

UNDERSTANDING THE POPULATION OF PEOPLE WITH FREQUENT JAIL CONTACT

PENNINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA



Population: 113,775

Average Jail Population: 374

COUNTY SEAT: RAPID
CITY, SECOND MOST
POPULOUS CITY IN SOUTH
DAKOTA

RACIAL/ETHNIC DEMOGRAPHICS:

Asian

1%

Black

1%

Hispanic/Latine

6%

Indigenous

11%

White Non-Hispanic/Latine

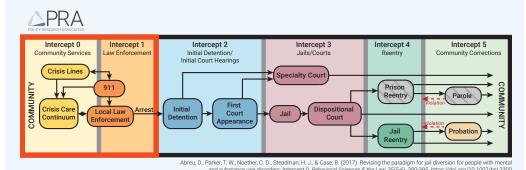
80%

0

100

Statistics according to 2020 census data.

Care Campus in Pennington County is run jointly by the county Sheriff's Office, county Health and Human Services Department, Behavior Management Systems, and the Rapid City Police Department. The Care Campus was designed as a system diversion tool to serve all people who encounter the criminal legal system, not just those who have frequent jail contact. However, many people held in jail end up receiving services at the Care Campus at some point, particularly those who cycle through the jail repeatedly. The Care Campus is a large facility housed near the jail that offers a range of services across Intercepts O and 1 of the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM).



"[I would] say a pretty significant portion of the individuals that [the court deals] with even on the misdemeanor level have some level of mental illness that we are not addressing, that we are not providing services for."

JAIL BOOKINGS BY THE NUMBERS

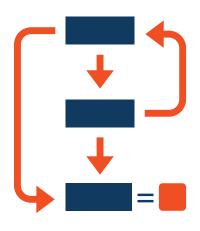
(MARCH 2013 TO APRIL 2021)

- ▶ 63,108 bookings
- ▶ 19,678 people booked
- ▶ **34** is the average age at time of booking (range 18 to 89)
- ▶ **69**% of bookings were men
- ▶ 61% of bookings were People of Color
- 4 is the median number of bookings among people booked more than once (project definition for "frequent jail contact")





"There's so many people who are willing to go to treatment, to get evaluated....to get counseling.... Obviously, that's very important but, having a safe place to go home to is, I think, the most important because you can get all the treatment in the world, but if you have nowhere to go, it's very difficult to stay sober."



KEY FINDINGS

Characteristics of People With Frequent Jail Contact

▶ People with frequent jail contact (i.e., 4 or more bookings during study period) represent almost two thirds of bookings

68%

but only about one quarter of people booked.



- ▶ People of Color were twice as likely to have frequent jail contact than white people.
- ▶ Indigenous people represented just over one half of jail bookings and almost two thirds of people with frequent jail contact.
- ▶ About 5 percent of people with frequent jail contact had an indicator for serious and persistent mental illness (SPMI) at booking.
- ▶ Odds of SPMI indicator at booking were four times greater among people with frequent jail contact than among people without frequent jail contact (3 or fewer bookings).
- ▶ Black people had the highest rates of SPMI indicators overall and among people with frequent jail contact, specifically.

Outcomes

- ▶ There were about 150 fewer jail bookings per month, on average, overall following the full opening of the Care Campus in July 2019.
- ▶ There were about 100 fewer jail bookings per month, on average, of people with frequent jail contact following the opening of Care Campus.
- ▶ There was no change in the proportion of bookings of people who had an indicator of SPMI at booking.
- Overrepresentation of Indigenous people among jail bookings remained following the opening of Care Campus.
- ▶ The average length of stay increased slightly following the opening of Care Campus.

"I think [people with frequent jail contact are] caught in alcohol or drug problems, houselessness, and mental health problems. So, our frequent utilizers are going to have a combination of all of those things."

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