

Colorado Division of Criminal Justice  
**Summer 2013**  
**Interim Prison Population**  
**Forecasts**

Pursuant to 24-33.5-503 (m), C.R.S.

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# **The Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Summer 2013 Interim Prison Population and Parole Caseload Projections**

## **Introduction**

These interim projections provide adjustments to the annual correctional population projections issued by the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice. The 2012 prison population projections released in February of 2013 forecast that the Colorado prison inmate population would decline by 4.6% by the end of FY 2013, to 20,079. The actual population at year-end was 20,135, a difference of less than 0.3%.

However, the projected decline in the female inmate population did not meet the expected 11.4% drop, with the population falling only 5.6% from 1,885 to 1,780 by the end of FY 2013. The female population began to increase in February of this year, a significant deviation from the negative growth observed over the prior 16 months.

The DCJ Winter 2012 juvenile commitment and detention projections underestimated the year to date average daily population (ADP) realized at the end of fiscal year 2013 by 0.6% for each of these populations. The projected juvenile parole year-end average daily caseload (ADC) exceeded the actual ADC by 3.5%.

## **Interim Prison Population Projections**

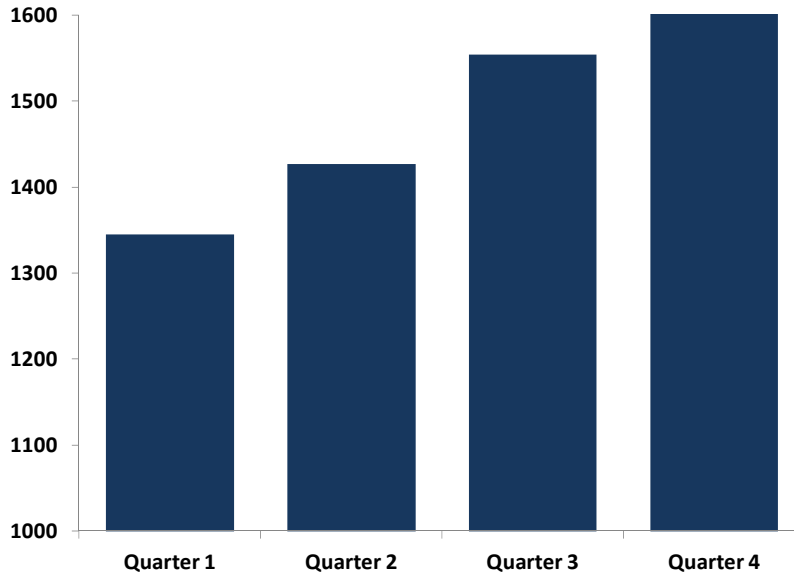
Due to the factors discussed below, the DCJ 2012 projections have been adjusted upward. These adjustments are moderated by recent legislation which is expected to divert some offenders from prison, and lower the length of incarceration for others.<sup>1</sup>

- The reversal in the decline in the female prison population is mainly due to recent increases in female new court commitments and parole returns with a new crime, which rose 4.1% in FY 2013. The majority of this growth occurred during the second half of the year, with a 24.4% increase in such admissions between the first and second 6 months of FY 2013.
- Even though the total population at the end of the year was very close to the forecast, the number of new court commitments and parole returns with a new crime was underestimated by 7.6%. After four years of consistent decline, such admissions grew 3.4% across FY 2013. As in the case of the female population, the majority occurred in the second half of the year. The following graph demonstrates this shift in the numbers of admissions of prisoners with new sentences during each quarter throughout FY 2013:

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<sup>1</sup> See Colorado Senate Bill 13-250 and House Bill 13-1160.

### FY 2013 prison admissions\* with new sentences by quarter



\* Includes new court commitments and parole returns with a new crime

- Parole returns due to technical violations were overestimated by 5.8%. With the recent rise in admissions with new crimes, and a reduction in the projected number of returns for technical parole violations, the overall length of stay for new admissions will be longer than accounted for in the Winter 2012 projections.
- Additionally, overall parole releases decreased 2.7%. Discretionary releases increased as expected, but mandatory releases fell 8.0%, significantly more than expected.
- Preliminary data indicates that criminal court filings increased substantially over the past year, after 6 years of consistent decline.

The DCJ interim quarterly and annual adjusted figures are displayed in Tables 1 and 2, below. Figure 1 depicts the actual year-end prison populations for fiscal years 2012 through 2013, and compares the DCJ December 2012 projection to the Summer 2013 interim projection. Figure 2 displays the same for the female prison population projection.

**Table 1. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Quarterly Adult Prison Population Projection**

<b>Year</b>	<b>End of month:</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Quarterly Growth</b>	<b>Male Population</b>	<b>Quarterly Growth</b>	<b>Female Population</b>	<b>Quarterly Growth</b>
<b>2012</b>	<i>June*</i>	21,037	-1.4%	19,152	-1.2%	1,885	-2.7%
<b>2012</b>	<i>September*</i>	20,628	-1.9%	18,825	-1.7%	1,803	-4.4%
<b>2012</b>	<i>December*</i>	20,379	-1.2%	18,634	-1.0%	1,745	-3.2%
<b>2013</b>	<i>March*</i>	20,127	-1.2%	18,371	-1.4%	1,756	0.6%
<b>2013</b>	<i>June*</i>	20,135	0.0%	18,355	-0.1%	1,780	1.4%
<b>2013</b>	September	20,154	0.1%	18,361	0.0%	1,794	0.8%
<b>2013</b>	December	20,156	0.0%	18,368	0.0%	1,788	-0.3%
<b>2014</b>	March	20,176	0.1%	18,390	0.1%	1,786	-0.1%
<b>2014</b>	June	20,149	-0.1%	18,378	-0.1%	1,771	-0.8%
<b>2014</b>	September	20,052	-0.5%	18,297	-0.4%	1,755	-0.9%
<b>2014</b>	December	20,049	0.0%	18,305	0.0%	1,744	-0.6%
<b>2015</b>	March	20,143	0.5%	18,401	0.5%	1,742	-0.1%
<b>2015</b>	June	20,135	0.0%	18,393	0.0%	1,742	0.0%
<b>2015</b>	September	20,145	0.1%	18,413	0.1%	1,733	-0.5%
<b>2015</b>	December	20,196	0.3%	18,459	0.3%	1,737	0.3%
<b>2016</b>	March	20,260	0.3%	18,528	0.4%	1,732	-0.3%
<b>2016</b>	June	20,243	-0.1%	18,516	-0.1%	1,727	-0.3%
<b>2016</b>	September	20,293	0.2%	18,568	0.3%	1,725	-0.1%
<b>2016</b>	December	20,400	0.5%	18,666	0.5%	1,734	0.5%
<b>2017</b>	March	20,522	0.6%	18,777	0.6%	1,744	0.6%
<b>2017</b>	June	20,499	-0.1%	18,756	-0.1%	1,742	-0.1%
<b>2017</b>	September	20,479	-0.1%	18,738	-0.1%	1,741	-0.1%
<b>2017</b>	December	20,673	0.9%	18,915	0.9%	1,757	0.9%
<b>2018</b>	March	20,714	0.2%	18,953	0.2%	1,761	0.2%
<b>2018</b>	June	20,728	0.1%	18,966	0.1%	1,762	0.1%
<b>2018</b>	September	20,795	0.3%	19,028	0.3%	1,768	0.3%
<b>2018</b>	December	20,905	0.5%	19,124	0.5%	1,781	0.8%
<b>2019</b>	March	21,027	0.6%	19,234	0.6%	1,794	0.7%
<b>2019</b>	June	21,024	0.0%	19,229	0.0%	1,795	0.1%

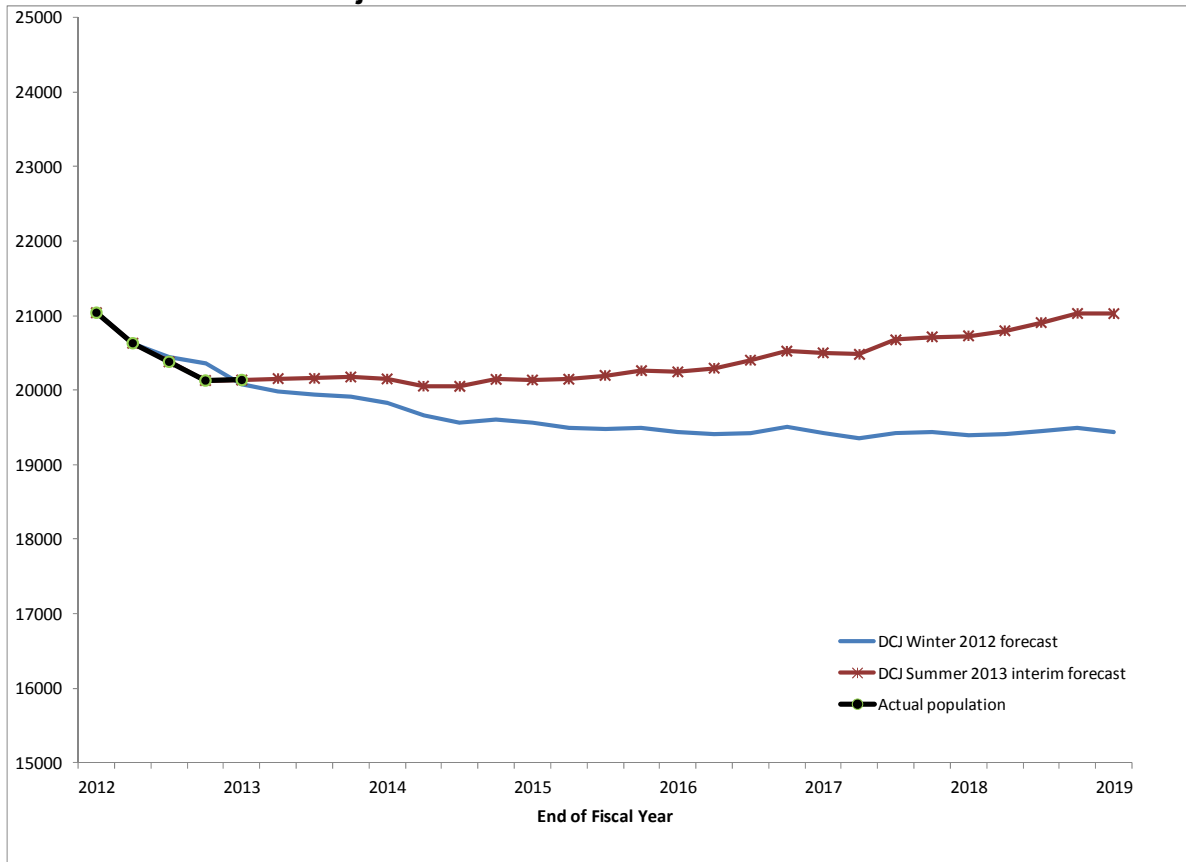
\* Actual data provided by Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>

**Table 2. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Annual Adult Prison Population Projection**

End of Fiscal Year	Total Population	Annual Growth	Male Population	Annual Growth	Female Population	Annual Growth
<b>FY 2012*</b>	21,037	-7.0%	19,152	-6.6%	1,885	-10.2%
<b>FY 2013*</b>	20,135	-4.3%	18,355	-4.2%	1,780	-5.6%
<b>FY 2014</b>	20,149	0.1%	18,378	0.1%	1,771	-0.5%
<b>FY 2015</b>	20,135	-0.1%	18,393	0.1%	1,742	-1.7%
<b>FY 2016</b>	20,243	0.5%	18,516	0.7%	1,727	-0.9%
<b>FY 2017</b>	20,499	1.3%	18,756	1.3%	1,742	0.9%
<b>FY 2018</b>	20,728	1.1%	18,966	1.1%	1,762	1.1%
<b>FY 2019</b>	21,024	1.4%	19,229	1.4%	1,795	1.9%

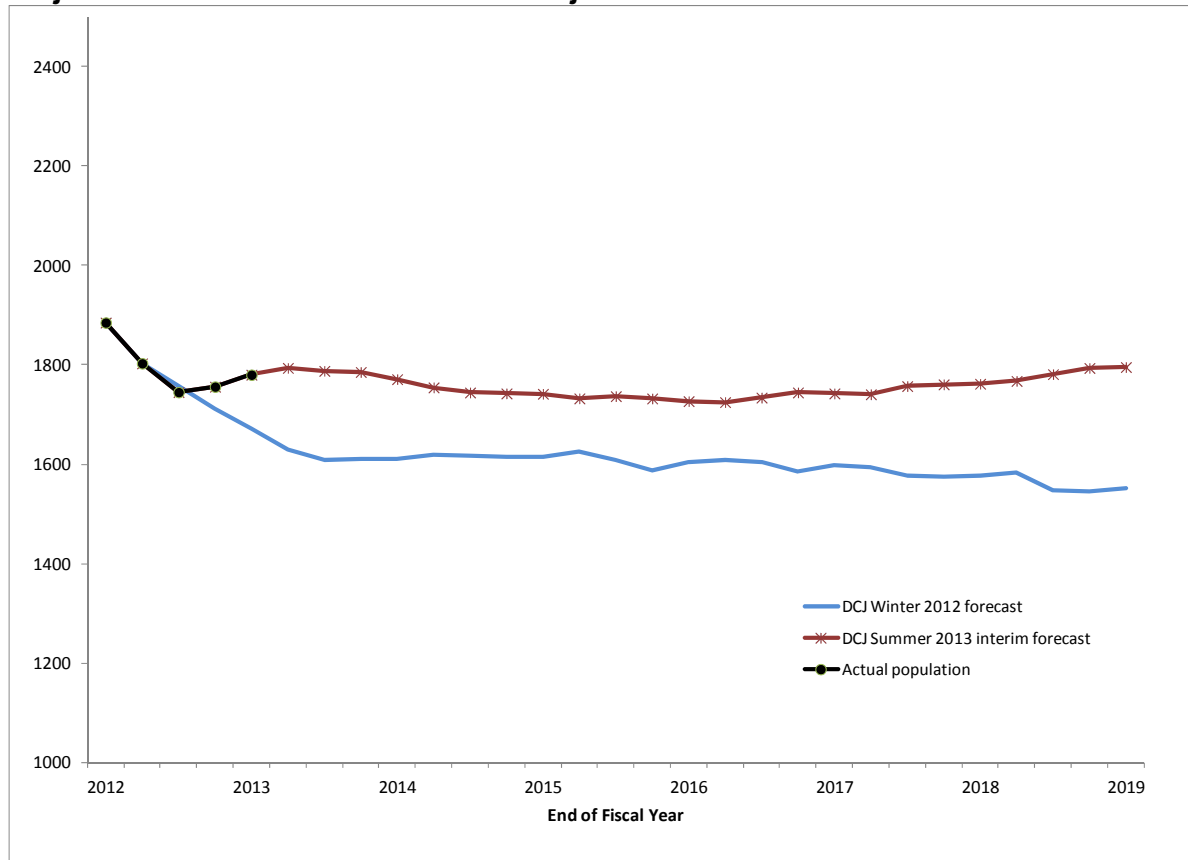
\* Actual data provided by Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>

**Figure 1. Quarterly Inmate Population Fiscal Year 2013, DCJ Winter 2012 Projection and Summer 2013 Interim Projection**



Sources: Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>; Harrison, Linda (2013) *Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Correctional Population Forecasts*. Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Denver, Colorado. Available at: <http://dcj.state.co.us/ors/ppp.htm>

**Figure 2: Quarterly Female Inmate Population Fiscal Year 2013, DCJ Winter 2012 Projection and Summer 2013 Interim Projection**



Sources: Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>; Harrison, Linda (2012). *Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Correctional Population Forecasts*. Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Denver, Colorado. Available at: <http://dcj.state.co.us/ors/ppp.htm>

### Interim Parole Population Projection

The DCJ Winter 2012 projection anticipated that the domestic parole population would increase by 3.4% by the end of FY 2013, very close to the actual growth rate of 3.6%. The parole caseload was 8746 at year-end, differing from the projected 8734 by 0.1%.

However, releases to parole decreased 2.7%, while the forecast indicated a small increase. Parole returns due to technical violations were overestimated by 5.8%, suggesting fewer parole revocations than anticipated. These factors, in combination with the upward adjustment in the prison population forecast, yield an upward adjustment in the parole population forecast.

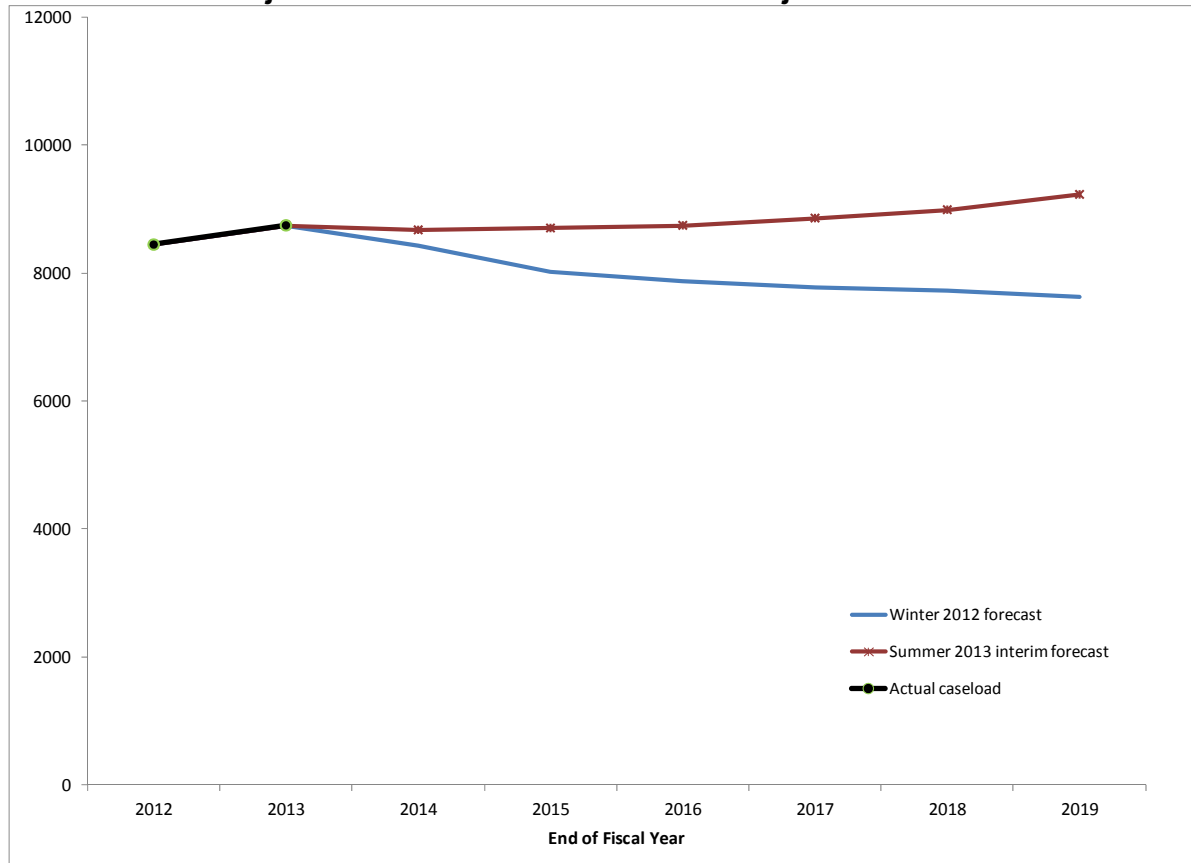
Table 3 displays the adjusted DCJ 2013 interim year-end domestic parole caseload projection. Figure 3 graphically depicts the actual year-end caseload for fiscal years 2006 through 2013, and compares the DCJ Winter 2012 and Summer 2013 Interim parole projections.

**Table 3. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Domestic Parole Caseload Projection**

End of Fiscal Year	Parole Caseload	Annual Growth
<b>FY 2012*</b>	8,445	3.2%
<b>FY 2013*</b>	8,746	3.6%
<b>FY 2014</b>	8,675	-0.8%
<b>FY 2015</b>	8,705	0.3%
<b>FY 2016</b>	8,746	0.5%
<b>FY 2017</b>	8,860	1.3%
<b>FY 2018</b>	8,990	1.5%
<b>FY 2019</b>	9,230	2.7%

\* Actual data. Source: Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>

**Figure 3: Year-End Domestic Parole Caseload Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013, DCJ Winter 2012 Caseload Projection and Summer 2013 Interim Projection**



Sources: Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>; Harrison, Linda (2012). *Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Correctional Population Forecasts*. Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Denver, Colorado. Available at: <http://dcj.state.co.us/ors/ppp.htm>

## Interim Juvenile Commitment, Detention and Parole Projections

The DCJ Winter 2012 juvenile commitment and detention projections underestimated the year to date average daily population (ADP) realized for both of these populations at the end of fiscal year 2013 by 0.6%. New commitments to DYC were also underestimated by 0.6%. However, the projected juvenile parole year-end average daily caseload (ADC) was 3.5% lower than the actual year-end ADC. The parole caseload fell 8.8%, compared to the projected decline of 5.4%.

Very slight upward adjustments were made to the DCJ Winter 2012 commitment projection, as shown in Tables 4 through 7. A downward adjustment was made to the parole caseload projection, shown in Table 8.

**Table 4. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Quarterly Juvenile Commitment Average Daily Population Projection, FY 2012 Through FY 2017**

Year	Quarter Ending	YTD ADP <sup>1</sup> Forecast	Quarterly Growth
<b>2012</b>	<i>June*</i>	983.1	-1.9%
<b>2012</b>	<i>September*</i>	892.5	-9.2%
<b>2012</b>	<i>December*</i>	875.2	-2.2%
<b>2013</b>	<i>March*</i>	859.5	-1.8%
<b>2013</b>	<i>June*</i>	851.0	-1.4%
<b>2013</b>	September	787.4	-7.5%
<b>2013</b>	December	781.7	-0.7%
<b>2014</b>	March	769.7	-1.5%
<b>2014</b>	June	759.7	-1.3%
<b>2014</b>	September	706.7	-7.0%
<b>2014</b>	December	699.4	-1.0%
<b>2015</b>	March	685.2	-2.0%
<b>2015</b>	June	676.3	-1.3%
<b>2015</b>	September	628.7	-7.0%
<b>2015</b>	December	624.7	-0.6%
<b>2016</b>	March	616.2	-1.4%
<b>2016</b>	June	610.4	-0.9%
<b>2016</b>	September	576.6	-5.5%
<b>2016</b>	December	572.7	-0.7%
<b>2017</b>	March	568.2	-0.8%
<b>2017</b>	June	562.4	-1.0%

<sup>1</sup> Year to date average daily population.

\* Actual average daily population: Data source CDHS DYC Monthly Population Reports, available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251581932067>.



**Table 5. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Juvenile Commitment Fiscal Year-End Average Daily Population and New Admissions Projections, FY 2012 Through FY 2017**

End of Fiscal Year	YTD ADP <sup>1</sup> Forecast	Annual Growth	Annual NYC Admissions	Annual Growth
<i>FY 2012*</i>	983.1	-5.6%	532	17.5%
<i>FY 2013*</i>	851.0	-13.4%	488	-8.3%
<b>FY 2014</b>	759.7	-10.7%	445	-8.8%
<b>FY 2015</b>	676.3	-11.0%	412	-7.4%
<b>FY 2016</b>	610.4	-9.7%	388	-5.9%
<b>FY 2017</b>	562.4	-7.9%	372	-3.9%

<sup>1</sup> Year to date average daily population.

\* Actual average daily population: Data source CDHS NYC Monthly Population Reports, available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251581932067>.

**Table 7. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Quarterly Juvenile Detention Fiscal Year-End Average Daily Population Projection, FY 2012 Through FY 2017**

Year	Quarter Ending	YTD ADP <sup>1</sup> Forecast	Quarterly Growth
<b>2012</b>	<i>June*</i>	316.4	1.9%
<b>2012</b>	<i>September*</i>	314.3	-0.7%
<b>2012</b>	<i>December*</i>	308.4	-1.9%
<b>2013</b>	<i>March*</i>	304.7	-1.2%
<b>2013</b>	<i>June*</i>	307.6	1.0%
<b>2013</b>	September	289.6	-5.9%
<b>2013</b>	December	284.3	-1.8%
<b>2014</b>	March	286.2	0.7%
<b>2014</b>	June	288.3	0.7%
<b>2014</b>	September	273.2	-5.2%
<b>2014</b>	December	270.7	-0.9%
<b>2015</b>	March	270.6	0.0%
<b>2015</b>	June	270.3	-0.1%
<b>2015</b>	September	254.9	-5.7%
<b>2015</b>	December	249.5	-2.1%
<b>2016</b>	March	250.6	0.5%
<b>2016</b>	June	250.4	-0.1%
<b>2016</b>	September	234.6	-6.3%
<b>2016</b>	December	229.2	-2.3%
<b>2017</b>	March	228.9	-0.1%
<b>2017</b>	June	228.7	-0.1%

<sup>1</sup> Year to date average daily population.

\* Actual average daily population: Data source CDHS NYC Monthly Population Reports, available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251581932067>.

**Table 6. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Juvenile Detention Fiscal Year-End Average Daily Population Projection, FY 2012 Through FY 2017**

End of Fiscal Year	YTD ADP <sup>1</sup> Forecast	Annual Growth
<i>FY 2012*</i>	316.4	-10.3%
<i>FY 2013*</i>	307.6	-2.8%
<b>FY 2014</b>	288.3	-6.3%
<b>FY 2015</b>	270.3	-6.2%
<b>FY 2016</b>	250.4	-7.4%
<b>FY 2017</b>	228.7	-8.7%

<sup>1</sup> Year to date average daily population.

\* Actual average daily population: Data source CDHS DYC Monthly Population Reports, available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251581932067>.

**Table 8. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Juvenile Parole Fiscal Year-End Average Daily Caseload Projection, FY 2012 Through FY 2017**

End of Fiscal Year	YTD ADC <sup>1</sup> Forecast	Annual Growth
<i>FY 2012*</i>	363.4	-13.1%
<i>FY 2013*</i>	331.6	-8.8%
<b>FY 2014</b>	296.0	-10.7%
<b>FY 2015</b>	263.5	-11.0%
<b>FY 2016</b>	237.8	-9.7%
<b>FY 2017</b>	219.1	-7.9%

<sup>1</sup> Year to date average daily caseload.

\* Actual average daily caseload: Data source CDHS DYC Monthly Population Reports, available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251581932067>.