

# DEPARTMENT OF THE YOUTH AUTHORITY

## LENGTH OF STAY OF YOUTH AUTHORITY WARDS\*

2002

The average amount of time (length of stay) Youth Authority wards spent incarcerated prior to their release to parole in 2002 is presented in Tables 1 and 2. Table 3 displays the length of stay on parole prior to removal from parole.

Note: This report does not include wards who were discharged directly from an institution or camp, rather than from parole. In 2002, there were 696 such cases (411 first commitments and 285 parole violators.)

The 2002 **overall** institutional length of stay was 28.5 months, virtually the same as the 28.3 months in 2001.

The average length of stay for **first commitments only** was 35.9 months, a one month increase from the 2001 figure of 34.6 months. Tables 1 and 2 further delineate the institutional length of stay for first commitments by sex, ethnic group, age at parole release, primary commitment offense, and Youthful Offender Parole Board (YOPB) hearing category.

The average length of stay for parole violators re-released in 2002 was 11.9 months, down from 12.5 months in 2001. The average length of stay for recommitments who were released in 2002 was 35.0 months, a six month increase from the figure of 29.2 months in 2001.

A multi-year comparison of the average length of stay on parole is presented in Table 3. From 18.5 months in 1983, the average amount of time parolees spent on parole increased to 19.5 months in 1986, then began decreasing until it reached a low of 15.3 months in 1990. It then began going up, and in 2001, the average length of stay on parole was 21.1 months, the highest in the past nineteen years.

\* Does not include length-of-stay information for CDC cases housed in CYA facilities under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 1731.5(c).

Prepared by: Department of Youth Authority  
Research Division  
Information Systems Unit

TABLE 1

INSTITUTIONAL LENGTH OF STAY OF YOUTH AUTHORITY COMMITMENTS  
RELEASED TO PAROLE IN 2002

By Selected Characteristics and Court of Commitment

CHARACTERISTICS	TOTAL		JUVENILE COURT		CRIMINAL COURT	
	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS
TOTAL PAROLE RELEASES .....	2,479	28.5	2,401	28.3	78	35.1
FIRST COMMITMENT PAROLE RELEASES.....	1,686	35.9	1,628	35.6	58	43.0
Sex						
Males .....	1,596	36.2	1,541	35.9	55	44.1
Females .....	90	31.6	87	31.9	3	21.7
Ethnic Group						
White .....	251	32.0	243	31.6	8	46.2
Hispanic .....	811	34.6	785	34.4	26	39.5
African American .....	509	38.4	489	38.1	20	46.3
Asian .....	82	43.3	78	43.3	4	42.5
Other .....	33	40.6	33	40.6	-	-
Age at Parole						
16 and under .....	39	21.1	38	21.2	1	15.9
17.....	105	23.7	104	23.8	1	16.9
18.....	279	25.2	276	25.2	3	24.4
19.....	525	27.5	515	27.5	10	26.5
20.....	444	36.5	431	36.5	13	36.7
21 and over .....	294	66.5	264	67.8	30	54.8
Board Hearing Category						
Category 1.....	73	90.0	72	90.1	1	85.7
Category 2.....	132	59.8	119	60.0	13	57.6
Category 3.....	128	47.7	117	47.8	11	46.7
Category 4.....	471	36.3	448	36.2	23	38.5
Category 5.....	426	28.3	417	28.4	9	22.6
Category 6.....	413	24.5	412	24.4	1	57.0
Category 7.....	43	16.5	43	16.5	-	-
Type of Offense						
Misdemeanor .....	32	12.9	32	12.9	-	-
Felony .....	1,654	36.4	1,596	36.1	58	43.0
Parole Violator Releases* .....	762	11.9	-	-	-	-
Recommitment Releases* .....	31	35.0	-	-	-	-

\*Information by committing court not available.

TABLE 2  
 INSTITUTIONAL LENGTH OF STAY OF FIRST COMMITMENTS  
 RELEASED TO PAROLE IN 2002

By Primary Commitment Offense and Court

PRIMARY COMMITMENT OFFENSE	TOTAL		JUVENILE COURT		CRIMINAL COURT	
	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER PAROLED	AVERAGE MONTHS
TOTAL FIRST COMMITMENT PAROLE RELEASES.....	1,686	35.9	1,628	35.6	58	43.0
Murder 1st Degree .....	35	90.3	35	90.3	-	-
Murder 2nd Degree.....	34	89.5	33	89.6	1	85.7
Manslaughter .....	24	62.5	22	62.1	2	66.0
Robbery, Enhanced.....	121	40.7	111	40.6	10	41.0
Carjacking.....	42	46.3	37	45.4	5	52.7
Other Robbery Offenses .....	180	32.5	173	32.6	7	30.7
Assault to Murder .....	39	61.3	33	62.4	6	55.6
Aggravated Assault .....	275	36.6	262	36.5	13	38.7
Other Assault Offenses .....	115	28.2	112	28.1	3	29.0
Burglary First Degree .....	186	27.6	184	27.7	2	19.9
Other Burglary Offenses .....	88	25.4	88	25.4	-	-
Grand Theft .....	60	27.7	60	27.7	-	-
Auto Theft .....	113	24.7	113	24.7	-	-
Other Theft Offenses .....	47	23.7	47	23.7	-	-
Forcible Rape.....	36	58.4	34	58.3	2	59.7
Other Sex Offenses .....	64	50.2	59	50.2	5	50.9
Possession Hard Narcotic .....	39	30.6	39	30.6	-	-
Selling Hard Narcotic .....	13	29.5	13	29.5	-	-
Possession Marijuana .....	7	29.1	7	29.1	-	-
Selling Marijuana .....	1	21.5	1	21.5	-	-
Other Drug Offenses .....	31	21.9	31	21.9	-	-
Weapons .....	79	23.4	79	23.4	-	-
Arson .....	9	27.6	9	27.6	-	-
Extortion/Kidnapping .....	15	58.7	15	58.7	-	-
Miscellaneous Felony .....	15	28.2	13	28.7	2	24.8
Miscellaneous Misdemeanor .....	13	17.9	13	17.9	-	-
Escape Juvenile Facility .....	5	12.9	5	12.9	-	-

TABLE 3  
PAROLE LENGTH OF STAY  
By Year and Type of Removal from Parole

CALENDAR YEAR	TOTAL REMOVED		NON-VIOLATION DISCHARGES		REVOCATIONS		VIOLATION DISCHARGES	
	NUMBER	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER	AVERAGE MONTHS	NUMBER	AVERAGE MONTHS
1983	4,381	18.5	1,505	22.3	1,448	12.9	1,428	20.2
1984	4,212	18.8	1,495	22.7	1,436	13.4	1,281	20.4
1985	4,231	19.0	1,472	23.0	1,480	13.3	1,279	20.8
1986	3,941	19.5	1,307	24.4	1,634	14.4	1,000	21.7
1987	3,357	19.0	1,084	23.5	1,491	14.1	782	22.1
1988	2,721	17.7	935	22.4	1,105	12.3	681	20.1
1989	2,859	15.8	979	18.7	1,135	11.6	745	18.1
1990	3,277	15.3	1,070	18.5	1,346	11.4	861	17.2
1991	3,583	16.3	1,169	19.3	1,369	12.2	1,045	18.4
1992	3,188	17.1	1,070	20.4	1,202	12.3	916	19.5
1993	3,326	16.9	998	21.2	1,359	12.3	969	18.8
1994	3,317	17.5	989	21.6	1,487	13.0	841	20.4
1995	3,479	18.2	1,213	21.8	1,478	13.7	788	21.3
1996	3,451	19.2	1,384	23.1	1,268	13.5	799	21.5
1997	3,618	18.9	1,467	22.4	1,340	13.6	811	21.1
1998	3,542	19.3	1,511	22.0	1,204	14.7	827	21.0
1999	3,686	20.5	1,756	22.7	1,081	15.4	849	22.3
2000	3,021	20.1	1,191	22.8	1,080	15.3	750	22.7
2001	2,808	21.1	1,114	24.2	968	15.7	726	23.5
2002	2,733	20.1	1,058	23.8	996	14.6	679	22.6