



Governor Greg Gianforte | Director Brian M. Gootkin

Jan. 31, 2025

Members of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Judicial Branch, Law Enforcement, and Justice – Subsection D,

The Montana Department of Corrections respectfully submits the following information in response to requests from the committee’s Jan. 31, 2024, work session.

The committee requested the following:

How many messages are sent on inmate tablets and how many messages are automatically approved?

Tablet Messages May 1, 2024, thru Jan 31, 2025

Messages that are not flagged are delivered to inmate recipients without review as are yellow-flagged messages. Yellow flags indicate the messages may be reviewed later. Red-flagged messages require review by members of mailroom staff before they can be delivered.

Pine Hills Correctional Facility (youth and adults) has received 7,523 messages on the tablet.

- Red flagged 396
- Yellow flagged 1,146
- Not flagged 5,982

Montana State Prison has received 444,669 messages.

- Red flagged 29,321
- Yellow flagged 66,931
- Not flagged 348,437

Montana Women’s Prison has received 100,918 messages.

- Red flagged 5,719
- Yellow flagged 13,673
- Not flagged 81,536

Riverside Special Needs Unit has received 1,429 messages.

- Red flagged 42
- Yellow flagged 63
- Not flagged 1,324

Video Visits May 1, 2024, thru Jan 31, 2025:

Pine Hills (youth/adult) 5,507 video visits

Montana State Prison 112,219 video visits

Montana Women’s Prison 16,810

Riverside 25



Mailroom staff members at each facility who monitor mail and digital messages include:

- MWP – 1 PB
- Pine Hills Correctional Facility – 1 PB (not their full-time job)
- MSP – 4 PB

Provide a breakdown of participation in DOC educational offerings, including Pine Hills Correctional Facility:

Education	
Program/Course	1/27/2025
2nd Chance Pell	20
Parenting/Life Skills	22
Parenting/Life Skills	13
Job Readiness	16
SPED	
TLM	22
HiSET	26
HiSET	20
HiSET	30
HiSET	17
TABE	
Automotive	8
Welding	8
Microsoft	17
Admin Asst PreApp	4
PINE HILLS School**	35
Total	258

** All youth at PH attend school daily. Attached is daily class schedule.

NP 208 – Secure Facility Equipment – detail

Information emailed to committee staff.

Victim Services Bureau – Invitation to observe a Victim Impact Panel

We would like to invite members of the committee to attend a Victim Impact Panel to allow you to experience the important work our victim liaisons perform every day on behalf of Montana citizens. Panels involve having a volunteer speaker (victim or co-victim) visit a VIP class to recount their experiences and share how crime affected their lives. Upcoming panels include:

March 4 - WATCH West, Warm Springs

March 5 – MSP, Deer Lodge



To participate, contact Programs and Rehabilitation Chief Scott Eychner at scott.eychner@mt.gov.

Items requested by committee members, but not included in this response, will be provided as soon as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Gootkin, Director