

# WHO ENTERED PRISON?

## SELECT DATA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011 ADMISSIONS

AN ISSUE BRIEF FROM LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD STAFF

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### OBJECTIVE

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice's (TDCJ) statutory mission is to provide public safety, promote positive change in offender behavior, reintegrate offenders into society, and assist victims of crime. TDCJ is organized into multiple divisions and organizational units. Five of the agency's divisions carry out its major responsibilities regarding offenders: the Community Justice Assistance Division, the Correctional Institutions Division, the Rehabilitation Programs Division, the Re-entry and Integration Division, and the Parole Division.

### KEY FACTS

- ◆ 61.7 percent of prisoners were sentenced to a term of incarceration of five years or less.
- ◆ 36.3 percent of prisoners were admitted for a drug or alcohol related offense.

### STATUTORY REFERENCES

Texas Government Code, Chapter 491

The data highlight offense and sentence characteristics of offenders admitted to prison facilities during fiscal year 2011. Prisons house offenders convicted of third degree felonies or higher. The punishment ranges for these offenders can range from two years to death. The data do not include characteristics of state jail offenders, Substance Abuse Felony Punishment participants, or parole violators in Intermediate Sanction facilities. The data were extracted from individual-level records submitted by Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) Executive Services and may differ from the TDCJ Statistical Report due to methodological differences.

### SENTENCE LENGTH

FIG. 1  
SENTENCE LENGTH OF THE PRISON ADMISSION POPULATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011

SENTENCE LENGTH	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
2 Years and Less	10,554	23.8%
3 Years	6,323	14.2
4 Years	4,557	10.3
5 Years	5,932	13.4
6 Years	2,185	4.9
7 Years	1,731	3.9
8 Years	2,083	4.7
9 Years	369	0.8
10 Years	3,240	7.3
11 to 15 Years	2,511	5.7
16 to 20 Years	1,749	3.9
21 to 25 Years	1,065	2.4
26 to 30 Years	525	1.2
31 Years +	1,178	2.7
Life	275	0.6
Capital Life	10	0.0
Life without Parole	93	0.2
Death	6	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,386</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

NOTE: Percentages presented in this report do not always add to 100% due to rounding.  
SOURCE: Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

**OFFENSE**

**FIG. 2**  
**OFFENSE OF THE PRISON ADMISSION POPULATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011**

<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Homicide	1,055	2.4%
Kidnapping	164	0.4
Sexual Assault	446	1.0
Sexual Assault Against a Child	1,371	3.1
Robbery	3,980	9.0
Assault/Terroristic Threat	6,845	15.4
Arson	191	0.4
Burglary	6,336	14.3
Larceny	1,347	3.0
Stolen Vehicle	216	0.5
Forgery	452	1.0
Fraud	478	1.1
Stolen/Damaged Property	50	0.1
Drug-Possession	7,204	16.2
Drug-Delivery	3,931	8.9
Drug-Other	426	1.0
Commercialized or Other Sexual Offense	79	0.2
Sexual Offense Against a Child	967	2.2
Family Offense	158	0.4
Escape or Evading Arrest	480	1.1
Obstruction/Public Order	1,141	2.6
Failure to Register as a Sex Offender	756	1.7
Weapons Offense	1,297	2.9
DWI	4,539	10.2
Other	477	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,386</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

NOTE: Percentages presented in this report do not always add to 100% due to rounding.  
 SOURCE: Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

**USEFUL REFERENCES**

Texas Department of Criminal Justice – Statistical Report FY2011  
[http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/documents/Statistical\\_Report\\_FY2011.pdf](http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/documents/Statistical_Report_FY2011.pdf)

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