

Nebraska Center for Justice Research

Trends in Adult Justice

2014



UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha

FROM THE DIRECTOR:

The Nebraska Center for Justice Research was established in 2014 with a mission to develop and sustain research capacity internal to the State of Nebraska. Our hope is to assist the Legislature in research, evaluation, and policymaking to reduce recidivism, promote the use of evidence-based practices, and improve public safety. The primary purpose of this report is to provide an overview of recent trends in Nebraska’s adult criminal justice system.

Most of the data in this report is presented statewide as well as separated into Nebraska’s twelve judicial districts. Nebraska’s two most metropolitan counties are represented by District 4 (Douglas County) and District 3 (Lancaster County). The classification of the remainder of the state’s 93 counties can be found in the table on page 5. Please contact NCJR for any questions regarding county-level estimates of the data included in this report.

This report represents trends for five years from 2008 to 2012. Although more recent data is available for some aspects of the criminal justice system, the most recent complete and comprehensive system-wide data was available for these years, which we adopt to maintain consistency and reliability.

The report is organized according to the stages of the process of the criminal justice system:

- Environmental context provides an overview of the population and demographic trends in Nebraska
- System context provides an overview of law enforcement employment
- Offenses provides an overview of crimes reported or known to the police and includes information on the percent of crimes cleared by arrest
- Arrests provides an overview of violent and property crime arrests by districts and compares arrests in Nebraska to neighboring states
- County court provides an overview of the distribution of the county court caseload by district
- District court provides an overview of the distribution of the district court caseload
- Corrections provides data on admissions and correctional populations by factors such as gender, age, race, and correctional institution

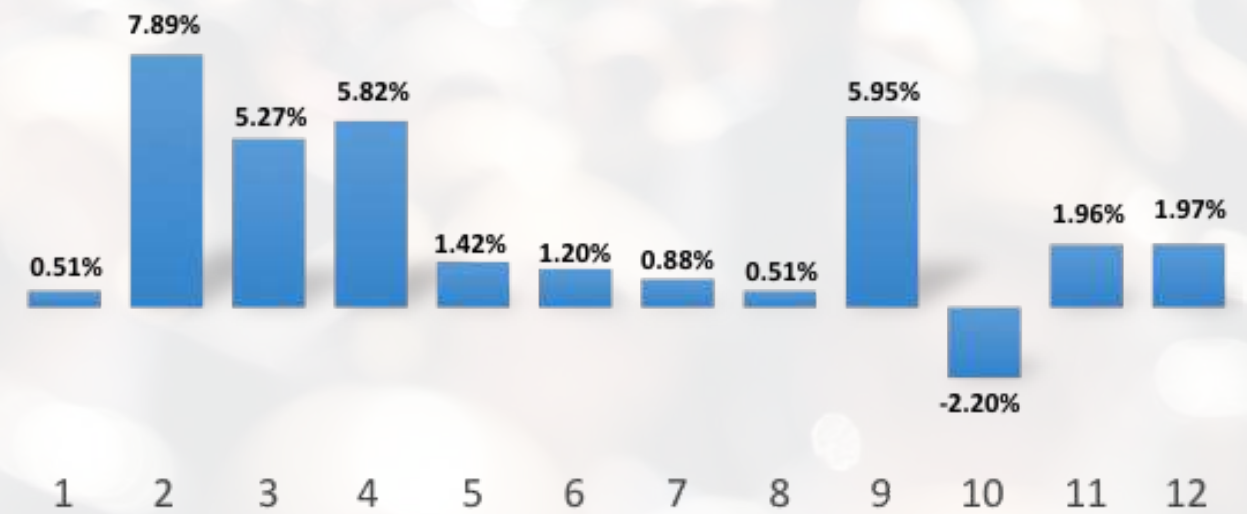
Our hope is that this report serves as a reference guide for providing a clearer understanding of recent trends in crime and criminal justice activities in the state of Nebraska. This report was made possible by the financial support provided to the Nebraska Center for Justice Research by LB 907. Our goal is to provide similar reports annually to track Nebraska’s crime and justice trends. Questions, suggestions, and comments should be directed to Dr. Ryan Spohn, Director, at rspohn@unomaha.edu. Thank you for your hard work in sustaining and improving criminal justice in Nebraska.

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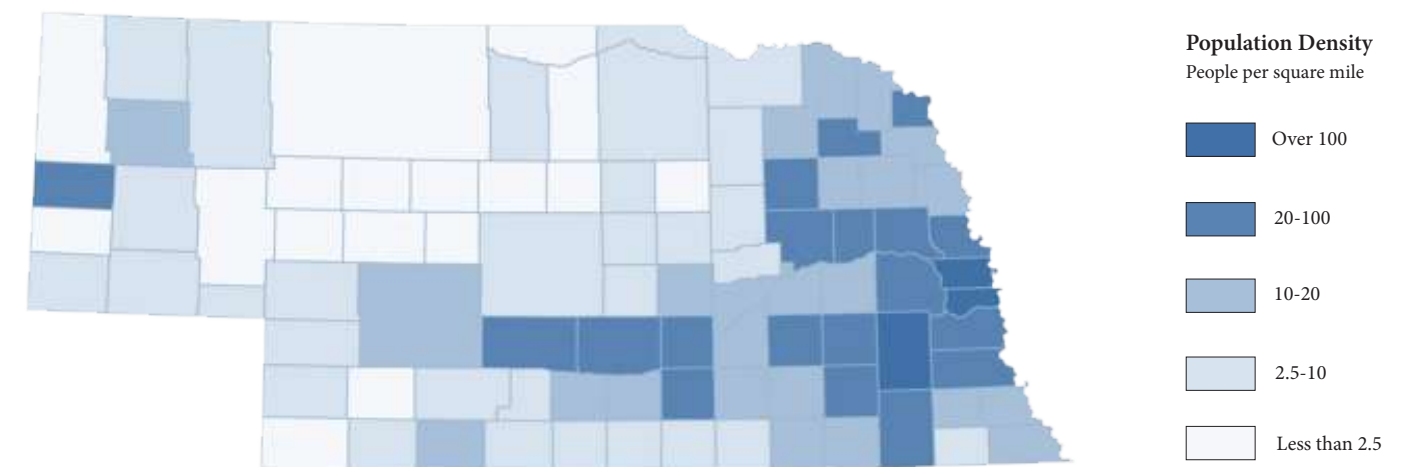
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ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

District Percent Population Change 2008-2012



Judicial District	Counties	Pop. Est. (2012)	% Non-White (2012)	% HS Grad or Higher (2012)	Median Household Income (2012)	% All Ages in Poverty (2012)	% Civilian Unemp. (2012)
1	Clay, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Thayer	89,023	8.57	89.98	\$42,897.00	12.77	3.37
2	Cass, Otoe, Sarpy	206,670	12.74	93.37	\$61,721.67	8.13	3.77
3	Lancaster	293,400	14.17	93.60	\$51,810.00	14.30	4.40
4	Douglas	531,208	26.56	89.88	\$53,295.00	14.00	4.90
5	Boone, Butler, Colfax, Hamilton, Merrick, Nance, Platt, Polk, Saunders, Seward, York	134,298	10.27	89.49	\$50,985.55	10.24	2.98
6	Burt, Cedar, Dakota, Dixon, Dodge, Thurston, Washington	106,029	19.14	86.45	\$48,069.29	12.80	3.86
7	Antelope, Cuming, Knox, Madison, Pierce, Stanton, Wayne	82,087	11.32	91.06	\$46,354.43	11.89	2.67
8	Blaine, Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Custer, Garfield, Greeley, Holt, Howard, Keya Paha, Loup, Rock, Sherman, Valley, Wheeler	54,204	3.70	92.40	\$41,476.00	12.97	1.21
9	Buffalo, Hall	107,794	20.65	87.56	\$49,175.50	13.60	3.35
10	Adams, Franklin, Harlan, Kearney, Phelps, Webster	57,488	8.04	91.77	\$46,325.00	11.15	2.28
11	Arthur, Chase, Dawson, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Gosper, Hayes, Hitchcock, Hooker, Keith, Lincoln, Logan, McPherson, Perkins, Red Willow, Thomas	105,021	14.43	91.77	\$45,877.12	10.15	2.21
12	Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes, Deuel, Garden, Grant, Kimball, Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan, Sioux	88,128	16.92	90.50	\$41,269.67	14.92	3.14
State of Nebraska		1,855,350	13.88	90.40	\$48,271.35	12.24	3.18



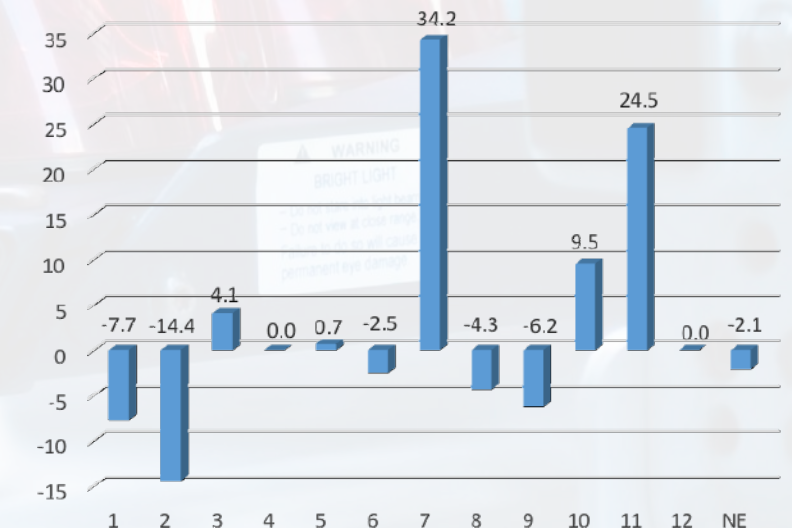
State population distribution image courtesy of Rand McNally & Co.

Estimates of the county populations drawn from the Annual Estimates of the Resident Population (2008-2012), United States Bureau of the Census

Demographic and Housing Estimates drawn from the 2008-2012 American Community Survey, United States Bureau of the Census

SYSTEM CONTEXT

Percent Increase/Decrease in Number of Officers per 1000 Population (2008-2012)



Judicial District	Full-Time Sworn Male Officers (2012)	Full-Time Sworn Female Officers (2012)	Full-Time Sworn Officers (2012)	Full-Time Civilian Male Employees (2012)	Full-Time Civilian Female Employees (2012)	Officers per 1000 Population (2008)	Officers per 1000 Population (2012)
1	121	7	128	7	15	1.56	1.44
2	314	17	331	38	19	1.87	1.60
3	396	55	451	68	88	1.48	1.54
4	799	153	952	57	113	1.79	1.79
5	195	5	200	8	25	1.48	1.49
6	161	6	167	14	19	1.62	1.58
7	121	1	122	8	16	1.11	1.49
8	68	4	72	0	3	1.39	1.33
9	171	8	179	9	17	1.77	1.66
10	99	7	106	2	17	1.68	1.84
11	187	5	192	21	29	2.00	2.49
12	156	7	163	11	21	1.85	1.85
Nebraska State Patrol	444	27	471	100	160	-	-
State of Nebraska	3232	302	3534	343	542	1.94	1.90

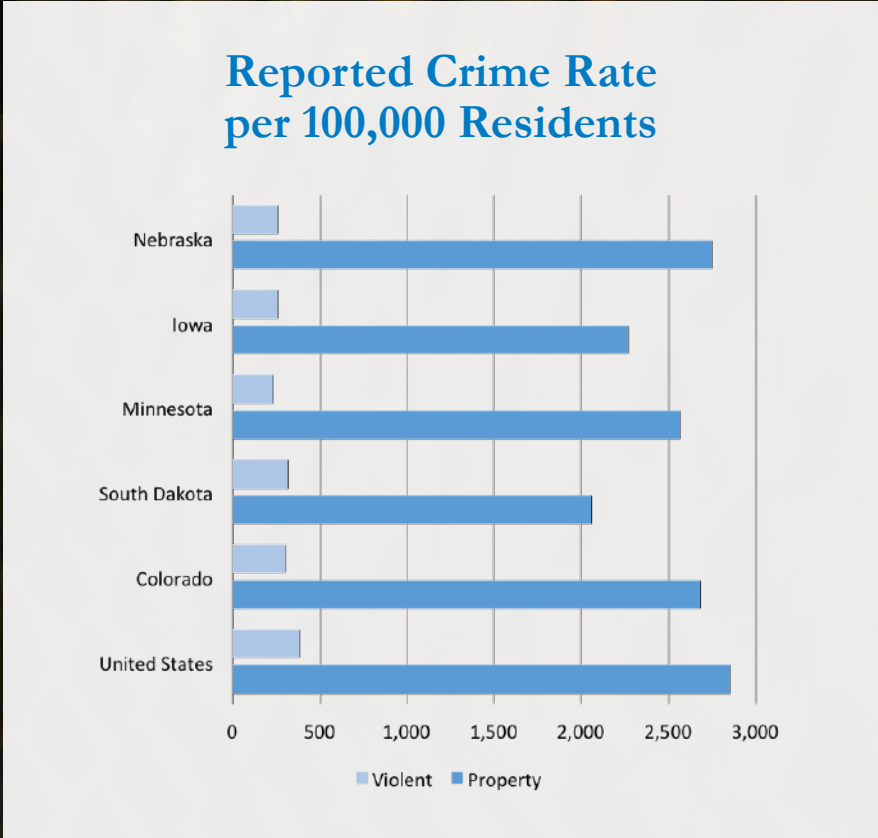
District	% Total Officers Female	% Total Officers Male
1	5.47	94.53
2	5.14	94.86
3	12.2	87.80
4	16.07	83.93
5	2.5	97.50
6	3.59	96.41
7	0.82	99.18
8	5.56	94.44
9	4.47	95.53
10	6.6	93.40
11	2.60	97.40
12	4.29	95.71
Nebraska State Patrol	5.73	94.27
State of Nebraska	8.55	91.45

Law enforcement numbers drawn from the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice—Law Enforcement Employment in Nebraska Series

Rates calculated using population estimates drawn from the Annual Estimates of the Resident Population (2008 & 2012), United States Bureau of the Census



OFFENSES



Reported Offenses

Judicial District	2008				2012				% Change 2008-2012	
	Violent Offenses	Violent Rate per 1000	Property Offenses	Property Rate per 1000	Violent Offenses	Violent Rate per 1000	Property Offenses	Property Rate per 1000	Violent Offenses	Property Offenses
1	115	1.30	1617	18.26	76	.85	1168	18.26	-33.91	-27.77
2	161	.84	3674	19.17	123	.60	3366	19.17	-23.60	-8.38
3	1308	4.69	10863	38.97	1082	3.69	10827	38.97	-17.28	-0.33
4	2827	5.63	20180	40.20	2596	4.89	20798	40.20	-8.17	3.06
5	100	.75	1670	12.60	59	.44	1607	12.60	-41.00	-3.77
6	116	1.11	1684	16.09	82	.77	1558	16.09	-29.31	-7.48
7	60	.74	1160	14.13	43	.52	1091	13.29	-28.33	-5.95
8	30	.56	285	5.29	28	.52	270	5.29	-6.67	-5.26
9	286	2.81	3492	34.32	220	2.04	3664	34.32	-23.08	4.93
10	69	1.17	1479	25.16	76	1.32	1463	25.16	10.14	-1.08
11	109	1.06	1605	15.28	126	1.20	2288	21.79	15.60	42.55
12	151	1.75	1898	21.96	75	.85	1327	21.96	-50.33	-30.08
NE	5332	2.92	49607	27.15	4586	2.51	49427	27.05	-13.99	-0.36

District	% Violent Offenses Cleared by Arrest	% Property Offenses Cleared by Arrest
1	61.30	23.13
2	36.87	15.23
3	49.26	23.58
4	50.65	22.80
5	71.00	12.48
6	58.26	24.59
7	72.38	16.38
8	80.63	18.12
9	73.62	29.95
10	51.55	13.59
11	73.17	25.57
12	76.35	16.69
NE	63.02	20.04

Note: Offense data are based upon crimes reported or known to law enforcement. In UCR, offense data are collected on eight crimes: Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Assault, Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson

Interstate comparison of offenses drawn from the Uniform Crime Report

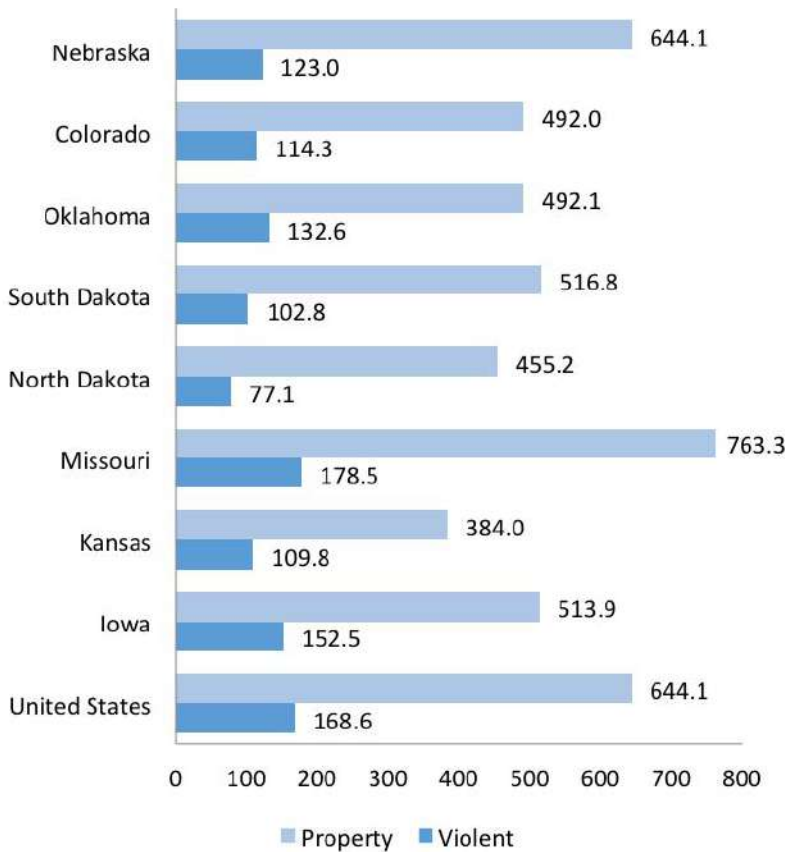
All other offense data drawn from the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice—Crime in Nebraska Series

Rates calculated using Demographic and Housing Estimates drawn from the 2008-2012 American Community Survey, United States Bureau of the Census

Offenses for which an arrest was made are considered offenses that have been cleared by arrests



Arrests per 100,000 Residents (2012)



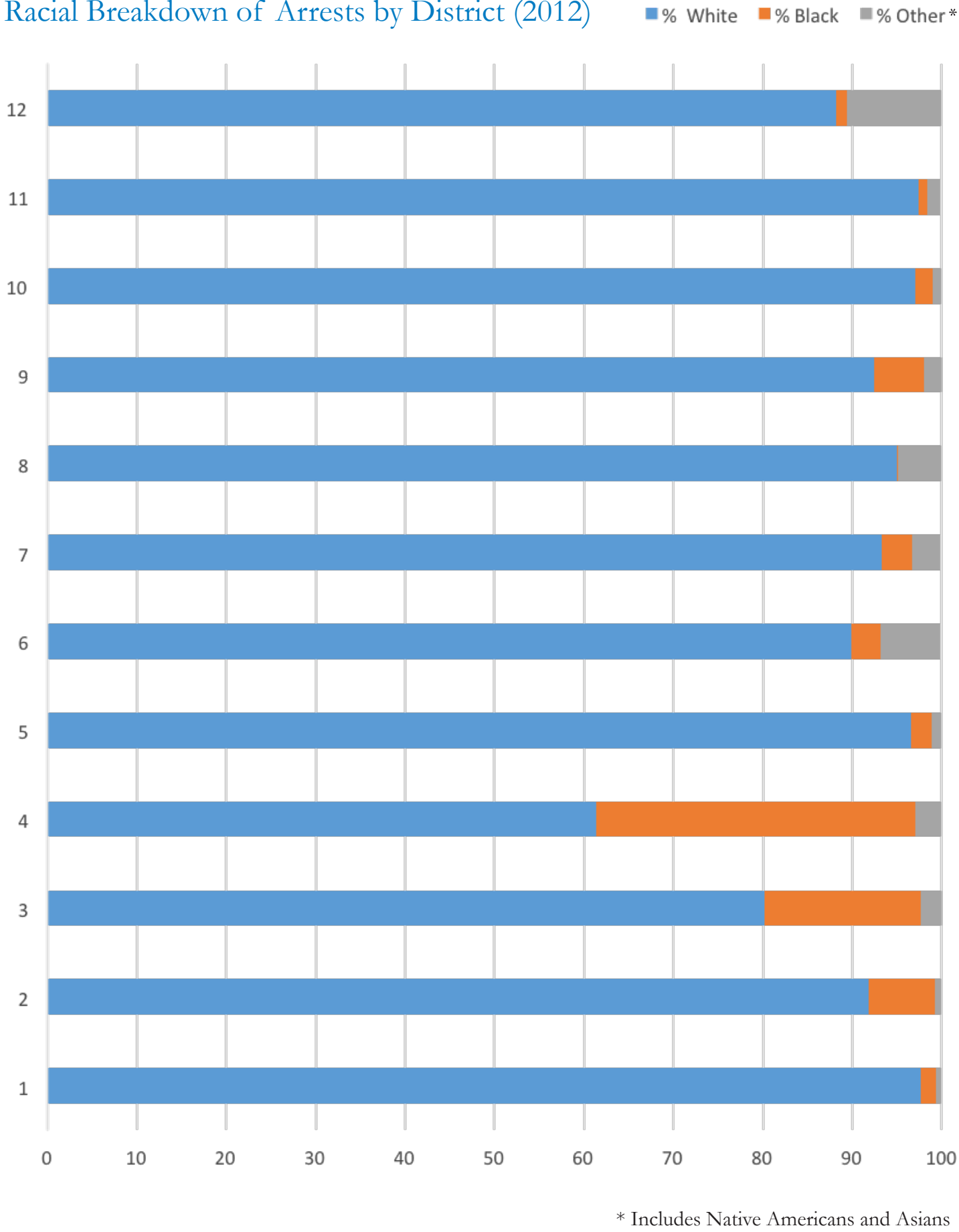
Adult Arrests

Judicial District	2008						2012					
	Violent Arrests	Violent Arrest Rate per 1000	Property Arrests	Property Arrest Rate per 1000	Total Arrests	Total Arrest Rate per 1000	Violent Arrests	Violent Arrest Rate per 1000	Property Arrests	Property Arrest Rate per 1000	Total Arrests	Total Arrest Rate per 1000
1	44	.50	153	1.73	2415	27.28	27	.30	170	1.91	1543	17.33
2	64	.33	495	2.58	4317	22.53	35	.17	465	2.25	3902	18.88
3	414	1.49	1053	3.78	18204	65.31	443	1.51	1729	5.89	14936	50.91
4	776	1.55	2694	5.37	25168	50.13	767	1.44	2870	5.40	21721	40.89
5	51	.38	157	1.18	3431	25.90	28	.21	214	1.59	2769	20.62
6	49	.47	232	2.22	2742	26.19	41	.39	350	3.30	2742	25.86
7	29	.60	190	2.34	2587	31.81	20	.24	252	3.06	2297	27.98
8	20	.37	32	.59	877	16.27	10	.18	48	.89	960	17.71
9	148	1.45	512	5.03	6271	61.63	376	3.49	840	7.79	6851	63.56
10	17	.29	126	2.14	1644	27.97	28	.49	183	3.18	1771	30.81
11	60	.58	169	1.64	3658	35.45	78	.74	390	3.71	4391	41.81
12	76	.88	337	3.90	4084	47.26	35	.40	317	3.60	2741	31.10
NE	1748	.96	6150	3.37	75398	41.26	1888	1.03	7828	4.28	66624	36.46

% Increase/Decrease in Arrests (2008-2012)

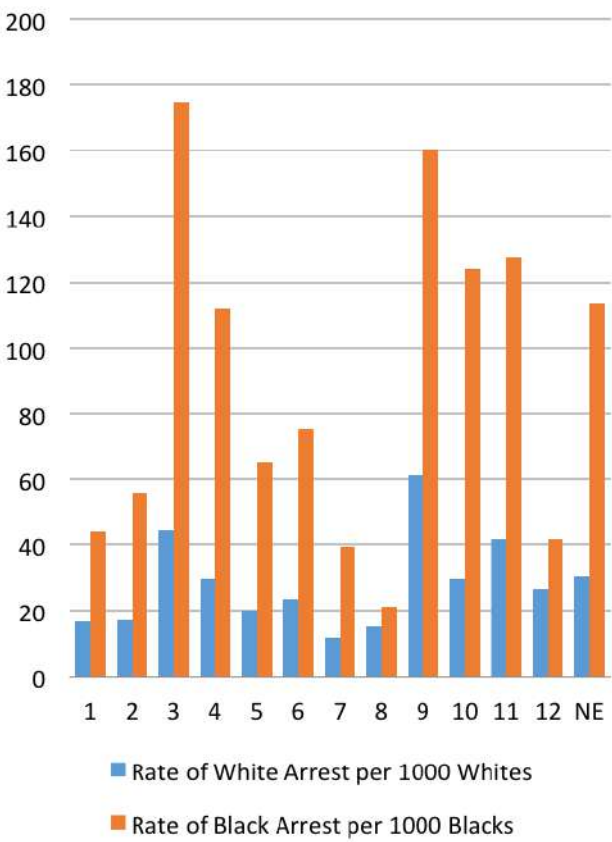
District	Violent Arrests	Property Arrests	Total Arrests
1	-38.64	11.11	-36.11
2	-45.31	-6.06	-9.61
3	7.00	64.20	-17.95
4	-1.16	6.53	-13.70
5	-45.10	36.31	-19.29
6	-16.33	50.86	0.00
7	-31.03	32.63	-11.21
8	-50.00	50.00	9.46
9	154.05	64.06	9.25
10	64.71	45.24	7.73
11	30.00	130.77	20.04
12	-53.95	-5.93	-32.88
NE	8.01	27.28	-11.64

Racial Breakdown of Arrests by District (2012)



Demographic Trends in Arrests (2012)

Judicial District	Total Arrests	Total Arrest Rate per 1000	Rate of Male Arrest per 1000 Male Adults (≥age 18)	Rate of Female Arrest per 1000 Female Adults (≥age 18)	Percent Arrests Under Age 18	Percent Arrests Age 18 to 24	Rate of 18 to 24 Arrest per 1000 Adults Age 18 to 24	Rate of White Arrest per 1000 Whites	Rate of Black Arrest per 1000 Blacks
1	1543	17.33	32.60	11.98	10.97	23.32	57.85	16.90	44.33
2	3902	18.88	39.89	14.66	20.22	22.84	56.20	17.11	55.85
3	14936	50.91	97.24	38.50	14.17	22.42	77.93	44.65	174.71
4	21721	40.89	84.71	30.30	14.16	18.41	76.19	29.91	111.65
5	2769	20.62	42.42	13.07	9.89	30.04	62.05	20.09	64.89
6	2742	25.86	51.44	19.01	15.06	25.07	85.72	23.62	75.37
7	2297	11.98	23.99	7.37	7.32	18.34	24.20	11.64	39.50
8	960	17.71	33.96	11.74	6.76	22.25	62.89	15.35	21.28
9	6851	63.56	127.94	48.96	15.91	23.47	121.34	61.25	160.67
10	1771	30.81	61.32	20.08	6.26	21.57	79.67	29.86	123.98
11	4391	43.82	85.65	31.70	11.58	27.09	126.70	41.70	127.61
12	2741	31.10	60.72	21.79	8.68	17.94	81.16	26.82	41.55
NE	66624	36.46	71.75	26.38	11.75	23.06	78.51	30.72	113.7



Note: An arrest is counted each time a person is taken into custody or issued a citation or summons. While an individual may be charged with multiple crimes at the time of arrest, only one arrest is counted. An arrest is counted for the most serious charge at the time of the arrest.

Interstate comparison of arrests drawn from the Uniform Crime Report

All other arrest data drawn from the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice—Crime in Nebraska Series

Rates calculated using Demographic and Housing Estimates drawn from the 2008-2012 American Community Survey, United States Bureau of the Census

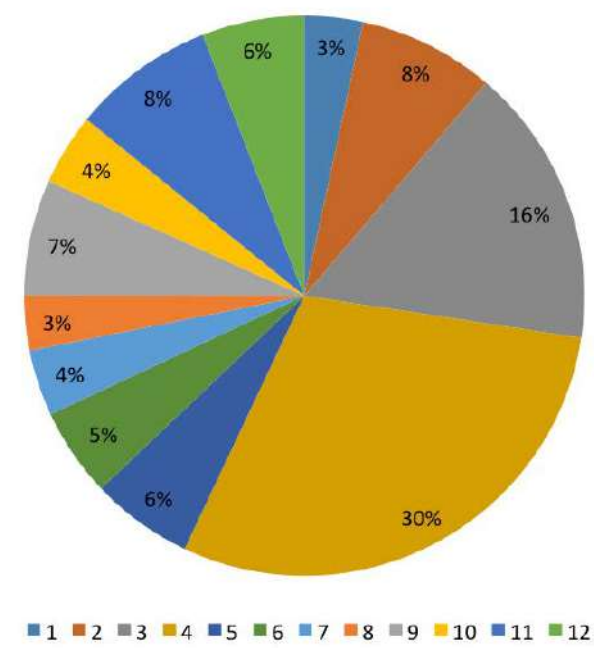




County Court Caseload (2012)

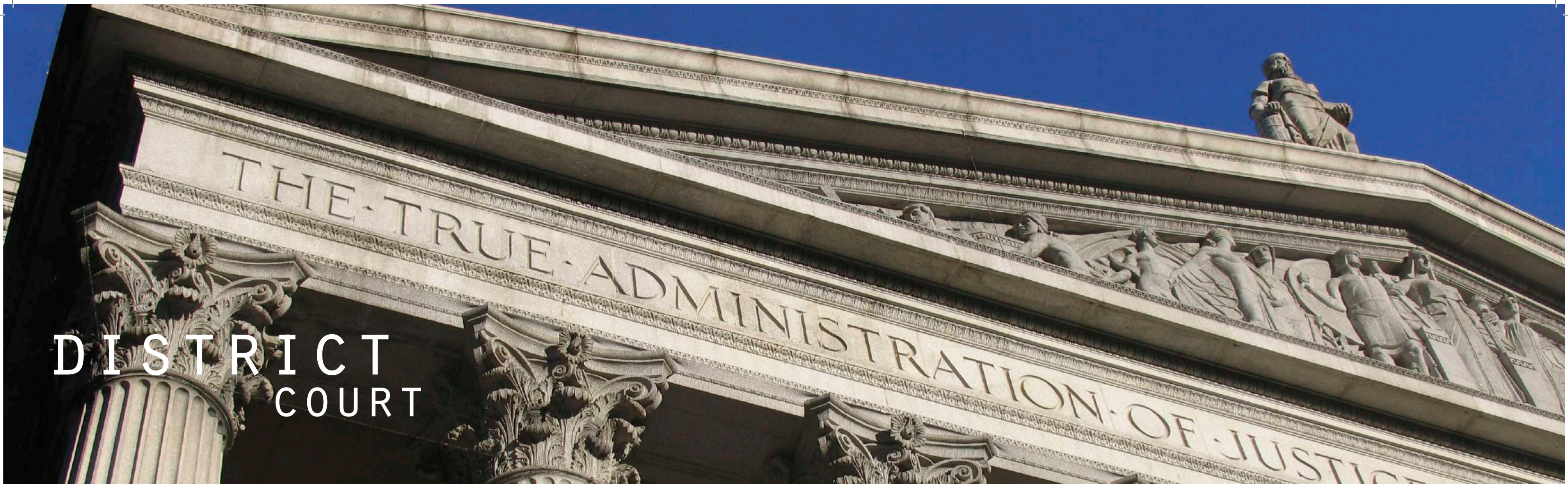
Judicial District	Number criminal cases	% of Criminal Caseload: Misdemeanors	% of Criminal Caseload: Felonies	Number civil cases	Total Caseload	% of Total Caseload: Criminal	% of Total Caseload: Civil	% of State County Court Caseload by District
1	2987	86.07	13.93	3064	12595	23.72	24.33	3.38
2	10933	90.92	9.08	7528	29326	37.28	25.67	7.87
3	21934	90.62	9.38	15121	60222	36.42	25.11	16.16
4	36386	88.32	11.68	27971	110397	32.96	25.34	29.62
5	5996	84.16	15.84	6091	21988	27.27	27.70	5.90
6	6336	87.12	12.88	4129	19088	33.19	21.63	5.12
7	3817	87.22	12.78	3210	14240	26.80	22.54	3.82
8	2649	88.71	11.29	2325	11740	22.56	19.80	3.15
9	7388	83.07	16.93	8418	24958	29.60	33.73	6.70
10	3673	86.44	13.56	4320	15377	23.89	28.09	4.13
11	7738	86.13	13.87	7005	30762	25.15	22.77	8.25
12	5898	88.34	11.66	5249	22011	26.80	23.85	5.91
NE	115735	88.1	11.9	94431	372704	31.05	25.34	100.00

% of State County Court Caseload by District



County courts primarily handle misdemeanor cases, traffic and municipal ordinance violations, preliminary hearings in felony cases, and civil cases involving \$52,000 or less (Nebraska Judicial Branch)

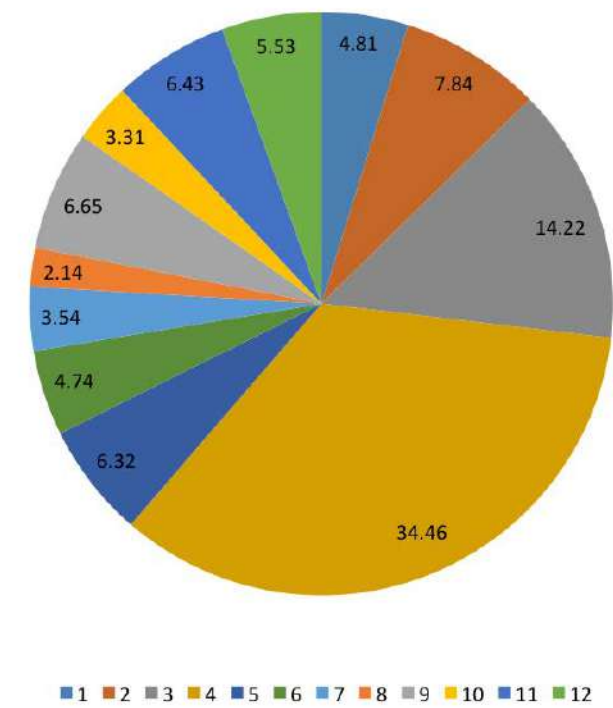
County Court caseloads drawn from the County Court Annual Caseload Report, Nebraska Judicial Branch



District Court Caseload (2012)

Judicial District	Number criminal cases	Number of Regular Civil Cases	Number of Domestic Relations Cases	Number of Appellate Cases	Total Caseload	% of Total Caseload: Criminal	% of Total Caseload: Civil	% of Total Caseload: Domestic Relations	% of Total Caseload: Appellate Action
1	299	341	1240	54	1934	15.46	17.63	64.12	2.79
2	658	441	2010	45	3152	20.88	13.99	63.77	1.43
3	1449	908	3279	79	5715	25.35	15.89	57.38	1.38
4	3671	2065	7937	174	13847	26.51	14.91	57.32	1.26
5	667	370	1462	40	2539	26.27	14.57	57.58	1.58
6	492	292	1104	15	1903	25.85	15.34	58.01	.79
7	414	190	801	19	1424	29.07	13.34	56.25	1.33
8	179	188	484	10	861	20.79	21.84	56.21	1.16
9	957	287	1408	21	2673	35.80	10.74	52.67	.79
10	272	239	790	31	1332	20.42	17.94	59.31	2.33
11	677	381	1502	25	2585	26.19	14.74	58.10	.97
12	460	508	1215	38	2221	20.71	22.87	54.71	1.71
NE	10195	6210	23232	551	40186	25.37	15.45	57.81	.01

% of State District Court Caseload

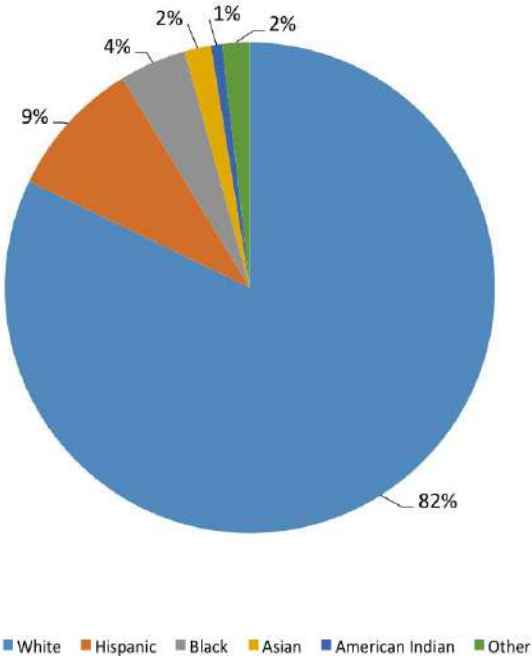


District courts hear all felony criminal cases, equity cases, and civil cases involving more than \$52,000. These courts also function as appellate courts in deciding appeals from county court (Nebraska Judicial Branch)

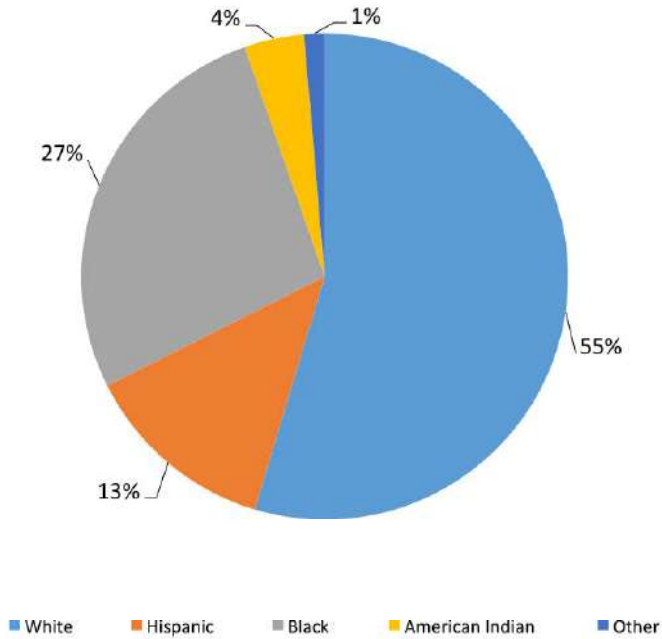
District Court caseloads drawn from the District Court Annual Caseload Report, Nebraska Judicial Branch



Racial Composition
of Nebraska



Racial Composition
of Inmate Population



Most Serious Offense of Male and Female New Admissions (2012)

Offense Category	Male Inmates		Female Inmates	
	Count	Percent (%)	Count	Percent (%)
Drugs	463	21.25	110	34.59
Assault	337	15.47	65	20.44
Motor Vehicle	271	12.44	42	13.21
Theft	257	11.79	33	10.38
Sex Offenses	195	8.95	29	9.12
Burglary	172	7.89	10	3.14
Weapons	124	5.69	8	2.52
Robbery	116	5.32	7	2.20
Other	88	4.04	4	1.26
Fraud	74	3.37	3	0.94
Homicide	30	1.38	2	0.63
Morals	27	1.24	2	0.63
Restraint	18	0.83	2	0.63
Arson	7	0.32	1	0.31
Total New Admissions	2179	100.00	318	100.00

Adult Inmate Population by Age Group and Gender (2012)

Age	Male Inmates		Female Inmates	
	Count	Percent (%)	Count	Percent (%)
17	3	0.07	0	0.00
18	13	0.31	0	0.00
19	46	1.10	2	0.54
20-24	653	15.63	51	13.78
25-29	705	16.87	78	21.08
30-34	633	15.15	60	16.22
35-39	516	12.35	54	14.59
40-44	451	10.79	42	11.35
45-49	400	9.57	40	10.81
50-54	328	7.85	31	8.38
55-59	212	5.07	9	2.43
60 and Over	219	5.24	3	0.81

Adult Inmate Population by Length of Stay and Gender (2012)

Month/Year	Male Inmates		Female Inmates	
	Count	Percent (%)	Count	Percent (%)
7-12 Months	691	16.54	116	31.35
13-18 Months	704	16.85	86	23.24
19-24 Months	446	10.67	46	12.43
25-30 Months	170	4.07	12	3.24
31-36 Months	414	9.91	29	7.84
37-42 Months	187	4.47	13	3.51
43-48 Months	147	3.52	7	1.89
49-54 Months	118	2.82	9	2.43
55-60 Months	107	2.56	7	1.89
5.01-6.00 Years	186	4.45	9	2.43
6.01-7.00 Years	160	3.83	10	2.70
7.01-8.00 Years	135	3.23	5	1.35
8.01-9.00 Years	114	2.73	3	0.81
9.01-10.00 Years	82	1.96	3	0.81
10.01-11.00 Years	57	1.36	1	0.27
11.01-12.00 Years	43	1.03	4	1.08
12.01-13.00 Years	42	1.01	0	0.00
13.01-14.00 Years	44	1.05	1	0.27
14.01-15.00 Years	28	0.67	2	0.54
15.01-16.00 Years	14	0.34	1	0.27
16.01-17.00 Years	25	0.60	0	0.00
17.01-18.00 Years	28	0.67	2	0.54
18.01-19.00 Years	25	0.60	1	0.27
19.01-20.00 Years	20	0.48	0	0.00
Over 20 Years	192	4.59	3	0.81

Adult Inmate Population by Commitment Region and Gender (2012)

Region	Male Inmates		Female Inmates	
	Count	Percent (%)	Count	Percent (%)
Metro Omaha	1732	41.65	121	32.70
Metro Lincoln	721	17.34	85	22.97
Southeast	352	8.47	34	9.19
Northeast	480	11.54	50	13.51
South Central	602	14.48	55	14.86
North Central	42	1.01	5	1.35
Panhandle	210	5.05	15	4.05
Out-of-State	19	0.46	5	1.35

Average Monthly Population and Capacity

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Average % Growth	Design Capacity (2012)	% Design Capacity (2012)
Facility								
Nebraska State Penitentiary	1141	1066	1108	1155	1226	1.93%	718	170.75%
Lincoln Correctional Center	472	475	486	490	491	0.99%	308	159.41%
Diagnostic & Evaluation Unit	334	302	358	375	440	7.76%	160	275.00%
Omaha Correctional Center	616	680	656	605	559	-2.12%	396	141.16%
Community Corrections	540	537	528	524	516	-1.12%	290	177.93%
Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility	85	98	91	90	74	-2.68%	68	108.82%
Nebraska Center for Women	294	273	265	281	265	-2.43%	275	96.36%
Tecumseh State Correctional Institution	906	948	925	943	936	0.85%	960	97.50%
Work Ethic Camp	79	103	126	166	168	21.3%	100	168.00%
Nebraska Corrections Total	4467	4482	4543	4629	4675	2.72%	3275	142.75%

Demographic and Housing Estimates drawn from the 2008-2012 American Community Survey, United States Bureau of the Census

Correctional information drawn from the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services’ Annual Report and Statistical Summary (2008-2012)



For more information on the content of
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