

## Education Benefits Individuals, Improves Post-Release Employment and Decreases Recidivism Rates

The credit and noncredit programs offered to incarcerated individuals by nine of Iowa's 15 community colleges provide tangible benefits to individuals, allow for post-release success in employment and significantly decrease recidivism rates.

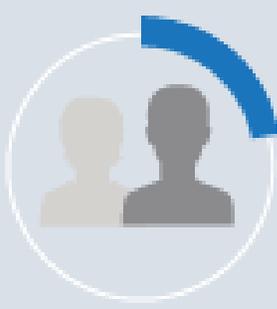
Over 21.6% of Iowa's 5,284 incarcerated population who were released during calendar year 2018 received education through an Iowa community college between 2012-2018 in a variety of credit and noncredit programs, including adult education, agriculture, business, transportation and logistics, health science, manufacturing and more.

### Comparative Demographics

As compared to nonstudents, students in the cohort tend to be male and significantly younger and more racially diverse than their peers.



**88.5%** of students were male compared to **85.2%** of nonstudents.



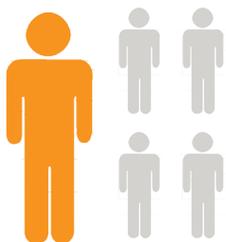
**22.7%** of students were under 25 years compared to **14.4%** of nonstudents.



**37.5%** of students were of a racial or ethnic minority group compared to **29.1%** of nonstudents.

### Reduced Recidivism

Lower rates of recidivism is in direct correlation with taking college classes while incarcerated.



**21.6%** of the 2018 cohort were involved in education while incarcerated.



Of those who took courses while incarcerated, **92.7%** had not re-offended.



Of those who did not take courses while incarcerated, **75.7%** had not re-offended.

### Top 10 Class & Types of Offence

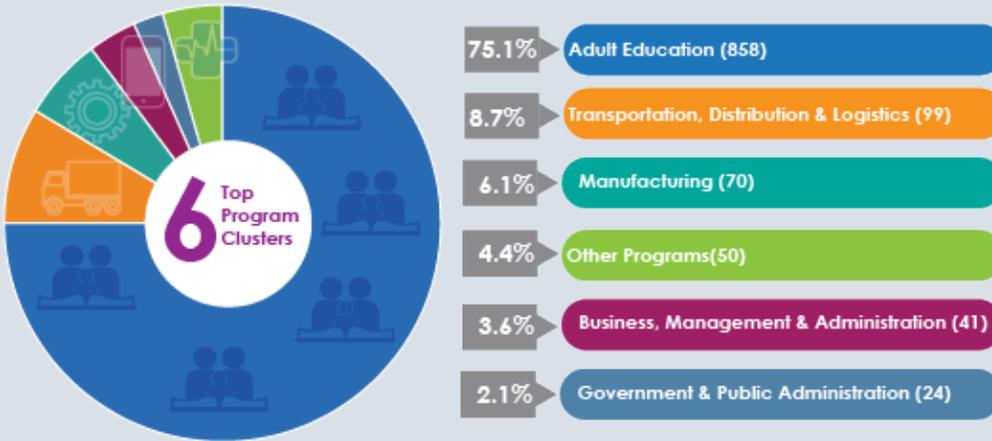


Incarcerated Iowans who were involved in a community college educational program, distributed by class and type of offence.



## Top Program Areas

During the examined period, the incarcerated individuals mostly participated in the following six credit and noncredit programs. Overwhelmingly, participants took courses in adult education.



## Highest Employment Rates by Program Area



Of the post-release students employed one year following program exit, the highest percentages (100) were among those who received education in architecture and construction area.

## Employment Comparisons

One year post release, individuals with with a college education were employed at higher rates and earned higher wages compared to those without a college education.



**70%** of former students were employed in the first year following release, earning \$16,961 on average.

**63%** of individuals without a college education were employed in the first year following release, earning \$14,992 on average.



## Earnings

Earnings in the first year following release vary based on a number of factors, including the volume of education, type of program and employer demand. Thus, depending of the type of programs, earnings ranged from manufacturing (\$22,516) to hospitality and tourism (\$12,255). The following examples provide median annual wages for the top three earning programs

### Manufacturing

\$22,516



### Architecture & Construction

\$20,848



### Business, Management & Administration

\$20,223



**Full report coming soon:**

Iowa Community College Impact on Offenders Released



**COMMUNITY COLLEGES & WORKFORCE PREPARATION**  
PROSPERITY THROUGH EDUCATION

IOWA  
**WORKFORCE**  
DEVELOPMENT