

WV Division of Corrections



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Parole Grant Rates: National v. West Virginia in 2000-2004

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The following report discusses the parole grant rates for prisoners both nationally and in West Virginia for the calendar years of 2000-2004.

Data Source

Data shown was gathered by the Association of Paroling Authorities, International. Each year, the Association of Paroling Authorities, International collects information from 51 paroling authorities which includes 42 state parole boards.

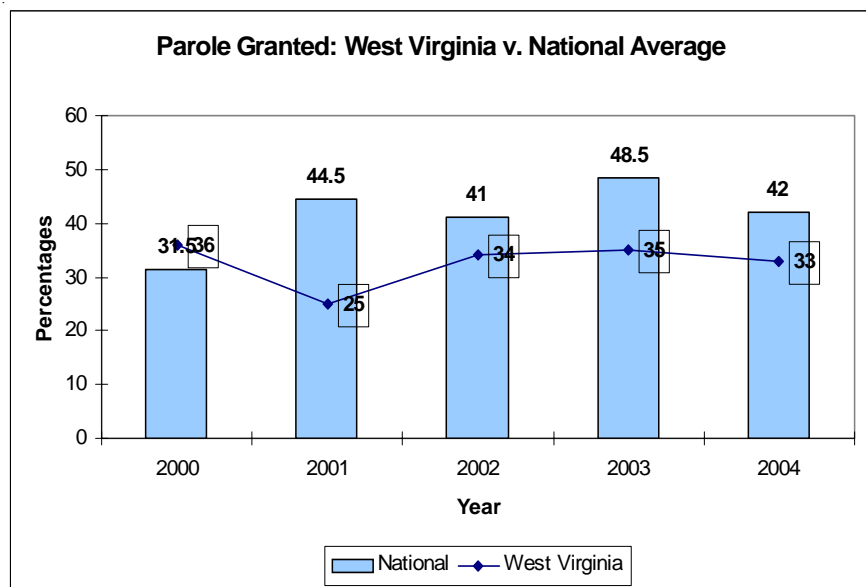
The following states were removed due to missing data: Arizona, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Utah, Vermont and Virginia.

Other states eliminated were due to:

■ California: Limited discretion - only on lifer;

■ Connecticut: New Board created in 2004;

■ Florida Limited discretion parole was abolished in 1983;



■ Illinois: Limited discretion - No authority on crimes committed after 11-1-89;

■ Missouri: Limited discretion - only on crimes according to statute;

■ Ohio: Limited discretion - not eligible on crimes committed after 7-1-96.

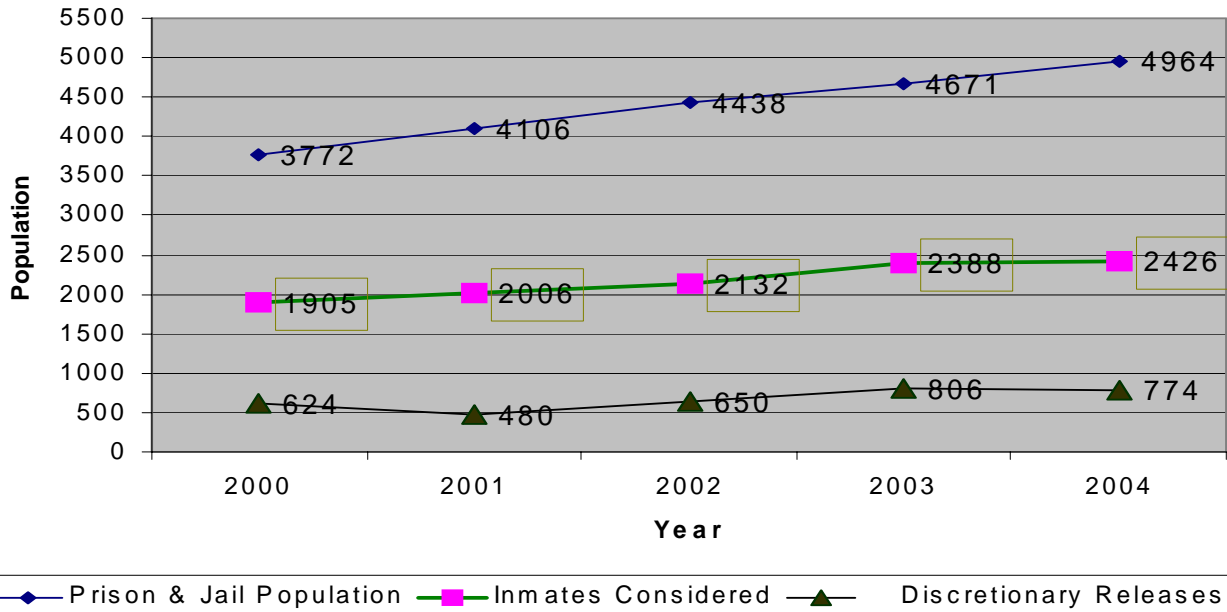
West Virginia Prison Population data and Grant Rate data were provided by the West Virginia Division of Corrections Office of Research and Planning. National data was provided by the Association of Paroling Authorities, International.

Summary

During the years 2000-2004 the national average for paroles granted ranged from 48.5% (2003) to 31.5% (2000) and averaged 41.5% for all five years. West Virginia ranged from 36% (2000) to 25% (2001), with an average grant rate of 32.6%.

West Virginia's grant rate trend followed the national trend between the years 2002 and 2004. During all years, excluding 2001, the grant rate for West Virginia has kept within a three percent range (from 33% to 36%).

West Virginia: Prison Population, Inmates Considered, Discretionary Releases



According to data collected by the West Virginia Division of Corrections Office of Research and Planning trends in Prison Population and Inmates Considered for Parole have been similar with both rising over the past five years, with an overall change of 24% for Prison Population and 21% for Inmates Considered for Parole.

The “West Virginia Annual Change” chart shows decreases in Discretionary Releases from as low as -30%, a decline of 224 inmates released (2000-2001) to gains as high as 26%, an increase of 250 inmates released (2001-2002).

West Virginia Annual Change

Year	Change in Jail and Prison Population	Change in Inmates Considered	Change in Discretionary Releases
2000-2001	8.10%	5%	-30%
2001-2002	7.40%	5.90%	26%
2002-2003	4.90%	10.7%	19%
2003-2004	5.90%	1.5%	-4.0%
2000-2004	24%	21%	19.3%

This report was the work of the West Virginia Division of Corrections Office of Planning and Research:

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