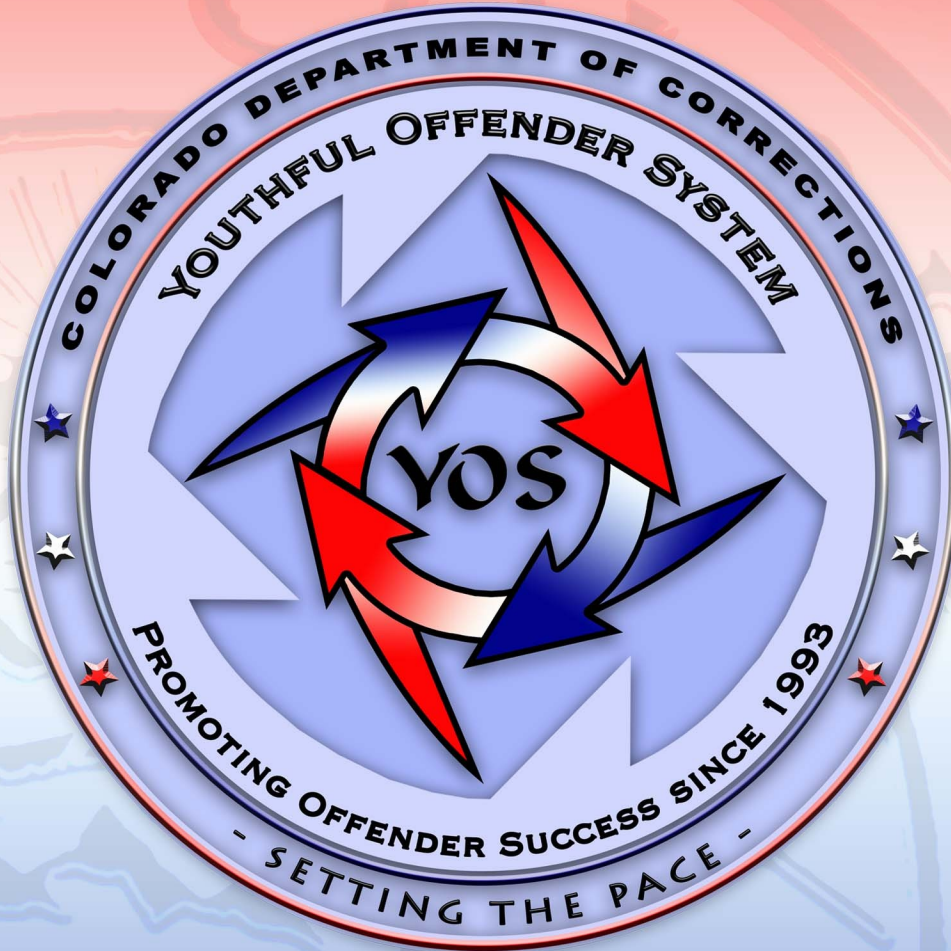


Youthful Offender System

A N N U A L R E P O R T

Fiscal Year 2009 - 2010



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview of the Youthful Offender System

- ❖ YOS opened its doors in 1994 on the grounds of the Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center (DRDC). In 1998, YOS was relocated to Pueblo on the grounds of the Colorado Mental Health Institute of Pueblo.
- ❖ YOS was originally designed for violent youthful offenders between the ages of 14 and 18 at the time of their offense and direct filed or transferred as adults in accordance with §19-2-517, C.R.S. and §18-1.3-407, C.R.S. Effective October 1, 2009, the eligibility criteria for sentencing to YOS was expanded to include offenders who are between the ages of 14 and 20 at the time of their offense, sentenced prior to their 21st birthday, and committed class 2 through class 6 felony offenses in accordance with. §18-1.3-407, C.R.S and §18-1.3-407.5, C.R.S.
- ❖ Public safety, academic achievement, rehabilitation, the development of pro-social behaviors, and re-entry planning are the primary focus within YOS.
- ❖ YOS is under the direction and control of the executive director of the Department of Corrections (DOC).
- ❖ Sentences to YOS are determinate, day-for-day. Offenders do not receive earned time or good time credit.

Population Characteristics

- ❖ The number of admissions declined from 111 in fiscal year (FY) 1996 to a low of 54 in FY05. YOS admissions increased to 84 in FY10.
- ❖ The average age of offenders admitted to YOS in FY10 is 17.5 years old.
- ❖ The median sentence to YOS for FY10 admissions is 4.5 years, which is 7.5 years shorter on average than the original adult sentence imposed by the courts.
- ❖ Violent offenders comprised 94% of the YOS admissions in FY10.
- ❖ Denver, Weld, Arapahoe, and Adams counties had the highest program utilization during FY10.
- ❖ The majority of YOS admissions in FY10 need academic, career and technical education, and treatment for anger management and substance abuse problems.

Completion Rates

- ❖ Overall sentence completion rates were found to be high:
 - 72% successfully discharged their YOS sentence
 - 23% negatively terminated or had their YOS sentence revoked
 - 4% received sentence reconsiderations
- ❖ In FY10, the percentage of successful completions was higher at 83% as compared to all other years (72%). For this cohort, only 17% negatively terminated or had their sentence revoked.

Recidivism

- ❖ Pre-release recidivism, defined as a new conviction for an offense that occurred during an offender's YOS sentence that resulted in his or her termination from YOS, was 8% for all YOS releases through FY10.
- ❖ Post-release recidivism rates, defined as new criminal activity that results in placement in the DOC adult prison system following successful completion of their YOS sentence, were as follows:
 - 7% returned within 1 year
 - 21% returned within 3 years
 - 30% returned within 5 years
- ❖ Recidivism rates of all YOS releases are substantially lower than the adult population, even when combining pre-release and post-release recidivism rates.

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OVERVIEW SUMMARY

Mission Statement

The mission of the Youthful Offender System (YOS) is to provide a controlled, regimented and secure environment which ensures public safety. YOS promotes the value of education (academic and vocational), self-discipline, and develops pro-social skills and abilities through an individualized phased system which includes supportive aftercare.

Overview of YOS

YOS was established within the DOC under special legislation enacted in 1993 through Senate Bill 9. The 1993 special session of the Colorado Legislature was convened to address youth violence. SB93S-9 provided the state with a new sentencing option whereby eligible youthful offenders could be sentenced as adults. In 2009, YOS sentencing consideration was expanded to include young adult offenders. All YOS offenders serve their sentence in a controlled and regimented environment that affirms dignity of self and others, promotes values of work and self-discipline, and develops useful skills and abilities through enriched programming. YOS blends security, treatment, case management, and re-entry to provide a comprehensive “middle-tier” correctional sentencing option.

- ❖ YOS has four distinct components or phases:
 - Orientation Training Phase (OTP) encompasses the first 30-45 days and includes the intake, diagnostics, and orientation (IDO) period during which a needs assessment is completed, an individualized progress plan is developed, re-entry challenges are identified, and offenders are acclimated to the facility.
 - Phase I offers a range of core programming, educational services, treatment services, and supplemental activities to the offender population.
 - Phase II (Pre-Release) is administered during the last three months of institutional confinement, continuing the re-entry focus and providing a foundation for an effective and well-planned transition to Phase III.
 - Phase III (Community Supervision) is the final 6 to 12 months of a YOS sentence. This phase takes place in the community and continues the re-entry focus while monitoring the offender’s reintegration back into society.

- ❖ YOS uses a system of incentives and sanctions to motivate offenders.

Intent of the General Assembly

The general assembly recognized that the increased number of violent juvenile crimes is a problem faced across the nation. By creating the YOS, Colorado stands at the forefront of the states in addressing and solving the problem of sentencing, managing, and rehabilitating violent juvenile offenders.

It is the intent of the general assembly that:

- YOS shall benefit the state of Colorado by providing, as a sentencing option for certain offenders, a controlled and regimented environment that affirms the dignity of self and others, promotes the value of work and self-discipline, and develops useful skills and abilities through enriched programming.
- Female and male offenders for whom charges have been directly filed in the district court, in accordance with §19-2-517, C.R.S. and who have been convicted in the district court receive equitable treatment in sentencing, particularly in regard to the option of being sentenced to YOS. Accordingly, it is the general assembly's intent that necessary measures be taken by the DOC to establish separate housing for female and male offenders who are sentenced to YOS without compromising the equitable treatment of either.
- Offenders sentenced to YOS are housed and serve their sentences in a facility specifically designed and programmed for the YOS. Youthful offenders are housed separately from and not brought into daily physical contact with adult inmates sentenced to the DOC.
- Offenders sentenced to YOS are sentenced as adults and are subject to all laws, DOC's rules, regulations, and standards pertaining to adult inmates, except as otherwise provided in §18-1.3-407, C.R.S.

YOS System Eligibility

18-1.3-407: YOS is designed for violent youthful offenders who are between the ages of 14 and 18 at the time of their offense, and less than 21 years old at time of sentencing; who commit class 2 through class 6 felony offenses; who are direct filed or transferred as adults in accordance with §19-2-517/19-2-518, C.R.S.; and who would otherwise be sentenced to and placed in one of our DOC adult facilities.

18-1.3-407.5: Effective October 1, 2009, a young adult offender who is at least 18 years of age, but less than 20 years of age at the time the crime is committed and less than 21 years of age at the time of sentencing, may be eligible for sentencing to YOS.

In order to sentence an offender to YOS, the court shall first impose a sentence to the DOC. The court shall thereafter suspend such sentence conditional upon successful completion of a determinate (day-for-day) sentence to the YOS of not fewer than two years nor more than six years; except that an individual convicted of a class 2 felony may be sentenced for a determinate period up to seven years. All YOS sentences include a mandatory period of pre-release (90 days) and community supervision of 6 to 12 months.

The following offenses are eligible for sentencing to YOS:

- Murder in the first degree, if during the commission of or attempt to commit arson, robbery, burglary, kidnapping, sexual assault or escape resulting in a plea agreement to a class 2 felony;
- Crimes of violence as defined in §18-1.3-406, C.R.S. (formerly 16-11-309), including crimes against an at-risk adult or at-risk juvenile, first or second degree assault,

kidnapping, aggravated robbery, first degree arson, first degree burglary, escape, and criminal extortion;

- Felonies involving the use or possession and threatened use of a deadly weapon;
- Vehicular homicide and vehicular assault; and
- Criminal attempt, conspiracy, solicitation, or complicity to any of the offenses listed above are also eligible for YOS sentencing. Juvenile offenders with histories of delinquent acts, which would constitute felonies and habitual juvenile offenders as defined in §19-1-103, C.R.S. are specifically identified in the statute as eligible for YOS.

Legislative Authority

The original legislation establishing YOS was enacted in SB 93S-9, with several legislative revisions passed subsequently to modify and improve the initial intent of the Youthful Offender System. The more significant pieces of legislation are discussed below.

SB 93S-9: Signed into law on September 23, 1993, the original legislation provided for a determinate sentence to YOS of at least one year but no more than five years to be followed by an additional mandatory parole period of 12 months.

SB 94-201: The sentencing structure was changed such that the minimum sentence is at least two years and the maximum not more than six years. The 12-month parole period was eliminated and a two-phased community supervision component was added, transferring supervision authority from the Colorado Parole Board to the Division of Community Corrections within DOC. Community supervision was set at 6 to 12 months of the total sentence, with Phase II operating as a 3-month pre-release period prior to Phase III.

SB 94-155: This legislation expanded the juveniles eligible for YOS to include habitual juvenile offenders as defined in §19-1-103, C.R.S.

HB 96-1128: The 3-month Phase II prerelease supervision, which previously applied to the community supervision portion of the sentence, was changed to the period of incarceration.

SB 99-130: This legislation eliminated the provision that previously precluded class 2 juvenile felons from being sentenced to YOS. Juveniles less than 16 years of age convicted of a class 2 felony that was not the result of a plea agreement charged as a class 1 felony and without a conviction or adjudication for a crime of violence became eligible for YOS under this legislation. The YOS sentence for a class 2 felony may be up to seven years.

SB 99-131: The original legislation (SB93S-9) established a sunset provision for YOS of June 30, 1999. This legislation extended the repeal date for five years to June 30, 2004.

SB 00-140: Minor changes to YOS were provided through this legislation. A pre-sentence investigation must be conducted prior to sentencing a juvenile to YOS. Funding for sex offender treatment services was also provided for youthful offenders with a history of committing a sexual offense or any other offense with an underlying factual basis of a sexual offense. Offenders may be transferred to another facility for up to 60 days for diagnostic validation of mental illness or developmental disabilities. This legislation specified that the district court shall review the offender's sentence within 120 days after notification when DOC has determined the offender is not able to complete the YOS program.

SB 01-015: Required DOC to notify local law enforcement in the jurisdiction where an offender will be placed for Phase III. Local law enforcement may appeal the placement with the executive director as the final authority.

SB 04-123: This legislation reauthorized YOS, removing the sunset provision established in SB99-131, which slated the program to close on June 30, 2004. The facility was changed from a level V to a level III facility and the capacity was capped at 256 beds.

SB 08-066: This bill reduced first degree murder to a class 2 felony if the defendant was under 18 years of age at the time of the offense, was convicted as an adult, and did not commit or assist in committing the homicidal act. It made a defendant convicted of class 2 first degree felony murder eligible for sentencing to YOS.

HB 08-1132: This bill allows sex offenders and individuals needing mental health treatment in YOS to obtain appropriate treatment by allowing YOS to offer juvenile and adult treatment models to provide comprehensive and appropriate treatment for sex offenders. The bill also made mental and other health services available to YOS clients without parental consent.

HB 09-1122: This bill added language to §18-1.3-407, C.R.S. extending the age of sentencing from prior to the 19th birthday to prior to the 21st birthday and created §18-1.3-407.5, C.R.S. expanding the offenders eligible for YOS to include young adults. This legislation contains a repeal date for 3 years to October 1, 2012.

HB 10-1413: This bill added language to §19-2-517, C.R.S. removing juveniles who are 14 and 15 years of age at the time of the offense from direct file consideration with the exception of murder in the first degree, any sexual offense that is enumerated as a crime of violence, any felony sexual offense, and the offender is determined to be an habitual juvenile offender.

System Structure

Guiding Principles: YOS is based upon the following guiding principles:

- The system provides for teaching offenders self-discipline by providing clear consequences for inappropriate behavior;
- The system includes a daily regimen that involves offenders in physical training, self-discipline exercises, educational and work programs, and meaningful interaction, with a tiered system for swift and strict discipline for noncompliance;
- The system utilizes staff models and mentors to promote an offender's development of socially accepted attitudes and behaviors;
- The system provides offenders with instruction on problem-solving skills and should incorporate methods to reinforce the use of cognitive behavior strategies that change offenders' orientation toward criminal thinking and behavior;
- The system promotes the creation and development of new group cultures among offenders that result in a transition to pro-social behavior; and
- The system provides offenders the opportunity to gradually reenter the community while demonstrating the capacity for self-discipline and the attainment of respect for the community.

Facility Location: Originally located in DRDC, YOS was moved to the grounds of the Colorado Mental Health Institute of Pueblo in 1998. YOS is situated on a campus with 10 buildings designated for housing units, high school, treatment programs, recreation, food service, and administrative offices.

Staffing: YOS is comprised of a community of concerned employees committed to the principles of adolescent development, who, through modeling, mentoring, and other planned interventions, provide opportunities for the offender population to acquire skills and abilities that enable them to grow and develop into successful, productive citizens.

Components / Phases: YOS consists of four distinct components or phases designed to provide a continuum of core programming and specialized services tailored to each individual's needs. The phases as defined in statute are outlined in the YOS Components/Phases portion of this document.

Individualized Planning: Individualized planning is critically important for each offender's successful outcome. The offender works with a progress team to develop an individualized plan, also known as the progress assessment summary. The plan identifies eight criminogenic needs and four general areas to be addressed during the offenders' sentence at YOS. The criminogenic needs include anti-social cognition, anti-social companions; anti-social personality or temperament, family/marital relationships, substance abuse, employment, education (academic/career and technical), and leisure/recreation activities. General information shared during the progress

assessment include mental health, medical, program compliance, criminal behavior, obstacles or barriers to transition, and case manager comments and recommendations. The progress team identifies a specific problem, goal, and current objectives, in each of the 12 general areas, which detail individualized interventions for the offender.

The plan clearly outlines expectations associated with successful completion of the phases, which are measurable and observable. The criteria specifically address minimum requirements for attendance and participation in facility activities, achievement of satisfactory monthly progress ratings by the individual and primary advisor, and development of pro-social behaviors. The plan is updated for each offender biannually and progress ratings are completed monthly by the progress team.

Re-entry: Re-entry challenges are identified during the initial assessment, included in the individualized progress assessment summary, and evaluated monthly during progress team reviews. YOS provides a continuum of core programming and specialized services that begins in the Orientation Training Phase and continues through supportive aftercare provided in Phase III.

Classification: In accordance with §17-1-104.3, C.R.S. the YOS facility is a secure level III (medium custody) correctional facility. Unlike the adult system where offenders are placed into facilities according to their custody classification, YOS offenders' classification is based on their assigned phase.

Cognitive Education

Positive Peer Culture: It is widely known that adolescents have a tremendous influence on their peer group. The positive peer culture programs at YOS are aimed to develop self-worth, significance, dignity, and responsibility in each individual as they become committed to the positive values of helping and caring for others. YOS incorporates portions of a positive peer culture to develop positive values that promote individual change.

Cognitive-Behavioral Redirection: Redirection training includes guided group interaction (GGI) groups, seven levels of confrontation, conditions of feedback, mentoring and role modeling, and individual and family interaction.

Guided Group Interaction (GGI): GGI is a specific learning technique practiced in Phases I and II. It is a group process that utilizes peer group pressure to identify, discuss, and change behavior. GGI is a step-by-step approach of using the elements of group dynamics and the peer group support to assist offenders in the development of pro-social behaviors. The goal is to “guide” the group such that members begin to understand their cognitive thinking errors and how those errors affect their behavior and relationships with others. Offenders meet in groups at least three evenings per week with their facilitator to discuss problems and attempt resolutions.

Quick Skills: Quick Skills is a cognitive skill-building curriculum designed to assist the offender population in developing social skills. Courses are taught independently or combined for a more comprehensive treatment unit. Offenders participate in courses at least weekly depending on their specific plan and problem areas.

The Quick Skills courses are delivered in OTP, Phase I, and Phase II. In OTP, offenders attend the seven basic learning skills class and discuss a wide range of learning skills including listening, asking for help, asking questions and saying thank you, being prepared and ignoring distractions, making corrections and bringing material to class, following instructions and contributing to discussions, and offering help. Offenders in Phase I attend four modules: problem solving, thinking traps, aggression replacement, and anger control. Phase II teaches employment skills and financial management to those who will soon be releasing to the community.

Incentives and Sanctions

During the period of incarceration in YOS, incentives and privileges including, but not limited to, visitation, telephone calls, televisions, radios, and canteen items, are not available for an offender unless such privileges have been earned under a merit system. Privileges increase with the offender's status level but can be lost through unacceptable behavior or rule infractions. Offender status level is determined through progress team consensus according to the individual's behavior and progress. As such, critical problems are identified and addressed, and accordingly, issues and problem areas ultimately affect status changes. Each offender must meet the minimum terms and conditions of his or her sentence, show positive progress, and attain the minimum required goals prior to moving to the next status level.

Visiting: The offender visiting program is designed to ensure that all special considerations, including travel time, relationships, facility needs, family issues, and problems can be met. All visits are considered privileges earned by the offenders' progress and status in YOS. Although contact visits are the standard, offenders who are housed in the special management unit may be limited to non-contact visitation.

Parents Association: Parents of YOS offenders have developed a Parents Association which provides support for offenders and parents. The Parents Association works together with the YOS administration to bring families together by providing scheduled events and activities for offenders and their families and to provide a support group for parents of offenders sentenced to YOS. An annual barbeque is sponsored by the Parents Association which is held on the YOS campus and allows offenders and their parents or guardians to enjoy a meal and visit in a secure but supportive environment.



Phoenix Status: Positive behavior is rewarded by increased status and with higher status comes an increase in privileges. Phoenix status is the highest status attainable for YOS offenders. They can obtain phoenix status in seven months after placement in Phase I. Offenders attaining phoenix status enjoy an unlimited number of visits and telephone calls as well as activities in the "Phoenix Den." The Phoenix Den is a recreational area, only open to phoenix status offenders, which offers video games, pool table, large screen television, and access to free weights.

Remediation: Remediation is a temporary classification action for offenders who have failed to demonstrate acceptable behaviors, skills, norms, directives, or other alternative interventions used to correct inappropriate behaviors. The offenders who are disruptive in the facility and serve as negative influences are separated from their peers by being placed in a special management unit located in IDO. Remediation is utilized to redirect offenders who disrupt the facility, especially those who maintain criminal thinking and undermine YOS.

Remediation is available throughout the offender's YOS commitment, including Phase I, II, and III, until discharge of sentence. Remediation is designed as a progressive discipline for typically short time periods, ranging from 7 to 28 days. Offenders continue to receive educational services during the remediation process.

Special Management Unit (SMU): SMU is the most secure area of YOS, designed to manage offenders pending investigation, staffing for revocation, and awaiting revocation or disposition of criminal charges. Offenders with a chronic lack of progress may face a revocation recommendation that results in placement in SMU. Offenders in punitive segregation or those who have been removed from population (RFP) for security reasons are also housed in SMU. Punitive segregation can extend up to 60 days. In SMU, there is a three-tiered level system based on an offender's behavior, with a status review conducted every seven days. Each level has specific time frames for the offenders to demonstrate appropriate behavioral expectations, providing an increase in privileges with each level.

Therapeutic Interventions

A variety of therapeutic interventions are provided to offenders as dictated by their individualized needs. Participation and progress are measured through monthly progress team evaluations. Therapeutic services include mental health, substance abuse, sex offender treatment and monitoring, and anger management programs.

Mental Health Services: Mental health services are provided to offenders with the focus on meeting individual needs of the offender population. An emphasis on intervention, assessment, and treatment is utilized to ensure the greatest degree of active offender participation and achievement of individual goals and objectives.

Initial screenings for psychological needs are completed by mental health professionals using psychometric assessments, a review of documentation, medical reviews, and offender interviews. Offenders who are identified with moderate to severe mental health needs, as determined by a psychological needs level of 3 or 4, and may be on medication, are assessed at least quarterly or monthly, respectively, by a mental health professional.

Psycho-educational and cognitive restructuring programs are designed to assist offenders in the development of pro-social and self-management skills. The Colorado Extended Anger Management Program, which is a mandatory program for all offenders at YOS, includes skill development in anger management, stress management, assertiveness, victim awareness, and communication.

Substance Abuse Services: Treatment services are provided to substance abusing offenders by a certified addiction counselor. The counselor conducts assessments and treatment groups and participates in monthly progress team evaluations.

Offenders' treatment needs are assessed using a standardized offender assessment battery, which examines individuals' criminal risk as well as addiction histories. Treatment is delivered in a group setting using the Pathways to Self Discovery and Change¹ curriculum developed by Milkman and Wanberg. This curriculum operates from a cognitive-behavioral perspective, challenging offenders to address their criminal and addictive thinking. Participants examine factors that may influence them to relapse or repeat their criminal behavior.

Offenders are placed in treatment groups during Phase I, where they are required to complete a 16-week course at four days per week prior to moving to Phase II. During this part of the treatment program, offenders initially study the relationships between situations, thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that lead to their life patterns of substance use, delinquency, and crime. In later stages of the curriculum, offenders identify and modify their thinking errors, learn problem-solving skills, and overcome their resistance to change.

Sex Offender Treatment and Monitoring Program (SOTMP): YOS provides sex offender treatment services for offenders who are sentenced to YOS and who have a history of committing any sex offense as defined in section §16-11.7-102 (3), C.R.S., or who have a history of committing any other offense, with an underlying factual basis of a sex offense.

The goal of the YOS SOTMP is to provide education and treatment that meet standards established and adopted by the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board (SOMB). A comprehensive sex offender treatment program has been in place at YOS since 2000. The sex offender treatment program reinforces the goal of "no more victims". An intense sex offender treatment program for identified sex offenders, SOTMP includes assessment, review, and treatment through individual and group counseling over an extended period. The facility program links with similar community-based programs to provide continuity of care when the offender advances into Phase III.

SOTMP has a cognitive-behavioral orientation and strict requirements for participation. Treatment topics involve victim issues, empathy, personal responsibility, core beliefs, and distortions in thinking, among others. Therapists are responsible for assessing the offender's treatment needs and making programmatic recommendations based on clinical judgment of the offender's eligibility and progress in treatment.

Areas of Treatment:

- *Pre-Treatment Group:* A *Woulda/Coulda/Shoulda* workbook has been developed referencing the *Woulda/Coulda/Shoulda* book written by Freeman and DeWolf. This workbook will be used as the curriculum for the Pre-Treatment Group at YOS. During this group, participants begin the process of examining the connection between thinking patterns and behavior. Individuals are assigned to the pre-treatment

¹ Milkman, H.B. & Wanberg, K.W. (2005). *Pathways to Self-Discovery and Change: Criminal Conduct and Substance Abuse Treatment for Adolescents*. Sage Publications: Thousand Oaks, CA.

group as they enter YOS and remain assigned for the duration of that specific semester.

- *Orientation Group:* Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens curriculum is presented during Orientation Group. SOTMP will address issues of denial, education about what constitutes a sex offense, and complete offense-specific program screening for treatment progression.
- *SOTMP Stage I-A Group:* This consists of group introduction and start-up, contract, testing, and treatment plan. Offenders are introduced to Social Responsibility Therapy, Road to Recovery-Tactics, healthy thinking and Rational Self Analysis (RSA), classification of sex offenders (fixated, regressed, power, anger, sadistic), and Victim Impact.
- *SOTMP Stage I-B Group:* During this group, the following topics/activities are addressed/completed: Sexual Addiction – core beliefs, sex education, social skills (communication styles), relationship skills-myths and thinking errors, cycle-narrative-behavior chain, and final project-final test-exit interview.
- *SOTMP Stage II Group:* Materials covered include personal change contract, sexual history, polygraphs testing, personal history of abuse cycle, safety planning, and journaling group. Individuals remain in treatment through YOS Phase II until released to Phase III, Community Supervision.

Treatment is seen as a progressive process. Offenders recommended for offense-specific treatment will be under the program umbrella throughout the duration of their YOS sentence. Sex offense specific treatment does not begin until SOTMP Stage I-A.

Education

The mission of the YOS education department is to develop compassionate, responsible, independent, educated, and productive citizens through a quality education. The YOS Education Department is a comprehensive program that provides academic, career and technical education, and cognitive classes, supported by special education and Title 1 services.

All YOS educational programs are approved by the Colorado Department of Education or the Colorado Community College System and are taught by credentialed and licensed instructors. YOS has a high school on grounds known as Century High School. A letter of agreement between YOS Century High School and Pueblo City Schools is in effect, enabling offenders who meet the district's graduation requirements to receive their high school diploma through Pueblo School District 60.



Upon arrival at YOS, on average, offenders have obtained three high school credits. To meet graduation requirements, YOS offenders must obtain 22 high school credits, per standards set forth by Pueblo City Schools, School District

60. Although YOS offenders attend school year-round and complete three semesters during a 12-month period, bringing an offender from three credits to 22 credits can present a challenge to the education department, particularly if the offender only has a two or three year sentence.

The teacher-to-student ratio is maintained at 1:10 or better. Small classes and a variety of individual and group activities provide the individualized attention and instruction needed to actively engage at-risk offenders in a challenging learning environment.

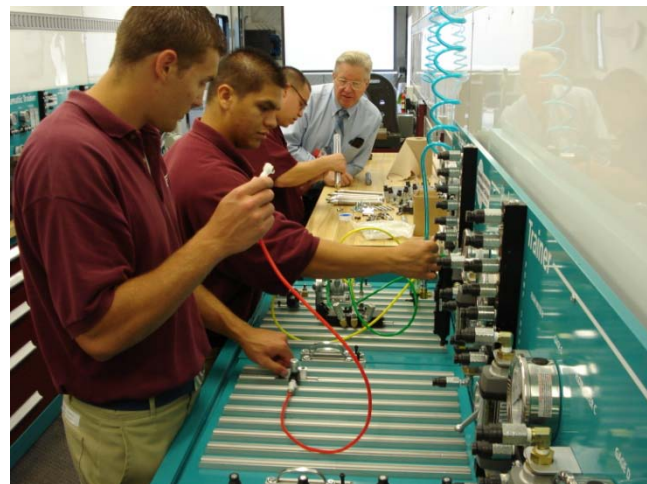
Special Education: YOS offers special education services designed to provide unique instructional assistance for qualifying offenders comparable to that which is offered in the public school system. A certified special education teacher in IDO conducts an assessment with follow-up by a licensed special education teacher who assists regular classroom teachers. Special education services are designed to meet federal and state guidelines regarding the development and follow-up of an individual education plan in coordination with a multi-disciplinary team of professionals.

In FY10, 44 offenders received special education services, accounting for 35% of the academic enrollments. A total of six special education offenders received a high school diploma or GED during FY10.

Title 1: Title 1 is a federally funded grant that was created to assist individuals who are functioning academically two grades below the norm in reading, writing, and/or math, based on chronological age. YOS utilizes the targeted assistance program available through Title 1 for the 20 to 30 lowest functioning students and provides them appropriate Title 1 learning opportunities.

Academic Education: Every YOS offender who has not received a GED or earned a high school diploma prior to arrival at YOS is enrolled in either pre-secondary remedial classes or secondary (grades 9 to 12) education courses. Placement is dependent upon grade and skill levels as determined through the diagnostic process completed during the Orientation Training Phase.

- Language Arts and English
- Mathematics
- Social Studies
- Science
- Physical Education and Health
- Electives: Art, Keyboarding



Career and Technical Education: YOS career and technical education programs are approved by the Colorado Community College System (CCCS). All YOS career and technical instructors are credentialed in their specific trade, and up to 45 hours of Colorado Educational Center course work is transferable to a community college toward an

Associate of Applied Science Degree. During FY10, 89 offenders earned college credits through the YOS career and technical education program. YOS offers certificates in:

- Business
- Business Computers
- Electronics
- Multi Media Production
- Automotive
- Janitorial
- Barber/Cosmetology

College Courses: College courses are provided through Pueblo Community College in conjunction with the Colorado Incarcerated Offenders Post-Secondary Program (CIOPP) grant. Offenders also have the option to participate in correspondence courses; however, the expense falls to the offender or his/her family. With the options available, the offenders have the capability to acquire an associate degree, depending upon their motivation and sentence length. Six offenders have been released from YOS with an associate's degree.

The ACT college entrance exam was administered in FY 2010. A total of 60 offenders tested during the April session. The average YOS score was 17.625, compared to an average public school score of 19.5. Based upon the academic education needs of the YOS population, the average YOS score is very favorable. However, Century High School has been challenged to meet or exceed the average public school ACT test score.

Performance Measures: As one of the primary goals of YOS, participation in academic and career and technical education courses is very high. Enrollments are as follows:

- Academic enrollments = 175 in FY10
- Career and Technical Education enrollments = 108 in FY10
- College courses = 33 in FY10

YOS offenders took advantage of the library services available to them. Below is the number of library books checked out during FY10:

- 6,044 from the YOS library
- 681 interlibrary loan requests

A total of 29 high school diplomas and 15 GED certificates were awarded during graduation exercises held at Century High School in 2010. Figure 1 reflects the number of high school diplomas and GED certificates issued since 2005. Figure 2 reflects the percent of YOS offenders releasing with a high school diploma or equivalent or a vocational certificate.

Figure 1. Number of High School Diplomas and GED Certificates since FY05

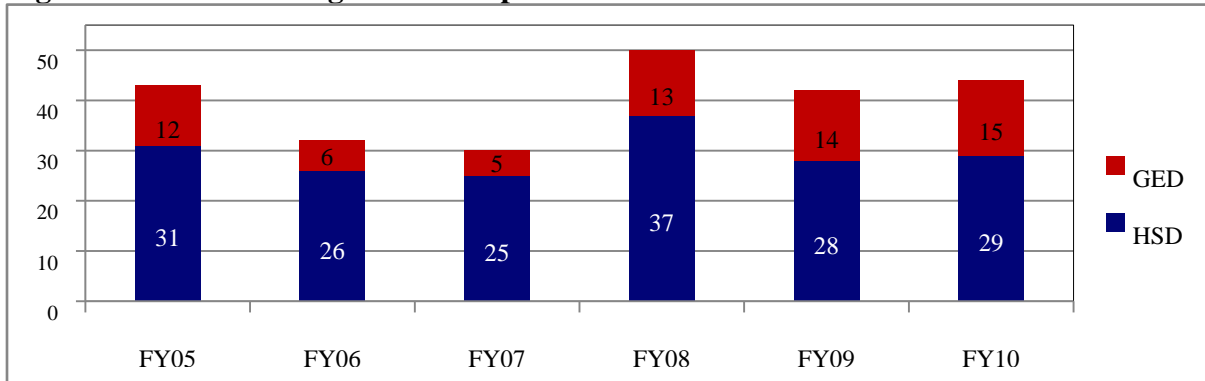
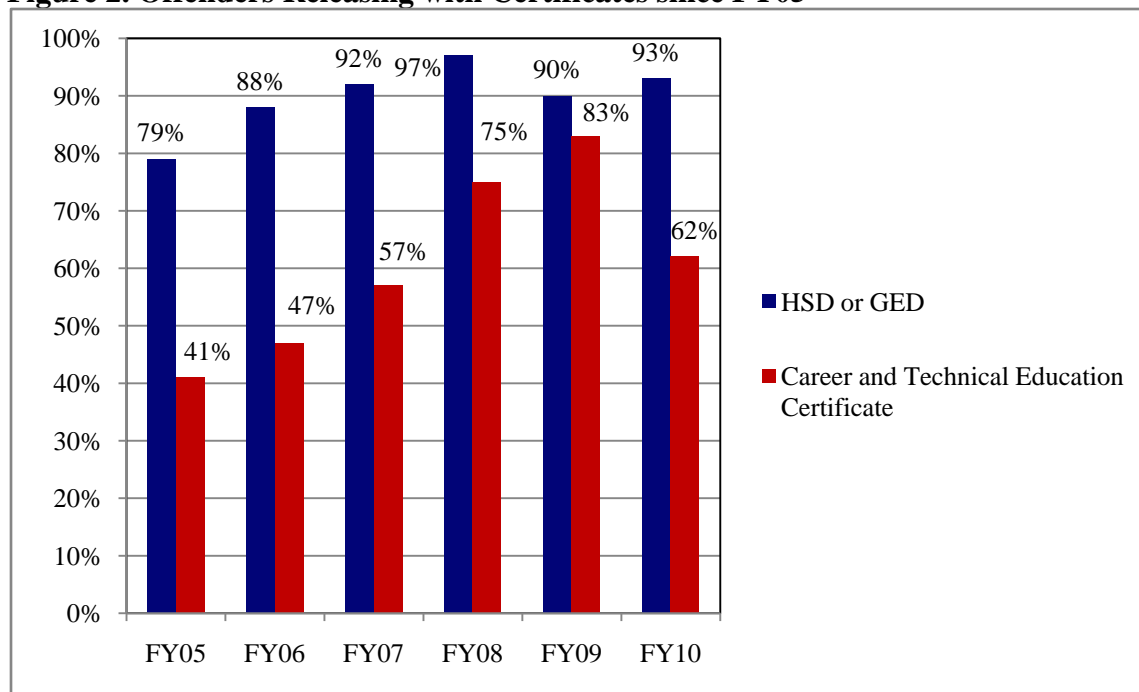


Figure 2. Offenders Releasing with Certificates since FY05



Note. The year-to-year variation is a reflection of such factors as sentence length and learning ability.

Volunteer and Chaplain Services

Chaplains provide religious services and counsel to offenders as they are needed. The YOS chaplain provides a formal religious service on Sunday evenings to both the male and female offenders. He also serves throughout the week and is involved with the Epiphany Weekend events and monthly reunions. This past year the YOS chaplain served:

- 787 hours in FY10

Formal religious services are provided regularly to offenders in the facility; these include Protestant/Catholic church services, Jehovah's Witness, and Muslim/Islamic-based Ramadan, among others. The number of services provided was:

- 213 in FY10

Other religious programs that are not formal services are meetings or faith group programs provided by organizations such as New Horizon and Epiphany. These services totaled:

- 120 in FY10

Non-religious programs, such as external speakers, were provided to youthful offenders:

- 64 in FY10

In addition to chaplains, volunteers from the community donate their time to working with the offender population. Their contributions are summarized below:

- 343 volunteers provided 4,316 hours of service in FY10

The following community volunteer programs are available in OTP, Phase I, and Phase II:

- United Bible Study
- Catholic Services
- Iron Man Bible Study
- Inspirational Recreation
- Epiphany
- Inside Out Dad
- Story Time
- Learning for Life
- REAL Ministries (Reasons; Encounters; Alternatives; Life)

Phase III provides volunteer and mentoring services through the Community Circles of Accountability and Support. The main goal of the Community Circles of Accountability and Support is to identify needs and teach clients how to connect to community resources so that when services have ended they have the skills to independently access necessary resources. The circles are comprised of group-approved community volunteers. Currently the circles are held regularly in Ft. Collins at a YOS contract vendor's location. Circles are also held on an as-needed basis in the Denver metro area. Mentoring services, provided by United Way, add an additional element to the circles by providing the offender with additional support from a team of volunteers that is assigned to a particular offender.



Gender Specific Activities

Male and female offenders are housed and managed separately; however, the facility, sentence structure, and phases are essentially the same. YOS has female-specific programs and services designed to better meet the needs of the female offender population and male-specific programs designed to better meet the needs of male offenders.

Female-Specific Activities: Female offenders participate in many group sessions that are geared to their learning and individual female adolescent development. Services by outside agencies are provided in conjunction with mental health staff to ensure psychotherapy is reinforced by all providers and that continuity of care issues are protected.

Inspirational recreation is offered monthly on a Saturday in the Building 26 yard or all-purpose room with Mennonite volunteers. A variety of different activities and sports are offered with the goal to teach teamwork. This group also comes in to volunteer with the teaching of volleyball along with the recreation staff. Following the monthly recreation activities, a formal chapel service is provided where group discussions about inspirational topics and stories occur.

Two new female Bible studies have been implemented on Wednesday and Friday evenings. Both are successful programs and well attended. In these sessions, the Bible is studied but they also explore many female-oriented issues and problems.

A sewing program was implemented by one of the YOS academic teachers in September 2009. This class will span at least three school semesters. It teaches skills from basic personal sewing to professional seamstress and commercial upholstery. During FY10, female offenders who have completed this class will be eligible for employment through the YOS laundry department, repairing YOS offender clothing.

In the past, the Girl Scouts of Pueblo provided year-round support by offering a LIFE (Leadership Influencing Future Endeavors) and a Healthy Relationships group. Due to some reorganization within the Girl Scouts of Pueblo, these classes are no longer available. However, since September 2009, the Boy Scouts have been offering their Learning for Life program for the female offenders. In this program they learn about healthy relationships with each other and the opposite sex.

Construction of a Life Skills lab will be completed during the first quarter of FY10. This lab will be available to the female offenders at least one day per week, providing an opportunity for the offenders to learn daily meal preparation, budgeting, shopping, cooking and cleaning.

Male-Specific Activities: Male offenders participate in many group sessions that are geared to their learning and individual development. Services by outside agencies are provided in conjunction with mental health staff to ensure psychotherapy is reinforced by all providers and that continuity of care issues are protected.

Inspirational recreation is offered monthly on a Saturday in the yard with Mennonite volunteers. A variety of different activities and sports are offered with the goal to teach teamwork. Following the

recreational activities, a formal chapel service is provided where group discussions about inspirational topics and stories occur.

Like Skills classes are also offered to the male offenders while in Phase II. Construction of a Life Skills Lab will be completed during the first quarter of FY10 providing male offenders in Phase II with the opportunity to learn how to prepare meals, use coupons, and maintain cleanliness. Responsibility, taking direction, and being respectful to peers and staff are additional values taught in the class.

Core Program Interventions

The YOS program ensures that all offenders receive standard programs and services such as screening, cognitive education and employment. However, specialized services including sex offender and mental health treatment are also provided if the offender has needs in these areas. Table 1 further explains the programs by indicating when each is available to the offender.

Table 1. Core Program Interventions

CORE ACTIVITIES	IDO / OTP	PHASE I	PHASE II	PHASE III
Security Threat Group Screening & Assessment	X			
Mental Health Screening & Assessment	X			
Sex Offender Screening & Assessment	X			
Substance Abuse Screening & Assessment	X			
Education Screening & Assessment	X			
Criminal History Screening & Assessment	X			
Janitorial Class	X	X		
Health Education Class	X	X		
Physical Regimentation	X	X	X	X
Positive Peer Culture	X	X	X	
Quick Skills	X	X	X	X
Guided Group Interaction		X	X	
Academic Program – Remedial Education	X	X	X	X
Academic Program – High School	X	X	X	X
Academic Program – Post Secondary		X	X	X
Academic Program – Vocational Training		X	X	X
Employment		X	X	X
Anger Management Classes		X	X	X
Drug and Alcohol Classes		X	X	X
Mental Health Individual Counseling	X	X	X	X
Sex Offender Treatment & Monitoring		X	X	X
Independent Living Skills	X	X	X	X
Self Help Groups / Group Therapy		X	X	X
Impact of Crime on Victims		X	X	
Volunteer Services	X	X	X	X
Inspirational Recreation		X	X	
Girl Scouts		X	X	
Baby-Think-It-Over			X	
Community Service			X	X
Transition Services			X	

YOS COMPONENTS/PHASES

By statute, YOS consists of OTP, Phase I, Phase II and Phase III; each with a different focus. The main goals of OTP are assessment, offender acclimation to the program, and the beginning of treatment. Phase I, the longest phase, is where the bulk of services are received. Phase II is designed to prepare the offender for re-entry and Phase III is meant to assist offenders after they are living in the community, seeking to establish themselves as a law abiding citizen and working to fulfill conditions of supervision.

Orientation Training Phase

Intake Day: On intake day, the offenders are transported from county jail to DRDC in Denver where picture identification and fingerprints are obtained. The offenders are then transported to YOS in Pueblo, where an initial assessment is completed prior to Zero Day.

Zero Day:

- The first day of the Orientation Training Phase (OTP).
- Zero Day consists of approximately one hour and 45 minutes of instruction and 60 minutes of highly regimented physical activity, similar to any regular high school athletic practice, but not as rigorous as a “two-a-day” practice that many high school athletic departments use to get their athletes into shape for the season.
- The physical exercise that the offenders undergo is designed to immerse the offender both mentally and physically to drain destructive energies, break down negative gang affiliation and activity, and begin to develop pro-social rapport between YOS employees and the offenders.
- Offenders learn that the rigors of Zero Day are completed quickly and as a team they have achieved their first accomplishment at YOS.
- Although this day may be extremely difficult for some individuals who have not recently participated in any type of healthy, physical activity; Zero Day by no means defines the YOS this is one day of a two to seven year sentence.

Assessment: During the first 30 days, a thorough and complete assessment is conducted that consists of the following content areas:

- A review of criminogenic needs:
 - Anti-social cognition
 - Anti-social companions
 - Anti-social personality or temperament
 - Family and/or marital
 - Substance abuse
 - Employment
 - School
 - Leisure and/or recreation
- Criminal history (checks for warrants or detainers, current and prior)
- History of violent or aggressive behavior
- Gang involvement

- Attitude toward authority
- Escape history
- Behavioral problems
- Educational aptitude and achievement level
- Education / school history
- Work history and aptitude
- Social and family history
- Sexual offender history
- History of drug and alcohol use and treatment
- Mental health (historical and current)
- Physical health (historical and current)

Standardized testing instruments are administered by trained assessment staff to identify and evaluate each offender sentenced to YOS for deficiencies and needs in the areas listed above. Use of standardized testing is supplemented by a focused interview with the offender to verify or elaborate on information collected through testing. Documentation is obtained from court documents, pre-sentence investigation reports, and state and federal criminal justice databases (i.e., CCIC, NCIC, and CICJIS). Other history (e.g., education, treatment, placement, etc.) may be further validated via phone contact or written correspondence.

Orientation: Orientation occurs during the first 30 days and participation is required by all offenders in order to advance to the next phase. Orientation includes a thorough discussion of the full scope of activities that occur in each phase of their sentence. This activity provides basic information regarding:

- Explanation of YOS sentencing
- Expectations and criteria for successful completion of YOS
- Rules, regulations, and sanctions
- Group behavioral norms
- Confidentiality of information including limits to confidentiality
- Responsibilities to attend programs and activities
- Methods of confrontation; four cognitive distortions; 12 problem areas
- Criteria for termination from YOS
- Redirecting destructive energies
- Developing pro-social rapport between staff and offenders

Throughout the first 30 days, when not involved in orientation or diagnostic activities, the offender participates in highly regimented physical activities. Although somewhat less rigorous in later phases, physical fitness is emphasized throughout the entire YOS sentence.

Initial Plan: At the conclusion of the assessment process, a multi-disciplinary staffing team meets to develop the initial individualized plan, known as the progress assessment summary (PAS). The PAS is prepared with re-entry in mind and identifies the specific, individualized needs of the offender. The team may include the following staff: assessment lieutenant/treatment team coordinator, primary advisor, educational assessment specialist, clinical staff, certified addiction counselor, sex offender treatment team, intelligence officer, and correctional officers/drill instructors.

This staffing committee reviews educational development and placement and identifies special education service needs; cognitive skills; substance abuse and other treatment issues; family support; behavior problems; custody concerns; criminal history; release dates; gang or security threat group (STG) issues; and other information to familiarize all members of the team with the offender. At this staffing the offender is introduced to members of the team that he or she may not have met yet, most notably his or her primary advisor. The primary advisor will acquaint the offender with the expectations of Phase I and will continue to guide the individual during the next phase to ensure adequate progress and participation.

Phase I

The longest portion of the YOS sentence is served in Phase I, which may extend from eight to 75 months, depending on the offender's sentence. This phase is also where the most intensive service delivery occurs.

Phase I utilizes an open unit management approach to offender management. Living units are staffed by multi-disciplinary teams with security, discipline, education, treatment, and behavior modification being the shared responsibility of each staff member. Each unit serves as a small community where incentives are utilized to suppress anti-social behaviors and reinforce pro-social behavior and positive application of cognitive thinking skills. Progress team staff members share in the skills training and education responsibilities.

Employment: Offenders with a high school diploma or GED are required to attend post-secondary career and technical education classes or work in the facility. Job assignments exist in food service, maintenance, janitorial services, teacher aide, library aide, and laundry. Offenders may also opt for a work assignment while taking post-secondary courses. The average number of offenders employed during FY10 totaled 80. Apprenticeship programs are available through the Colorado Department of Labor to include food service, and maintenance. The Colorado DOC is in the process of creating apprenticeship opportunities for teacher aide and library aide positions which YOS will utilize as soon as the opportunity becomes available.

The following outlines a typical day in Phase I:

- 0500 - Wake up to standing, formal count. Make bed, clean and organize personal space.
- 0530 - Begin personal hygiene (one room at a time) and prepare for morning meal
- 0600 - Breakfast – two units at a time (remaining unit continues with personal hygiene)
- 0700 - Breakfast complete – continue cleaning personal space and personal hygiene
- 0725 - 1st hour class or report to work
- 0820 - 2nd hour class
- 0915 - 3rd hour class
- 1010 - 4th hour class
- 1015 - Formal count (conducted during 4th hour class)
- 1105 - All offender students and workers return to living unit to prepare for lunch
- 1110 - Lunch – two units at a time
- 1200 - Lunch complete – take care of personal hygiene

1215 - 5th hour class or report to work
1310 - 6th hour class
1405 - 7th hour class
1500 - 8th hour class
1550 - School day ends – all offender students and workers return to unit
1600 - Formal count and GGI groups (groups of 12-15 meet three times per week)
1600 - Homework – for those offenders not attending GGI groups that day
1645 - Prepare for evening meal
1700 - Dinner – two units at a time
1740 - Dinner complete
1800 - Evening programs (religious programs, college classes, recreation time)
2000 - End evening programs – return to unit to complete hygiene, homework etc.
2020 - Evening snacks (in the living unit)
2030 - Chores (cleaning and organize personal space) and personal hygiene
2100 - Standing formal count – read/study in room
2230 - Lights out

Family Support: Parental involvement is an essential component of YOS. To encourage family support, a parent packet is mailed to the parents/guardians during the initial Orientation Training Phase. The packet contains general information about YOS and is intended to encourage parental participation and input that result in improved communication among offenders, parents, and staff. In turn, better communication facilitates stronger relationships with parents who are a critical support system for the offenders both while they are incarcerated as well as when they return to the community.

On a daily basis, the YOS Management team maintains lines of communication with parents who have concerns, questions, or issues that may arise regarding their son or daughter. Additionally, YOS supports a volunteer committee, the Parents Association. The Parents Association provides the time and resources needed to host special functions and has implemented a phone tree for information sharing.

Phase II (Pre-Release)

The last three months of an offender's incarceration is served in Phase II. The date of progression to Phase II is determined by the YOS Placement Committee. The Placement Committee assesses each offender's progress in education, cognitive course work, facility employment history, progression in the Behavior Management Program/Level System and overall abilities for predicting a successful transition back into the community. Phase II is located on the YOS campus in Pueblo and offenders remain under direct 24-hour supervision while in the facility and while on scheduled appointments/activities in the community.

Phase II is intended to:

- Provide direct supervision of offenders to ensure offender compliance through incentives and sanctions with the goal of maintaining public safety.
- Utilize staff as mentors and role models to provide support and encouragement to

- foster positive social interaction and pro-social behaviors.
- Reinforce the Phase I goal of replacing criminal thinking and their previous value system with socially acceptable norms that enable the offender to participate in pro-social community activities.

Offenders continue to receive a full range of services in Phase II but with greater emphasis on services which facilitate successful re-entry into the community, including job development, life-skills training, and education. The core activities in Phase II include education, Impact of Crime on Victims, relapse prevention, treatment groups, independent living skills, employment services, community service projects, pro-social outings, and transitional services.

Education / Employment: The education component in Phase II is designed to build upon the academic skills acquired in Phase I in order to prepare them for the academic, vocational, and occupational challenges of community living.

Academic classes continue for offenders who have not yet obtained a high school diploma or GED. For those with high school certification, preparation for college entrance exams (ACT and SAT) is available. Phase II provides the services of an educational advisor who facilitates the application process for federal and state grants, scholarships, support services, and assistance with post-secondary needs. Male offenders who are 18 years of age or older are required to enroll with Selective Service to qualify for state and federal grants and vouchers.

All Phase II offenders participate in a monthly employment seminar that assists in career planning by providing labor market information and assistance with applications and resumes. This phase helps offenders improve upon skills, such as goal setting, self-esteem, listening, assertiveness, interviewing skills, and job-seeking skills.

The education component in Phase II is not restricted to academic and vocational skills. The curriculum seeks to improve offender’s effectiveness in many essential life roles, such as employee, parent, family member, and member of society. Coursework places emphasis on the following:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Goal setting | First impressions |
| Time management | Assertiveness |
| Communication | Exploring interests |
| Stress and health | Strengths |
| Interviewing skills | Job progression |
| Decision making | Celebrating success |
| Money and credit | |

Phase II staff assist offenders in securing birth certificates, Social Security cards, and Colorado identification cards that will be necessary when applying for jobs. Courses in writing skills focus on resumes, cover letters, and felony explanation letters for prospective employers.

Independent Living Skills: Offenders prepare for community living by participating in independent living skill coursework that is part of the Cognitive Intervention core curriculum. To facilitate a

successful community re-entry, offenders meet with community agencies to plan for future transition.

Offenders are required to attend a nutrition class where they are taught skills in food planning and preparation. Additionally, budgeting and personal safety are discussed as important parts of independent living. Offenders are required to prepare a budget, which is discussed during the monthly transitional meetings.

All Phase II offenders are required to complete a resume, cover letter and felony explanation letter. These documents are reviewed monthly during progress team reviews. While in the facility, offenders are responsible for chores and maintenance similar to requirements they will experience in the community.

Baby – Think It Over Program: Phase II offenders participate in the Baby – Think It Over Program, which requires each offender to adopt the role of a parent. By exploring the emotional, financial, and social consequences of parenting, this program introduces offenders to the responsibilities of caring for an infant by using a computer-simulated baby. The program also discusses abstinence and sexually transmitted diseases.

Community Service: All offenders sentenced to YOS are required to complete 100 hours of meaningful community service, completing at least 40 hours in Phase II and a minimum of 60 in Phase III. Offenders in Phase II have been involved in the following community service projects in Pueblo:

- Pueblo County Health Department Food Distribution Center
- Pueblo Nature Center, Trail, and Raptor Center
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Washington Head Start/SER Head Start
- Pueblo Animal Shelter
- Boy Scouts Inc.
- Fish Hatchery
- Pueblo West Swallows Charter Academy
- Pueblo County Probation, Choices & Consequences Program
- Pueblo County Park and Recreation
- Therapeutic Riding and Education Center (TREC)
- Girl Scouts Inc.
- Colorado State University at Pueblo
- Pueblo Police Range
- Vineland Middle/Elementary School

Transitional Services: Transition team meetings occur during Phase II to evaluate, coordinate, and finalize a comprehensive and tailored community supervision and reentry plan for Phase III. The initial meeting takes place during the first two weeks of the offender's entrance into Phase II. The second and third meetings are then scheduled approximately 30 days apart. Meetings are attended by Phase I, II, and III staff; mental health, SOTMP therapist, and/or medical staff as needed;

educational advisor; the offender; family members; and appropriate community providers. The plan addresses the following components:

- Family preservation, emancipation, or independent living skills
- Academic and vocational education
- Employment history and abilities
- Drug and alcohol counseling
- Community service
- Mentoring
- Recreational activities
- Groups for pro-social behavior
- Gang affiliation and history of participation
- Medical history
- YORP grant eligibility
- Criminal history and propensity to re-offend
- Behavioral history at any correctional facility
- Cognitive educational accomplishments
- SOTMP participation (if applicable)
- Offender's Phase III plan and goals for successful community reentry

The offender actively participates in implementation of the Phase III plan after its development. Phase II offenders are transported to meet and tour Phase III community providers, take college entrance exams, enroll in school, attend college orientations, apply for financial aid, drop off employment applications, schedule interviews, attend job fairs, and actively participate in the process of leasing an apartment.

Phase III (Community Supervision)

YOS Community Supervision, also referred to Phase III, is the final component of a YOS sentence that transitions the offender from a facility setting to the community. This phase provides intensive supervision and surveillance and holds the offender to a high level of accountability while in the community. It is designed to ensure close offender monitoring and supervision by incorporating intensive community parole officer (CPO) contact and counseling sessions that enhance public safety. Phase III employees use evidence-based practices to instill compliant behavior, teach self-discipline, and provide the appropriate programs and services to assist with the offender's transition back to the community.

Services Provided: YOS provides a comprehensive program continuum for offenders with individualized options to meet the offender's specific needs. Phase III emphasizes an interactive partnership of county, state, and community agencies, offering an array of support services that provide a comprehensive community supervision program statewide. These services assist the offender and his/her family in the areas of residency, employment, education, therapy, and re-entry services. A graduated decrease in supervision intensity accompanies positive program participation, measurable attainment of defined goals and objectives, and increasingly pro-social community involvement.

YOS Phase III contracts with community-based service providers to provide an evidence-based approach to the offender's rehabilitation. These contracted services provide support to offenders while in three types of components. These include the Community Transition Program, Independent Living, and Family Preservation.

Community Transition Program, also known as an emancipation program, operates in a stand-alone residential setting, much like a community corrections center, by providing a step-down process for offenders to transition from a secure facility to the community. Offenders can progress to either the Independent Living or Family Preservation components of Phase III. The Community Transition Program provides support services to offenders with meals, clothing, sleeping arrangements, transportation, and medical assistance; in addition to providing employment, education, cognitive education, community activities, and case management services.

Family Preservation allows offenders to transition from the facility or the Community Transition Program to their parent(s), family, or designated sponsor. In this component, parents, family or sponsors are considered integral in developing and implementing the community supervision plan and are included in establishing a family and community support system for the offender. The concept is to build a team approach with a commitment from the parents, family, or sponsor to cooperate and to support the YOS offender in achieving the goals of community reintegration. The contracted services support the offender with education, cognitive education, community activities, and case management. In addition, the contracted provider assists the offender in securing employment to increase the chance of successful reintegration and reduced recidivism rates.

Independent Living allows the offender to transition directly from the YOS facility or, in most cases, from the Community Transition Program, to living independently in the community. This component is designed for those individuals who lack family support, or for individuals for whom returning home is not conducive to successful re-entry. This contracted support service assists the offender in securing an apartment, furniture, food, and other essentials necessary to live on their own. Additional services include case management, cognitive education, employment and education services, social/recreational activities, and community service.

Contracted day reporting services serve to support the Family Preservation and Independent Living components by providing a means for daily call-ins from offenders and conducting urine analysis. In addition, the vendors may provide additional services as needed such as additional urine analysis, breathalyzer, medication monitoring, and Antabuse to the offenders.

Contracted mentoring services serve to support offenders by recruiting, training, interviewing, and matching both one-on-one and group mentor volunteers to offenders located in YOS Phase II and Phase III. The contractor monitors each match for its duration, which is through Phase III. The role of the mentor is to support and encourage offenders to participate in Circles of Support and Accountability, in addition to providing mentoring or life coaching services to the offenders. These services are provided in Denver and Ft. Collins.

Table 2. Phase III Community Supervision FY10

Region	No. of Offenders	Family Preservation	Independent Living*
Northern	10	10%	90%
Central	21	66.7%	33.3%
Southern	7	100%	0.0%
Western	0	0.0%	0.0%

**Independent Living totals include offenders who successfully completed the Community Transition Program*

Community service is required of all offenders during the YOS Community Supervision phase. Community service allows the offender to give something back to society and exposes him/her to higher social and moral values.

Each Phase III offender is evaluated for the most appropriate mental health/substance abuse treatment, which is administered through a network of DOC approved treatment providers. These providers conduct groups in anger management, domestic violence, substance abuse, and sex offender treatment. Offenders also participate in individual counseling specific for this age group and level of development. Monthly reports help keep CPOs up to date on each offender's progress.

Adult Basic Education (GED preparatory) is required for every offender who has not attained his/her GED or high school diploma. Post-high school education is available depending on the offender's abilities and motivation. Contracted community-based service providers assist the offender with academic and career and technical education enrollment, acquisition of financial aid, and attainment of student support services.

Employment, if only part-time, in Phase III is required of all offenders during the YOS Community Supervision phase. Contracted community-based service providers help the offender find and maintain meaningful employment. Employment instills a work ethic, develops self-confidence, and provides the offender with money for self-sufficiency and restitution payment.

The YOS Community Supervision Phase has contracted community-based services and CPO supervision in the Denver Metro area, Fort Collins, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, and Grand Junction.

Table 3. Phase III Performance Measures

Phase III Performance Measure	FY10
Average daily population	30
Offender employment rate	41%
Average Community service hours completed	106
Restitution payments	14%
Phase III completion	34
Phase III revocations	4

Completion of the YOS Sentence

Upon the successful completion of the programs and services offered throughout the offender's sentence at YOS, including the mandatory period of community supervision, the initially imposed and suspended adult sentence shall have been fulfilled.

Revocation / Termination

Offenders who cannot successfully complete their sentence to YOS or who fail to comply with the terms and conditions of YOS are returned to district court for revocation proceedings.

Any offender returned to the district court because he or she cannot successfully complete the sentence to YOS for reasons other than mental illness or a developmental disability, or because he or she fails to comply with the terms or conditions of YOS, shall receive imposition of the original sentence to the DOC.

STAFFING

In staffing YOS, the executive director of the DOC shall ensure that employees are experienced and trained in the treatment of YOS offenders or will be trained in the treatment of YOS offenders prior to working with such a population. Staff are trained to act as role models and mentors, equipping them to achieve the YOS guiding principles. The executive director shall make a recommendation to the Department of Personnel regarding the classification of positions, taking into account the level of education and training required for such positions, and shall have final approval on the hiring and transferring of employees for the YOS.

The YOS is comprised of a community of concerned employees committed to the principles of adolescent development who, through modeling, mentoring, and other planned interventions, provide opportunities for offenders to acquire skills and abilities that enable them to grow and develop into successful, productive citizens. Perhaps more so than in the adult system, staff working with YOS offenders must be able to perform multiple functions. YOS staff members are selected for their professionalism, attitude, and experience working with adjudicated adolescent populations and for their potential to mentor, coach, and provide training to offenders and jointly facilitate counseling sessions and programmatic activities.

Facility Staff

There are 171.9 full-time employee (FTE) positions currently assigned to the YOS facility. Among the administrative staff are the warden and associate warden along with administrative personnel including the administrative services manager, operations manager, high school principal (teacher III), and other support employees. Custody and control encompasses correctional officers who provide direct offender supervision, offender management, security for the facility, and supervision of line staff. Additionally, they facilitate Quick Skills classes and GGI sessions with offenders. Clinical services staff administer medical, mental health, and therapeutic interventions, while the education employees are responsible for direct and supportive educational services for offenders. Food service and physical plant employees provide meals for the offenders and ground maintenance for the facility as well as direct supervision of offenders working in those areas. Central impact positions include an investigator, legal representative, and researcher not physically located at the YOS facility.

Table 4. YOS Phase I and Phase II Staffing

Gender	FY10
Male	65.3%
Female	34.1%
Ethnicity	
African American	6.4%
Asian	.6%
Hispanic	39.4%
Native American	2.3%
White, Non-Hispanic	50.3%

Community Staff

YOS Phase III Program Administrator: The YOS Phase III program administrator secures and develops statewide community-based resources and support programs for offenders transitioning from the facility portion of YOS to Phase III. These resources and programs are designed to meet the individual needs of each offender in the areas of education, financial aid, vocational training, support services, therapy, employment, housing, independent living, and community service. The YOS Phase III program administrator works with providers to develop services that meet the needs of the offenders and monitors the implementation and effectiveness of their services.

CPO: Community supervision is provided by CPOs who are peace officer standards training (POST) certified and adhere to supervision standards set forth in Colorado Revised Statutes and DOC administrative regulations. The CPO is responsible for offender supervision in the community, responds to attempted escapes and critical incidents, makes arrests, administers disciplinary procedures, and removes offenders from the community as necessary. In addition to these traditional functions, the CPO also participates in unique responsibilities such as the development of the community supervision plan and serves as a mentor and role model to the offenders under their supervision.

Staff Training and Development

Like all DOC employees working with offenders, YOS employees are required to attend the DOC Basic Training Academy and maintain a minimum of 40 hours of subsequent training each year in subjects and courses that enhance career development specific to their professional status.

The YOS sentencing statute (§18-1.3-407, C.R.S.) requires YOS employees to have experience working with juvenile offenders or receive the proper training prior to working with this population. YOS has established a 40-hour orientation training program for new staff to meet this mandate. This training includes courses in:

- Reviewing administrative regulations 1600-01 and 1600-03
- Educational opportunities specific to YOS
- Cognitive Intervention Program (CIP)
 - Mission statement & guiding principles
 - Legal issues
 - Positive peer culture and cognitive education
 - Resisting peer pressure
 - Cognitive distortions
 - Anger management
 - Thinking errors & problem solving
 - Levels of confrontation
 - Huddle-up format
 - Social-skills training
 - Interview skills
 - Conditions of feedback
 - Guided group interaction (GGI)

- Progress teams
- Code of penal discipline (COPD) and YOS
- Case management planning and implementation-progress assessment summary
- Special education
- Suicide prevention
- Adolescent development
- Neglected, sexually and physically abused youth
- Management of, and programming for, sex offenders
- Adolescent nutrition
- Quick skills overview
- Cultural awareness
- Crisis prevention and intervention
- Housing and physical plant
- Policy and procedure
- Substance abuse services
- Mental health issues
- Gender-specific issues

YOS COSTS

Actual costs were examined for YOS over three fiscal years (see Table 5). Total annual costs and costs per day per inmate are presented separately for the facility portion, the community supervision phase, and jail backlog as well as for the entire program. Inmate costs per day were calculated using the average daily population (ADP). The ADP for facility supervision was 174 in FY08, 178 in FY09, and 193 in FY10. ADP was lower for community supervision, with 26 in FY08, 29 in FY09, and 27 in FY10.

Cost categories incorporated in IDO, Phase I and Phase II include personal services, operating, contract services, education contracts, drug and alcohol treatment, sex offender treatment, mental health, and purchase of service (CMHIP), medical expenses, and central administration. The Phase III cost categories include personal services, operating, contract services, and central administration.

Table 5. YOS Program Costs by Fiscal Year²

	FY08		FY09		FY10	
	Total Annual Cost	Inmate Cost Per Day	Total Annual Cost	Inmate Cost Per Day	Total Annual Cost	Inmate Cost Per Day
IDO, Phase I and Phase II	\$12,673,710	\$199.01	\$13,503,573	\$207.84	\$13,628,514	\$193.46
Phase III (Community Supervision)	\$1,844,311	\$193.81	\$1,945,854	\$183.83	\$1,870,912	\$189.84
External Capacity (Jail Backlog)	\$20,868	\$57.02	\$22,781	\$31.21	\$62,585	\$57.16
YOS TOTAL	\$14,538,889	\$197.63	\$15,472,208	\$202.82	\$15,562,011	\$191.19

The ADP for facility supervision experienced an increase during FY10 as the result of §18-1.3-407.5, C.R.S. expanding the age eligibility for sentencing consideration for YOS. However, this population increase will not affect the community supervision ADP until these offenders successfully progress to the community supervision portion of their sentence. While the implementation of §18-1.4-407.5, C.R.S. did result in a reduction in the actual inmate cost per day, YOS is still more costly than many of the DOC facilities. This rate is explained largely by the high staff-to-offender ratio and intensive education and treatment services, which results in a much lower recidivism rate.

² Source: Colorado DOC Finance and General Administration

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

IDO/OTP, Phase I, and Phase II

Continue assessment of YOS with emphasis on the following items for IDO/OTP, Phase I, and Phase II:

- Ensure the Colorado Young Offender-Level of Supervision Inventory (CYO-LSI) assessment continues to be completed during the Orientation Training Phase and provide YOS employees with training to interpret the assessment data for optimal use during Phase I and Phase II.
- Develop a Dialectical Behavioral Therapy class to target offenders who have completed anger management classes but continue to exhibit anger problems.
- Train all case managers in core traditional practices while focusing on case management services unique to YOS.
- Develop and update the PAS as an individualized plan with an emphasis on re-entry.
- Evaluate and align educational services to correspond with the skill level and age of the YOS population.
- Continue to work in conjunction with Pueblo City Schools to develop and maintain the required high school curriculum to ensure YOS offenders receive a high school diploma, issued by Pueblo City Schools, upon completion of all high school credits.
- Continue to develop relationships with labor trade unions. Provide required documentation and training to offenders that will enable them to meet the minimum qualifications required by trade unions.
- Develop a grant writing team at YOS to identify and research available grants for this unique population.
- Continue to obtain certification for all drill instructors.
- Develop a tracking system that will identify the unique needs associated with the offenders received as a result of HB 09-1122.
- YOS continues to seek funding for the construction of a multi-use support building. With the 2006 YOS/PMC transition, the new YOS facility and offender population were left without an indoor recreation facility. Prior to the transition, the YOS facility had a 9,890 square-foot recreation facility designed and built specifically to meet the unique needs of the offender population. Currently the inability to provide appropriate recreation, particularly in the winter months, creates the potential for significant management problems. In addition, the management of offenders' free time can be better structured and an indoor recreation facility will assist in meeting School District 60's physical education requirements.

Phase III

Continue assessment of YOS with emphasis on the following items for Phase III:

- Enhance the mentor program by expanding services to YOS offenders outside the Denver metro area and Ft. Collins area, such as Pueblo, Colorado Springs, and Grand Junction.

- Provide at least six training courses throughout the fiscal year to train volunteers on safety and security issues while working with offenders in the community.
- Ensure all Phase III employees receive updated CYO-LSI training.
- Explore motivational interviewing by the CPO in an effort to communicate more efficiently with offenders.
- Evaluate current budgetary spending and performance of long-term private service partnerships to ensure YOS is receiving effective and efficient service from the provider.
- Strive to improve the performance of private service partnerships through the use of auditing the performance and providing feedback to the private service partnership.
- Conduct research on YOS Phase III revocations to determine cause of revocation and implement changes to the current system based on recommendations from the research.
- Provide timely responses to the DOC public information officer to increase public awareness of YOS Phase III.

Overall Considerations

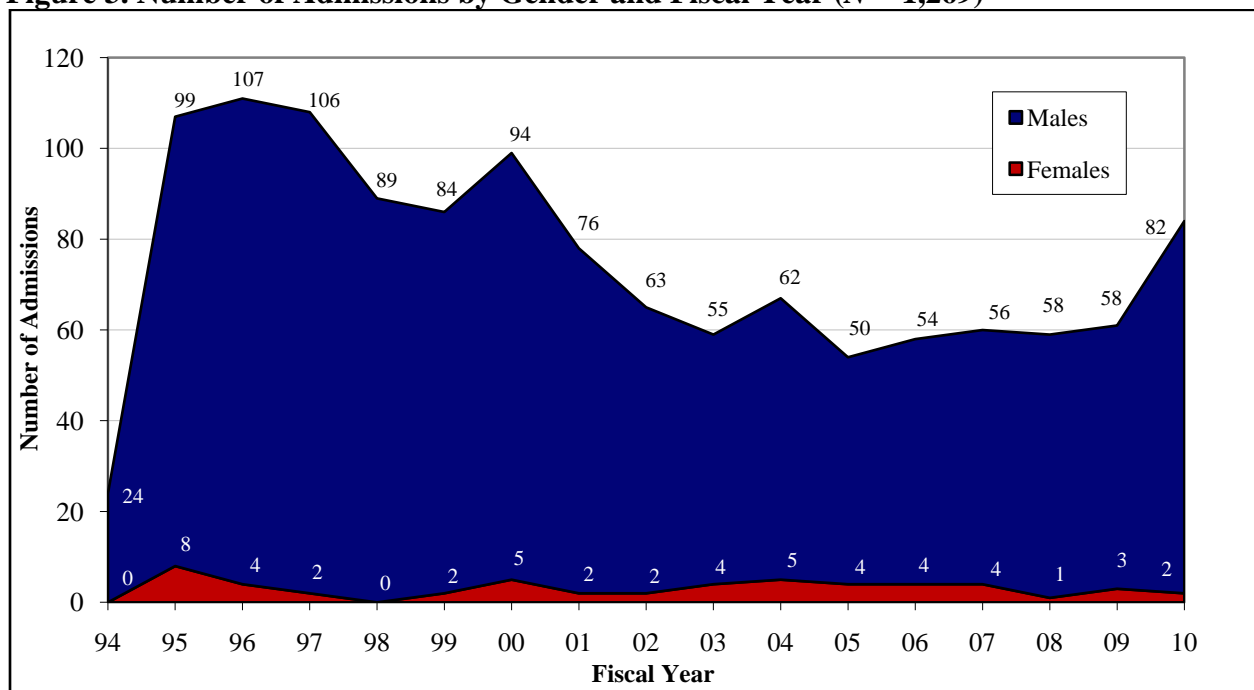
- The DOC continues to work with district attorneys, public defenders, private attorneys, and judges to increase awareness about the YOS sentencing option and ensures consistent, appropriate, and timely sentencing under YOS statutory provisions. Tours of the YOS facility are routinely scheduled and conducted for attorneys, judges, and advocacy groups. Information packets shall be provided upon request.
- YOS continues to maintain accreditation through the American Correctional Association (ACA).
- YOS will continue to work with approved community treatment providers to develop and increase volunteer programs available to offenders in all phases of YOS.
- Ensure the YOS section of the Division of Adult Parole, Community Corrections and YOS webpage is updated on a quarterly basis to increase positive public awareness.
- YOS continues to seek the acquisition of Building 20 from DHS. With the 2006 YOS/PMC transition, the available IDO beds were significantly reduced and remained on the grounds of the old YOS campus. The long-term master planning identified Building 20 as becoming available to the DOC to provide high security beds for remediation services for all phases of YOS, including Phase III, as well to bring the intake process and orientation training phase onto the YOS campus within one hard perimeter, which is critical to the on-going success and collaboration of services available to the YOS offender population.

OFFENDER PROFILE

Admission Characteristics

Youthful offender admissions to YOS, from its inception in 1994 through the end of FY10, were used to profile the population. During this time, a total of 1,269 individuals were admitted, of which 4% were females. This number excludes one offender who was sentenced to YOS in FY07 but was never admitted to DOC. Figure 3 shows the number of admissions each year by gender. FY05 witnessed the lowest annual rate of admissions of all years for which the facility was fully operational. FY10 saw a marked increase in YOS admissions, the highest since FY00 and a 38% increase over FY09.

Figure 3. Number of Admissions by Gender and Fiscal Year (N = 1,269)



Data was obtained from the DOC Information System (DCIS) to profile YOS admissions across demographic, criminal history, needs, and STG involvement variables. Data is presented for FY10 along with the overall statistics for the entire population.

Demographic Characteristics and Criminal History: YOS population characteristics remained relatively stable, with only minor changes over time, as shown in Table 6. The most notable change was an increased number of violent offenders admitted in FY09 and FY10 when compared to all YOS admissions. Violence is defined broadly, describing the general nature of the offense rather than the statutory definition found in §18-0.3-406, C.R.S. in order to be consistent with the reporting of adult crimes of DOC admissions. Other changes over time appear to be sporadic and may not be indicative of an actual trend. However, as a result of §18-1.3-407.5, C.R.S. offenders at the age of 18 or 19 at the time of their offense are now eligible for YOS in addition to those who are between the ages of 14 and 17 as designated in §18-1.3-407, C.R.S..

As described earlier, an adult DOC sentence is imposed on all YOS offenders, which is suspended conditional upon their completion of the YOS sentence. The data indicate that since the inception of YOS, sentences averaged six years shorter than if served in the adult population.

All YOS admissions are currently assessed on the CYO-LSI, a measure of criminal risk and need. CYO-LSI data were not available for admissions prior to FY05. The mean CYO-LSI score for admissions from FY05 through FY10 was 40.8 ($SD = 9.7$) on a scale that ranges from 0 to 84 points, which classifies them in the highest risk category using standardized norms.

Table 6. Admission Characteristics

	Offenders Sentenced to YOS During FY10						FY 94 - 10	
	18-1.3-407 (n = 63)		18-1.3-407.5 (n = 21)		Combined FY10 (n = 84)		(N = 1,269)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Race/ethnicity								
Hispanic	34	54%	10	48%	44	52%	585	46%
African American	18	28%	3	14%	21	25%	317	25%
European American	8	13%	7	33%	15	18%	323	25%
Asian American	1	2%	0	0%	1	1%	24	2%
Native American	2	3%	1	5%	3	4%	19	2%
Age at Admit								
14	2	3%	0	0%	2	2%	19	2%
15	4	6%	0	0%	4	5%	108	9%
16	10	16%	0	0%	10	12%	284	22%
17	22	35%	0	0%	22	26%	500	39%
18	23	37%	7	33%	30	36%	320	25%
19	2	3%	12	57%	14	17%	36	3%
20	0	0%	2	10%	2	2%	2	0%
Mean (St. Dev.)	17.0 (1.1)		18.8 (0.6)		17.5 (1.2)		16.9 (1.0)	
# with Children	7	11%	4	19%	11	13%	110	9%
Violent Offenders								
Violent	61	97%	18	86%	79	94%	1,050	83%
Nonviolent	2	3%	3	14%	5	6%	218	17%
Felony Class								
Class I	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Class II	4	6%	1	5%	5	6%	20	2%
Class III	29	46%	11	52%	40	47%	569	45%
Class IV	27	43%	8	38%	35	42%	524	41%
Class V	3	5%	1	5%	4	5%	145	11%
Class VI	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	10	1%
	Median (SD)		Median (SD)		Median (SD)		Median (SD)	
YOS Sentence	5.0 (1.5)		4.0 (1.5)		4.5 (1.5)		4.0 (1.4)	
Adult Sentence	12.0 (7.1)		12.0 (6.1)		12.0 (6.9)		10.0 (5.8)*	

Note. Data missing on 1 case for ethnicity and crime data. * Adult sentence excludes 2 sex offenders with lifetime supervision sentences.

Additional criminal history data were collected to examine county of commitment (see Figure 4) and type of crime for offenders' most serious offense (see Figure 5). In FY10, Denver, Weld, Arapahoe and Adams counties had the highest utilization of YOS. Compared to past years, offenders from Weld County comprised a much greater percentage of YOS admissions. The most frequent crime

categories in FY10 were aggravated robbery and first and second degree assault. It should be noted that there were more murders and second degree assaults in FY10 index offenses than in years prior. Consequently, violent offenders comprised a greater percentage of FY10 admissions.

Figure 4. Commitments per County

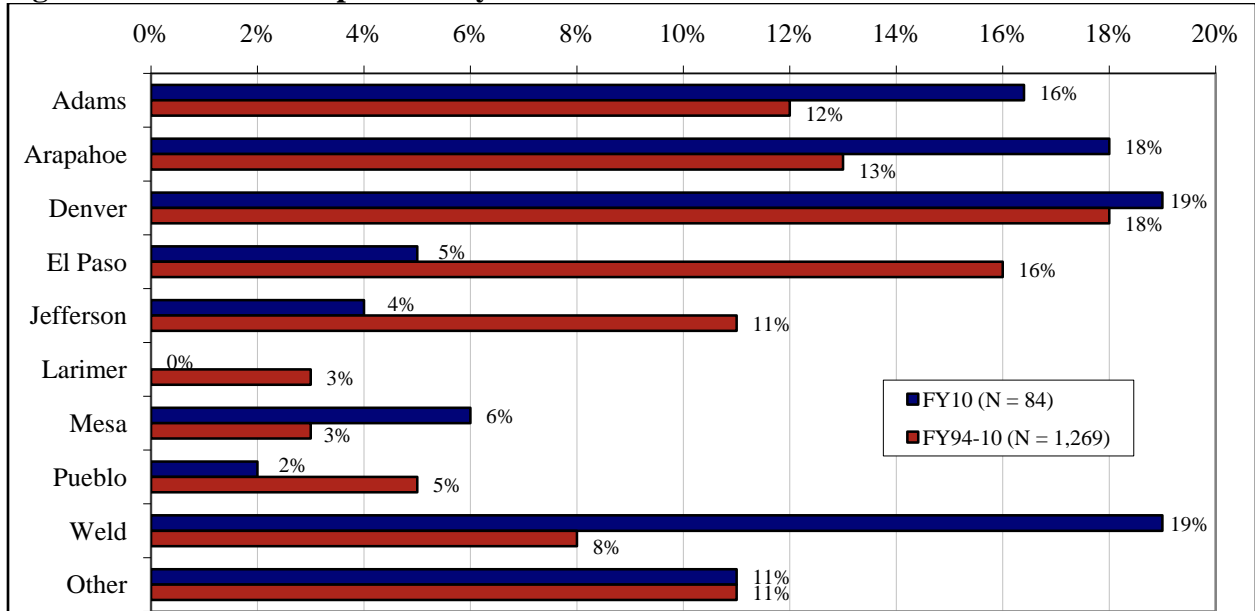
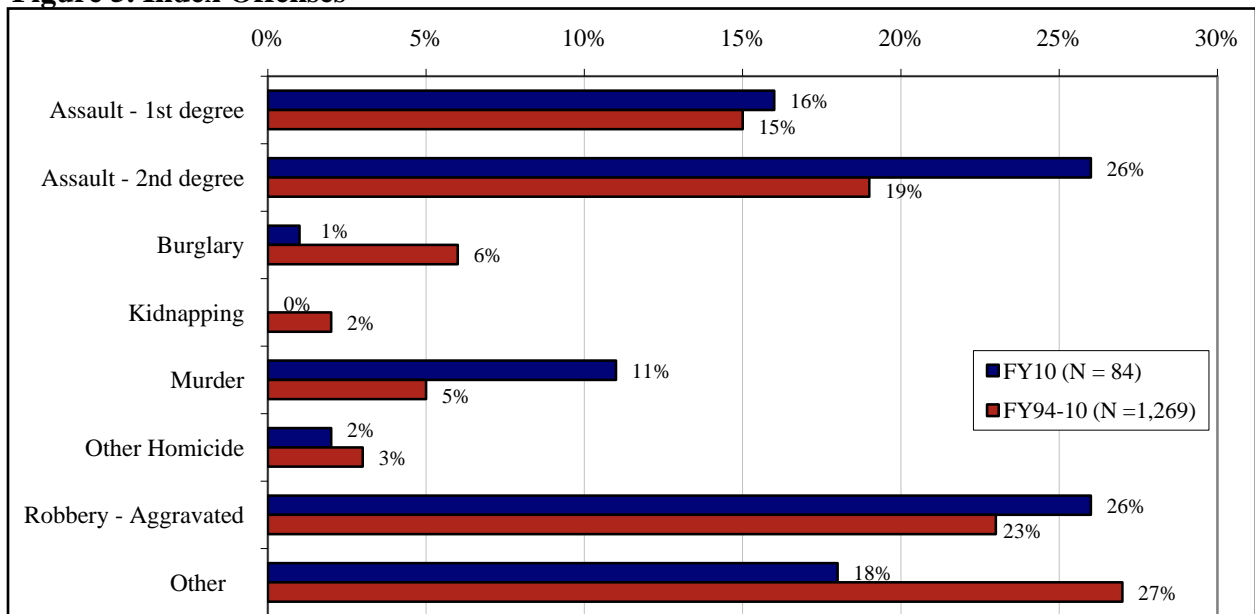


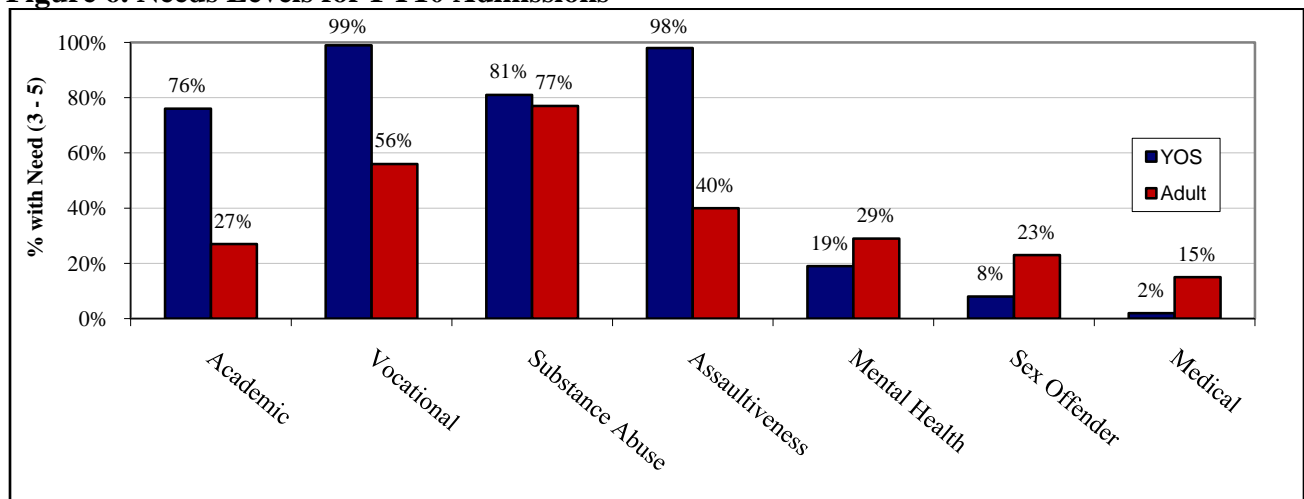
Figure 5. Index Offenses



Needs: YOS offenders are assessed on several dimensions to determine individual needs. Needs levels are rated on a 5-point scale where higher scores are indicative of more serious needs. Typically, offenders scoring 3 or greater are identified as having treatment needs in that area. Although the sex offender needs level is not rank-ordered in severity as are the other scales, scores of 3 through 5 indicate the need for treatment.

Figure 6 displays the percent of offenders with needs across seven domains. In comparison to the adult DOC population, YOS offenders present greater needs in academic, vocational, and assaultiveness areas and lower needs in mental health, sex offender, and medical areas. They rate similarly to adults on substance abuse. Overall, the percentage of YOS admissions with assaultiveness needs has been on the rise since YOS' inception, and FY10 has had greatest number to date with 98% of all incoming offenders having a history of assaultive behavior and needing treatment in this area.

Figure 6. Needs Levels for FY10 Admissions³



Security Threat Group (STG) Involvement: Involvement in STGs, or gangs, is recorded in DCIS for YOS offenders. There are three levels of STG involvement: member, associate, and suspect. Levels are ascertained by field intelligence officers who rate offenders' involvement across 11 items (e.g., self admission, moniker, gang tattoos, and identification by law enforcement). Each item carries a weight ranging from 5 to 20 points, and summative scores determine STG involvement.

Historically, most YOS offenders claim no STG affiliation upon intake (see Table 7). However, 76% of FY10 admissions have STG status, which is considerably higher than the 35% seen among all YOS admissions. For those with STG involvement, the most common affiliations for FY10 admissions to YOS have been Surenos-13 (30%) and Crips (25%).

³ Adult data is from preliminary FY10 Statistical Report

Table 7. STG Involvement by Fiscal Year

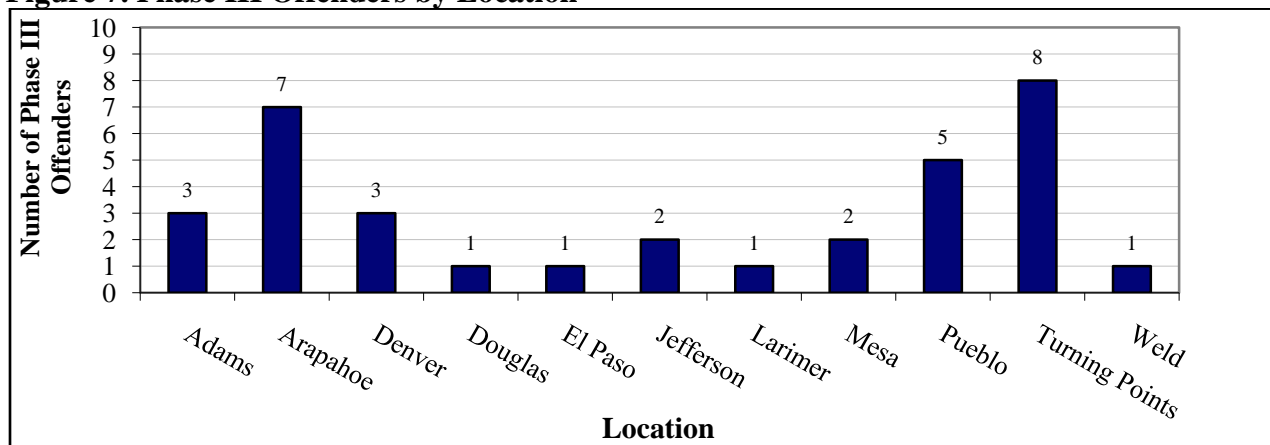
	FY10 (n = 84)		FY 94 – 10 (N = 1,269)	
	n	%	n	%
Member	2	2%	173	14%
Associate	12	14%	52	4%
Suspect	57	68%	220	17%
None	13	16%	824	65%

Note. There were 20 cases missing data.

Year-End Population

The YOS population as of June 30, 2010, was obtained. There was a total of 253 offenders in YOS, with 9 offenders in the IDO/OTP phase, 10 offenders on RFP or Remediation, 185 offenders in Phase I, 9 offenders in Phase II, and 34 offenders in Phase III. There were four offenders in jail backlog and two were on escape status (though one had been returned to custody). Figure 7 presents the location of Phase III offenders by county. One offender had escaped and was back in custody and one Phase III offender in the community was on escape status as of June 30, 2010.

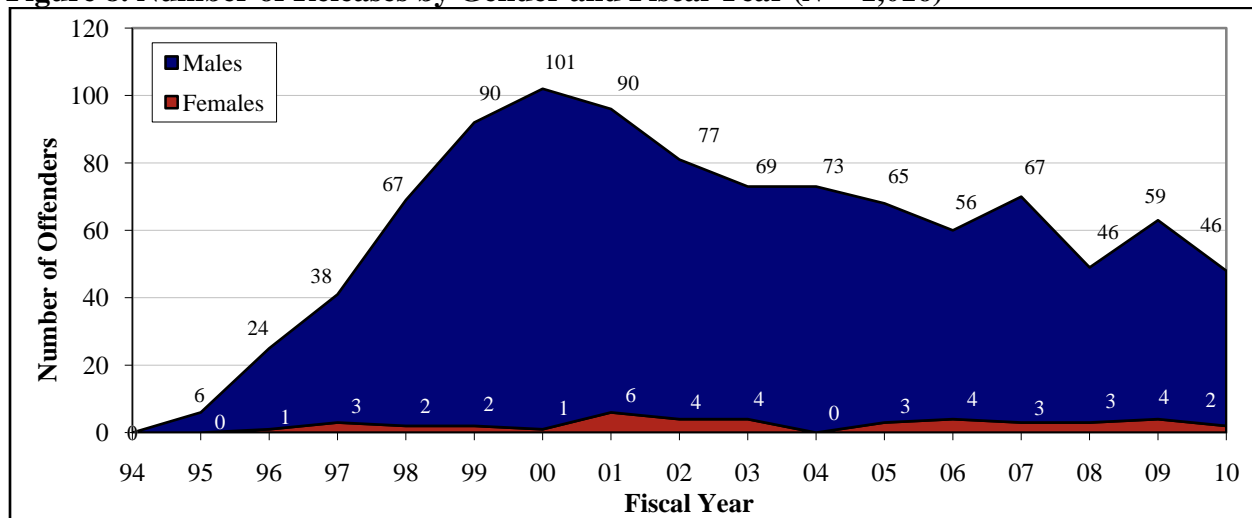
Figure 7. Phase III Offenders by Location



YOS Releases

From inception through FY10, YOS releases totaled 1,016 offenders, leaving 253 offenders still serving their sentence within YOS. Figure 8 presents releases across gender for each fiscal year since inception. Releases have declined since FY00 other than slight increases in FY 04, FY07, and FY09. This general decrease is due to lower admission rates. Also, the decrease in FY10 corresponds to fewer unsuccessful terminations and sentence reconsiderations.

Figure 8. Number of Releases by Gender and Fiscal Year (N = 1,016)



There are four primary release types: successful discharge, termination/revocation, reconsideration, and deceased. Successful discharge describes offenders who completed their YOS sentence. Termination or revocation includes offenders who were removed from YOS for failure to meet the terms and conditions of their sentence, continuing violent or criminal behavior, quitting, failure to progress, or new criminal charges; upon revocation the original adult prison sentence is imposed by the courts. Reconsiderations describe offenders sentenced to YOS who were removed by the courts through a court order discharge, release to appeal bond, or release to probation. Judicial reconsideration resulting in a transfer to adult prison may include an additional conviction that is not eligible for YOS, such as identification of the offender not meeting the age requirements.

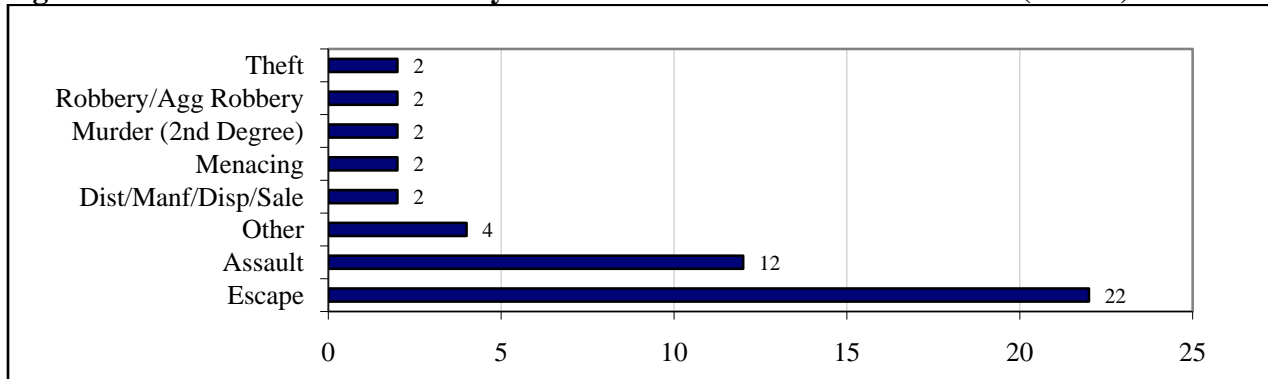
Table 8 presents release types for FY10 and for YOS's duration. The vast majority of offenders successfully completed their sentence, although a significant number terminated unsuccessfully and had their YOS sentence revoked. In FY10, a greater percentage of YOS offenders successfully discharged their sentences as compared to years prior.

Table 8. Release Types

	FY10 (n = 48)		FY 94 - 10 (N = 1016)	
	n	%	n	%
Successful discharge	40	83%	733	72%
Termination/ revocation	8	17%	237	23%
Reconsideration	0	0%	40	4%
Deceased	0	0%	6	1%

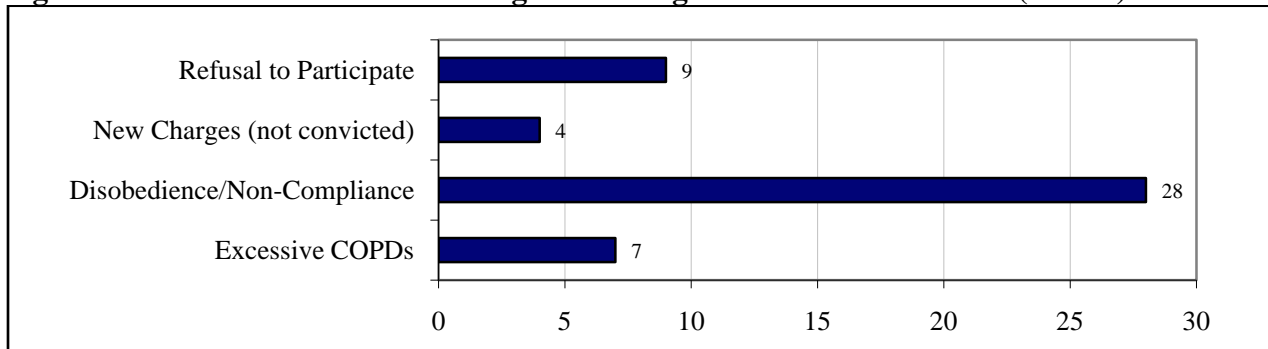
Data from offenders released in fiscal years 2004 through 2010 were analyzed to better understand the reasons that offenders have their YOS sentence revoked. Of the 97 offenders who terminated unsuccessfully from YOS during that 6-year period, 48 (49%) were charged with new crimes (see Figure 9) and 49 (51%) were terminated for failure to progress (see Figure 10).

Figure 9. New Crimes Committed by Offenders Released in FY 2004-2010 (N = 48)



Note. Other category includes Accessory to a Crime, Introduction of Contraband, Possession, and Riots in Detention Facilities.

Figure 10. Reasons for Failure to Progress Among FY 2004-2010 Releases (N = 49)*



*One offender received a sentence that made him ineligible for YOS after being sentenced to YOS but before being placed at YOS.

Offenders who successfully discharged their sentence were compared to those who terminated unsuccessfully (see Table 9). Successful completers were more likely to be male, have more serious violent crimes, and have no STG involvement than unsuccessful YOS participants. The outcome that YOS offenders with the most serious crimes have higher completion rates is an important finding, although criminal associations seem to have a detrimental effect on completion rates.

Table 9. Release Profile by Completion Type

	Successful Discharges (n = 733)*		Terminations/ Revocations (n = 237)		p
	n	%	n	%	
Gender					<.05
Male	710	97%	222	94%	
Female	23	3%	15	6%	
Race/ethnicity					n.s.
Asian American	19	3%	0	0%	
African American	186	25%	64	27%	
Caucasian	202	28%	56	23%	
Hispanic	315	43%	113	48%	
Native American	10	1%	4	2%	
Felony class					<.001
Class II	7	1%	1	0%	
Class III	325	44%	84	35%	
Class IV	315	43%	98	42%	
Class V	78	11%	52	22%	
Class VI	7	1%	2	1%	
Violent offender					<.05
Violent	604	82%	179	75%	
Nonviolent	128	18%	58	25%	
STG involvement					<.001
Member	91	12%	58	25%	
Associate	27	4%	0	0%	
Suspect	72	10%	31	13%	
None	543	74%	148	62%	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Age at admit	16.8	1.0	16.9	0.9	n.s.
YOS sentence	3.9	1.4	3.8	1.4	n.s.
Adult sentence	9.5	5.4	8.5	5.4	n.s.

*One offender is missing race/ethnicity and crime data.

RECIDIVISM

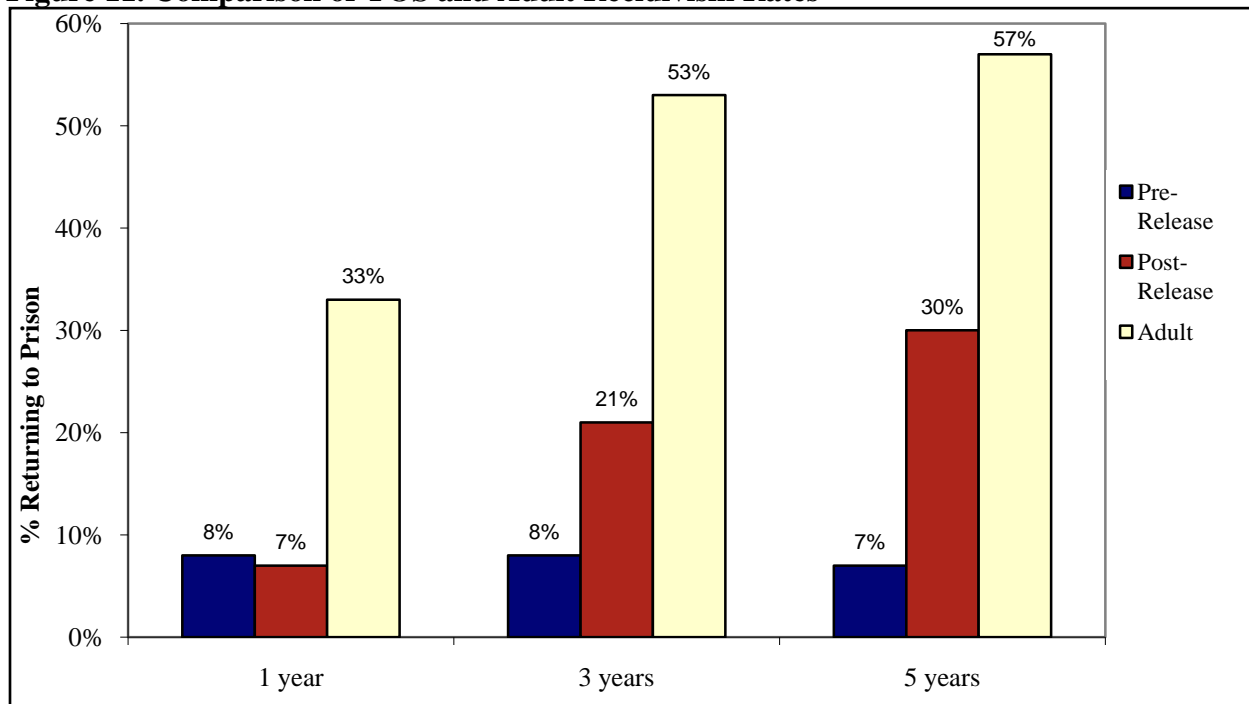
Pre-release and post-release recidivism were analyzed for YOS completions. Pre-release recidivism is defined as a new conviction for an offense that occurred during an offender's YOS sentence that resulted in his or her termination from YOS. This rate is based on all YOS releases within a release cohort and as such represents a portion of the terminations/revocations noted in Table 8. Post-release recidivism is defined as new criminal activity that results in placement in the DOC adult prison system following successful completion of their YOS sentence.

Table 12. Cumulative Recidivism Rates

	# at risk	# returns	% returns
Pre-Release Recidivism			
FY95-09	968	79	8%
Post-Release Recidivism			
1 year	733	49	7%
3 year	651	134	21%
5 year	551	166	30%

Recidivism rates for the YOS offenders are remarkably low, particularly considering that they are a high-risk population. In fact, recidivism rates are considerably lower than those of the adult DOC population. Figure 11 compares YOS recidivism rates to adult return rates⁴.

Figure 11. Comparison of YOS and Adult Recidivism Rates



⁴ O'Keefe, M., & Barr, B. (2010). *Statistical Report: Fiscal Year 2009*. Technical Report. Colo Spgs, CO: Dept. of Corrections.

CONCLUSION

The YOS continues to be a nationally recognized comprehensive “middle-tier” model of incarceration combined with habilitation programs and services designed to meet the individual needs of a unique class of offenders who have been adjudicated and sentenced as adults to the DOC. In accordance with §18-1.3-407, C.R.S. and §18-1.3-407.5, C.R.S. these offenders have been afforded the opportunity to complete a sentence to the YOS and upon successful completion of the YOS sentence, the longer adult DOC sentence is satisfied.

Whether offenders are sentenced to YOS as a result of direct file (§19-2-517, C.R.S.), transfer hearing (19-2-518), or determination of eligibility to receive a YOS sentence (§18-1.3-407.5, C.R.S.), they have been given the opportunity to obtain specialized programs, services, and resources that specifically address the criminogenic needs of this unique, high-risk violent offender population through evidence-based practices.

YOS realized an increased average daily population with the implementation of §18-1.3-407.5, C.R.S. providing YOS sentencing consideration for certain 18- and 19-year old offenders. However, HB 10-1314 removed 14- and 15-year old juveniles from direct file consideration, with exceptions as noted in the legislative authority section. YOS will continue to track the needs of the changing population so that academic education, career and technical education, and trade skills can be adjusted as needed while cognitive education, therapeutic intervention and specialized services remain available.

Although YOS is experiencing some changes due to legislative actions with the forecast that YOS will become cost comparable to other DOC facilities, YOS will ensure that DOC continues to meet the initial intent of YOS. The continued and on-going success and low recidivism rates that sets YOS apart from traditional correctional facilities will remain our focus. The cost associated with YOS is an investment in the success of each individual sentenced to the YOS and the future of Colorado.