



# Colorado Department of Corrections



Bill Ritter, Jr.  
Governor

## OFFENDERS SERVING LIFE SENTENCES

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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 and Reporting

The General Statistics and Reporting within the Office of Planning and Analysis analyzes data, 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.

➤➤ **9.8% (2,268 inmates) of the CDCO incarcerated population as of 3/31/2009 is serving a life sentence** ◀◀

➤➤ **Two offenders remains under a sentence of death and are 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	
	03/31/08	03/31/09
Life - without parole eligibility	464	495
Life - with 40 year parole eligibility	232	229
Life - with 20 year parole eligibility	133	128
Life - with 10 year parole eligibility	39	39
Subtotal	868	891
<b>Indeterminate Sentence:</b>		
Sex Offenders		
Lifetime Supervision	1,233	1,343
1 day to Life	29	29
Pre-1979	6	5
<b>TOTAL - Life Maximum Sentence</b>	<b>2,136</b>	<b>2,268</b>

### Conviction as of March 31, 2009:

1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder	→	758
1 <sup>st</sup> degree kidnapping	→	16
Habitual offender	→	117
Sex offenders	→	1,372
Pre-1979 (various offenses)	→	5

**❖ INMATE POPULATION SERVING LIFE SENTENCES ❖**  
**❖ AS OF MARCH 31, 2009 ❖**

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	54	26	30	2		112
Centennial Correctional Facility	18	12	17	2		49
Sterling Correctional Facility	134	52	118	1	1	306
Limon Correctional Facility	130	64	52	2		248
Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility	65	45	91	1		202
Buena Vista Correctional Facility	17	8	48			73
Buena Vista Minimum Center		1				1
Colorado Terr Correctional Facility	20	36	73	5		134
Fremont Correctional Facility	11	16	443	3	1	474
Fort Lyon Correctional Facility	3	18	14	1		36
Arrowhead Correctional Center		2	68	1		71
Four Mile Correctional Center		12				12
La Vista Correctional Facility	6	3	1			10
Adult Males at Y.O.S.			3			3
Trinidad Correctional Facility		2			1	3
Skyline Correctional Center		7				7
Colorado Correctional Center						0
Delta Correctional Center						0
Rifle Correctional Center						0
Colorado Correctional Alt Program						0
Colorado Women's Corr Facility	3	1	5			9
Denver Women's Correctional Facility	13	3	9			25
Denver Reception Diagnostic Center	1	5	14			20
San Carlos Correctional Facility	8	9	16	1	1	35
<b>CONTRACT FACILITIES:</b>						
Bent County Correctional Center		16	83	5	1	105
Huerfano County Correctional Center		7	40	1		48
Crowley County Correctional Facility		8	88	3		99
Kit Carson County Correctional Facility		11	121	1		133
Cheyenne Mountain Reentry Center		2				2
High Plains Correctional Facility		1				1
<b>OTHER:</b>						
Community Corrections		1	1			2
Community ISP		19	4			23
Jail Backlog / Contracts	1		2			3
Other*	11	9	2			22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>1,343</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2,268</b>

\* Other includes non-custody populations: (20) interstate compact, (1) federal transfer and (1) fugitive.