

**WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**



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OFFENDER INFRACTION STUDY

117825

**DIVISION OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
PLANNING AND RESEARCH SECTION**

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DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Division of Management and Budget
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Washington State Department of Corrections Planning and Research Section staff conducted a study of all infractions committed in 1985 by incarcerated male offenders. A major impetus for this study was the Sentencing Reform Act of 1981 (SRA) and the effect it was expected to have on the proportion of violent offenders in prison. During the analysis of the serious infractions committed during 1985, primary emphasis was placed on comparisons of violent and nonviolent infracting offenders.

During 1985, there were 13,360 serious infractions recorded on 3,437 male offenders, for an average of 3.9 infractions per infractee (an average of 1.4 infractions per total inmates). Sixty percent of infracting offenders were incarcerated for violent crimes; this was approximately the same percentage of violent offenders in the total prison population.

Offenders aged 21-26 accounted for half of all infractious inmates. Approximately 30 percent of all infractions involved either the possession of alcohol or drugs, interference with staff, or threats against other inmates; almost forty percent of all infractions were written on infractees while in their cell or living unit.

Half of all infractions were incurred by infractees who had served two years or less in prison; more than two-thirds of the infractees carried a minimum sentence of over four years.

It is apparent in this study that a small number of offenders are responsible for a disproportionately large number of infractions. While there was a small difference in the numbers of infractions committed by violent and nonviolent infractees, the association was not statistically significant. However, as more SRA violent offenders enter prison with longer sentences, the trend noted in this study may have a noticeable impact.

INTRODUCTION

The Sentencing Reform Act (SRA), implemented on July 1, 1984, emphasized more and longer incarcerations for violent criminal conduct and alternatives to incarceration for nonviolent offenders.

As expected, the SRA altered the composition of the prison population in the state, resulting in a higher percentage of inmates who committed violent crimes and a much smaller percentage of prisoners incarcerated for nonviolent crimes. Planning and Research staff produced the "Violent Felony Offender Project", which began to investigate the impact of population changes associated with SRA. As part of the violent offender project, Planning and Research staff conducted a study of all major infractions committed by inmates while incarcerated in Washington State prison facilities during calendar year 1985.

This study of infractions measures and describes various aspects of the behavior of criminal offenders during their incarceration in 1985. Its purpose is to investigate and describe behavior of adult male offenders who committed infractions in our prisons. Further, the description of serious infractions will assist in making policy and management decisions within the Department of Corrections.

Misconduct or infractions are divided into two categories: general rules and serious infractions. In the event of a general rule infraction, staff may prepare and submit an infraction report. However, the second category -- serious infractions -- requires staff to prepare and submit a report. This second category, serious infractions, is the subject of study. (WAC 137.28)

All serious infractions committed in Washington State prisons during 1985 have been included in this analysis with primary emphasis placed on the comparisons of violent and nonviolent infracting offenders. Information collected includes type of infraction, institution, and demographics of the infractee.

METHODOLOGY

In an attempt to obtain a representative picture of infractive behavior throughout the prison system, data was collected on all infractions reported through the Indeterminate Sentence Review Board (ISRB) and/or the Offender Based Tracking System (OBTS) for calendar year 1985. During calendar year 1985 there were 13,360 serious infractions recorded on 3,437 adult male offenders. (The positive side is that nearly half the prison population did not have recorded infractions during 1985.)

Each infraction report described the violation in question, the names and number of offenders involved, and the location in the institution where the infraction took place. OBTS files of these infractive offenders were also examined to gather information on the age, race, and sentence structure of each inmate included in this study.

Once the infractive offenders were identified, individual OBTS screen searches were completed by Planning and Research staff and pertinent information captured and collected. Collected data was then verified by research staff and entered into a database for analysis.

Infractions on female offenders at Purdy Corrections Center (renamed Washington Corrections Center for Women in 1988) were also collected. Due to the difference in information available, difficulties in collection, as well as the small number of infraction reports generated on female offenders, this study will not include analysis of infractions at the women's facility. However, we hope that future research will include a specific and thorough investigation into the characteristics of female offenders and their infractive behaviors.

Analysis for this infraction study is threefold. The three perspectives include: (1) information to describe the infraction; (2) information to describe the offender (or the infractee); and (3) information that can be applied to management and resource assessment.

Data compiled on the infracting offender included: offense which led to incarceration which the offender was serving at the time of the 1985 infraction, whether the offender was considered violent or nonviolent, the race, and the age of the offender.

Information collected that may be readily applied to management and resource issues included the length of the offender's minimum prison sentence, how long the offender had already been in prison, the time each had left to serve, the staff time consumed to process serious infractions, and the sanctions meted out in response to the infraction.

FINDINGS--DESCRIPTION OF INFRACTIONS AND INFRACTEES

Types of Infraction Activity

Of the infractions that were reported during 1985, nearly a quarter (23 percent) were person-related infractions such as assault, fighting, or the holding of hostages.

A breakdown of the infraction type follows. The single most common infraction type, "Dangerous Infraction," reported 14 percent, was typically used in tandem as an add-on with at least one other infraction. The use of "add-ons" may lead to an overcount of actual infractive behavior. In the following list, add-on infractions such as dangerous infraction are included in the category, "other." Therefore, during the discussion of single and repeat infractors, the split will often be between one or two infractions and three or more infractions due, in part, to the common occurrence of the dangerous infractions category as well as other add-on infractions.

TABLE 1

DISTRIBUTION OF INFRACTION TYPES

<u>Infraction Type</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>%</u>
Person	3,036	22
Property	1,976	17
Drug	1,885	14
Other*	<u>6,463</u>	<u>48</u>
TOTAL	13,360	100

*Other infractions include: dangerous infraction, 1,927; interfering with staff, 1,070; and refusing to work, 1,006. These three infraction categories account for 62 percent of the infractions typified as "other."

Location of Infraction Activity

The above infraction types occurred throughout the prison system. The overwhelming majority of 1985 infractions were generated from three institutions (see Attachment I); WCC, WSR, and WSP, combined, accounted for nearly three-fourths of all infractions. An investigation of infraction rate, that is the frequency of infractions divided by the facility average daily population (ADP) then multiplied by 100, confirmed that these three facilities had a high level of infraction activity. However, the highest infraction rate was found at SOC. While the total number of infractions from SOC comprised only 8 percent of the total, the actual number of infractions generated per 100 inmates is the highest at 723. This means that more infractions were generated per inmate at SOC than any other facility. (See Table 2)

TABLE 2

INFRACTION DISTRIBUTION BY FACILITY

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>ADP</u>	<u>Infraction Rate</u>
WCC-R	223	2	436	51
WCC-T	2,610	20	840	311
WSR	2,370	18	913	260
WSP	4,464	33	1,617	276
MICC	988	7	976	101
TRCC	643	5	487	132
SOC	1,026	8	142	723
CLALLAM CO.	25	>1	21	119
CLARK CO.	17	>1	28	61
PLCC	124	1	92	134
IRCC	105	1	102	103
FIRLANDS	26	>1	42	62
CLEARWATER	193	1	99	195
OLYMPIC	160	1	117	137
LARCH	202	2	94	215
CCCC	103	1	119	86
OTHER	81	>1	-	-
TOTAL	13,360		6,120	218

The location at which an infraction was incurred could be associated with both the nature of the facility as well as the amount and type of programming available at specific facilities. The housing status of the inmate at the time of the infraction was used as an indicator of the nature of the facility. However, the vast majority of infractions, independent of housing status, were written while an offender was located in his cell or in the living unit.

TABLE 3

DISTRIBUTION OF INFRACTION LOCATION

<u>Location</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>%</u>
Cell	3,256	24
Housing Unit	2,051	15
IMU	1,457	11
Recreation	801	6
Dining Hall	719	5
Work Area	1,014	8
Hospital	300	2
No Location	1,752	13
Unknown	548	4
Other	1,462	11
TOTAL	13,360	100

The Seasonality of Infractions

The date of each infraction was a variable included in analysis. The dates were formatted both by day and by month, all occurring within calendar year 1985.

As the following table indicates, the frequency of reported infraction activity throughout 1985 was fairly evenly distributed over the twelve month period. Table 4 presents the monthly distribution of infractions during 1985.

TABLE 4

ANNUALIZED INFRACTION RATE BY MONTH, 1985

<u>Month</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>ADP</u>	<u>Annualized Rate</u>
January	1195	6,070	236
February	1045	6,070	207
March	1161	6,103	228
April	1098	6,103	216
May	1093	6,106	215
June	1015	6,112	199
July	1322	6,109	260
August	1112	6,100	219
September	1044	6,099	205
October	1084	6,131	212
November	1028	6,193	199
December	1163	6,234	224
	13,360	6,120	218

The monthly range of infractions went from a low of 1,015 in June to a high of 1,322 a month later in July. The most infractious month of 1985 was July. Moreover, the annualized infraction rate (the number of infractions divided by average monthly population multiplied by 100 then multiplied by 12) is 260, the highest in July.

On average, looking at day of week, the most infractious day was Tuesday, with Monday/Tuesday being the major infraction days. The difference in range was greatest on Tuesdays, the most infractious day of the week. The lowest range in number of infractions occurred on Sunday.

TABLE 5

INFRACTION RANGES By Day of Week

	<u>Range of Infractions</u>	<u>Average Infractions</u>
Sunday	111-163	135
Monday	128-252	174
Tuesday	120-269	181
Wednesday	113-257	169
Thursday	114-197	157
Friday	124-207	164
Saturday	99-205	131

Multiple Infractions

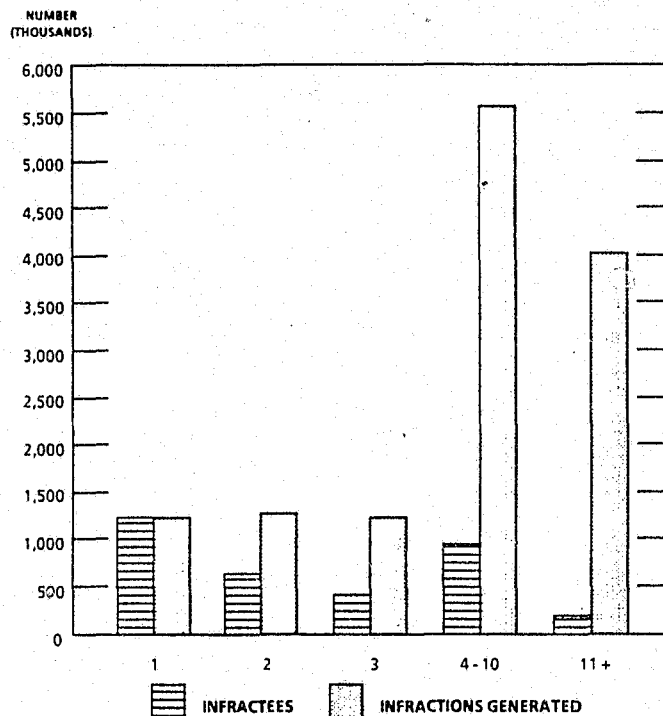
Of the 3,437 offenders recorded as having a serious infraction in 1985, 36 percent had a single infraction. As shown in Table 6, less than 20 percent of the infractees had two infractions; 12 percent of the population had three infractions. However, when the number of infractions generated is noted, it becomes obvious that a small number of inmates is responsible for a disproportionately large number of infractions. Specifically, just over 200 infractees, or 6 percent of the total infractees, were responsible for more than 4,000 infractions.

TABLE 6
NUMBER OF INFRACTIONS
VS.
INFRACTIONS GENERATED

<u>Number of Infractions</u>	<u>Infractees</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Infractions Generated</u>	<u>%</u>
1	1,228	36	1,228	9
2	644	19	1,288	10
3	408	12	1,224	9
4 - 10	954	28	5,591	42
11 +	<u>203</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4,029</u>	<u>30</u>
TOTAL	3,437	100	13,360	100

Graph 1 displays the fact that a small number of infractees was responsible for a disproportionately large number of infractions.

GRAPH 1
INFRACTEES COMPARED TO INFRACTIONS GENERATED
BY NUMBER OF INFRACTIONS IN 1985



Commitment Offense of Infractees

Of those offenders with a recorded infraction in 1985, nearly half were incarcerated for crimes against persons such as: murder, manslaughter, robbery, assault, and kidnapping.

Table 7 presents the distribution of the offender's most serious offense for which they were incarcerated in 1985. Again, this distribution includes only offenders who had an infraction in 1985; therefore, the distribution was not representative of the general population

Person offenders, typically the violent (as defined by state law) offenders, and inmates sentenced for "other" commitments, typically nonviolent, had the highest infraction ratios.

Table 7

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMITMENT OFFENSE

Offense Type	Violent Infractees	Nonviolent Infractees	Total	Infractions Generated	Ratio
Person	1,625	54	1,679	7,074	4.2
Property	81	835	916	3,370	3.7
Sex	347	230	577	1,851	3.2
Drug	4	62	66	159	2.4
Other	2	197	199	906	4.5
TOTAL	2,059	1,378	3,437	13,360	3.9

Violent Infractees

Of infractees, 60 percent were characterized as violent offenders, which is representative of the violent/nonviolent distribution of the total prison population.

While there was difference between the numbers of infractions committed by violent and nonviolent infractees, as presented in Table 8, the association was not statistically significant. Violent infractees pulled ahead in the last instance of infractees with 11 or more infractions; and the number was very small.

Table 8

VIOLENT VS. NONVIOLENT INFRACTEES

Number of Infractions	Violent Infractees	Infractions Generated	Ratio	Nonviol. Infractees	Infractions Generated	Ratio
1	718	718	1.0	510	510	1.0
2	359	718	2.0	285	570	2.0
3	245	735	3.0	163	489	3.0
4-10	612	3,613	5.9	342	1,978	5.8
11+	125	2,612	20.9	78	1,417	18.1
	2,059	8,396	4.1	1,378	4,964	3.6

Age of Infractees

Consistently, throughout every housing status, the age group responsible for the most infractions was the 21-23 year olds.

The ages of offenders with at least one 1985 infraction ranged from 17 to 73 years of age. The average age of infracting inmates in 1985 was 28. The average age of the general population, both infracting and noninfracting inmates, at this same time was 32 years of age. On the average then the infractees were four years younger than the general population.

When looking at the age distribution of the infractive population, the question was asked whether there was a difference in age between offenders who infringed once or twice in 1985 and those with multiple infractions (3+). Analysis indicates that there is no association between age and whether the offender is a repeat infractor.

While those offenders aged 17-29 account for a disproportionately higher number of infractions, there is little variation among offenders who have one or two infractions and those that have 3 or more infractions. Infracting inmates aged 17-20 years old have a higher ratio of infractions per infractee than any other age group. (See Table 9) Further, those infracting inmates 17-23 years of age have an average of a little more than four infractions each.

TABLE 9

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF INFRACTEES

Age	Number of Infractees			Infractions Generated	Ratio
	1-2	3+	Total		
Less than or = 20	166	165	331	1,505	4.5
21-23	341	392	733	3,240	4.4
24-26	326	323	649	2,580	3.9
27-29	296	210	506	1,886	3.7
30-32	220	164	384	1,427	3.7
33-35	174	98	272	826	3.0
36-38	122	89	211	833	3.9
39-49	177	109	286	924	3.2
50+	<u>50</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>2.1</u>
	1,872	1,565	3,437	13,360	3.9

Race of Infractees

The racial distribution of infractees in 1985 reflected the distribution of the total prison population. Moreover, when calculations were made based on infraction to inmate ratios, little variation between races was evident. The data are presented in the following table.

TABLE 10
RACIAL DISTRIBUTION OF INFRACTEES

<u>Race</u>	<u>Infractees</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Total Pop.</u> <u>%</u>	<u>Infractions</u> <u>Generated</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
White	2,257	66	70	8,648	3.8
Black	721	21	18	2,788	3.8
Native Am.	175	5	4	731	4.0
Hispanic	204	6	6	798	4.4
Asian	29	>1	>1	128	4.4
Other	51	1	1	267	5.2
TOTAL	3,437	100	100	13,360	3.9

**FINDINGS--MANAGEMENT ISSUES
AND CONCERNS**

**Location, Housing Status,
and Age**

Infractions impact the prison system in many ways. One aspect of this study was to begin to explore some of the management issues and concerns in relation to infractions. Initially, then, location and housing status was looked at to see if infractive behavior had any impact.

As previously noted, among all housing statuses, the most often reported area or actual location for infractive activity was the offender's cell or housing unit. (In certain situations, such as contraband found in a cell, the cell and the inmate(s) assigned to it receive an infraction, typically referred to as a "cell tag." Cell tags frequently mean each offender in the cell is charged equally, particularly if contraband is involved.) While there were differences between the housing statuses, these differences were expected. For example, in the segregation custody housing status, the majority (77 percent) of infractions were written at the Intensive Management Unit (IMU) and cell locations; likewise with Protective Custody Unit (PCU)/Hospital housing status over half of the infractions were written in the offender's cell or in the hospital. Both of these reflect the current housing status. In minimum custody classification, as expected, 44 percent of infractions--the most common--occurred at no specific location or at an "other" location. This may be explained by the relatively high mobility of inmates in minimum security institutions.

Because these data were collected chronologically, for repeat infractees, as infractions continued, the more likely the housing status would ultimately be segregation. Likewise, if an infractee had a housing status in segregation, PCU, or the like, where movement to another lower status was extremely unlikely or impossible, the offender could become stagnant. In some cases then, infractees could pile up infractions at a given location because the sanctions received would inhibit movement to a lower housing status. This is borne out by looking at the infraction ratio by housing status.

TABLE 11
DISTRIBUTION OF INFRACTIONS
BY HOUSING STATUS

<u>Housing Status</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>%.</u>	<u>Infractees</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
Max./Close	3,204	24	767	4.2
Medium	5,252	39	1,648	3.2
Minimum	1,063	8	484	2.2
Segregation	2,437	18	270	9.0
Mental Health	597	4	90	6.6
PCU/Hospital	571	4	98	5.8
Other/Unkn	<u>236</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>2.9</u>
TOTAL	13,360	100	3,437	3.9

Perhaps most interesting are the differences between the ages of the most infractious offenders within each housing status. In all but two of the nine housing statuses offenders age 21-26 were the most infractious, accounting in every instance for at least half of the infractions. The two housing groups that vary from this pattern are: maximum and segregation.

The most infractious group under maximum custody is the youngest group. In maximum custody offenders age 17-23 years account for half of the infractions. In segregation, a quarter of infractions are written on offenders ages 21-23, while 17 percent are by offenders age 27-29 years.

Infractees Sentence Length
Minimum Term

An offender's minimum term was recorded as the number of months needed to serve on the minimum sentence for the current incarceration. In cases of a consecutive sentence, minimum terms for each were added. In cases where concurrent sentences were found, the longest minimum term was coded.

The minimum terms for infractees in 1985 ranged from less than one year to life. Over one third of the infractees carried a minimum sentence of four years or less. While the ratio of infractions increased as minimum term lengthened, it was not found to be significant statistically.

TABLE 12

MINIMUM TERM OF INFRACTEES

<u>Min. Term (Years)</u>	<u>Infractees</u>	<u>Infractions Generated</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
0-1	162	454	2.8*
2	451	1,652	3.6
3	355	1,157	3.3
4	317	1,266	4.0
5-8	1,008	1,080	4.0
9-12	508	2,292	4.5
13-30	405	1,572	3.5
31-50	51	192	3.5
50 +	180	722	4.0
	3,437	13,360	3.9

* Infractees with minimum terms of less than one year may not have had a full year of infractions.

Time Already Served

The total number of infractions written on male offenders during 1985 was 13,360. Half (50 percent) of these infractions were written on offenders who had served just two years or less in a prison facility as measured by the date of the most recent prison admission minus the date of infraction. Those offenders with the least time in prison had the fewest number of infractions during the study year, but there was very little increase in the infraction ratio as time in prison increased. It should be noted that infractees who had spent two years or more in prison were much more likely to be characterized as violent. And as noted earlier, while violent offenders did not infract significantly more, neither did they infract significantly less.

TABLE 13

TIME SPENT IN PRISON

<u>Time Spent in Prison (Years)</u>	<u>Infractees</u>	<u>Infractions Generated</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
0-1	1,018	3,734	3.6*
2	739	2,888	3.9
3	566	2,138	3.7
4	394	1,758	4.5
5-9	627	2,483	3.9
10 +	93	359	3.9
	3,437	13,360	3.9

* Infractees in prison for less than one year will not have a full year of infractions.

Time Left To Serve

Here the time each offender had remaining on his sentence was defined and calculated as an offender's minimum sentence minus prison time already served. This calculation was done in an attempt to approximate the remaining time each offender had yet to serve. The working hypothesis was that those offenders closer to the end of their sentence would experience the potential of any loss of good time credit as a result of an infraction as more punitive. Thus, offenders with little time remaining to serve would be less likely to commit a serious infraction. Inversely, the more time an offender had yet to serve, the less likely a loss of good time would serve as a deterrent to committing infractions.

The data show that offenders with one or two years left to serve account for 31 percent of the infractions in this study. Offenders who have three to four years remaining on their sentence account for nearly 25 percent of the total infractions. As expected, as time left to serve increased, the ratio of infractions per infractee increased as well. (See Table 14.)

TABLE 14
TIME LEFT TO SERVE

<u>Time Left To Serve</u>	<u>Infractees</u>	<u>Infractions Generated</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
0*	146	478	3.3**
1	509	1,798	3.5
2	573	2,073	3.6
3	442	1,667	3.8
4	357	1,446	4.0
5-9	822	3,634	4.4
10 +	<u>588</u>	<u>2,264</u>	<u>3.9</u>
	3,439	13,360	3.9

* Includes inmates that have already served their minimum term but are still incarcerated.

** Infractees with less than one year to serve may not have a full year of infractions.

While the analysis of infractee sentence length did not reveal a significant relationship between infractious behavior and actual or expected time in prison, this study was conducted too early to witness the full impact of the SRA. One of the stated objectives of the SRA was to increase the length of stay for violent offenders. It is likely that the impact of the SRA will be to reinforce the trend seen here of a disproportionate number of infractions being generated by offenders who are expected to be in prison for over four years.

Staff Issues - Resources and Sanctions

According to Department of Corrections policy, when a serious infraction occurs, the hearing officer or termination committee will consider the full range of possible sanctions, such as loss of privileges, extra duty, or a change in housing assignment in lieu of extending the offender's minimum term for all but the most serious rule violations. When appropriate, policy stipulates that the above sanctions should be utilized rather than a loss of good conduct time credits. In line with this policy, the distribution of outcome sanctions for 1985 infractions is presented below.

TABLE 15

DISTRIBUTION OF SANCTIONS

<u>Sanction</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>%</u>
Sanction suspended	2,176	16
Loss of privileges	1,614	12
Restitution	498	4
Custody/program change	405	3
Segregation	2,525	19
Isolation	2,480	19
Loss of GCT	2,334	17
Add to minimum term	171	1
Unknown	317	2
No sanction	840	6
	<u>13,360</u>	<u>100</u>

Sanctions associated with infractions which occurred in the housing unit, recreation area, dining hall, or the work area most often included the use of segregation time. Over half of all infractions written on offenders located in IMU (Segregation) were sanctioned by isolation. Similarly, almost a quarter of infractees in the hospital or on sick call were sanctioned through the use of isolation.

The outcome sanction had little association with the amount of staff time consumed by a given infraction. The majority (63 percent) of infractions took between one and four hours for prison staff to process. If the final sanction was to have time added to the offender's minimum term, the staff time consumed was the lowest. In all other cases, staff time to process infractions was calculated to be two to three hours per incident. This calculates to 358 24-hour days of staff time to process serious infractions.

However, it is tenuous to draw conclusions from this discussion about staff resources as applied to infractions. Staff time was calculated and coded by Planning and Research staff in a method which required "subjective judgment" about the actual amount of staff time consumed by infractions. Judgment was based on information from the infraction report such as: offense infraction, number of persons involved, and location.

SUMMARY

In summary, half of the prison population remained infraction-free during the year of this study. Of the half of the population that was involved with infractive behaviors, a small number of infracting inmates were responsible for a disproportionately large number of infractions.

Actual infractive behaviors were combined to show that less than 15 percent were for drug-related violations. Further, less than 25 percent of the infractions were for a person-related infraction.

Inmates at major institutions (WCC, WSR, and WSP) were responsible for the vast majority of all infractions, based on sheer volume. However, when the population of each institution was added to calculate a ratio of infraction per 100 inmates, SOC had the highest ratio, meaning that there were more infractions per inmate by SOC offenders in 1985.

The location of the greatest infraction activity, independent of institution, occurred in an inmate's cell or housing unit.

Seasonality seemed to have no effect on infraction reports. But, infractions did vary between days of the week. Monday and Tuesday were days of highest number of infraction reports.

The breakdown between infractees having single and multiple infractions was fairly even (54 and 46 percent, respectively). When the number of infractions generated by each group was added to the calculations, it was apparent that a small number of inmates was responsible for a large number of infractions.

When focusing on the infractee, the young offenders were responsible for the majority of infractions. And, when ratios between infractions and infractee were calculated, again we saw that the young offenders had the highest ratios of infractions.

Looking, then, at the impact sentence length may have on infractions, we see that infractees with more than 4 years left to serve were responsible for a higher ratio of infractions.

What we have is a small number of infractees responsible for a disproportionately large number of infractions. Further, this small number of infractees is characterized by their relatively young age and relatively long sentences. The young, long-term offender will require more management and institution resources than the older or short-term population.

Research/Planning Section staff have investigated serious prison infractions from 1985. The report highlights include:

- * In 1985, there were 13,360 serious infractions reported (male offenders only).
- * These thousands of infractions were incurred by 3,437 male offenders.
- * Average number of infractions per offender was just under four.
- * Thirty percent of all infractions involved either the possession of alcohol or drugs, interference with staff, or threats against other inmates.
- * Nearly half of all infracting offenders were in medium security housing status.
- * Almost 40 percent of all infractions were written on infractees while in their cell or living unit.
- * July was the month of the most infractions.
- * Tuesday was the day with the greatest number of infractions, on average.
- * Sixty percent of infracting offenders were incarcerated for violent crimes.
- * Offenders aged 21-26 accounted for half of all infracting inmates.
- * During the "infractive-prone" years, an infractee was just as likely to have one or two infractions as to have three or more.
- * Half of all infractions were incurred by infractees who had served two years or less in prison.
- * More than two-thirds of the infractees carried a minimum sentence of over four years.
- * The vast majority of serious infractions took two to three hours of staff time to process.

INSTITUTION ABBREVIATIONS

Institutions represented in this study and their associated abbreviations are: Washington Corrections Center (WCC); Washington State Reformatory (WSR); Washington State Penitentiary (WSP); McNeil Island Corrections Center (MICC); Twin Rivers Corrections Center (TRCC); Special Offender Center (SOC); Clallam County Unit; Clark County Unit; Pine Lodge Corrections Center (PLCC); Indian Ridge Corrections Center (IRCC); Firlands Corrections Center (FCC); Clearwater Corrections Center (CLWTR); Olympic Corrections Center (OCC); Larch Corrections Center (LCC); and Cedar Creek Corrections Center (CCCC).