Crime and justice in Colorado | 2004

March 2005

Prepared by:

Office of Research and Statistics

Kerry Lowden, Report Project Manager Kim English, Research Director Linda Harrison, Senior Statistical Analyst Nicole Hetz, Statistical Analyst Jeff Rosky, Statistical Analyst Diane Pasini-Hill, Manager, Special Projects Pat Lounders, Budget Manager Peggy Heil, Special Projects

Division of Criminal Justice

Raymond T. Slaughter, Director Carol Poole, Deputy Director

Colorado Department of Public Safety

Joe Morales, Executive Director

Office of Research and Statistics Division of Criminal Justice

700 Kipling Street, Suite 1000 Denver, CO 80215 303.239.4442 http://dcj.state.co.us/ors

This project was supported by Grant No. 2003-DB-BX-00073 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance through DCJ's Office of Drug Control and System Improvement Program. The U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the federal Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the authors and do not represent the official position or policies of the United States Department of Justice.



Table of contents

Page

01	Section 1: Introduction
02	Colorado demographics
05	Section 2: The criminal event
06	The criminal event
13	Characteristics of the most serious crimes
18	What do we know about victims of crime?
23	Section 3: Adults in the criminal justice system
24	The adult cases processed through Colorado's criminal justice system
30	Adult violent vs. non-violent arrests
31	Who gets arrested?
32	The district attorney's job is to prosecute criminals
36	Colorado's case filings
38	Who gets prosecuted?
39	Who gets convicted?
40	Were they convicted as charged?
41	Adult placements
42	Colorado criminal code penalties
44	Daily cost of adult placements
45	Where do they go once convicted?
46	Characteristics of who goes where
47	How many people are under correctional supervision?
48	Incarceration rates
49	Average length of time spent in prison
50	Prison and parole populations in the years to come
51	Section 4: Juveniles in the criminal justice system
52	The juvenile cases processed through Colorado's juvenile justice system
58	Juvenile violent vs. non-violent arrests
60	Who gets arrested?

- 61 Who has cases filed in court?
- 62 Who gets prosecuted?
- 63 Who gets adjudicated?
- 64 Were they adjudicated as charged?
- 65 Juvenile placements
- 66 Daily cost of juvenile placements
- 68 Where do they go once adjudicated?
- 69 Characteristics on who goes where
- 70 Average daily population by placement
- 72 Juvenile commitment population and parole caseload forecasts

73 Section 5: Special features

- 74 People with mental illness in the criminal justice system
- 76 Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN)
- 78 Terrorism at home: Firearms and domestic violence
- 80 At least half of those arrested in Denver need drug treatment
- 82 What works for drug and alcohol treatment?
- 84 Economic costs of drug abuse in the United States

85 Conclusion

87 Section 6: Furthermore

- 89 Number of adult arrest by index crimes, 1980-2003
- 95 Number of juvenile arrests by index crimes, 1980-2003
- 101 Number of adult arrests by county, 1992-2003
- 123 Number of juvenile arrests by county, 1992-2003
- 145 Crime type by average time spent in prison for offenders released in fiscal year 2003



Figures

Page Figure

		Section 1
02	1.1	Gender, Colorado and nationwide, 2003
02	1.2	Race, Colorado and nationwide, 2003
02	1.3	Origin, Colorado and nationwide, 2003
02	1.4	Educational attainment, Colorado and nationwide, 2003
03	1.5	Age, Colorado and nationwide, 2003
03	1.6	Unemployment, Colorado and nationwide, 2003
		Section 2
09	2.1	Nationwide: Four measures of a violent crime
12	2.2	Colorado's violent vs. non-violent crime rates, 1980-2003
12	2.3	Nationwide: Violent crime rates
13	2.4	Colorado and U.S. homicide rates, 1960-2002
20	2.5	U.S. Violent crime rates by race of victim, 1973-2003
		Section 3
24	3.1	Adult criminal justice system flowchart
30	3.2	Colorado adult violent and non-violent arrest rates, 1980-2003
30	3.3	Colorado adult arrest rates for violent arrests, 1980-2003
30	3.4	Colorado adult arrest rates for non-violent arrests, 1980-2003
31	3.5	Colorado arrestee gender, FY03
31	3.6	Colorado arrestee age, FY03
36	3.7	Colorado filings: District court, FY04
37	3.8	Colorado filings: County court, FY04
38	3.9	Gender, cases closed, prosecutions 2003
38	3.10	Age, cases closed, prosecutions 2003
39	3.11	Gender, cases closed, convictions 2003
39	3.12	Age, cases closed, convictions 2003
41	3.13	Adult placements
46	3.14	Age of offender by placement, cases closed 2003
46	3.15	Gender of offender by placement, cases closed 2003
48	3.16	Colorado incarceration rates, 1980-2003

49	3.17	Average months spent in prison by felony class: Offenders released in FY03
49	3.18	Average time spent in prison by crime type: Offenders released in FY03
50	3.19	Inmate actual and projected populations
50	3.20	Colorado domestic parole: Historical and forecasted caseload
		Section 4
52	4.1	Juvenile criminal justice system flowchart
59	4.2	Colorado juvenile violent and non-violent arrest rates, 1980-2003
59	4.3	Colorado juvenile violent arrest rates, 1980-2003
59	4.4	Colorado juvenile non-violent arrest rates, 1980-2003
60	4.5	Colorado arrestee gender, FY03
60	4.6	Colorado arrestee race, FY03
60	4.7	Colorado arrestee age, FY03
62	4.8	Gender, cases closed, adjudications 2003
62	4.9	Age, cases closed, adjudications 2003
63	4.10	Gender, cases closed, convictions 2003
63	4.11	Age, cases closed, convictions 2003
65	4.12	Juvenile placements
69	4.13	Age of offender by placement
69	4.14	Gender of offender by placement
71	4.15	Average daily population by placement
		Section 5
76	5.1	Colorado homicides by type of weapon, 1994-2002
77		
	5.2	Firearm-related deaths by zip code, 2002
78	5.2 5.3	Firearm-related deaths by zip code, 2002 Composition of partner homicide: 2000
78 78		
	5.3	Composition of partner homicide: 2000
78	5.3 5.4	Composition of partner homicide: 2000 Homicide rates: Spousal partners Percentage costs of intimate partner

Tables

Page Table

		Section 2
07	2.1	Types of identity theft reported by
-		Colorado victims, 2004
09	2.2	How do UCR and NCVS compare?
10	2.3	Percentage of students who carried a gun
		on one or more of the past 30 days
11	2.4	Colorado index crime rate: 1970-2003
12	2.5	Changes in violent crime rate over the decades
13	2.6	Colorado homicides: Offender race by victim race, 2003
14	2.7	Colorado homicides: Selected circumstances, 1994-2002
14	2.8	Colorado and U.S. homicide rates
14	2.9	Colorado's 10 leading causes of deaths by age group, 1996-1998
15	2.10	Characteristics of homicides reported by the Denver Police Department, 1985-2002
15	2.11	Characteristics of homicides reported by the Aurora Police Department, 1985-2002
15	2.12	Characteristics of homicides reported by the Colorado Springs Police Department, 1985-2002
18	2.13	Colorado arson report, 2003
19	2.14	U.S. violent crime rates by age of victim, 1973-2003
21	2.15	Race of victim by victim's perception of offender's race, 1993-1998
		Section 3
31	3.1	Colorado arrestee race, FY03
32	3.2	Who exercises discretion?
35	3.3	Sample of dismissals by crime type, cases closed 2003
36	3.4	Colorado district court caseloads FY95-FY04
37	3.5	Colorado county court caseloads FY95-FY04
38	3.6	Race, cases closed, prosecutions 2003
39	3.7	Race, cases closed, convictions 2003
40	3.8	Adult convictions, cases closed 2003
42	3.9	Colorado criminal code penalties
44	3.10	Daily cost of of adult probation
44	3.11	Daily cost of community corrections
44	3.12	Daily cost of DOC's offender population in 2003
45	3.13	Adult placements by index crime, cases closed 2003

46	3.14	Race of offenders by placement, cases closed 2003
47	3.15	Year end correctional populations
47	3.16	Top 10 crimes by gender and status for community corrections
48	3.17	Prison population numbers
50	3.18	Fall 2003 adult prison population projections by gender
		Section 4
61	4.1	Juvenile filings (misdemeanor, felony, and direct file), FY00-FY04
62	4.2	Race, cases closed, prosecutions 2003
63	4.3	Race, cases closed, adjudications 2003
64	4.4	Juvenile adjudications, cases closed 2003
66	4.5	Daily cost of juvenile probation
66	4.6	Daily cost of youth corrections
67	4.7	Juvenile justice funding cuts by agency
68	4.8	Juvenile placements by index crime, cases closed 2003
69	4.9	Race of offenders by placement
72	4.10	Juvenile commitment average daily
		population (ADP) forecast, FYE05-FYE11
72	4.11	Juvenile parole average daily caseload (ADC) forecast, FYE05-FYE11
72	4.11	Juvenile parole average daily caseload
72 75	4.11 5.1	Juvenile parole average daily caseload (ADC) forecast, FYE05-FYE11
		Juvenile parole average daily caseload (ADC) forecast, FYE05-FYE11 Section 5 Disposition of CIT law enforcement officer
75	5.1	Juvenile parole average daily caseload (ADC) forecast, FYE05-FYE11 Section 5 Disposition of CIT law enforcement officer contacts May 2002-April 2005 CIT law enforcement officer contact
75 75	5.1 5.2	Juvenile parole average daily caseload (ADC) forecast, FYE05-FYE11 Section 5 Disposition of CIT law enforcement officer contacts May 2002-April 2005 CIT law enforcement officer contact demographics May 2002-April 2005 Mental illnesses most commonly reported
75 75 75	5.1 5.2 5.3	Juvenile parole average daily caseload (ADC) forecast, FYE05-FYE11 Section 5 Disposition of CIT law enforcement officer contacts May 2002-April 2005 CIT law enforcement officer contact demographics May 2002-April 2005 Mental illnesses most commonly reported to CIT officers May 2002-April 2005
75 75 75 77	5.1 5.2 5.3 5.4	Juvenile parole average daily caseload (ADC) forecast, FYE05-FYE11 Section 5 Disposition of CIT law enforcement officer contacts May 2002-April 2005 CIT law enforcement officer contact demographics May 2002-April 2005 Mental illnesses most commonly reported to CIT officers May 2002-April 2005 Number of federal firearm violations Percentage of students who were ever hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend during the
75 75 75 77 79	5.1 5.2 5.3 5.4 5.5	Juvenile parole average daily caseload (ADC) forecast, FYE05-FYE11 Section 5 Disposition of CIT law enforcement officer contacts May 2002-April 2005 CIT law enforcement officer contact demographics May 2002-April 2005 Mental illnesses most commonly reported to CIT officers May 2002-April 2005 Number of federal firearm violations Percentage of students who were ever hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend during the past 12 months Denver City Jail: Urinalysis results,
75 75 75 77 79 80	5.1 5.2 5.3 5.4 5.5 5.6	Juvenile parole average daily caseload (ADC) forecast, FYE05-FYE11 Section 5 Disposition of CIT law enforcement officer contacts May 2002-April 2005 CIT law enforcement officer contact demographics May 2002-April 2005 Mental illnesses most commonly reported to CIT officers May 2002-April 2005 Number of federal firearm violations Percentage of students who were ever hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend during the past 12 months Denver City Jail: Urinalysis results, 2000-2002 Risk of drug and alcohol abuse and

5.9 Participated in outpatient treatment, 2000-2002

81



Acknowledgements

After 20 years, DCJ's Crime and Justice Report has been resurrected. Continuous requests for the 1985 *Report on Crime and Justice in Colorado and Denver* led to the development of this report. A second volume will be published next year.

We were able to recreate this report with a grant funded by U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, and obtained from the state Drug Control and System Improvement Program Board. We are grateful for this support.

We would like to thank the many researchers who contributed to this report. Without the data provided to us, this report would not have been possible. We are especially grateful to staff from the Division of Probation Services; Division of Youth Corrections (DYC); Department of Corrections (DOC); Colorado Bureau of Investigations (CBI); the Colorado Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (CICJIS); the Office of Adult and Juvenile Justice, Division of Criminal Justice; and the Office of Community Correction, Division of Criminal Justice.

We are considerably grateful to the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics for consistently producing relevant statistical analyses and descriptions of crime and victimization data. We have incorporated some of this important work in the current report.

We are particularly grateful to 1000 Robots Design for their hard work and creative graphic design.

As always we would like to thank our Division Director, Raymond T. Slaughter, for his support of our work.

Despite all this assistance, we alone are responsible for this report and any omission or errors that remain.

Office of Research and Statistics Division of Criminal Justice March 2005

