



Colorado Department of Corrections



OFFENDERS SERVING LIFE SENTENCES

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

By Bonnie Barr
Office of Planning & Analysis

Aristedes W. Zavaras
Executive Director

BULLETIN OPA 10-5

Statistical Bulletin

OCTOBER 15, 2009

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.

➤➤ **10.1% (2,331 inmates) of the CDOC incarcerated population as of 9/30/2009 is serving a life sentence** ◀◀

➤➤ **Two offenders remain 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 one 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, or convicted as adult following direct filing on or after July 1, 2006, 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	
	09/30/08	09/30/09
Life - without parole eligibility	479	522
Life - with 40 year parole eligibility	230	230
Life - with 20 year parole eligibility	131	128
Life - with 10 year parole eligibility	39	37
Subtotal	879	917
Indeterminate Sentence:		
Sex Offenders		
Lifetime Supervision	1,284	1,380
1 day to Life	30	29
Pre-1979	6	5
TOTAL - Life Maximum Sentence	2,199	2,331

Conviction as of September 30, 2009:

1 st degree murder	→	782
1 st degree kidnapping	→	17
Habitual offender	→	118
Sex offenders	→	1,380
Pre-1979 (various offenses)	→	5

❖ INMATE POPULATION SERVING LIFE SENTENCES ❖
❖ AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2009 ❖

FACILITY	Life w/o Parole Eligibility	Life w/ Parole Eligibility	Sex Offenders		Indeter- minate Pre-1979	TOTAL
			Lifetime	1 Day to Life		
CDOC FACILITIES:						
Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility	66	48	115	1		230
Arrowhead Correctional Center		2	79			81
Buena Vista Correctional Facility	20	8	46		1	75
Buena Vista Minimum Center		1				1
Centennial Correctional Facility	23	13	12	1		49
Colorado Correctional Alt Program						0
Colorado Correctional Center						0
Colorado State Penitentiary	49	22	31	2		104
Colorado Terr Correctional Facility	24	36	80	5		145
Delta Correctional Center						0
Denver Reception Diagnostic Center	7	4	10			21
Denver Women's Correctional Facility	17	4	8			29
Fort Lyon Correctional Facility	2	19	15	1		37
Four Mile Correctional Center		13				13
Fremont Correctional Facility	13	18	472	4		507
La Vista Correctional Facility	8	3	6			17
Limon Correctional Facility	133	69	56	2		260
Rifle Correctional Center						0
San Carlos Correctional Facility	8	6	16	2	1	33
Skyline Correctional Center		6				6
Southern Transport Unit at YOS						0
Sterling Correctional Facility	141	53	115		1	310
Trinidad Correctional Facility		2			1	3
CONTRACT FACILITIES:						
Bent County Correctional Center		16	100	6	1	123
Cheyenne Mountain Reentry Center						0
Crowley County Correctional Facility		10	90	3		103
High Plains Correctional Facility		1	1			2
Kit Carson County Correctional Facility		12	121	2		135
OTHER:						
Community Corrections		2	1			3
Community ISP		18	3			21
Jail Backlog / Contracts			1			1
Other*	11	9	2			22
TOTAL	522	395	1,380	29	5	2,331

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