

# WHO EXITED PRISON?

## SELECT DATA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011 RELEASES

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.

### DEFINITIONS

- ◆ Administrative Segregation indicates a need for separation from staff or other offenders.
- ◆ Safekeeping indicates potential for victimization.
- ◆ G1–G3 and Outside Trusty indicates good disciplinary history.
- ◆ G4 indicates poor (non-assaultive) disciplinary history.
- ◆ G5 indicates assaultive disciplinary history.
- ◆ Other indicates special needs or participation in a program (not part of the general population).

### KEY FACTS

- ◆ 79.4 percent of prisoners were released to parole supervision.
- ◆ 75.4 percent of prisoners had a custody level of G1–G3 or Outside Trusty at release.
- ◆ 77.5 percent of prisoners released had served five years or less at release.

### STATUTORY REFERENCES

Texas Government Code, Chapter 491

The data highlight offense and sentence characteristics of offenders released from prison facilities during fiscal year 2011. 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.

### RELEASE TYPE

**FIG. 1**  
**RELEASE TYPE OF THE PRISON RELEASE POPULATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011**

RELEASE TYPE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Discharge	8,011	19.2%
Release to Probation*	614	1.5
Release to Parole Supervision	33,189	79.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,814</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* A judge maintains continuing jurisdiction over cases sentenced to prison for 180 days. Within the 180-day period, the judge has the option to remove the offender from incarceration and instead place the offender on probation.

NOTE: Percentages presented in this report do not always add to 100% due to rounding.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

### CUSTODY LEVEL

**FIG. 2**  
**CUSTODY LEVEL OF THE PRISON RELEASE POPULATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011**

RELEASE TYPE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Administrative Segregation	1,347	3.2%
Safekeeping	317	0.8
G1–G3 and Outside Trusty	31,512	75.4
G4	1,984	4.7
G5	644	1.5
Other	6,010	14.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,814</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

NOTE: Percentages presented in this report do not always add to 100% due to rounding.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

**CUSTODY LEVEL BY RELEASE TYPE****FIG. 3  
CUSTODY LEVEL BY RELEASE TYPE OF THE PRISON RELEASE POPULATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011**

CUSTODY LEVEL	DISCHARGE	RELEASE TO PROBATION	RELEASE TO PAROLE SUPERVISION	TOTAL
Administrative Segregation	878	3	466	1,347
Safekeeping	128	0	189	317
G1–G3 and Outside Trusty	4,456	476	26,580	31,512
G4	1,680	8	296	1,984
G5	625	0	19	644
Other	244	127	5,639	6,010
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,011</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>33,189</b>	<b>41,814</b>

SOURCE: Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

**TIME SERVED****FIG. 4  
TIME SERVED OF THE PRISON RELEASE POPULATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011**

TIME SERVED	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
12 Months and Less	7,573	18.1%
1 to 2 Years	12,181	29.1
3 to 5 Years	12,671	30.3
6 to 10 Years	4,957	11.9
11+ Years	4,432	10.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,814</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

NOTE: Percentages presented in this report do not always add to 100% due to rounding.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

**KEY TERMS**

**Administrative Segregation:** A non-punitive, maximum custody status involving separation of an offender from the general population within the prison institution.

**G1–G3 and Outside Trusty:** Offenders in these custodies have a good disciplinary history; have served a specified portion of their sentence (varies by custody level); and do not have any security precaution designators.

**G4:** Offenders in this custody have disciplinary convictions within the past 12 months or a placement of a security precaution designator for escape, staff assault, or hostage.

**G5:** Offenders in this custody have disciplinary convictions for an assault with a weapon on staff or offenders within the past 12 to 24 months or have escaped from a TDCJ secure adult correctional facility within the past five years.

**Safekeeping:** Offenders who require separate housing for reasons that include, but are not limited to, vulnerability, threats to their safety, and potential for victimization.

**USEFUL REFERENCES**

Texas Department of Criminal Justice – Statistical Report FY2011

[http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/documents/Statistical\\_Report\\_FY2011.pdf](http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/documents/Statistical_Report_FY2011.pdf)**CONTACT**Laurie Molina or Jamie Gardner      Email: [Issuebrief@lbb.state.tx.us](mailto:Issuebrief@lbb.state.tx.us)