

WHO EXITED STATE JAIL?

SELECT DATA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011 RELEASES

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.

DEFINITIONS

- ◆ Administrative Segregation indicates a need for separation from staff or other offenders.
- ◆ Safekeeping indicates potential for victimization.
- ◆ J1–J3 and Outside Trusty indicates good disciplinary history.
- ◆ J4 indicates poor (non-assaultive) disciplinary history.
- ◆ J5 indicates assaultive disciplinary history.
- ◆ Other indicates special needs or participation in a program (not part of the general population).

KEY FACTS

- ◆ 99.3 percent of state jail offenders were discharged after completing their sentence.
- ◆ 90.9 percent of state jail offenders had a custody level of J1–J3 or Outside Trusty at release.
- ◆ 81.0 percent of state jail offenders released served 12 months or less at release.

STATUTORY REFERENCES

Texas Government Code, Chapter 491

The data highlight offense and sentence characteristics of offenders released from state jail facilities during fiscal year 2011. State jails house offenders convicted of state jail felonies. The punishment range for these offenders can range from 180 days to two years. The data do not include characteristics of prison 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.

RELEASE TYPE

FIG. 1
RELEASE TYPE OF THE STATE JAIL RELEASE POPULATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011

RELEASE TYPE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Discharge	22,547	99.3%
Release to Community Supervision*	158	0.7
Total	22,705	100.0%

* Some offenders receive upfront state jail time as a condition of community supervision.
NOTE: Percentages presented in this report do not always add to 100% due to rounding.
SOURCE: Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

CUSTODY LEVEL

FIG. 2
CUSTODY LEVEL OF THE STATE JAIL RELEASE POPULATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011

RELEASE TYPE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Administrative Segregation	0	0.0%
Safekeeping	5	0.0
J1–J3 and Outside Trusty	20,648	90.9
J4	1,171	5.2
J5	445	2.0
Other	436	1.9
Total	22,705	100.0%

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

CUSTODY LEVEL BY RELEASE TYPE**FIG. 3
CUSTODY LEVEL BY RELEASE TYPE OF THE STATE JAIL RELEASE POPULATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011**

CUSTODY LEVEL	DISCHARGE	RELEASE TO COMMUNITY SUPERVISION	TOTAL
Administrative Segregation	0	0	0
Safekeeping	4	1	5
J1–J3 and Outside Trusty	20,495	153	20,648
J4	1,168	3	1,171
J5	445	0	445
Other	435	1	436
Total	22,547	158	22,705

SOURCE: Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

TIME SERVED**FIG. 4
TIME SERVED OF THE STATE JAIL RELEASE POPULATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011**

TIME SERVED	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
6 Months and Less	7,902	34.8%
6 to 9 Months	5,602	24.7
10 to 12 Months	4,890	21.5
13 to 18 Months	3,026	13.3
18 Months to 2 Years	1,285	5.7
Total	22,705	100.0%

NOTE: Percentages presented in this report do not always add to 100% due to rounding.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

KEY TERMS

Administrative Segregation: A non-punitive, maximum custody status involving separation of an offender from the general population within the prison institution.

J1–J3 and Outside Trusty: Offenders in these custodies have a good disciplinary history, have served a specified portion of their sentence (varies by custody level), and do not have any security precaution designators.

J4: Offenders in this custody have disciplinary convictions within the past 12 months or a placement of a security precaution designator for escape, staff assault, or hostage.

J5: Offenders in this custody have disciplinary convictions for an assault with a weapon on staff or offenders within the past 12 to 24 months or have escaped from a TDCJ secure adult correctional facility within the past five years.

Safekeeping: Offenders who require separate housing for reasons that include, but are not limited to, vulnerability, threats to their safety, and potential for victimization.

USEFUL REFERENCES

Texas Department of Criminal Justice – Statistical Report FY2011

http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/documents/Statistical_Report_FY2011.pdf**CONTACT**Laurie Molina or Jamie Gardner Email: Issuebrief@lbb.state.tx.us