

# elements of change

## Highlighting Trends and Issues in the Criminal Justice System

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ors

Division of Criminal Justice  
Colorado Department of Public Safety

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### The Colorado Prison Population Increased from FY01 to FY02

Colorado's prison population increased 7.2 percent between FY01 and FY02, from 16,833 to 18,045. This increase is two percent higher than the prior year's growth (5.2 percent) in the prison population. Two percent equates to 360 beds based on an approximate correctional population size of 18,000. Recent data from the Department of Corrections indicate that the prison population grew 2.6 percent, to 18,520, between June 30, 2002 and November 30, 2002.\*

The Colorado adult prison population is expected to grow another 6.9 percent during the upcoming fiscal year, from the actual June 30, 2002 figure of 18,045 to a projected figure of 19,281 for July 1, 2003.



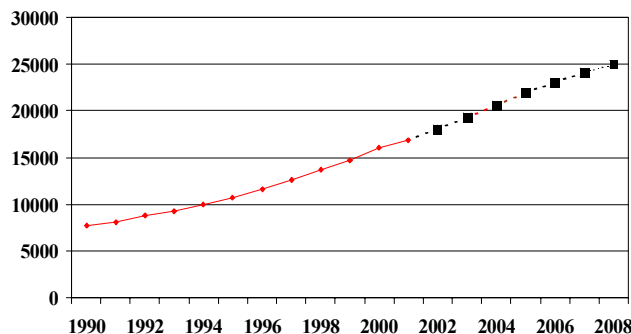
Where do DCJ's prison population projections come from?

The Division of Criminal Justice Prison Population Projection (PPP) Model uses several data sources to develop projections. Essential data are provided by the Department of Corrections (DOC), the Department of Local Affairs (DLA) and the Criminal Justice Database. The Criminal Justice Database is collected, compiled and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice's (DCJ) Office of Research and Statistics (ORS).

State population and aged-based prison incarceration rates are the primary determinants of new prison commitments. When new commitments are combined with estimates of average length of stay (ALOS) in prison, it is possible to produce a reliable forecast of the future prison population.

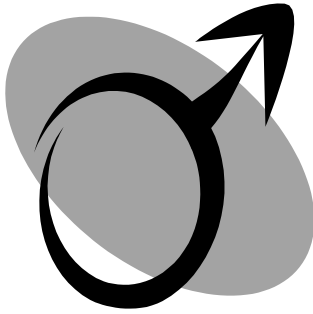
For more detailed information on the prison population model, see the most recent report entitled *Fall 2002 Division of Criminal Justice Adult Prison and Parole Population Projections; Juvenile Detention, Commitment, and Parole Population Projections*. This report can be found on our website.

**COLORADO ACTUAL AND PROJECTED ADULT PRISON POPULATIONS**



CDOC Project Status Reports, Monthly Population; Raw data from DOC. Projected data represents end of fiscal year.

\*Colorado Department of Corrections Adult Inmate Jurisdictional Population by Gender and Status Type as of November 20, 2002, for the Office of Planning and Analysis, November 15, 2002.



### Men in Prison: 34.8 Percent Growth

- ☒ The number of men in prison is expected to increase **34.8 percent** between January 2003 and January 2009 – from 17,069 to 23,007.
- ☒ **New admissions** of men grew by 12.2 percent between FY01 and FY02.
- ☒ Men admitted for **drug related crimes** increased by 22 percent between FY01 and FY02. This compares to an increase of only six percent in the prior fiscal year and a decline of drug related admissions of nearly 10 percent (9.5) between FY99 and FY00.
- ☒ **Technical violations** for males increased 12.7 percent from FY01, reversing the decline in technical violation admissions (8 percent) observed between FY00 and FY01.

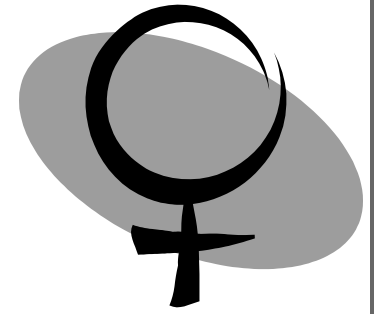
**Men admitted for drug related crimes increased by 22 percent between FY01 and FY02.**

### DCJ Fall 2002 Adult Prison Population Projections by Gender

YEAR	DATE	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL PRISON POPULATION
2003	January	17,069	1,583	18,652
	April	17,347	1,616	18,963
	<b>July</b>	<b>17,624</b>	<b>1,671</b>	<b>19,295</b>
	October	17,897	1,711	19,608
2004	January	18,170	1,754	19,924
	April	18,442	1,794	20,237
	<b>July</b>	<b>18,715</b>	<b>1,847</b>	<b>20,562</b>
	October	19,020	1,882	20,902
2005	January	19,325	1,921	21,246
	April	19,630	1,956	21,586
	<b>July</b>	<b>19,935</b>	<b>2,002</b>	<b>21,937</b>
	October	20,175	2,034	22,209
2006	January	20,415	2,068	22,483
	April	20,655	2,100	22,755
	<b>July</b>	<b>20,895</b>	<b>2,141</b>	<b>23,036</b>
	October	21,122	2,171	23,293
2007	January	21,348	2,203	23,551
	April	21,574	2,233	23,808
	<b>July</b>	<b>21,801</b>	<b>2,272</b>	<b>24,073</b>
	October	22,005	2,303	24,308
2008	January	22,209	2,337	24,545
	April	22,412	2,367	24,780
	<b>July</b>	<b>22,616</b>	<b>2,407</b>	<b>25,024</b>
	October	22,812	2,440	25,251
2009	January	23,007	2,474	25,481

## Women in Prison: 47.4 Percent Growth

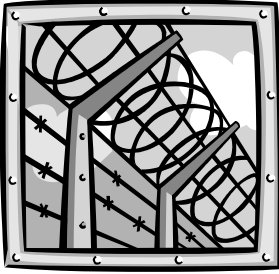
- ☒ The number of women in prison is expected to increase **47.4 percent** between January 2003 and January 2009 – from 1,583 to 2,474.
- ☒ **Women admitted** to prison increased by an astonishing 18.05 percent between FY01 and FY02 (from 709 to 837 admissions).
- ☒ Women admitted for **drug related crimes** increased 36.2 percent between FY01 and FY02. This is in sharp contrast to previous fiscal year increases for drug related crimes of 3.6 percent (FY00 to FY01) and 9.3 percent (FY99 to FY00).



**Women admitted  
for drug related  
crimes increased  
36.2 percent  
from FY01.**

## DCJ Fall 2002 Prison Population Projections: Incarcerated Population by Gender

DATE		REGULAR COMMITTS		PV NEW CRIME		TECHNICAL VIOLATORS		COMBINED		
YEAR	MONTH	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
2003	JAN	13,002	1,167	1,531	123	2,535	267	17,069	1,583	18,652
	APRIL	13,222	1,213	1,561	123	2,564	277	17,347	1,616	18,963
	JULY	13,441	1,259	1,592	124	2,592	288	<b>17,624</b>	<b>1,671</b>	<b>19,295</b>
	OCT	13,581	1,294	1,616	126	2,700	291	17,897	1,711	19,608
2004	JAN	13,722	1,332	1,640	128	2,808	294	18,170	1,754	19,924
	APRIL	13,862	1,368	1,665	130	2,916	297	18,442	1,794	20,237
	JULY	14,002	1,414	1,689	132	3,024	301	18,715	1,847	20,562
	OCT	14,184	1,442	1,694	134	3,142	306	19,020	1,882	20,902
2005	JAN	14,366	1,472	1,699	136	3,260	312	19,325	1,921	21,246
	APRIL	14,548	1,501	1,703	137	3,378	318	19,630	1,956	21,586
	JULY	14,730	1,537	1,708	140	3,496	326	19,935	2,002	21,937
	OCT	14,895	1,562	1,726	142	3,554	331	20,175	2,034	22,209
2006	JAN	15,059	1,588	1,745	144	3,611	337	20,415	2,068	22,483
	APRIL	15,223	1,612	1,763	146	3,669	342	20,655	2,100	22,755
	JULY	15,388	1,644	1,781	148	3,726	349	20,895	2,141	23,036
	OCT	15,498	1,666	1,815	150	3,808	355	21,122	2,171	23,293
2007	JAN	15,609	1,690	1,849	152	3,890	361	21,348	2,203	23,551
	APRIL	15,720	1,713	1,883	154	3,971	367	21,574	2,233	23,808
	JULY	15,831	1,742	1,917	156	4,053	374	21,801	2,272	24,073
	OCT	15,931	1,764	1,952	158	4,122	381	22,005	2,303	24,308
2008	JAN	16,031	1,789	1,986	160	4,191	387	22,209	2,337	24,545
	APRIL	16,132	1,811	2,020	162	4,260	394	22,412	2,367	24,780
	JULY	16,232	1,841	2,055	165	4,330	402	22,616	2,407	25,024
	OCT	16,340	1,864	2,088	167	4,384	409	22,812	2,440	25,251
2009	JAN	16,447	1,888	2,121	170	4,439	416	23,007	2,474	25,481



### Admissions

Admissions continue to outpace releases in Colorado, as they have in the last 10 years, but admissions grew by 12.6 percent between FY01 and FY02 (6,895 admissions in FY01 compared to 7,776 admissions in FY02). This growth rate of 12.6 was more than seven times higher than the growth rate of 1.7 percent in admissions between FY00 and FY01. The growth rate in new admissions between FY99 and FY00 was 3.8 percent.

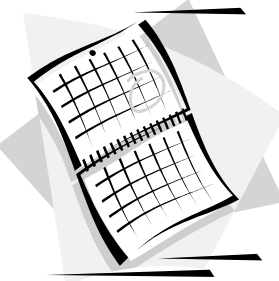
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### Case Filings

The number of new criminal cases filed between FY01 and FY02 increased 6.2 percent. Last year's growth in prison population of 5.2 percent was the lowest in 10 years, and was likely attributable to some extent to a 4.7 percent decrease in criminal filings between FY99 and FY00. (Because of the lag time between filing and sentencing, a decline in filings could have contributed to a lower growth rate in the prison population two years later.) The number of new criminal cases filed between FY01 and FY02 increased by 6.2 percent. This is twice the rate of growth experienced between FY00 and FY01 (3.0 percent).\* The increase in criminal cases filed in the last two years can be expected to impact admissions to prison.

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### Average Length of Stay (ALOS)

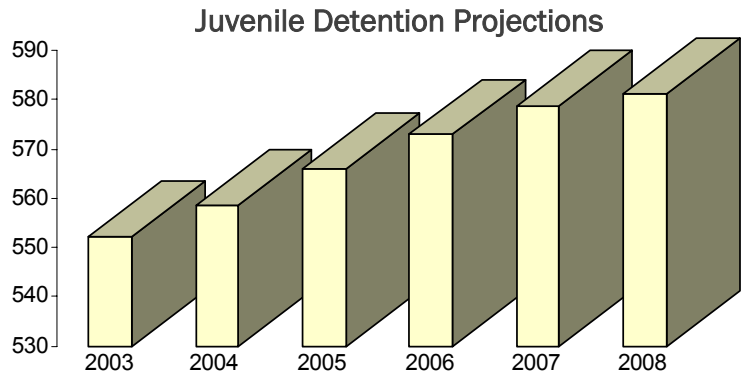
The estimated average length of stay for offenders sentenced in FY02 was 43.26 months. This figure is nearly identical to last year's ALOS of 43.20 months.

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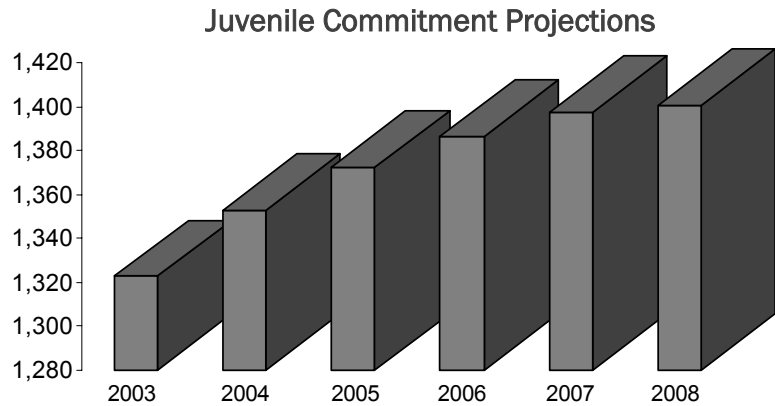
\*[www.courts.state.co.us](http://www.courts.state.co.us), Colorado Judicial Branch, FY2001 Statistical Report.

### Juvenile Detention and Commitment

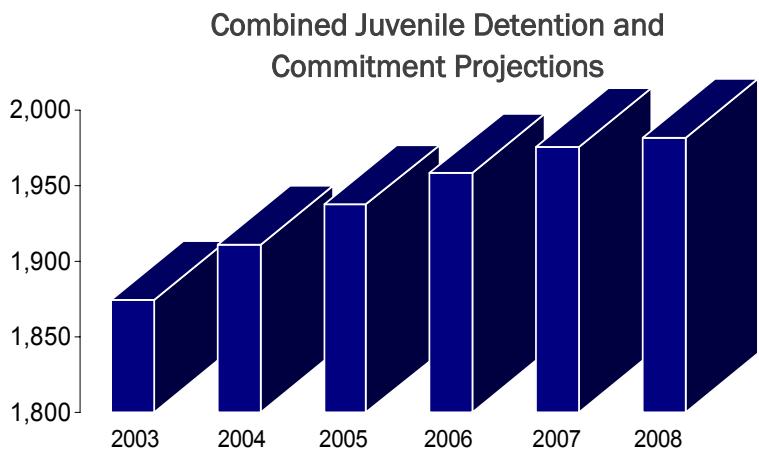
**Detention.** DCJ forecasts an increase of 5.2 percent in the detention average daily population (ADP)\* between FY03 and FY08—from 552.28 to 581.24. This figure excludes sentenced youth who are backlogged in detention facilities and awaiting placement in commitment facilities.



**Commitment.** Division of Youth Corrections (DYC) statewide juvenile commitment ADP is expected to grow 6 percent, from 1,322.50 to 1,400.65, between 2003 and 2008.



**Combined Detention and Commitment.** DYC statewide combined detention and commitment ADP is expected to grow 5.7 percent, from 1,874.78 to 1,981.89, between July 2003 and July 2008.



\*The ADP is the average daily number of youth present in a facility or program during the reporting period.

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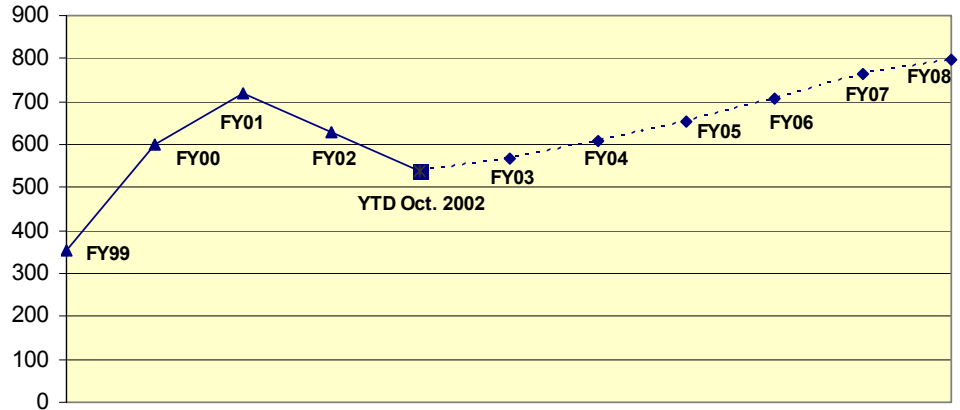


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## Juvenile Parole

Juvenile Parole Average Daily Caseload (ADC) is expected to grow 40 percent between 2003 and 2008—from 569.0 to 797.8. However, the Governor is expected to sign into law HB03-1079, which will result in shorter parole periods for some juveniles. The impact of HB03-1079 is not factored into the projections below.

**Juvenile Average Daily Caseload (ADC), Actual and Projected**



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