



Office on the Economic Status of Women

Monthly Newsletter
July 2026 | Issue 11/282

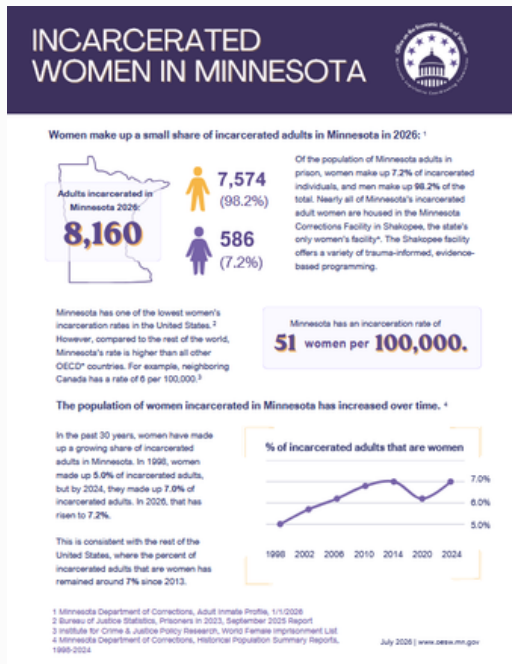


IN THIS ISSUE:

- Incarcerated women
- National Parents Day
- Women touched by addiction
- National Conference on State Legislatures 2026 Summit
- Reading List

★ Per **Minnesota Statute Sec. 3.303, Subdivision 7**, the Office on the Economic Status of Women “shall study study and report to the legislature on all matters relating to the economic status of women... The [OESW] shall communicate its findings and make recommendations to the legislature on an ongoing basis.”

INCARCERATED WOMEN IN MINNESOTA



Our July fact sheet features a compilation of data on the status of incarcerated women in Minnesota. Looking at prisons operated by the Minnesota Department of Corrections, this fact sheet gives an overview of the incarcerated population broken down by gender, age, and race, as well as incarceration rates in comparison to other states and countries, and incarceration trends over time.

It also features an overview of all current Minnesota statutes related to incarcerated women, such as provisions of menstrual products in prisons, regulations on pregnancy restraints, programming guidelines, and more. Check it out on our website to learn more.

Read it on our website.

NATIONAL PARENT'S DAY

July 26th was National Parents Day! In Minnesota, there are around **607,586** total households with children under 18. **115,814** of those households are headed by single mothers, **59,599** by single fathers, and **435,173** by married couples.

National Parents Day was made an official day of commemoration in 1994 to appreciate the hard work of parents all over the country. Happy National Parents day!



WOMEN TOUCHED BY ADDICTION

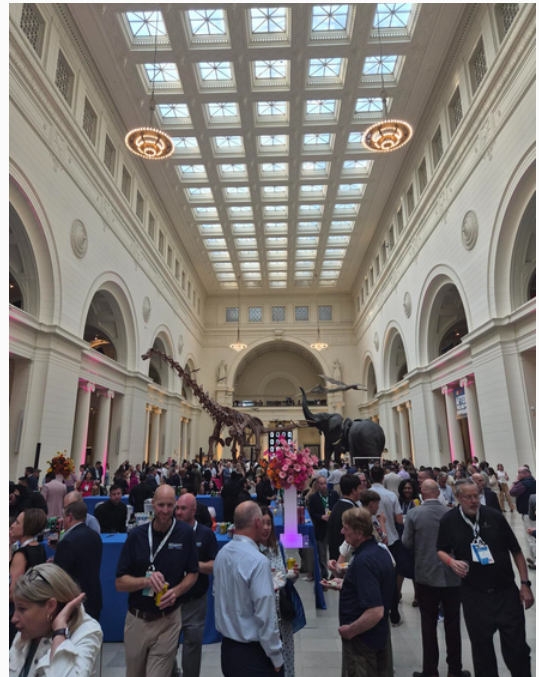


Addiction and substance use affects the lives of tens of thousands of women in Minnesota, and July 23rd was Women Touched by Addiction Day. In the United States as a whole, 14.3% or over 20 million women age 12 and over experienced a substance use disorder in 2024, 8.3% or 12 million experienced an alcohol use disorder, 8.1% or 11.8 million experienced a drug use disorder, and 1.9% or 2 million dealt with a pain reliever use disorder.

If you or someone you care about is struggling with addiction or substance use, refer to the [Minnesota Department of Human Services Resource Web Page](#) for ways to find support.

NCSL SUMMIT 2026

We spent the final week of July attending the **National Conference on State Legislatures Annual Summit** in Chicago! We had the opportunity to meet and collaborate with legislators and legislative staff across the nation on issues of shared concern, such as small business ownership, women in the criminal justice system, childcare access and affordability, and much more. Some of our favorite sessions were Childcare at a Crossroads, where we heard from a panel of bipartisan legislators from across the country on their findings from their time as a part of NCSL's Child Care Policy Work Group, and the Women's Legislative Roundtables, where we got to discuss how other states legislate around key issues, such as women in the workforce. Keep an eye out on our socials for more about what we learned and how it can be applied in Minnesota!



READING LIST

Reading list features a variety of news and articles related to the OESW's areas of interest from different perspectives, but does not necessarily reflect the views of the OESW or function as an endorsement of the views expressed.

Minnesota's paid family medical leave surpasses projections in first six months, Star Tribune

DEED awards \$1.4 million to reduce childcare shortage,
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

Polyendocrine metabolic ovarian syndrome, the new name for polycystic ovarian syndrome, Teede, Khomami, et. al

Women's progress at work is stalling. Is the "lean in" generation leaning out?
The Economist

Childcare at a Crossroads: A State Legislative Framework for Strengthening Childcare Systems NCSL's Childcare Policy Work Group

Initiating a dialogue: Challenges of women working in corrections
Corrections Today

How keeping more women out of prison pays off
Governing Daily

Nearly 6 in 10 young women get health and wellness information from influencers Pew Research Center

FOLLOW US!



Visit our website at oesw.mn.gov

Still can't find what you're looking for?

Email us at oesw@lcc.mn.gov.

[Click here to manage your newsletter subscription.](#)