Restrictive Housing Data Report

First Quarter 2024

This brief report describes 1) characteristics of the population assigned to restrictive housing on March 31, 2024, and 2) trends in the average daily population and length of stay in restrictive housing from January 1, 2016, to March 31, 2024.

Data Source(s). OMNI as of May 29, 2024

Population Snapshot

Individuals assigned to restrictive housing on March 31, 2024, are described by race and ethnicity, Security Threat Group (STG) status, and STG affiliation.

Race and ethnicity. Based on self-reported race and ethnicity data, there were no significant differences amongst racial and ethnic groups placed in administrative segregation or assigned maximum custody compared to their portion of the general population (Table 1).

Table 1. Composition of incarcerated populations by race & ethnicity on March 31, 2024.

	ADSEG		MAX		General	
Race and ethnicity	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
White	208	2.7%	119	1.5%	7,376	95.8%
Black	71	2.9%	41	1.7%	2,321	95.4%
Hispanic	48	2.2%	55	2.6%	2,053	95.2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	37	3.8%	27	2.8%	911	93.4%
Asian	16	3.3%	5	1.0%	462	95.7%
Pacific Islander	10	4.5%	4	1.8%	209	93.7%
Other	6	3.6%	1	0.6%	161	95.8%
Total	396	2.8%	252	1.8%	13,493	95.4%

Security Threat Group (STG) status. STG members, affiliates, and suspects were nearly twice as likely to be placed in administrative segregation (4.2% vs 2.3%) and nearly four times as likely to be assigned maximum custody (3.9% vs 1.0%) than people without an STG association.

Table 2. Composition of incarcerated populations by STG status on March 31, 2024.

	ADSEG		MAX		General	
STG member, suspect, or affiliate	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
No	232	2.3%	101	1.0%	9,943	96.8%
Yes*	164	4.2%	151	3.9%	3,550	91.8%
Total	396	2.8%	252	1.8%	13,493	95.4%

*>95% probability of direction and <1% of the estimate's posterior distribution in the region of practical equivalence.

Security Threat Group affiliation. Table 3 describes the probabilities of major STG affiliations placed in administrative segregation, assigned to maximum custody, and the general population. Our analysis found that the White Supremacist group had a high probability of assignment to maximum custody (6.9%, i.e., 33 of 480).

Table 3. Composition of incarcerated populations by STG affiliation on March 31, 2024.

	ADSEG		MAX		General	
STG affiliation	*N*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
Sureño	30	3.5%	38	4.4%	794	92.1%
Crip	38	5.1%	18	2.4%	682	92.4%
White Supremacist	17	3.5%	33*	6.9%	430	89.6%
Norteño	27	5.8%	17	3.6%	423	90.6%
Blood	15	4.1%	16	4.4%	332	91.5%
Gangster Disciple	17	4.5%	13	3.4%	351	92.1%
Other	20	3.5%	16	2.8%	538	93.7%
Total	164	4.2%	151	3.9%	3,550	91.8%

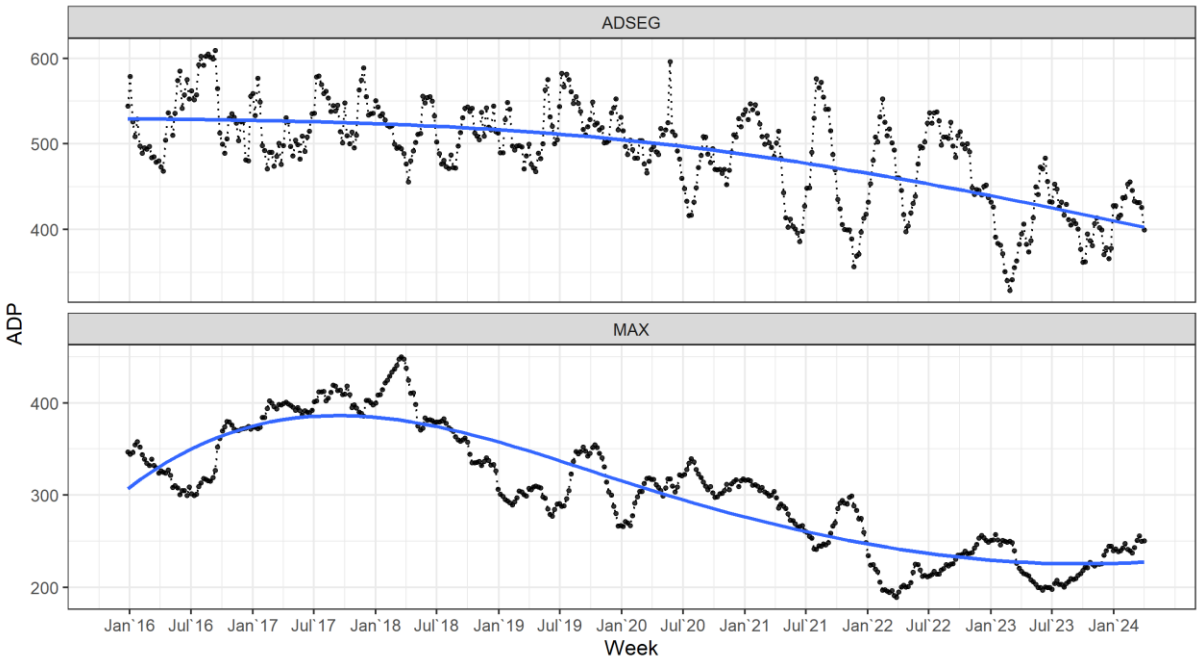
*A Bayes factor > 3 favors the hypothesis that group probability is greater than expected, given the overall probability for STGs.

Population Trends

Population trends are described for the average daily population over weekly periods ("weekly ADP") and the average time spent in restrictive housing for the population exiting each month.

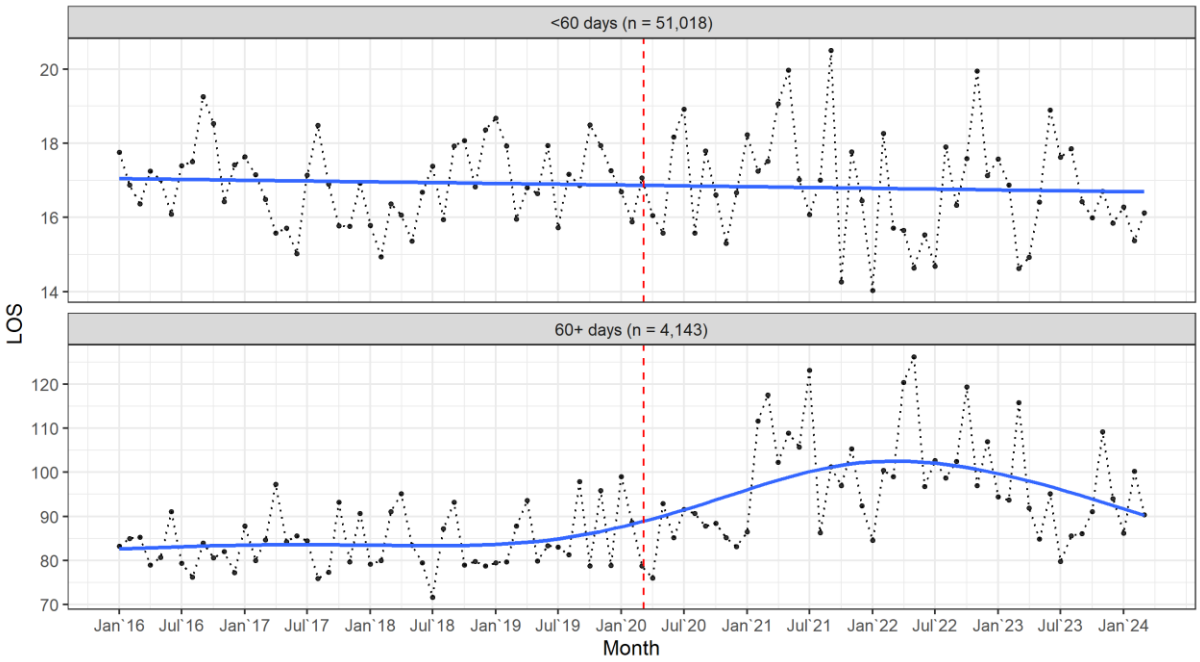
Weekly ADP. Figure 1 shows downward trends in overall weekly ADP since January 2016. In the First quarter of 2024, administrative segregation ADP increased to 434 compared to 373 in Q1 2023 (+16%), while weekly ADP in maximum custody was unchanged at 244 compared to 246 in Q1 2023 (-1%).

Figure 1. Trends in weekly ADP between 1/1/2016 and 3/31/2024.



Average time in restrictive housing. Figure 2 shows exits from administrative segregation after less than 60 days (*n* = 51,018) and after 60 days or more (*n* = 4,143). During the First quarter of 2024, the average length of stay for people exiting after 60 days or more in administrative segregation increased to 91 days compared to pre-COVID levels of 82 days in Q1 2019 (+11%).

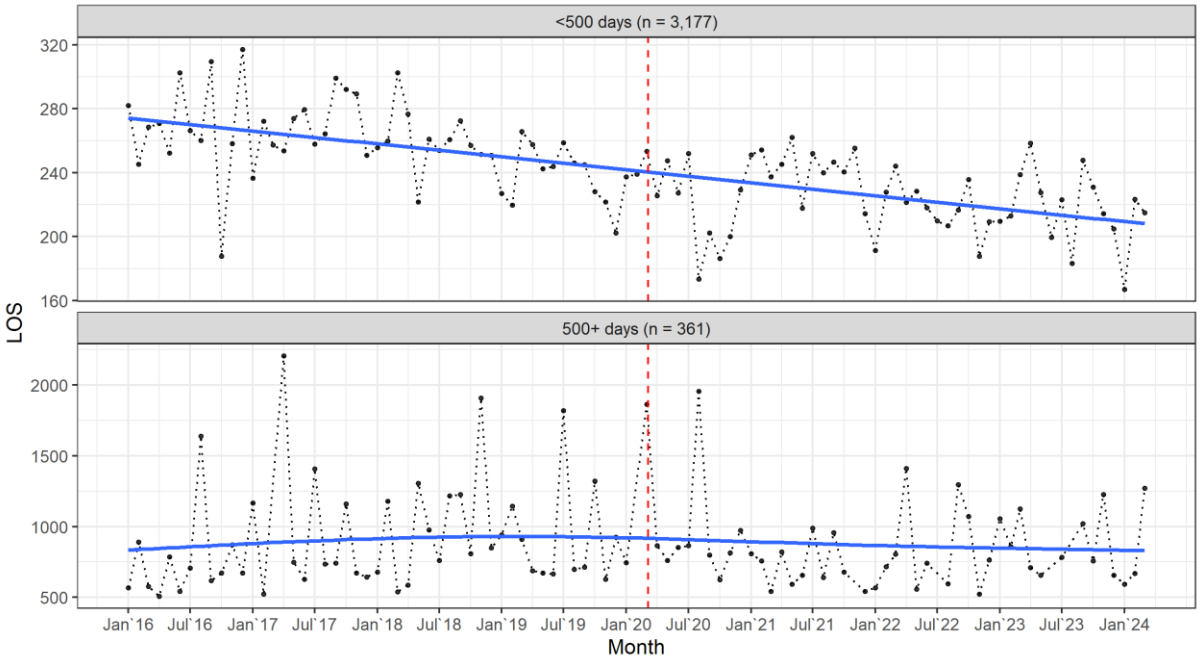
Figure 2. Administrative segregation average length of stay between 1/1/2016 and 3/31/2024.



NOTE: The red line indicates the opening of the COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center on March 2, 2020.

Figure 3 shows maximum custody exits within 500 days of assignment (*n* = 3,177) and after 500 days or more (*n* = 361). In Q1 2024, the average length of stay among those exiting within 500 days decreased to 210 days compared to 226 days in Q1 2023 (-7%).

Figure 3. Maximum custody average length of stay between 1/1/2016 and 3/31/2024.



NOTE: The red line indicates the opening of the COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center on March 2, 2020.

Table 4 shows the average days and number of individuals exiting administrative segregation in the First quarter of 2024 by race and ethnicity. Among those exiting within 60 days, the Black and Hispanic populations had longer lengths of stay compared to the White population. Among those exiting after 60 days or more, the Black population generally had shorter lengths of stay compared to the White population.

Table 4. Administrative segregation exits in the First quarter of 2024 by race and ethnicity.

	< 60 days				60+ days			
Race and ethnicity	*N*	%	Days (Avg)	Days (Mdn)	*n*	%	Days (Avg)	Days (Mdn)
White	803	49.8%	15.3	11.0	37	45.7%	93.6	80.0
Black	322	20.0%	16.5*	13.0	12	14.8%	71.3*	66.5
Hispanic	226	14.0%	17.3*	14.0	20	24.7%	98.6	82.0
American Indian or Alaska Native	160	9.9%	15.7	12.0	5	6.2%	96.0	83.0
Asian	49	3.0%	15.8	14.0	3	3.7%	101.3	66.0
Pacific Islander	35	2.2%	18.3	15.0	1	1.2%	63.0	63.0
Other	18	1.1%	11.7	7.0	3	3.7%	84.0	82.0
Total	1613	100%	15.9	12.0	81	100%	91.2	77.0

*>95% probability of direction and <2.5% of the estimate's posterior distribution in the region of practical equivalence.

Table 5 shows the average days and number of individuals exiting maximum custody in the First quarter of 2024 by race and ethnicity. Given the data, the Hispanic population exiting within 500 days generally had shorter lengths of stay compared to the White population.

Table 5. Maximum custody exits in the First quarter of 2024 by race and ethnicity.

	< 500 days				500+ days			
Race and ethnicity	*N*	%	Days (Avg)	Days (Mdn)	*n*	%	Days (Avg)	Days (Mdn)
White	37	48.7%	221	206	3	37.5%	855	859
Hispanic	18	23.7%	175*	185	2	25.0%	1,055	1,055
American Indian or Alaska Native	11	14.5%	208	212		0.0%		
Black	6	7.9%	258	260	2	25.0%	594	594
Pacific Islander	2	2.6%	163	163	1	12.5%	543	543
Other	2	2.6%	212	212		0.0%		
Total	76	100%	210	204	8	100%	801	668

*>95% probability of direction and <2.5% of the estimate's posterior distribution in the region of practical equivalence.

Methodology

This report uses data compiled from the Washington State Department of Corrections Offender Management Network Information (OMNI) system to analyze the characteristics and trends of the restrictive housing population.

In Tables 1 and 3, Bayesian inference of proportions was used to evaluate compositional differences in the administrative segregation and maximum custody populations relative to the general population. Significance was tested using a Bayes factor threshold of greater than 3.

Bayesian regression analysis was used to evaluate any associations between STG status and placement in administrative segregation or assignment to maximum custody, as shown in Table 2. Significance testing was based on a probability of direction greater than 95% and a percent in the range of practical equivalence of less than 1%. Using similar methods, Tables 4 and 5 evaluated any associations between race and ethnicity and length of stay in administrative segregation or maximum custody. Significance testing for Tables 4 and 5 needed to meet the same probability of direction requirement as Table 2 (>95%), but the threshold requirement for percent in the range of practical equivalence was less than 2.5%. The regression analysis used a logarithmic transformation of the length of stay variable.

Figures 1, 2, and 3 include a blue line that illustrates trends in the average daily population and the average length of stay for the administrative segregation and maximum custody populations. A generalized additive model was used to estimate the best-fit line representing changes in the average daily population and the average length of stay measures with respect to time.

Appendix A

Race and Ethnicity

Table A1. Composition of incarcerated populations by race & ethnicity on March 31, 2024.

	ADSEG			MAX			General		
Race and ethnicity	*n*	Row %	Col %	*n*	Row %	Col %	*n*	Row %	Col %
White	208	2.7%	52.5%	119	1.5%	47.2%	7,376	95.8%	54.7%
Black	71	2.9%	17.9%	41	1.7%	16.3%	2,321	95.4%	17.2%
Hispanic	48	2.2%	12.1%	55	2.6%	21.8%	2,053	95.2%	15.2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	37	3.8%	9.3%	27	2.8%	10.7%	911	93.4%	6.8%
Asian	16	3.3%	4.0%	5	1.0%	2.0%	462	95.7%	3.4%
Pacific Islander	10	4.5%	2.5%	4	1.8%	1.6%	209	93.7%	1.5%
Other	6	3.6%	1.5%	1	0.6%	0.4%	161	95.8%	1.2%
Total	396	2.8%	100%	252	1.8%	100%	13,493	95.4%	100%

Appendix B

Security Threat Group

Table B1. Composition of incarcerated populations by STG status on March 31, 2024.

STG member, suspect, or affiliate	ADSEG			MAX			General		
	n	Row %	Col %	*n*	Row %	Col %	*n*	Row %	Col %
No	232	2.3%	58.6%	101	1.0%	40.1%	9,943	96.8%	73.7%
Yes*	164	4.2%	41.4%	151	3.9%	59.9%	3,550	91.8%	26.3%
Total	396	2.8%	100%	252	1.8%	100%	13,493	95.4%	100%

*>95% probability of direction and <1% of the estimate's posterior distribution in the region of practical equivalence.

Table B2. Composition of incarcerated populations by STG affiliation on March 31, 2024.

STG affiliation	ADSEG			MAX			General		
	n	Row %	Col %	*n*	Row %	Col %	*n*	Row %	Col %
Sureño	30	3.5%	18.3%	38	4.4%	25.2%	794	92.1%	22.4%
Crip	38	5.1%	23.2%	18	2.4%	11.9%	682	92.4%	19.2%
White Supremacist	17	3.5%	10.4%	33*	6.9%	21.9%	430	89.6%	12.1%
Norteño	27	5.8%	16.5%	17	3.6%	11.3%	423	90.6%	11.9%
Blood	15	4.1%	9.1%	16	4.4%	10.6%	332	91.5%	9.4%
Gangster Disciple	17	4.5%	10.4%	13	3.4%	8.6%	351	92.1%	9.9%
Other	20	3.5%	12.2%	16	2.8%	10.6%	538	93.7%	15.2%
Total	164	4.2%	100%	151	3.9%	100%	3,550	91.8%	100%

*A Bayes factor > 3 favors the hypothesis that group probability is greater than expected, given the overall probability for STGs.

Appendix C

Length of Stay

Table C1. Administrative segregation exits in the First quarter of 2024 by race and ethnicity.

	< 60 days				60+ days				Combined			
Race and ethnicity	*n*	%	Days (Avg)	Days (Mdn)	*n*	%	Days (Avg)	Days (Mdn)	*n*	%	Days (Avg)	Days (Mdn)
White	803	49.8%	15.3	11.0	37	45.7%	93.6	80.0	840	49.6%	18.8	11.5
Black	322	20.0%	16.5*	13.0	12	14.8%	71.3*	66.5	334	19.7%	18.5	14.0
Hispanic	226	14.0%	17.3*	14.0	20	24.7%	98.6	82.0	246	14.5%	23.9	15.0
American Indian or Alaska Native	160	9.9%	15.7	12.0	5	6.2%	96.0	83.0	165	9.7%	18.2	13.0
Asian	49	3.0%	15.8	14.0	3	3.7%	101.3	66.0	52	3.1%	20.8	15.5
Pacific Islander	35	2.2%	18.3	15.0	1	1.2%	63.0	63.0	36	2.1%	19.6	15.5
Other	18	1.1%	11.7	7.0	3	3.7%	84.0	82.0	21	1.2%	22.0	7.0
Total	1,613	100%	15.9	12.0	81	100%	91.2	77.0	1,694	100%	19.5	13.0

*>95% probability of direction and <2.5% of the estimate's posterior distribution in the region of practical equivalence.

Table C2. Maximum custody exits in the First quarter of 2024 by race and ethnicity.

	< 500 days				500+ days				Combined			
Race and ethnicity	*n*	%	Days (Avg)	Days (Mdn)	*n*	%	Days (Avg)	Days (Mdn)	*n*	%	Days (Avg)	Days (Mdn)
White	37	48.7%	221	206	3	37.5%	855	859	40	47.6%	269	213
Hispanic	18	23.7%	175*	185	2	25.0%	1,055	1,055	20	23.8%	263	196
American Indian or Alaska Native	11	14.5%	208	212		0.0%			11	13.1%	208	212
Black	6	7.9%	258	260	2	25.0%	594	594	8	9.5%	342	304
Pacific Islander	2	2.6%	163	163	1	12.5%	543	543	3	3.6%	290	177
Other	2	2.6%	212	212		0.0%			2	2.4%	212	212
Total	76	100%	210	204	8	100%	801	668	84	100%	266	214

*>95% probability of direction and <2.5% of the estimate's posterior distribution in the region of practical equivalence.