

FY'06 Offender Growth and Planning

Utah Department of Corrections



*Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee
April 2005*

FY 2006 Offender Growth and Planning

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DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

Mission of the Department

We are corrections professionals dedicated to protecting our community by enforcing the orders of the court and Board of Pardons and Parole. We are also dedicated to guiding offenders to become law-abiding citizens through the use of professional and community resources.

Functions

Corrections is responsible for:

- Operating the state prison system
- Supervision of offenders in the community on probation and parole
- Operating Community Corrections Centers
- Providing pre-sentence investigations to the courts
- Operating a prison work program

Corrections does not control the size of its offender populations:

- The Courts decide which offenders go to prison or on probation
- The Board of Pardons and Parole determines when offenders will be released from prison and parole

Organization

Corrections supervises almost 22,000 offenders statewide. The Department is organized into 4 Divisions with an FY'05 authorized budget of \$207 million and 2294 FTE.

- Division of Institutional Operations which operates the prisons has the following budgets:
 - Division of Institutional Operations—housing, security, programs \$91,672,500
 - Clinical Services—medical and mental health care \$16,605,900
 - Jail Contracting—inmate housing through contracts in county jails \$18,565,800
- Division of Adult Probation and Parole
 - Community supervision of offenders on probation and parole \$41,872,100
- Division of Utah Correctional Industries
 - Self-supported inmate work programs \$14,169,400
- Division of Administrative Services
 - Administrative support for other Department programs \$13,351,600
- Other budget areas
 - Jail Reimbursement—funds county jail time for probationers \$9,081,000
 - Data Processing Internal Service Fund \$1,700,700

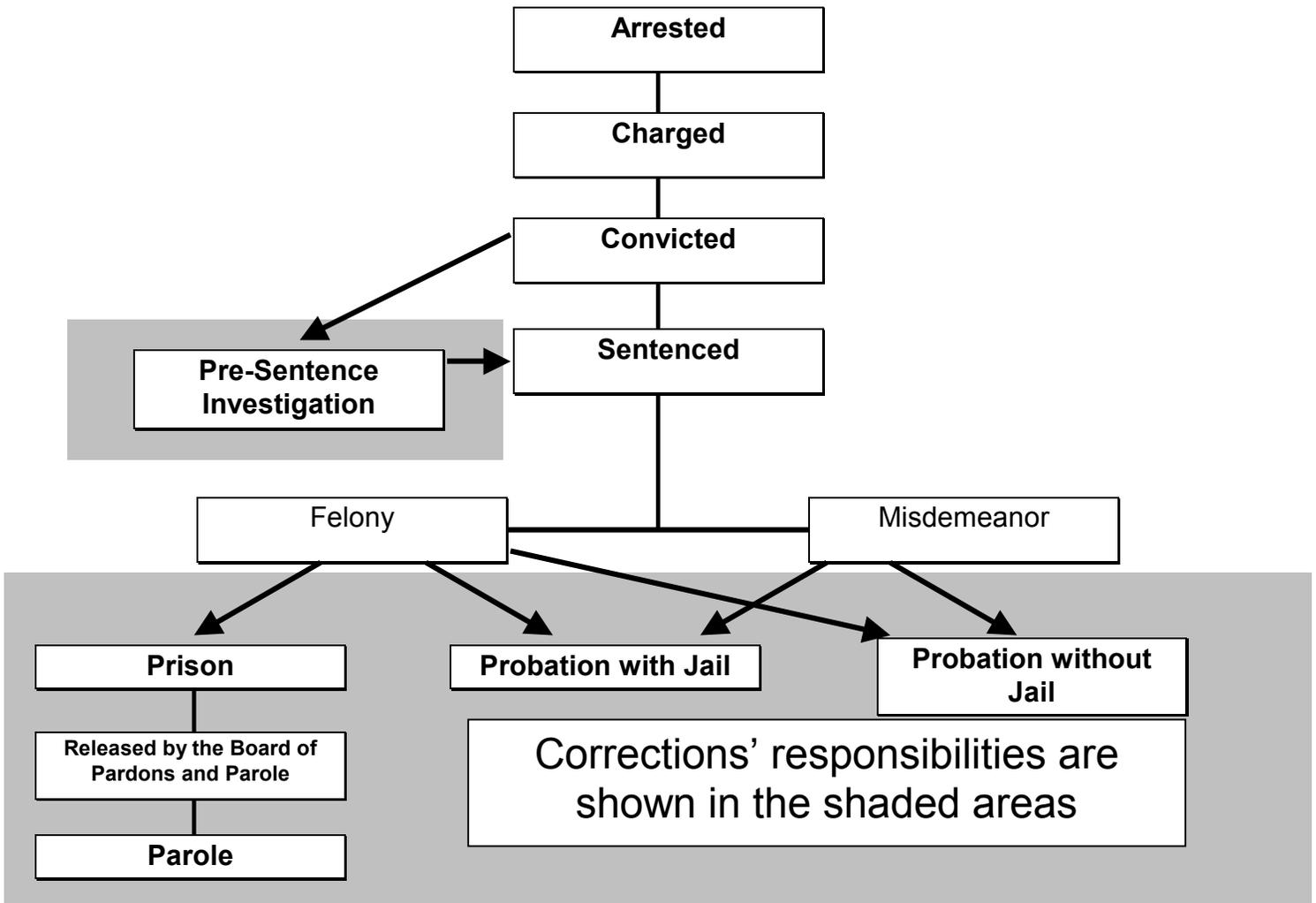
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CORRECTIONS' ROLE IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Corrections first contact with offenders comes after they have been convicted



- Corrections' initial contact with offenders is during the pre-sentence investigative period. Once an offender is convicted, they are referred to the Department of Corrections for a pre-sentence report to help the judge during the sentencing portion of a court proceeding.
- Corrections is responsible for supervising offenders, mostly felons, who are sentenced by the court to probation or prison. Corrections has little control over the size of these populations.
- Corrections does not control the "front door" to prison or probation. It receives offenders sentenced by the courts.
- Corrections also does not control the "back door." The courts determine when to release offenders from probation and the Board of Pardons and Parole determines when to release offenders from prison and parole.

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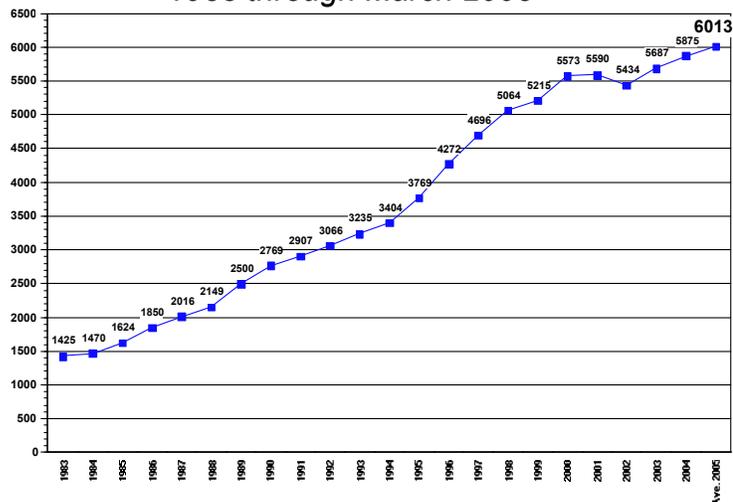
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DEMAND FOR ADULT SECURE HOUSING

Beginning in October 2002, the demand for prison housing began to increase.

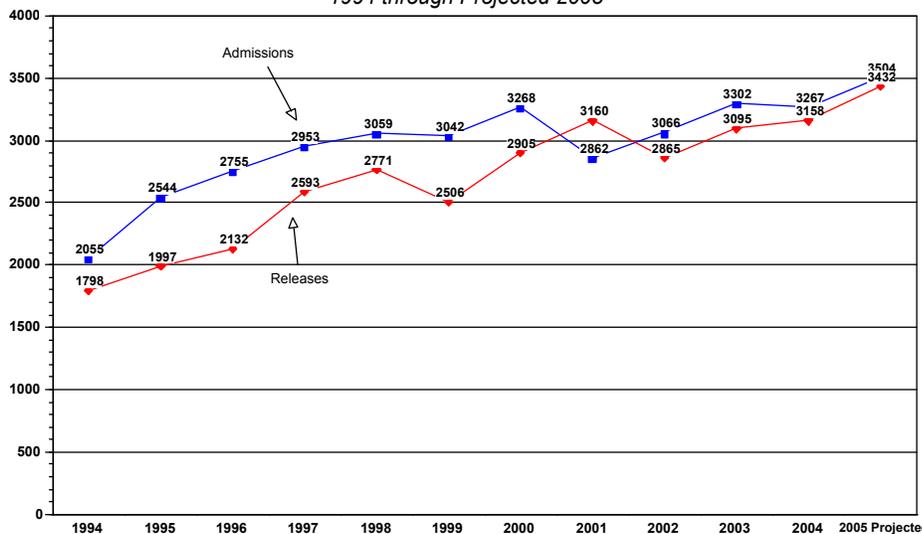
- The total adult correctional population has been steadily growing for the last 20 years.
- Since 1983, the average yearly inmate population has increased by more than 4 times, from 1425 to 5875 in 2004, and an average of 6013 between January 1, and April 4, 2005.

Inmate Growth
1983 through March 2005



- The inmate population has grown at a much faster rate than the population of the state. In 1983, the incarceration rate in Utah was 77 per 100,000 population. In 2003, the incarceration rate was 233 per 100,000 population.
- Starting in October of 2002, there have been a greater number of admissions to prison than releases in all but 8 of the last 30 months, with 696 more admissions than releases.

Admissions and Releases
1994 through Projected 2005



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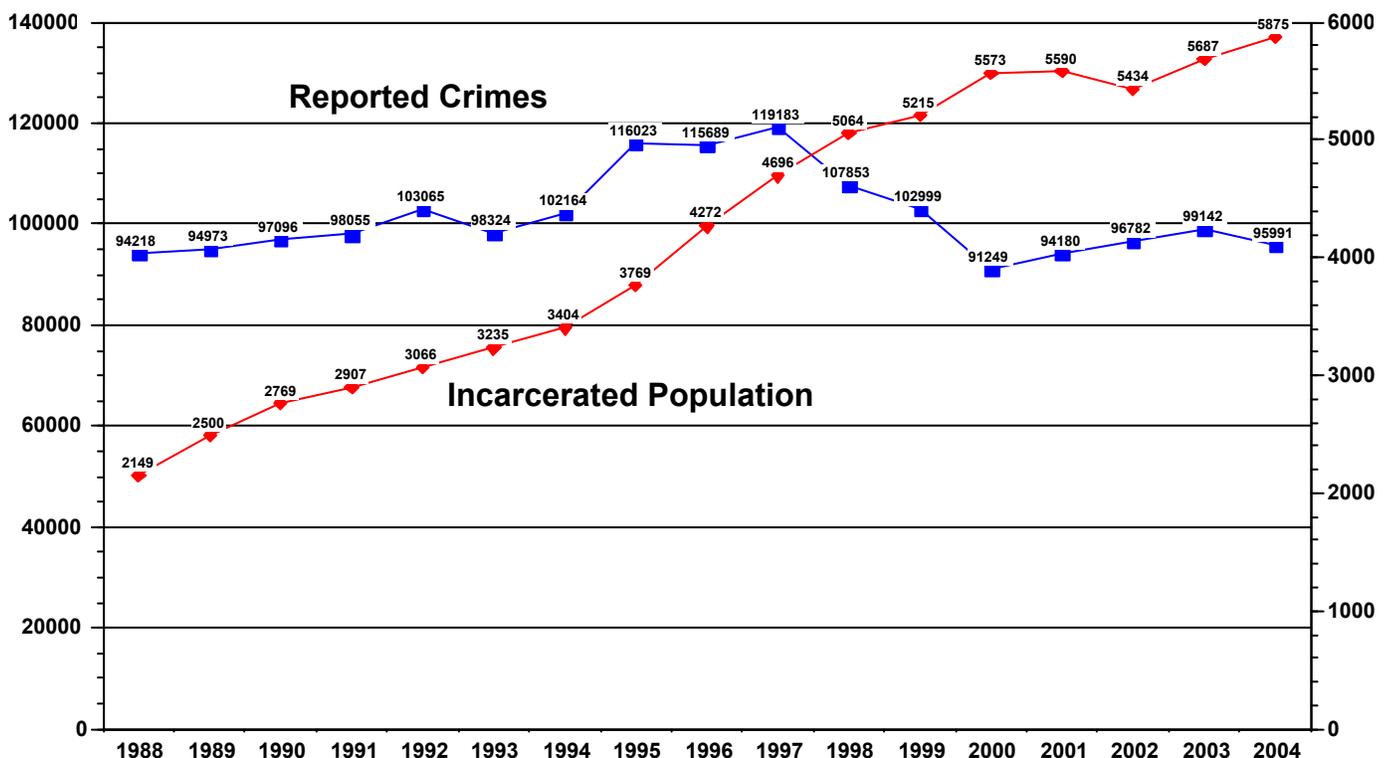
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FACTORS EFFECTING GROWTH IN PRISON POPULATION

- Factors which lead to growth in inmate population include;
 - Legislation increasing penalties
 - Increases in the percent of felons sentenced to prison
 - Growth in length of stay
 - Impact of the war on drugs
 - Increased felony court filings
- Factors with minimal influence on prison population;
 - Number of crimes
 - Demographic factors, such as the age-at-risk population
- The chart below compares the yearly total number of reported Part I and Part II crimes with the average yearly incarcerated population.
- After 1997, the total number of reported crimes began to decline. During this same period of time, the inmate population grew.
- This chart illustrates that the factors that influence growth in the incarcerated population are not related to the prevalence of crime in the community.

**Growth in the Inmate Population
Compared to the Total Number of Part I and Part II Reported Crimes
1985 through 2004**



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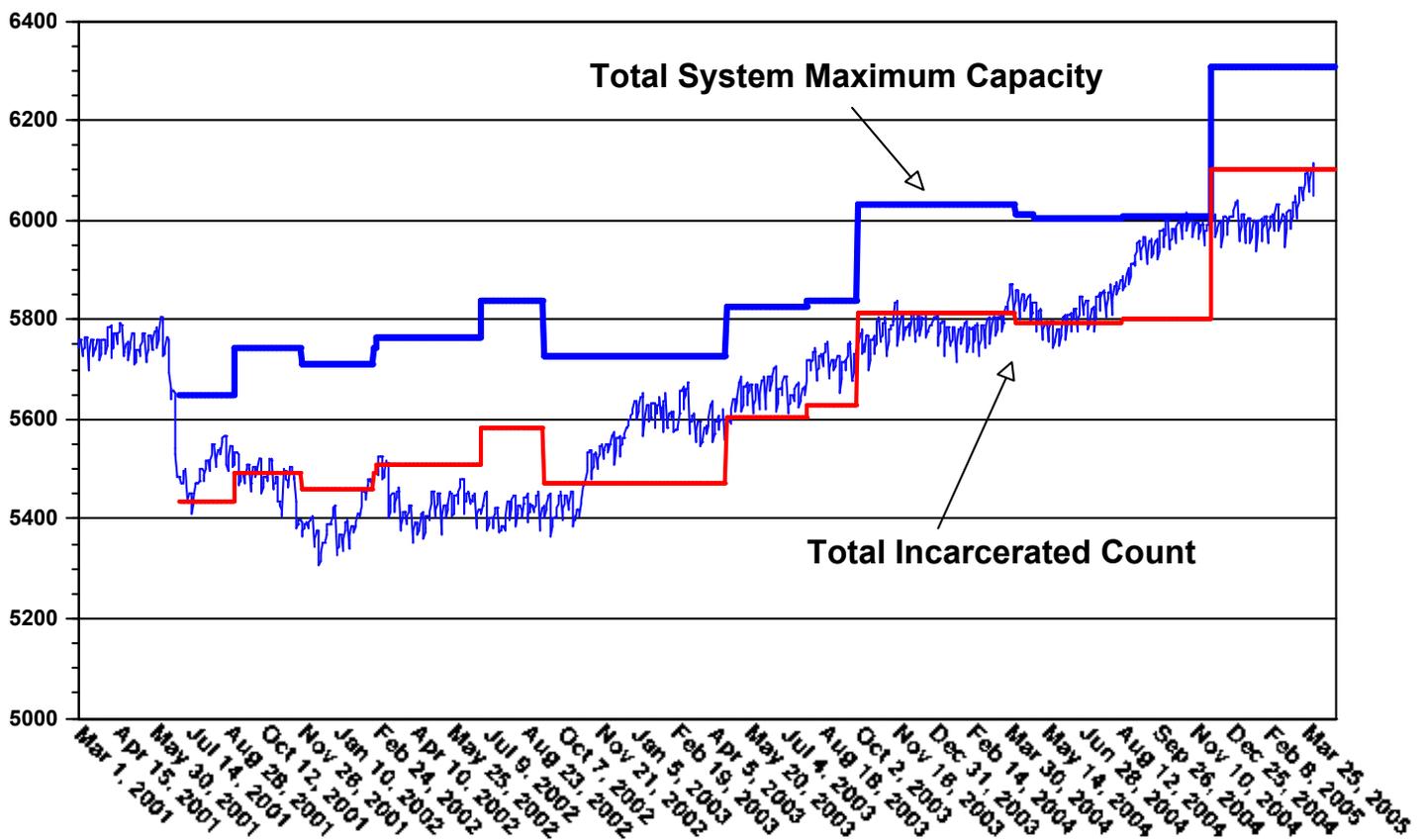
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INMATE HOUSING

- The following graph shows actual daily inmate counts since March 1, 2001, along with operational and maximum capacity.
- Corrections houses inmates in state prisons and county jails around the state.
- During most of FY'05, the prison system has been over operational capacity.
- On November 1, 2004, the closed 300-bed VOITIS facility was re-opened to provide badly needed space. Operation of the VOITIS facility is not funded and it will be closed if the requested supplemental funding is not received.
- Our FY'05 plan also includes expanding jail contracting beyond the funded level through use of a supplemental appropriation.

Daily Incarcerated Count
March 1, 2001 through April 5, 2005



- For our FY'06 plan, we are also requesting funding to construct a new 288-bed unit at the Gunnison prison and receiving permission and funding to contract for 350 additional jail beds.

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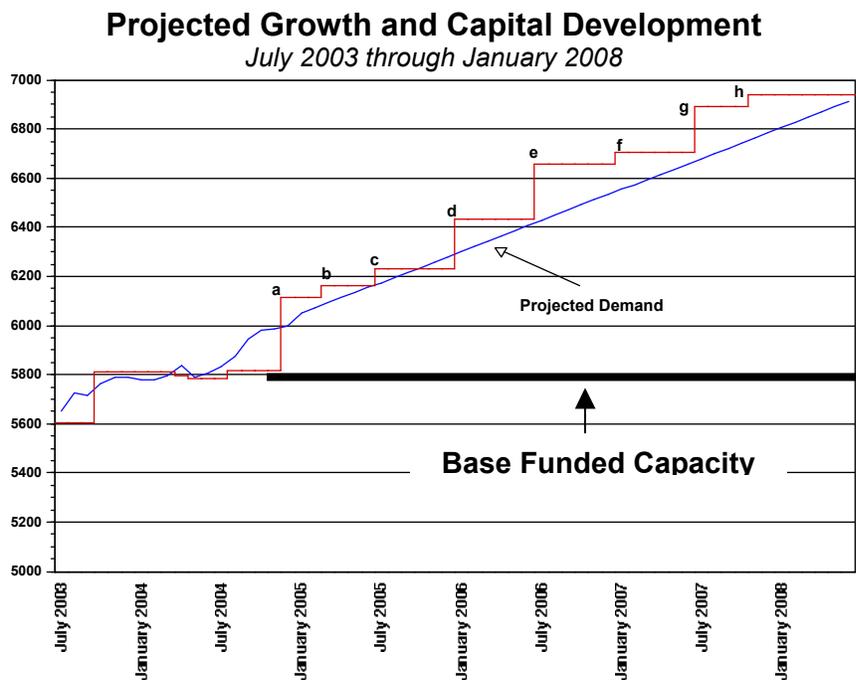
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5-YEAR HOUSING PLAN

Over the last several years, Corrections closed some prison housing and delayed the opening of a newly constructed facility in response to the State's budgetary problems.

- The chart below shows Corrections' plan to meet projected growth in the incarcerated population through January 2008.



5-Year Plan Detail

- a** **Opened VOITIS 300 – Jan. 2005 (supplemental)**
- b** Jail Contract for 50 beds – Mar. 2005 (supplemental)
- c** Expand Jail Contracting by 100 beds – Jul. 2005
- d** Expand Jail Contracting by 200 beds – Jan. 2006
- e** **Open CUCF 288 – Jul. 2006**
- f** Expand Jail Contracting by 50 beds – Jan. 2007
- g** **Open CUCF 192 – Jul. 2007**
- h** Expand Jail Contracting by 50 beds – Nov. 2007

* **bold rows indicate state-constructed projects**

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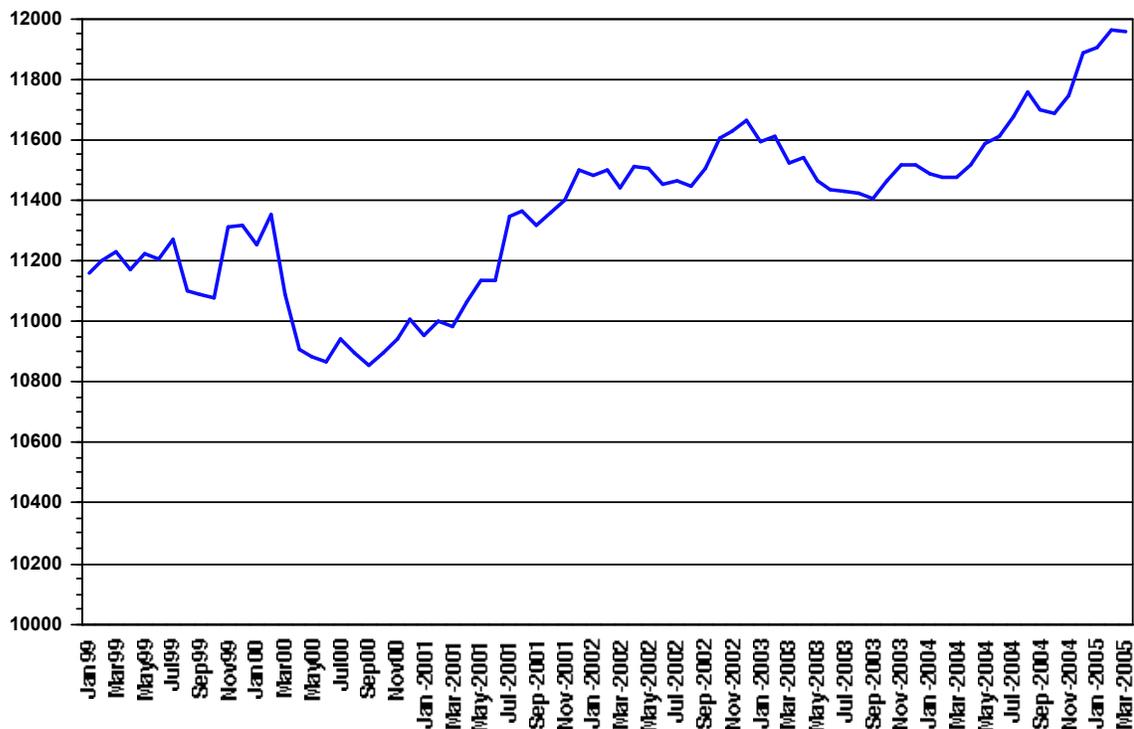
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ADULT PROBATION AND PAROLE

Beginning in July of 2000, probation and parole populations began to grow.

- Effective supervision of offenders on probation and parole is one of the primary means of ensuring community safety.
- With agent caseloads now averaging 65 offenders per agent, Corrections has a growing concern about the agency's capacity to maintain current supervision standards through FY'06.

Statewide Felony Probation and Parole Monthly Counts
July 2000 through March 2005



- If the trend in growth experienced over the last 54 months continues through FY'06, we would expect an additional 224 offenders. In order to maintain average caseloads at 65 offenders, Corrections would need additional agents.
- One of Corrections' statutory responsibilities is to provide Pre-Sentence Investigations to the courts. These investigations take approximately 8 total hours to complete.
- Starting in the 1990's, Corrections contracted Pre-Sentence Investigations out to private providers to reduce agent workload.
- One of the Department's last budget cuts in FY'04 was to eliminate funding for these contracts and reassign this heavy workload to existing supervision staff. We estimate that more than 20% of all agent work time is now taken up with investigative activities.