Restrictive Housing Data Report

Third Quarter 2021

This brief report describes 1) characteristics of the population assigned to restrictive housing on September 30, 2021, and 2) trends in the average daily population and length of stay in restrictive housing from January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2021.

Data Source(s). OMNI as of December 1, 2021

Population Snapshot

Individuals assigned to restrictive housing on September 30, 2021 are described by race and ethnicity, Security Threat Group (STG) status, and STG affiliation.

Race or ethnicity. Given the racial and ethnic composition of the general population, Hispanic individuals were a significantly large share of the population in maximum custody (25%) (Table 1).

Table 1. Restrictive housing and general population on September 30, 2021 by race and ethnicity.

	ADSEG		MAX		General	
Race or ethnicity	*n*	%	*N*	%	*n*	%
White	256	57%	130	48.5%	7,449	54.8%
Black	78	17.4%	38	14.2%	2,356	17.3%
Hispanic	73	16.3%	67	25.0%*	2,183	16.1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	32	7.1%	14	5.2%	882	6.5%
Asian	5	1.1%	9	3.4%	423	3.1%
Pacific Islander	5	1.1%	4	1.5%	162	1.2%
Other	0	0%	6	2.2%	136	1.0%
Total	449	100%	268	100%	13,591	100%

*Bayes factor > 3 favors hypothesis that group share is greater than expected given composition of the general population.

Security Threat Group (STG) status. Probability of placement in administrative segregation (5.4%) was two times greater, and maximum custody (4.1%) nearly four times greater among STG members, suspects and affiliates compared to those with not associated with an STG (2.5% in segregation; 1.2% in maximum custody).

Table 2. Restrictive housing and general population on September 30, 2021 by STG status.

	ADSEG		MAX		General	
STG member, suspect or affiliate	*n*	%	*N*	%	*n*	%
No	245	54.6%	113	42.2%	9,785	72%
Yes*	204	45.4%	155	57.8%	3,806	28%
Total	449	100%	268	100%	13,591	100%

*<1% of estimate's posterior distribution in region of practical equivalence.

STG affiliation. Given the overall probability of administrative segregation and maximum custody in the STG population (5.4% and 4.1%, respectively), the White Supremacist group had a higher probability of administrative segregation (8%), while the Sureño group had a higher probability of maximum custody (6.3%).

Table 3. Restrictive housing and general population on September 30, 2021 by STG.

	ADSEG		MAX		General	
STG affiliation	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
Sureño	38	18.6%	53*	34.2%	836	22%
White Supremacist	46*	22.5%	31	20%	575	15.1%
Norteño	31	15.2%	22	14.2%	482	12.7%
Crip	28	13.7%	20	12.9%	688	18.1%
Blood	19	9.3%	8	5.2%	342	9%
Black Gangster Disciple	13	6.4%	8	5.2%	324	8.5%
Other	29	14.2%	13	8.4%	561	14.7%
Total	204	100%	155	100%	3,806	100%

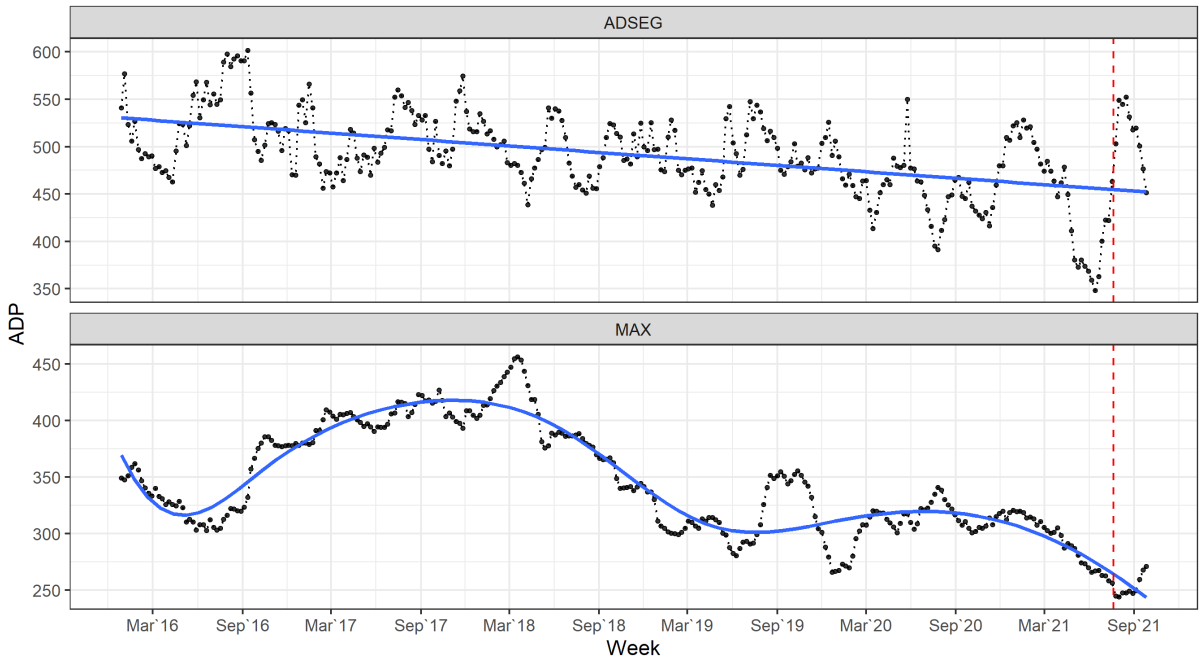
*Bayes factor > 3 favors hypothesis that group probability is greater than expected given overall probability for STG population.

Population Trends

Population trends are described by average daily population by week ("weekly ADP") and average time in restrictive housing in the population exiting each month.

Weekly ADP. Weekly ADP is characterized by significant downward trends since January 2016 (Figure 1); however; third quarter 2021 saw a 14% increase in administrative segregation ADP compared to the previous year due to a series of multi-person fights at Washington State Penitentiary (WSP, or "Walla Walla") in July 2021.

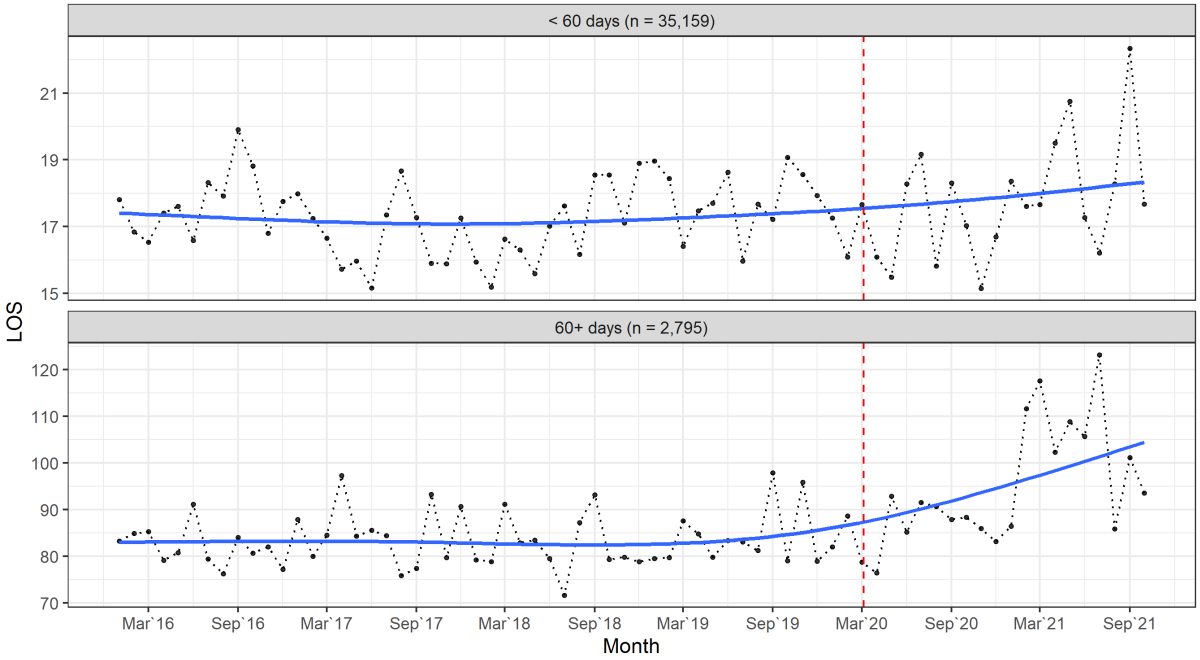
Figure 1. Trends in weekly ADP, January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2021.



NOTE: Red line indicates first of three multi-person fights at WSP in July 2021.

Average time in restrictive housing. Figure 2 shows exits from administrative segregation after less than 60 days (*n* = 35,159), and after 60 days or more (*n* = 2,795). Third quarter 2021 increases in both groups compared to two years prior (+12% and +20%, respectively) reflect delays in transfers implemented to mitigate COVID-19.

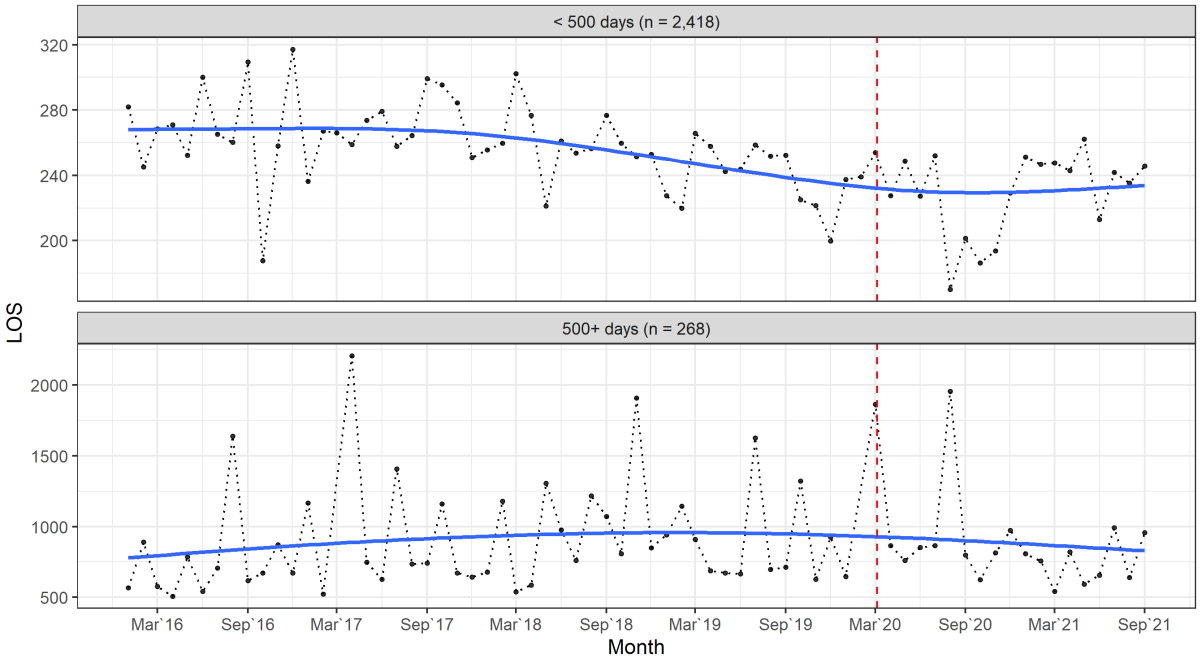
Figure 2. Administrative segregation average length of stay, January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2021.



NOTE: Red line indicates start of COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center, March 2, 2020.

Figure 3 shows maximum custody exits within 500 days of assignment (*n* = 2,418, 90.0%), and after 500 days or more (*n* = 268, 10.0%). A downward trend in the former's average time in maximum custody has likely been affected by transfer delays due to COVID-19.

Figure 3. Maximum custody average length of stay, January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2021.



NOTE: Red line indicates opening of COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center, March 2, 2020.

Table 4 shows the average time and number of individuals exiting administrative segregation in the third quarter of 2021 by race and ethnicity. Among those exiting after 60 days or more, there was a 98% probability of increased time in restrictive housing in the Hispanic relative to the White population.

Table 4. Administrative segregation exits in third quarter 2021 by race and ethnicity.

	< 60 days			60+ days		
Race or ethnicity	*n*	%	Days (avg)	*n*	%	Days (avg)
White	492	50.3%	18.1	62	51.2%	98.7
Black	179	18.3%	19.6	27	22.3%	105.3
Hispanic	182	18.6%	19.6	18	14.9%	130.0*
American Indian or Alaska Native	77	7.9%	19.2	12	9.9%	89.1
Asian	24	2.5%	17.6	1	0.8%	118.0
Pacific Islander	15	1.5%	22.1	1	0.8%	76.0
Total	978	100%	18.7	121	100%	104.0

*Probability of direction > 97%. *NOTE*: "Other non-Hispanic" population not shown.

Table 5 shows average days and number of individuals exiting maximum custody in the third quarter of 2021 by race and ethnicity. An association between race and days in maximum custody was uncertain given the data.

Table 5. Maximum custody exits in third quarter 2021 by race and ethnicity.

	< 500 days			500+ days		
Race or ethnicity	*n*	%	Days (avg)	*n*	%	Days (avg)
White	49	53.3%	245.5	9	60.0%	1,121.8
Black	14	15.2%	230.2	1	6.7%	616.0
Hispanic	21	22.8%	229.6	4	26.7%	666.3
American Indian or Alaska Native	6	6.5%	282.8	1	6.7%	644.0
Asian	1	1.1%	168.0	-	-	-
Pacific Islander	1	1.1%	264.0	-	-	-
Total	92	100%	241.0	15	100%	935.0

NOTE: "Other non-Hispanic" population not shown.