Offenders: Releases and Reentry

Releases

Approximately 94 percent of Oklahoma's incarcerated females will eventually be released (excluding female offenders with sentences of Death, Life, and Life Without Parole).

In the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, there were 2,651 females incarcerated at the end of Fiscal Year 2009 (June 30).

During Fiscal Year 2009, 1,316 female offenders were released. Of these 1,316 offenders, 57 percent (N=749) were released to probation and parole or another type of community supervision, and 43 percent (N=567) were released without a requirement for continued supervision.

Based on a five year average of female offenders who have exited the Oklahoma Department of Corrections prison system, the average length of stay per female offender is 1.8 years.

Forty-three percent of female offenders released in the past five years served less than a year in prison.

Reentry

Female offenders have significant needs upon reentry to society. These needs include:

- Safe and affordable housing;
- Transitional income;
- Employment (living expenses, court costs, fines, restitution, child support);
- Transportation;
- Childcare;
- Medical care;
- Mental health care;
- Substance abuse treatment;
- Community support (family, friends, spiritual); and
- Positive relationships/role models.

According to a report entitled, "Charting the Safe and Successful Return of Prisoners to the Community," issued by the Re-Entry Policy Council, "Ensuring successful reentry means both safer communities and the improved use of tax dollars. But realizing better outcomes for people released from prison and jail requires efforts that address their myriad needs."

The report provided the following strategies to assist with offenders' successful reentry:

- **Housing**—Facilitate an offender's access to stable housing upon his or her reentry to the community.
- **Planned Continuity of Care**—Prepare community-based health and treatment providers, prior to the release of an individual, to receive that person and to ensure he or she receives uninterrupted services and support upon his or her return to the community.
- **Creation of Employment Opportunities**—Promote, where appropriate, the employment of people released from prison and jail and facilitate the creation of job opportunities for this population that will benefit communities.
- **Workforce Development and the Transition Plan**—Connect offenders to employment, including supportive employment and employment services, before their release to the community.
- **Victims, Families, and Communities**—Prepare family members, victims, and relevant community members for the released individual's return to the community and provide them with protection, counsel, services and support, as needed and appropriate.
- **Identification and Benefits**—Ensure that individuals exit prison and jail with appropriate forms of identification and that those eligible for public benefits receive them immediately upon their release from prison or jail.

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections addresses reentry needs through case management that begins upon reception; transition coordinators who provide wraparound services upon reentry; integrated services discharge managers, co-occurring treatment specialists, and four Reentry Intensive Care Coordination Teams funded by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

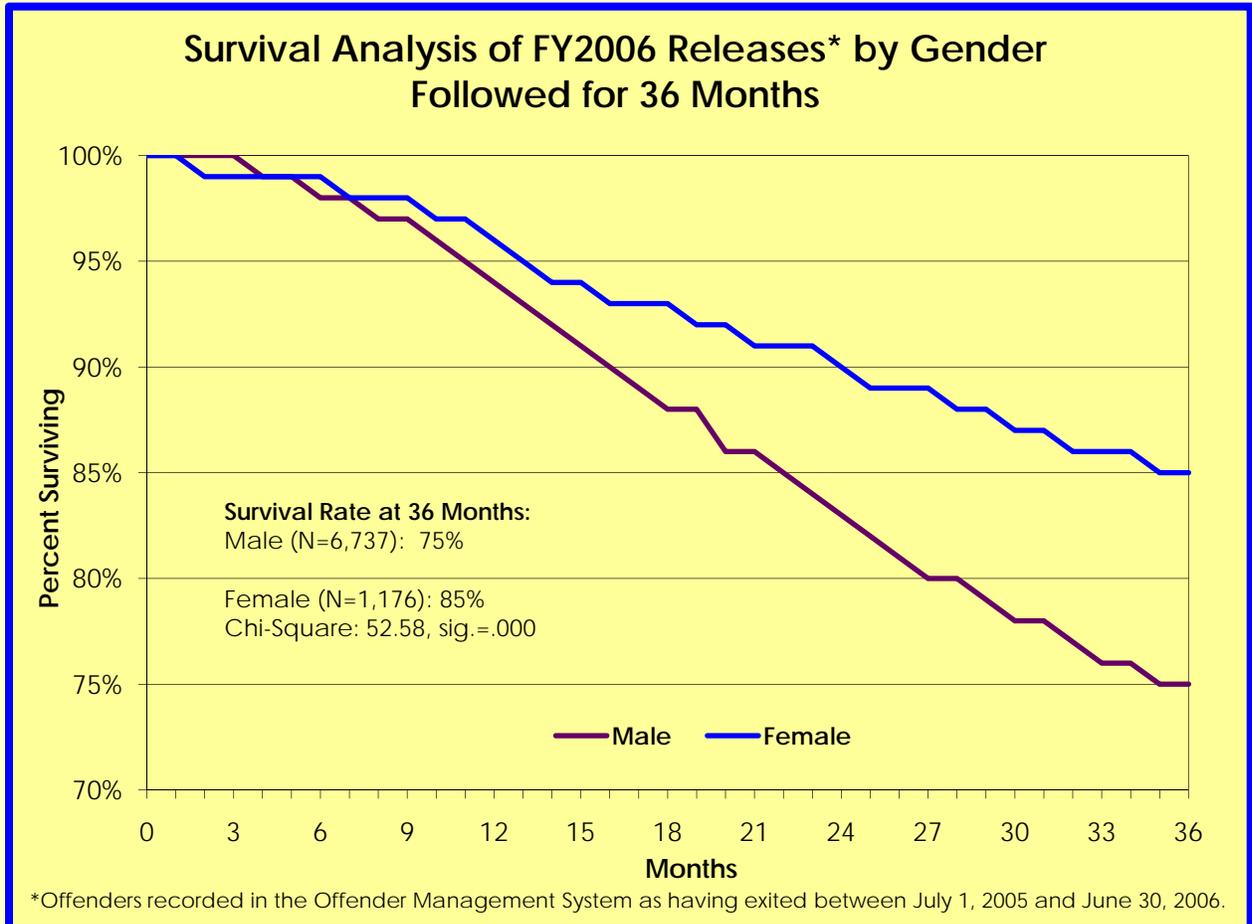
Additionally, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections is fortunate to have a variety of partnerships in the community that provide critical support and assistance (i.e., housing, food, clothing, transportation, preparation for employment, etc.) to female offenders in an effort to ensure successful reentry to society.

The list on the following page provides some examples of these Fiscal Year 2009 partnerships. Our most sincere apologies to those we may have missed.

AA/NA/CA	Full Gospel Baptist Ministry	Oklahoma Safe Home, LLC
Abigail's House	Genesis One	Oklahoma Victory
Acres of Diamonds	Girl Scouts	Transformation Center
ACT	Glory House	Open Skies Ministry
Ambassador House	Golden Gate Foundation	Operation Hope
Anchors of Hope	Goodwill Industries	Oxford House
Anointed Sisters Acts, Inc.	Gospel Rescue Mission	Pershing House
Associated Centers for Therapy	Grand Lake Mental Health	Program for Assertive
Auto Pawn	Greater Mt. Olive Church	Treatment
Betty Colclazier	Green County Behavioral	Promises, Inc.
Calvary Temple Church	Health	Quapaw Counseling Services
Care for Change, Inc.	Hand Up Ministries	Reentry Intensive Care
Carver Center	Helping Hand	Coordination Team
Catalyst Behavioral Services	Holy Temple Baptist Church	Resonance Program
Catholic Charities	HOPE Community Services, Inc.	Restore Hope
Celebrate Recovery	Indian Health Resource Center	Road to Victory
Chickasaw Nation	of Tulsa, Inc.	Salvation Army
Choctaw Nation	Infant Crisis Center	Serenity Outreach Recovery
Community Youth Outreach	Jordan's Crossing	Ministries
COPE	KI BOIS Community Action	Sister to Sister
County Court Clerks Offices	Services	Sober Living
Covenant House	Kiamichi Council	Social Security Administration
Criminal Justice and Mercy	Last Daze	Southeast Oklahoma Social
Ministries	Living Hope Ministry	Services, Inc.
Crisis Control Center	Love for Life Unlimited	Specialized Outpatient Services
Day Spring	Margaret Hudson	St. John CME Church
Divine Wisdom/Another	Martha House	St. Luke Baptist Church
Chance Ministry Trinity House	Mecca House	St. Luke United Methodist
Domestic Violence Intervention	Muscogee Nation	Church
Services	Reintegration Program	The Haven
Dominion House	Muskogee County Health	The Safe House
Drug Recovery, Inc.	Department	Tri-Cities Substance Abuse
Eagle Ridge Institute	New Life Homes	Trinity Full Gospel Ministries
Extended Family Services Inc.	Oklahoma Department of	Tulsa Dream Center
Fairview Baptist Church	Mental Health and Substance	Turning Point
Faith House	Abuse Services	Valliant House
Family and Children Services	Oklahoma Department of	Victory Christian Church
Family Crisis Center	Vocational Rehabilitation	Wings of Freedom
Fitting Back In	Oklahoma Families First	Women's Crisis Center
First Step Woman's Recovery	Oklahoma Health Care	Workforce Oklahoma
Four County Mental Health	Authority	YWCA
Freedom Restoration	Oklahoma Housing Authority	

Recidivism

At the end of Fiscal Year 2009, the recidivism rate for females released in Fiscal Year 2006 and returning within 3 years was 14.7 percent.



Recidivism Rates from Contiguous States		
State		Rate
Colorado	36 Month Return Rate for Females Released in Calendar Year 2003	47.5%
Missouri	36 Month Return Rate for Females Released in Fiscal Year 2005	43.0%
New Mexico	36 Month Return Date for Females Released 07/01/05 to 05/22/06	41.71%
Kansas	36 Month Return Date for Females Released in Fiscal Year 2005	41%
Texas	36 Month Return Rate for Females Released in FY 2005	20.7%
Arkansas	36 Month Return Rate for Females Released in Calendar Year 2005	23%

Sources:

Colorado Department of Corrections: "Recidivism and Cumulative Return Rates Calendar Year Released from 1998 through 2005," Kristi Rosten, Bonnie Barr, Kim Mersman; Office of Planning & Analysis; November 2007

Missouri Department of Corrections: "A Profile of the Institutional and Supervised Offender Population on June 30, 2008"; George Lombardi, Director; April 22, 2009

New Mexico Department of Corrections: E-Mail report entitled, "Recidivism Analysis Report: Female," from Kathryn Torcivia-Zwicke, Budget Analyst, June 23, 2009

Kansas Department of Corrections: E-Mail entitled, "Female Offender Recidivism Rate," from Ken Shirley, Research Analyst, dated June 24, 2009

Texas Department of Criminal Justice: Letter from Alicia Frezia Nash, Open Records Act Coordinator, Texas Department of Criminal Justice--Executive Services; June 9, 2009

Arkansas Department of Corrections: E-Mail entitled, "Female Offender Recidivism Rate," from George Brewer, Administrator, Research and Planning, June 11, 2009

Diversiónary Efforts

Community Sentencing

As the table below indicates, there were 608 female offenders sentenced to Community Sentencing during Fiscal Year 2009.

Total Sentenced to Community Sentencing	
Females	Total Sentenced (Males and Females)
33% (608)	1,812

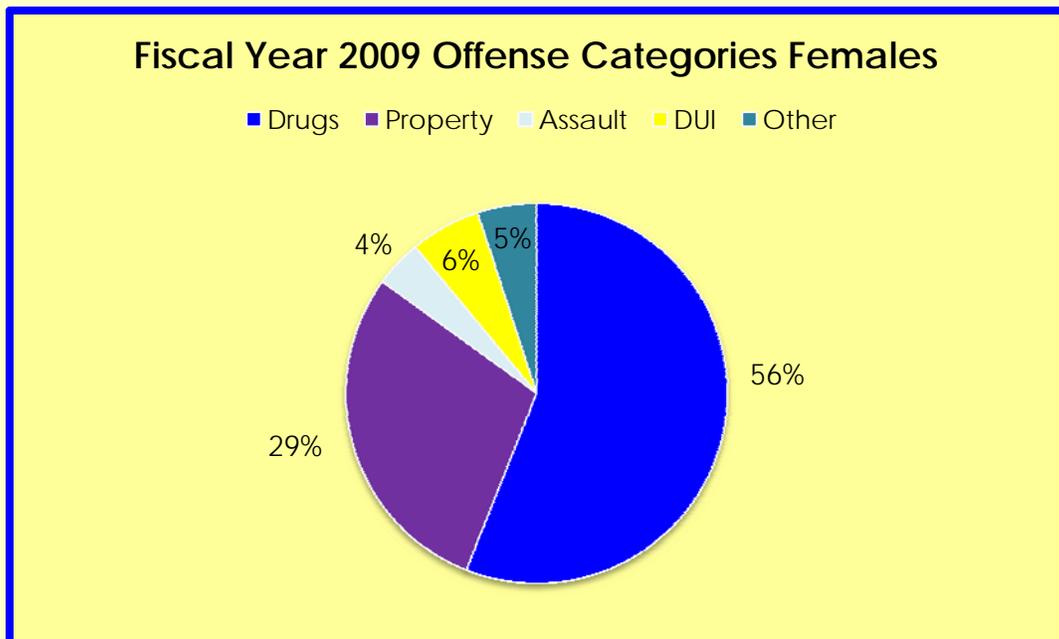
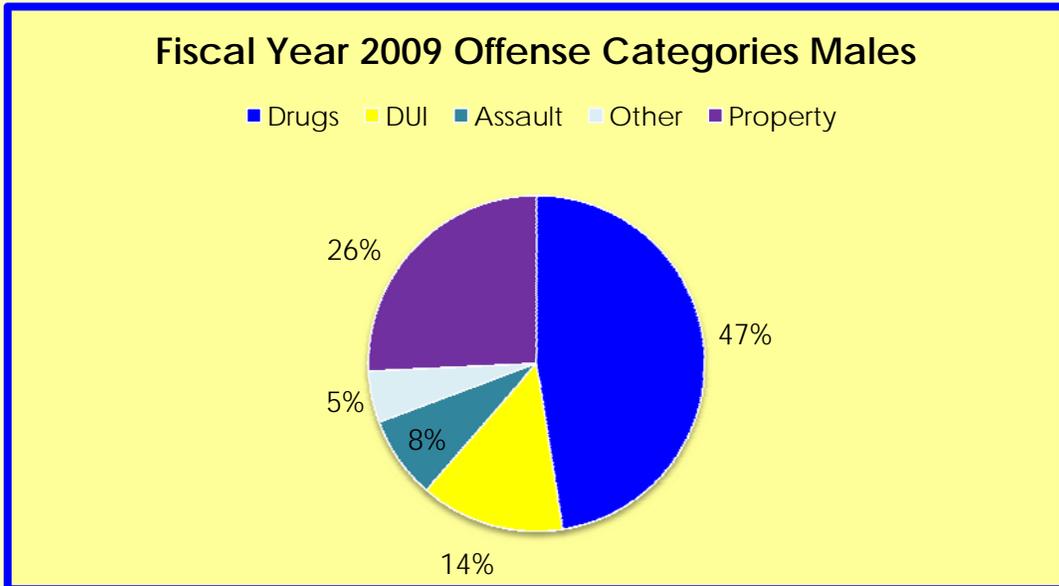
The district attorney may consent to eligibility for an offender who has a mental illness or a developmental disability or a co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse disorder and who scores outside the moderate range on the LSI or another assessment instrument, provided the offender is not otherwise prohibited from Community Sentencing by law. Mental health exceptions are provided below.

Mental Health Exceptions	
Females	Total Sentenced (Males and Females)
44% (N=105)	236

The LSI-R is a scoring instrument used to assess the risk of someone continuing criminal behavior if identified needs are not addressed. A score of 0-18 is low risk; a score of 19-28 is moderate risk, and a score of 29-54 is high risk. The average score for female offenders, 24.90, falls within the moderate risk category.

Average LSI-R Scores	
Females	Total Average Score (Males and Females)
24.90	24.42

A larger percentage of female offenders are sentenced to Community Sentencing for drug related offenses.



Drug Courts

According to the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, "Drug courts represent the combined efforts of justice and treatment professionals to actively intervene and break the cycle of substance abuse, addiction, crime, delinquency, and child maltreatment." Once sentenced to drug court, participants complete an intensive regimen of substance abuse treatment, case management, and drug testing with monitoring, sanctions, incentives, and reporting.

Drug courts provide an effective alternative to incarceration for drug offenders. Treatment is funded by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Drug Court Participants Active as of June 30, 2009			
Beckham	16	Muskogee	30
Bryan	29	Okfuskee	10
Caddo	11	Oklahoma	134
Carter/Love	24	Oklahoma DUI	12
Cherokee	22	Okmulgee	23
Cleveland	23	Osage	5
Comanche/Cotton	11	Ottawa	18
Craig	3	Payne	14
Creek	56	Pittsburg	35
Delaware	10	Pontotoc	54
Garfield	18	Pottawatomie	21
Garvin/McClain	15	Rogers	32
Grady	24	Seminole	51
Hughes	15	Sequoyah	18
Jackson	31	Stephens/Jefferson	14
Johnston/Marshall/Murray	17	Tulsa Drug	202
Kay	23	Tulsa DUI	17
LeFlore/Haskell/Latimer	65	Tulsa Veterans Drug	2
Lincoln	19	Wagoner	18
Logan	10	Washington	21
Mayes	11	Washita/Custer	20
McCurtain	21	Woodward/Woods/Dewey/Major/Alfalfa	3
McIntosh	6	Statewide	1,234

Source: Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Mental Health Courts

Mental health courts represent collaboration from practitioners in both the criminal justice and mental health fields. Mental health courts generally deal with nonviolent offenders who have been diagnosed with a mental illness or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders.

Mental health courts provide an effective alternative to incarceration for these offenders. Treatment is funded by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Mental Health Court Participants Active as of June 30, 2009	
Mental Health Court	Number
Cherokee	17
Cleveland	14
Craig	5
Hughes	6
Oklahoma	19
Okmulgee	3
Rogers	7
Seminole	18
Tulsa	33
Wagoner	17
Statewide	139

Source: Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Fiscal Year 2009 Accomplishments

Among the Fiscal Year 2009, accomplishments are the following:

The Division of Female Offender Operations management team developed a business plan that includes three primary goals:

- Educate others regarding female incarceration in Oklahoma and the critical issues facing female offenders;
- Reduce the incarceration rate of female offenders; and
- Provide critical support and resources necessary for female offenders' successful reentry into society.

Gaps were identified within each goal area, and short-term and long-term strategies developed to address the gaps.

In support of the first goal, the Division of Female Offender Operations published the "Fiscal Year 2009 Female Offender Management Annual Report" in February 2009 and has since distributed over 500 copies to valued stakeholders. The content of the report has been used as the foundation for numerous presentations to a variety of audiences as well as critical stakeholders such as judges, legislators, representatives from the George Kaiser Family Foundation, and representatives from faith-based organizations and community based organizations providing services to female offenders. Of particular assistance in making the message "meaningful" to stakeholders is the recent development of profiles for female offenders entering the Oklahoma Department of Corrections from two of Oklahoma's largest counties—Tulsa and Oklahoma Counties.

The George Kaiser Family Foundation, Don and Donna Millican, and the Oklahoma Christian University are collaborating to offer the Complex Dialogues Summit, scheduled for January 26, 2010. The goal of the summit is to understand the multi-faceted issues and lay a foundation for positive change in policy and legislation to address the challenge of women's incarceration. The George Kaiser Family Foundation is a charitable organization dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty through investments in early childhood education, community health, social services and civic enhancement. Oklahoma Department of Corrections leadership is participating in planning meetings for the Complex Dialogues Summit.

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections is collaborating with the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women and the Oklahoma Women's Coalition in planning the Solutions Initiative Summit, scheduled for April 30, 2010, which will focus on identification of actionable strategies for reducing the incarceration rate of women in Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women acts as an advisory entity on equity issues relating to gender bias and serves as a resource for research on issues related to women and gender bias. The Oklahoma Women's Coalition is a non-profit, nonpartisan statewide association of organizations and individuals for the advancement of the potential of Oklahoma women and girls.

During Fiscal Year 2009, education and awareness efforts also included a focus on training. Divisional staff participated with corrections professionals from the across the United States in a training session provided by the National Institute of Corrections entitled, "Operational Practices in the Management of Women's Prisons." This training addressed gender-responsive key principles, standards, and practices with an understanding of cultural implications. Subsequently, the Division of Female Offender Operations submitted a request for technical assistance, and the National Institute of Corrections has agreed to provide this training in Oklahoma in February 2010 for approximately 40 staff members.

In support of the second and third goals, Oklahoma joined the state of New Mexico as one of the two states selected to participate in the Family Justice Initiative (funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance) entitled, "Reentry is Relational: Sustaining Tools that Engage Family/Social Networks for Improved Reentry Outcomes." Family Justice develops creative initiatives with a wide range of strategic partners, including government agencies and community- and faith-based organizations with a strength-based, family-focused approach that results in better outcomes for people who are involved in the criminal justice system and their families.

Several evidence-based female offender programs were refunded during Fiscal Year 2009 including:

- The Helping Women Recover and Beyond Trauma Treatment Programs received \$180,000 from the George Kaiser Family Foundation to refund current efforts and expand programming.

For further information regarding Family Justice, please view a 10-minute video entitled, "A Portrait of Family Justice." The video, which is available for viewing from the Oklahoma Department of Corrections web site at www.doc.state.ok.us, shows how Family Justice is transforming the lives of families with loved ones involved in the juvenile or criminal justice system, as well as the work of people in corrections, community corrections, and at other government and community-based organizations.

- The George Kaiser Family Foundation and the Tom Ward Foundation provided \$45,000 for Early Childhood Development courses at Mabel Bassett Correctional Center, Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center, Hillside Community Corrections Center, Turley Residential Center, and Center Point, Inc. As part of the program, 2,400 early childhood manuals, developed by female offenders were distributed to offenders. Moreover, approximately 127 women received two college credits from Tulsa Community College for successfully completing early childhood classes.
- The Women to Women Inside/Out Program, which is based on a comprehensive health education curriculum offered by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Women's Health, received \$6,000 in funding for program continuation. Approximately 60 women received one college credit for completing the curriculum.
- The HIV Peer Education Program for Incarcerated Women received funding from the Tulsa Community AIDS Partnership and the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation to continue peer education services. One hundred women received college credit to help them become consummate peer educators. During 2009, peer educators provided prevention education to approximately 1,200 incarcerated women, and 2,500 educational manuals were distributed.
- The National AIDS Fund in Washington, DC, provided funding for a health and reentry fair, which was conducted at Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center. Approximately 900 women attended and over 5,000 educational hand outs were distributed. The National AIDS Fund in Washington, DC, also provided \$40,000 to develop a pre-release post linkage reentry program for offenders living with HIV disease. An HIV care manager was hired to link soon to be released offenders with medical and social case management services in her community.
- Additional funding was provided for women to obtain children's books. Women then read their child/children a story, which is recorded on a compact disc and sent home. Funding for this program is provided by the George Kaiser Family and Robert Wood Johnson Foundations.

In collaboration with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; Office of the District Attorney, Office of the Public Defender, and Sheriff for Oklahoma County; Department of Human Services, Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth, and representatives from community based treatment and program providers, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections received a \$350,000 diversion grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance targeting female offenders with multiple needs and varying degrees of involvement in the criminal justice system. As treatment needs are addressed, additional structure, intervention, and support strategies will be identified to support improved individual supervision compliance and increase successful outcomes.

Mabel Bassett Correctional Center received a \$3,000 grant from the Oklahoma Department of Libraries under the Library Services and Technology Act to purchase materials and equipment for the offender library.

Mabel Bassett Correctional Center became the first Oklahoma correctional center to provide a four-year college degree through a correspondence course. The University of Central Oklahoma is the first in-state school to offer a baccalaureate program for Oklahoma offenders in facilities.

The Soroptimist Club (Business Women of Muskogee) received a \$5,000 grant to update the computer equipment for the "Moms Touch" program at the Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center.

Fieldguide Productions hosted a screening of the film entitled, "Sweethearts of the Prison Rodeo," a 90 minute documentary that tells the story, through several primary characters, of the Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center Rodeo Team who participated in the Oklahoma State Prison Rodeo. The screening was held at the Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center, and several hundred offenders came out to view the film. The film also received a second screening at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art and was later acquired by HBO and is showing on Cinemax. Participating in the rodeo offered a sense of accomplishment and increased self-esteem for the offenders.

Through the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, eight Hillside Community Corrections Center offenders attended training and became Certified Peer Recovery Specialists. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists are persons who are in recovery and are trained to work with others on their road to recovery.

Female Offender Community Corrections and Residential Services held four re-entry resource fairs with representatives from Serenity House, Ambassador House, Bowman House, Exodus Foundation, Vocational Rehabilitative Services, Probation and Parole (Global Position Satellite Officer), Urban League, Northeast Resource Center, and Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Hillside Community Corrections Center hosted a Health Fair for Hillside and Kate Barnard Community Corrections Centers. Approximately 30 vendors set up booths and the mobile health unit was provided by the Lion's Club. The mobile unit was manned by staff and volunteers, providing testing in six areas to include glaucoma, lung capacity, bone density, visual screening, blood pressure, and blood glucose.



Health Fair Snapshots

Further Information?

Please contact the Oklahoma Department of Corrections Division of Female Offender Operations Division if you need further information or you would like to partner with the department to:

- Educate others regarding female incarceration in Oklahoma and the critical issues facing female offenders;
- Reduce the incarceration rate of female offenders; and
- Provide critical support and resources necessary for female offenders' successful reentry into society.

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