



Justice Center
THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

Justice Reinvestment in Maine

Third Presentation to the Maine Commission to Improve the Sentencing, Supervision, Incarceration and Management of Prisoners

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What is Justice Reinvestment?



JUSTICE REINVESTMENT

A data-driven approach to reduce corrections spending and reinvest savings in strategies that can decrease recidivism and increase public safety

The Justice Reinvestment Initiative is funded principally by the U.S. Department of Justice's **Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)** with additional funding from **The Pew Charitable Trusts**.

Technical assistance for states participating in the Justice Reinvestment Initiative is provided by **The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center** and Community Resources for Justice's **Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)**.

The process of collecting and analyzing case-level data from criminal justice agencies in Maine is underway.

Justice Reinvestment Data Request Update		
Data Requested	Source	Status
Arrests/Criminal History	Maine Department of Public Safety (DPS)	Received, analyzed
Court Filings and Sentences Charges, dispositions and sentences, specialty court dockets	Maine Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)	Received, analyzed
Prosecutorial Data Charges, filings, dispositions and sentences, diversions	District Attorneys	Received, analyzing for future presentation or addendum
Probation Admissions, terminations, program participation, sanctions	Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC)	Received, analyzed
Prison Admissions, releases, program participation	MDOC	Received, analyzed

Section 2 in this presentation is based on sentencing data from the Administrative Office of the Courts. Section 3 is based on admissions, terminations, and snapshot data from the Maine Department of Corrections.

A. DPS Computerized Criminal History:

- More than 500,000 arrests and dispositions
- Analyzed by guilty dispositions using disposition date and offense level, with only Class D and higher offenses included in prior conviction history.

B. AOC Data on Charges, Cases, and Probation Revocations:

- More than 203,000 criminal cases, including those
 - filed between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2019
 - disposed between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2019
 - having a probation revocation between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2019
- More than 332,000 criminal charges
- Race information is missing for almost 4 percent of records. Gender information is missing for about 1 percent of records.
- Analyzed by filing date, with the most serious offense taking precedence; by finding date, with the most serious offense taking precedence; and by sentence date, with a combination of most restrictive sentence and most serious offense taking precedence.

C. DOC Data on Probation and Prison:

- More than 150,000 records including
 - Probation starts and terminations between January 1, 2008 and December 30, 2018
 - Prison admissions and releases between January 1, 2008 and December 30, 2018
 - Probation and prison snapshots of the population on June 30 of each year between 2008 and 2018
- Race information is missing for about 2 percent of records. Gender information is complete in all records.
- Analyzed by start/admission date and termination/release date, with the most serious offense taking precedence. Offense information is unclassified or unclear in about 9 percent of prison records and less than 1 percent of probation records.

Source: Data from the Maine Department of Corrections and Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2019.

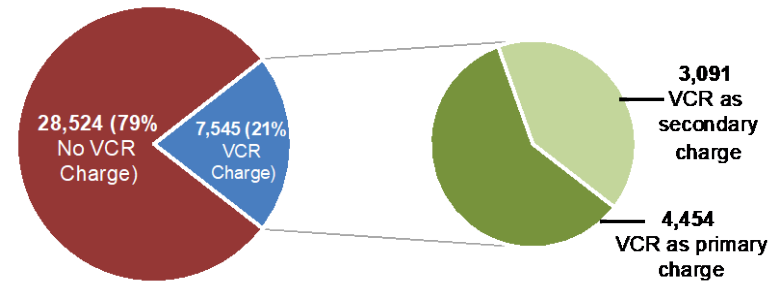


Presentation Overview

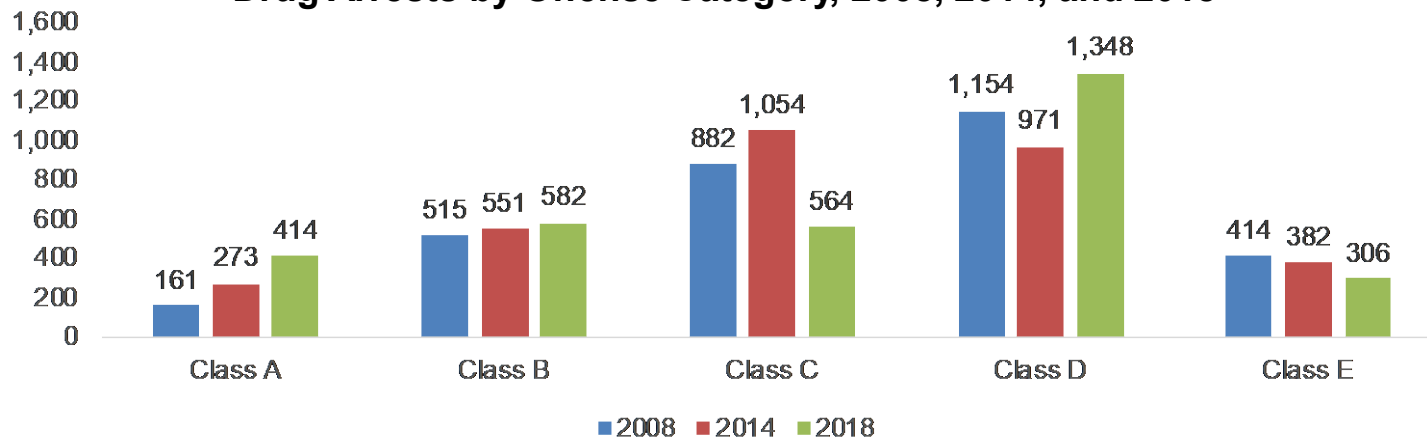
- 1** Recap of November Findings
- 2** Sentencing Analysis
- 3** Prison and Probation Analysis

Arrest activity is largely concentrated on relatively low-level offenses such as violation of conditions of release, but high-level drug enforcement arrests are on the rise.

- VCR was the primary or secondary charge in more than 20 percent of all arrests.
- Drug arrests were just less than 9 percent of all arrests in Maine in 2018. However, arrests for drug trafficking made up over half of all Class A arrests and over one-quarter of Class B arrests.
- Between 2008 and 2018, drug arrests for women increased 25 percent. During that time, arrests of women for Class A drug offenses more than tripled.
- Class A drug arrests overall doubled from 2008 to 2018.
- Black people account for 21 percent of Class A drug arrests and 15 percent of Class B drug arrests.



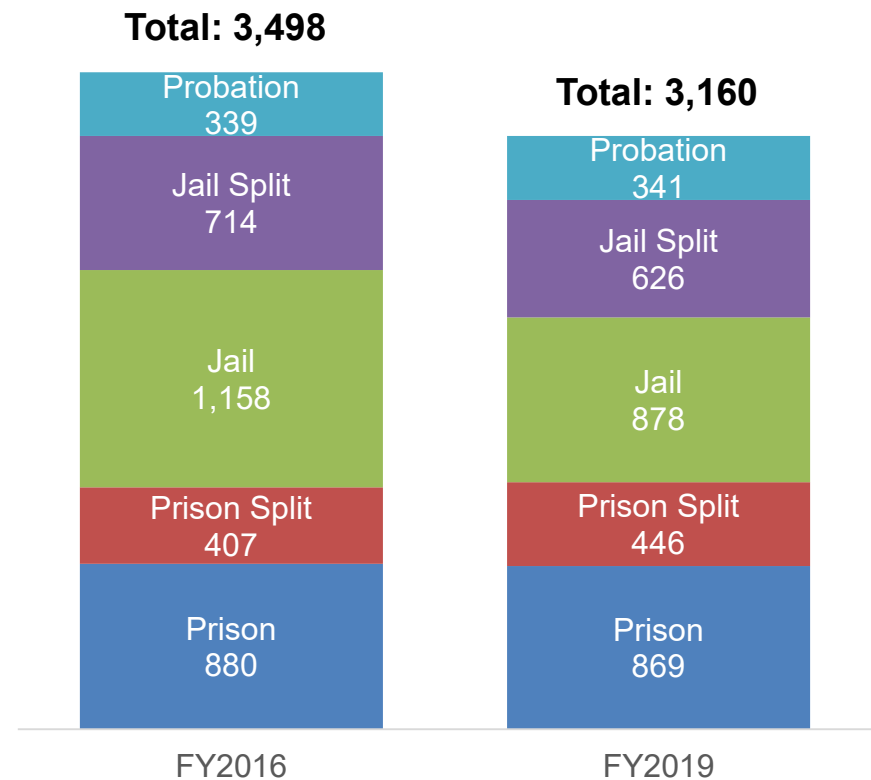
Drug Arrests by Offense Category, 2008, 2014, and 2018



Although Maine has a low incarceration rate, most sentences involve some incarceration; straight probation is uncommon.

- More than 80 percent of felony sentences involve a period of incarceration in either jail or prison; straight probation is notably uncommon.
- The number of felony sentences decreased 10 percent between FY2016 and FY2019, but the number of sentences to prison increased 2 percent.
- When split sentencing to jail or prison is used, the additional terms of supervision are generally longer than the average for straight probation cases.
- In FY2019, nearly half of sentences for felony drug offenses resulted in a sentence to prison.
- Between FY2016 and FY2019, 48 percent of non-Mainers sentenced to prison were black, while 7 percent of Mainers sentenced to prison were black.

Felony Sentences, FY2016 and FY2019



MDOC supervision policies follow principles of effective intervention, but there are implementation challenges.

Key Findings on Probation Supervision in Maine

- In rural areas, contact standards are difficult to accomplish due to the long distances for client or Probation Officer travel.
- There is a strong focus on case planning, though only for higher-risk people on probation.
- Incentives are not included on any graduated sanctions grid, nor is there formal policy indicating how, when, under what circumstances, and for whom they should be applied.
- Improved coordination is needed between probation officers in the field and institutional staff preparing people for release.
- In many areas, community-based resources are limited, difficult to access, and difficult to assess for quality.
- Transportation is a serious limitation to accessing treatment, programming, and other services for people on probation.

Eight dimensions of effective intervention

1	Assess risk, need, and responsivity.
2	Target the right people.
3	Frontload supervision and treatment.
4	Ensure adequate investment in and access to proven programs.
5	Use case planning to facilitate positive behavior change.
6	Respond to both positive and negative behaviors.
7	Hold individuals accountable.
8	Measure outcomes.



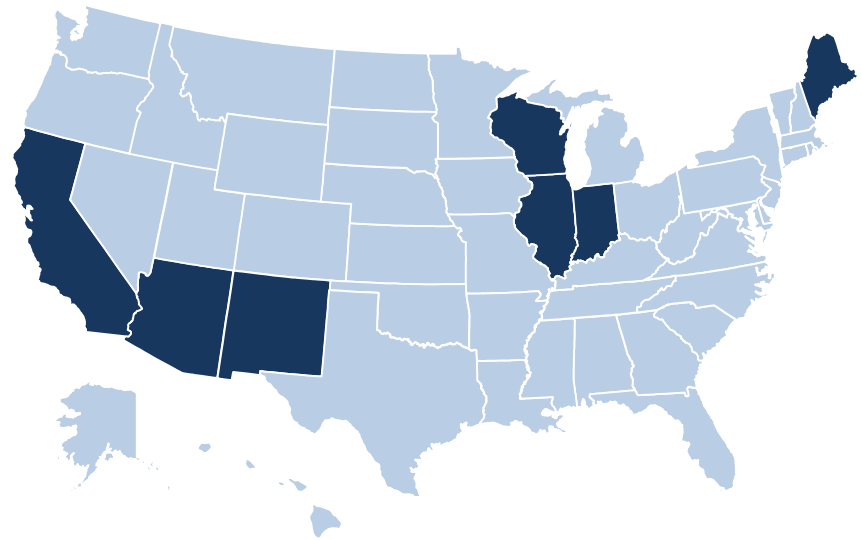
Presentation Overview

- 1 Recap of November Findings
- 2 Sentencing Analysis
- 3 Prison and Probation Analysis

States use a variety of different approaches to sentencing. Maine is among seven states that do not use sentencing guidelines and do not rely on parole release.

States by Sentencing Type and Presence of Sentencing Guidelines

Sentencing Type:	Indeterminate (parole release)	Determinate
Sentencing Guidelines	AL, AR, MD, MA, MI, PA, TN, UT	DC, DE, FL, KS, MN, NC, OH, OR, US, VA, WA
No Sentencing Guidelines	AK, CO, CT, GA, HI, IA, ID, KY, LA, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OK, RI, SC, SD, TX, VT, WV, WY	AZ, CA, IL, IN, ME, NM, WI



- In some states (upper right), the adoption of sentencing guidelines and abolishing parole went hand in hand.
- Sentencing guidelines and discretionary parole release operate simultaneously in eight states (upper left).

Source: Alexis Lee Watts, Robina Institute, "In Depth: Sentencing Guidelines and Discretionary Parole Release," Figure 1. See: <https://sentencing.umn.edu/content/depth-sentencing-guidelines-and-discretionary-parole-release>

State sentencing guidelines use offense severity and criminal history.

Example: Minnesota Sentencing Grid

4.A. Sentencing Guidelines Grid		CRIMINAL HISTORY SCORE						
SEVERITY LEVEL OF CONVICTION OFFENSE (Example offenses listed in italics)		0	1	2	3	4	5	6 or more
<i>Murder, 2nd Degree</i> (intentional murder; drive-by-shootings)	11	306 261-367	326 278-391	346 295-415	366 312-439	386 329-463	406 346-480 ²	426 363-480 ²
<i>Murder, 3rd Degree</i> <i>Murder, 2nd Degree</i> (unintentional murder)	10	150 128-180	165 141-198	180 153-216	195 166-234	210 179-252	225 192-270	240 204-288
<i>Assault, 1st Degree</i> <i>Controlled Substance Crime, 1st Degree</i>	9	86 74-103	98 84-117	110 94-132	122 104-146	134 114-160	146 125-175	158 135-189
<i>Aggravated Robbery, 1st Degree</i> <i>Controlled Substance Crime, 2nd Degree</i>	8	48 41-57	58 50-69	68 58-81	78 67-93	88 75-105	98 84-117	108 92-129
<i>Felony DWI</i>	7	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
<i>Controlled Substance Crime, 3rd Degree</i>	6	21	27	33	39	45	51	57
<i>Residential Burglary</i> <i>Simple Robbery</i>	5	18	23	28	33	39	45	51
<i>Nonresidential Burglary</i>	4	12 ¹	15	18	21	24 21-28	27 23-32	30 26-36
<i>Theft Crimes (Over \$5,000)</i>	3	12 ¹	13	15	17	19 17-22	21 18-25	23 20-27
<i>Theft Crimes (\$5,000 or less)</i> <i>Check Forgery (\$251-\$2,500)</i>	2	12 ¹	12 ¹	13	15	17	19	21 18-25
<i>Sale of Simulated</i> <i>Controlled Substance</i>	1	12 ¹	12 ¹	12 ¹	13	15	17	19 17-22

Presumptive commitment to state imprisonment. First-degree murder has a mandatory life sentence and is excluded from the Guidelines under Minn. Stat. § 609.185. See Guidelines section 2.E. Mandatory Sentences, for policies regarding those sentences controlled by law.

Presumptive stayed sentence; at the discretion of the court, up to one year of confinement and other non-jail sanctions can be imposed as conditions of probation. However, certain offenses in the shaded area of the Grid always carry a presumptive commitment to state prison. Guidelines sections 2.C. Presumptive Sentence and 2.E. Mandatory Sentences.

¹ 12¹=One year and one day

Sentencing Guidelines and Data Collection

“The key to effective correctional resource management is data. When sentencing is implemented uniformly, as under sentencing guidelines, the resulting sentences are fairly predictable, thereby presenting a starting point for analysis. But in order to forecast correctional populations accurately, a jurisdiction must also track actual sentencing data. This permits the jurisdiction to confirm sentencing patterns, which may deviate from the recommended guidelines at a predictable rate. The combination of the expected guidelines sentence and the actual sentence provides the commission with a rich data set from which it can develop a long-term forecasting model or gauge the impact of pending legislation or guidelines modifications. In the states where the collection of such data has been made a priority, the commission is able to discern how many prison or jail beds will be needed for any given piece of legislation.”

Source: Kelly Mitchell, “State Sentencing Guidelines: A Garden Full of Variety,” *Federal Probation*, p. 31, September 2017.

Maine sentencing disposition patterns, shown here by offense class and conviction history, generally show an increased likelihood of going to prison as severity increases.

	0-1 Prior Convictions	2-3 Prior Convictions	4-5 Prior Convictions	6+ Prior Convictions
Murder	100% Prison	100 % Prison	no cases	no cases
Class A (N= 454)	37% Prison	45% Prison	34% Prison	32% Prison
	52% Prison Split	46% Prison Split	45% Prison Split	53% Prison Split
	<1% Jail	1% Jail	no cases	5% Jail
	10% Jail Split	4% Jail Split	14% Jail Split	11% Jail Split
	1% Probation	5% Probation	7% Probation	no cases
Class B (N= 2,868)	26% Prison	33% Prison	40% Prison	45% Prison
	27% Prison Split	27% Prison Split	20% Prison Split	21% Prison Split
	8% Jail	14% Jail	14% Jail	11% Jail
	28% Jail Split	19% Jail Split	15% Jail Split	13% Jail Split
	10% Probation	7% Probation	11% Probation	10% Probation
Class C (N= 9,395)	20% Prison	28% Prison	32% Prison	39% Prison
	7% Prison Split	6% Prison Split	6% Prison Split	7% Prison Split
	35% Jail	38% Jail	38% Jail	35% Jail
	23% Jail Split	17% Jail Split	14% Jail Split	10% Jail Split
	12% Probation	9% Probation	9% Probation	7% Probation

Pink highlighting indicates a cell with fewer than 10 sentences between FY2016 and FY2019.

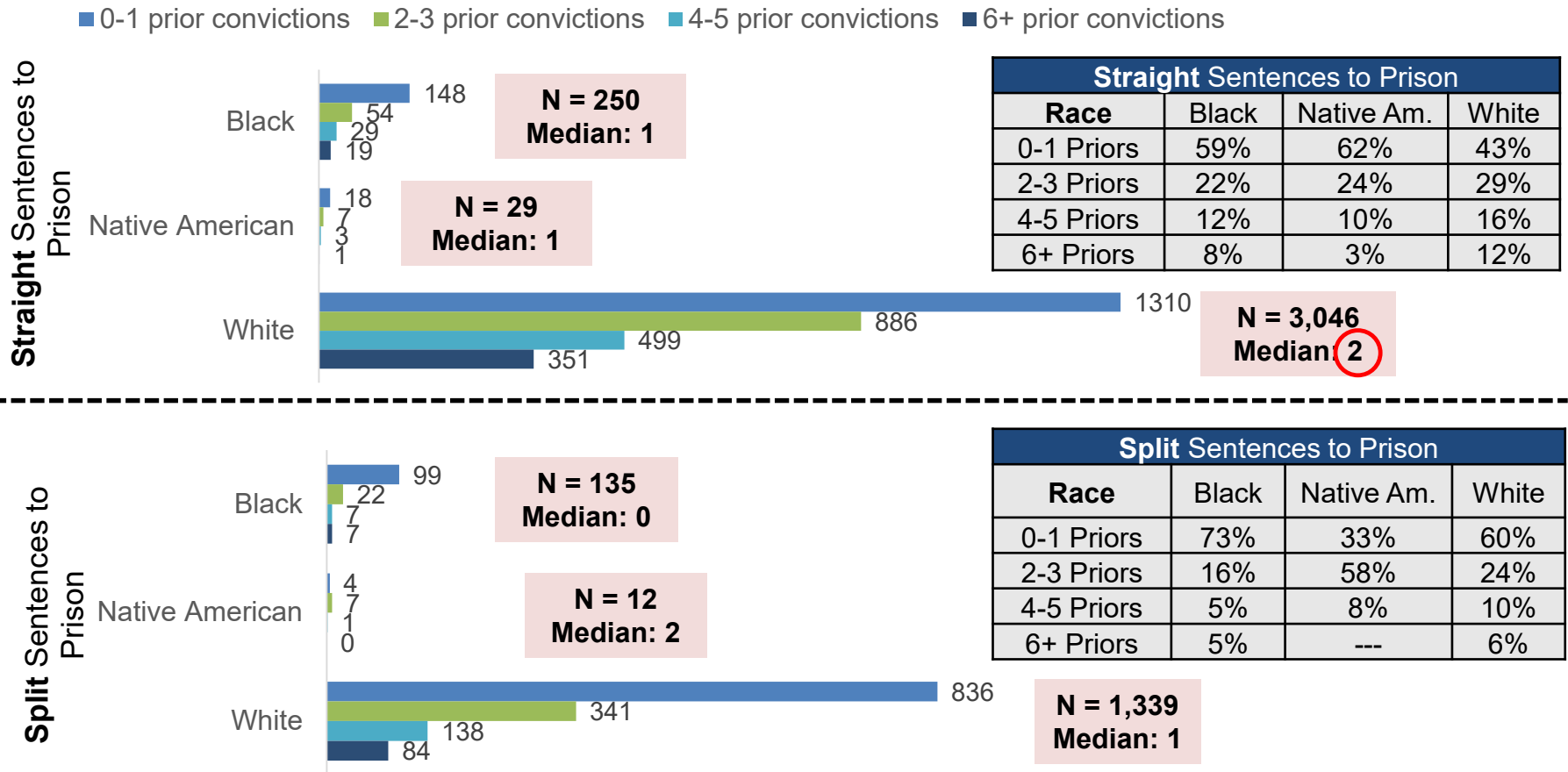
Sentences to probation are uncommon for Class C crimes, regardless of criminal history.

**Note: This examines sentenced people who had a legal address in Maine at the time of case filing and convictions for a Class D offense or higher. Eleven Class B and 196 Class C sentences of Fine/Other are not included in the grid.*

Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019. CSG Justice Center analysis of DPS data, 2008–2019.

White people sentenced to prison on a straight sentence had more prior convictions than people of other races.

Sentences to Prison by Prior Conviction Categories and Race, FY2016–FY2019

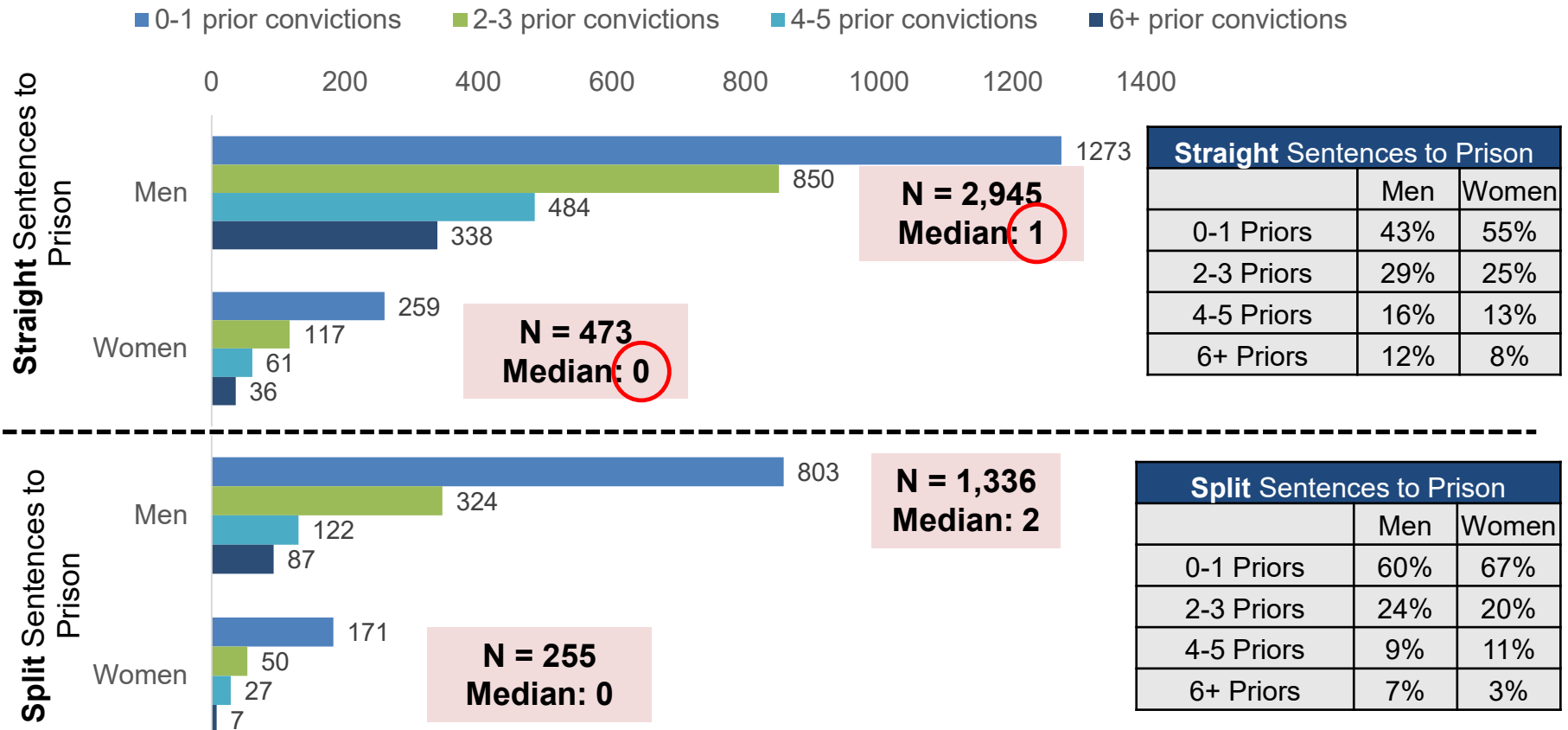


**Note: This examines sentenced people who had a legal address in Maine at the time of case filing and convictions for a class D offense or higher.*

Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019. CSG Justice Center analysis of DPS data, 2008–2019.

Sentences to prison for men outnumber those for women by nearly six to one, but men tend to have more prior convictions than women.

Sentences to Prison by Prior Conviction Categories and Gender, FY2016–FY2019

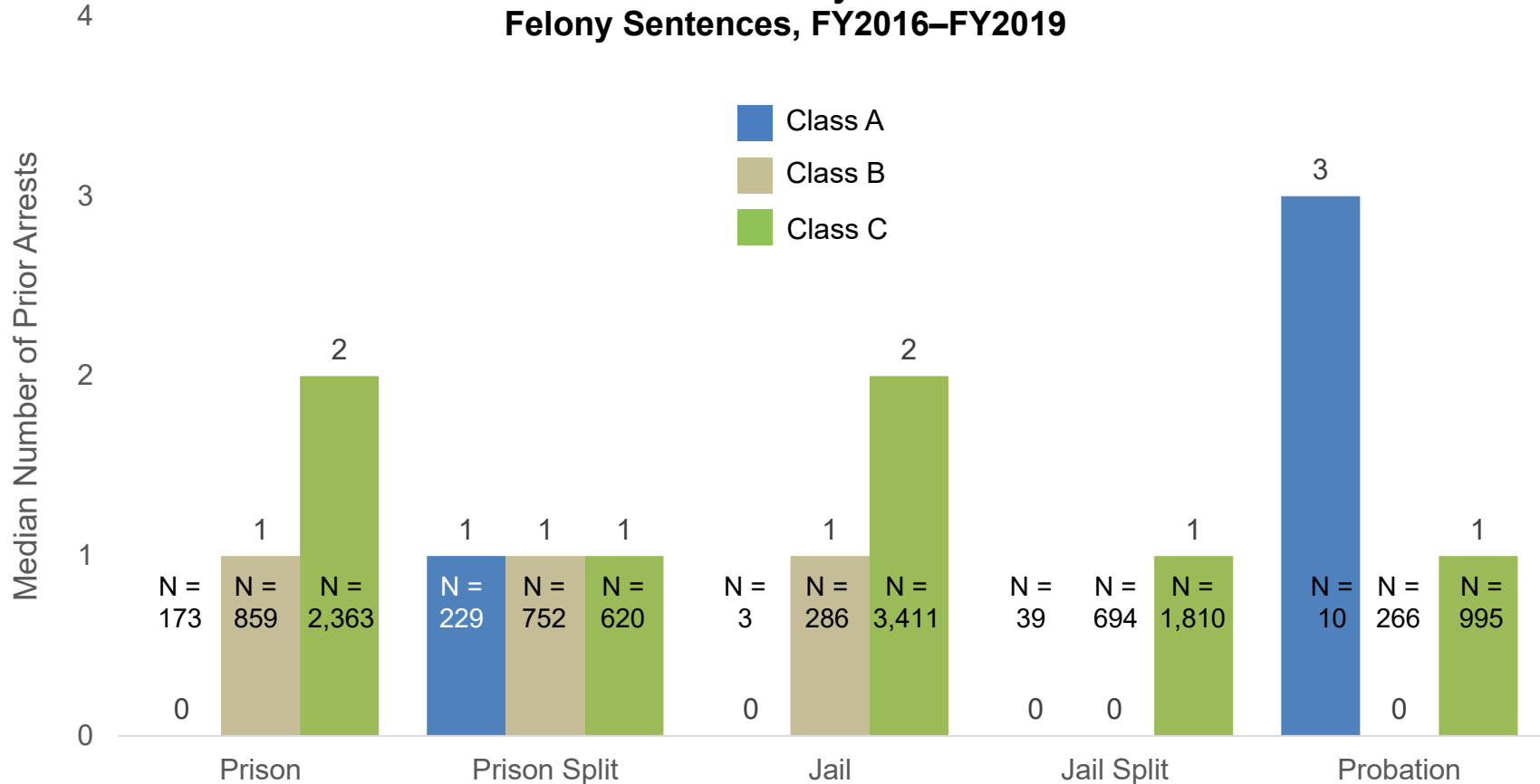


**Note: This examines sentenced people who had a legal address in Maine at the time of case filing and convictions for a class D offense or higher.*

Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019. CSG Justice Center analysis of DPS data, 2008–2019.

People receiving straight sentences to prison or jail for Class C felonies generally have more prior convictions than those receiving other sentencing dispositions.

Median Number of Prior Convictions* by Offense Level and Sentence for Felony Sentences, FY2016–FY2019

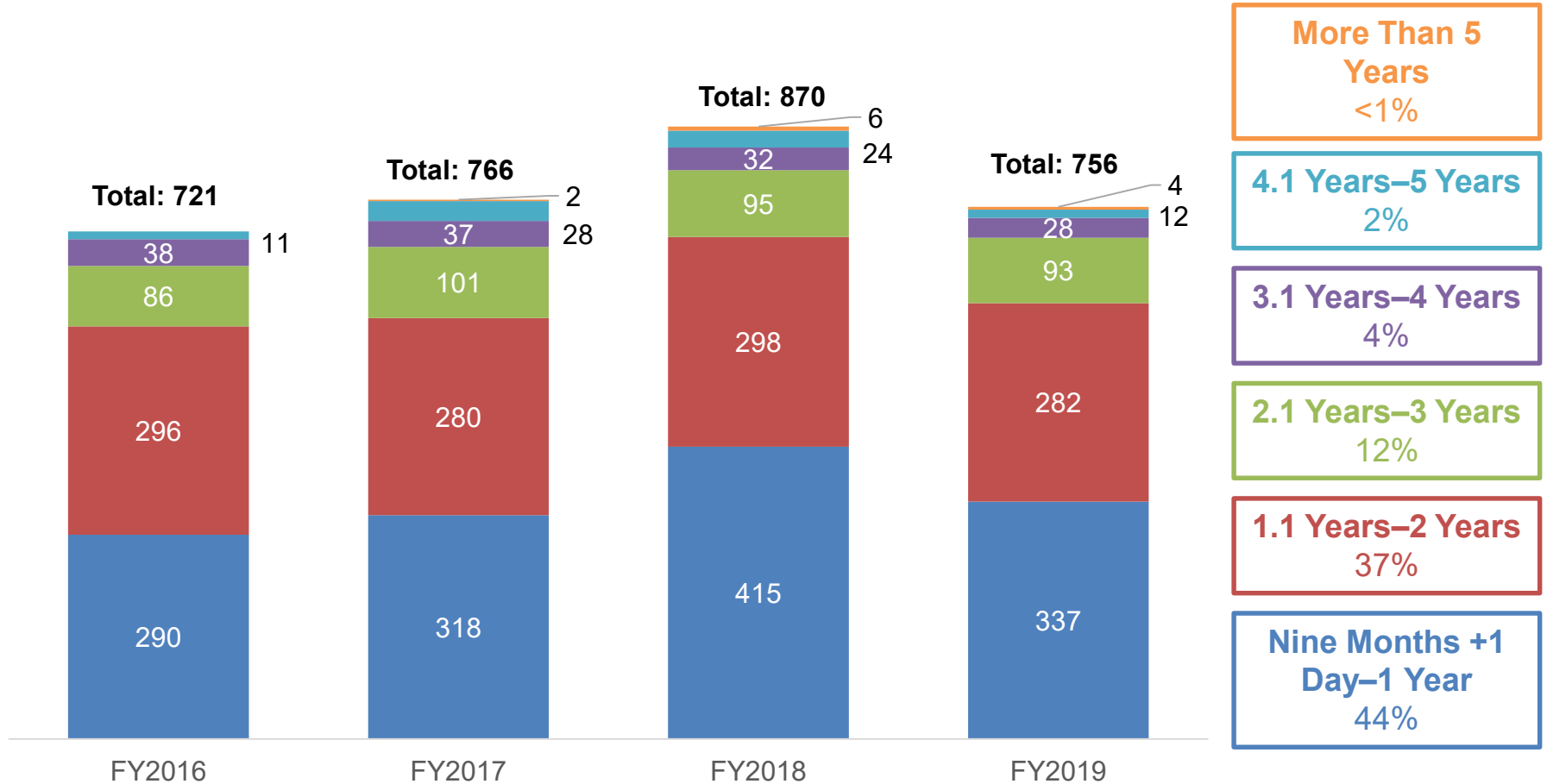


**Note: This examines sentenced people who had a legal address in Maine at the time of case filing and convictions for a class D offense or higher.*

Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019. CSG Justice Center analysis of DPS data, 2008–2019.

Between FY2016 and FY2019, 44 percent of sentences to prison for Class C offenses were for less than one year.

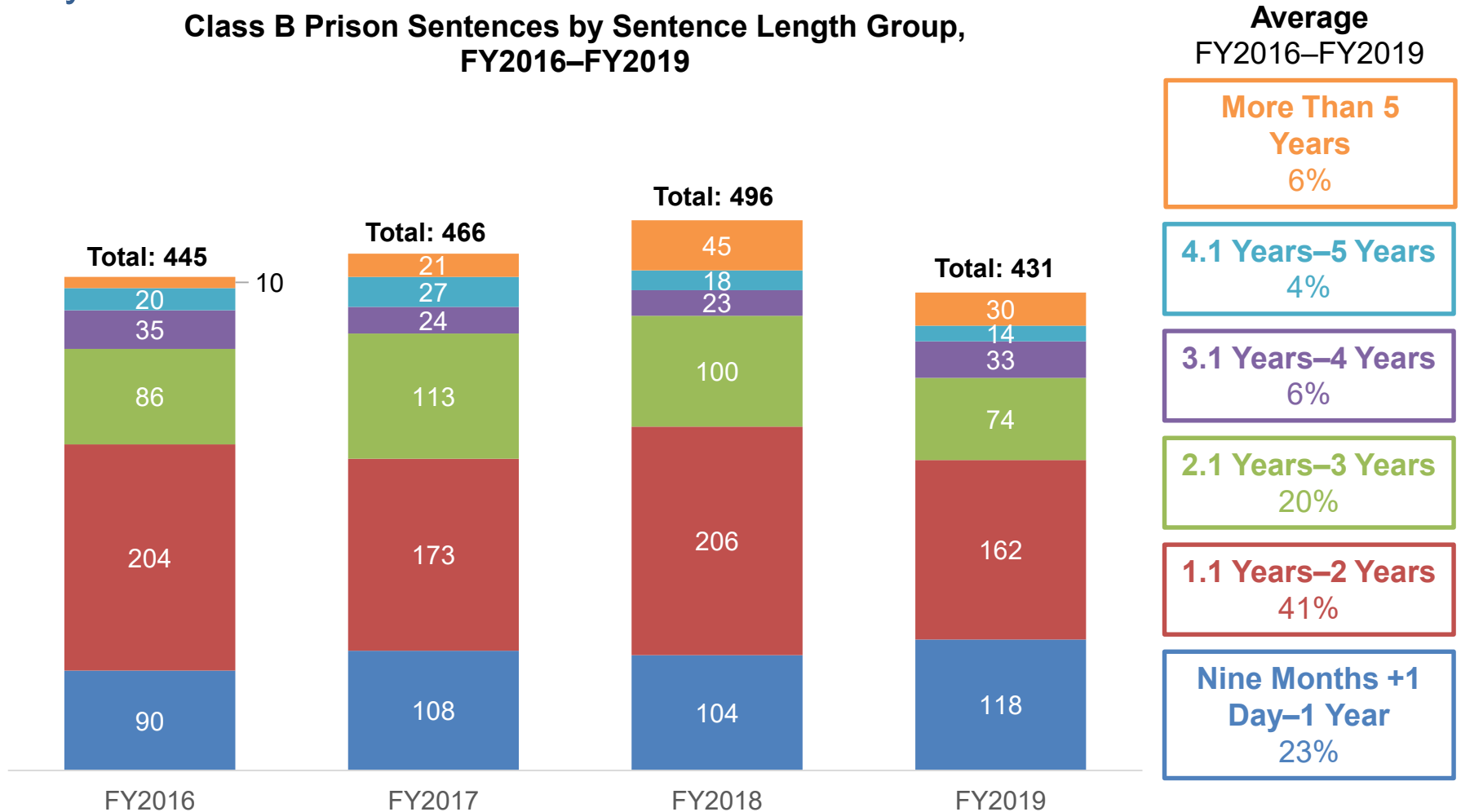
**Class C Prison Sentences by Sentence Length Group,
FY2016–FY2019**



Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019.

Between FY2016 and FY2019, 23 percent of Class B sentences to prison were for nine months and one day to one year; 41 percent were for one to two years.

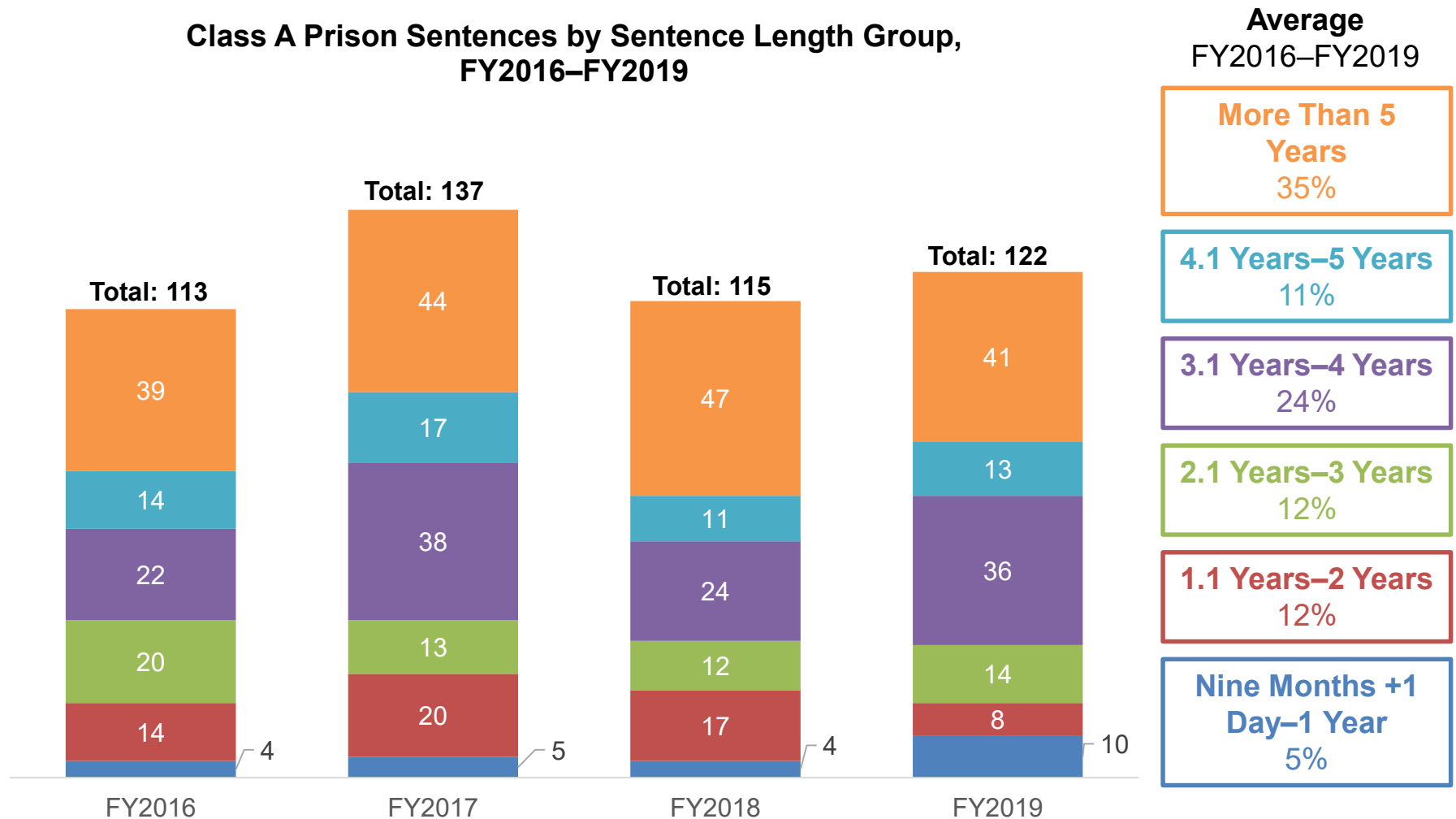
**Class B Prison Sentences by Sentence Length Group,
FY2016–FY2019**



Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019.

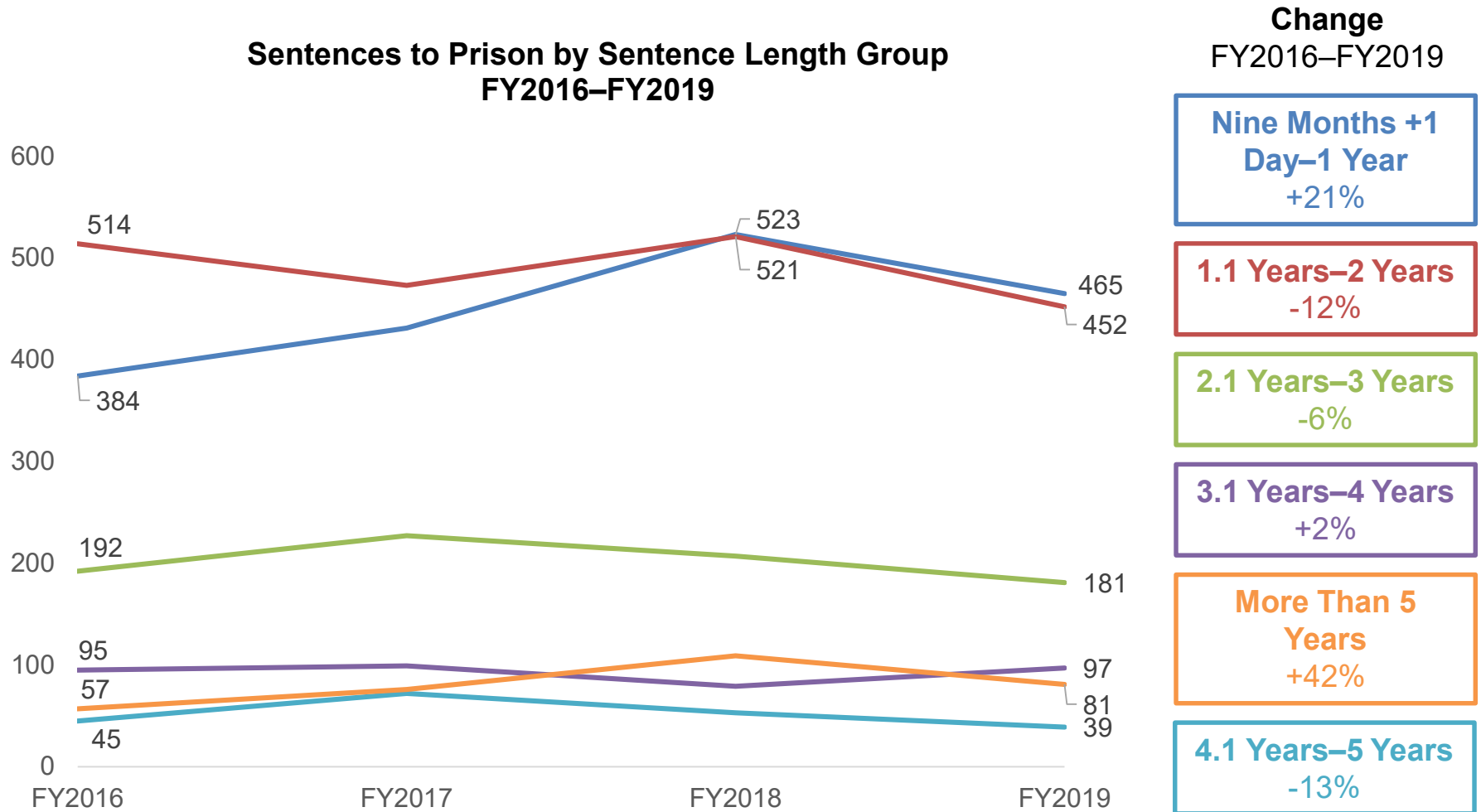
Between 2016 and 2019, 35 percent of Class A sentences to prison were for more than five years.

**Class A Prison Sentences by Sentence Length Group,
FY2016–FY2019**



Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019.

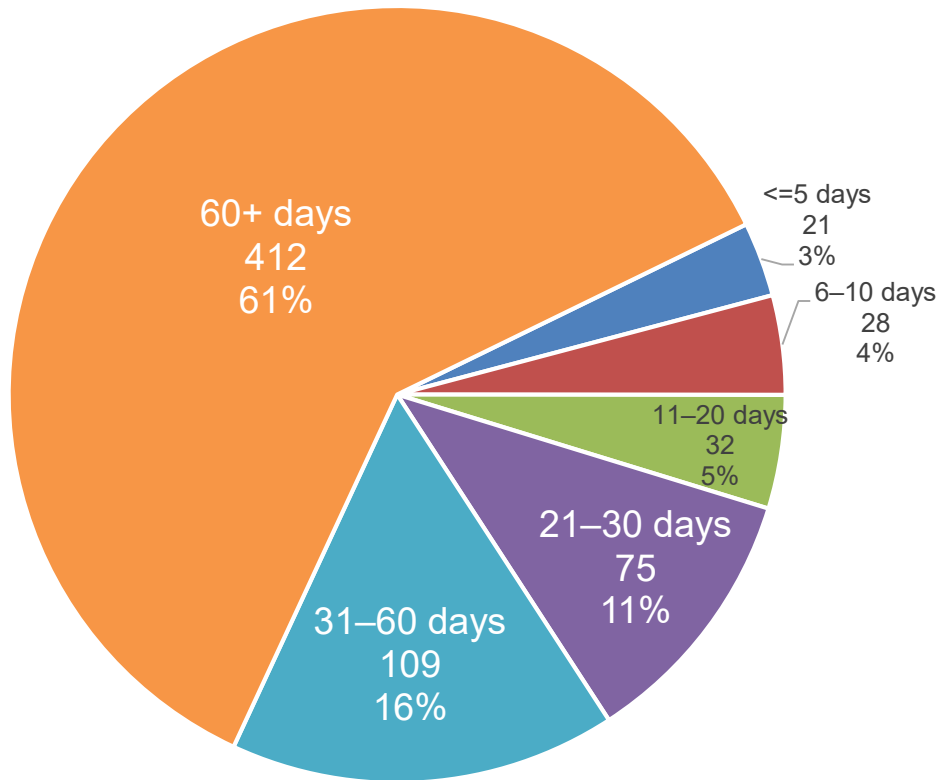
Between FY2016 and FY2019, relatively short sentences to prison of less than one year increased 21 percent, peaking in FY2018.



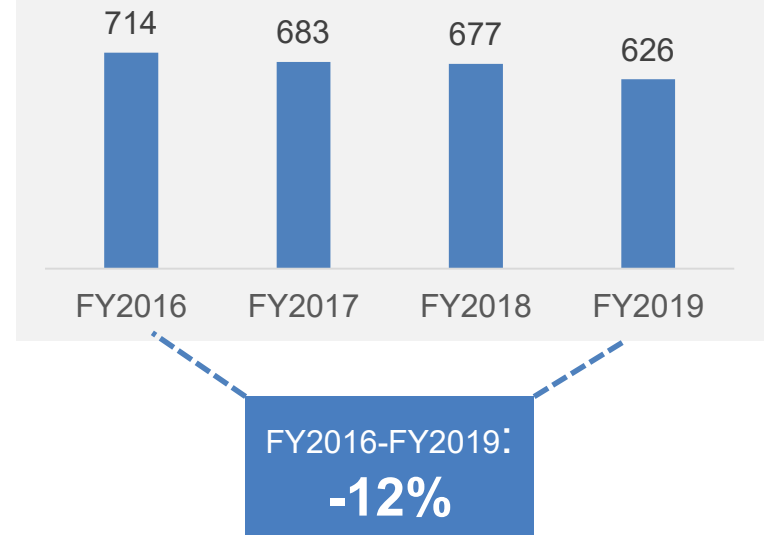
Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019.

Relatively short sentences (less than 60 days) account for nearly 40 percent of felony jail split sentences.

Time Sentenced for Felony Jail Splits, FY2018



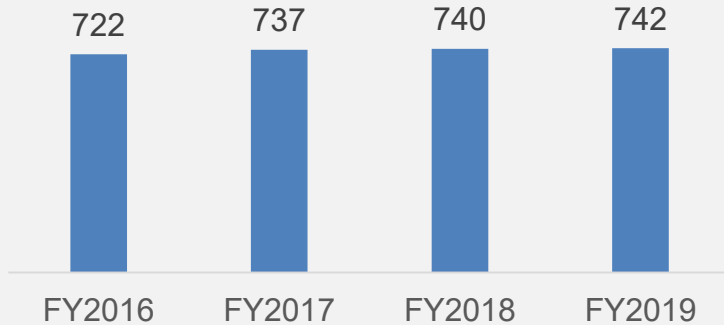
Felony Split Sentences to Jail, FY2016–FY2019



Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019.

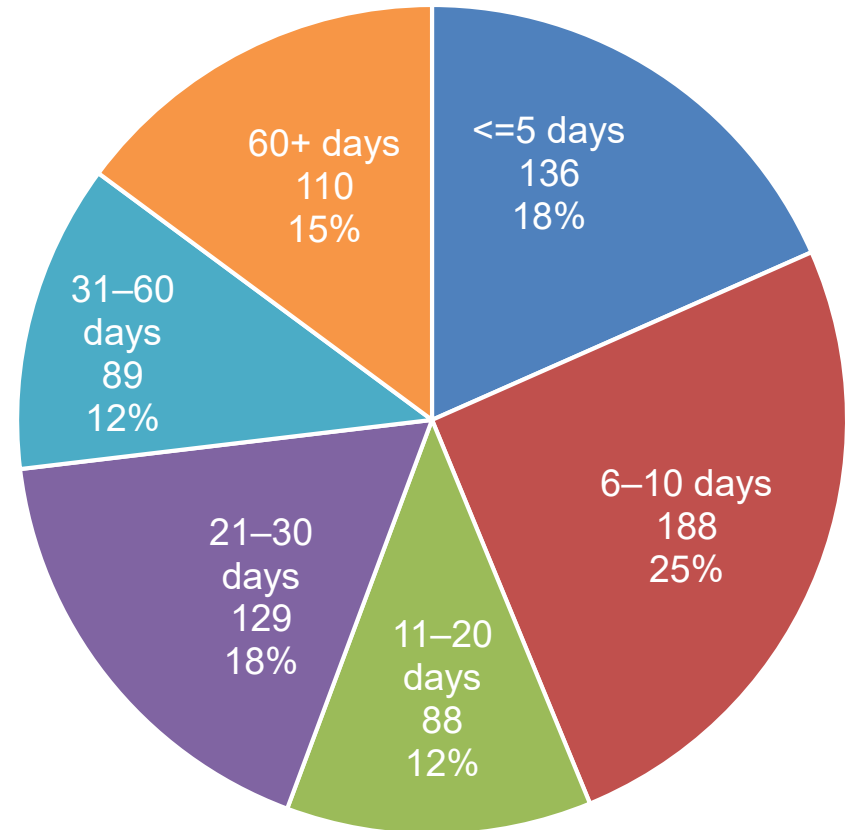
Time ordered for misdemeanor jail split sentences is 30 days or less in 73 percent of cases.

**Misdemeanor Split Sentences to Jail,
FY2016–FY2019**



FY2016–FY2019:
+3%

**Time Sentenced for Misdemeanor Jail
Splits, FY2018**



Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019.

Key takeaways are about criminal history and short sentences.

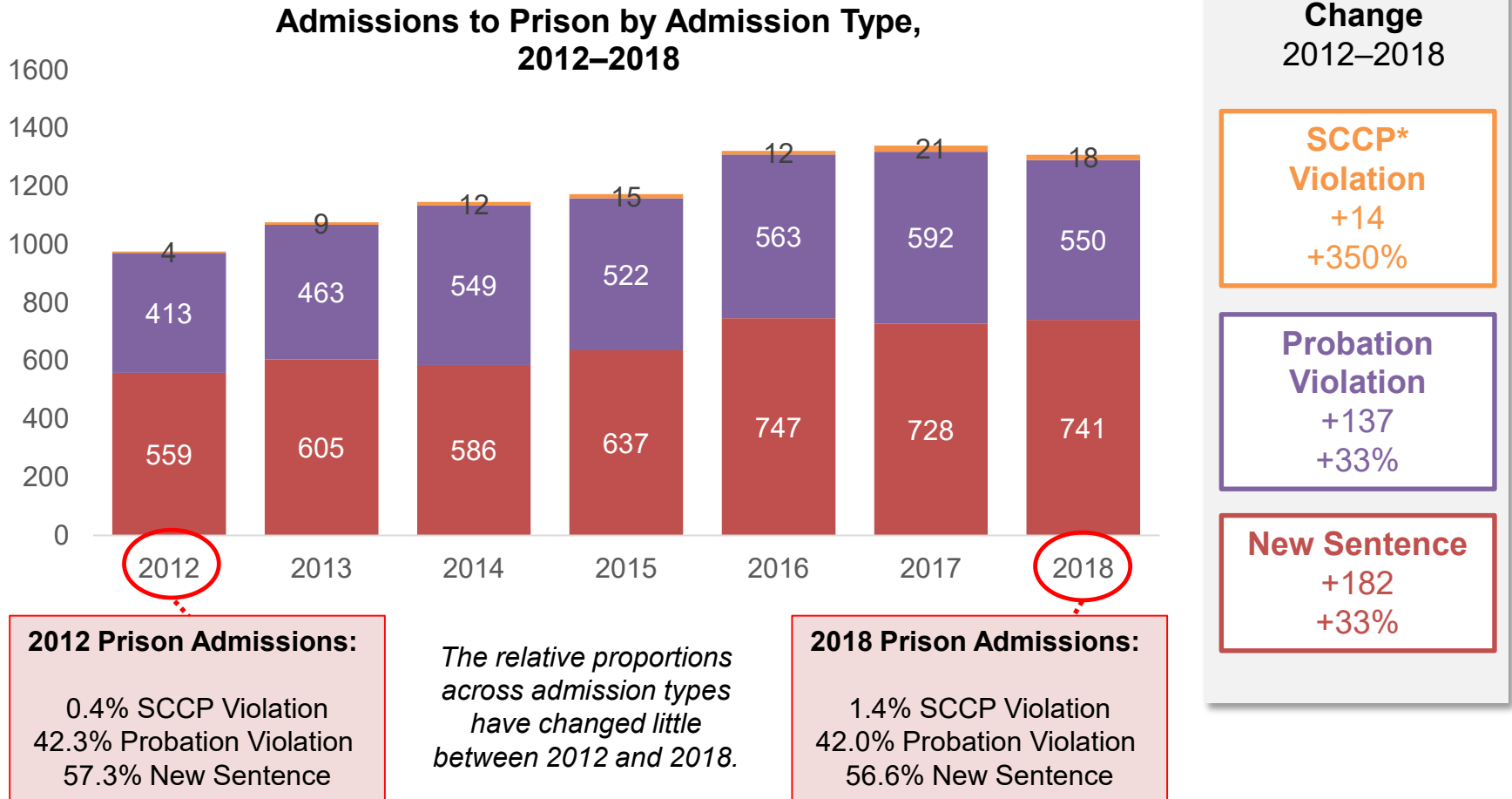
- Maine sentencing disposition patterns, by offense class and conviction history, generally show an increased likelihood of going to prison as severity increases.
- White people sentenced to prison on a straight sentence had more prior convictions than people of other races.
- People receiving straight sentences to prison or jail for Class C felonies generally have more prior convictions than those receiving other sentencing dispositions.
- Between 2016 and 2019, 44 percent (337 total) of Class C sentences to prison were short (271 to 365 days), creating a challenge for correctional programming.
- Between FY2016 and FY2019, these short sentences to prison increased 21 percent, peaking in FY2018. During the same period, sentences of 1.1–2 years decreased 12 percent.
- Relatively short sentences of less than 60 days account for nearly 40 percent of felony jail split sentences. Time ordered for misdemeanor jail split sentences is 30 days or less in 73 percent of cases.



Presentation Overview

- 1 Recap of November Findings
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- 3 Prison and Probation Analysis**

Between 2012 and 2018, prison admissions increased 34 percent. Much of that growth can be attributed to an increase in new commitments to prison.

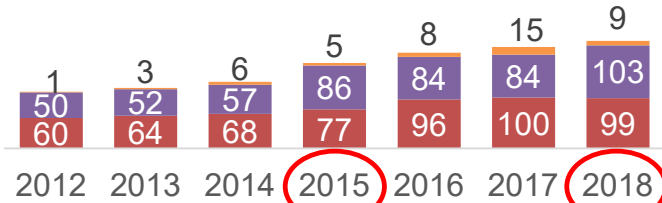


Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

***SCCP = Supervised Community Confinement Program. See Maine Revised Statutes Title 34-A §3036-A**

Between 2012 and 2018, prison admissions for probation violations for women more than doubled. In the same period, new sentences to prison for women increased 65 percent.

Female Admissions to Prison by Admission Type, 2012–2018



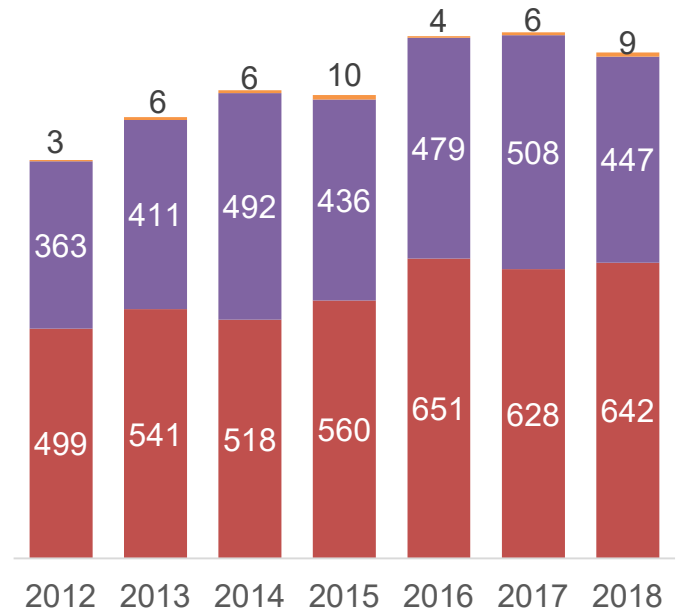
**Change
2012–2018**

SSCP Violation
Women: +800%
Men: +200%

Probation Violation
Women: +106%
Men: +23%

New Sentence
Women: +65%
Men: +29%

Male Admissions to Prison by Admission Type, 2012–2018



While admissions for new sentences have always outnumbered probation violation admissions for men, this is not true for women, among whom probation violation admissions outnumbered new sentence admissions in both 2015 and 2018.

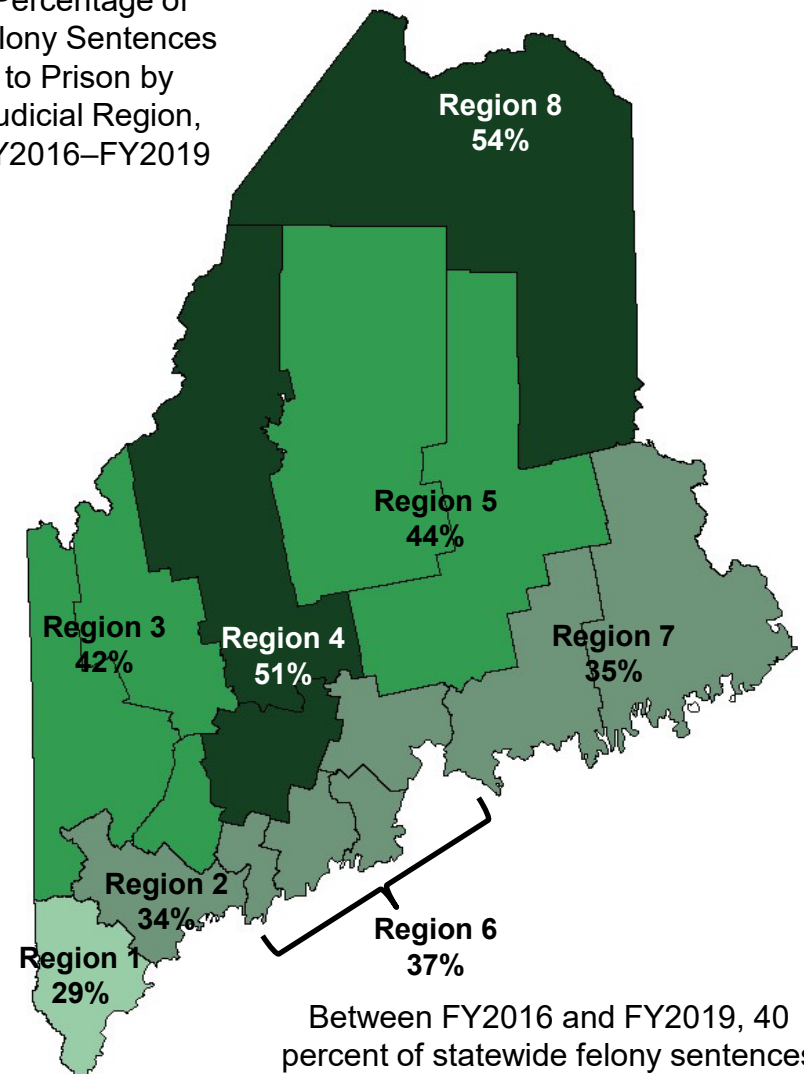
Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

Between FY2016 and FY2019, sentences to prison increased 2 percent and usage varied by judicial region.

Percent Change in Felony Prison Sentences by Judicial Region, FY2016–FY2019

	FY2016	FY2019	% Change
Region 1	150	123	-18%
Region 2	199	207	4%
Region 3	202	234	16%
Region 4	237	210	-11%
Region 5	208	209	0%
Region 6	127	151	19%
Region 7	63	63	0%
Region 8	101	118	17%
Total	1,287	1,315	2%

Percentage of Felony Sentences to Prison by Judicial Region, FY2016–FY2019



Between FY2016 and FY2019, 40 percent of statewide felony sentences were to prison.

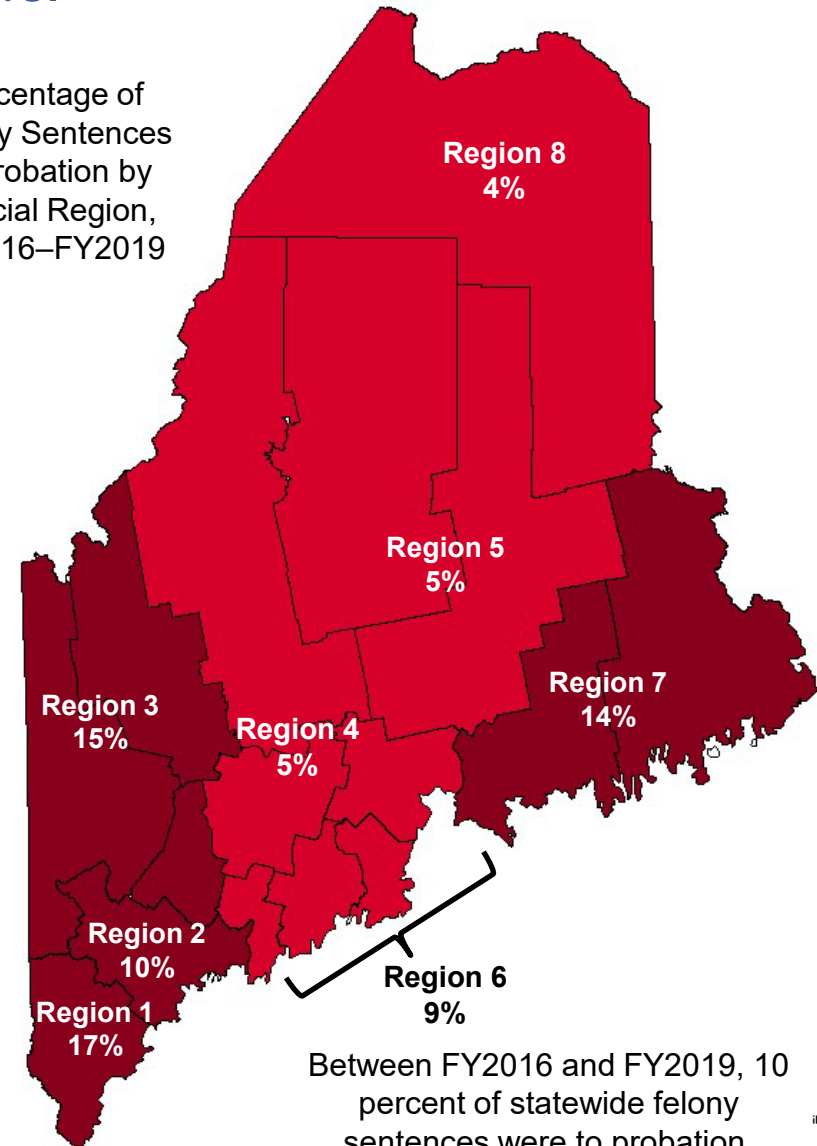
Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019.

Between FY2016 and FY2019, sentences to probation remained stable and some regions used probation more than others.

**Percent Change in Felony Probation Sentences
by Judicial Region, FY2016–FY2019**

	FY2016	FY2019	% Change
Region 1	62	83	34%
Region 2	59	59	0%
Region 3	88	75	-15%
Region 4	24	26	8%
Region 5	42	23	-45%
Region 6	31	37	19%
Region 7	28	29	4%
Region 8	5	9	80%
Total	339	341	1%

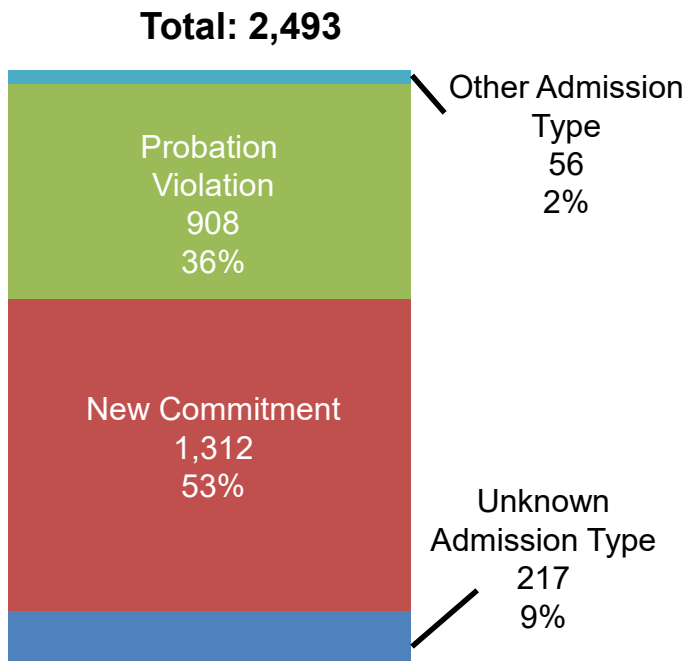
**Percentage of
Felony Sentences
to Probation by
Judicial Region,
FY2016–FY2019**



Source: Data from the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts, 2016–2019.

Thirty-six percent of the snapshot prison population in 2018 had been admitted to prison for a probation violation.

Snapshot Prison Population by Admission Type on June 30, 2018



Median Time Served (in Months) by Admission Type as of June 30, 2018

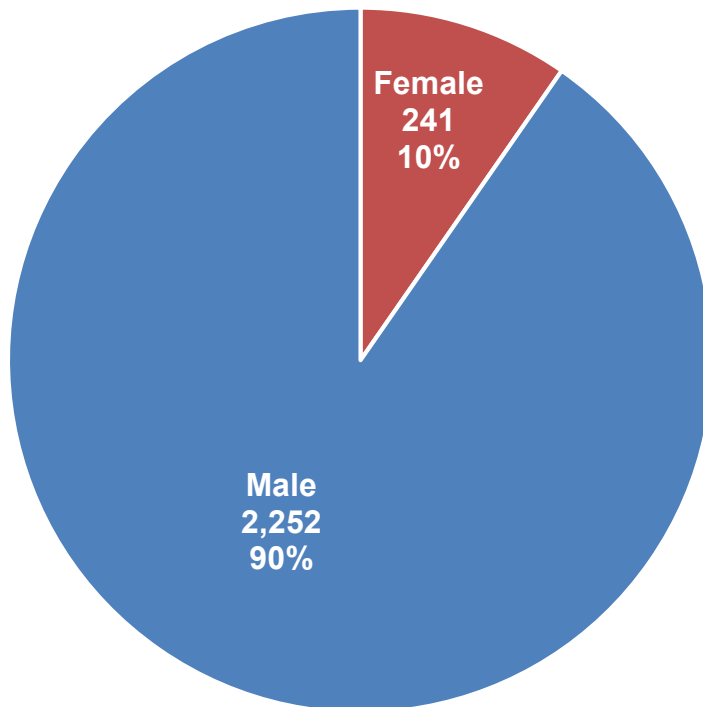


**Note: "Other Admission Type" includes people admitted on interstate detainers, on interstate compact, for an SCCP violation, or on safe keeper status. People on safe keeper status are serving time in a county jail who are admitted to DOC for higher-level security monitoring or mental health services that cannot be provided by the county.*

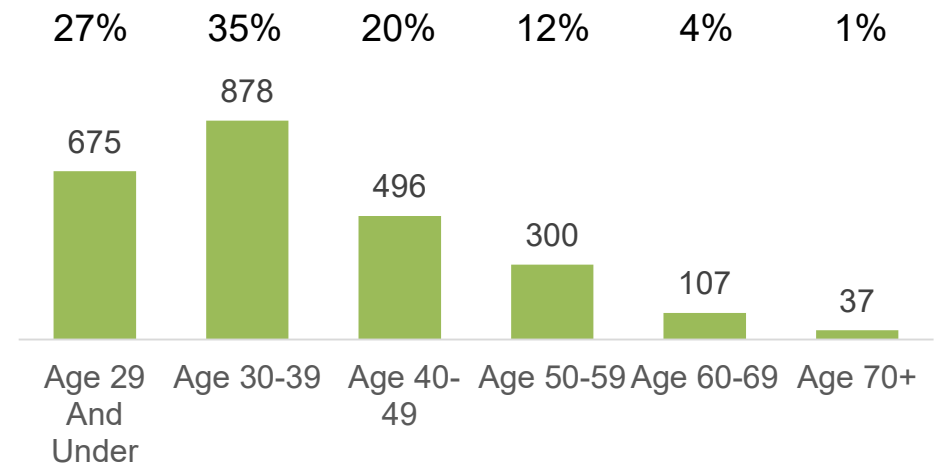
Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

In June 2018, women constituted 10 percent of Maine's standing prison population.

**Snapshot Prison Population by Gender
on June 30, 2018**



**Snapshot Prison Population by
Age on June 30, 2018**



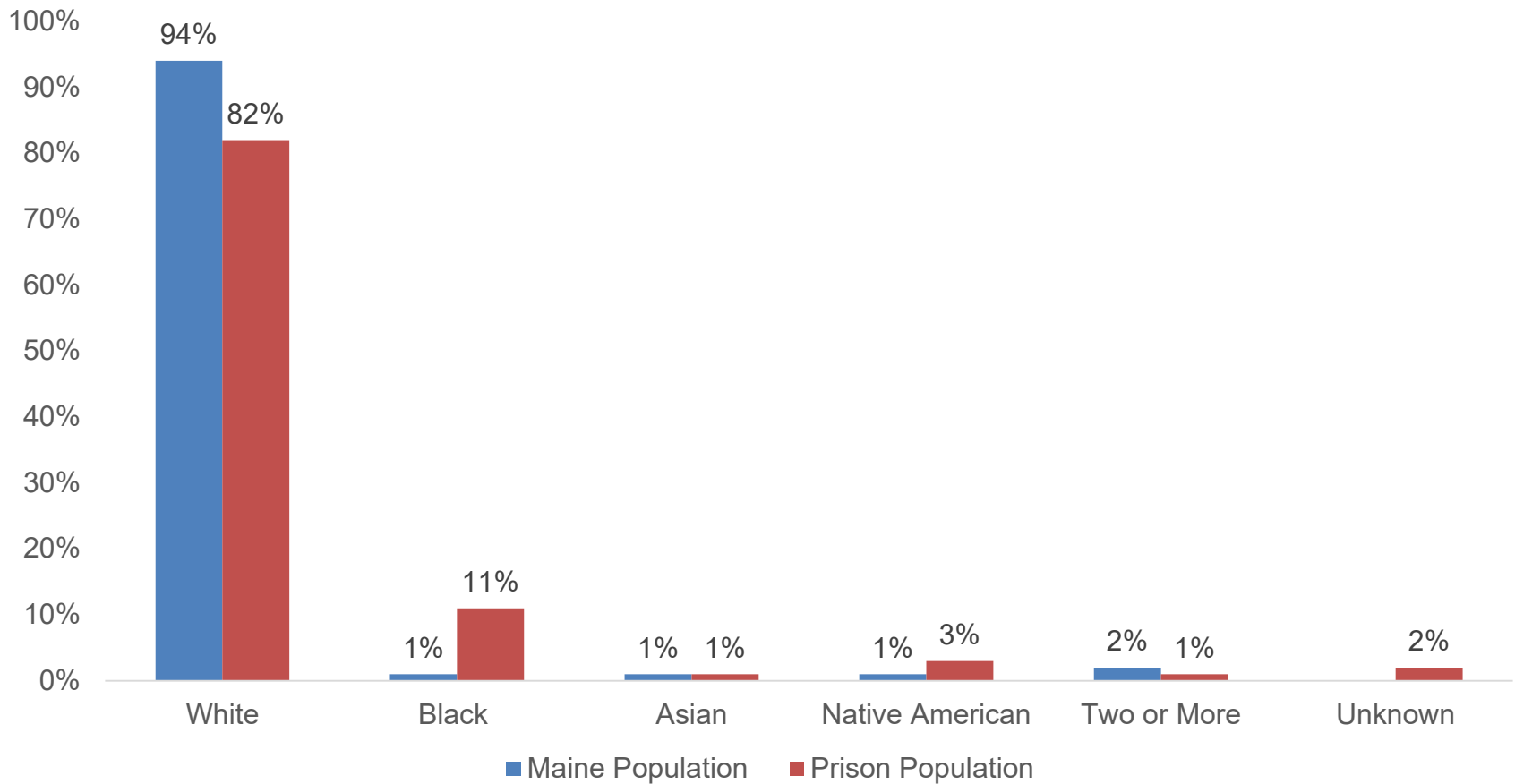
Average Age in the Prison Population in 2018:

Male Average: 38
Female Average: 36

Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

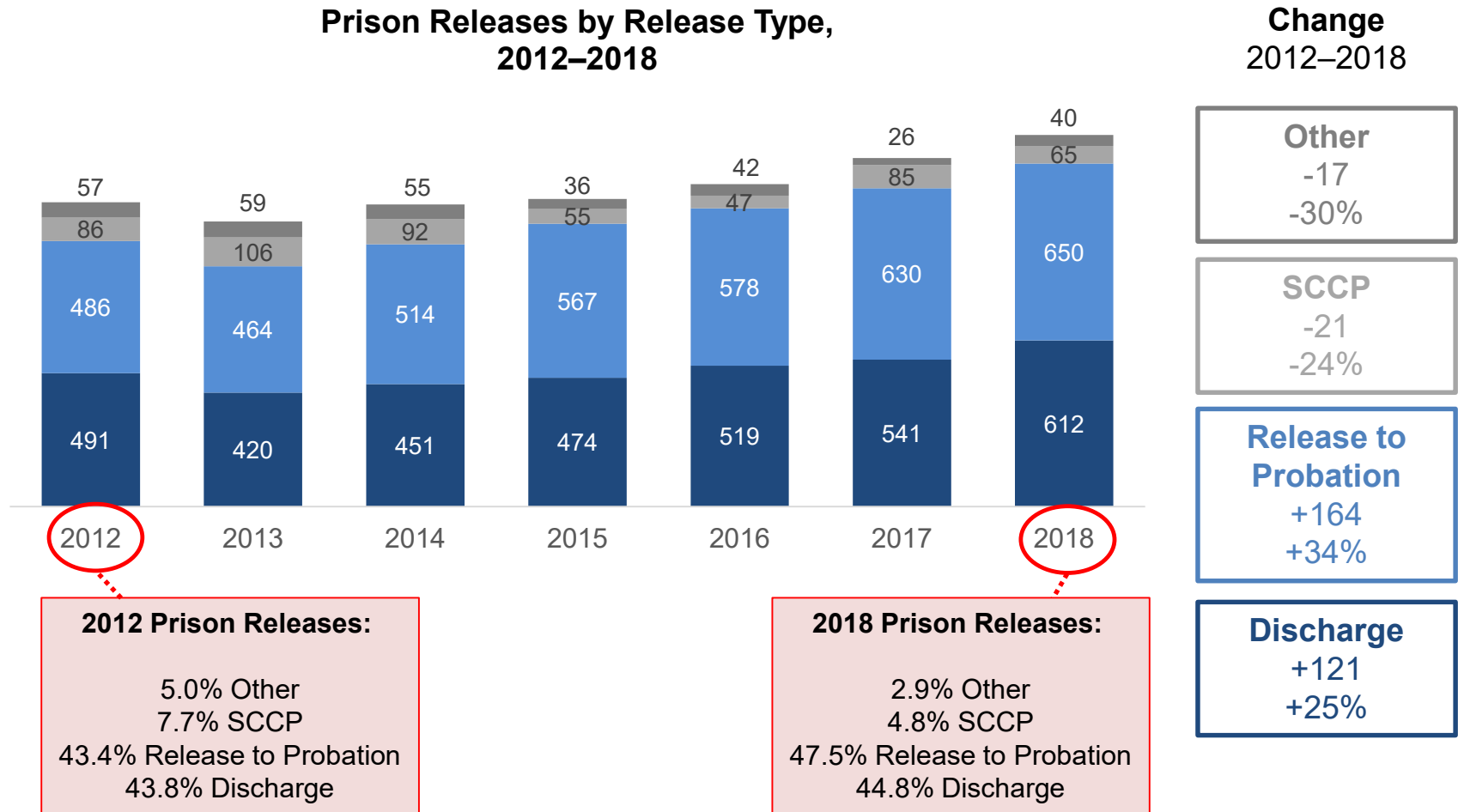
People of color are overrepresented in the Maine DOC population compared to the state's total population.

Snapshot Prison Population by Race, 2018



Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018. US Census Fact Finder 2017
<https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>

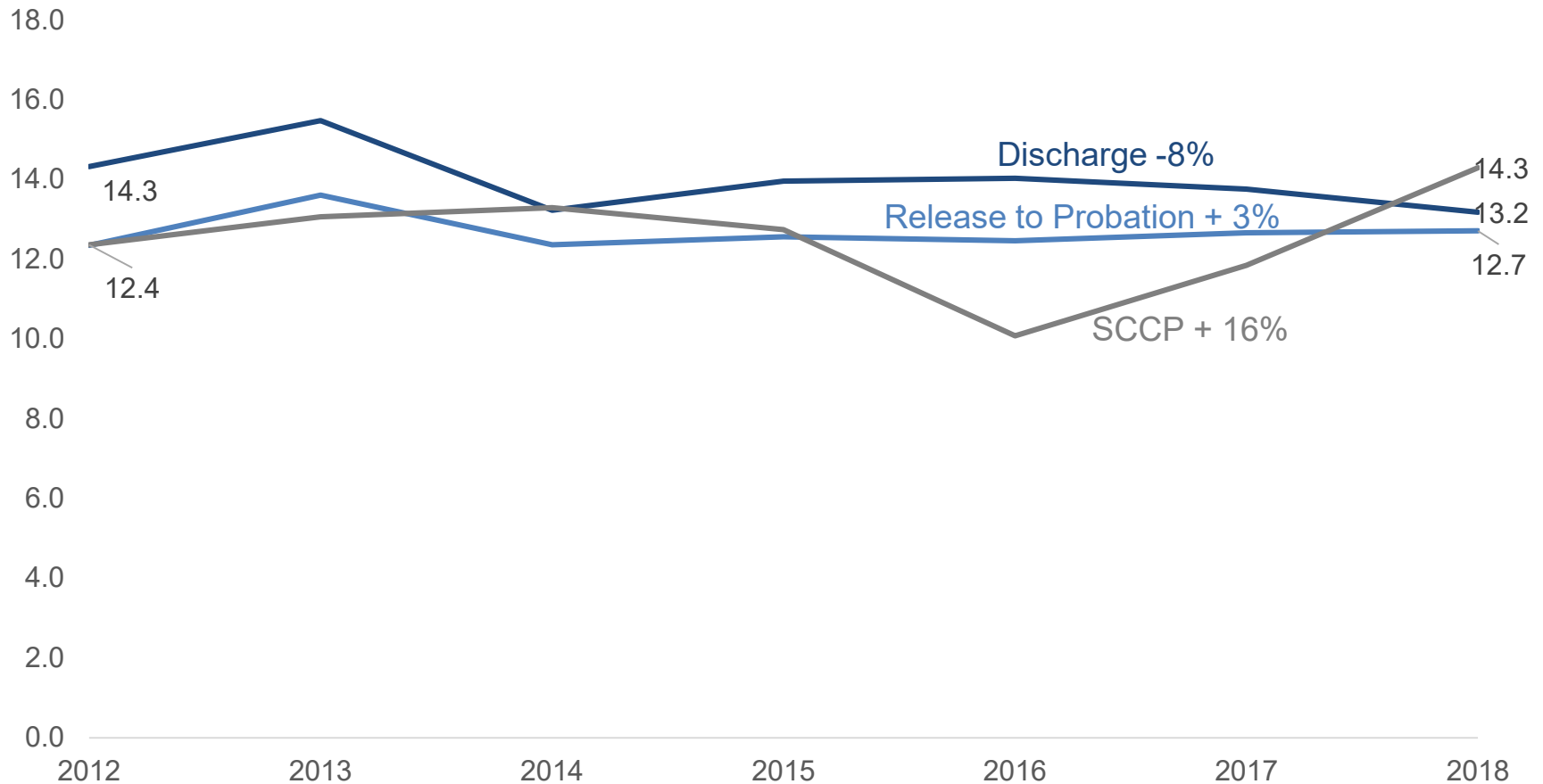
Between 2012 and 2018, the proportion of people released from prison to probation increased from 43 percent to 48 percent.



Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

The median length of stay (LOS) in prison increased for releases to probation and releases to SCCP between 2008 and 2018.

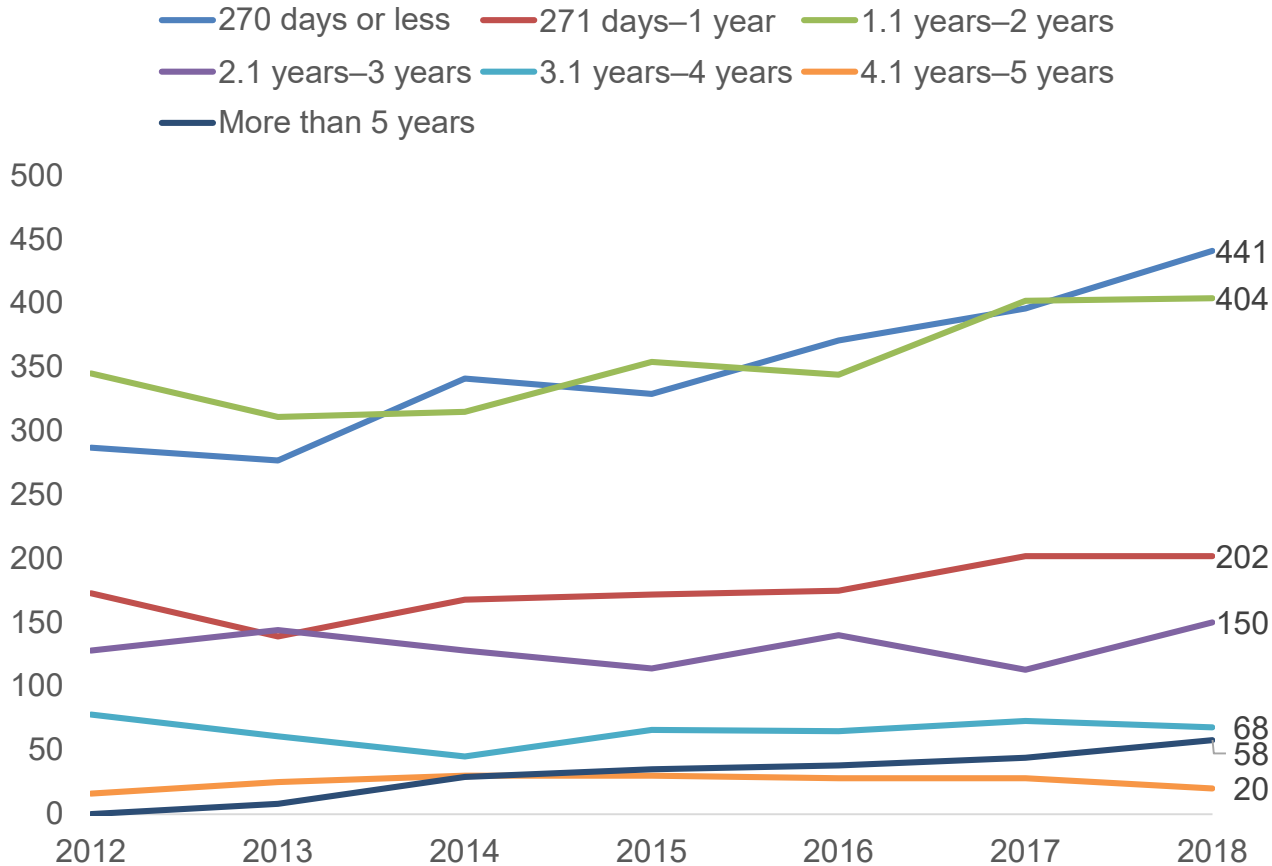
Median LOS in Months by Release Type, 2012–2018



Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

About one-third of prison release events involve people who served less than nine months and one day in MDOC.

LOS Groups for Prison Releases, 2012–2018



In 2018...

56%

of release events with less than 9 months + 1 day served were **admitted on a new commitment**

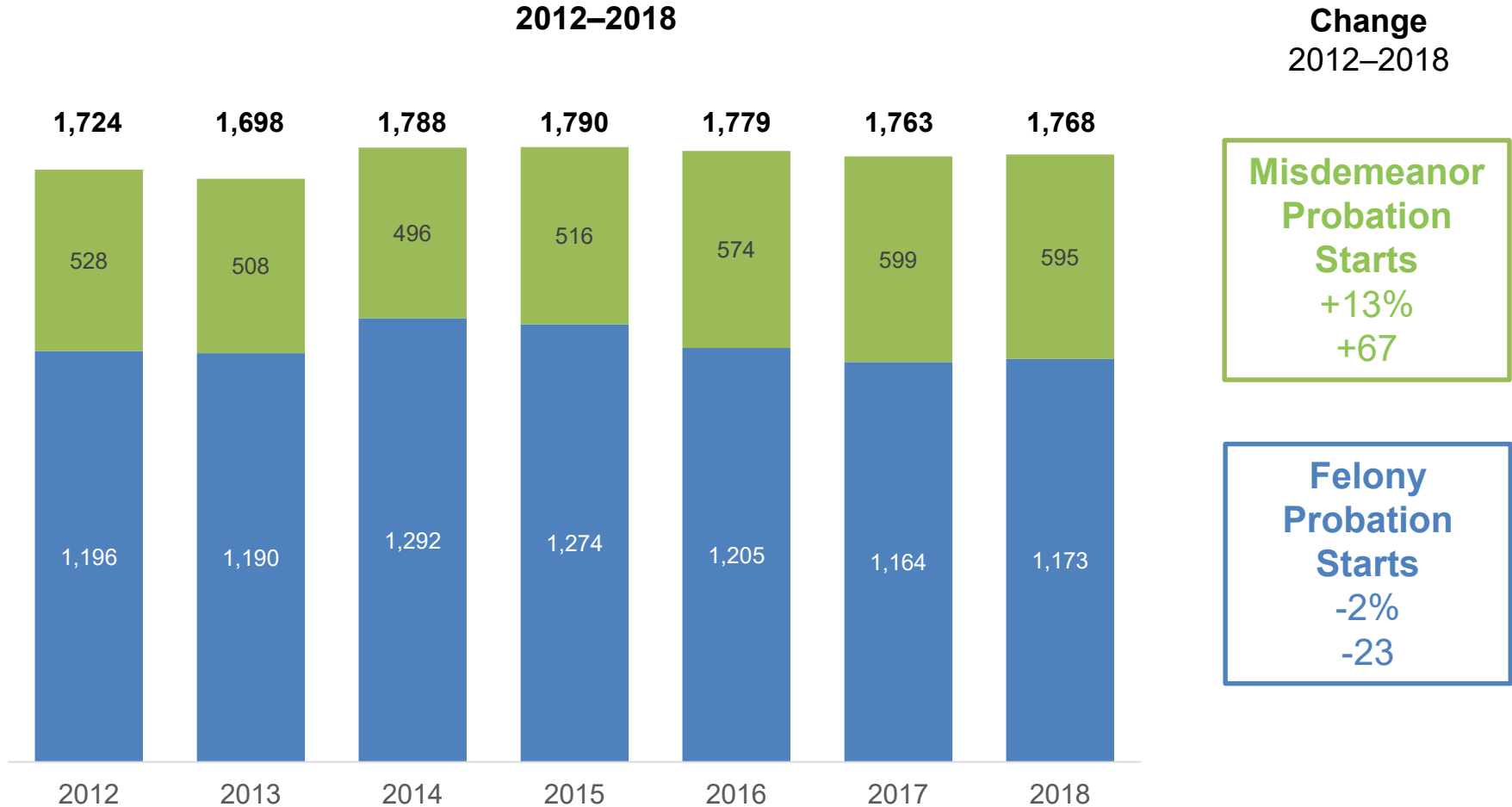
36%

of release events with less than 9 months + 1 day served were **admitted for a probation violation**

Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

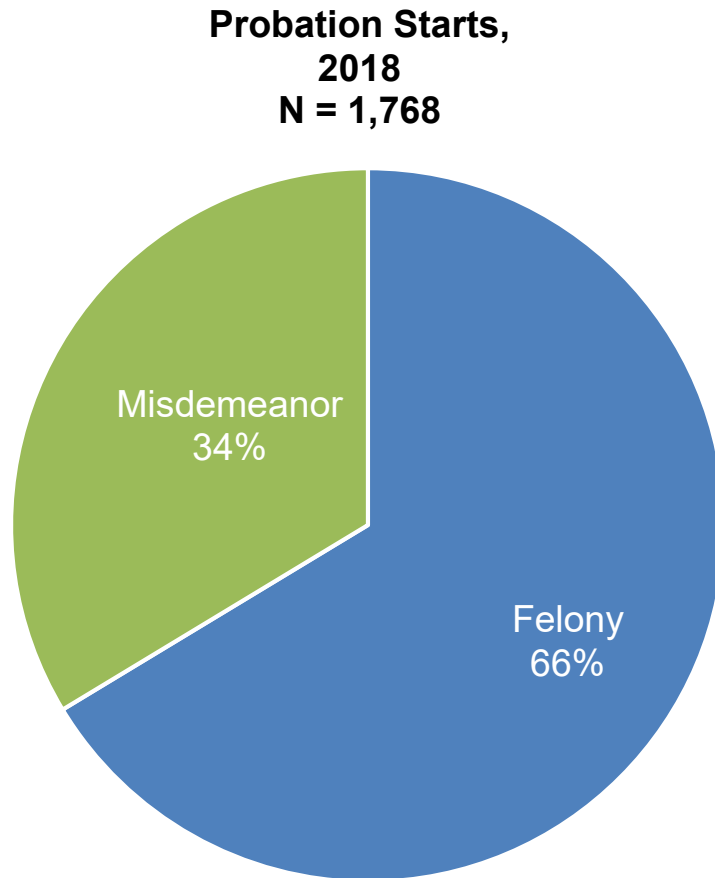
The number of probation starts increased slightly between 2012 and 2018, due in part to a 13-percent increase in misdemeanor probation starts.

**Probation Starts by Offense Level,
2012–2018**



Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

In 2018, felony probation made up two-thirds of all probation starts.



**Most Common Offenses for Felony Probation
N = 1,173**

Unlawful Trafficking Scheduled Drugs (B)	149	13%
Theft by Unauthorized Taking or Transfer (C)	100	9%
Burglary (B)	97	8%
Aggravated Assault (B)	77	7%
Burglary (C)	46	4%

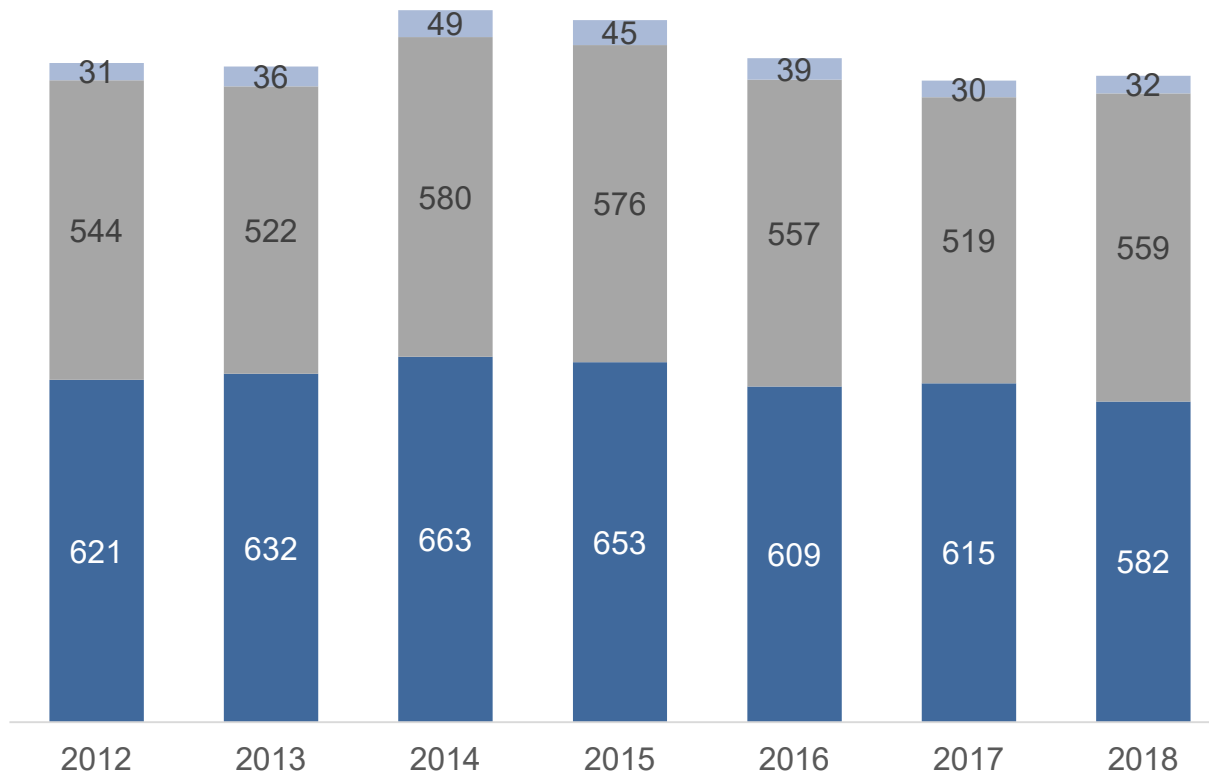
**Most Common Offenses for Misdemeanor Probation
N = 595**

Domestic Violence Assault (D)	156	26%
OUI 1 Prior (D)	107	18%
Unlawful Possession of a Scheduled Drug (D)	65	11%
Assault (D)	38	6%
Domestic Violence Terrorizing (D)	23	4%
OUI (D)	23	4%

Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

About half of people starting felony probation begin after release from prison.

**Felony Probation Starts by Admission Type,
2012–2018**



**Change
2012–2018**

**Interstate
Compact
+1%**

**Sentences to
Probation
-3%**

**Releases from
Prison
+6%**

Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

A large percentage of sentences to felony probation are for 13 to 24 months.

In 2018...

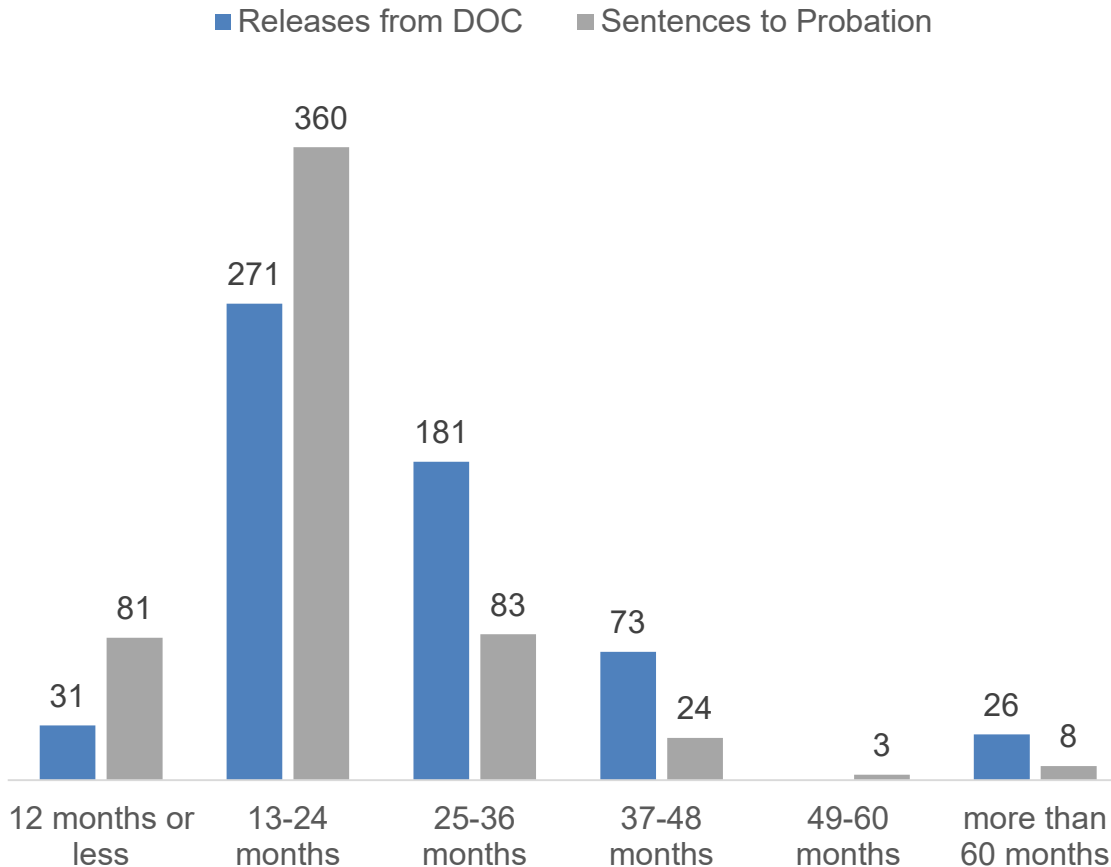
Of people released from DOC onto felony probation...

47% had between **13 and 24 months** to complete on supervision.

31% had between **25 and 36 months** to complete on supervision.

Of people sentenced to felony probation, **64%** had between **13 and 24 months** to complete.

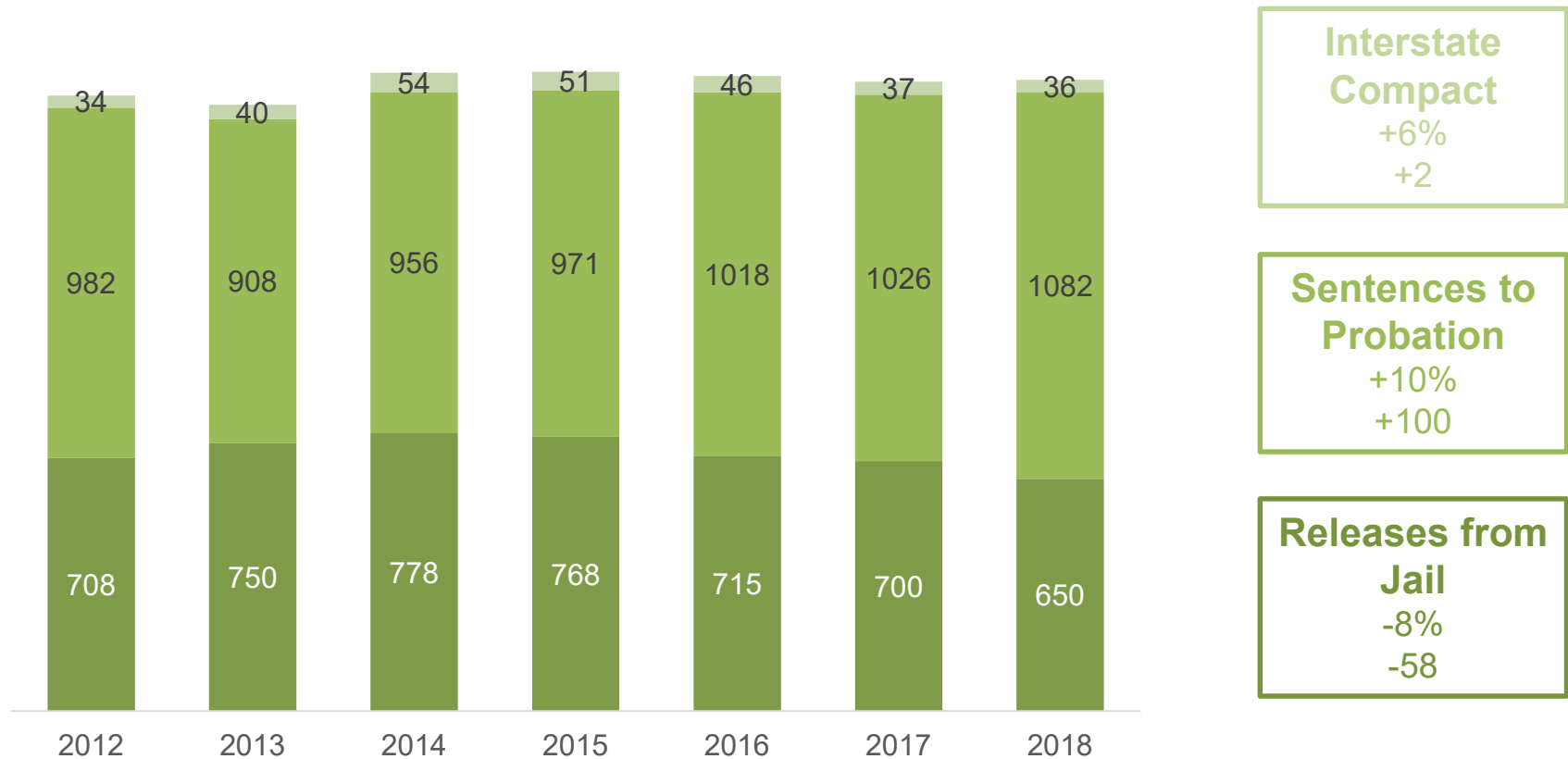
Felony Probation Term Lengths by Probation Admission Type, 2018



Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

Sentences to misdemeanor probation increased 10 percent between 2012 and 2018.

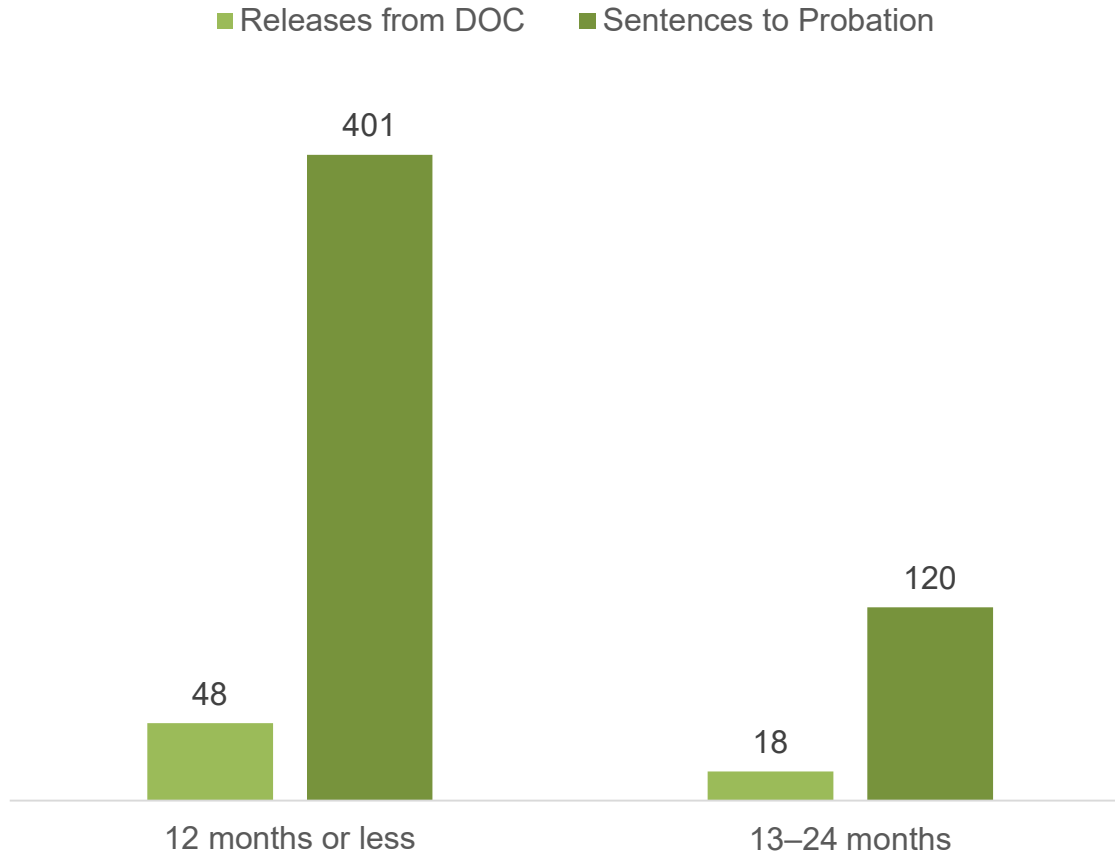
**Misdemeanor Probation Starts by Admission Type,
2012–2018**



Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

The overwhelming majority of misdemeanor probation starts are for sentences of less than one year.

Misdemeanor Probation Term Lengths by Probation Admission Type, 2018



In 2018...

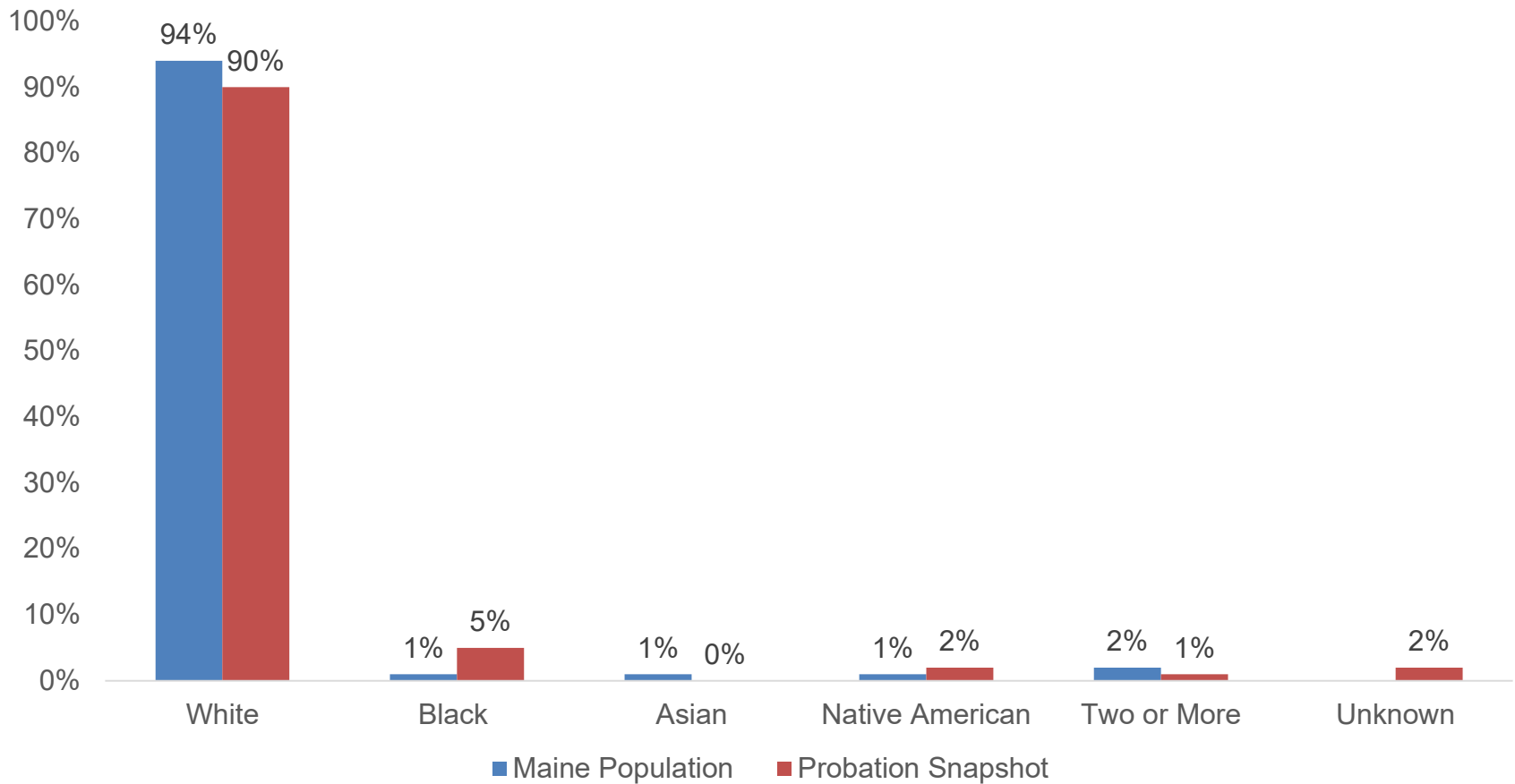
Of people sentenced to misdemeanor probation, **71%** had **12 months or less** to complete on supervision.

Of people released from jail onto misdemeanor probation, **23%** had **13 to 24 months** complete on supervision.

Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

Black and Native American people make up a smaller proportion of the state's probation population than they do of the prison population.

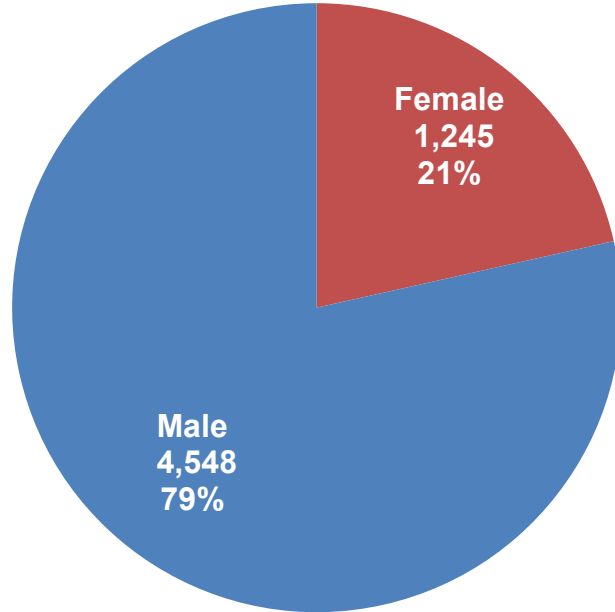
Felony and Misdemeanor Probation Snapshot by Race, 2018



Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008—2018. US Census Fact Finder 2017
<https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>

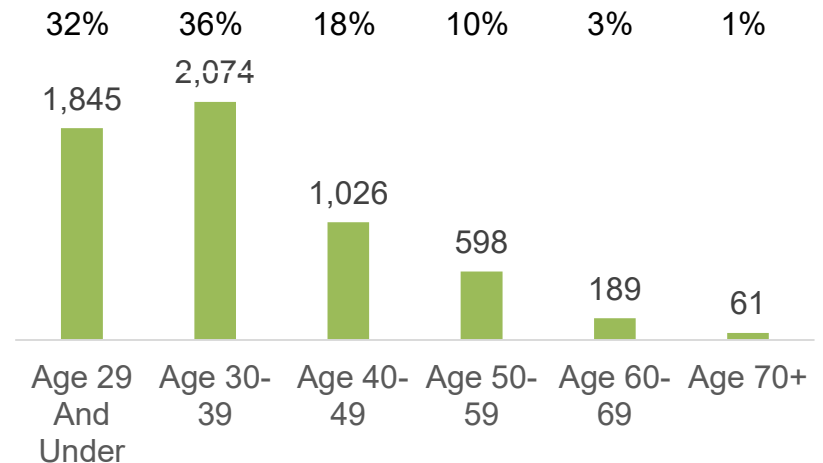
Maine's probation population has a larger proportion of women than the prison population.

**Snapshot Probation Population by Gender
on June 30, 2018**



Between 2012 and 2018, the female probation population increased 2% as the total probation population decreased 11%.

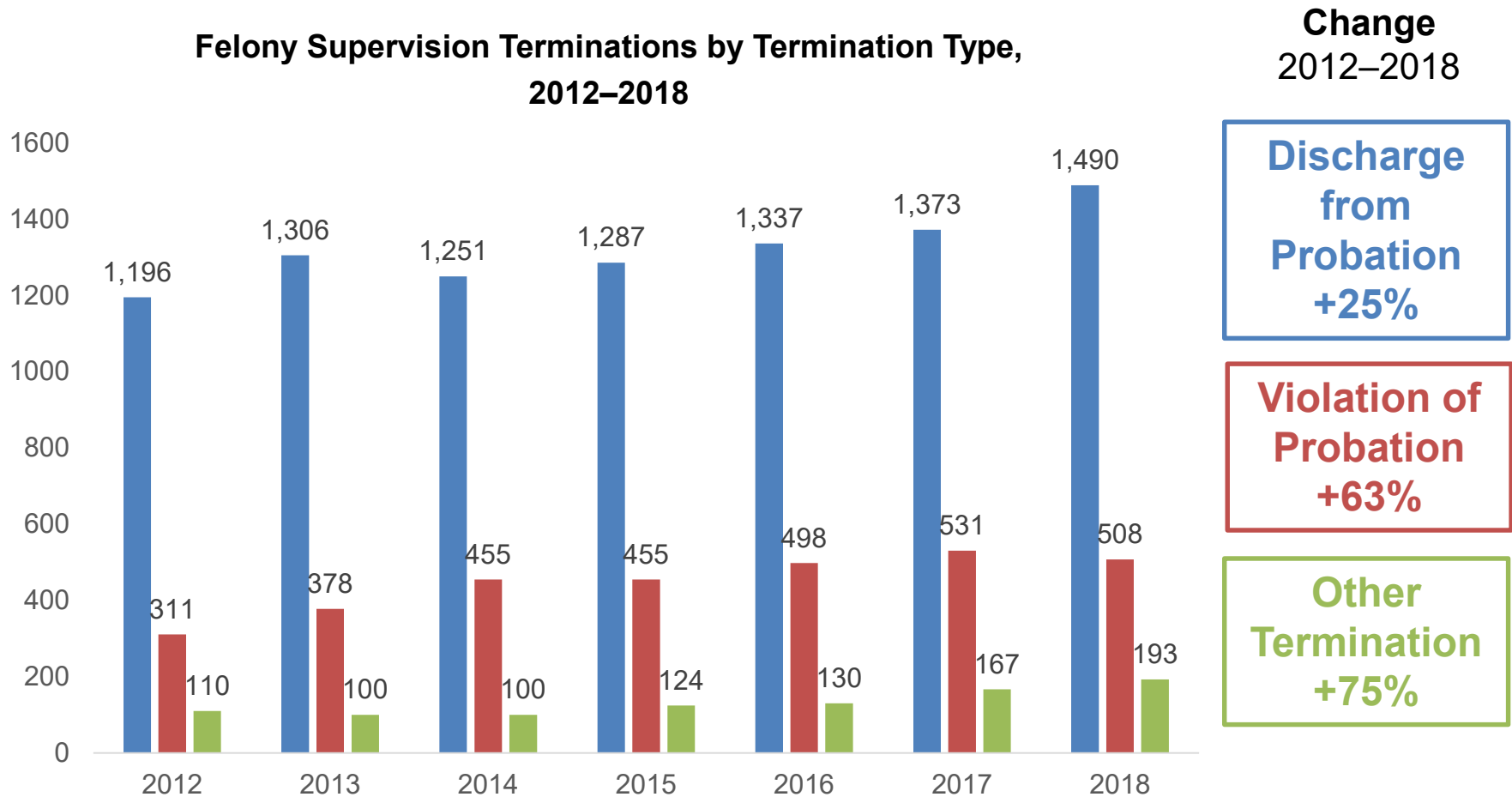
**Snapshot Probation Population by
Age on June 30, 2018**



**Average Age in the Probation
Population in 2018:**

Male Average: **36**
Female Average: **36**

Releases from felony probation increased 35 percent between 2012 and 2018.

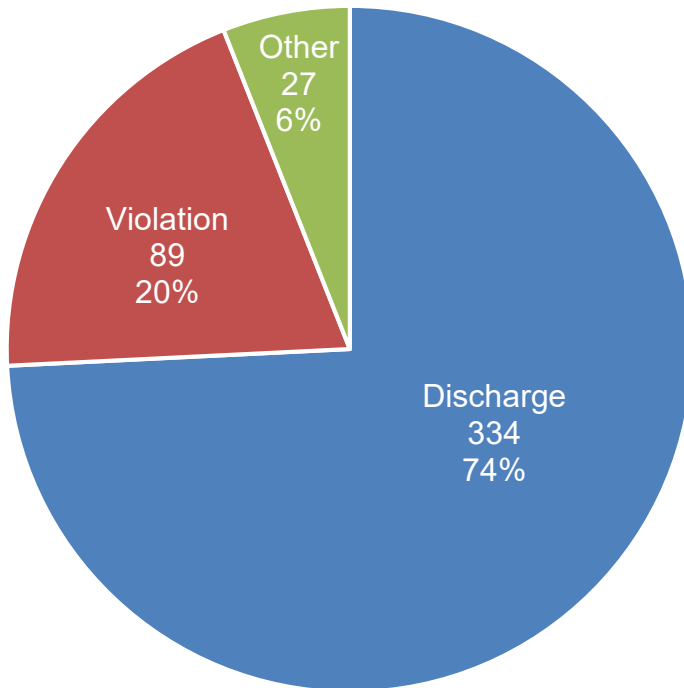


**Note: Releases coded as "Other" include federal detainees, interstate compact, and writ/court order.*

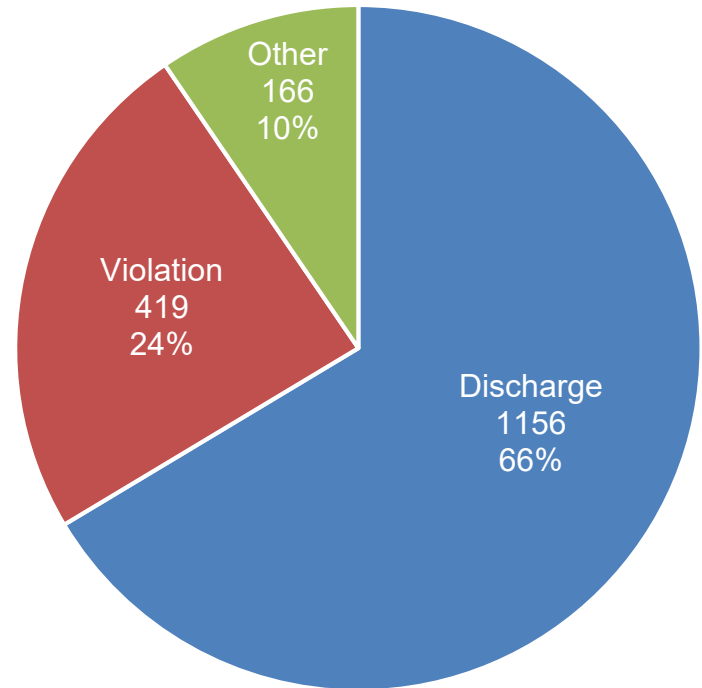
Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008–2018.

Although the overwhelming majority of felony probations end in discharge, for men, nearly a quarter of probations end because of a probation violation.

**Female Felony Probation
Terminations, 2018
N = 450**



**Male Felony Probation Terminations,
2018
N = 1,741**

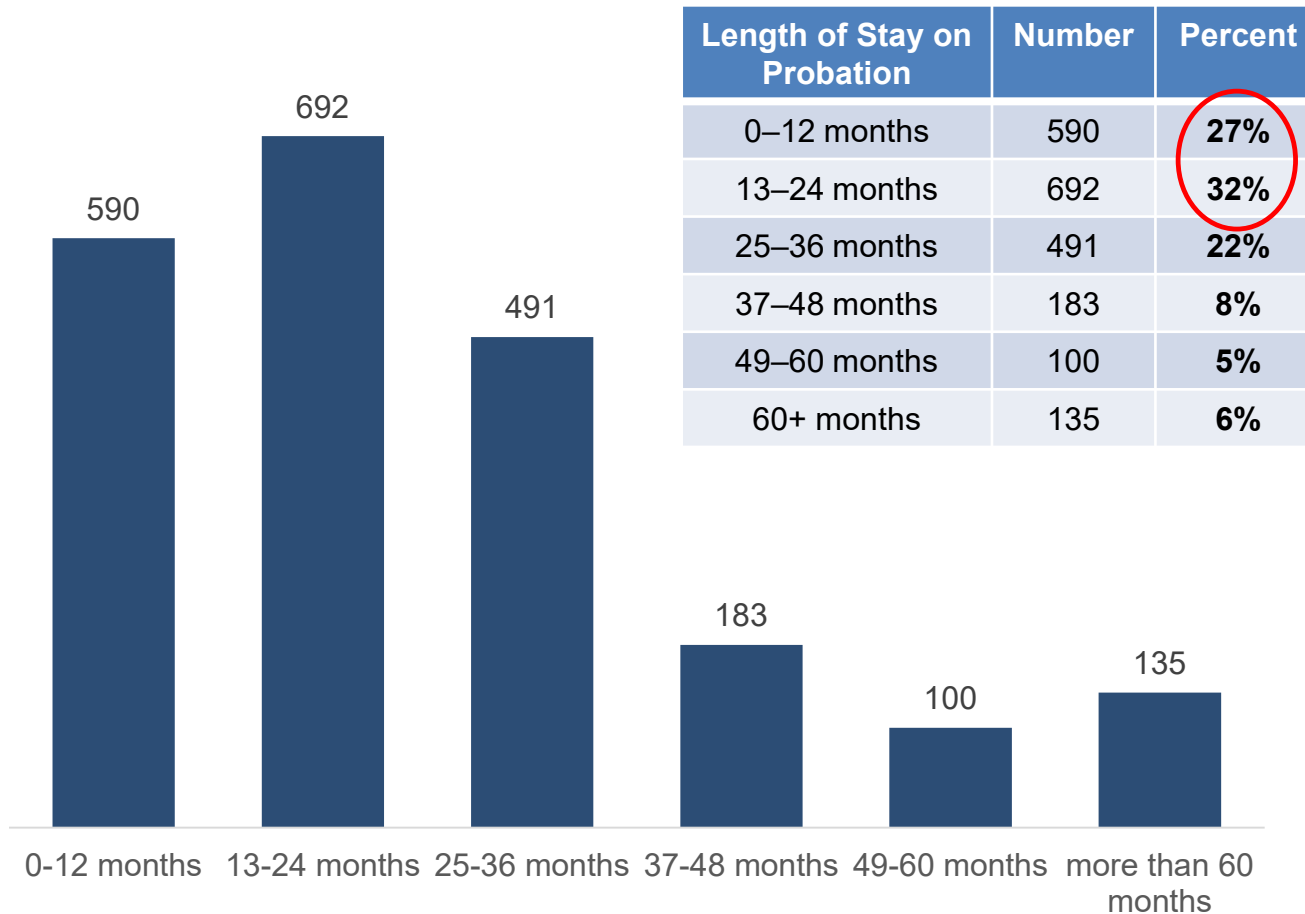


**Note: Releases coded as “Other” include federal detainees, interstate compact, and writ/court order. Violation details are missing or cannot be analyzed for 80 percent or more of probation violation terminations.*

Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008—2018.

In 2018, nearly 60 percent of probations were completed in two years or less.

Felony Probation Terminations by Length of Stay on Probation, 2018



Median LOS for
Discharges from
Probation:
24 months

Median LOS for
Violations of
Probation
Terminations:
14 months

Median LOS for
Other Terminations
from Probation:
19 months

**Note: Releases coded as "Other" include federal detainees, interstate compact, and writ/court order.*

Source: Data from Maine Department of Corrections, 2008—2018.

Key takeaways are about prison admissions, length of stay, gender, and race.

- Between 2012 and 2018, prison admissions increased 34 percent. Much of that growth can be attributed to an increase in new commitments to prison. During this period, admissions to prison of women for probation violations more than doubled while new sentences to prison for women increased 65 percent.
- About one-third of prison release events involve people who served less than nine months and one day in MDOC.
- Black people make up 1 percent of Maine's population, but constitute 11 percent of the state's prison population and 5 percent of the state's probation population.
- In 2018, women made up 10 percent of Maine's prison population and 21 percent of the state's probation population.
- The number of probation starts increased slightly between 2012 and 2018, due in part to a 13-percent increase in misdemeanor probation starts. Each year, at least two-thirds of probation starts are for felony offenses.

Key Overall Takeaways

- Maine sentencing disposition patterns, by offense class and conviction history, generally show an increased likelihood of going to prison as severity increases.
- White people sentenced to prison on a straight sentence had more prior convictions than people of other races.
- People receiving straight sentences to prison or jail for Class C felonies generally have more prior convictions than those receiving other sentencing dispositions.
- Between 2016 and 2019, 44 percent (337 total) of Class C sentences to prison were short (271 to 365 days), creating a challenge for correctional programming.
- Between FY2016 and FY2019, these short sentences to prison increased 21 percent, peaking in FY2018. During the same period, sentences of 1.1–2 years decreased 12 percent.
- Relatively short sentences of less than 60 days account for nearly 40 percent of felony jail split sentences. Time ordered for misdemeanor jail split sentences is 30 days or less in 73 percent of cases.
- Between 2012 and 2018, prison admissions increased 34 percent. Much of that growth can be attributed to an increase in new commitments to prison. During this period, admissions to prison of women for probation violations more than doubled while new sentences to prison for women increased 65 percent.
- About one-third of prison release events involve people who served less than nine months and one day in MDOC.
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Thank You

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