



Bill Owens  
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## Colorado Department of Corrections

### OFFENDERS SERVING LIFE SENTENCES

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Statistical Bulletin

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#### Office of Planning and Analysis

The Office of Planning and Analysis exists within the Department of Corrections to provide research, information and data analysis services. The office also monitors population projections, analyzes legislative impact studies, oversees the administrative regulations, and conducts program and system evaluations as directed by statute or executive priority.

#### General Statistics, Reporting and Evaluation Unit

The General Statistics, Reporting and Evaluation Unit within the Office of Planning and Analysis analyzes data, evaluates programs and conducts research for internal management and external criminal justice use. This unit gathers, compiles and analyzes data for a multitude of agencies and purposes.

#### About this Bulletin

This publication is intended to provide an overview of statistical information and findings generated by this unit. Dissemination of this information to staff and other interested individuals will be provided through this periodical publication.

- **6.2% (1,151 inmates) of the CDCO incarcerated population as of December 31, 2002 is serving a life sentence** ◀◀  
 ➤➤ **Five additional inmates are incarcerated under a sentence of death** ◀◀  
 ◀ **A recent court decision changed 28 offenders' sentences from life without parole eligibility to life with 40 year parole eligibility (offenses committed between July 1, 1990 and September 20, 1991)** ▶

#### ◆◆ LIFE SENTENCES ◆◆

Offenses eligible for life sentences include class one felonies of first degree murder and first degree kidnapping, and offenses with special habitual enhancements. Life sentencing provisions are as follows:

- ▶ Life without parole eligibility – Class 1 felonies committed on or after Sept. 20, 1991 (CRS 17-22.5-104) are sentenced to life in prison without parole eligibility.
- ▶ Life with parole eligibility – (CRS 17-22.5-104)
  - ▶ Parole eligibility after 40 years – class one felonies committed on or after July 1, 1985, but before Sept. 20, 1991 and certain habitual enhancements.
  - ▶ Parole eligibility after 20 years – class one felonies and big habitual enhancements committed on or after July 1, 1977 but before July 1, 1985.
  - ▶ Parole eligibility after 10 years – class one felonies and big habitual enhancements committed before July 1, 1977.
- ▶ Indeterminate Sentences – Maximum sentence is life.
  - ▶ Sex Offenses
    - ▶ Lifetime Supervision – Crimes committed on or after November 1, 1998 (CRS 18-1.3-1001) with a minimum sentence in the presumptive range.
    - ▶ One day to life Colorado Sex Offenders Act – Offenders sentenced to a minimum sentence of 1 day. (CRS 18-1.3-904)
  - ▶ Pre-1979 - Offenders sentenced for crimes committed before July 1, 1979 with a fixed minimum sentence.

#### ◆◆ INMATE POPULATION ◆◆

Sentence:	Number Of Offenders	
	12/31/01	12/31/02
Life - without parole eligibility	283	290
Life - with 40 year parole eligibility	236	260
Life - with 20 year parole eligibility	146	146
Life - with 10 year parole eligibility	46	44
Subtotal	711	740
<b>Indeterminate Sentence:</b>		
Sex Offenders		
Lifetime Supervision	226	367
1 day to Life	37	36
Pre-1979	8	8
<b>TOTAL - Life Maximum Sentence</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>1,151</b>

#### Conviction as of December 31, 2002:

1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder	→	597
1 <sup>st</sup> degree kidnapping	→	9
Habitual offender	→	134
Sex offenders	→	403
Pre-1979 (various offenses)	→	8

**❖ INMATE POPULATION SERVING LIFE SENTENCES ❖**  
**❖ AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2002 ❖**

FACILITY	Life w/o Parole Eligibility	Life w/ Parole Eligibility	Sex Offenders		Indeter- minate Pre- 1979	TOTAL
			Lifetime	1 Day to Life		
<b>CDOC FACILITIES:</b>						
Colorado State Penitentiary	55	37	2	1		95
Centennial Correctional Facility	32	31	3			66
Sterling Correctional Facility	35	40	48	2	1	126
Limon Correctional Facility	86	94	10	3	1	194
Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility	43	64	21	6	1	135
Buena Vista Correctional Facility	5	7	8	1		21
Buena Vista Minimum Center		2				2
Colorado Terr Correctional Facility	4	33	25	4		66
Fremont Correctional Facility	4	38	171	10	1	224
Fort Lyon Correctional Facility		5	3	1		9
Arrowhead Correctional Center		12	28	2		42
Four Mile Correctional Center		9			1	10
Pueblo Minimum Center						0
Adult Males at Y.O.S.						0
Trinidad Correctional Facility		4				4
Skyline Correctional Center		8				8
Colorado Correctional Center						0
Delta Correctional Center						0
Rifle Correctional Center						0
Colorado Correctional Alt Program						0
Colorado Women's Corr Facility	9	5	2			16
Denver Women's Correctional Facility	2	6				8
Denver Reception Diagnostic Center	3	4	9	1		17
San Carlos Correctional Facility	5	10	10	2	2	29
<b>CONTRACT FACILITIES:</b>						
Bent County Correctional Center		2	3		1	6
Huerfano County Correctional Center		10	8			18
Crowley County Correctional Facility		9	7	2		18
Kit Carson County Correctional Facility		3	6	1		10
<b>OTHER:</b>						
Community Corrections		2	2			4
Community ISP		8				8
Jail Backlog / Contracts	1					1
Other*	6	7	1			14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1,151</b>

\*Other includes non-custody population in external placement, interstate compact, federal transfer, fugitive status, and state hospital.