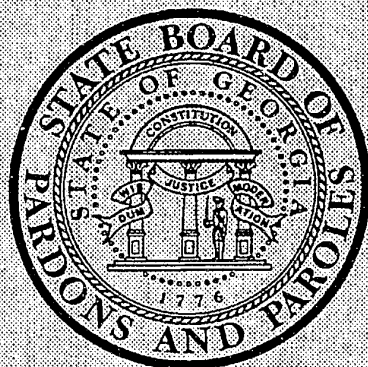




State of Georgia

Board of Pardons and Paroles



# ANNUAL REPORT

*FISCAL YEAR 1993*

*JULY 1, 1992 - JUNE 30, 1993*

148288

**GEORGIA BOARD OF PARDONS  
AND PAROLES**

**1993 ANNUAL REPORT**

148288

**U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice**

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# State Board of Pardons and Paroles

James T. Morris  
Chairman

J. Wayne Garner  
Vice-Chairman



EAST TOWER, BALCONY LEVEL  
FLOYD VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING  
2 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DRIVE, S.E.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334  
(404) 656-5651

Bettye O. Hutchings  
Member

Timothy E. Jones  
Member

Bobby K. Whitworth  
Member

The Honorable Zell Miller, Governor  
Members of the Georgia General Assembly  
and the Citizens of the State of Georgia:

It is my pleasure to present to you the Annual Report of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles for the 1993 fiscal year of July 1, 1992, to June 30, 1993.

We wish to express our appreciation to the Miller administration and the members of the General Assembly for their leadership and commitment to the major expansion of our state prison system. The addition of thousands of new prison beds enabled the state to end the Georgia Emergency Release Program on December 31, 1992, and relieved the Board of much of the burden of managing our finite prison resources.

Today we are moving in a positive direction. Offenders, perpetrators of violent crimes and sex offenses in particular, are staying in prison much longer. New bedspace has enabled Georgia to realize an increase in the number of offenders behind bars while accomplishing a significant reduction in parole releases. In fact, paroles in calendar year 1993 will be 33% less than those released in calendar year 1991. And this trend will continue as long as there is support for all levels of Georgia's criminal justice system.

There were changes to the Board in FY93. We congratulated former chairman Wayne Snow, Jr., on his retirement after years of service to Georgia as a Board Member and as a state legislator. But we also mourned the passing of Member Merle Clark, a Georgian who devoted his entire career to law enforcement. The appointments of Wayne Garner and Bobby Whitworth to the Board in April 1993 have underscored a conservative approach to parole and a return to the traditional reasons for parole: adequate punishment, recognition of positive prison conduct, and offender rehabilitation through participation in education, treatment, and self-improvement programs.

The citizens of Georgia are well-served by the dedicated team of professionals that are the employees of the Parole Board. In the Atlanta headquarters and throughout the state they work steadfastly to assist the Board to make equitable and just clemency decisions and to supervise parolees in a manner that encourages a positive, crime-free lifestyle for those willing to change and a removal from society for the few who choose otherwise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James T. Morris".  
James T. Morris  
Chairman

# MISSION STATEMENT

## Georgia Board of Pardons and Paroles

### OUR MISSION IS

- ◆ *to protect the public by thoroughly investigating inmate cases and making careful, just and equitable parole decisions;*
- ◆ *to use agency and community resources as a bridge to help parolees reach self-sufficiency and stable citizenship;*
- ◆ *to supervise parolees skillfully and return to prison those who show they will not be law-abiding.*

# **OUR RESPONSIBILITIES ARE**

## **To Georgia Citizens**

*to keep refining our ability to select persons for parole who will succeed as law-abiding citizens and our ability to select for longer confinement the physically dangerous and career criminals; to help parolees become productive citizens for the benefit of society, themselves and their families; and to use our arrest and parole revocation authority wisely and remove promptly from society a danger to the community.*

## **To Victims**

*to welcome and consider views and information from crime victims and their families and to respond positively to their requests for information and notification.*

## **To Parole Board Employees**

*to provide leadership, training and resources so our work force can perform all jobs effectively and to provide opportunities for their job growth so we can retain knowledgeable and experienced men and women.*

## **To Offenders**

*to consider each offender as an individual for release by one set of proven standards regardless of where in Georgia the case originated and to provide realistic parole conditions, helpful, positive supervision and personalized assistance.*

## **To Justice**

*to uphold appropriate punishment, to advance equal treatment of offenders serving for similar offenses with similar histories and needs and to work with other justice system components to reduce criminality.*

# INTRODUCTION

In March 1989 Governor Harris stood before the public and asked the Parole Board to begin accelerating the release of inmates in order to prevent imminent federal litigation in the form of a prisoner class-action lawsuit alleging overcrowded conditions in Georgia's prison system. The impact to the state budget would have meant an immediate cost of hundreds of millions of dollars at the same time that Georgia was heading into one of the worst budget crises in its history.

Locally, many of Georgia's sheriffs and jailers were under threat of similar lawsuits because their facilities were overflowing with prisoners awaiting transfer to state prisons. Federal litigation would have a devastating effect on county budgets, so prompt action was necessary.

The Board followed the request of our state leadership. It would not be a short-term solution but would instead take several years of emergency releases until new prisons could be financed, constructed, and staffed. The emergency release program would make room for new inmates at both the state and county level and it would prevent the federal courts from taking control of Georgia's prisons.

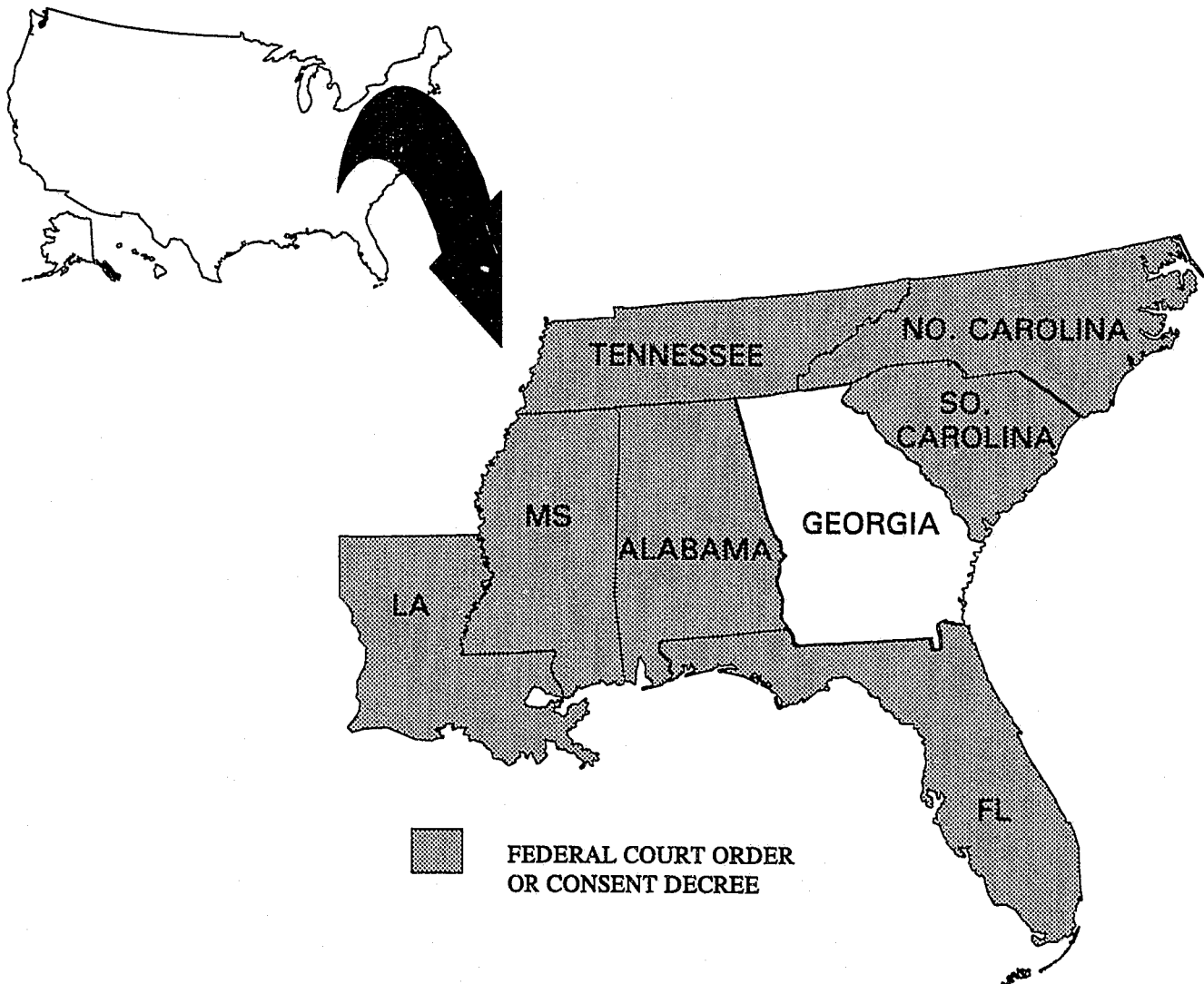
But it would also create a public image of the Board as being soft on crime.

And the result? Today Georgia is the only southeastern state to have avoided major federal litigation and the expensive consequences. All of our neighboring states have been impacted by a federal court order or consent decree (see illustration at right).

While other states are struggling to finance more prisons at the cost of other programs, Georgia has added or has planned over 10,000 new beds in just four years, all without drastic cuts to other programs. While other states are limited by court order or agreement as to how many inmates their prisons can hold, Georgia is increasing the number of prisoners while simultaneously reducing the number of releases. While the average time served for most offenses in other states is shrinking, offenders in Georgia are finding that they are serving more time.

Today the Board is easing away from the role of managing the inmate population and is returning to the traditional job of selecting only the most deserving of release and keeping incarcerated those who are a danger to the citizens of Georgia.

**FEDERAL LITIGATION RESULTING FROM CONDITIONS OF CONFINEMENT:  
SOUTHEASTERN STATES AFFECTED BY FEDERAL COURT ORDER  
OR CONSENT DECREE 1985 - 1993**

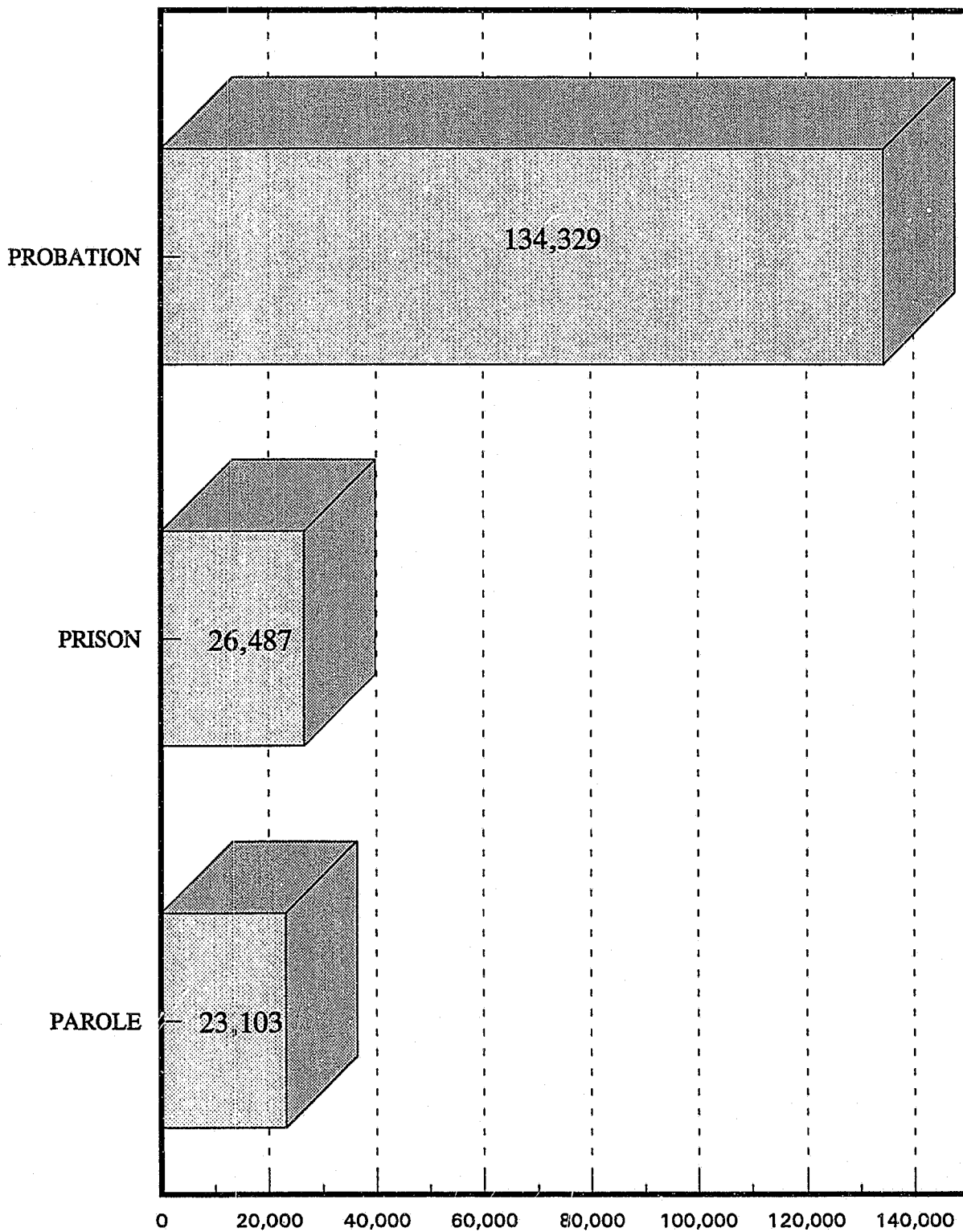


**COSTLY FATE:** Georgia is the only southeastern state to avoid the expensive consequences of major federal litigation due to inmate class-action lawsuits that argue overcrowding and certain other conditions of confinement are unconstitutional. Federal court orders or consent decrees place limits on the number of inmates that a state can confine and set standards that state institutions must operate under. Most states have been forced to respond with hundreds of millions of dollars in unplanned spending and time credits designed to expedite the release of inmates, in some cases without community supervision, to make room for new arrivals.



# ADULTS ON PROBATION, IN PRISON OR ON PAROLE

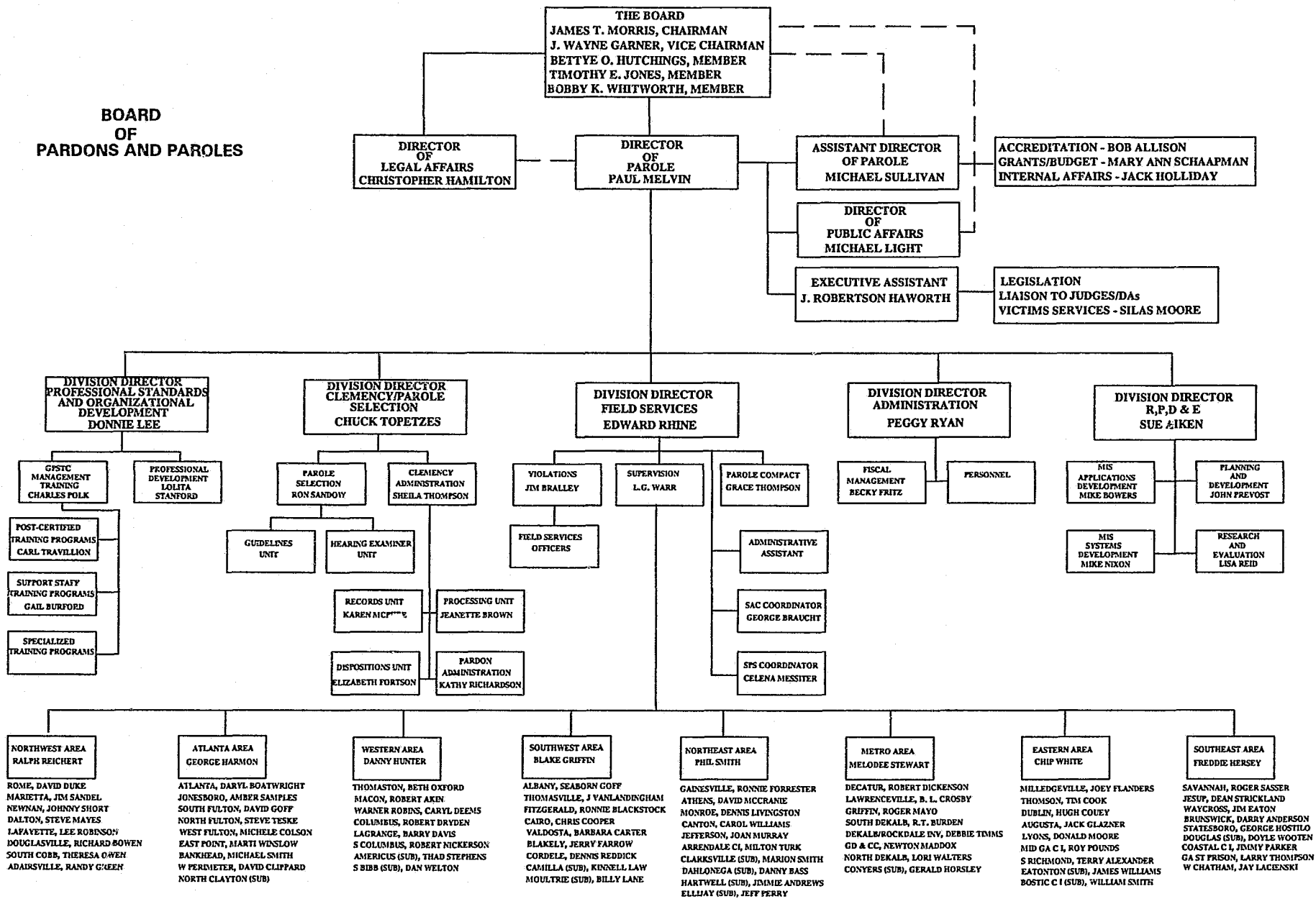
June 30, 1993



**PAROLEES ARE SMALLEST PART OF STATE CORRECTIONAL POPULATION:**  
In FY93 probationers made up 73% of the state's correctional population while 14.4% were inmates and 12.6% were parolees.

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

## BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES



## THE BOARD MEMBERS

**Chairman James T. Morris**, of Athens, Georgia, is the senior member, having been appointed by Governor Jimmy Carter in 1974. Chairman Morris began his criminal justice career in 1961 as a police officer and later joined the state Department of Probation where he eventually served as a Regional Director. He was named Executive Officer for the Parole Board in 1973 and appointed as a member one year later. He has served on a number of state criminal justice committees and is presently involved with the Governor's Council on Criminal Justice, a select group charged with developing state-wide policies for jails and prisons.

**Vice-Chairman J. Wayne Garner**, of Carrollton, Georgia, was appointed to the board in April 1993 by Governor Zell Miller. He is a 13-year veteran of the state Senate, representing Carroll County and part of Douglas County. He was the president pro-tem in 1993 and the majority leader in 1991 and 1992. Among his many committee appointments, he served as chairman of the Senate Corrections Committee from 1983 to 1990. Mr. Garner is on the Board of Trustees of Truett-McConnell College and the Board of Cure at Emory University.

**Bettye O. Hutchings**, of Macon, Georgia, was appointed to the Board by Governor Joe Frank Harris in 1987. She is a Macon businesswoman and has served the state as a former member of the State Crime Commission and its successor organization, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, the Governor's Advisory Council on Juvenile Justice, and the State Board of Corrections. She has served as chairperson for all four groups. Ms. Hutchings is also a member of the National Criminal Justice Association and has served on its Board of Directors.

**Timothy E. Jones**, of Atlanta, was appointed to the Board by Governor Harris in 1990. He is a career Board employee who began in 1974 as a parole officer in the field services division. He was the agency's Director of Field Services at the time of his being named to the Board. Mr. Jones has also received appointments to the Victim's Compensation Board and the Council on Family Violence. He is a Vietnam veteran, having earned the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

**Bobby K. Whitworth**, of Lawrenceville, Georgia, was appointed by Governor Miller in April 1993. Mr. Whitworth is a criminal justice professional who joined the Georgia Department of Corrections in 1973 and served in a number of positions prior to becoming Commissioner in 1989. In his tenure as head of Corrections Mr. Whitworth oversaw the most aggressive prison-building program in Georgia's history leading to over 35,000 beds that are either on-line or under development.

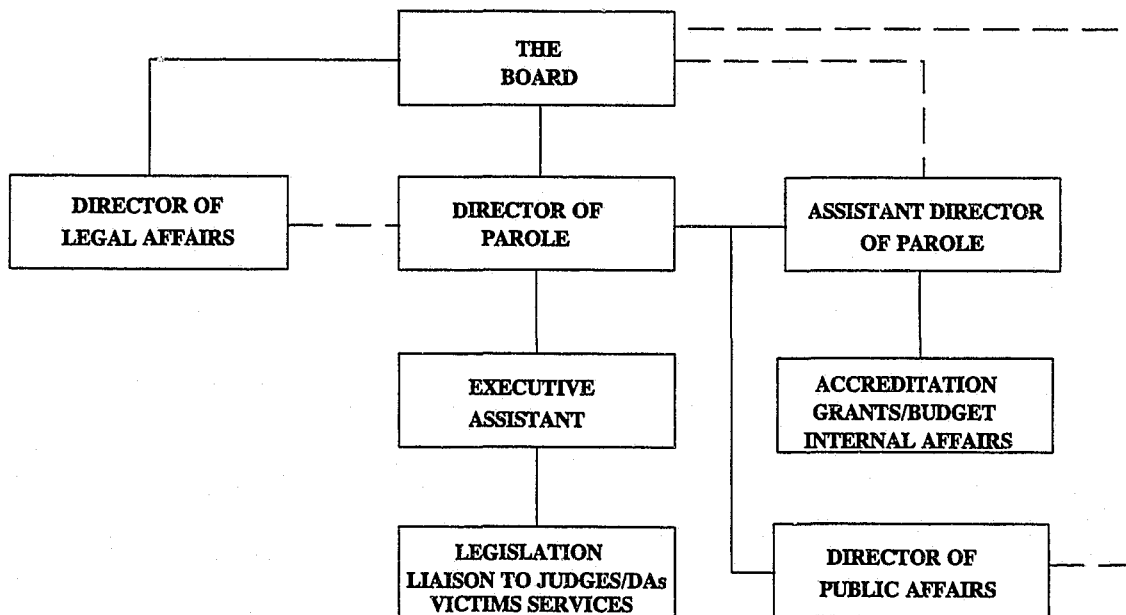
# THE AGENCY

The agency is structured to consist of the Executive Office, headed by the Director of Parole, and five divisions, each overseen by a Division Director. The Field Services Division manages the parolees in communities throughout the state and is the largest division with over eighty percent of the Board's workforce.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE

The **Director of Parole** is responsible for the day-to-day supervision of agency operations. The **Assistant Director of Parole** assists the Director in agency administration. The **Director of Legal Affairs** serves as the Board's legal liaison with the Department of Law and also acts as the agency's internal counsel. The **Executive Assistant** aids the Board with legislation, as a liaison with judges and district attorneys, and with specific projects. **Public Affairs** is the agency's contact point with the public and the media. **Internal Affairs** conducts pre-employment screens of prospective employees, administers the agency's random drug-screening program and investigates charges of employee misconduct. **Victim Services** is charged with facilitating communication between victims of crime and the Board. **Accreditation** coordinates the Board's efforts to achieve an accreditation award through the American Correctional Association's Commission on Accreditation for Corrections. **Grants/Budget** oversees grant applications and budget analysis, preparation and submission.

### THE BOARD AND EXECUTIVE OFFICE

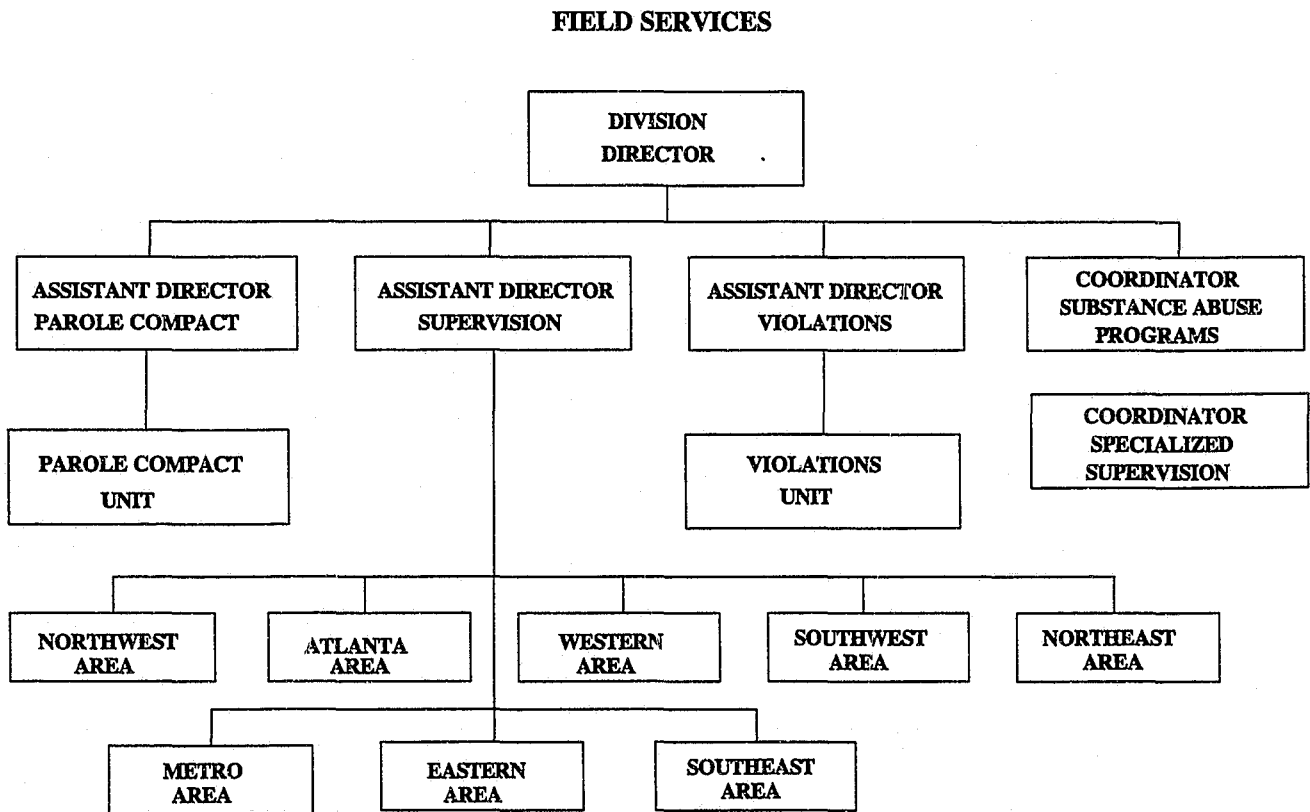


# FIELD SERVICES DIVISION

**Field Supervision** conducts the hands-on supervision of all offenders who are released by the Board. Area Supervisors and Chief Parole Officers oversee the work of parole officers as they conduct pre-parole investigations and manage parolees, reprieves and other Board releases. Working in tandem with them are the Board's Substance Abuse Counselors and Specialized Parole Officers.

The **Violations Unit** consists of Field Operations Officers working out of the Board's headquarters. They process information from the field regarding offenders who violate the conditions of their parole and make recommendations for action. When necessary, they secure Board warrants for the arrest of parole violators.

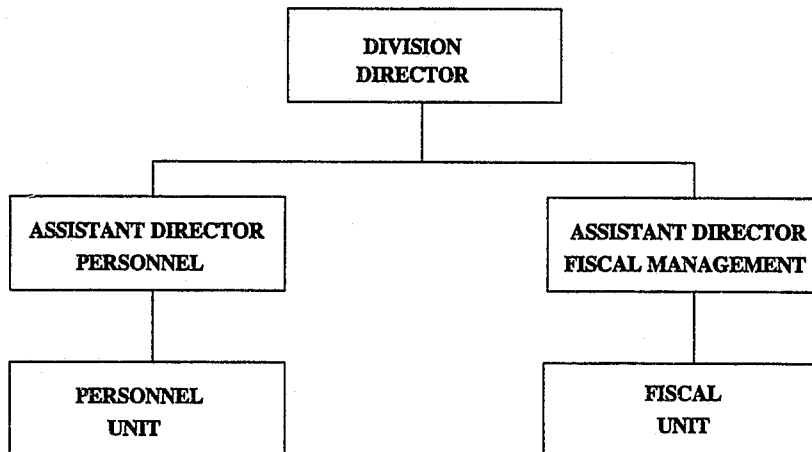
The **Interstate Compact Unit** administers the agreement between the states that allows for the transfer of parolees for residence and employment reasons. They also deal with all requests for out-of-state investigations for the purpose of parole.



# ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The **Fiscal Management Unit** is responsible for assisting with budget preparation, the purchasing and procurement of property and materials, rentals, and inventory control. **Personnel** oversees personnel management and other employee-related programs.

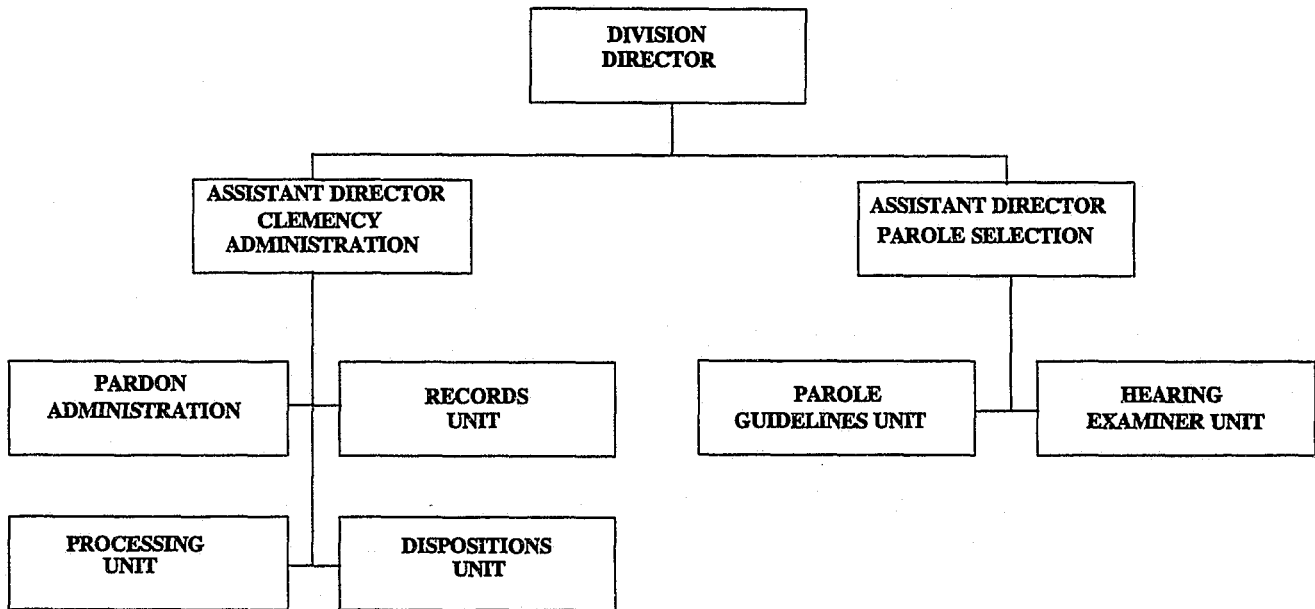
## ADMINISTRATION



# CLEMENCY ADMINISTRATION/PAROLE SELECTION DIVISION

The **Records Unit** establishes and maintains files on newly-sentenced inmates. The **Processing Unit** collects personal and criminal background data on inmates in preparation for parole consideration. The **Guidelines Unit** assigns cases to Hearing Examiners for rating under the Parole Decision Guidelines. The **Hearing Examiner Unit** evaluates cases under Guidelines and prepares cases for consideration for parole and the boot camp and reprieve programs. The **Disposition Unit** informs inmates of Board decisions and notifies judges, district attorneys and others as required by statutory law. **Pardon Administration** processes requests for pardons and restoration of rights.

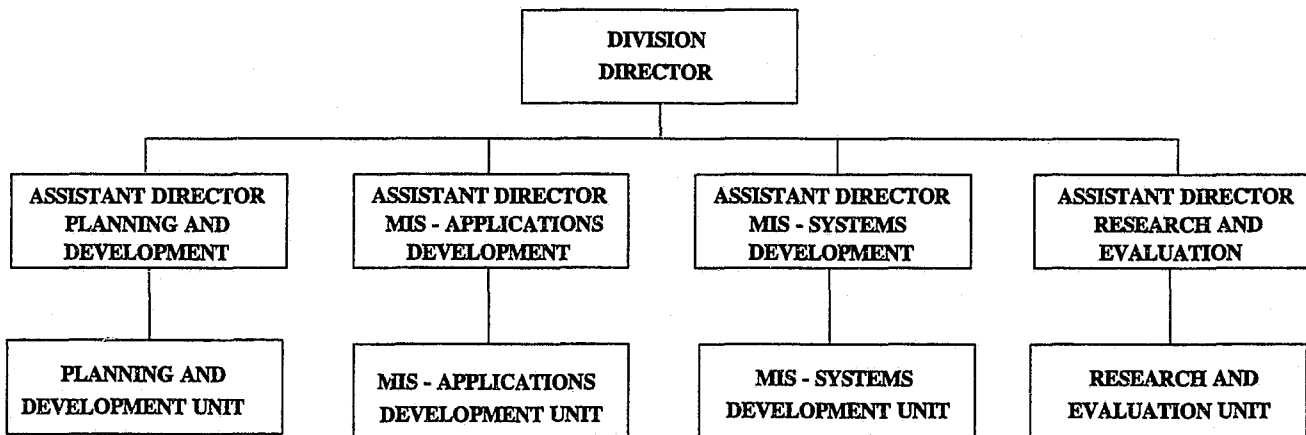
## CLEMENCY AND PAROLE SELECTION



# RESEARCH, PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION DIVISION

**Planning and Development** is responsible for the development of all new programs, writing policy for those programs and overseeing their implementation. It also coordinates the development of the agency's strategic planning for its future endeavors. **Research and Evaluation** serves as the agency's statistical gathering and reporting source and oversees the evaluation of all new Board programs. **Management Information Systems - Applications Development** coordinates the development and maintenance of the parole component of the mainframe data base shared with the Department of Corrections. **Management Information Systems - Systems Development** is responsible for all small systems computer development, maintenance and software training.

## RESEARCH, PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION



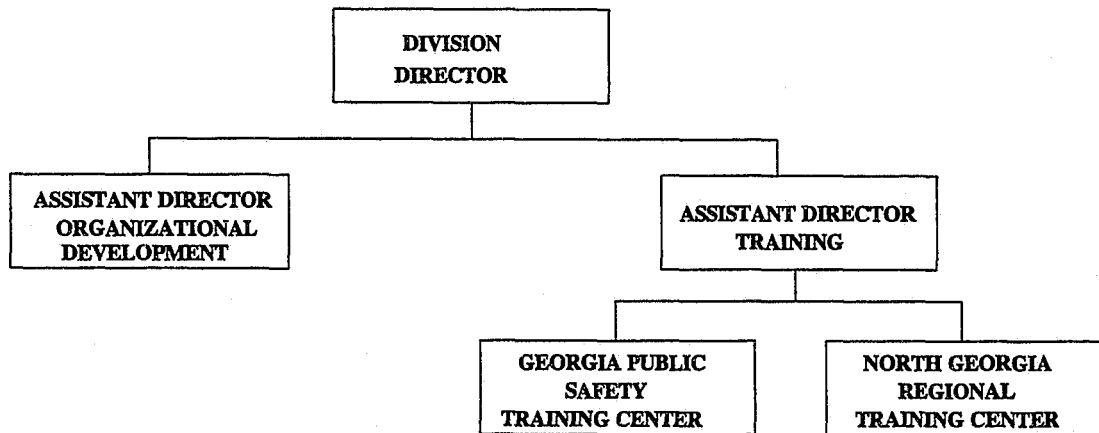


# PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

**Training** manages the training programs required by the state's Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) body as well as other educational opportunities offered by the Board, the State Merit System, and others. Employee training is delivered at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth and at the Board's North Georgia Training Center in Gainesville. The Board's emphasis on education requires employees to receive twice the number of yearly training hours mandated by the POST Council. Programs offered include a six-week basic training session required of all new parole officers as well as yearly in-service training for all clerical, central office and field staff, and agency management.

**Organizational Development** augments the Board's commitment to the career growth of all employees.

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



# FISCAL YEAR 1993 ACTIVITY REPORT

(There were 23,237 parolees under supervision at the end of FY92)

## RELEASE ACTION

Parole	10,222
Georgia Emergency Release Program (ended 12-31-92)	875
Supervised Reprieve	2,363
Conditional Transfer to Detainer	485
Commutation to Time Served	5
Remission of Sentence	2
Other Release Action	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,952</b>

## REVOICATIONS

New Conviction	1,681
Technical Violation	2,489
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,170</b>

## DISCHARGES

Discharge from Parole	3,863
Discharge from Supervised Reprieve	3,470
Commutation to Discharge Parole	2,775
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,108</b>

**TOTAL DECISIONS UNDER PAROLE GUIDELINES** 8,662

## LIFE DECISIONS

Decision to Deny Parole to Life Cases	789
Decision to Grant Parole to Life Cases	142
Decision to Grant Parole at 1st Consideration	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>931</b>

## OTHER BOARD ACTIONS

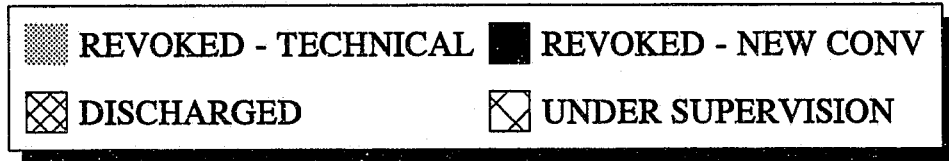
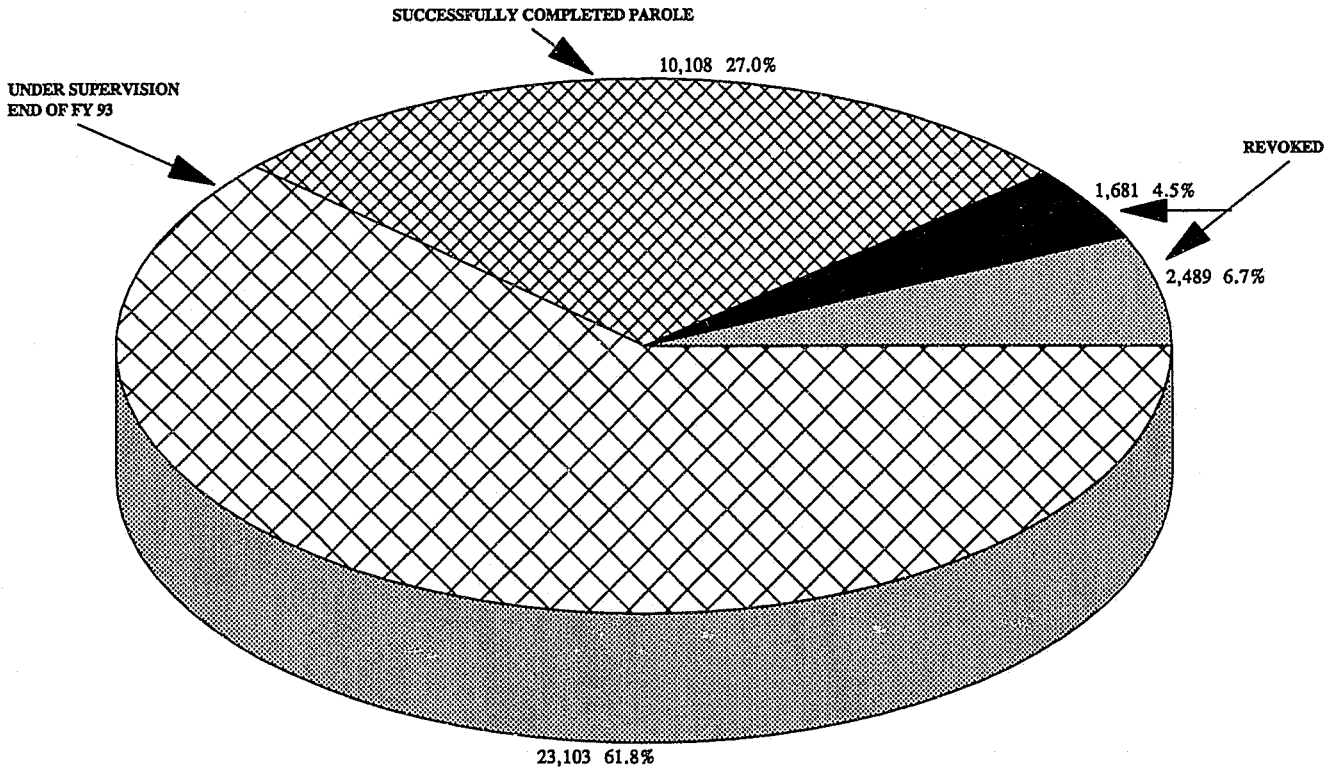
Pardon	238
Commutation Reducing Sentence (No Release)	19
Medical or Compassionate Reprieve	329
Restoration of Rights Upon Application	416
Visitor Interview	5,170
Inmate Interview at Institution by Board Members	163
Final Hearing	669
Preliminary Hearing	678

**INMATES AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD** 26,487

## RELEASES UNDER SUPERVISION END OF FY93

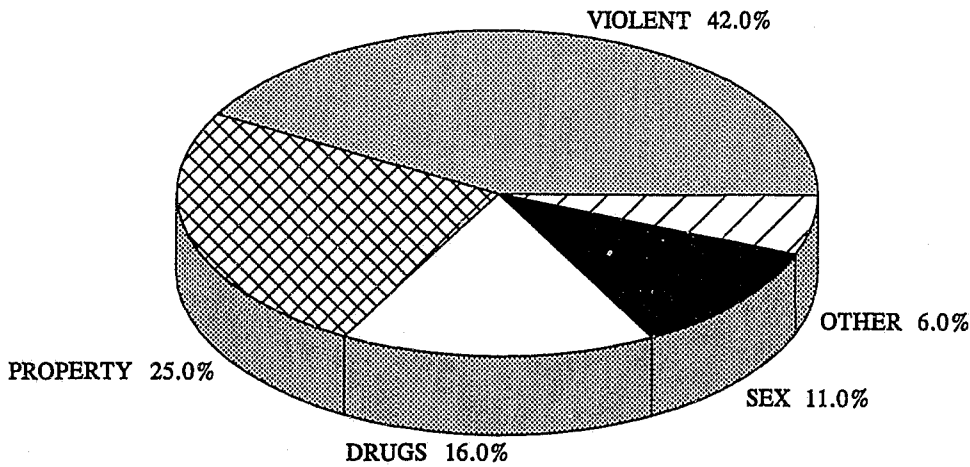
Georgia Releases in Georgia	20,208
Other States' Releases in Georgia	858
Georgia Releases Out of State	2,037
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,103</b>

## PAROLEES PROCESSED DURING FY 93

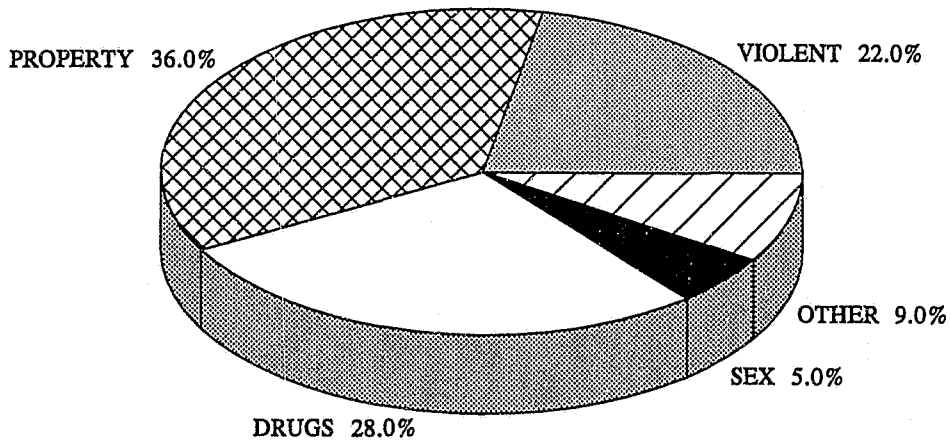


**SMALL NUMBER OF PAROLEES RETURNED FOR NEW CONVICTIONS:** 37,408 parolees were under supervision at some point during FY93. Of that group 4.5% were returned to prison for new convictions and 6.7% were returned for technical (failure to follow conditions of parole) violations. The remaining 89% either discharged from parole or remained under supervision into FY94.

### INMATE POPULATION BY OFFENSE TYPE



### PAROLEE POPULATION BY OFFENSE TYPE



**PRISON POPULATION MORE VIOLENT:** 53% of the prison population is made up of those who committed violent or sex crimes. On the other hand, two-thirds of the parolee population is made up of non-violent (drug or property) offenders. Violent and sex offenders make up the smallest portion of parolees.

## **VICTIMS' VIEWS ARE VALUED IN THE PAROLE PROCESS**

The Parole Board adheres to the principle that the more severe the crime and its effects, the longer the criminal should be imprisoned. It's inherent in the Board's mandate and guidelines. And who better than the crime victim or the victim's survivors can advise parole decision-makers of the severity and lasting impact of a serious crime? No one. This is a main reason the Parole Board values its contacts with the persons who, more than anyone else, know how bad the crime is.

Since its creation 51 years ago, the Board has cooperated with victims and their families -- welcomed their letters, phone calls, and visits, and responded to their requests for information and notification. But it has only been in recent years that the agency has taken major steps to make victim rights known to the victims.

It was a good law that in 1985 called on the Board to develop the Georgia Victim Impact Statement form for use by the courts and the Board. This started bringing parole staff and prosecution staff closer for a common cause: helping crime victims. Most district attorneys now employ victim-witness assistance personnel, and in 1991 the Parole Board opened its Victim Services Office. Together these representatives of different parts of the justice system not only advise victims but encourage them to use their rights to the fullest.

The Parole Board appreciates that its fact sheets, forms, and posters are being used to educate and motivate victims in offices of prosecutors, law enforcement, the Department of Family and Children Services, county health centers, rape crisis centers, domestic violence shelters, and victim advocacy and support organizations such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Such cooperation would have been unheard of a few years ago.

During 1993 the Board's Victim Services Office responded to 1,233 letters giving views about cases and responded to 608 victim impact statements received without letters.

Most of the impact statements received by the Board are obtained by parole officers and parole investigators from prosecution records and are attached to the officers' written reports on the crimes. These officers may take the initiative to contact victims or their survivors and invite them to make known their views.

In May 1993 the Parole Board began collecting court-ordered victim restitution payments from parolees. It was complying with a new law and using new procedures with computerized accounting. The money is earmarked for submission to local probation offices for distribution to the victims.

The Parole Board in late 1991 decided that parolees serving for certain violent offenses should pay \$10 per month into the State of Georgia's Crime Victims Emergency Fund. Through FY93 the Board collected for the fund a total of \$284,389.57. Crime victims may apply to the Governor's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for grants from this fund.

A two-hour class in victim issues continues to be taught by Parole Board instructors to all new parole officers in basic training at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center at Forsyth.

Victims, their survivors, and others desiring additional information about victim services can write Silas Moore, Director of Victim Services, State Board of Pardons and Paroles, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive, S.E., Atlanta, Georgia, 30334, or call (404) 651-6668.

#### FISCAL YEAR COLLECTION TOTALS

	PAROLEE SUPERVISION FEES	CRIME VICTIMS EMERGENCY FUND	VICTIM RESTITUTION FEES
FY 85	\$111,436		
FY 86	\$496,613		
FY 87	\$703,341		
FY 88	\$738,598		
FY 89	\$759,050		
FY 90	\$1,095,806		
FY 91	\$1,331,262		
FY 92	\$1,269,152	\$56,697	
FY 93	\$1,081,483 *	\$227,693	\$19,377 **
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$7,586,742</b>	<b>\$284,390</b>	<b>\$19,377</b>

\* DROP IN COLLECTION REFLECTS FEWER BOARD RELEASES

\*\* BEGAN MAY 1993

## FY93 IN REVIEW

**New Board Members Appointed:** In April 1993 Governor Miller appointed Wayne Garner and Bobby Whitworth to the Parole Board. Mr. Garner filled the position previously held by Merle Clark, who passed away in January. Mr. Whitworth will complete the unexpired term of Wayne Snow, Jr., who retired in May.

**Life Without Parole Law Enacted:** The 1993 legislature passed a statute law providing juries with the additional option of life without parole in capital murder cases. Jurors had previously been able to choose only between the death penalty or life with the possibility of parole. Although constitutionally empowered to override such a decision, the Board supported the law and amended its official rules to prohibit parole consideration for offenders convicted in those aggravated cases.

**Emergency Release Program Ends:** Governor Miller ordered the end of the Georgia Emergency Release Program on December 31, 1992. The Board had been forced since 1989 to accelerate releases due to lack of prison bedspace and the threat of litigation resulting in federal intervention into our state prison system. The Miller administration's commitment to adding thousands of new beds relieved the Board of its involvement in the controversial program.

**Parole Releases Decreasing:** Parole releases began to slow considerably as new prison beds came on-line and the Georgia Emergency Release Program ended. Estimates for the 1993 calendar year (the fiscal year covers only through June 30) projected a 25 to 30 percent reduction over the 1992 calendar year releases.

**Board Implements Tougher Guidelines Grid:** On April 1, 1993, the Board dropped its previous Guidelines Grid, which it uses to determine the recommended amount of time an inmate must serve before becoming eligible for parole consideration, and replaced it with a new and more punishing Grid. Displeased inmates had their attorneys file a federal class-action lawsuit in an effort to bar the Board from lengthening their incarceration but were unsuccessful.

**Victims Heard:** The Board's Office of Victims Services continued to work with those who are most adversely effected by crime, the actual victims. The Director of Victims Services travelled the state to meet with victim/witness assistance personnel, victim advocacy groups, and other victim support organizations. In FY93 the Board heard from victims via phone calls, letters, and Victim Impact Statements. Each received a response and all communication was noted for future reference during the parole consideration process.

**Parole Officers Collect Fees and Restitution:** Parole officers collected \$1,081,483 in parolee supervision fees. That money was deposited directly back into the state treasury. An additional \$227,692 was paid into the Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund by parolees serving sentences for violent crimes. In May 1993 the Board began a new program requiring parolees to pay restitution to their victims. \$19,377 in restitution was collected during the last two months of FY93 .

**Parole Decision Guidelines Revalidated:** A detailed study of the Parole Decision Guidelines, the system used by the Board to help make consistent parole decisions on sentences less than life, again confirmed it as an excellent predictor of an inmate's likelihood of re-offending (see illustration on page 31).

**Strategic Planning Moves Forward:** The Board continued its emphasis on excellence in state government by moving quickly to implement strategic planning for its future policy and procedure. Working with representatives of the Office of Planning and Budget, an inter-divisional team of employees evaluated the agency mission, assessed the efficiency of agency policy and procedures, and predicted future trends and needs. Employees from throughout the state were consulted and all are working to develop a common set of beliefs that will provide the groundwork for the future vision of the agency.

**Cognitive Skills Pilot Program Begins:** The Board began a pilot Cognitive Skills Program in five parole districts. Parole officers who are specially trained as facilitators lead small groups of parolees through a 17-week course designed to bring about change in those who suffer from poor impulse and anger control. By improving the offender's reasoning and communication skills the potential for a successful completion of parole is greatly enhanced.

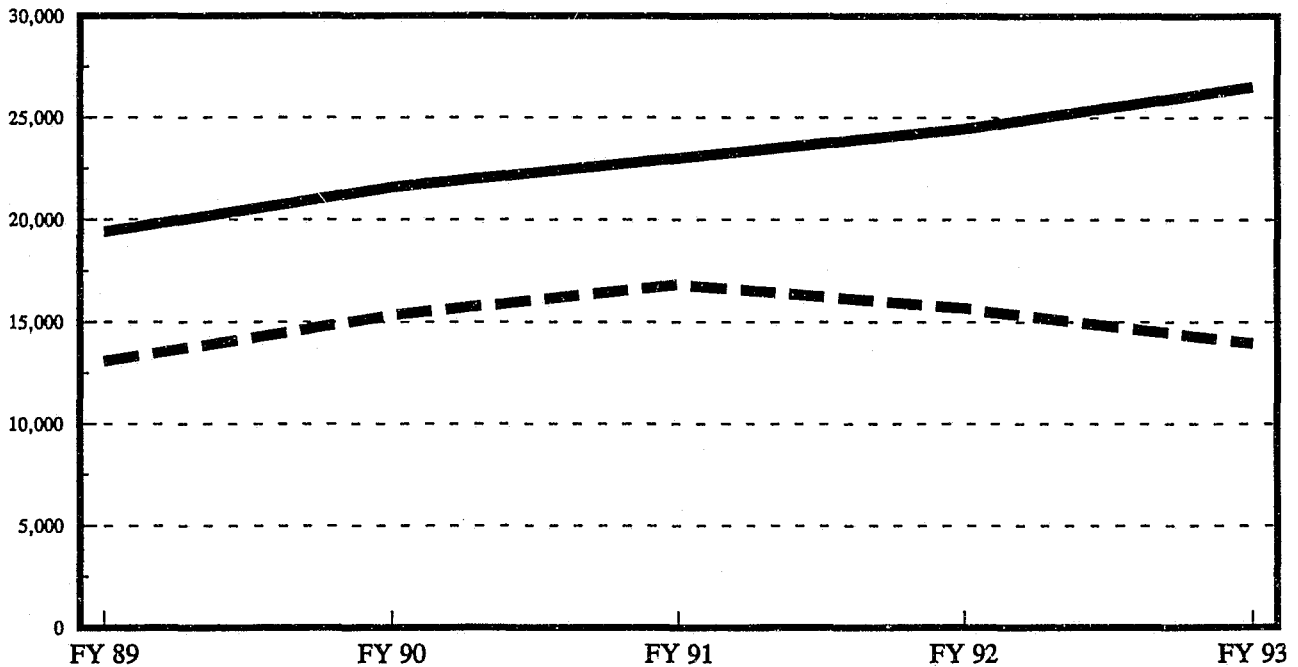
**Electronic Monitoring Expanded:** The Board approved the state-wide use of electronic monitoring after a two-year trial program that was limited to a few parole districts. Parole violators who have not responded to lesser disciplinary sanctions yet whose actions pose no immediate threat to the public have their activities regulated via a transmitter that is strapped to his or her ankle. The transmitter communicates with a home-based monitor that is linked by telephone to a central computer. Failure to abide by the restricted movement from the home results in the offender being returned to prison.

**New Training Center Opens:** The Board began use of the North Georgia Training Center in Gainesville for the specific purpose of delivering enhanced instruction and education to all agency employees. Agency policy requires that all professional employees receive 40 hours of instruction yearly (twice the number of hours required by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council) and that all clerical staff receive 20 hours of training.

**Board Marks its 50th Anniversary:** The Georgia Parole Board turned 50 years old on February 5, 1993. In 1943 Governor Ellis Arnall signed into law the legislative bill creating an independent Pardons and Parole Board. Later that year, in the general election, Georgians voted to place the Board's authority in the State Constitution.



**INMATE POPULATION AND BOARD RELEASES  
FY 89 - FY 93**



**INMATE POPULATION BOARD RELEASES**

	INMATE POPULATION	BOARD RELEASES
FY 89	19,404	13,073
FY 90	21,584	15,319
FY 91	23,005	16,807
FY 92	24,432	15,598
FY 93	26,513	13,952

**INMATES INCREASE/PAROLEES REDUCED:** Board releases fell 17% in two years after peaking in FY91, having returned to near the FY89 total. Inmates are increasing, with 7,109 prisoners added in the four years between FY89 and FY93. The 37% growth in the inmate population resulted from Georgia's aggressive prison-building program.

## **SOME COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT PAROLE**

### **What is parole?**

Parole is the discretionary release of an offender back into society after he or she has served a period of confinement in the state prison system. Offenders who gain release are supervised by parole officers and conditions are applied to the release which, if violated, could result in increasing levels of sanctions against the offender. Those who refuse to abide by their parole conditions are returned to incarceration.

### **What is the purpose of parole?**

Most offenders who are serving prison sentences will eventually return to society. The concept of parole allows offenders to be reintegrated into society in a manner that provides control and support for the offender and increases the safety of the public. Simply discharging a person from prison directly back into society without supervision benefits neither society nor the offender and increases the likelihood that the person will re-offend.

### **What is the Parole Board's role and authority?**

The Georgia Parole Board was created in February 1943 by statute law and in August 1943 Georgia voters ratified an amendment setting forth its authority in the State Constitution. The Board's existence ensures that the executive branch of government, in addition to the legislative and judicial branches, has a discretionary role in criminal justice.

The Parole Board has constitutional authority to grant paroles, pardons and reprieves, to commute and remit sentences and to restore civil and political rights. It has the authority to investigate cases and supervise persons granted any type of clemency.

### **How are Parole Board members appointed?**

The Parole Board is made up of five Georgians who are appointed by the Governor to staggered seven-year terms subject to the confirmation of the State Senate. Each year the Board elects a chairman and a vice-chairman. Board members have extensive criminal justice experience in the fields of law enforcement, parole, probation, corrections and the legislature.

### **When does the parole process begin?**

After an inmate is taken into custody by the Department of Corrections the Board then receives paperwork that begins the parole investigation process. In each case research is made into all aspects of the inmate's background including the circumstances of the current offense(s), that person's previous criminal record, personal and family history and other pertinent data. The information is then compiled into a file and a summary completed using the Board's *Parole Decision Guidelines* rating system (additional information regarding *Guidelines* can be found on pages 30 and 31).

## **What happens next?**

The case file is circulated among the Board members. They study it and take into account the inmate's prior criminal, social, environmental and psychological history, prison record and the prognosis for a successful adjustment back to society before choosing to agree with the *Guidelines* recommendation of time to serve or, for a stated reason, depart from it and make an independent vote. All decisions to deny or grant parole represent a consensus of the entire Board.

## **What about inmates serving life sentences?**

In most cases, inmates sentenced to life sentences are eligible by law for their first parole review after serving seven years. If denied, the inmate is informed when the next review will occur, which is anytime between one and eight years later.

There are some exclusions to the seven-year rule and they are explained on page 34.

## **But only seven years?**

In the vast majority of cases seven years is only a starting point. In FY92 the Board chose to grant parole after seven years to only 14 of the 258 initial-eligibility life cases it reviewed (or only 5.4%). In fact, 85% of all the life sentence cases reviewed were denied parole in FY93. Of those who did gain parole, the average time served was 12.6 years. This average does not take into account the life inmates who have been repeatedly denied, some of whom are unlikely to ever receive the benefit of parole.

At the end of FY93 there were 3,766 inmates serving life sentences in Georgia prisons, an increase of 111 lifers over the previous fiscal year.

## **What about victims? Can they be heard?**

The Parole Board welcomes information from victims of crime or their survivors. What they have to say is important to the parole consideration process. And all victim input is kept confidential. To better meet their needs, the agency operates a Victim Services Office that serves as a liaison between victims and the Board.

## **What are the conditions of parole?**

Every inmate granted a release by the Board is subject to a number of conditions that each is expected to abide by. They include:

- \*Follow all instructions from their parole officer
- \*Obey the law
- \*Not to possess any sort of weapon
- \*Remain in the State of Georgia
- \*Pay a \$10.00 per month supervision fee
- \*Adhere to individually imposed Special Conditions that could include drug/alcohol treatment, mental health counseling, restrictions on in-state travel and association with others, prohibitions against operating vehicles, or a number of other conditions designed to alter negative behavior

## **How are parolees supervised in the community?**

Individuals who are granted release by the Board are given their parole certificate shortly before leaving the institution where he or she has been incarcerated. The certificate instructs that person to report to the Chief Parole Officer in the parole district office in the community where that person is to reside.

The Chief Parole Officer assigns the parolee to a parole officer based on the parolee's residence and any needs or risks that are specific to that individual. Parolees with histories of drug or alcohol abuse are immediately screened by one of the Board's Substance Abuse Counselors working in that district office. Those in need of additional help, such as mental health counseling, are referred to community programs.

Parolees are required to report to their parole officers on a monthly basis or more often if made necessary by unemployment, substance abuse problems, family difficulties, or any other factors that could have a negative impact on their parole status. Those with histories of substance abuse are subject to random tests that will immediately indicate the type of drug used.

Parole officers also pay regular visits to the parolee's home to meet with family members and the place of employment to observe job progress. Officers may also schedule conferences with the parolee and treatment professionals in order to learn firsthand the level of compliance and progress with Board-mandated counseling programs.

The frequency of contact between the parolee and the parole officer can be gradually reduced over time only if the parolee shows stability at work, at home, and with the other conditions of parole.

## **What if the parole conditions are violated?**

Parolees who violate their parole conditions can be disciplined with a variety of sanctions that can increase with the seriousness of the violation. Intermediate sanctions (those short of reincarceration) can begin with parole officer-imposed measures such as the tightening of curfew hours, requirements of professional counseling and increased reporting to the parole office. The Parole Board can also order more restrictive sanctions like electronic monitoring. The most serious violators can face arrest, revocation of parole and a return to prison.

## **What is the difference between parole and probation?**

Probation is a judge's order suspending all or part of a prison sentence and in its place allowing a term of supervision in the community *in lieu of the incarceration*. The offender is supervised by a probation officer under the management of the Department of Corrections. Only a judge can revoke probation.

Parole is the release of an inmate prior to the expiration of the incarceration portion of a sentence. The offender is supervised by a parole officer under the management of the Parole Board. Only the Board can revoke a parole.

Simply put, only the Parole Board can grant parole and only a judge can order probation.

## PAROLE DECISION GUIDELINES

Parole Decision Guidelines help the State Board of Pardons and Paroles make a more consistent, soundly based, and understandable parole decision on an inmate serving a sentence *less than life imprisonment*. Guidelines help the Board decide on a Tentative Parole Month for the inmate or decide that he will complete his sentence without parole.

A Board hearing examiner identifies an inmate's Crime Severity Level from a table of offenses ranked in seven levels from lowest to highest severity. The higher the severity, the longer the inmate is recommended to serve. Then the hearing examiner calculates the inmate's Parole Success Likelihood Score by adding weighted factors with proven predictive value from the inmate's criminal and social history. A history of things such as prior imprisonment, parole or probation failure, heroin use or possession, and joblessness would increase the risk of paroling the inmate and cause him to be recommended for longer confinement.

The hearing examiner inserts the inmate's Crime Severity Level and Parole Success Likelihood Score into a Guidelines Chart, which, also weighing sentence length and prison capacity, recommends how long the inmate should be confined. This translates into either a recommendation for parole denial or for a Tentative Parole Month in the future.

By majority vote the Parole Board members either agree with the Guidelines recommendation or, for a stated reason, depart from it and make an independent decision. The inmate is then sent a notice of the Board's decision to establish a tentative parole month. The inmate is informed that the decision is provisional upon good conduct and participation in prison education, work, and treatment programs. The decision is subject to change at the discretion of the Board. Usually, on the recommendation of the Department of Corrections, misconduct results in parole postponement or cancellation.

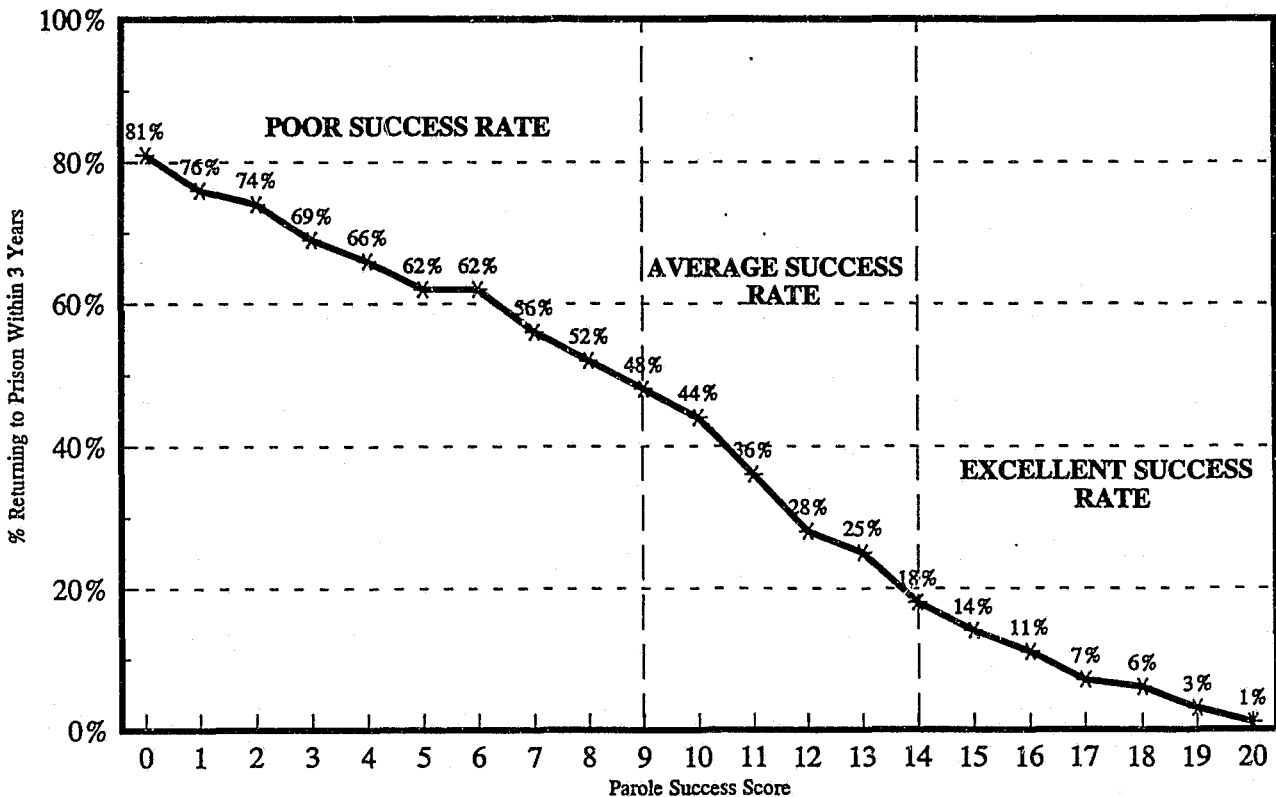
Parole Guidelines help keep the Board on track toward its goal of seeing that inmates serving for similar offenses with similar histories are treated the same.

# PAROLE DECISION GUIDELINES REVALIDATION

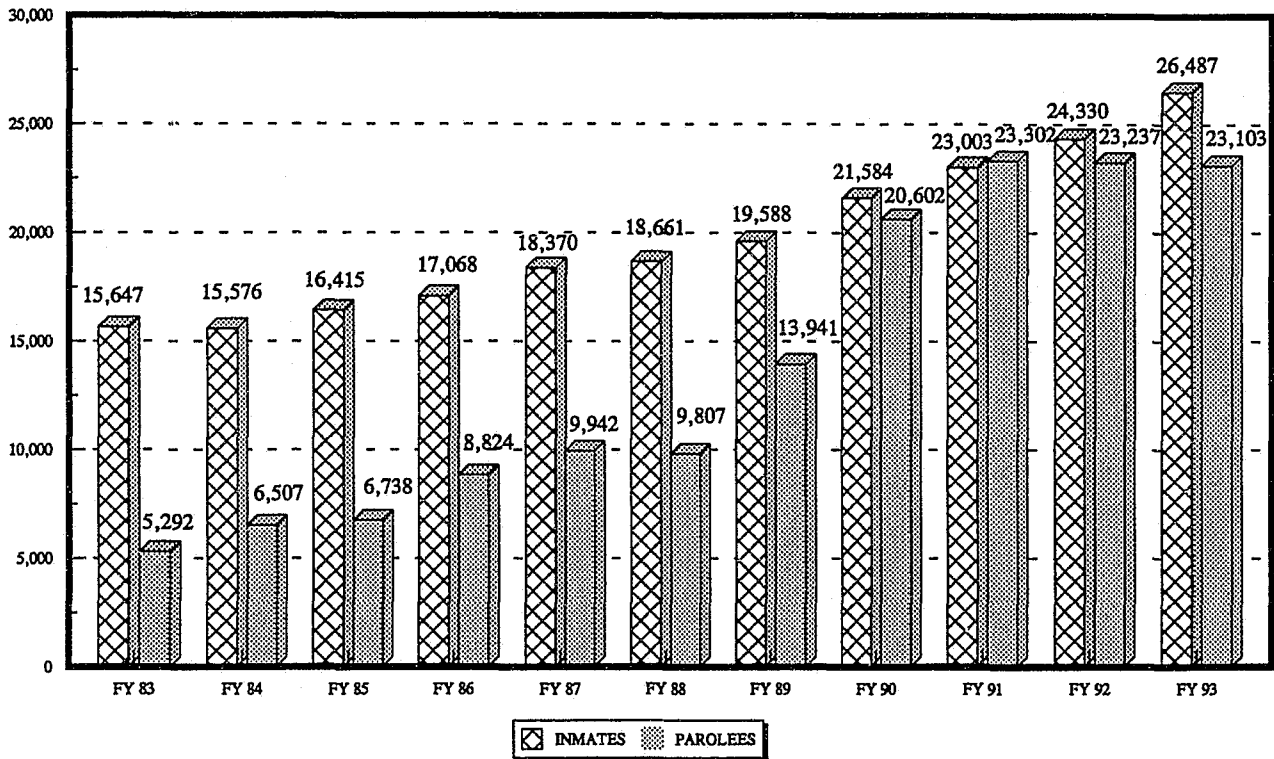
During FY93 the State Board of Pardons and Paroles conducted a revalidation study of the Parole Decision Guidelines. Using data from 1985 to 1990, success scores, including weights assigned and groups, were analyzed with return to prison rates. The study confirmed the validity of the system and enabled the Board to make statistically accurate adjustments to the success score groups.

As illustrated in the chart below, the Parole Decision Guidelines system continues to be an excellent predictor of success on parole.

**PAROLE SUCCESS SCORE AND RETURN TO PRISON RATES**



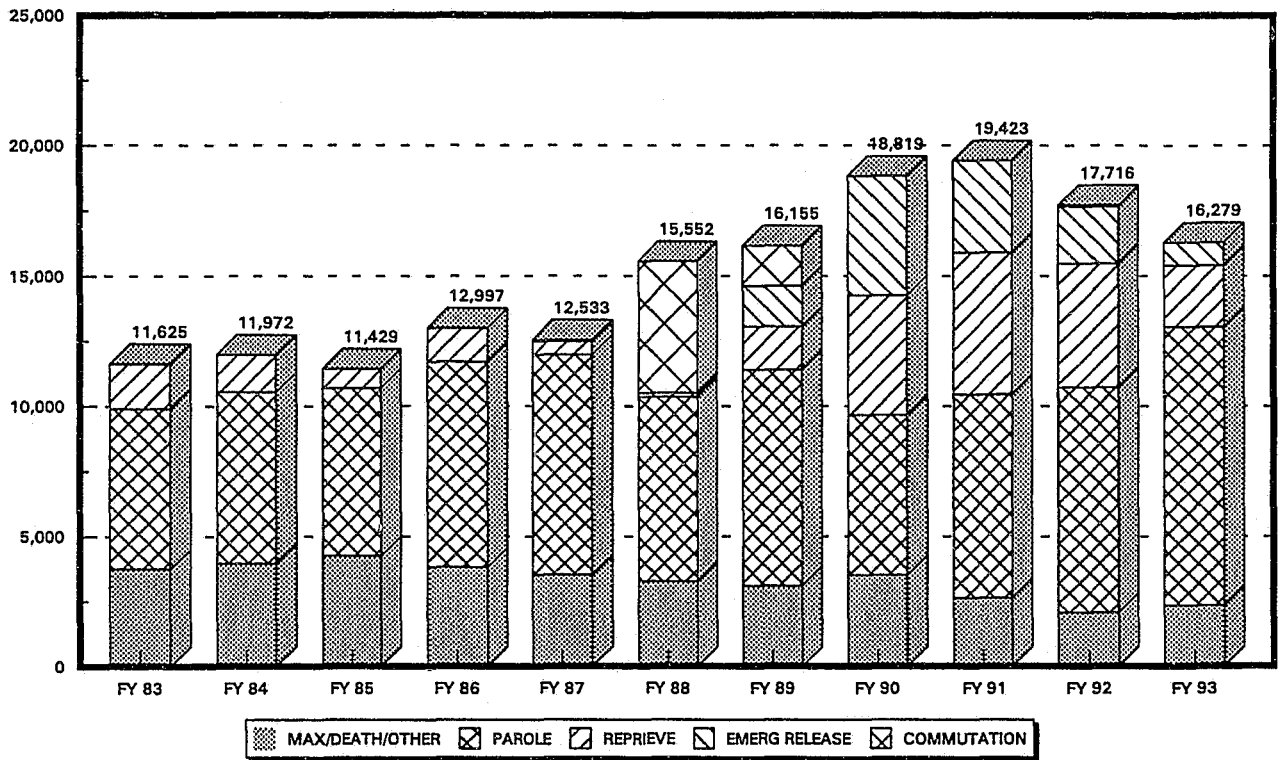
**INMATE AND PAROLEE POPULATION  
FY 83 - FY 93**



	INMATE POPULATION	ANNUAL PERCENT GROWTH	PAROLEE POPULATION	ANNUAL PERCENT GROWTH
FY 83	15,647		5,292	
FY 84	15,576	1.0%	6,507	23.0%
FY 85	16,415	5.4%	6,738	3.5%
FY 86	17,068	4.0%	8,824	31.0%
FY 87	18,370	7.6%	9,942	12.7%
FY 88	18,661	1.6%	9,807	-1.7%
FY 89	19,588	5.0%	13,941	42.1%
FY 90	21,584	10.2%	20,602	47.8%
FY 91	23,005	6.6%	23,302	13.1%
FY 92	24,330	5.7%	23,237	-0.3%
FY 93	26,487	8.9%	23,103	-0.6%

**PAROLEE NUMBERS STABILIZING/PRISONERS GROWING:** After successive years of growth resulting from emergency releases to control prison crowding, Board releases have stabilized while the inmate population continues to grow with the addition of new prison beds.

**RELEASES FROM PRISON BY REASON  
FY 83 - FY 93**



	MAX/DEATH/OTHER	PAROLE	REPRIEVE	EMERG RELEASE	COMMUTATION	TOTAL RELEASES
FY 83	3,737	6,148	1,722	0	18	11,625
FY 84	3,952	6,584	1,429	0	7	11,972
FY 85	4,239	6,444	734	0	12	11,429
FY 86	3,803	7,892	1,291	0	11	12,997
FY 87	3,513	8,455	521	0	44	12,533
FY 88	3,248	7,097	154	0	5,053	15,552
FY 89	3,082	8,310	1,650	1,565	1,548	16,155
FY 90	3,500	6,160	4,591	4,567	1	18,819
FY 91	2,616	7,829	5,440	3,535	3	19,423
FY 92	2,057	8,662	4,750	2,186	61	17,716
FY 93	2,327	10,709	2,363	875	5	16,279

**END OF EMERGENCY RELEASES IMPACTS TOTAL RELEASES:** Emergency releases ended on December 31, 1992. Total releases are down 16.2% in the two years between FY91 and FY93.



## **RULES FOR THE PAROLE CONSIDERATION OF LIFE SENTENCE INMATES**

According to Georgia law, most inmates serving a life sentence are considered after serving seven years. If denied, the person is reconsidered at intervals of anywhere between one and eight years depending on when the offense resulting in the life sentence was committed.

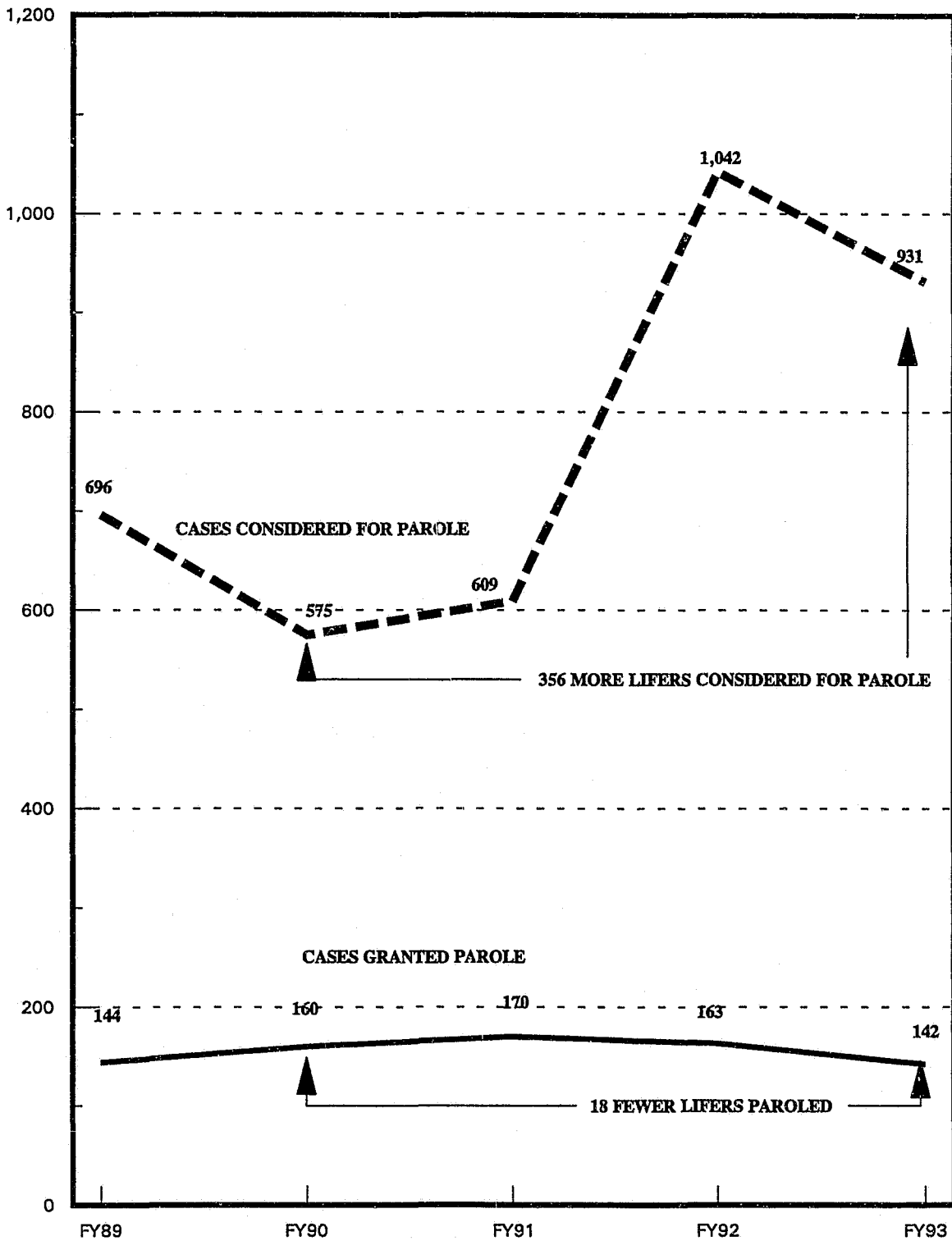
There are certain exclusions to the above-stated rule for life sentences. The State Constitution does not permit exceptions to the following laws:

1. *A person whose death sentence is commuted to life imprisonment by the Board in 1977 or later must serve 25 years before becoming eligible for parole consideration.*
2. *A person convicted of Murder and sentenced to life imprisonment for an offense committed on or after July 1, 1983 and who has previously been imprisoned under a life sentence must serve 25 years before becoming eligible for parole consideration.*
3. *A person who is serving consecutive life sentences for offenses occurring in the same series of acts committed on or after July 1, 1983 and any of the life sentences is for Murder must serve consecutive ten-year periods for each such sentence, up to a maximum of 30 years, before becoming eligible for parole consideration.*

The State Constitution also contains an exception for Armed Robbery sentences of less than life:

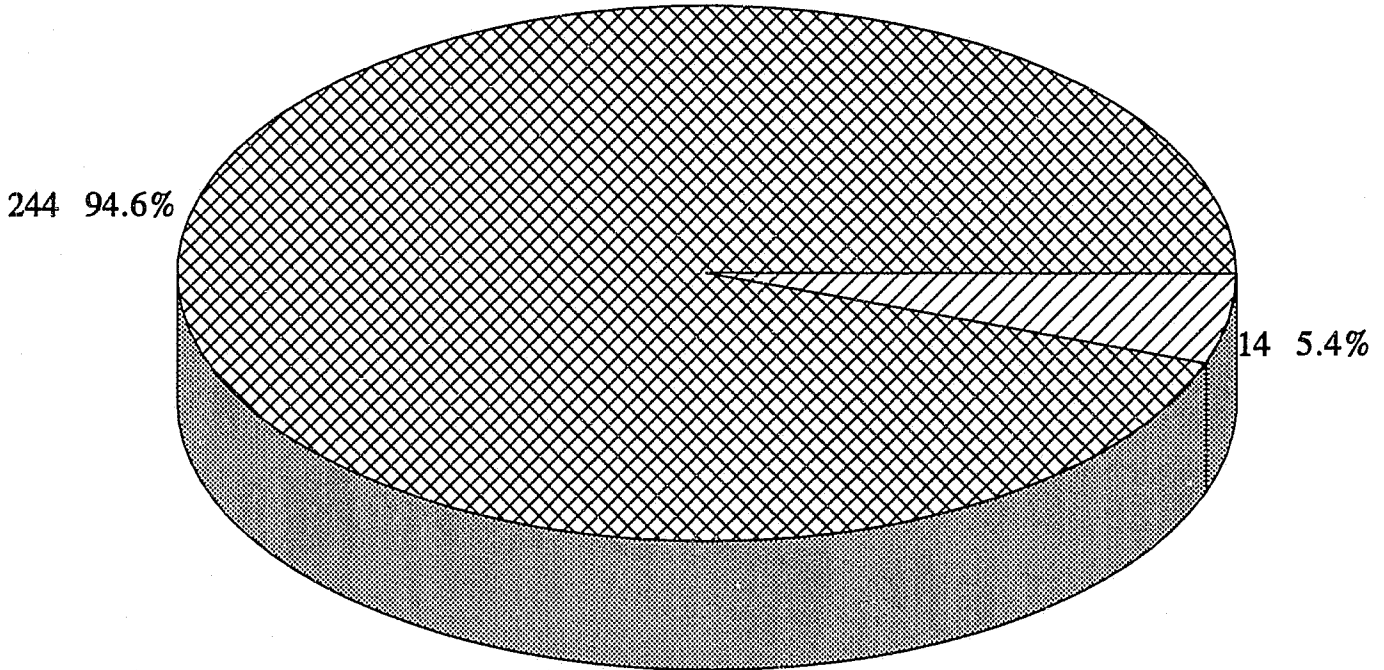
1. *A person serving for Armed Robbery committed in 1977 or later must serve at least five years before becoming eligible for parole consideration.*

**PAROLE CONSIDERATIONS FOR  
ALL LIFE SENTENCE INMATES  
FY 89 - FY 93**



**FEWER LIFERS BEING PAROLED:** Despite a substantial increase in lifers considered for parole in FY92 and FY93, the number of lifers being released is decreasing.

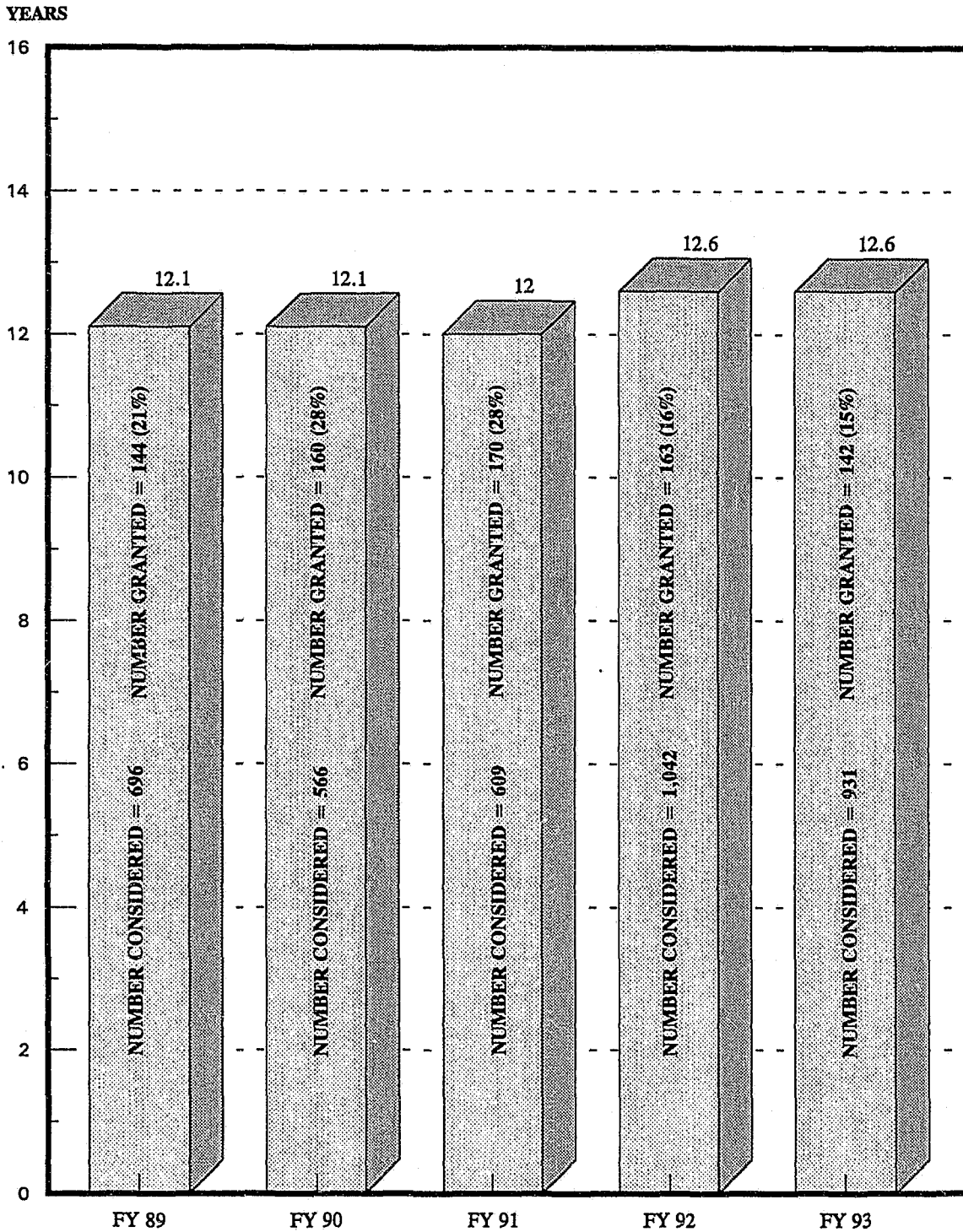
**LIFERS ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE  
AT FIRST CONSIDERATION (SEVEN YEARS)  
FY 1993**



 ELIGIBLE/DENIED  ELIGIBLE/GRANTED

**FEW LIFERS ARE PAROLED AT SEVEN YEARS:** It is incorrectly perceived that life sentence inmates gain parole at their initial eligibility after 7 years of incarceration. In FY93 only 14 of the 258 lifers who received their initial review actually gained parole.

**AVERAGE TIME SERVED BY LIFERS  
GRANTED PAROLE  
FY 89 - FY 93**



**SMALL PERCENTAGE OF LIFERS GAIN PAROLE:** Although the average time served by lifers who were paroled in FY92 and FY93 remained the same, there were actually 21 fewer lifers released in FY93.

# PAROLE OFFICER WORKLOAD IN FY93 (388 LINE PAROLE OFFICERS)

## INVESTIGATIONS

Legal Investigations	:	21,062
Social Investigations	:	11,741
Inmate Personal History Statements	:	19,349
Residence/Employment Plans	:	13,497
Other Investigations	:	2,789
<b>TOTAL INVESTIGATIONS</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>68,438</b>

## SUPERVISION

Successful Home Contacts with Parolees	:	224,439
Successful Job Contacts with Parolees	:	71,720
Successful Other Contacts with Parolees	:	54,736
Office Contacts with Parolees	:	165,024
<b>TOTAL PAROLEE CONTACTS</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>515,919</b>

## PAROLEE SUPERVISION REPORTS

Commutation Evaluation Reports	:	12,386
Delinquent Reports	:	16,856
<b>TOTAL SUPERVISION REPORTS</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>29,242</b>

## OTHER FIELD ACTIVITY

Administrative Hearings	:	4,958
Arrest Record Checks	:	247,393

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELING PROGRAM**

In FY93 the Board's unique substance abuse counseling program (SACP) continued to mature. Professional substance abuse counselors (SACs) hired to work in the district parole offices continued providing outpatient services including individual, psychoeducational, group, family, and crisis counseling with parolees who abuse alcohol and other drugs. The SACs also help parolees and their family members to become integrated into the recovering community and twelve-step meetings.

The greatest advantage of having these counseling services provided by in-house counselors is that this arrangement affords these clinicians enhanced therapeutic leverage for handling the resistance and denial that typically accompanies addiction. The SAC can report inconsistent attendance or missed appointments to parole officers who most often respond immediately and this gets the parolee's attention. Likewise, parole officers find that the counselors can cut through cross-agency bureaucracy, effectively eliminate waiting lists at community mental health/substance abuse centers, and provide assistance when needed to deal with life-threatening or crisis situations like overdose and acute intoxication. Another advantage is the relative ease of having assessments and referrals for intensive inpatient or residential treatment completed in a timely manner. As relations between parole officers and counselors have developed, the effectiveness of both the Board's clinical services and parolee supervision has improved.

Another development is the opening of the Homerville Parole Center. This is a minimum security prison for revoked parolees that provides substance abuse treatment through a therapeutic community model. Residents are involved in daily counseling that focuses on accepting responsibility for drug use and criminal behavior. Every activity an inmate is involved in is scrutinized by peers who determine the status and, in conjunction with the treatment staff, the progress a parolee is making in the program. Upon completion of the program, parolees have a detailed aftercare plan that includes recovery activities that begin literally when the parolee walks out of the prison gate. Set up in advance of a parolee's release are a network of community resources that are tailored to the parolee's needs thereby maximizing that individual's chances of continuing their recovery in their community.

Some estimate that 70 to 80 percent of all crime is related to substance abuse. The Board, through approaches like the SACP, is attempting to end the cycle of crime that is fostered by substance abuse. There is no doubt that the Board's SACP personnel have become an integral part of the team of parole professionals.

# SUMMARY: FY93 EXPENDITURES

## PERSONAL SERVICES

<i>SALARIES</i>	20,823,243
<i>OVERTIME</i>	22,264
<i>TERMINAL LEAVE</i>	92,763
<i>PAID COMPENSATORY TIME</i>	0
<i>LABOR</i>	107,355
<i>MEDICARE LABOR</i>	810
<i>F.I.C.A.</i>	1,518,169
<i>RETIREMENT</i>	3,317,678
<i>HEALTH INSURANCE</i>	2,618,021
<i>PERSONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE</i>	0
<i>UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE</i>	11,043
<i>WORKER'S COMPENSATION</i>	130,741
<i>MERIT SYSTEM ASSESSMENTS</i>	154,426
<i>TORT CLAIMS INSURANCE</i>	70,716
<i>DRUG TESTING SERVICES</i>	9,085
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,876,314</b>

## REGULAR OPERATING

<i>MOTOR VEHICLE EXPENSE</i>	146,881
<i>SUPPLIES &amp; MATERIALS</i>	429,739
<i>REPAIRS &amp; MAINTENANCE</i>	213,172
<i>UTILITIES</i>	171,124
<i>PUBLISHING &amp; PRINTING</i>	78,948
<i>RENTALS &lt; 3 MOS</i>	12,079
<i>INSURANCE &amp; BONDING</i>	30,093
<i>CLAIMS AND INDEMNITIES</i>	0
<i>OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE</i>	84,016
<i>DOAS RAPID COPY</i>	6,418
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,172,471</b>

## OTHER

<i>TRAVEL - EMPLOYEES ONLY</i>	648,793
<i>MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES</i>	50,487
<i>EQUIPMENT PURCHASES</i>	138,170
<i>REAL ESTATE PURCHASES</i>	2,399,253
<i>PER DIEM, FEES &amp; CONTRACTS</i>	278,711
<i>COMPUTER CHARGES</i>	462,984
<i>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</i>	796,074
<i>COUNTY SUBSIDY - PAROLEES</i>	699,975
<i>HEALTH SERVICE PURCHASES</i>	3,159
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,477,606</b>

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES = \$35,526,390**

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE**

Strategic planning has been adopted by the Parole Board as the mechanism through which we will reach our future vision. This planning process was selected after thorough consideration of other planning strategies. The Parole Board was pleased to learn that the legislature later passed a bill making strategic planning the required methodology for all state planning. A member of the governor's Office of Planning and Budget in the Office of Strategic Planning is acting as the facilitator for our work in developing the plan for our agency.

A nineteen-member core planning team consisting of the key managers in each division has come together to work as the messenger and internal facilitator for the process. The core team, working also in smaller three-member groups, is bringing together every member of the Board's central office and is traveling to all corners of the state to consult with small groups of agency staff who take information back to every member in the agency's sixty field offices. Out of these frank and lively discussions was forged a common set of beliefs about who we are and beliefs setting out our responsibilities to the citizens of Georgia. Vital additions to the agency's mission statement have also been considered.

Strategic planning requires that all members of the agency, from the Board Members to district chiefs and parole officers, to secretaries and clerks, actively participate in the process. Each member has equal stake and responsibility in helping to shape the future of the agency. At the close of FY93, the Board was working to give final review to the mission and beliefs, the foundation for creating the future vision of our agency.

The Board, the strategic planning core team, and every member of the agency are working to plan and bring to reality our preferred future. There is much work yet to be completed. When we together have created our vision, the model of what we seek for ourselves and the citizens of Georgia, we will begin laying out the specific activities that will lead us to that vision. The first Parole Board strategic plan is scheduled for completion during 1994.



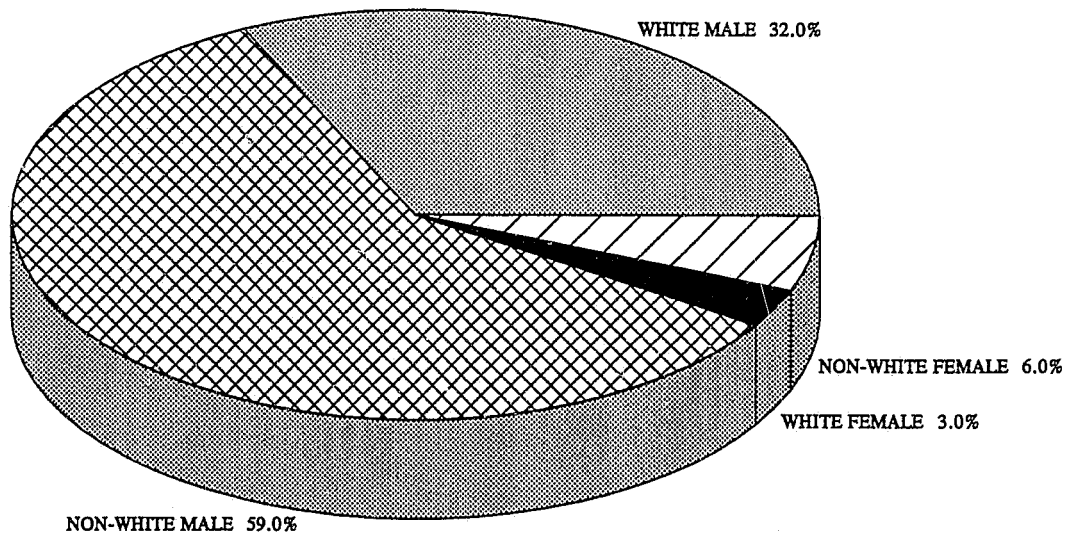
## **DEMOGRAPHICS OF GEORGIA PAROLEES**

The following profile of the 23,103 men and women who were on parole at the end of Fiscal Year 1993 shows that most are young, that the majority are black males, and that many are uneducated. The profile also reveals that while the vast majority are not married, a large number have children. They are evenly split between big city and small town backgrounds, but all share a common history of joblessness. More than half were paroled from their first experience with incarceration.

Many of these socio-economic traits are common among those who commit crimes and eventually wind up in Georgia's prisons. In a sense, then, this demographic profile of those on parole is also a representation of the roots of crime in Georgia.

### RACE AND SEX

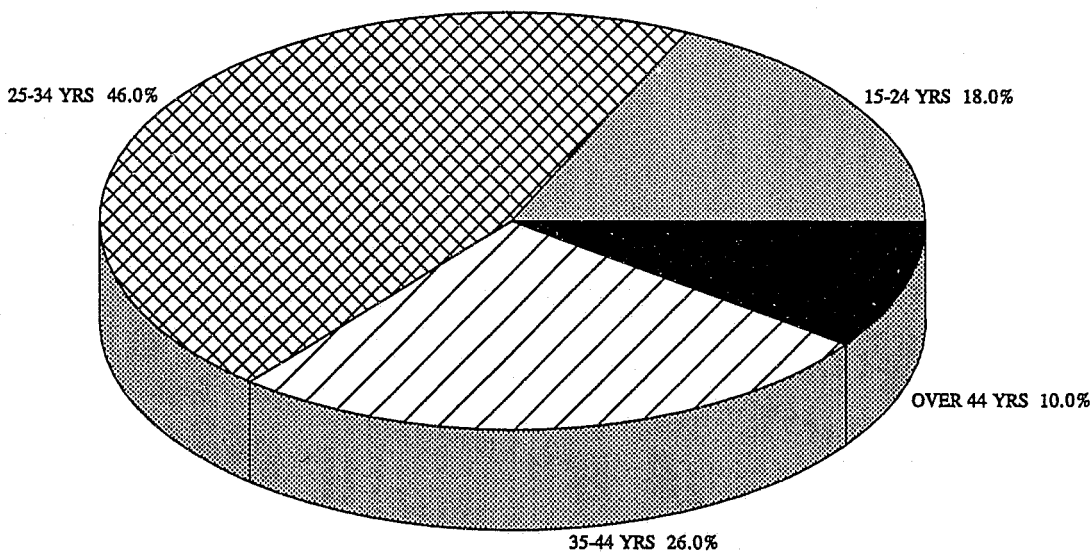
Non-whites, mostly African-American males, make up 65% of the parolee population.



## PAROLEE PROFILE: Age, Race and Sex

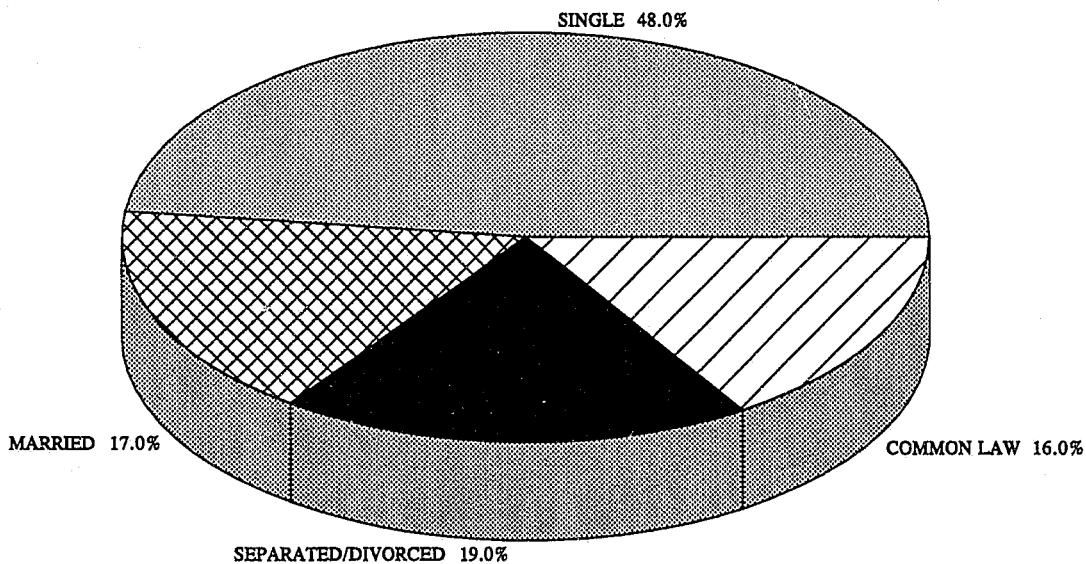
### AGE AT ADMISSION

64% of the admissions are under 34 years of age.



### MARITAL STATUS BEFORE PRISON

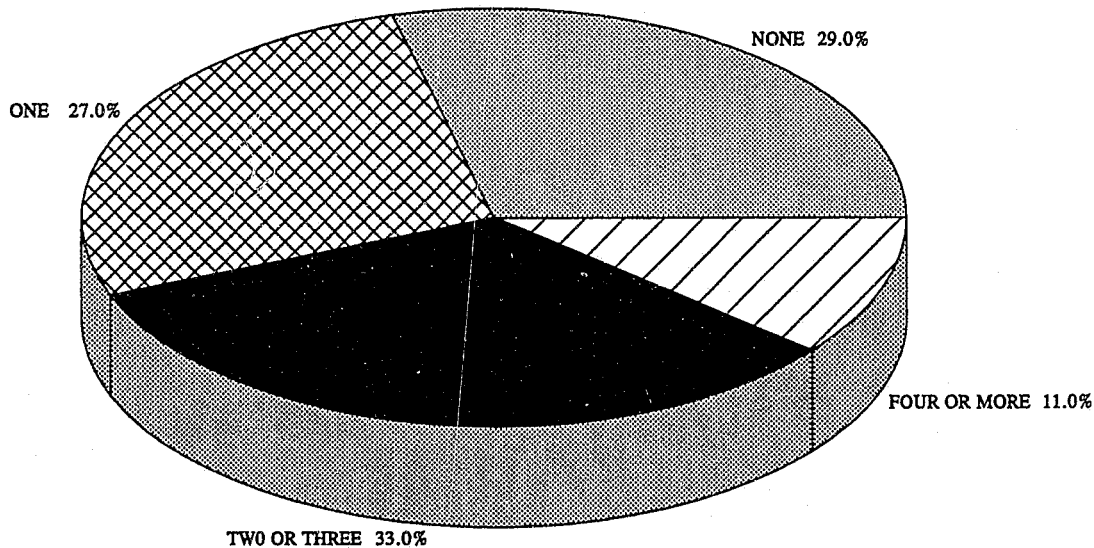
83% are not legally married.



### PAROLEE PROFILE: Personal Data

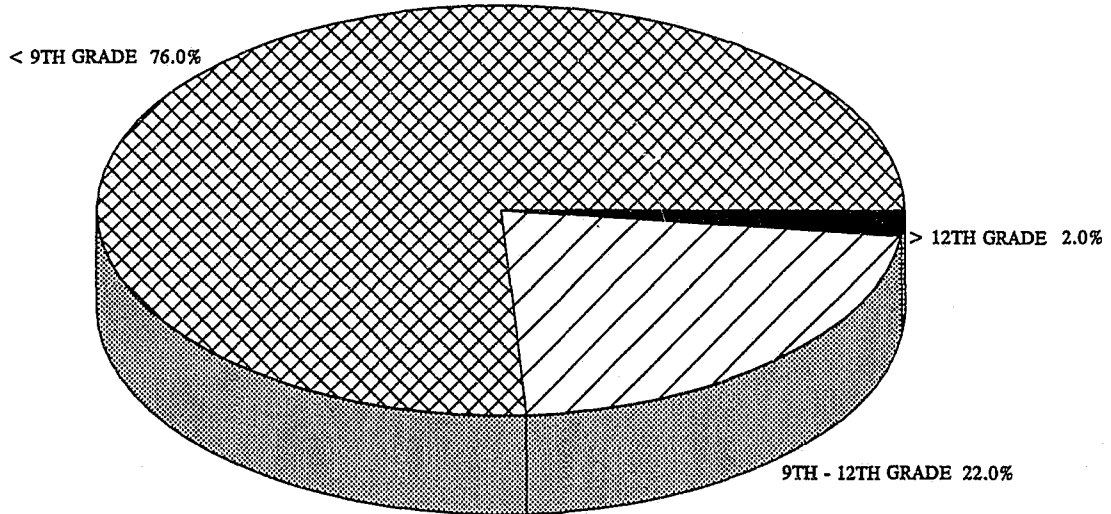
#### NUMBER OF CHILDREN

71% have at least one child.



### SPELLING LEVEL

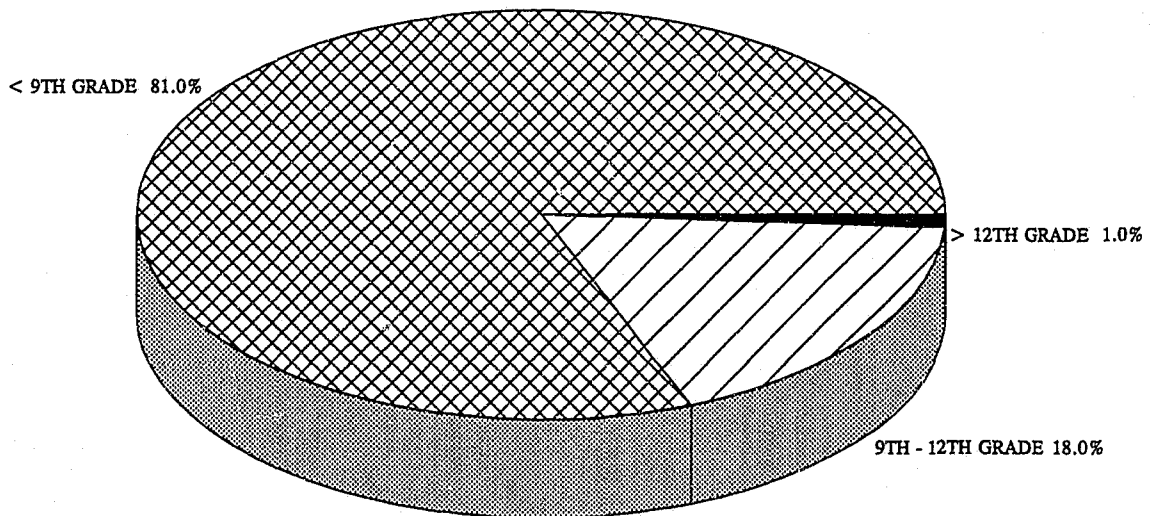
76% spell at less than a 9th grade level.



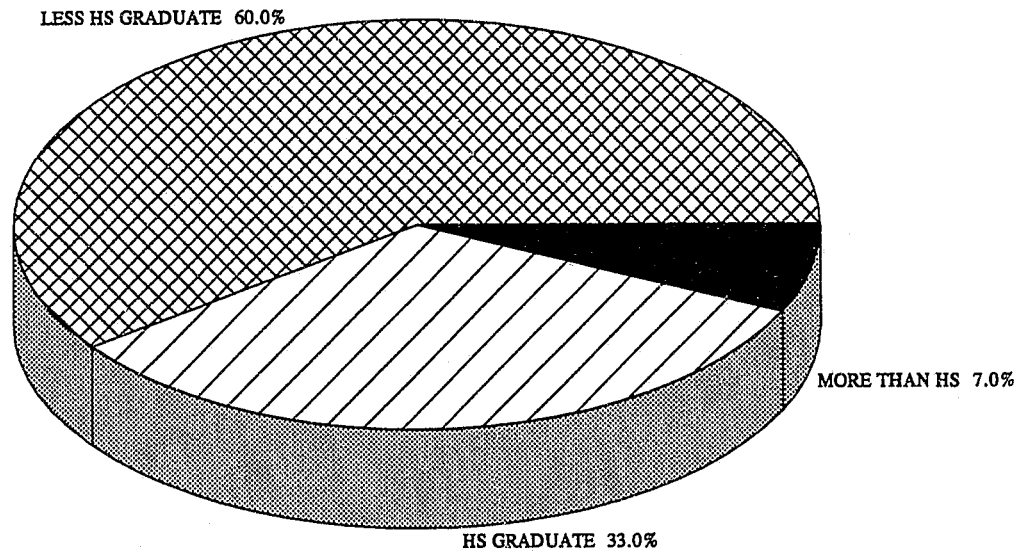
## PAROLEE PROFILE: Education

### MATH LEVEL

81% perform math at less than a 9th grade level.

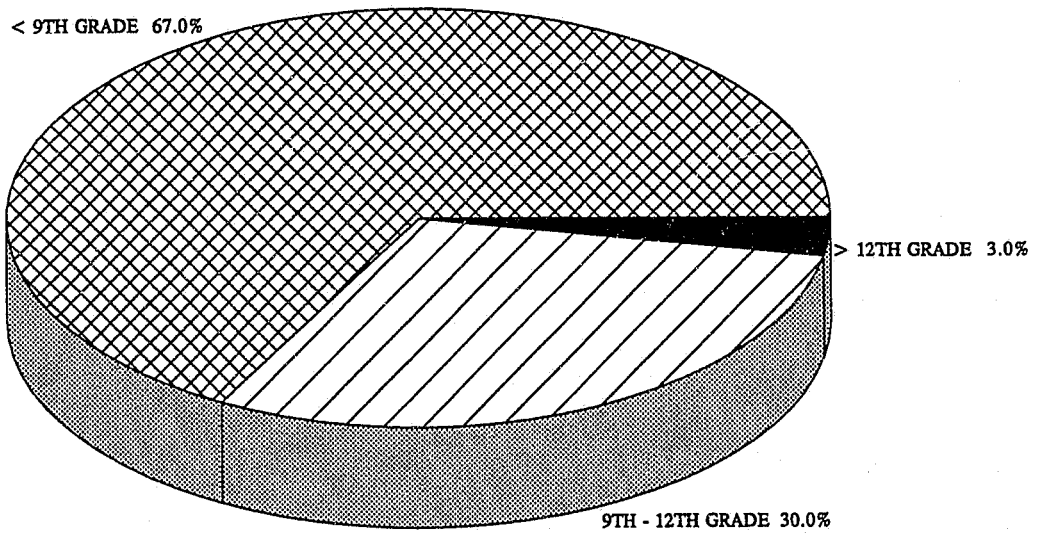


**EDUCATIONAL LEVEL**  
60% failed to complete high school.



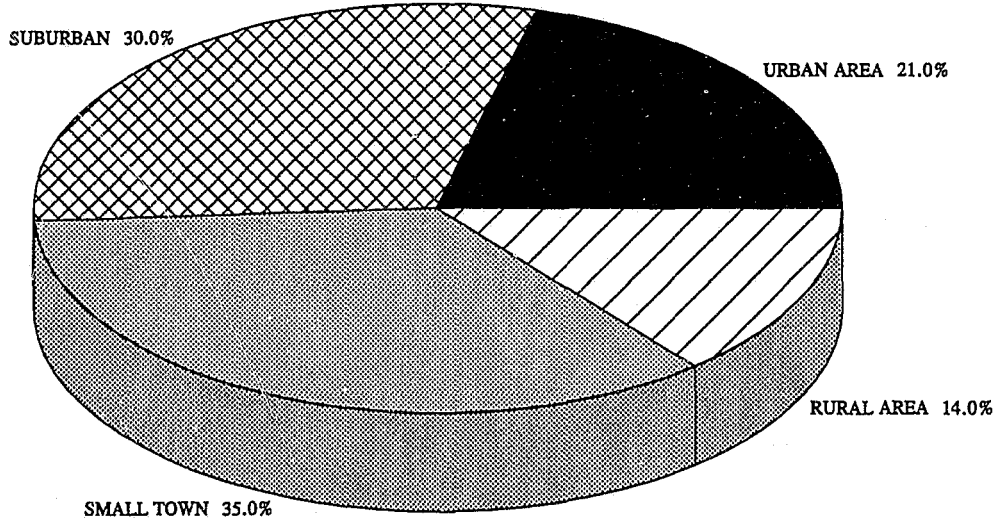
**PAROLEE PROFILE: Education**

**READING LEVEL**  
67% read at less than a 9th grade level.



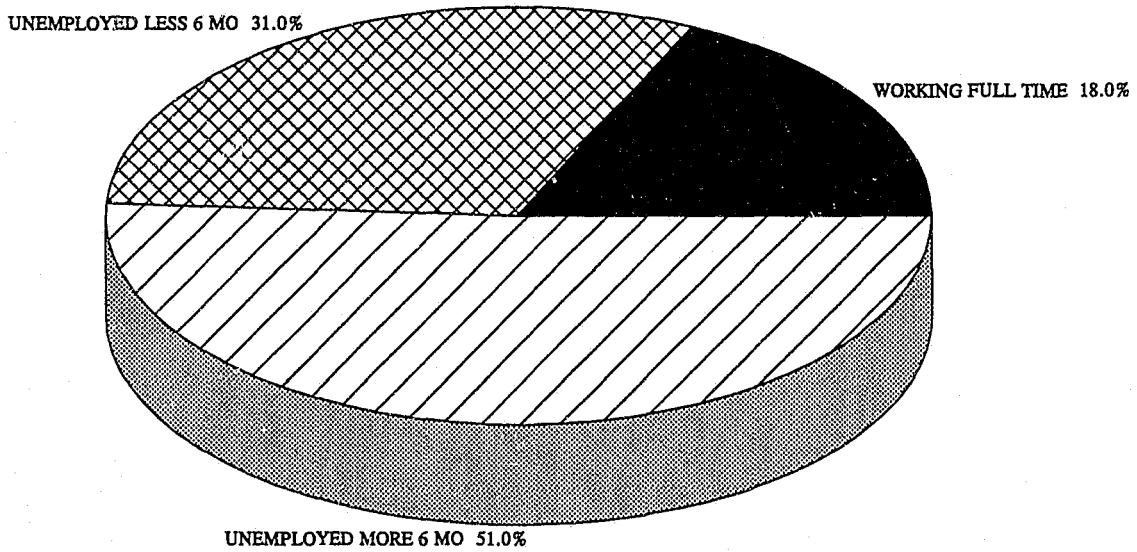
### ENVIRONMENT

Parolees are evenly split from among urban/suburban and rural/small town backgrounds.



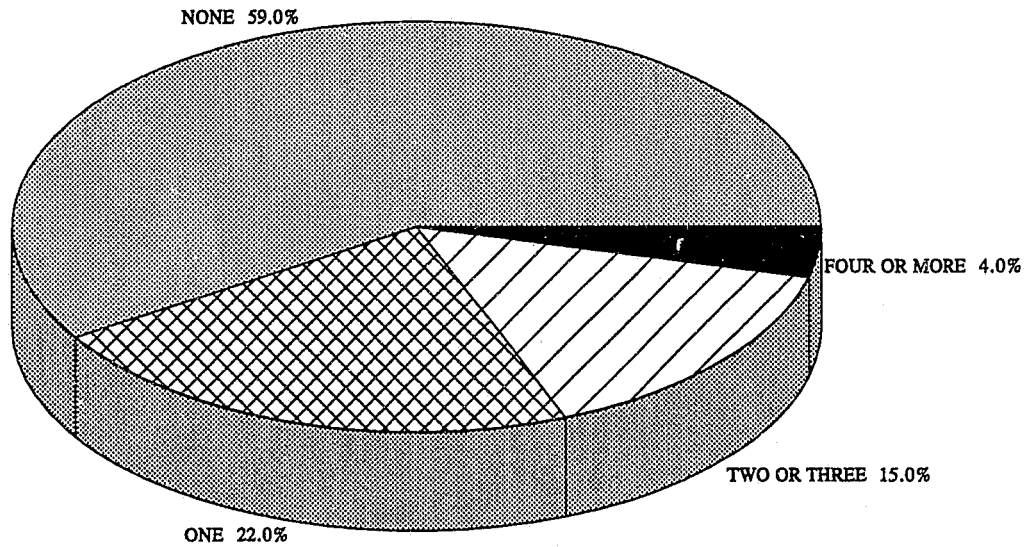
### PAROLEE PROFILE: Home and Work

**EMPLOYMENT STATUS BEFORE PRISON**  
82% were unemployed prior to their incarceration.



### NUMBER OF PRIOR INCARCERATIONS

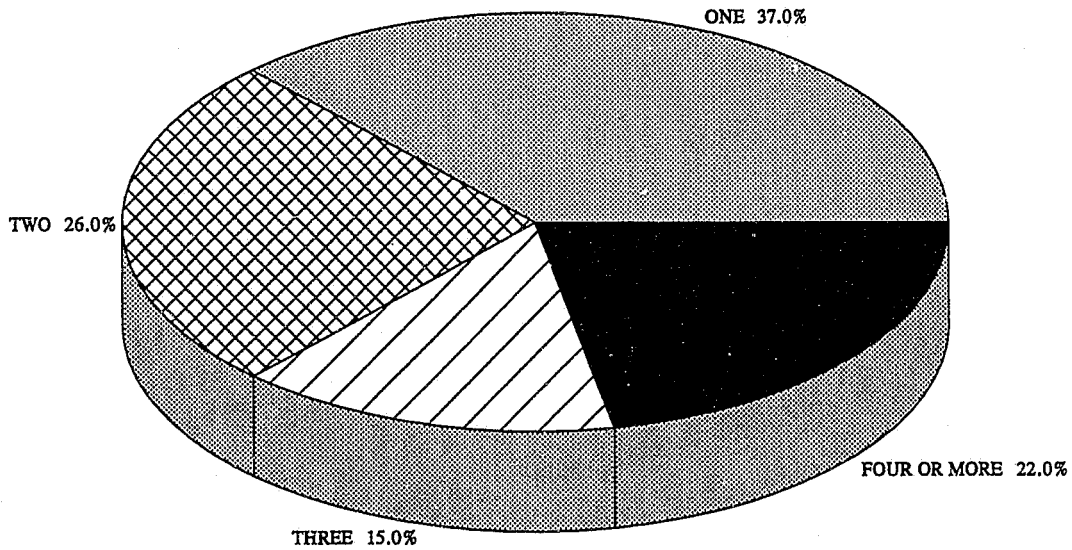
59% have no prior incarcerations.



### PAROLEE PROFILE: Criminality

#### NUMBER OF CURRENT PRISON SENTENCES

63% are serving one or two prison sentences.



# CENTRAL OFFICE DIRECTORY

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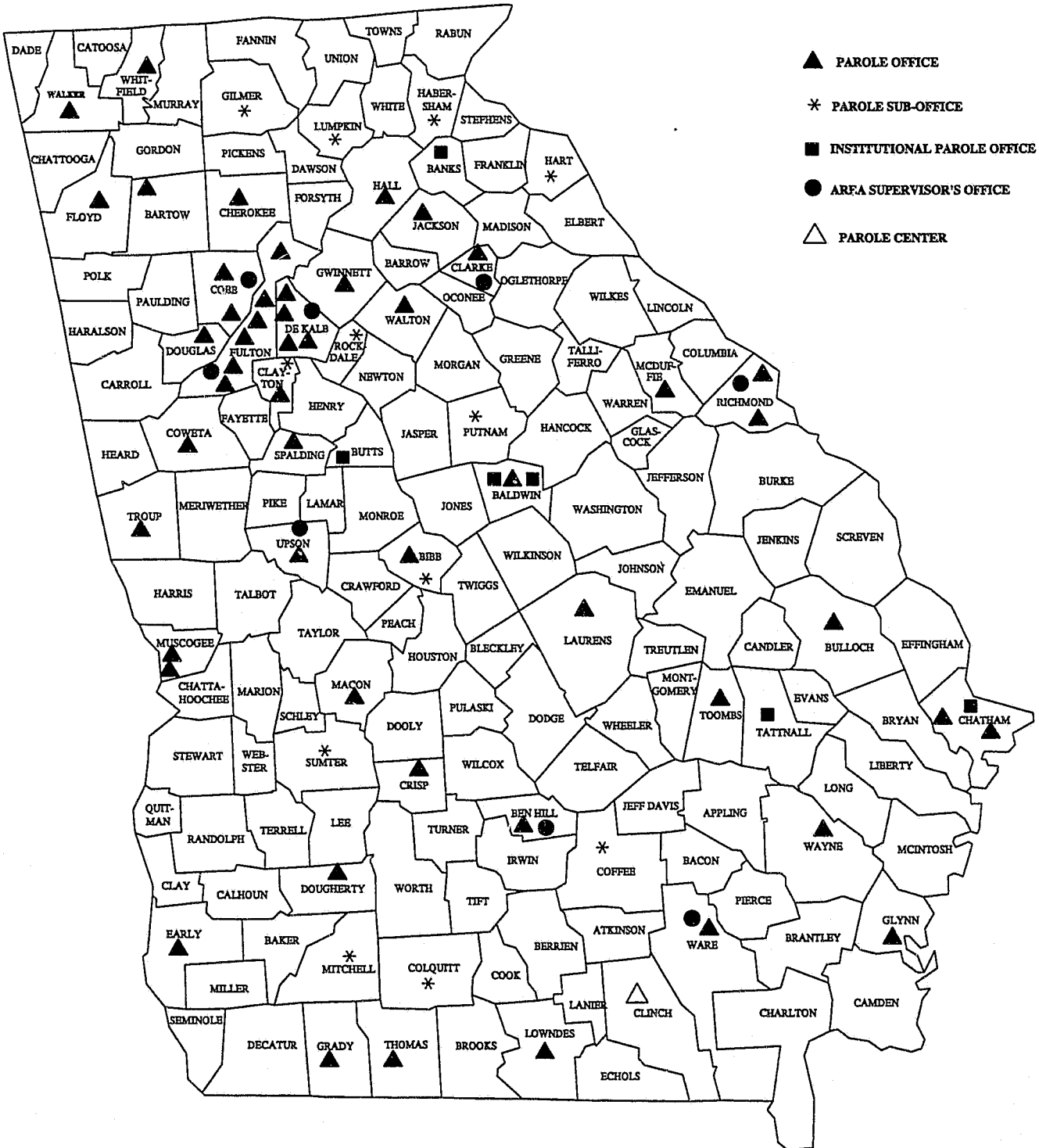
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# PAROLE SITES



## **GLOSSARY OF COMMON PAROLE TERMS**

**ACTIVE SUPERVISION:** *A parole status under which a parolee must report on a regular basis to an assigned parole officer.*

**ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING:** *A hearing involving the Chief Parole Officer, the parole officer and the parolee designed to intervene in the early stages of parolee non-compliance with the conditions of parole. Parolee problems are addressed and solutions are presented to correct the negative behavior.*

**AREA SUPERVISOR:** *A community-based Parole Board administrator overseeing the management of parole services within a number of parole districts comprising an "area."*

**CHIEF PAROLE OFFICER:** *A Parole Board manager responsible for all parole services within an assigned district. The Chief reports directly to the Area Supervisor.*

**COMMUTATION:** *The reduction of a sentence to a lesser sentence.*

**COMPASSIONATE REPRIEVE:** *A release of an inmate from prison for a limited time to visit a critically ill relative, attend a funeral, or other reasons deemed appropriate by the Board.*

**CONDITIONAL TRANSFER:** *A process whereby an inmate is released by the Parole Board from state custody to a detainer filed by authorities in Georgia, another state, the Federal system, or the military. Only if the detaining authority releases the person before the expiration of the Georgia sentence could the inmate's status become that of a parolee.*

**DELINQUENT REPORT:** *A documentation of a parolee's parole violation(s) submitted to the Parole Board by the supervising parole officer.*

**DETAINER:** *An official notice indicating that an inmate is wanted by a jurisdiction to face charges or serve a sentence.*

**DISCHARGE DATE:** *The date at which parole supervision ends.*

**EARNED TIME:** *A Georgia law (repealed in 1984) whereby inmates were credited with an extra day of prison service for each day served with good behavior. It enabled many inmates to discharge from prison after serving one-half of their sentences. Some inmates whose offenses were committed before the repeal date still receive this credit.*

**ELECTRONIC MONITORING:** *An enhancement of parole supervision where parolees charged with violations of parole are placed under electronic surveillance via the use of an ankle transmitter and telephone hook-up to a central computer that documents the movement of the offender from his or her home.*

**EMERGENCY RELEASE:** *A program of accelerated paroles designed to manage prison overcrowding.*

**EMERGENCY REPRIEVE:** *A temporary suspension of a prison sentence to release an offender under conditions which, if violated, permit his or her reimprisonment. The Parole Board can credit that time served on reprieve toward the completion of the sentence.*

**FIELD SERVICES OFFICER:** *A Parole Review Officer in the central office who serves as a liaison between the Board and the field in the violations and commutation process.*

**FINAL HEARING:** *A hearing before the Parole Board to determine whether a parolee has violated the conditions of parole and whether a violation warrants a return to prison.*

**FISCAL YEAR (FY):** *A 12 month period for which an agency plans to use its funds. In Georgia, the fiscal year runs from July 1st of one year to June 30th of the next year.*

**HEARING EXAMINER:** *A Parole Board employee responsible for the application of the Parole Decision Guidelines to inmate cases in preparation for a parole action.*

**INMATE:** *A person sentenced to incarceration.*

**INSTITUTIONAL PAROLE OFFICER:** *A parole officer assigned to a state prison to interview inmates for parole information and to assist inmates with parole-related matters.*

**INTERMEDIATE SANCTION:** *A punitive action, short of revocation of parole, applied in response to a violation of parole.*

**INTERSTATE COMPACT:** *An agreement between Georgia and the other states that allows for the transfer of parolees between state jurisdictions.*

**LEGAL INVESTIGATION:** *A pre-parole investigation submitted by a parole officer detailing the offender's conviction data, the circumstances of the crime(s) and the offender's prior criminal record.*

**MEDICAL REPRIEVE:** *A release granted to a terminally ill inmate or one suffering from a medical condition for which the necessary treatment is available only outside of the state prison system.*

**PARDON:** *A declaration of record by the Parole Board that a person is relieved from the consequences of a particular conviction. It restores civil and political rights and removes legal disabilities resulting from the conviction. There are two types: a full pardon granted after submission of proof of innocence and a five-year pardon not implying innocence but granted five crime-free years after completion of all sentences.*

**PAROLE:** *The release of an offender from confinement under continuing state custody and supervision and under conditions which, if violated, permit reimprisonment.*

**PAROLE BOARD (GEORGIA):** *An executive clemency panel of five members appointed by the Governor to staggered seven-year terms subject to the confirmation of the State Senate.*

**PAROLE CERTIFICATE:** *An order of the Parole Board authorizing the release of an inmate from state custody to the supervision of a parole officer. It also serves as an agreement between the state and the offender whereby the inmate agrees to abide by the conditions of the order.*

**PAROLE DECISION GUIDELINES:** *A process used by the Parole Board to determine an offender's tentative parole month. Board members, when voting on cases, can choose to agree with the Guidelines recommendation or deviate from it.*

**PAROLE PLAN:** *The prospective plan for residence and job submitted by the inmate for verification by the Board prior to final approval of parole.*

**PAROLE VIOLATION:** *A failure by the parolee to abide by one or more of the conditions of parole.*

**PAROLE WARRANT:** *An order issued by the Parole Board authorizing the arrest of a parolee.*

**PAROLEE:** *An inmate released on parole status.*

**PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE CREDIT:** *A reward granted to inmates based on their documented efforts to rehabilitate themselves through positive participation in education, work and treatment programs. Based on a recommendation from the Department of Corrections, the Parole Board, at its discretion, may advance the parole date for inmates who demonstrate efforts to rehabilitate themselves.*

**PERSONAL HISTORY STATEMENT (PHS):** *A report of a personal background interview between a parole officer and an inmate entering the state prison system.*

**PRELIMINARY HEARING:** *A hearing held to determine if there is probable cause to believe that a parolee has violated a condition of parole and whether he or she should be held under arrest pending a Parole Board decision on revocation.*

**PROBATION:** *A court-imposed sentence suspending incarceration and instead imposing a term of supervision in the community under the direction of a probation officer.*

**RECIDIVISM:** *The percentage of offenders who return to prison during a specified period of time.*

**REMISSION:** *A Parole Board action that occurs when the sentencing court makes a specific recommendation for the release of an inmate.*

**REPRIEVE:** *A Parole Board program designed to review and grant releases to inmates serving sentences of two years or less.*

**REPRIEVEE:** *A person released on reprieve status.*

**RESTITUTION:** *Payments made to a crime victim by the perpetrator of the crime.*

**RESTORATION OF CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS:** *A Parole Board action that reestablishes a person's right to hold public office and to serve on a jury, only after the completion of all court sentences or outstanding criminal charges.*

**REVOCAION:** *A decision by the Board to return a parolee to prison based on the failure to follow the conditions of parole.*

**REVOCAION HEARING:** *See Final Hearing.*

**SET-OFF:** *The amount of time specified by the Parole Board between the denial of parole and the next consideration date.*

**SOCIAL INVESTIGATION:** *A pre-parole investigation of an inmate's personal and family background that is obtained during contact between a parole officer and a relative of the inmate.*

**SPECIAL CONDITION:** *A condition of parole that addresses a specific aspect of an individual's behavior.*

**SPECIALIZED SUPERVISION:** *Relatively small parolee caseloads supervised by parole officers specifically trained to deal with the high-need parolee (i.e. mental health cases, severe substance abusers, the mentally deficient, etc.).*

**SUPERVISION FEE:** *A condition of parole requiring that a parolee pay a fee of \$10.00 per month. All supervision fees are returned to the State treasury.*

**SUPERVISION LEVEL:** *The number of times a month a parolee is to be seen by a parole officer based on the risk and needs of the offender.*

**TECHNICAL VIOLATION:** *A violation of parole not involving a criminal act.*

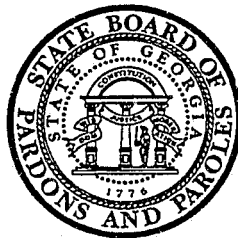
**TENTATIVE PAROLE MONTH:** *The date chosen by the Parole Board to grant release to an inmate dependent on satisfactory prison behavior and other factors, such as new information or protests, which may lead the Parole Board to reconsider its decision.*

**VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT:** *A form submitted by the victims of crime or their survivors to the Parole Board documenting the impact of the criminal act on their lives.*

**WAIVER OF FINAL HEARING:** *A form signed by the parolee admitting the violation of specific conditions of parole. It subjects the parolee to revocation of parole without a final hearing before the Parole Board.*







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