

# Connecticut Department of Correction

## Re-Entry Model Statistics

	3/11/2003	3/11/2004	3/11/2005	1/1/2006	
Incarcerated	19,320	18,747	18,254	17,928	(-1392) -7%
Community	3,768	4,135	4,369	4,482	(+714)
Total	23,008	22,822	22,623	22,410	(-598)
Percentage	16%	18%	19%	20%	

(Comparisons are based on change since appointment of Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz on 3/11/2003. Percentage is total number of community placement as compared to total population.)

DOC has experienced three consecutive years of population reduction for first time in more than 15 years.

2003- Connecticut led nation with 4.2% reduction in population, one of only 11 states to show a decrease while the nation's prison population grew by 2.1%

2004- Connecticut one of 11 states to show a reduction in its inmate population, down 1.8% while the nation's total population increased by 1.9%

2005- The downward trend of the population has been sustained for a third straight year with a slight numerical decrease.

Offenders on Parole in Connecticut in 2004 was up by 8.9% according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Serious Violent Crime in Connecticut in 2004 showed a 9.2% reduction according to the FBI's Uniformed Crime Reports.

A measure of all community releases, based on calendar year (with potential multiples of same offender) shows a steady increase in community supervision.

2002- 8449    2003- 8861    2004- 9517    2005-9760    16% Increase

Return Rate- According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, Probation and Parole in the United States, 2004, the percentage of parolees who successfully met conditions of supervision have remained nearly stable between 1995- 45% and 2004- 46%.

DOC statistics comparing the number of offenders placed under community supervision on a monthly basis versus those returned to incarceration shows on the average a violation rate of approximately 30%

## **Re-Entry Model Programmatic and Policy Enhancements**

- ❑ The Department has enhanced its mission from a focus on incarceration to one of risk management and re-entry.
- ❑ The Department's mission statement has been revised to reflect the change in mission to include opportunities for meaningful re-entry.

**“The Connecticut Department of Correction shall protect the public, protect staff and provide safe, secure and humane supervision of offenders with opportunities that support successful community reintegration.”**

- ❑ During 2005, the Charlene Perkins Center opened on the grounds of the York Correctional Institution. This innovative program provides comprehensive re-entry preparation, including the services of diverse state agencies, to approximately 100 women.
- ❑ The Department is a primary collaborator in many multi-disciplinary projects. Some examples include the following:
  - The Department funds three of the Court Support Services Division's (CCSD) Jail Re-interview positions, which create alternative release plans for offenders unable to post bond.
  - In conjunction with the Department of Labor, the Department has expanded its Job Center program.
  - In partnership with CSSD and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), the Department has partially funded a Alternative Incarceration Center for inmates with behavioral health issues.
  - The Department funds two eligibility specialists in the Department of Social Services that obtain benefits for appropriate inmates prior to end of sentence.
- ❑ The Department has instituted mandatory and standardized discharge planning for inmates at end of sentence.

## **Parole and Community Services**

- ❑ The Department has funded a revalidation of the Board of Pardons and Paroles Salient Factor Risk Assessment instrument and a related recidivism study.
- ❑ The department hired and trained 26 staff members for the Board of Pardons and Paroles.
- ❑ The Department has hired 53 parole officers, more than doubling the complement that existed at the time of the merger. Of these, 38 are fully functional having been hired, trained and equipped and 15 more have been hired and are in training. The latter will take a full caseload beginning in February 2006.
- ❑ The Department has increased the number of staff dedicated solely to tracking and returning parole fugitives from one to five since the time of the merger.
- ❑ The Department has instituted a matrix of graduated sanctions in response to technical violations.
- ❑ The Department has upgraded and supported the Case Notes Parole System by fixing over 100 bugs in the system, increasing access to staff and replacing a temporary server in service at the time of the merger with a permanent one.
- ❑ The Department has piloted an information sharing system between parole and CSSD (Adult Probation) in order to streamline the transition of parolees with split-sentences.
- ❑ The Department has developed comprehensive policies and procedures for Parole and Community Services to include implementation of a Field Operations Manual.
- ❑ The Department has implemented an enhanced and standardized pre-and in-service training regimen for parole officers.
- ❑ The average Parole Officer caseload has decreased since with time of the merger from 76 to approximately 67.

## **Halfway House and Community Placement**

- ❑ The Department has increased the total number of halfway house beds available by more than 40 percent to over 1000 since the merger.
- ❑ The Department ensures that each offender, from the time of halfway house placement until the end of supervision, has a Community Transition Plan in place. This plan maps individual performance goals and objectives to be achieved in order to promote successful re-integration.

- ❑ The Department has funded pilot aftercare services in five community residential programs for those who have been discharged to parole supervision from a halfway house.
- ❑ The Department contracts for a wide variety of residential and non-residential services in the community.
- ❑ Through a combination of state and grant funding, the Department has established over 40 supportive housing residences for offenders.

### **Community Based Offender Programming**

- ❑ The Department has increased treatment for offenders who are convicted of crimes related to domestic violence. This includes a facility and community component.
- ❑ The Department partners with DMHAS to provide grant funded comprehensive case management services in several large urban areas.
- ❑ Connecticut is one of nine states participating in the CJ-DATS substance abuse treatment study. The state receives grant funding for case management services and a parole officer under this study.
- ❑ The Department has implemented a comprehensive statewide system of substance abuse treatment in the community utilizing contracted community non-profit providers.
- ❑ The Department is currently enhancing our programmatic residential performance and audit standards
- ❑ All community residential contracts were revised in collaboration with the Department's non-profit partners.

### **Future Enhancements**

- ❑ In January 2006, the Department will initiate an Offender Accountability Plan for each newly admitted sentenced inmate. The OAP will provide behavioral and programmatic expectations during the entire term of incarceration. The OAP is part of the Department's overall Offender Management Plan that is initiated upon incarceration and guides the offender through the end of his or her sentence.