

# Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Annual Statistical Report



North Carolina  
Division of Professional Standards, Policy &  
Planning

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**Table I.4: Misdemeanant Prison Population, FY End 2017**

Crime Class	Prior Record Level				Undefined or Non-Structured	Total (%)
	I	II	III			
A1	2	4	40		0	46 6%
1	0	1	13		0	14 2%
2	0	0	2		0	2 (<1%)
3	0	0	0		1	1 (<1%)
DWI	9	0	0		635	644 90%
9C	1	0	2		6	9 1%
MISC	0	0	0		1	1 (<1%)
PRESTRUC						
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>57</b>		<b>643</b>	<b>717</b>
<b>(%)</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>8%</b>		<b>90%</b>	

**Table I.5: Felony Prison Population, FY End 2017**

Crime	Prior Record Level						Undefined or Structured	Total	
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI			
A	1140	160	120	72	15	13	509	2029	(6%)
B1	1125	804	374	263	64	48	0	2678	(7%)
B2	1060	1147	645	456	97	73	0	3478	(9%)
C	831	925	1017	1599	785	842	555	6554	(18%)
D	1094	1159	1048	1038	437	455	141	5372	(15%)
E	596	686	602	696	279	331	1	3191	(9%)
F	848	713	619	569	234	226	20	3229	(9%)
G	312	566	673	641	249	232	2	2675	(7%)
H	359	1009	1009	1070	561	883	19	4910	(13%)
I	113	226	167	209	95	165	0	975	(3%)
9C	108	204	113	49	5	1	0	480	(1%)
Other	20	1	0	0	0	3	941	965	(3%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,606</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>6,387</b>	<b>6,662</b>	<b>2,821</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>2,188</b>	<b>36,536</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>(%)</b>	<b>(21%)</b>	<b>(21%)</b>	<b>(17%)</b>	<b>(18%)</b>	<b>(8%)</b>	<b>(9%)</b>	<b>(6%)</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	

**Note:** The totals from tables I.4 and I.5 do not include offenders committed as safekeepers (223 on 06/30/2017).

*\*Confinement in Response to Violation (CRY) Punishment*

#### Inmate Activities

Prisons coordinate a wide range of inmate work, educational, and rehabilitative programs. Inmates are required to either work full-time or participate in a full-time program. Only inmates who pose a security risk, have health problems, or are in the admissions process are exempt from the policy.

#### Work Assignments

In each prison facility, inmates are assigned a variety of jobs. Inmates are paid an incentive wage, which is set by statute for the majority of these duties. Currently the incentive wage ranges from \$.40

to \$1.00 per day depending on the work assignment. Most inmates who work (84%) do so inside prison facilities.

**Table 1.6: Inmate Work Assignment by Work Category, FY 2016-2017**

<i>In Prison Facilities</i>	
Unit Services	6,687
Food Service	3,118
Correction Enterprises	1,946
Prison Maintenance	1,844
Construction	411
Other Jobs	1,359
<i>Outside Prison Facilities</i>	
Road Squads	1,210
Community Work Crews	0
State and Local Government	562
Work Release	1,182
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,319</b>

**Unit Services-** The largest assignment in prison facilities is Unit Services. Inmates in these jobs perform janitorial and general maintenance duties. This assignment provides a relevant job skill and is beneficial to the prison system because it reduces the cost of operating the facilities.

**Food Service-** Inmates work in the kitchens of all prison facilities preparing and serving food to other inmates. This assignment provides a relevant job skill and is beneficial to the prison system because it reduces the cost of operating the facilities.

**Correction Enterprises-** Correction Enterprises is a separate section of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice, which administers industries at prison sites. Enterprise jobs provide opportunities to put close and medium custody inmates to work inside prisons. Inmates are employed making car license tags, street and highway signs, farming, food processing, printing, sewing, laundering and manufacturing. These jobs teach workers job skills and a work ethic which will enable them to find employment upon release from prison. These jobs pay up to \$3 per day based on skills required for the job.

**Prison Maintenance-** Inmates are also involved in grounds keeping, light construction, repair and maintenance projects at prisons. These jobs include roofing, plumbing, electrical wiring and other unit improvements. These assignments provide relevant job skills and are beneficial to the prison system because they reduce the cost of operating the facilities

**Construction-** In addition to cleaning and maintaining prisons, some inmates are assigned to new prison construction projects. Inmates are generally chosen based on pre-existing skills in the construction industry. Like the other categories of work assignments, this experience gives inmates valuable work experience prior to release and helps to reduce the cost of new prison construction.

**Road Squads-** Minimum and medium custody inmates work on the state's roads, patching potholes, clearing right-of-ways and picking up litter. Medium custody inmates work under the supervision of armed correctional officers. Minimum custody inmates work under the direction of N.C. Department of Transportation employees.

**State and Local Government Agencies-** State and local government agencies have labor contracts for inmates to work for these agencies, often involving janitorial services and groundskeeping.

**Work Release-** Inmates who have proven themselves trustworthy for limited release from custody are allowed to leave the prison unit for jobs. These inmates are nearing their release date and work for businesses in the community. North Carolina started the first work release program in the country in 1957. Inmates on work release receive prevailing market wages from their employers, but must pay a room-and-board fee to the prison unit.

For FY 2016-2017 inmates paid the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice \$5,487,078 in per diem and \$1,936,064 for transportation and job-related expenses. They also paid child support and restitution totaling \$1,650,824. During this period, inmates paid an additional \$2,435,626 for personal expenses, spousal support and other family expenses.

#### Programs Assignments

Inmates are recommended for participation in programs based on interests, abilities, needs and whether the time remaining on their sentence allows completion of the program. At large institutions, academic and vocational education programs are offered to inmates on a full-time basis. These programs are offered on a part-time basis at other institutions.

**Table 1.7: Inmate Program Assignments, FY 2016-2017**

	Full Time	Part Time
Academic Education	1,366	1,423
Vocational Education	1,647	639
Life Skills Programs	357	2,957

**Academic Programs-** The mission of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety’s (NCDPS) Educational Services section is to support the provision of instruction to offenders who participate in educational and vocational programs by equipping them with knowledge and skills that will assist in preparing them for successful community transition and employment development upon release from the correctional facilities.

The NCDPS partners with the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) and other colleges and universities to provide a full range of academic and vocational programs. For offenders who enter prison without a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma, there are Adult Basic Education (ABE) and High School Equivalency (HSE) classes to prepare the offenders to obtain their high school equivalency diploma. The partnership with the North Carolina Community College System also provides post-secondary education opportunities for offenders to obtain various certificates and Associate of Science Degrees. In addition to the offerings provided by the NC Community College System, the NCDPS also contracts with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Warren Wilson College and Guilford College to provide select post-secondary college courses which are delivered through instruction at the correctional facility or through mail correspondence. During FY 2016-2017 these partnerships produced the following outcomes:

- 1,155 offenders obtained their high school equivalency diploma during incarceration
- 1,599 offenders earned vocational certificates in various educational/vocational programs
- 673 offenders completed requirements to obtain a post-secondary degree/diploma
  - o 33 offenders completed requirements to obtain an Associate’s of Applied Science Diploma

**Vocational Programs-** A wide variety of vocational programs such as computer literacy, food service training, electrical engineering technology, brick masonry and job readiness are provided through local community colleges. Participation in these programs can help inmates obtain work with Correction Enterprises or a work release assignment. There were 1,487 Vocational Certificates awarded in the last fiscal year.

**Life Skills Programs-** Life skills programs include several types of programs such as parenting skills and Cognitive Behavioral Intervention (CBI). CBI programs teach offenders new ways of thinking that can lead to changes in their behavior and actions, and ultimately affect their criminal conduct. CBI programs use a combination of approaches to increase an offender's awareness of self and others. This awareness is coupled with the teaching of social skills to assist the offender with interpersonal problems. These specific types of intervention programs assist offenders in "restructuring" their thought process and teaches "cognitive skills" to assist in basic decision-making and problem-solving. These programs are led by prisons or community college staff that have been trained by the division.

#### Escapes and Captures

The primary goal of the Prisons Section is to protect the community. While some inmates escape from prison each year, nearly all are apprehended. Minimum custody inmates are often on work release and participate in other activities in the community. Many escapes are the result of the minimum custody inmate not returning to the prison on time from his/her job, so a capture is recorded the same day. All Ten of the inmates who escaped during the 2016-2017 fiscal year were captured by July 1, 2017.

#### Inmate Disciplinary Infractions

Inmate conformity to prison rules is necessary for the orderly, safe and secure operation of correctional facilities. Effective, fair and consistent disciplinary procedures enhance the orderly operation of the facilities and reinforce appropriate behavior and responsibility. The disciplinary offenses were reclassified in November 2000 from five classes to four and all substance possession offenses (e.g., alcohol or drugs) are now Class A. The most serious offenses remain in Class A while Class D offenses are the least serious infractions. An inmate can be charged with an attempt to commit an offense. If so, that attempt is in the same class as the infraction itself.

In FY 2016-2017 there were 68,337 infractions (see Table I.8), which is a 2% decrease from the number recorded during FY2015-2016. Approximately 17% (11,552) were Class A infractions, of which 35% were for substance possession. The next most frequent Class A offense was Involvement with Gang or Security Threat Group (STG), with 19% in FY2016-2017.

There were 20,869 Class B infractions including: sexual act, damaging property, weapon possession, interfering with staff and lock tampering. The majority of the infractions in FY 2016-2017 were for Class C offenses, accounting for 45% (30,849) of the total infractions for the year. Out of these, 13,205(43%) were for disobeying an order. Other Class C infractions include profane language, fighting, unauthorized leave, bartering, threatening staff, and theft of property. Possession of unauthorized items (including clothing and money), being in an unauthorized location, and gambling are some of the infractions that make up the Class D infractions.