

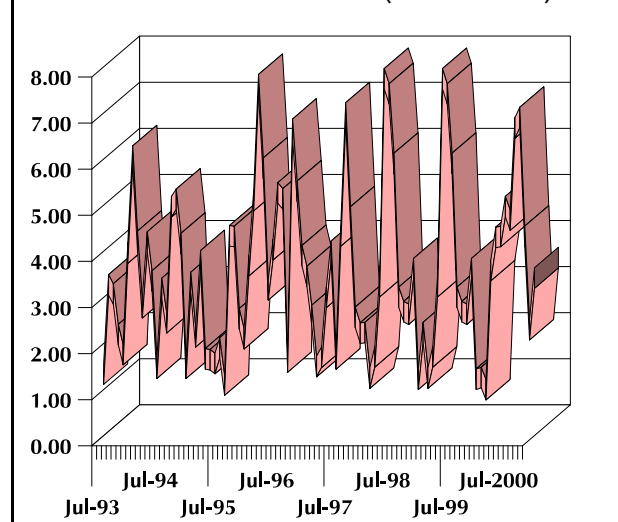
Section 7. Scott County Alternatives within Incarceration

Introduction

This section examines alternative programs which are currently provided within the jail; it also provides information about services currently provided in the jail which have the potential to become programmatic alternatives within the jail if a delivery strategy can be developed.

Work Release

Figure 7.1 Monthly Trend in Average Daily Population of Work Release Inmates (1993 - 2000)



During the period between 1993 and 2000, work release inmates have been a small proportion of the population (an average of 3.54 inmates, 1.6% of the count). The number of inmates on work release has ranged from a low of 1 to a high of 7.74.

Work release inmates are currently housed within the secure perimeter of the jail, on the ground level in a dormitory environment. They enter and leave the facility through the booking room. The placement for work release inmates violates basic security principles which would require that these inmates be housed outside of the secure perimeter (since they go out to work daily there is little reason to believe that these inmates would come back to the jail to escape) and that they not share any spaces with inmates who live within the

secure perimeter. Beyond these issues, processing work release inmates through the booking area is labor intensive, and because there is only one area in which inmates can shower and change clothing, processing 3-4 inmates into the facility every day has the potential to interfere with other booking operations.

Electronic Monitoring

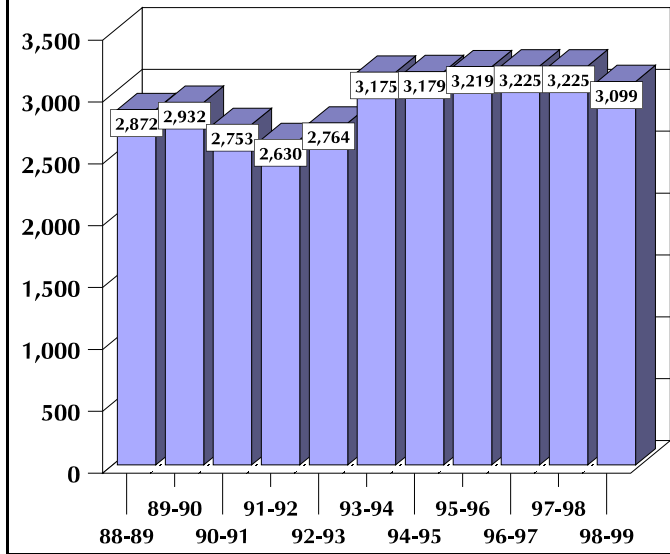
The jail currently operates a small electronic monitoring program which averages about 3 inmates at any point in time. Inmates are eligible if they are charged with OWI 1st or 2nd. The program is based on an electronic monitoring program in Barron County, Wisconsin in which the County was able to reduce their jail population by about 10% by placing non-violent misdemeanants on electronic monitoring to serve a portion of their sentences. Interestingly enough, the program in Barron County excluded OWI offenders and accepted individuals who were charged with what would be simple and some serious misdemeanors in Scott County. What appears to be unique in the Barron County version of this program is the decision to use electronic monitoring **after** the inmate has successfully completed a portion of either a work release sentence or a portion of a straight sentence. This program has not reached the population levels initially anticipated for a variety of reasons. First, because of the active consideration of pretrial release, inmates who would be on electronic monitoring in other jurisdictions have been

Scott County Community Jail and Alternatives Phase One Study
Section 7. Scott County Alternatives within Incarceration

released on pretrial release. Second, the target population (sentenced misdemeanants) tend to receive alternative sanctions. As long as they comply with the terms of those sanctions, they serve minimal amounts of time in custody. If they do not comply, they are not viewed as good candidates for electronic monitoring.

Substance Abuse Evaluation/Treatment

Figure 7.2 CADS Referrals for Assessment



In the 1990's, in response to the recognition of the degree to which substance abuse plays a role in the lives of many jail inmates, many jails began to develop substance abuse treatment programs. In Scott County, the jail, Correctional Services through their pretrial release section, and the Center for Alcohol and Drug Services (CADS) have developed a program which allows in custody inmates to be housed at CADS to receive in-patient treatment. As a result, the number of jail inmates at CADS has increased from the 3-5 that characterized the mid 1990's to 6-8 that characterized 2000. At present the average length of stay in treatment is about 15 days. CADS' Start Program begins with a 21 day in-patient stay, followed by outpatient treatment and aftercare.

Figure 7.3 CADS Referrals for Inpatient Care

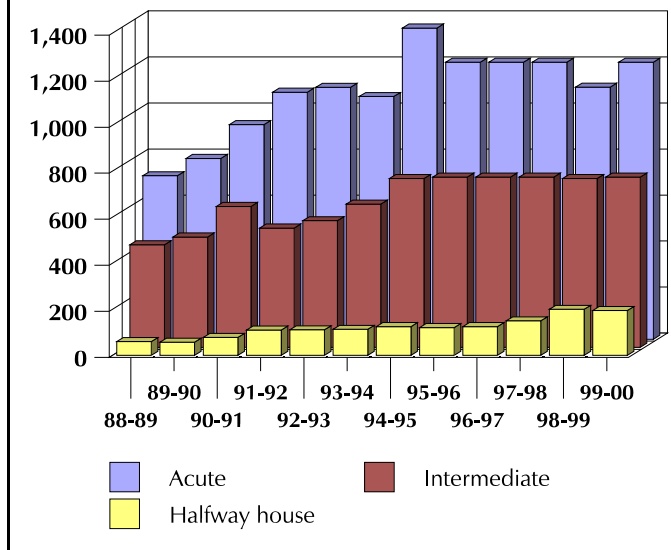


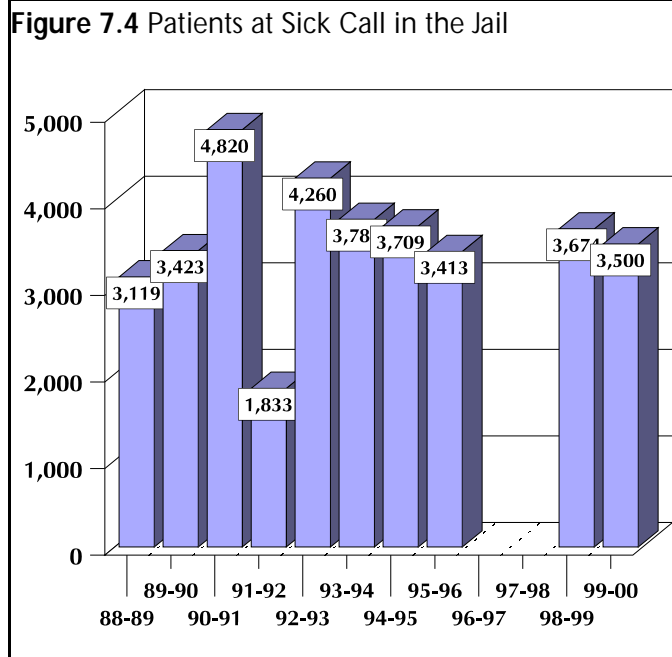
Figure 7.2 shows CADS referrals for assessment services noted in Scott County budget requests. While not all referrals for assessment come from the justice system, according to CADS personnel, about 95 per quarter do. A grant from Scott County provides case management services to this population. The following issues were noted within this program:

1. The Court will not approve a placement at CAD for every inmate who requires treatment. There are a variety of reasons for this including the classification of the inmate may require a more secure environment than can be provided in the inpatient treatment center.
2. There are limitations to existing treatment resources.
3. Not all inmates are willing to participate in treatment.

Scott County Community Jail and Alternatives Phase One Study
Section 7. Scott County Alternatives within Incarceration

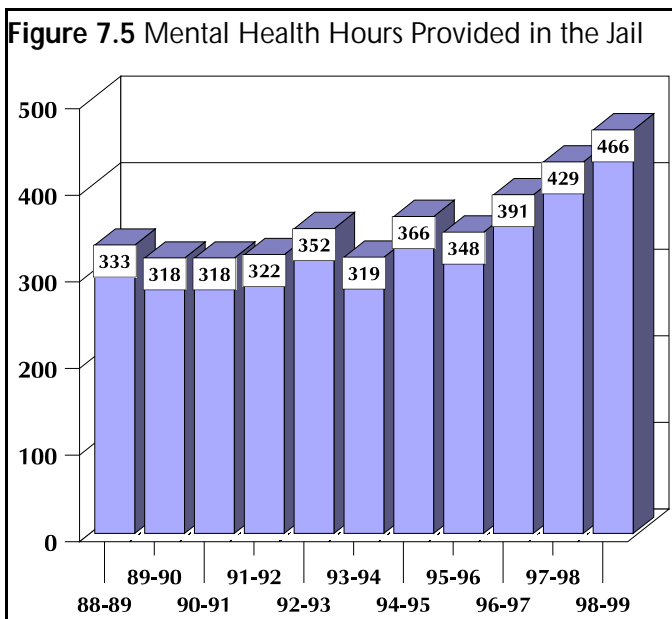
4. Cases are sometimes concluded before the individual gets into treatment.
5. Many of the inmates who could benefit from substance abuse treatment are "dual diagnosed," i.e., they have both mental health and substance abuse problems. These inmates may require a collaborative effort which extends beyond substance abuse and the justice system.
6. Many of the inmates at the facility could benefit from a more structured long-term approach to treatment.

Health/Mental Health



The Jail Health program reported as many as 4,820 patient visits at the jail; since FY 93-94, patient visits have leveled off at about 3,500 per year. If sick call were held daily, this would be an average of just under 10 people per day. **Note:** Additional information regarding the health/mental health needs of jail inmates is included in Section 9.

In the mid to late 1990's, jails nationally began to develop programs geared toward the mentally ill offender. Today, most jails indicate that between 15% and 25% of their population has mental health problems which are significant enough to create problems for their management in the institution. Between FY 88-89 and FY 98-99 the number of mental health hours provided at the jail has increased from 333 to 466.



Conclusions

1. In the opinion of the consultant, the jail provides a reasonable level of basic health and mental health services; services are within those which are required by correctional standards for all inmates. Additional information on basic programs and services is provided in Section 11. However, with the exception of work release - a common residential alternative - and to a lesser degree electronic monitoring, the jail has not developed many alternatives. In the opinion of the consultant, there are a number of reasons why.

Scott County Community Jail and Alternatives Phase One Study
Section 7. Scott County Alternatives within Incarceration

- a. At times when the jail population has been high, staff efforts must be focused on providing basic services. There are not enough staff resources to develop and deliver alternative programs.
- b. The physical plants of both the Main Jail and the Annex impact the potential of the Sheriff's Department and Scott County to implement and develop alternatives; they also impact the ability of the Sheriff's Department to deliver **basic** services. Sections 11. Main Jail Physical Plant Analysis and Section 12. Annex Physical Plant Analysis provide additional information on this topic.
- c. Much of the energy within the Sheriff's Department and the Scott County justice system has gone to managing the jail population; these efforts have been very successful. However, these efforts have reached a point where the individuals who are left in the jail are more difficult to divert; there is considerable evidence that the long-term inmates, in particular, are either individuals whose offense or prior history suggests a significant risk of non-appearance, making them poor candidates for release on their own recognizance, or individuals who have failed to comply with prior requirements of the court. This population is more challenging and requires a deeper level of intervention than the county has previously attempted. To divert these individuals from the jail it will be necessary to change some of their behavior.