



Colorado Department of Corrections



Bill Owens
Governor

OFFENDERS SERVING LIFE SENTENCES

For more information contact:
Office of Planning & Analysis
Office (719) 226-4374
e-mail address: kristi.rosten@doc.state.co.us

Joe Ortiz
Executive Director

BULLETIN OPA 05-1

Statistical Bulletin

AUGUST 1, 2004

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.

➤➤ 7.3% (1,431 inmates) of the CDOC incarcerated population as of June 30, 2004 is serving a life sentence ◀◀

➤ Three offenders were removed from a sentence of death and now have a life sentence without parole eligibility (Ring vs Arizona 536 U.S. 584, 122 S. Ct. 2428 (2002)) Three offenders remain under a sentence of death and not included. ◀

❖❖ 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	
	06/30/03	06/30/04
Life - without parole eligibility	306	331
Life - with 40 year parole eligibility	256	253
Life - with 20 year parole eligibility	145	144
Life - with 10 year parole eligibility	45	44
Subtotal	752	772
Indeterminate Sentence:		
Sex Offenders		
Lifetime Supervision	455	617
1 day to Life	34	34
Pre-1979	8	8
TOTAL - Life Maximum Sentence	1,249	1,431

Conviction as of June 30, 2004:

1 st degree murder	→	629
1 st degree kidnapping	→	11
Habitual offender	→	132
Sex offenders	→	651
Pre-1979 (various offenses)	→	8

❖ INMATE POPULATION SERVING LIFE SENTENCES ❖
❖ AS OF JUNE 30, 2004 ❖

FACILITY	Life w/o Parole Eligibility	Life w/ Parole Eligibility	Sex Offenders		Indeter- minate Pre-1979	TOTAL
			Lifetime	1 Day to Life		
CDOC FACILITIES:						
Colorado State Penitentiary	54	35	14	2		105
Centennial Correctional Facility	31	16	5			52
Sterling Correctional Facility	52	57	78	3	2	192
Limon Correctional Facility	94	89	18	4	1	206
Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility	42	62	37	3	1	145
Buena Vista Correctional Facility	8	10	19	1		38
Buena Vista Minimum Center		2				2
Colorado Terr Correctional Facility	6	35	28	6		75
Fremont Correctional Facility	4	33	265	8		310
Fort Lyon Correctional Facility	2	5	8	2		17
Arrowhead Correctional Center		11	31	1		43
Four Mile Correctional Center		10			1	11
Pueblo Minimum Center						0
Adult Males at Y.O.S.						0
Trinidad Correctional Facility		3				3
Skyline Correctional Center		3				3
Colorado Correctional Center						0
Delta Correctional Center						0
Rifle Correctional Center						0
Colorado Correctional Alt Program						0
Colorado Women's Corr Facility	7	4	4			15
Denver Women's Correctional Facility	5	6	1			12
Denver Reception Diagnostic Center	3	6	11			20
San Carlos Correctional Facility	7	6	9	1	2	25
CONTRACT FACILITIES:						
Bent County Correctional Center		3	21		1	25
Huerfano County Correctional Center		7	18	1		26
Crowley County Correctional Facility		11	31	1		43
Kit Carson County Correctional Facility		1	18	1		20
Tallahatchie MS Correctional Facility	9	3				12
OTHER:						
Community Corrections		2	1			3
Community ISP		10				10
Jail Backlog / Contracts						0
Other*	9	9				18
TOTAL	333	439	617	34	8	1431

*Other includes non-custody population, (16) interstate compact, (1) federal transfer, and (1) fugitive status.