



**STATE BOARD
OF
PARDONS AND
PAROLES**

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ANNUAL REPORT



THE PAROLE BOARD

Georgia's Constitution provides for three branches of government to serve as checks and balances on the power of government over the individual. As to prison sentences, the legislative branch sets the minimum and maximum range of the sentence, the judicial branch sentences the offender within that range and the executive branch, in the body of the Parole Board, serves as a check on the other two branches, while managing the finite resource of state prison beds.

The State Board of Pardons and Paroles is the **only** entity in the state with the constitutional authority to grant executive clemency. The Parole Board makes informed decisions on which inmates are deserving of parole, thereby ensuring hard prison beds are dedicated to the offenders who have committed the most serious crimes.

The Board's second priority is to manage prisoner reentry. Parole Officers skillfully and carefully reintegrate offenders into the community under strict supervision. Without the influence of parole's strict supervision, more offenders would return to Georgia prisons, creating a costly cycle of increasing recidivism.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles is to enhance public safety :

By making informed parole decisions and successfully transitioning offenders back into the community.

VISION

A parole system that leads to a safe Georgia.

CORE VALUES

We value Ethics, Integrity, Fairness and Honesty.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The Honorable Sonny Perdue, Governor
Members of the Georgia General Assembly
Citizens of the State of Georgia



On behalf of the five-member Board, I am pleased to present you with the agency's annual report for the fiscal year 2007.

The Board Members continue to be dedicated to balancing punishment with rehabilitation, while making just, equitable and informed parole decisions. We are successfully transitioning offenders back into the community, all the while ensuring public safety.

Performance measures associated with supervision of parolees reveal that 61% of parolees completed their period of supervision, which compares very favorably to the 45% national average of parolees who successfully complete parole supervision. Our parolees have an impressive 84% rate of employment, which is an increase of 2% over the past two years; this is especially significant since less than 52% were employed prior to their incarceration.

Parole Officers logged over 418,000 face to face contacts with parolees outside of the parole office. Those contacts were made unannounced at homes, places of employment and counseling sessions. Parole Officers conducted over 93,262 random drug tests on parolees and, as a result, we have increased the numbers referred to treatment by 16 percent.

Our balanced approach to supervision has allowed 110 parolees to successfully complete the *No Turning Back* substance abuse treatment program located at the Whitworth Parole Center in Hartwell. The Atlanta Parole Reporting Center is giving parolees the opportunity to change addictive and criminal behavior by providing evidence-based substance abuse and cognitive skills programming. Since we began operating this center, 53 parolees have graduated and are living as law-abiding citizens.

The Clemency Division completed the first phase of our Clemency On-line Navigation System (CONS) project. The CONS project will take the agency from a paper driven process to an electronic process, allowing for statewide access to information, electronic voting by Board Members, and disaster recovery.

We continue to enlist the help of the faith-based community to assist parolees with their transition back into the community. We will also continue our commitment to victims and their families by sponsoring Victims Visitor's Days across the state.

I am proud of the Board's accomplishments in Fiscal Year 2007 as we continue our commitment to the Governor's pledge to build a new Georgia.

Garland R. Hunt, Esq.

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BOARD MEMBERS

In 1943, the Georgia General Assembly enacted legislation to create the State Board of Pardons and Paroles as an independent agency to administer executive clemency, grant paroles, pardons, reprieves, the ability to commute sentences (including death sentences), to remit sentences and to remove disabilities imposed by law.

The Georgia Constitution provided that Parole Board Members are appointed by the Governor to serve seven- year staggered terms, subject to confirmation by the State Senate. Originally, the Board had only three members. In 1973, when the prison population reached 9,000 inmates, the Constitution was amended to expand the Parole Board to five members. The Board still stands at five members, although the prison population has risen to 52,232 inmates.

Parole Board Members come from a variety of backgrounds, including law enforcement, public policy, corrections, legal affairs and ministry.



**Chairman Garland R. Hunt, Esq.,
Appointed January 21, 2004**

Chairman Garland R. Hunt, Esq. was appointed to the Parole Board in January 2004 and one month later, Board Members elected Mr. Hunt Vice-Chairman of the Parole Board. After attending undergraduate and law school at Howard University in Washington, D.C., Chairman Hunt served as a staff attorney for the U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit. Prior to becoming a Member of the Parole Board, Chairman Hunt owned a consulting company and served as General Counsel and Executive Vice-President of the Fellowship of International Churches. An ordained minister, Chairman Hunt is the co-pastor of The Father's House in Norcross, Georgia. He was President of the 2004 Class of the Coverdell Leadership Institute and a 2006 graduate of Leadership Georgia. His background of ministry and law brings a unique perspective to the Parole Board. His focus on involving the faith-based community in the offender reentry process is invaluable.



L. Gale Buckner
Appointed January 1, 2005

Vice Chair L. Gale Buckner of Chatsworth, Georgia was appointed to the Board in January 2005, by Governor Sonny Perdue, and was elected Vice Chair of the Parole Board in May 2006. Vice Chair Buckner received a BS from Georgia State University and MPA from Brenau University. She started her career with the Chatsworth Police Department as a communications officer, rising to the level of Sergeant. In 1981, she began her career at GBI as an undercover operative, and specialized in corruption and white-collar crimes. She also served as GBI's Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs. She is a graduate of the 169th Session of the FBI National Academy. In 2000, Ms. Buckner was appointed Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Office of the Governor, where she coordinated policy initiatives regarding offender reentry and victims services. In 2007, she received the Dr. Lois Higgins-Grote Heritage Award from the International Association of Women Police. Her vast experience in the criminal justice field affords her a unique vantage which will enhance the implementation of the mission and vision of the Board.

Mr. Garfield Hammonds, Jr. of Atlanta, appointed in 1995 and reappointed in 2002, has devoted his career to law enforcement since 1969 when he joined the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency as a Special Agent working undercover in Detroit and New York. He quickly advanced to supervisory positions, including Country Attaché in Jamaica, and subsequently became the Special Agent in Charge of the Southeast Region, from which he later retired so he could remain in Georgia. In 1994, Governor Miller appointed him to head the Department of Children and Youth. One year later, Governor Miller appointed him to the Parole Board. Mr. Hammonds served as chairman of the Board during 1996. While a DEA leader, his concern about youth at risk for drug addiction and criminality led him to implement an award-winning prevention program. His tough stance on criminals, his expert knowledge of the impact of drugs, and his dedication to divert youth from crime add impetus to the agency goals of public safety.



Garfield Hammonds, Jr.
Appointed January 10, 1995
Reappointed January 1, 2002

Board Members



Milton E. "Buddy" Nix, Jr.
Appointed June 13, 2002
Reappointed
December 21, 2002

Mr. Milton E. Nix, Jr. was appointed to the Board in June 2002 to fill an interim term, and was then appointed to a full seven year term in December 2002 during the only bipartisan swearing in ceremony in Board history. He served as Board Chairman from 2002 to 2006. Mr. Nix, graduate of the University of Georgia, began his law enforcement career as a Special Agent of the United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations. He served from 1964 to 1970, completing a one year tour of duty in Vietnam. Following his military service, Mr. Nix began a 23 year career with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as Special Agent. He served tours of duty in Illinois, Ohio, Tennessee and FBI Headquarters. He completed his FBI career in 1993 in Houston, Texas, where he supervised a squad responsible for the international terrorism, general property and bank robbery investigations. In 1993, he was appointed Director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) by Governor Zell Miller. During his tenure at GBI, Mr. Nix led a major expansion of the GBI State Crime Lab system and creation of the Georgia DNA database of convicted felons. Mr. Nix is a member of Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council, Society of Former Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agents, International Association of Chiefs of Police, and Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc., where he was named Chief of the Year in 1998. He is also a 1999 graduate of the FBI National Executive Institute.

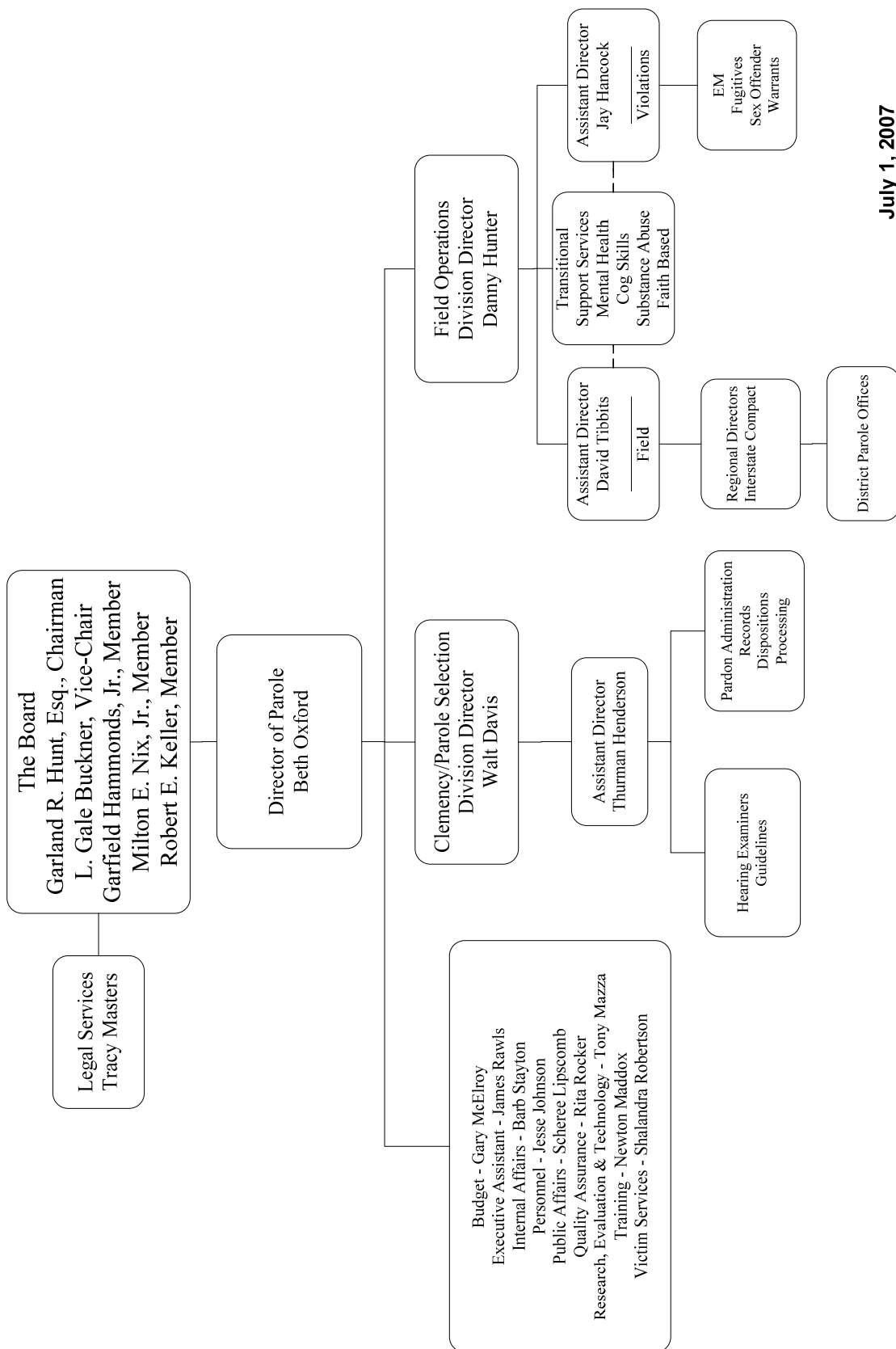
Robert E. Keller, Esq. from Clayton County was appointed to the Board by Governor Sonny Perdue on January 3, 2007. Mr. Keller served as executive counsel of the Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Georgia. He is the former chairman of that organization. Before joining the Prosecuting Attorneys Council, he served as both assistant district attorney and district attorney of Clayton County. He also maintained a private practice from 1974-1977. Keller served as a member of the Georgia Board of Public Safety, the Board of Trustees of the Georgia Judicial Retirement System, the Georgia Code Revision Plan Committee and the Commission to Assess Crime Laboratory Needs into the 21st Century. He also served as vice-chair of the Governor's Commission on Certainty in Sentencing. Keller earned a bachelor's degree from Birmingham Southern College and a law degree from Emory Law School. Mr. Keller brings a wealth of knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice system, and his reputation and credibility among the judiciary and prosecutors is highly admired.



Robert E. Keller, Esq.
Appointed January 3, 2007

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

State Board of Pardons and Paroles



July 1, 2007

THE AGENCY



The agency is composed of two divisions and several support units, which include: The Clemency and Parole Selection Division, The Field Operations Division and support units. Each is made up of several specialized units and employs approximately 750 employees statewide.

**Director of Parole
Beth Oxford**

**Legal Services
Tracy D. Masters, Director**

**Budget/Fiscal
Gary McElroy, Director**

DIRECTOR OF PAROLE

The Director of Parole is responsible for the day to day operation of the agency. This is accomplished by directing the activities of the Senior Management team in the achievement of the mission and goals of the agency. The primary mission of Public Safety is directly accomplished by the two major divisions of the agency involving clemency actions and parole supervision. The Director also coordinates the activities of the units which support the core businesses of the agency.

LEGAL SERVICES

The Office of Legal Services provides in-house legal advice to the members of the Parole Board and the agency's management team. It also acts as a liaison with the Office of the Attorney General in defending the Parole Board, its members and employees from the 150-plus yearly law suits filed against them by inmates denied parole and revoked parolees.

BUDGET FISCAL

The Budget Office oversees all fiscal related matters for the Parole Board. The Office identifies, measures, forecasts and communicates economic information to Board Members to assist in preparing the annual budget proposal for the Governor and Legislature.

THE AGENCY



Clemency Parole Selection
Walt Davis, Director

Field Operations
Danny Hunter, Director

Internal Affairs
Barbara Stayton, Director

CLEMENCY PAROLE SELECTION

The Clemency Division is responsible for preparing eligible cases for clemency consideration by the Board. Each case is individually prepared and evaluated by staff based on the clemency action for which they are being considered. The Division processes paroles, reprieves, commutations, restoration of rights and pardons. It is also responsible for maintaining inmate records, notifications required by statute and preparation of applicable clemency orders.

FIELD OPERATIONS

The Field Operations Division is responsible for the investigation of inmates being considered for release by the Board, and the supervision of the over 21,000 parolees under conditional release in Georgia. The investigative role incorporates the preparation of reports on the personal history background and circumstances of the criminal history of inmates that are considered for release by the Board. The supervision of parolees encompasses strict conditions designed to compel compliance with needed treatment interventions, close surveillance and pro-social activities.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Internal Affairs and Security unit organizes, conducts and directs investigations of all allegations of employee misconduct. It is also responsible for planning and coordinating security for high profile events to ensure the safety of Board Members, staff, and the public.

THE AGENCY



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

The Executive Assistant/Legislative Office is responsible for all legislative outreach and government relations. It is the liaison to the General Assembly and is the primary contact to the Governor's Office and other stakeholders on public policy issues.

PERSONNEL SERVICES

The Office of Personnel is responsible for a wide variety of human resource services for Board Members, managers and employees, including the recruitment, retention, benefits administration, payroll, and other traditional personnel services.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Office of Public Affairs manages the Board's media relations efforts. The Office also responds to routine and complex questions and inquiries from the media and the general public. It is also responsible for producing publications, videos, and maintaining the web site content.

Legislative Affairs
James Rawls, Director

Personnel Services
Jesse Johnson, Director

Public Affairs
Scheree C. Lipscomb, Director

Quality Assurance
Rita Rucker, Manager

QUALITY ASSURANCE

The Office of Quality Assurance conducts compliance audits within the agency to assure compliance with State laws, Board policies, and Board rules and regulations. It also conducts efficiency audits designed to monitor and improve operational efficiency.

THE AGENCY



Research, Evaluation and Technology
Tony Mazza, Director

Training
Newton Maddox, Director

Victim Services
Shalandra Robertson, Director

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The Office of Research, Evaluation and Technology provides and supports the data infrastructure, and computer needs of the agency. It is also responsible for maintaining and updating the agency strategic plan and performance measures, in addition to meeting the research needs of the agency.

TRAINING

The Parole Training Unit coordinates all agency training and maintains training records for parole personnel. It also hosts two parole officer basic courses each year to certify new parole officers and is the liaison between Peace Officers Standardized Training and Parole to ensure that all certified employees maintain their Peace Officer's certification and receive required and specialized training.

VICTIM SERVICES

The Office of Victim Services offers direct assistance to victims of crime whose offenders have been remanded to the custody of the Department of Corrections, or who are under the supervision of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles. It also works with victims and family members to address their concerns while keeping them informed of the status of their offender.

AGENCY EXPENDITURES

PERSONAL SERVICES

Salaries	28,251,122
Annual Leave	243,429
Supplemental Pay	79,411
Overtime	54,575
Temporary/Casual Labor	111,725
Fringe Benefits	9,802,943
Unemployment Insurance	46,087
Workers Compensation	53,636
Merit System Assessments	120,687
Drug Testing Services	4,792
Other Employee	1,855

TOTAL	38,770,262
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REGULAR OPERATING

Postage	45,831
Motor Vehicle Expenses	539,422
Publications and Printing	26,345
Supplies and Materials	972,393
Repairs and Maintenance	140,219
Equipment not Capitalized	295,271
Water & Sewage	10,405
Energy	214,882
Rents - other than Real Estate	274,831
Insurance and Bonding	21,016
Freight	1,751
Other Operating Expenses	191,154
Travel	465,142

TOTAL	3,198,663
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OTHER

Motor Vehicle Purchases	566,266
Equipment Purchases	273,628
Computer Charges	1,163,337
Real Estate Rentals	2,784,144
Telecommunications	1,201,256
Contracts	2,653,953
Health Services Purchases	3,193
County Jail Subsidy for Parolees	789,180

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$51,403,882
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OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES



As new offenders enter the Georgia prison system, the Board encourages victims, their survivors or other interested parties to contact the Board's Office of Victim Services.

The impact of the offender's action on victims and the community is important to the Board. The Office of Victim Services works with victims or their families to answer their questions about parole, to ensure their views and concerns reach the Board Members prior to any parole decision, and to keep them notified of activity on their case. All letters and contacts to the office are made a permanent and confidential part of the case file on the inmate. When the offender becomes eligible for parole consideration, the victim's wishes, fears, and concerns become a critical part of the parole decision process.

The Crime Victims Bill of Rights, passed in the state of Georgia during the 1995 legislative session, affords victims of crime a variety of rights.



Among those is the right to receive notification about the status of their case throughout the criminal justice process.

This includes the right to be notified by the State Board of Pardons and Paroles whenever it makes a decision to grant parole to an offender convicted of certain types of offenses. This also includes the right to be notified of the impending release of an offender from the custody of the Georgia Department of Corrections.

In FY05, the Parole Board and Department of Corrections' Office of Victim Services combined their victim services offices. The merger was the result of ongoing efforts by both agencies to accommodate victims and to provide victims with the highest possible level of customer service. The staff from both agencies now work as one team to provide post-sentencing support and information to crime victims, their families and members of the community.

The Office of Victim Services in order to enhance services to victims of crime instituted a ***Victims Visitor's Day*** in 2005. Board Members and employees of the Parole Board travel to various cities in the state to address the needs of victims and their families face-to-face. The Office of Victim Services has seen over 500 crime victims and their families since this special day began.

VICTIM INFORMATION PROGRAM (V.I.P.)

V.I.P. is a 24-hour automated information system that provides victims of crime and/or families with access to information about their offender. By simply picking up a telephone and dialing the toll-free V.I.P. number, information regarding custody and status of an inmate can be obtained.

Crime Victims may call the V.I.P. Hotline to receive updates concerning the following inmate information:

Current incarceration location

Parole Status/Eligibility

Maximum or scheduled release date

It also operates as a notification system. Through computer generated telephone calls, individuals who have registered with the Office of Victim Services will automatically receive notification of the release of their offender from custody.

Victims or family members of the victim can register for notification by returning a completed Crime Victim Notification Request Form or Victim Impact Statement to the Office of Victim Services. Upon receiving a completed form, the Office of Victim Services will register the request for notification into the system.

Registered victims will automatically begin receiving computer generated notification calls when any of the following occurs:

The offender is released from prison having completed the court ordered term of incarceration

The offender is released from prison after completing the confinement portion of the sentence to begin a court ordered probation period

Upon being granted a parole release

The escape and recapture of the offender

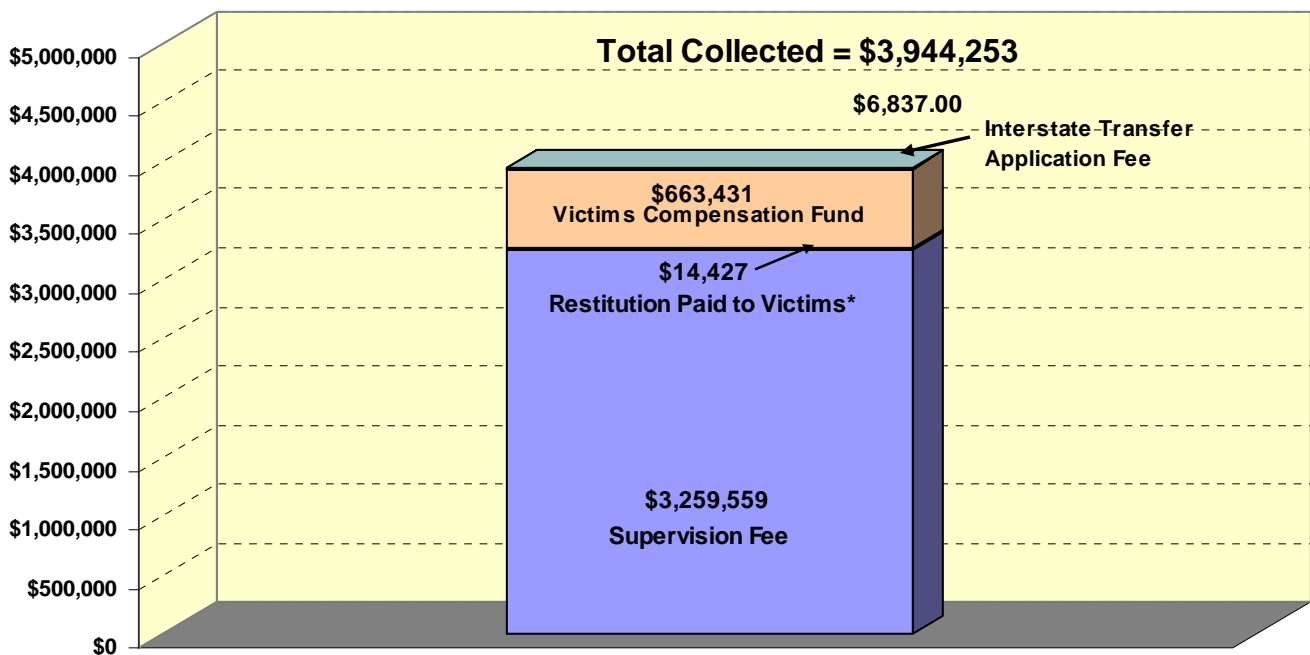
The death of the offender while in the custody of Corrections



VICTIMS COMPENSATION FUND

Georgia parolees are required to make monthly payments that directly benefit victims and communities. Parolees pay a \$30 monthly supervision fee that goes to the state treasury's general fund. Victims' compensation fees, paid by violent-crime offenders in lieu of the supervision fee, are deposited in the Crime Victims Compensation Fund which provides payments to the innocent victims of violent crimes.

Parolee Payments in FY2007



* Collection of restitution begun April 2006

CLEMENCY AND PAROLE SELECTION



THE PAROLE PROCESS

In Georgia, no prison inmate is entitled to parole. Most, however, by law are eligible to be considered for parole at some point, usually after serving one-third of their prison sentence. Exceptions to this are offenders sentenced to: a term-of-years sentence for a serious violent felony, life without parole and fourth-felony recidivists. Eligible inmates are automatically considered for parole, regardless of appeals or other legal action by the inmate or his or her representative.



A favorable parole decision results in the Board establishing a “tentative parole month” (TPM) for the offender, contingent on positive progress reports and other information received during the intervening months or years. A tentative parole may be withdrawn by the Board at any time, for any reason, prior to the scheduled prison release date.

The typical parole consideration follows this path:

THE INVESTIGATION: When an offender enters the prison system, Parole Investigators begin studying arrest and court records, conversing with arresting local officials to determine the details of the offender's crime, and any prior offenses. Next, a Parole Investigator interviews the offender in prison to gather information about the offender's personal history, including previous residences, employment, family situation, educational background and an account of the current crime. Finally, a Board employee will conduct interviews with family members and former employers. These steps reveal information critical to determining if, when, and how the offender should be returned to the community to ensure public safety.

HEARING EXAMINER REVIEW: A Board Hearing Examiner reviews the offender's file and extracts specific factors such as education, work history, substance abuse, and prior criminal history to establish a success score and to prepare a summary of the case for the Board. Using a guidelines grid approved by the members of the Board, the Examiner links the success factor score with the appropriate crime severity level. The crime severity levels begin at level one for offenses such as shoplifting and go to level eight.

The cross-referenced guidelines grid produces a number of months or percentage of the sentence recommendation, which in the case of months-to-be-served recommendation, can exceed the entire length of the sentence. The Hearing Examiner then submits the guidelines recommendation, along with the entire Board file on the offender, to the Board Members for their vote on the case.

“THE FILE OF AN OFFENDER”

Drug Reports

Personal History

Sentencing Reports

Criminal History

Legal Investigation

Parole Review Summary

Victims Letters

Employment History

Prison Diagnostic Summary

Social Investigations

BOARD VOTE: Board Members independently consider the guidelines recommendation and review the offender's file. They may agree with the guidelines recommendation or they may exercise their constitutional discretion and vote to increase or decrease the amount of the time the inmate will have to serve in prison. Inmates are usually considered for parole independently by each Board Member. A grant of parole requires the affirmative vote of three of the five members of the Board.



PAROLE GUIDELINES: Since 1979, the Parole Board has reviewed non-life sentence cases under Parole Decision Guidelines, one of the country's first standardized methods of predicting an offender's success on parole. Under the guidelines system, Hearing Examiners use factors such as education level and prior criminal history, coupled with the crime severity, to evaluate the offender's risk and likelihood for success outside of prison walls.

Following consideration, inmates receive written notice of the Board's decision on their case.

If parole has been approved, the offender is advised of a 'tentative parole month' and cautioned that the decision may be rescinded up to the hour of release.

NOTICE OF PAROLE DECISION

THE BOARD HAS REVIEWED YOUR CASE AND HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

YOUR PAROLE MONTH IS: JULY

IF SPECIFIC REASONS ARE LISTED BELOW, THE BOARD FEELS THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF YOUR CRIME(S) CALLS FOR MORE TIME IN PRISON THAN RECOMMENDED BY THE GUIDELINES SYSTEM.

A DECISION MADE BY THE BOARD IS TENTATIVE AND MAY BE CHANGED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BOARD AT ANY TIME.

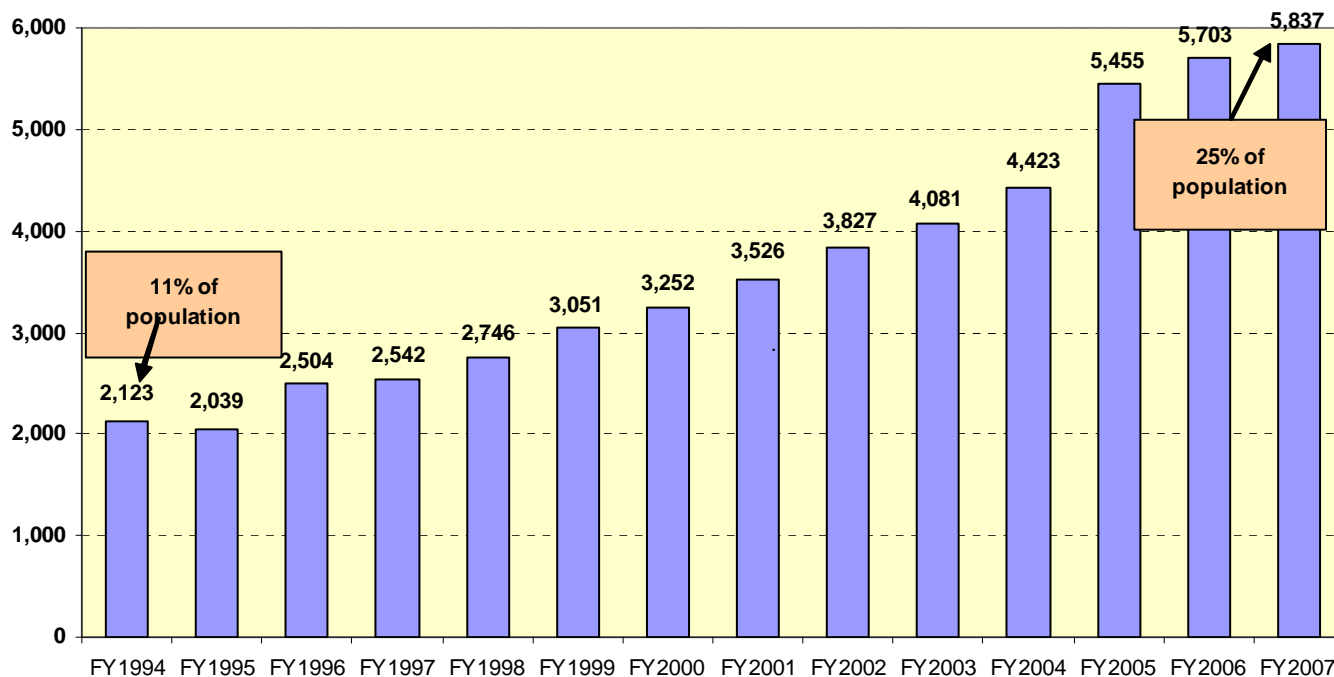
MEDICAL REPRIEVES

The Department of Corrections defines its "elderly inmate" population as those who are 50 years of age or older. Many of these inmates are "older" health-wise than persons of similar age due to a history of poor health habits and a lack of preventative care.

The Parole Board has the constitutional authority to grant a medical reprieve to any inmate it finds to be entirely incapacitated due to a progressively debilitating terminal illness. The Department Corrections' medical staff recommends inmates for a medical reprieve.

The Board balances the sufficiency of the punishment imposed on the offender to date, with the cost of treating the offender in a state prison and the humanity of allowing the offender to die outside the confines of a prison. Although they are extremely limited in their mobility, medically reprieved offenders are supervised by a Parole Officer. If, with proper medical treatment, the offender's condition improves, he or she may be returned to prison to complete his or her sentence.

Parolees Age 45 and Older

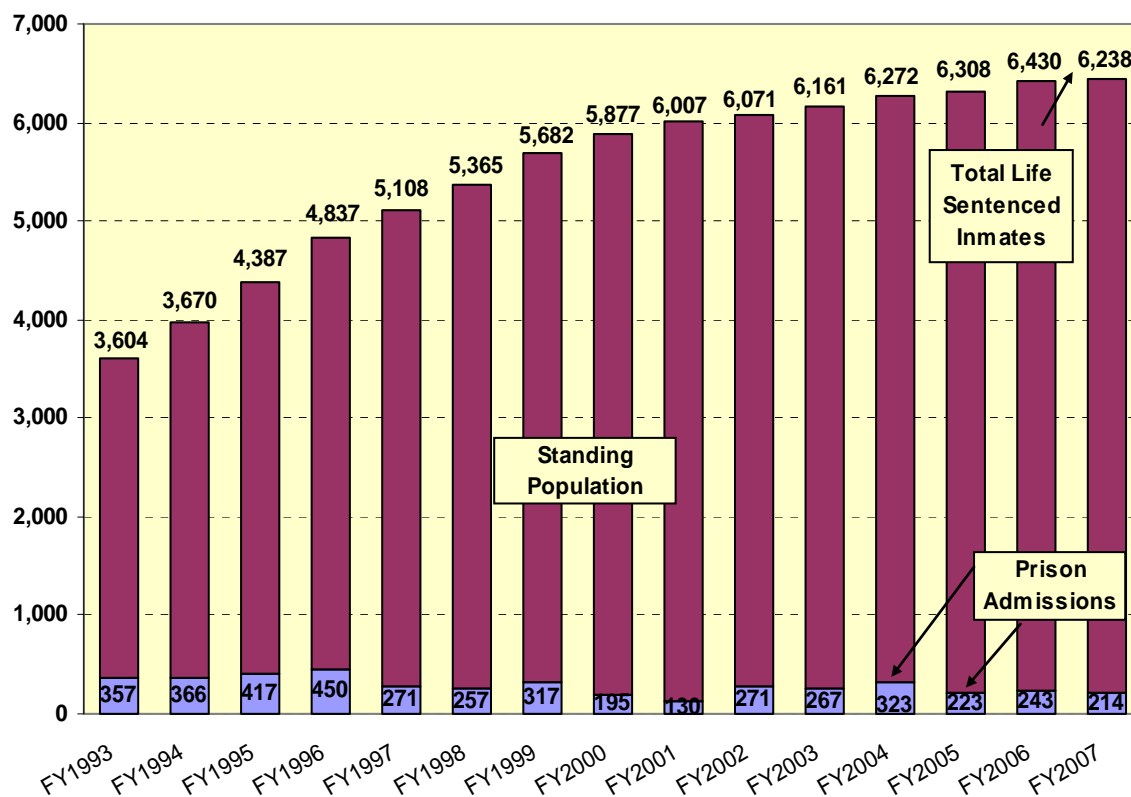


LIFE SENTENCED INMATES

Georgia law requires the Parole Board to consider for parole offenders serving life sentences for serious violent felonies (murder, rape, aggravated sodomy, aggravated child molestation, aggravated sexual battery, armed robbery, or kidnapping) after they have served 14 years in prison. This law was recently changed to require parole consideration after 30 years for serious violent felony offenders committing their crimes on or after July 1, 2006. The law also requires periodic parole reconsideration until the offender dies, is granted parole, or a medical reprieve. As is illustrated by the graph, eligibility for parole consideration in no way implies that parole will be granted.

Inmates Serving a Life Sentence FY 2007

(Source: Georgia Department of Corrections)



DEATH CASE APPEALS

The Parole Board has the sole constitutional authority to commute, or reduce, a death sentence. Only after an inmate appears to have exhausted all appeals and other judicial avenues of relief will the Parole Board consider granting a commutation to a death-sentenced inmate. At that time, the condemned inmate's attorney may petition the Board to grant executive clemency to his or her client.

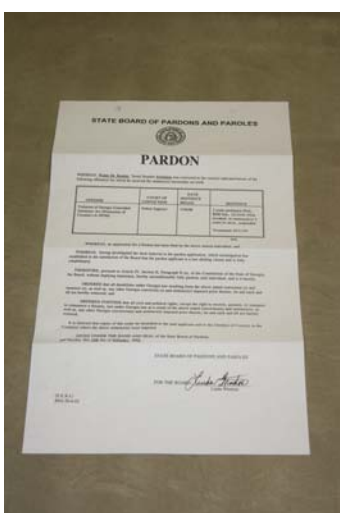
The Board maintains a comprehensive file on every death-sentenced inmate. The file includes the circumstances of the offense, the inmate's criminal history and a comprehensive as possible history of the life of the condemned inmate. When an execution appears imminent, the Board will usually grant separate appointments to the inmate's representatives and the District Attorney who prosecuted the case, along with the victim's family, if they so desire. The Board has senior members of its staff interview the condemned inmate. After the Board has heard from all concerned parties and has fully deliberated and considered the case, each Member casts a confidential vote to grant or to deny a commutation of the death sentence. A grant of commutation requires the affirmative vote of three of the five members of the Board.

THE PARDON AND RESTORATION OF RIGHTS PROCESS

The Board is authorized to grant a pardon to an offender, declaring that the individual is relieved from all legal consequences of a previous conviction. A pardon restores civil and political rights and removes legal disabilities resulting from conviction in a Georgia court of law. No pardon is automatic, and the Board reviews the merits of each individual pardon application. A pardon can be granted in two instances. The first, and the most rare, is if an individual proves his or her complete innocence of the crime for which he or she was convicted. Since the Board was created in 1943, only two pardons have been granted to individuals the Board concluded were wrongly convicted.

An offender may also apply for a pardon that is not based on innocence. The offender must have completed the full sentence, including probation, made any court-ordered payments, and demonstrated rehabilitation by living five additional years without any criminal involvement. Under Georgia Law, a person convicted of a felony loses his or her civil and political rights, including the right to vote, the right to hold public office, and the right to serve on a jury. The right to vote is restored automatically by operation of the law upon completion of the full sentence, including probation. Using an application form available on request, a person who was convicted under Georgia Law may apply for a Pardon.

An ex-offender convicted in another state or under Federal Law, but who is residing in Georgia and wishes to exercise civil and political rights in this state, may apply for a Restoration of Civil and Political Rights. The Restoration of Civil and Political Rights carries no implication of innocence and may be granted only to a person who has completed his or her sentence and who has thereafter completed two years without any criminal involvement.



A RESTORATION OF CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

The Board will consider restoring firearm rights to former offenders, otherwise qualified for a Pardon or Restoration of Civil and Political Rights. However, because they could still be prosecuted by federal authorities for possessing a firearm, the Board will not consider restoring firearm rights to any former offender convicted of a federal offense or who was convicted of or pled guilty to an offense arising out of the unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession, or use of a controlled substance or other dangerous drugs.

REENTRY PARTNERSHIP HOUSING PROGRAM

The Reentry Partnership Housing (RHP) provides housing to convicted felons who remain in prison after the Parole Board has authorized their release due solely to having no residential options.

The RHP program finds housing units that are approved for parolee placement, and provides short term financial assistance to help stabilize the parolees reentry process, so that they can remain crime free.

Total Cost
Spent at \$49.00
Per Day
To
Incarcerate
Those Inmates
Past Their
Board Authorized
Temporary Release
Date

\$4,026,183

CLEMENCY ACTION IN FY07

Clemency Action in FY 07

RELEASE ACTIONS	Totals
Parole	8,476
Supervised Reprieve	2,013
Conditional Transfer	957
Commutation	0
Remission	0
Other Release Action	0
TOTAL RELEASES	11,446
TOTAL PAROLE REVOCATIONS	3,560
DISCHARGES	
Discharge / Parole	5,793
Discharge / Reprieve	2,043
Commutation to Discharge Parole	261
TOTAL DISCHARGES	8,097
TOTAL DECISION UNDER GUIDELINES	11,536
LIFE DECISIONS	
Deny Parole to Life Cases	595
Grant Parole to Life Cases	154
TOTAL LIFE DECISIONS	749
OTHER BOARD ACTIONS	
Pardon	372
Commutation Reducing Sentence	0
Medical Compassionate Reprieve	15
Restoration of Rights	211
Visitor Interview	3,017
Revocation Hearing	457
Preliminary Hearing	204
RELEASES UNDER SUPERVISION	
Georgia Releases in Georgia	20,105
Out-of-State Releases in Georgia	779
Georgia Releases Out-of-State	2,457
TOTAL PAROLEE POPULATION	23,341

FIELD OPERATIONS



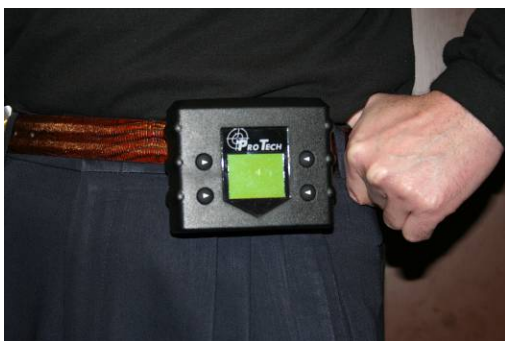
During Fiscal year 2007, the parolee population declined slightly from **21,378** to **20,823** under supervision. Performance measures associated with supervision of these cases reveal that **61%** of parolees successfully completed their period of parole supervision according to the formula prescribed by the Bureau of Justice statistics. This compares very favorably to the **45%** national average of parolees who successfully complete parole supervision.

Attracting and retaining highly qualified Parole Officers has become a significant challenge for the agency. Parole Officers spend eight weeks in training, studying defensive tactics, constitutional law, supervision techniques, victims' rights and other subjects. Officers are also required to qualify with a semi-automatic weapon, a skill they maintain through semi-annual re-qualifications. Graduates of the rigorous training are certified by the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Council to serve as Georgia Peace Officers sworn to protect and serve the public.

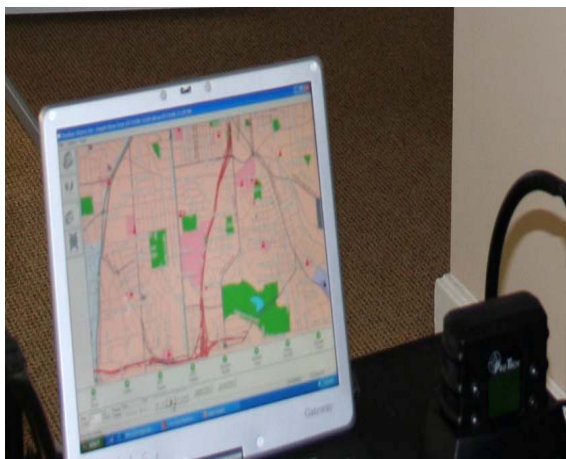
The resilience and dedication of the Parole Officers has enabled the Field Division to complete a remarkable **418,020** contacts with parolees as part of the surveillance component of parole supervision. The parole consideration process requires that a thorough investigation of crime circumstances and personal background of an inmate be completed prior to a Board decision. Field Division staff conducted **52,368** investigations during the fiscal year for Board review. Moreover, **\$3.94 million** in parole supervision fees, restitution, and victim's compensation fees were collected for return to the state treasury.

As a leader among paroling authorities nationwide, the Parole Board has adopted an internal philosophy of visibility and transparency in measuring success under parole supervision. Supplemented by the electronic case management system and groundbreaking methods of analyzing and reviewing performance outputs on a real-time basis, the Board has implemented management practices which serve to reinforce the causal linkage between effective supervision strategies and parole success with statewide rankings, charts and rolling summaries of performance at all levels of the Field Division.

ELECTRONIC MONITORING AND SEX OFFENDER SUPERVISION



The test phase and evaluation of Global Positioning Electronic Monitoring (GPS EM) was concluded in October 2005. In December, the Board adopted procedures to require all parolees released with the sex offender special conditions to be placed on GPS EM throughout their parole period. Total cases under GPS EM supervision have steadily increased, and the average monthly usage rate was 176 units.



Additionally, Radio Frequency Electronic Monitoring (RFEM), statewide use increased from 795 to 906 units, representing a yearly growth of 14%.

Sex offenders have been significantly impacted by new legislation requiring increased residence and employment restrictions.

The most significant changes have been the addition of churches as areas a sex offender may not reside or be employed within 1000 feet. In addition, school bus stops were added to this list. One hundred and forty-three parolees have been affected by these changes, with 22 required to change their residence due to proximity to a church. The issue of bus stops has been challenged in court, and a resolution has not yet been reached.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE ASSESSMENTS AND GROUPS

The Board contracts with Spectrum Health Systems, Inc. (SHS) to provide substance abuse assessments and ASAM Level 1 substance abuse group treatment to parolees. Research conducted by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) clearly reveals a correlation between substance abuse treatment and lower levels of drug abuse and criminal behavior. These "outpatient" group services are available in every parole district in the state. In FY '07, over 9,100 parolees were enrolled in a primary substance treatment program and 3,597 parolees successfully completed treatment.

EMPLOYMENT

The attainment of full-time employment by a parolee is perhaps the most important factor contributing to his/her success under supervision, and in maintaining a productive, law-abiding lifestyle. Effective referrals to prospective employers with the encouragement and monitoring of employment retention are the focal point of a parole officer's intervention efforts. The result was an impressive **84% rate of employment** among employable parolees at the end of FY 06, an increase of 1% from the previous year.



NO TURNING BACK

No Turning Back, the substance abuse treatment program located at the Whitworth Parole Center in Hartwell, has sixty slots for parolees assessed to be in need of this five month program. The program emphasizes recovery from addiction, relapse prevention and release preparation. The Parole Board contracts with Spectrum Health Systems, Inc. (SHS) to provide the counseling services using a research-based curriculum.

The *No Turning Back* program accepted its first participants in February 2005. During FY '07, 110 parolees successfully completed the program.

The parolees are being tracked to determine whether or not they successfully complete parole supervision upon their release from *No Turning Back*.

PAROLE REPORTING CENTER (PRC)

The Parole Board assumed responsibility for the former Atlanta Day Reporting Center on July 1, 2006. Renamed the Parole Reporting Center, its mission is to provide parolees the opportunity to change addictive and criminal behavior by providing evidence-based substance abuse and cognitive skills programming.

The program goals are to increase the likelihood of successful parole completions, and to reduce the risk of drug usage. The program capacity is 75 and targets male parolees in Fulton County who have received a substance abuse assessment and are in need of an intensive level of service.

During FY'07, 32 parolees successfully completed the program. The programs delivered by certified addiction counselors and parole officers include *Prime For Life*, *Behavior Stabilization*, *Relapse Prevention*, and *Moral Reconation Therapy*. Each of these programs is designed with the hope to help integrate the parole population back into society.



TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR OFFENDER REENTRY DIRECTORY

The Transitional Housing for Offender Reentry (THOR) Directory is an on-line directory of community-based housing for persons released from prison or on probation or parole. THOR replaces the Alternative Living Facility Manual.

The Field Operations Division maintains the Transitional Housing for Offender Reentry (THOR) Directory to assist staff with making offender residence decisions. The Alternative Living Facility Manual was converted to the THOR Directory this year as an intranet tool that is also available online to the Department of Corrections' prison and probation staffs.

The directory contains information about the approved community-based residential facilities that provide housing for offenders on parole or probation. The primary issues that are addressed before a facility is included in the THOR Directory are: providing a safe and healthy environment for residents and staff, maintaining consistent and timely staff communication with parole and/or probation officers, and delivering services that facilitate recovery from alcohol and other drugs and/or criminal lifestyles. The 120+ facilities listed in the THOR Directory are the primary alternatives for offenders who have unaddressed criminogenic needs and/or who are homeless or nearly homeless.

Each residence decision requires balancing the community safety and offender rehabilitation goals with the offender's need for a structured living environment that supports recovery from alcohol and other drug use and/or criminal behavior.

Parole Board personnel make the final decision on the residence plans of inmates released by the Parole Board. In addition, Parole Board staff determine each facility's designation as either Structured Housing or Recovery Residence

COGNITIVE SKILLS PROGRAM

With an increased momentum, Georgia Parole Officers are facilitating a cognitive behavioral program that assists parolees in taking responsibility for their past and future actions. Moral Reconciliation Therapy is designed to allow the individual to assess the thinking process that accounted for the decisions that placed them in their current situation and to become more effective in making positive decisions in the future. It is defined as "a systematic, cognitive-behavioral, step-by-step treatment strategy designed to enhance self-image, promote growth of positive, productive identity and facilitate the development of higher stages of moral reasoning."

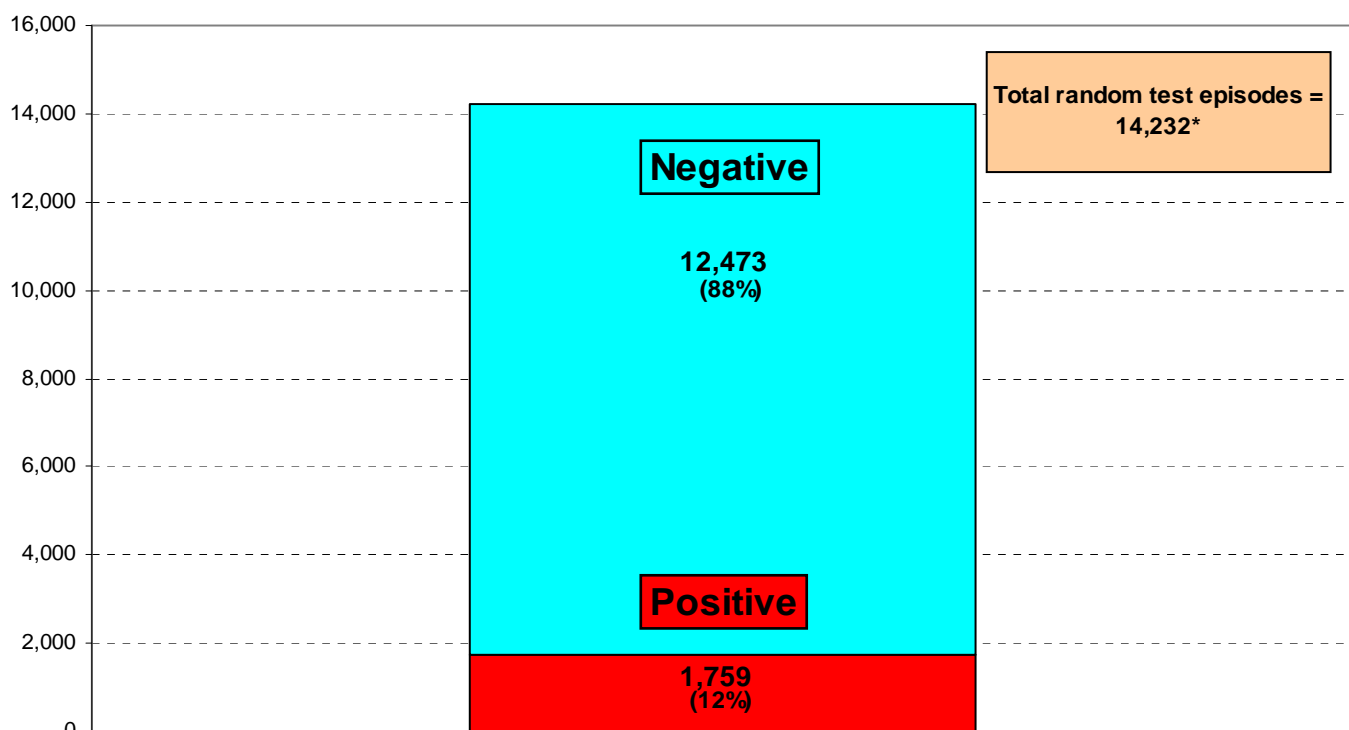
The agency holds three facilitator training classes per fiscal year and trains 25 parole officers per class. This program is cost efficient in that facilitator training is conducted in house. We currently have four officers who have met the Train the Trainer requirements and 186 officers trained as facilitators in the Field Division.



DRUG TESTING

Random and scheduled drug screens are conducted by parole officers to ensure parolee compliance with the conditions of release, and as a method of detection and deterrence. The total number of drug test episodes for FY'07 was 93,262. The 12% positive drug screen rate among those parolees who were randomly tested is a notably positive measure when considering that approximately 75% of offenders enter the prison system with a drug related history. Also, this represents a 3% drop in the number of positive drug screens as compared to FY'06, with an increase in the number of parolees tested.

Random Drug Testing: FY 2007



* Note: A test episode is 1 set of drug tests for one or more drugs. Drug testing is an essential tool for effective supervision. Each month 10% of all parolees are randomly selected for testing, representing the most accurate picture of parolee drug use. The total number of all test episodes in FY06 was 93,262

INTERSTATE SUPERVISION OF PAROLEES

Georgia is a member of the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision. This national commission provides insight for states with offenders crossing state lines. The Commission is responsible for the creation and management of the rules that govern the transfer of such offenders.

The Commission allows Georgia to transfer a Georgia-sentenced parolee to the supervision of another state for legitimate, verifiable reasons. Primarily, offenders are transferred so they can return to their original residence or family, particularly if the environment is conducive to the parolee's successful rehabilitation. For those same reasons, Georgia agrees to supervise approved parolees transferred from other states. Out-of-state parolees must obey the parole conditions of the sentencing state, as well as the state accepting their supervision.

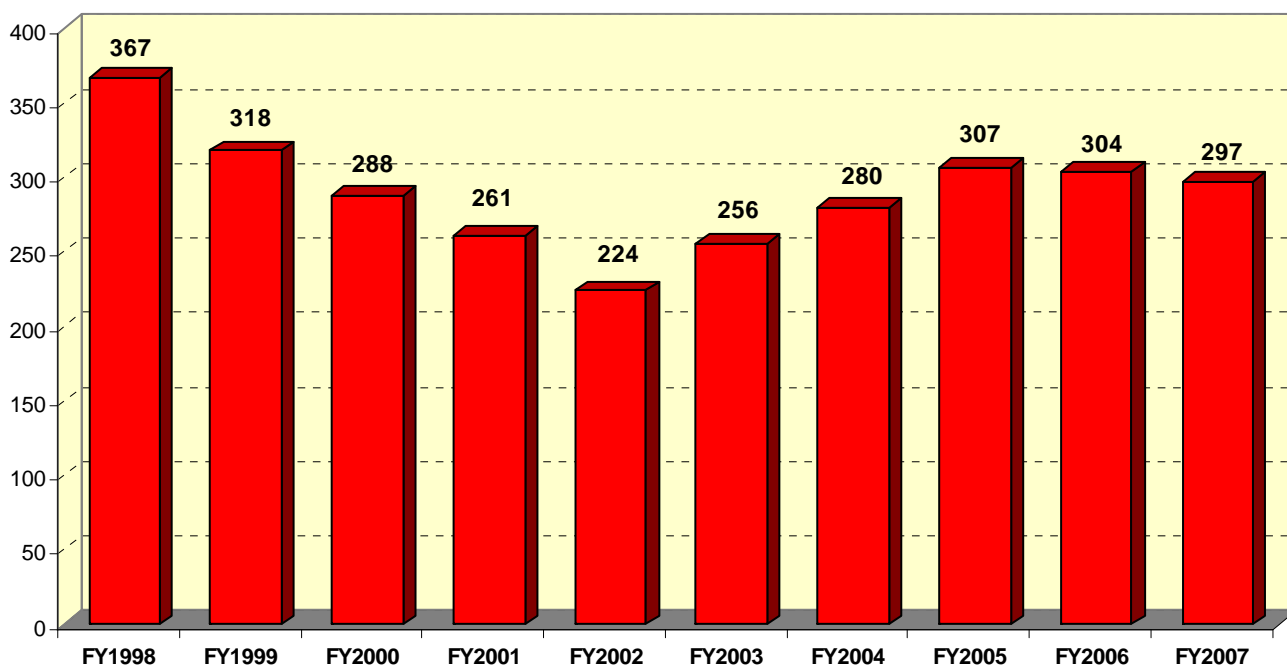
The State Board of Pardons and Paroles Interstate Compact Unit oversees the placement and transfer of all parolees into and out of the state of Georgia, arranges supervision of transferring parolees, responds to violations, handles extradition, and maintains the files of all the Conditional Transfers to Federal, out-of-state, and Immigration and Naturalization Service Detainers.

Out-of-state parolees supervised by Georgia	779
Georgia parolees supervised by other states	2,457

REVOCATION PROCESS

Despite the efforts to assist parolees to become productive members of society, some parolees do not fulfill the requirements of their parole. In these cases, the Parole Board issues a Board warrant for the parolee's arrest. If the parolee has absconded from supervision, a temporary revocation order is issued. This order suspends the offender's sentence. Parolees arrested on a Board warrant for allegedly violating a parole condition are afforded a preliminary hearing before a Hearing Officer. The hearing determines whether there is probable cause to believe the conditions of parole were violated. Following this preliminary hearing, a report is issued to the Board by the Hearing Officer. A final hearing is held before a Board Member, who then makes a recommendation to the full Board on whether or not parole should be revoked and the offender returned to prison.

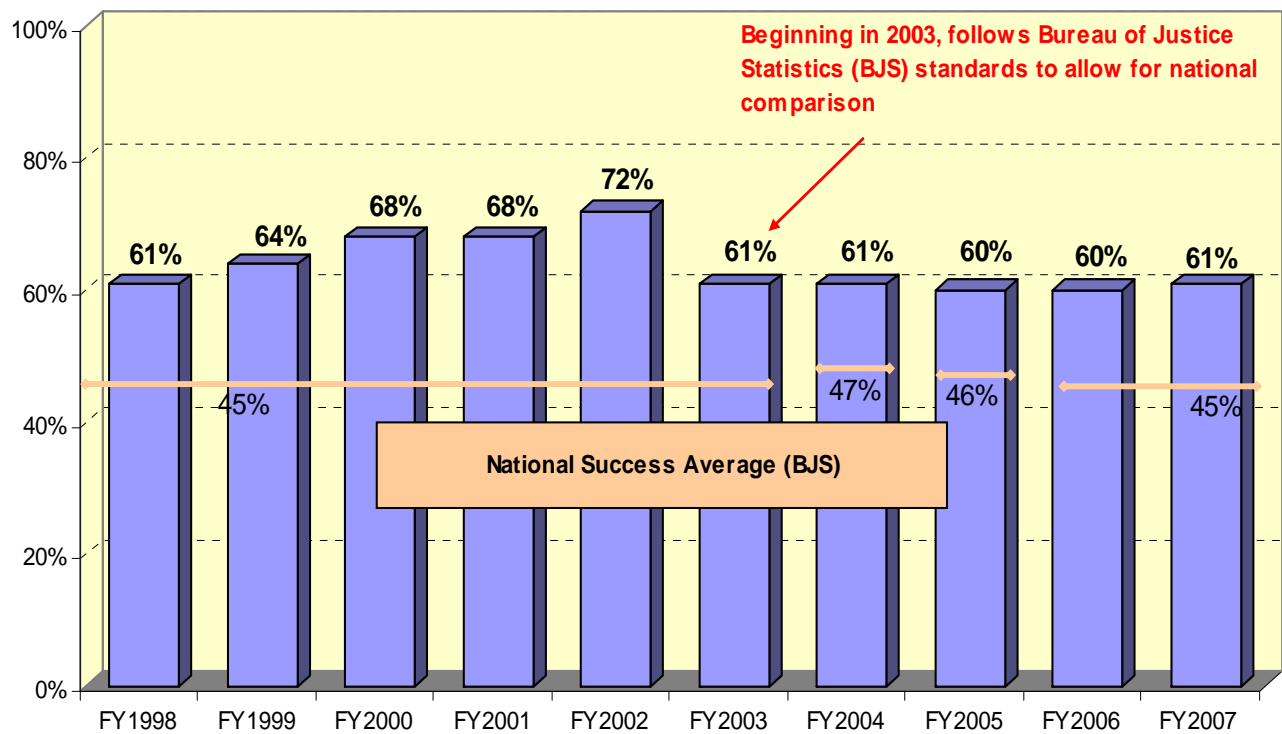
Average Number of Parolees Revoked per Month



PAROLE SUPERVISION MEASUREMENT

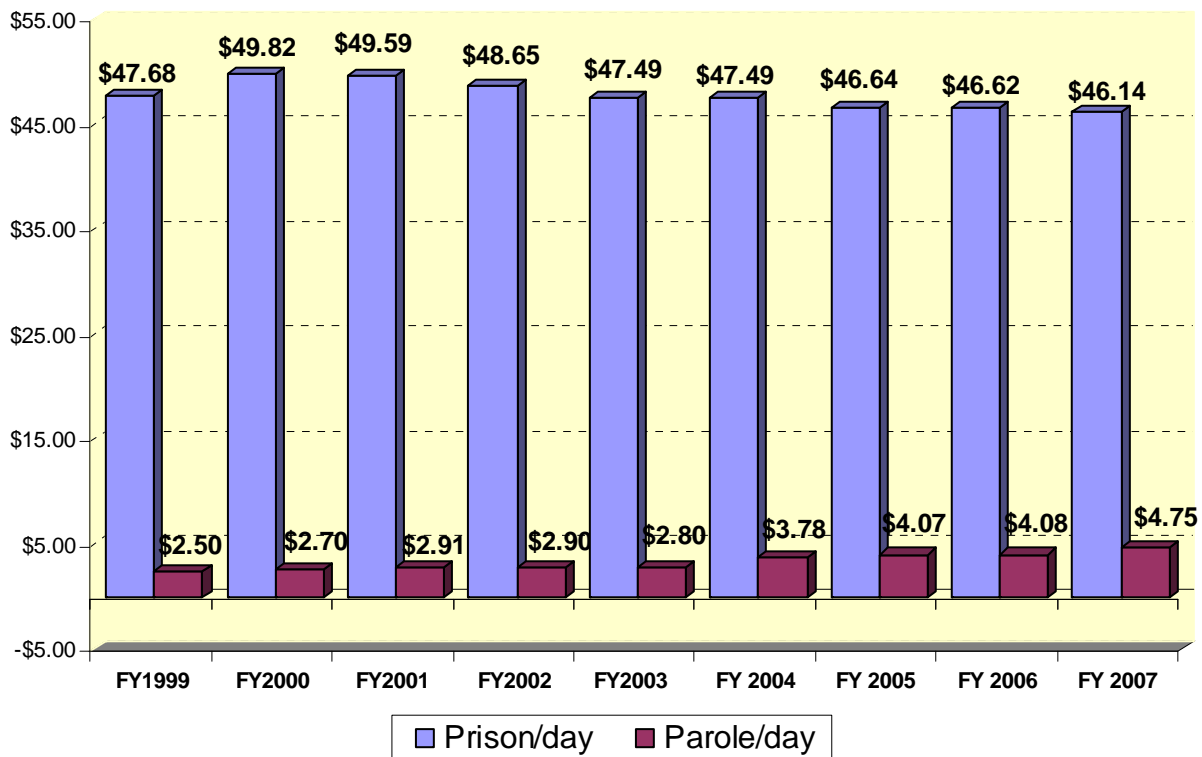


Georgia Parolees who Successfully Complete Supervision Compared to the National Average





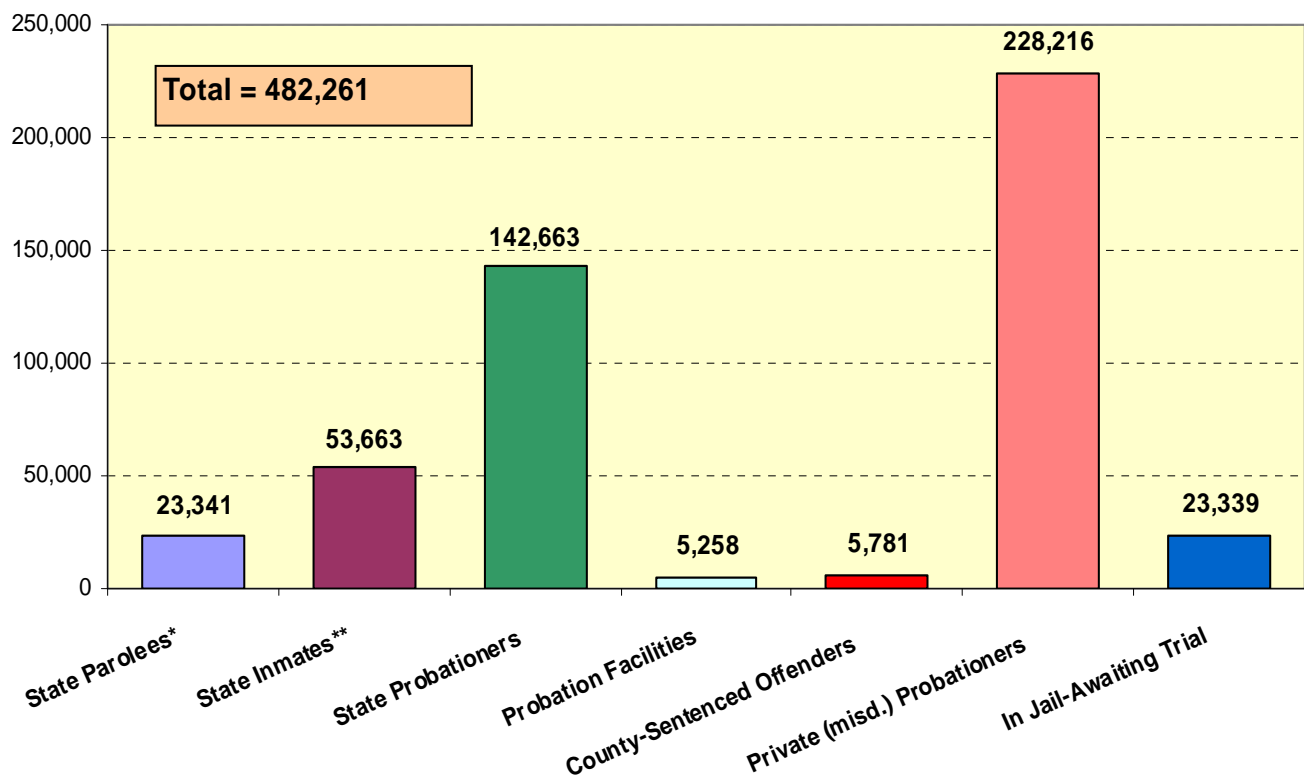
Cost Per Day: Prison Incarceration vs. Parole Supervision



GEORGIA CORRECTIONAL PICTURE



**Georgia's Adult Offender Population
FY 2007**



* Includes 779 offenders from other states under supervision in Ga. and 2,400 GA parolees in other states ** Does not include 1,716 offenders awaiting pickup in county jails. Sources: Parole Board Research, Evaluation and Technology Unit, Department of Community Affairs, Georgia Dept of Corrections, Administrative Office of the Courts



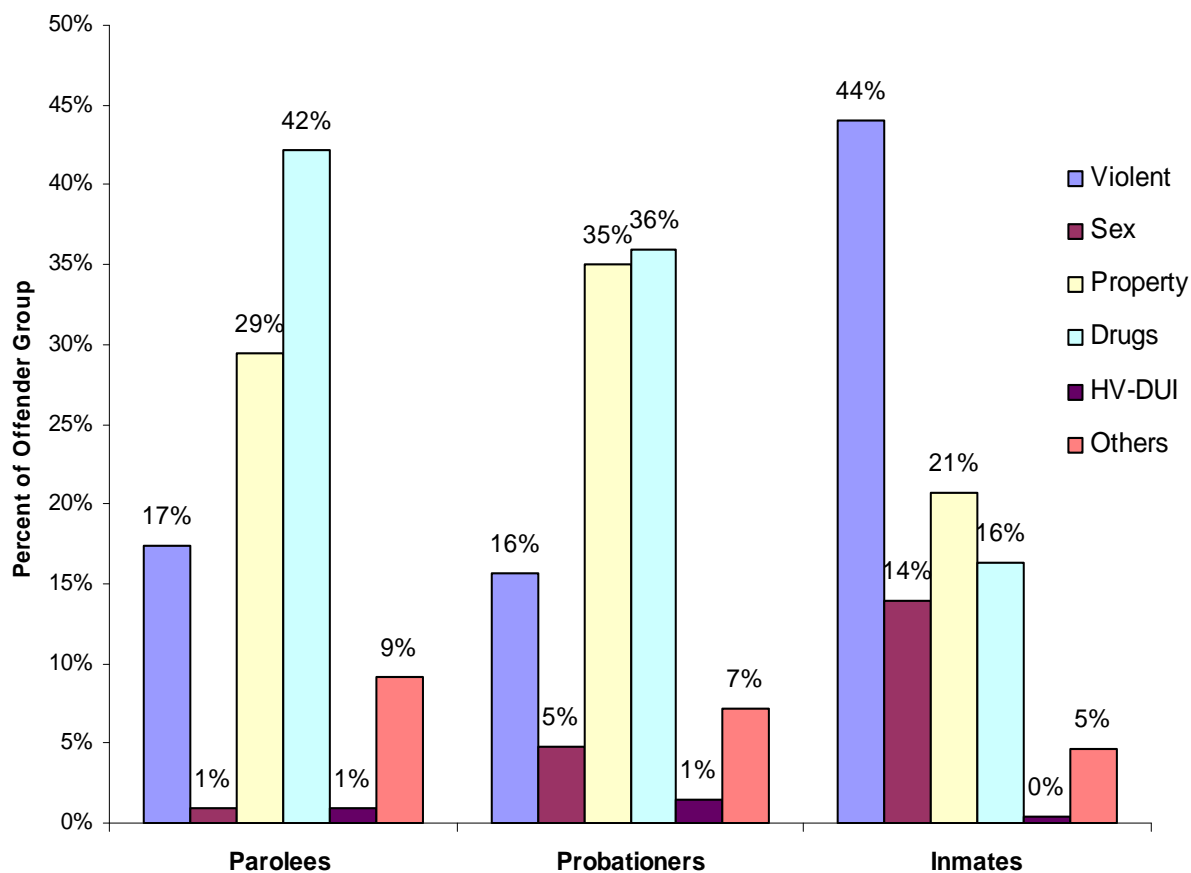
GEORGIA'S CORRECTIONAL POPULATION: FY2007*							
CRIME TYPE	PROBATION		INMATE		PAROLE		TOTAL
Violent	22,240	46%	22,110	46%	4,157	9%	48,507
Sex	6,603	47%	7,172	51%	223	2%	13,998
Property	49,309	75%	10,032	15%	6,770	10%	66,111
Drug	52,198	73%	8,693	12%	10,250	14%	71,141
Habitual Violator / DUI	1,583	83%	163	9%	164	9%	1,910
Other	10,730	72%	2,325	16%	1,777	12%	14,832
Not Reported			2,731	199%			2,731
Total	142,663		53,226		23,341		219,230
% of State Total	65%		24%		11%		

* The inmate population does not include 1,716 offenders in county jails awaiting transfer to state prisons. The parolee population includes 779 from other states under supervision in Georgia and over 2,400 Georgia Parolees living in other states. The probation population includes offenders living in the community but does not include over 5,600 held in detention and diversion centers and probation boot camps. Percentages should be read across the row by crime type.

Source: Parole Board Research, Evaluation and Technology Section; Department of Corrections



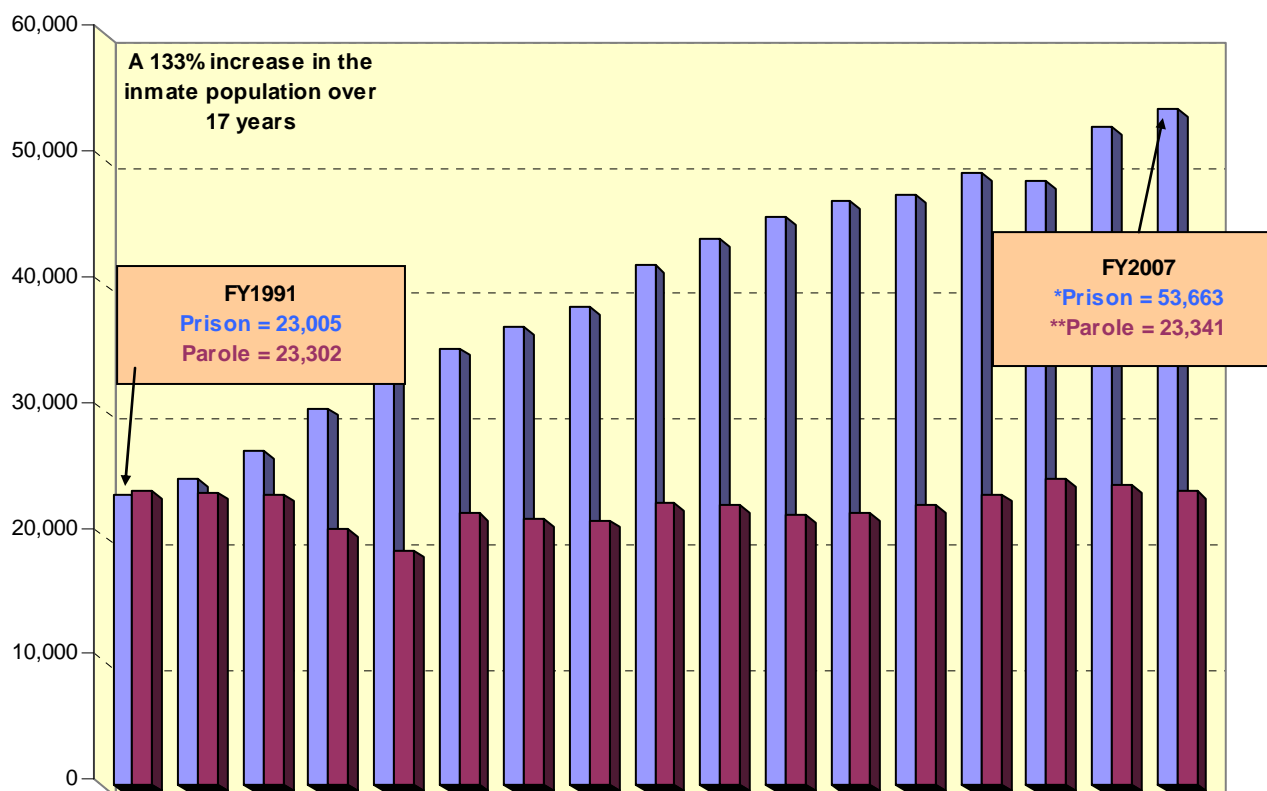
Offenders by Crime Type and Percent



The inmate population does not include 730 offenders in county jails awaiting transfer to state prisons. The parolee population includes 748 from other states under supervision in Georgia and over 2,000 Georgia Parolees living in other states. The probation population includes offenders living in the community but does not include 5,071 held in detention and diversion centers and probation boot camps.



Comparison of Prison and Parole Populations: FY1991- FY2007

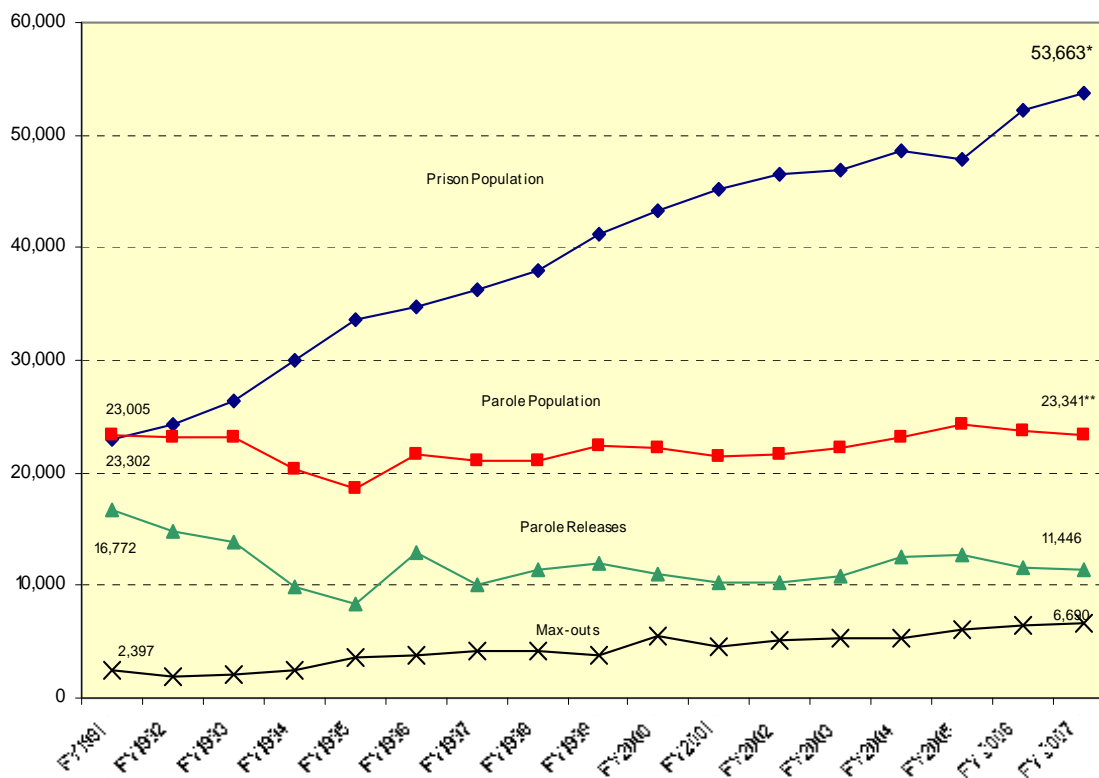


* Prison totals do not include offenders awaiting pickup in county jails (1,716 in FY07). ** Parole totals include offenders from other states under supervision in GA. (779 on FY07) and 2,400 GA parolees under supervision in other states.

Georgia Correctional Picture



Prison and Parole Populations, Parole Releases, and Prison Maxouts
FY 1991 to FY 2007



* Prison totals do not include 1,716 of offenders awaiting pickup in county jails. Parole totals include 779 of offenders from other states under supervision in GA, and 2,400 GA. Parolees in other states.
Source: Parole Board Research, Evaluation and Technology Unit



**The FYO7 Annual Report was prepared
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