

WHO ENTERED PRISON?

SELECT DATA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012 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

- ◆ 61.8 percent of prisoners were sentenced to a term of incarceration of five years or less.
- ◆ 35.5 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 2012. 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 2012

SENTENCE LENGTH	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
2 Years and Less	10,503	23.5%
3 Years	6,590	14.8
4 Years	4,563	10.2
5 Years	5,914	13.3
6 Years	2,260	5.1
7 Years	1,765	4.0
8 Years	2,108	4.7
9 Years	343	0.8
10 Years	3,238	7.3
11 to 15 Years	2,515	5.6
16 to 20 Years	1,635	3.7
21 to 25 Years	1,109	2.5
26 to 30 Years	498	1.1
31 Years +	1,203	2.7
Life	256	0.6
Capital Life	9	0.0
Life without Parole	94	0.2
Death	5	0.0
Total	44,608	100.0%

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 2012**

OFFENSE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Homicide	1,005	2.3%
Kidnapping	162	0.4
Sexual Assault	477	1.1
Sexual Assault Against a Child	1,363	3.1
Indecency with a Child	897	2.0
Violent Sexual Offenses	28	0.1
Robbery	3,800	8.5
Assault/Terroristic Threat	6,963	15.6
Arson	184	0.4
Burglary	6,150	13.8
Larceny	1,357	3.0
Stolen Vehicle	219	0.5
Forgery	434	1.0
Fraud	512	1.1
Stolen/Damaged Property	70	0.2
Drug – Possession	7,013	15.7
Drug – Delivery	3,918	8.8
Drug – Other	417	0.9
Commercialized or Other Sexual Offense	152	0.3
Family Offense	140	0.3
Escape or Evading Arrest	790	1.8
Obstruction/Public Order	1,397	3.1
Failure to Register as a Sex Offender	799	1.8
Weapons Offense	1,369	3.1
DWI	4,486	10.1
Other	506	1.1
Total	44,608	100.0%

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 FY2012

http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/documents/Statistical_Report_FY2012.pdf**CONTACT**

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