

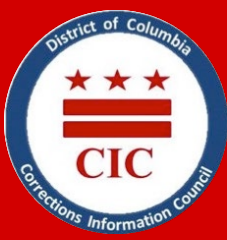
**District of Columbia  
Corrections Information Council**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2019**



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# Introduction

The **District of Columbia Corrections Information Council (CIC)** is an independent oversight agency that inspects, monitors, and reports on the conditions of confinement of DC residents at facilities operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), the DC Department of Corrections (DOC), or their private contractors. During fiscal year 2019, the CIC mandate included almost 4,050 inmates in over 120 BOP prisons and halfway houses across 35 states, as well as an average of over 1,800 inmates in DOC custody at local facilities.

Established by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, the CIC had board members first appointed in 2002 and again in 2006. The agency was reestablished in 2012 with a new board and its first operating budget. The CIC's mandate was expanded by legislation in 2003 and 2011, and in 2017, the board was expanded from three members to five. In 2019, the CIC was given the responsibility to report annually on the conditions of individuals who had been sentenced under the Youth Rehabilitation Act (YRA).

With the support of the Council and the Mayor, the CIC has grown to eight full time staff members, including an executive director, four program analysts, a communications specialist, and a clerical assistant. The restoration and growth of the CIC demonstrates the importance that the DC community places on the well-being of incarcerated DC residents and the need for objective reporting on the conditions of their confinement, whether locally or far from the District.



# Introduction

## (continued)

In fiscal year 2019, Executive Director Donald L. Isaac, Sr., took over leadership of the CIC after being appointed by Mayor Bowser on November 26, 2019, to replace outgoing Executive Director Michelle Bonner. Board member Nkechi Taifa was reappointed by the Council on November 13, 2018, to serve another two-year term, and the CIC also hired three program analysts and a communications specialist to bring the CIC up to a full staff complement. In June, the CIC moved to its new offices at 1400 I Street NW, Suite 400, which finally secures a location with adequate space for the growing size of the agency.

The CIC made onsite visits to six BOP prisons in fiscal year 2019, as well as visits to local facilities operated by the DOC to interview inmates and observe operations and other conditions. The CIC published nine facility inspection reports, including its annual report on the DOC, in addition to three thematic reports on outdoor recreation at DOC facilities, conditions for inmates who are eligible for the Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act (IRAA), and conditions for inmates who were sentenced under the YRA.

The CIC responded to hundreds of letters, emails, and phone calls from incarcerated individuals and their families, and the agency continued to expand its community outreach and social media presence. The CIC also continued its tradition of partnering with local agencies and organizations to send holiday postcards to every DC resident in the BOP.



# Board and Staff

**Charles Thornton** – Board Chair since 2016

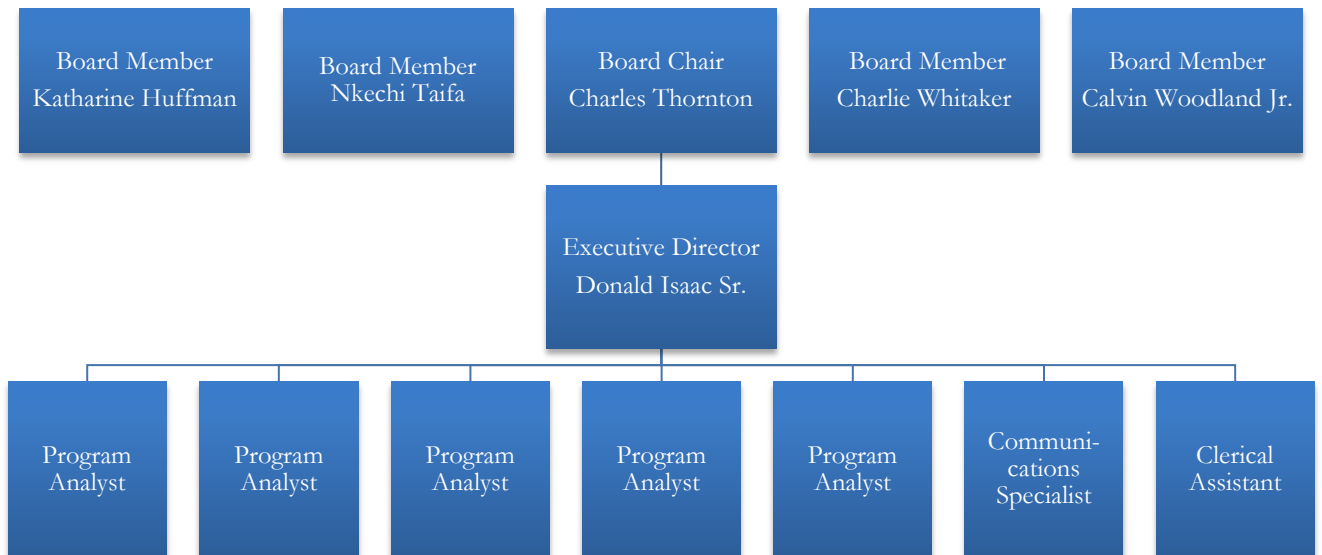
**Katharine Huffman** – Board Member since 2012

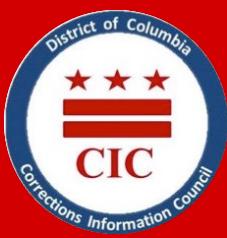
**Nkechi Taifa** – Board Member since 2018

**Charlie Whitaker** – Board Member since 2018

**Calvin Woodland Jr.** – Board Member since 2017

## Organizational Chart

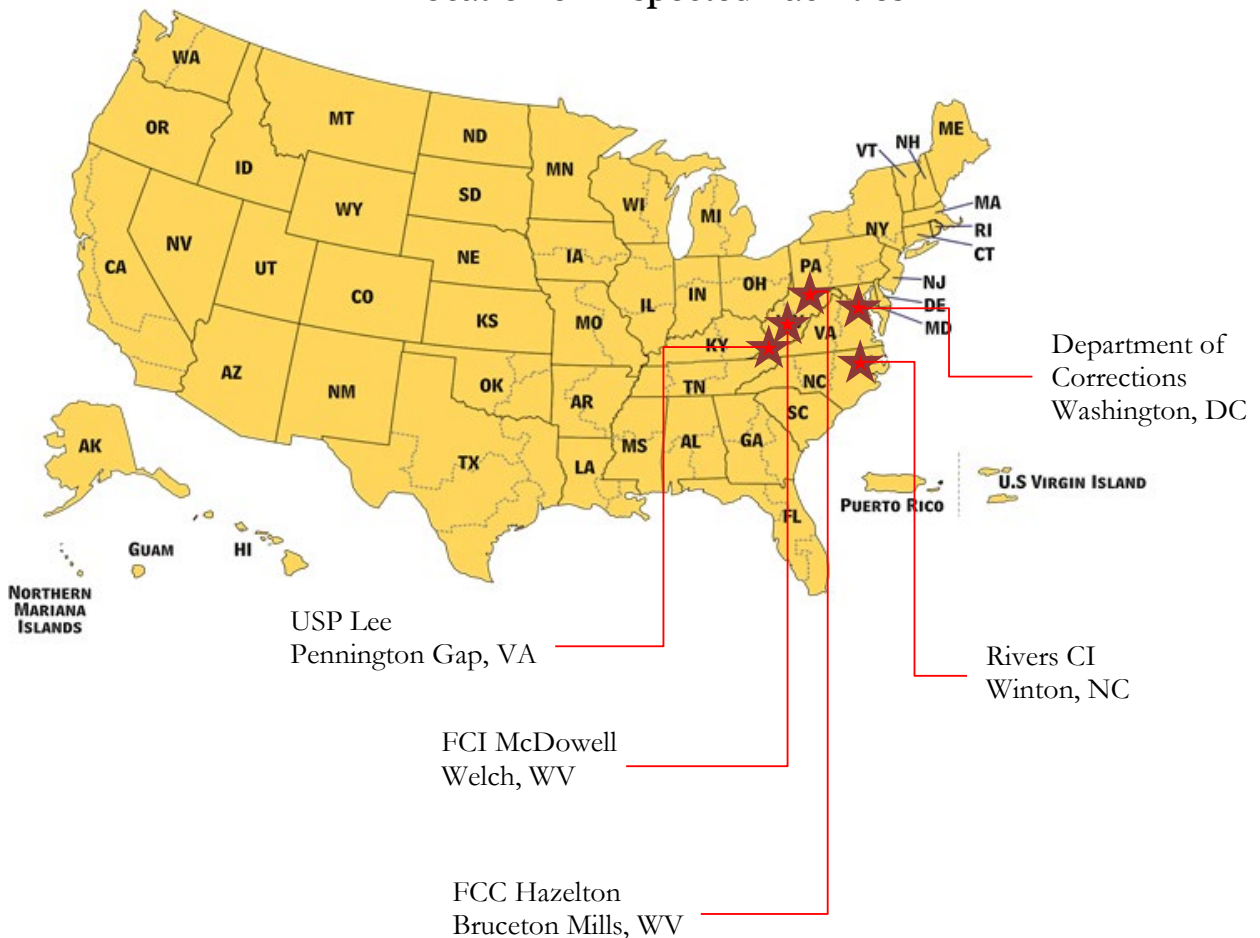




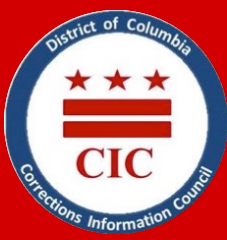
# Facility Inspections

In fiscal year 2019, the CIC conducted nine inspections, including six BOP prisons and the two local jails operated by the DOC — the Central Detention Facility (CDF, also known as the DC Jail) and the adjacent Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF). The CIC also regularly visits the CDF and CTF to interview inmates held in DOC custody.

## Location of Inspected Facilities



Federal Correctional Facility (FCC) Hazelton includes three prisons — a United States Penitentiary (USP), a Federal Correctional Institution (FCI), and a Secure Female Facility (SFF). USP Hazleton was inspected twice in fiscal year 2019.



# Inspected Facilities

## **USP Lee**

High security prison for men operated by the BOP. Located in Pennington Gap, Virginia, approximately 535 miles from DC. Inspected on October 16-17, 2018. DC population was 113 men.

## **FCI McDowell**

Medium security prison for men operated by the BOP. Located in Welch, West Virginia, approximately 356 miles from DC. Inspected on December 13-14, 2018. DC population was 117 men.

## **DC Central Detention Facility**

Mixed security jail facility for men operated by the DOC. Located in Southeast Washington, DC. Inspected on February 25-26, 2019. Population was 1,260 men.

## **DC Correctional Treatment Facility**

Mixed security jail facility for men and women operated by the DOC. Located in Southeast Washington, DC. Inspected on February 25-26, 2019. Population was 366 men and 90 women.

## **Rivers Correctional Institute**

Private prison for men operated by the GEO Group, Inc. under a contract with the BOP. Located in Winton, North Carolina, approximately 246 miles from DC. Inspected on July 9-10, 2019. DC population was 286 men.

## **USP Hazelton**

High security prison for men operated by the BOP. Located in Bruceton Mills, West Virginia, approximately 204 miles from DC. Inspected on October 3, 2018. DC population was 191 men. Inspected on August 14-15, 2019. DC population was 172 men.

## **SFF Hazelton**

Low security prison for women operated by the BOP. Located in Bruceton Mills, West Virginia, approximately 204 miles from DC. Inspected on August 14-15, 2019. DC population was 29 women.

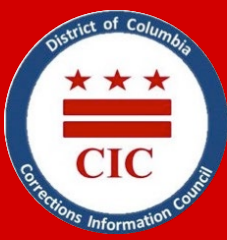
## **FCI Hazelton**

Medium security prison for men operated by the BOP. Located in Bruceton Mills, West Virginia, approximately 204 miles from DC. Inspected on August 14-15, 2019. DC population was 192 men.

# Department of Corrections

## Observations & Publications





# DOC Facilities

The DC Department of Corrections (DOC) operates two primary jail facilities — the Central Detention Facility (CDF, also known as the DC Jail) and the Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF) — in addition to the Central Cell Block holding cells. The DOC also contracts for beds at two local halfway houses — Hope Village and the Fairview.

## **Central Detention Facility**

The CDF, also known as the DC Jail, is located in Southeast DC. The facility was opened in 1976 and has a capacity of 2,164 inmates. The facility houses only male inmates, and most are awaiting trial or were convicted of a misdemeanor offense. At the end of fiscal year 2019, the population was 1,275 men.

## **Correctional Treatment Facility**

The CTF is located adjacent to the CDF in Southeast DC. The facility was opened in 1992 and has a capacity of 1,400 inmates. The facility houses male and female inmates, and similar to the CDF, most are awaiting trial or were convicted of a misdemeanor offense. Unlike the CDF, the CTF can only house individuals designated as low to medium security. At the end of fiscal year 2019, the population was 436 men and 108 women.

## **Central Cell Block holding cells**

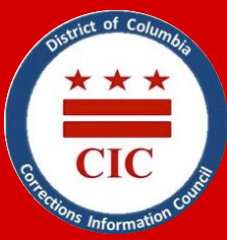
The Central Cell Block is located in Judiciary Square at the Henry J. Daly Building on Indiana Avenue in Northwest DC. The building is primarily occupied by the Metropolitan Police Department, and the Central Cell Block holding cells are in the basement. The Central Cell Block provides access to the nearby DC Superior Court, and holds individuals temporarily who are awaiting a court hearing, including individuals who are arrested and held overnight.

## **Hope Village**

Hope Village is a privately-operated halfway house located in Southeast DC for male residents. It is the only halfway house in the District for men, and it has contracts with both the DOC and the BOP to provide beds for returning citizens as they prepare for their release transition. At the end of fiscal year 2019, the population was 26 men under DOC custody.

## **The Fairview**

The Fairview is a privately-operated halfway house located in Northeast DC for female residents. It is the only halfway house in the District for women, and it has contracts with both the DOC and the BOP to provide beds for returning citizens for their release transition. At the end of fiscal year 2019, the population was three women under DOC custody.



# DOC Publications

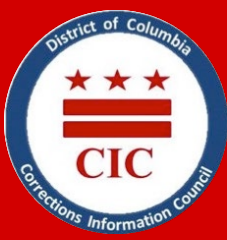
The CIC published its 2018 annual report on the DOC on May 21, 2019. The CIC also published a report on inmates in DOC custody who were eligible for the Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act (IRAA) on February 7, 2019, and a letter to the DOC about outdoor recreation on April 18, 2019.

## **DOC 2018 Annual Inspection Report – Published May 21, 2019**

The CDF (also known as the DC Jail) and the CTF are adjacent jail facilities operated by the DOC and located in Southeast DC. These facilities primarily house individual who are awaiting trial or who have been convicted of misdemeanor offenses by the DC Superior Court.

The CIC inspected the DOC facilities on September 20, 2018, and September 26, 2018. The CDF population was 1,348 inmates out of a 2,164 facility capacity, and the CTF population was 685 inmates out of a 1,400 capacity. The average daily population between the facilities was 1,849 men and 155 women, and all female inmates are held at the CTF. The average sentence for female inmates was 44 days, while the average sentence for male inmates was 79 days. Juveniles charged as adults in DOC custody were moved prior to the CIC visit to the New Beginnings Youth Development Center operated by the Department of Youth Rehabilitative Services (DYRS).

During the inspection, the CIC heard concerns about various aspects of the conditions at DOC facilities, including housing, safety, education, medical services, religious services, food, visitation, mail and other forms of communication, disciplinary procedures, the grievance process, and access to legal assistance. The DOC had worked to address several issues, including maintenance to addressing sewage flooding on housing units and increased education and programming opportunities at the CTF. The CIC recommended that these opportunities be expanded to the CDF population, which still lacked adequate programming. The CIC also made recommendations that the DOC address the heating and air conditioning temperature problems and provide adequate cleaning supplies on units, ensure case managers are available on a daily basis, clearly communicate disciplinary procedures and decisions, and respond to grievances promptly, among others.



# DOC Publications

## (continued)

### **DOC Outdoor Recreation Letter – Published April 18, 2019**

The CIC received numerous complaints about a lack of adequate recreation at DOC facilities in early 2019, and visited the CDF and CTF on February 25-26, 2019. Inmates at the CTF usually receive one hour of recreational time out of their unit each day, such as in the indoor gym or the outdoor recreational yard. According to staff, outdoor recreation at the CTF was suspended from November 2018 through February 2019 because the yard did not have proper drainage and therefore would remain flooded. Staff also noted that staff shortages limit the availability of outdoor recreation. At the CDF, outdoor recreation occurs on a concrete yard for most inmates or in chain-link cages for inmates who are separated from the general population. The CDF does not have an indoor gym. Most individuals at the CDF were able to access recreation several times a week, although this was also limited by weather and staff shortages.

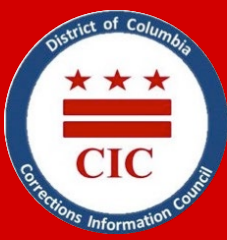
### **IRAA Inmates in DOC Custody Report – Published February 7, 2019**

In 2016, the Council passed the Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act (IRAA), which allowed individuals to request a sentence reduction if they were convicted in DC Superior Court for crimes committed before they turned 18 years old and they had served at least 20 years of their original sentence. Between June and August 2018, the CIC interviewed inmates who were awaiting hearings for sentence reductions under IRAA. In December 2018, 23 individuals were at local DOC facilities for an IRAA hearing, including 16 people at the CDF and seven at the CTF, and they had served an average of 23.3 years. The CIC heard concerns about safety and the lack of programming at the CDF, and the CIC recommended that the DOC transfer inmates eligible for IRAA to the CTF. In response to the CIC report, the DOC noted that individuals designated with higher security levels would not be able to be housed at the CTF because it is a low to medium security facility.

In May 2019, the IRAA statute was amended to reduce the minimum time served to 15 years before eligible to request a sentence reduction. Additional individuals have applied for a reduction under the “IRAA 2.0” and been released after having their sentence reduced. The Council also introduced legislation in February 2019 to further amend the IRAA statute to increase the eligibility to anyone who served 15 years and was under 25 years old at the time the crime was committed. This “IRAA 3.0” bill had a public hearing on March 26, 2019, and was still awaiting Council consideration.

# Federal Bureau of Prisons

Observations &  
Publications



# BOP Security Levels

The BOP classifies facilities according to five designated security levels – minimum, low, medium, high, and administrative. Security levels are based on the physical features and staffing levels of the institutions. At lower security levels, inmates have less restricted movements and greater access to programming and reentry services.

The name of a BOP facility generally reflects its designated security level.

- Federal Prison Camps (FPCs) are minimum security facilities.
- Federal Correctional Institutions (FCIs) are generally low or medium security.
- United States Penitentiaries (USPs) are generally high security. They often have adjacent minimum security satellite camps that provide inmate labor to the main institution.
- Secure Female Facility (SFF) in Hazelton, West Virginia, is a low security facility for women, which is included as part of the FCI Hazelton institution.
- Federal Correctional Complexes (FCCs) refer to locations where several facilities are located in close proximity to each other, which often share resources and staffing.

Administrative facilities are institutions with special missions, such as pretrial detention or medical treatment. They are generally able to house inmates of any security level.

- Federal Medical Centers (FMCs) and the Medical Center for Federal Prisons (MCFP) are medical facilities that provide treatment for serious or chronic medical problems.
- Federal Detention Centers (FDCs), Metropolitan Detention Centers (MDCs), and Metropolitan Correctional Centers (MCCs) are administrative detention facilities that primarily house individuals who are awaiting trial.
- The Federal Transit Center (FTC) in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is a transit center located near an airport to provide a central hub for the transportation of inmates across the country.
- Administrative Maximum Security Penitentiary (ADX) in Florence, Colorado, and the Administrative United States Penitentiary (AUSP) in Thomson, Illinois, are the highest security level facilities in the BOP, where inmates are generally confined to their cells for 23 to 24 hours per day.



# BOP Population

At the end of fiscal year 2019, 4,049 DC residents were incarcerated in over 120 BOP prisons and halfway houses across 35 states, including 3,927 men and 122 women. Out of these individuals, 265 men and 43 women were classified as in-transit status.

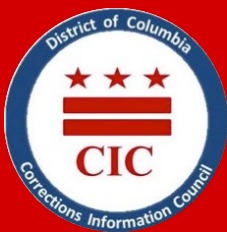
Excluding halfway houses, women from DC were housed at ten different BOP prisons, and men were housed at 100 prisons, with four prisons housing both men and women.

The average distance for a DC resident in a federal prison was 596 driving miles from DC. For women, the average distance was 736 miles, and 593 miles on average for men. In total, 2,247 individuals (63%) were within a 500-mile driving range of DC, including 39 women (57%). The remaining 1,294 men and 30 women were up to 2,921 miles away.

The number of DC residents housed at each type of facility is provided in the table below, excluding the 200 individuals who were at halfway houses. The designated security level of individual inmates may differ from the facility where they are housed.

## DC Population by Facility Type

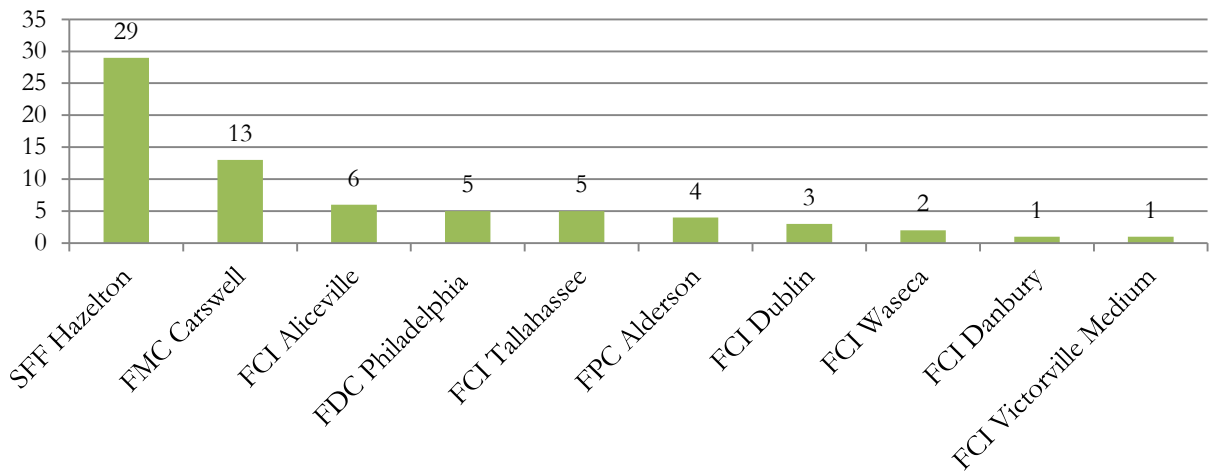
	Minimum	Low	Medium	High	Max	Private	Medical	Other
Men	0	341	1,428	1,185	104	227	96	91
Women	4	46	1	0	0	0	13	5
Total	4	358	1,458	1,185	104	227	109	96



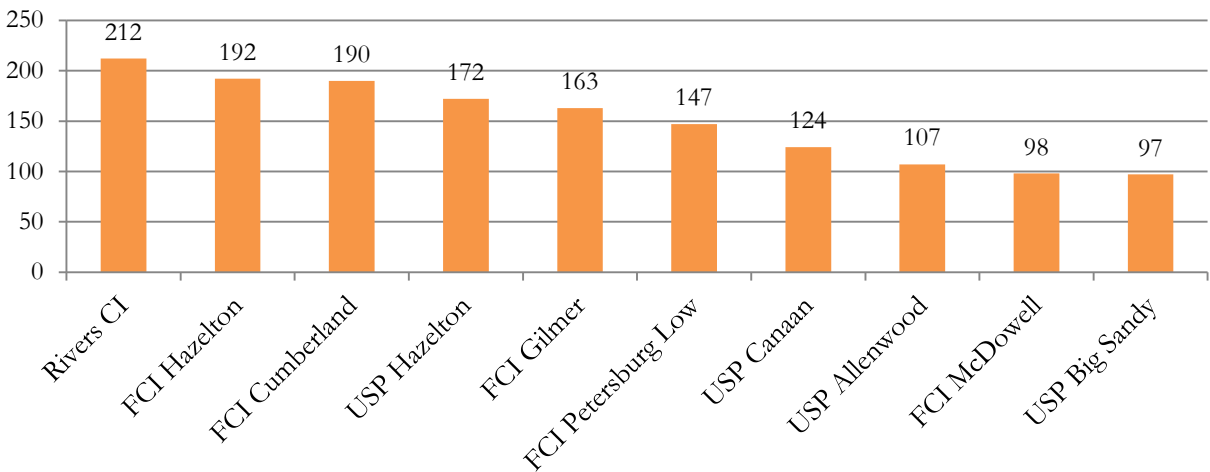
# BOP Population (continued)

All ten female prisons and the ten male prisons with the largest DC populations are provided in the charts below. The charts do not include individuals who were designated as in-transit status.

## Female Facility Populations



## Largest Male Facility Populations





# BOP Publications

In fiscal year 2019, the CIC published eight inspection reports on BOP facilities, including six prisons and two halfway houses. The CIC also decided not to publish six reports from inspections conducted between February and October 2015 due to the outdated nature of the information. Halfway house reports are covered in the next section.

## **USP Hazelton Letter to BOP – Published October 22, 2018**

United States Penitentiary (USP) Hazelton is a high security prison located in Bruceton Mills, West Virginia, approximately 200 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an onsite inspection of the facility on October 3, 2018, after the deaths of two DC inmates in separate stabbing incidents. One inmate was killed in April 2018 and the other in September 2018. The CIC interviewed 58 inmates from DC, including 12 who were in the Special Housing Unit. Many interviewees expressed concerns about the violence at the facility, with a quarter saying that physical attacks were a daily occurrence. The facility was also frequently put on lockdowns status, where inmates are confined to their cells all day long and are unable to participate in programming or recreation.

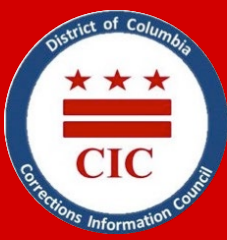
## **ADX Florence Inspection Report – Published October 31, 2018**

USP Florence ADMAX (also known as ADX Florence) is an administrative maximum security prison located in Florence, Colorado, approximately 1,700 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an onsite inspection of the facility on April 26-27, 2017. At the time of the inspection, 427 inmates were housed at the facility, including 35 individuals from DC. DC inmates are disproportionately housed at ADX Florence, representing 8.2% of the facility population compared to 2.5% of the total population in the BOP. As the most secure prison in the BOP, inmates are held in solitary confinement and generally stay in their cells all day, except for one hour each weekday for recreation. Several DC inmates housed at the facility had mental health issues that were not being treated, and many who were interviewed expressed concerns about the psychological and physical harm caused by the restrictive environment.

## **USP Atwater Inspection Report – Published February 19, 2019**

USP Atwater is a high security prison located in Atwater, California, approximately 2,860 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an onsite inspection of the facility on April 11-12, 2018. At the time, the facility had a total population of 1,280 inmates, including 30 individuals from DC. In the year prior to the inspection, the facility was frequently put on lockdown status, which prevented inmates from participating in programming. Inmates also expressed that the lockdowns, combined with the distance from DC and other restrictions on communications, significantly limited their ability to maintain contact with the families and loved ones.





# BOP Publications

## (continued)

### **FCI McKean Inspection Report – Published July 11, 2019**

Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) McKean is a medium security prison located in Lewis Run, Pennsylvania, approximately 220 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an onsite inspection of the facility on July 20, 2017. At the time, the facility had a total population of 932 inmates, including 33 individuals from DC. Over two-thirds of DC inmates who were interviewed said that they were treated worse than other inmates by staff because of their DC status, and many inmates were also dissatisfied with the quality of dental services in the medical department. FCI McKean was developing a promising practice of hosting “Family Day” events every four weeks, where children may visit their parent for a full day.

### **USP Pollock Inspection Report – Published July 11, 2019**

USP Pollock is a high security prison located in Pollock, Louisiana, approximately 1,160 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an onsite inspection on December 14-15, 2017. At the time, the facility housed 907 inmates, including 48 individuals from DC. During the inspection, the facility was on lockdown status, which meant that inmates were not allowed out of their cells, and documents indicated that the facility had been put on lockdown 16 times in the prior 12 months period. Many inmates expressed concerns with the frequent lockdowns and the lack of available programming at the facility beyond GED classes.

### **USP Lee Inspection Report – Published September 6, 2019**

USP Lee is a high security prison located in Pennington Gap, Virginia, approximately 430 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an onsite inspection of the facility on October 16-17, 2018, after previously visiting the facility in October 2015. In 2018, the facility had an average daily population of 1,371 inmates, including 113 individuals from DC in August. DC inmates who were interviewed expressed concerns about the frequent lockdowns at the facility that had a negative effect on programming, communication, and hygiene. Many interviewees also expressed concerns about a culture of violence and staff encouragement of violence between inmates. Several housing units also had plumbing issues that caused sewage to flood the cells, and inmates stated that they were not given proper cleaning materials and protection.

### **Unpublished Reports**

The CIC developed a backlog of reports during its first years of operation due to chronic understaffing. In fiscal year 2019, the CIC decided not to publish six reports that were based on inspections conducted between February and October 2015. These reports were: FCC Beaumont, FCC Coleman, FDC Philadelphia, FCI Fort Dix, FCI Gilmer, and USP McCreary.

# Halfway Houses

Observations &  
Publications



# RRC Overview

Halfway houses, also known as residential reentry centers (RRCs), are transitional housing programs that prepare individuals for release. They are intended to provide community-based services and work release components in a supportive and structured environment for several months to allow for successful transitions back into the community. Most halfway houses are operated by private organizations through contracts with correctional agencies.

The DOC contracts with two halfway houses — Hope Village and the Fairview. The BOP contracts with numerous halfway houses throughout the country, and most individuals returning to DC in BOP custody are designated to Hope Village, the Fairview, VoA Chesapeake, or the Montgomery County Pre-Release Center (PRC).

Hope Village and the Montgomery County PRC house only male residents, while the Fairview is only for female residents. VoA Chesapeake houses both men and women.



# RRC Publications

In fiscal year 2019, the CIC published two reports on halfway houses that serve DC residents.

## **VoA Chesapeake RRC Inspection Report – Published October 25, 2018**

Volunteers of America (VoA) Chesapeake is a halfway house located in Baltimore, Maryland, approximately 50 miles from DC, which houses both male and female residents who are approaching their release date. The CIC conducted an onsite inspection of the facility on September 19, 2017. At that time, the facility had 148 residents, including 26 individuals from DC. Many of the residents said they did not have adequate access to DC services and expressed that they had difficulty getting to the District due to transportation issues caused by the distance and staff. Placement at a halfway house is an important step for returning citizens to connect with local services and begin their transition back into the community.

## **The Fairview RRC Inspection Report – Published July 22, 2019**

The Fairview is a halfway house located in Northeast DC, which houses female residents who are approaching their release date. The CIC conducted an onsite inspection on May 3, 2018. At the time, the facility had a capacity of 60 residents and was housing 20 residents, including 15 from the BOP, one from the DOC, and four who were on home confinement. Most residents were employed, and they expressed that they were generally satisfied with their experiences with staff at the Fairview. The most prominent issue for many interviewees was finding housing for themselves after their release.

# Youth Rehabilitation Act

Observations &  
Publications



# Youth Rehabilitation Act

In 2019, the Council mandated the CIC to report annually on conditions of confinement for individuals sentenced under the Youth Rehabilitation Act (YRA). In preparing the first annual report, the CIC reviewed the several statutory sources, including the Federal Youth Corrections Act, the Youth Rehabilitation Act of 1985, and the Youth Rehabilitation Act of 2018. In addition, the CIC interviewed DC residents housed within the BOP as well as facility staff program coordinators. The CIC also consulted with the BOP Correctional Programs Division and reviewed the 2017 report prepared by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), *The District's Youth Rehabilitation Act: An Analysis*.

As of March 2019, there were 246 YRA individuals in BOP custody, with the majority housed in medium security prisons and over one quarter in high security prisons. Although the YRA authorizes the BOP to provide developmentally appropriate services for youth offenders, these services are not mandated by statute. The CIC found that the BOP does not offer any specialized programming for the YRA population. The BOP program designed for younger individuals — the Bureau Rehabilitation and Values Enhancement (BRAVE) program — is not designed for rehabilitation but instead is meant to help adjust to life inside prison. The DOC also does not provide programming specifically designed for YRA individuals, and instead individuals have access to the standard available programming.

The CIC recommends that the YRA population in the BOP be designated to two facilities where they could get programs and services that are tailored specifically for YRA individuals. The CIC also recommends that the BOP assess the impact of the programming on the YRA population. Finally, the CIC recommends that the Mayor publicly identify the programs and services that should be available to YRA individuals who are in the custody of the BOP or DOC.

# Events & Community Outreach



# Community Engagement

## **Monthly newsletters**

The CIC produces a monthly newsletter to keep the community informed of the agency's operations as well as relevant news and updates on the incarcerated DC population. Since August 2019, the newsletter has expanded with a "Women's Corner" section highlighting conditions for incarcerated women from DC, a "Book of the Month" section featuring a book that a staff member is reading or recently completed, and a section for upcoming community events.

## **Social media initiatives**

In fiscal year 2019, the CIC increased its social media presence by creating an Instagram page. This gives the agency an additional platform to promote events, meetings, and relevant news. The CIC continues to use Twitter and Facebook to increase engagement. In addition, the CIC website now has a tab for news updates, which highlights local and national news that affects the DC incarcerated population and their families.

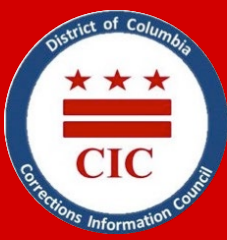
## **Holiday postcards**

Each year during the winter holiday season, the CIC sends out postcards to DC residents in BOP facilities. The CIC continued its annual tradition of hosting events with community partners to fill out and sign the postcards. This year, the design for the postcard was changed and included a message that read, "Keep Going." We broadened the scope of the project by collaborating with new community partners, such as the Spice Suite, Martha's Table, and Represent Justice. We also worked with the DOC on a new initiative to hand deliver postcards to a portion of the DC inmates at the CTF. We hope to expand these efforts to the CDF next year.

## **Open board meetings in fiscal year 2019**

The CIC held five board meetings that were open to the public in fiscal year 2019. The meetings provide an opportunity for members of the public to learn about the agency's operations and findings regarding the conditions of confinement. Topics discussed at meetings included recent and upcoming inspections, community engagement, and reporting practices. The meetings were held on December 6, 2018, and January 3, February 21, April 18, and July 25, 2019. The July 25<sup>th</sup> meeting did not have a quorum of three board members, and so no official business was conducted.





# Community Engagement (continued)

## **CSOSA Community Resource Day videoconferencing**

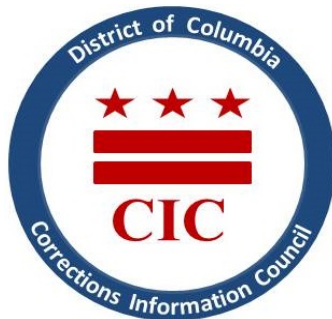
The Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency of Washington, DC (CSOSA) provides a quarterly Community Resource Day for DC residents in BOP custody who are within 90 days of release. Through videoconferencing, CSOSA staff and representatives from other organizations provide information on housing, healthcare, employment, education, and other resources in the DC area. The CIC regularly attends the videoconferencing event to inform DC returning citizens about the opportunity to speak with the CIC about their experiences.

## **District Task Force on Jails and Justice**

The District Task Force on Jails and Justice was established by the District in 2019 as an independent advisory body to provide recommendations on how the District should allocate governmental resources for the justice system, what services and investments are most effective, and how to build a new jail facility that addresses community needs. After receiving input from hundreds of residents and community members, the Task Force issued its Phase I report in October 2019. The Task Force is led by Council for Court Excellence (CCE), which is joined by its partners, the Vera Institute of Justice and the National Reentry Network of Returning Citizens. Executive Director Donald Isaac is an advisor to the Task Force.

## **American Correctional Association conference**

Executive Director Donald Isaac attended the American Correctional Association's 149<sup>th</sup> Congress of Correction conference in August 2019. The ACA is a nonprofit trade association that was formed in 1870 and serves as the accrediting body for most correctional departments in the country, including the BOP and the DC DOC. The conference addressed a broad range of topics, including the issue of mental health in our correctional systems. Throughout the country, suicide is the leading cause of death in prisons and jails, often exacerbated by underlying psychiatric disorders, and most inmates who have mental illnesses are not provided treatment while incarcerated. The CIC will be looking into these issues further in the upcoming fiscal year.



**Corrections Information Council**

**1400 I Street, NW**

**Suite 400**

**Washington, DC 20005**

**202-478-9211**

**[www.cic.dc.gov](http://www.cic.dc.gov)**