

STATISTICS MEMO

Sex Offender Entries and Releases

November, 2008

PURPOSE

These statistics represent a snapshot of the sex offender entries to the Department of Correction, Division of Prisons' custody during FY 2007-2008. Statistics are also provided regarding sex offenders released from the Division of Prisons during FY 2007-2008. A sex offender is defined as any person with a sex offense described in North Carolina GS 14-208.6. While the offenses listed in this statute are registerable offenses, not all persons defined as a sex offender in this memo are required to register if the offense preceded the registration requirement.

Number of sex offenders entering prison during fiscal year 2007-2008.....1,032¹

	White	Black	Hispanic	Other ²	Number/ Total Percent
Male	53.9 %	33.1 %	11.4 %	1.6 %	1,013 / 98.2%
Female	79.0 %	15.8 %	5.3 %	0.0 %	19 / 1.8%

The average age at admission for these inmates was 32 years. More than half (55.8%) have at least a high school diploma (or equivalent). More than one-half (54.2%) reported at admission to prison that they were single.

Based on the most serious sex offense on the commitment, the most frequent type of offense was indecent liberty with child (46.6%), followed by second degree rape (13.7%), 2nd degree sexual offense (7.2%), and sexual battery (6.1%).

Looking at all sex offenses on the commitment, more than two-thirds (69.5%) of these inmates were convicted of offenses against a minor. The most frequent convictions of these 717 entering inmates were indecent liberty with child (67.1%), 2nd degree kidnapping of a minor (4.7%), sexual offense by a substitute parent/custodian (4.2%), and rape of a child less than age 13 (4.0%).

Less than 2% of the population (or 17 inmates) had a finding by the court related to the inmates' legal status as a sexual predator or sexual recidivist. There are 4 inmates (0.4%) classified as a "sexual predator" by the court and 13 inmates (1.3%) classified as a "sexual recidivist" by the court. There were no entering inmates classified as both a sexual predator and a sexual recidivist.

Less than one percent (4 inmates) of entering sex offenders are serving a life sentence. The typical sex offender not sentenced to life was sentenced to 117 months (9.8 years) in prison.

¹ This figure represents unique individual entries to prison and does not count multiple entries by the same individual nor entries by inmates placed temporarily in DOC custody (i.e., safekeepers and pre-sentencing diagnostics).

² Includes Native American, Asian, and Pacific Islander.

Number of sex offenders exiting prison during fiscal year 2007-2008.....938³

	White	Black	Hispanic	Other ²	Number/ Total Percent
<i>Male</i>	54.7%	35.0%	8.4%	1.9%	919 / 98.0%
<i>Female</i>	57.9%	26.3%	10.5%	5.3%	19 / 2.0%

The average age at exit for these inmates was 37 years. Less than a tenth (6.3%, 59 male inmates) had completed sex offender treatment (SOAR).

More than half (53.1%) were released with no period of supervision in the community. Slightly more than one-quarter (25.8%) exited to a period of post-release supervision. An additional 18.8% percent exited to a period of parole or probation supervision (7.3% and 11.5%, respectively). The remaining exits in FY 07-08 (2.3%) were a result of inmates dying while in prison.

Based on the most serious sex offense on the commitment, the most frequent type of offense was indecent liberty with child (51.8%), followed by second degree rape (15.3%) and second degree sexual offense (7.9%).

Less than one-third (29.0%) of exiting inmates were convicted of offenses against a minor. Looking at all sex offenses on the commitment, the most frequent convictions of these 666 offenders were indecent liberty with child (73.0%), sex offense by substitute parent/guardian (6.5%), kidnapping 2nd Degree of a Minor (4.8%).

Less than 1% of the exiting inmates had a finding by the court related to the inmates' legal status as a sexual predator or sexual recidivist. There were 2 inmates (0.2%) classified as "sexual predator" by the court and 2 inmates (0.2%) classified as "sexual recidivist" by the court. There were no exiting inmates classified as both a sexual predator and a sexual recidivist.

The typical sex offender who exited during this fiscal year spent 54 months (4.4 years) in prison.

³ This figure represents unique individual exits from prison and does not count multiple exits by the same individual nor exits by inmates placed temporarily in DOC custody (i.e., safekeepers and pre-sentencing diagnostics).