If you have issues viewing or accessing this file contact us at NCJRS.gov.

172859



THOMAS A. COUGHLIN III COMMISSIONER STATE OF NEW YORK



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

THE STATE OFFICE BUILDING CAMPUS

ALBANY, N.Y. 12226

CHESTER H. CLARK ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

# DIVISION OF PROGRAM PLANNING, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

# **INMATE ESCAPE INCIDENTS**

1987 - 1991

This report provides descriptive information on incidents of escape from the correctional facilities of the New York State Department of Correctional Services between 1987 and 1991. The report also presents information on demographic characteristics and legal history characteristics of escapees. When appropriate, escapees are compared with the general under custody population. The analysis uses a series of variables including facility security level, age, commitment offense, minimum sentence, maximum sentence, time served, prior adult criminal history, and duration of escape. The report is preceded by a brief summary of the main findings.



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

142859

This document has been reproduced exactly as received from the person or organization originating it. Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the National Institute of Justice.

Permission to reproduce this copyrighted material has been granted by New York State Department of

Correctional Services

to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS).

Further reproduction outside of the NCJRS system requires permission of the copyright owner.

# **INMATE ESCAPE INCIDENTS**

#### 1987 - 1991

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>P</u>	age
EXECUTIVE S	SUMMARY	. i
INTRODUCTIO	ON	. 1
Section One	Number of Escapes	. 2
Section Two	Escapes by Facility Security Level	. 4
Section Three	Commitment Offense of Escapees	. 5
Section Four	Age and Race/Ethnicity of Escapees	. 6
Section Five	Prior Criminal Record of Escaped Inmates	. 8
Section Six	Sentence Length of Escapees	. 9
Section Seven	Time Served to Date of Escape	11
Section Eight	Duration of Escape	1 <b>2</b>
APPENDIX A	Summary of Escapes by Facility, 1987 - 1991	13
APPENDIX B	Summary of Methods of Escapes, 1987 - 1991	14

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### 1. Number and Rate of Escaped Inmates

In the five year time period of 1987 - 1991, 50 inmates escaped from custody. Eleven inmates escaped in calendar year 1991. The rate of escapes per 1000 inmates has shown a downward trend during the five year time span (see Table 1.1, p.2).

#### 2. Most Escaped Inmates from Minimum Custody

The majority of escapes: (76%) in the time period of 1987 - 1991 were from minimum security facilities or medium custody inmates assigned to work details outside of the security perimeter. The 1991 rate of escapes (.09 per 1,000 inmates) from secure custody was slightly higher than the rate for the five year period (.05 per 1,000 inmates) (see Table 1.2, p.3).

#### 3. Number of Escaped Inmatcs by Facility Security Level

Over the time period of 1987 through 1991, 22% of escapes occurred at maximum security prisons, 16% at medium facilities and 62% at minimum facilities. In 1991 five inmates assigned to maximum security facilities, one inmate assigned to a medium security prison and five inmates assigned to minimum security facilities escaped (see Table 2.1, p.4).

#### 4. Incarceration Offenses of Escapees

In 1991 inmates who escaped were incarcerated for the offenses of murder, robbery, criminal possession of stolen property, and burglary. Forty percent of escaped inmates during 1987 - 1991 had been imprisoned for burglary compared to 11% of the undercustody population (see Table 3.1 and Table 3.2, p.5). Burglars have been overrepresented in the escapee population in the five year period.

#### 5. Age of Escaped Inmates

In the period of 1987-1991 escapees were younger when compared to the total inmate population; 44% of the escapees were under 25 years of age while 25% of undercustody inmates were under 25 years of age (see Table 4.1 and Chart 4.1, p.6). In 1991, however, 18% (N=2) of all escapees were over 40 years old while 15% of the undercustody population were over 40 years old.

#### 6. **Race/Ethnicity of Escaped Inmates**

During the 1987 - 1991 time span, 60% of escapees were White. The total is in contrast to the total undercustody population where 18% were White. In 1991, 73% of escaped inmates were White (see Chart 4.2, p.7).

#### 7. **Prior Incarcerations of Escapees**

Of the total 50 escapees in 1987 - 1991, 38% had served a prior commitment at a state prison while 24% had been previously incarcerated at a local jail (see Table 5.2, p.8).

#### 8. Minimum Sentence of Escapees

During the time period of 1987 - 1991, 64% of escaped inmates were serving a minimum sentence of less than three years. This percentage compares with 42% with the undercustody population (see Table 6.2, p.9).

#### 9. Time Served by Inmates Prior to Escape

Fifty-six percent of escapees between 1987 - 1991 had served less than 6 months in Department custody; only 24% had served more than three years. Of 1991 escapees, 36% had served less than one year in custody and 27% had served more than six years (see Table 7.1 and Table 7.2, p.11).

#### 10. Time of Escape Status Prior to Apprehension

Of the 50 escapees between 1987 - 1991, 52% (N=26) were caught within 12 hours and 90% (N=45) were apprehended within 72 hours. In 1991, 82% of escapees were caught within 24 hours (see Table 8, p.12).

#### 11. Crimes Committed by Escapees in 1991

One escapee in 1991 was arrested for an additional crime while on escape status. The inmate was charged with theft of a motor vehicle, a non-violent offense (see Appendix B, p.17).

#### INTRODUCTION

1

The Department of Correctional Services maintains data files on undercustody inmates and, together with specific information on escapes, produces the annual department report on facility escapes. This report profiles inmate escapees and the circumstances surrounding escape incidents for the previous year. Characteristics of escapees are examined for the time period of 1987 through 1991, and escaped inmates are compared to the undercustody population for the same time span. Appendix B presents a brief description of each escape incident.

There were 50 inmates who escaped in 41 separate incidents during the 1987 - 1991 time period. With the exception of 1988 when five inmates escaped, the number of escape incidents and inmate escapees remained relatively constant at 7 to 10 escape incidents per year involving a total of between 7 and 12 inmates. However, the rate of escaped inmates per thousand inmates in custody declined over the five year period from .29 in 1987 to .19 in 1991. This trend may be explained by (1) fewer escapes, and (2) an increase in the number of inmates undercustody in correctional facilities. The inmate population increased 41% from 1987 (N=40,874) to 1991 (N=57,815). The decline in the rate of escapes is noteworthy in consideration of the rapid addition of new correctional facilities and correctional officers during the same five year time span.

#### Section One Number of Inmate Escapes

There were 50 inmates who escaped from Department custody between 1987 and 1991. In the most recent year 1991, 11 inmates escaped from correctional facilities or correctional officers. Table 1.1 presents data on the frequency and rate of escapes for the years 1987 - 1991.

The number of escapes rose between 1990 (10) and 1991 (11), and the total number of 1991 escapes was slightly more than the five year average of 10 escapes per year.

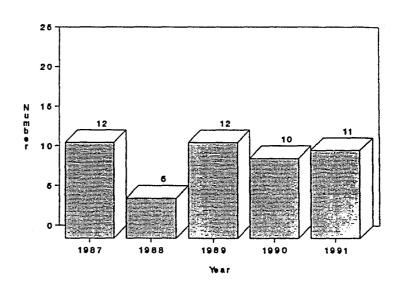
The end of year undercustody population in New York correctional facilities increased 41% between 1987 and 1991. Therefore the use of rates, based upon the number of escapes per thousand inmates under custody, allows for standardized comparison between years. Rate data are important in discerning the level of escape activity hen there are large fluctuations in year to year totals of incarcerated inmates. The 1991 rate of escape, 19 per thousand inmates, was below the five year average of .20.

Calendar Year	Number of Escapes	Rate per Thousand Inmates
1987	12	.29
1988	5	.21
1989	12	.23
1990	10	.18
1991	11	.19
<b>Total</b>	50	.20

Table 1.1

**Frequency and Rate of Escapes** 

Chart 1 Number of Inmate Escapees 1987 - 1991



#### **Escapes From Secure Custody**

A total of 50 inmates escaped from custody between 1987 and 1991. However, 12 inmates escaped from a secure custody setting while a larger number of escapees walked out of minimum security facilities, or escaped from work assignments or community activities located outside of the prison. Inmates who effect their escape from minimum security facilities or from less secure areas outside of the perimeter fence of medium or maximum security prisons are commonly referred to as 'walkaways'. That is, since the inmate was assigned to a less secure area, he or she could escape from immediate custody by walking away. The escapee would not have to use more elaborate methods necessary in a higher security assignment.

Of a total of 50 escapees, 62% (N=31) were from minimum security facilities and 14% (N=7) were walkaways from maximum or medium security facility assignments outside of the perimeter fence. The remaining 24% (N=12) of escapees were persons who escaped from secure custody at maximum or medium security prisons. The rate of escapes from secure custody in 1991 was higher than the 5 year average of the 1987-1991 time period, but the rate of escapes from minimum custody and the total rate of escapes in 1991 were below the 5 year average.

#### Table 1.2 Frequency and Rate of Escapes 1987 - 1991

Calendar Year	Escape from Secure Custody		Walkaways or fron Minimum Custody				
	<u>#</u> _	Rate	#	Rate			
1987	0	.00	12	.29			
1988	0	.00	5	.11			
1989	.3	.06	9	.18			
1990	4	.07	6	.11			
1991	5	.09	6	.10			
Total	12	.05	38	.15			

#### Section Two Escapes by Facility Security Level

New York State correctional facilities are classified as maximum, medium or minimum security. This designation is based upon the physical characteristics of each facility that enable the Department to safely and securely house inmates. Several criteria are taken into consideration in determination of the security classification:

perimeter - the type of enclosure surrounding the inmates within a correctional facility;

internal control - the capacity to isolate internal areas of a prison through the use of control gates;

housing - the range of occupiable units from individual cells with remote controlled locks to open barrack-type housing;

special housing - the need of facilities to securely control and isolate disruptive individual inmates from the general inmate population; and

operational configuration - the ability to monitor and control inmate movement and interaction within the facility.

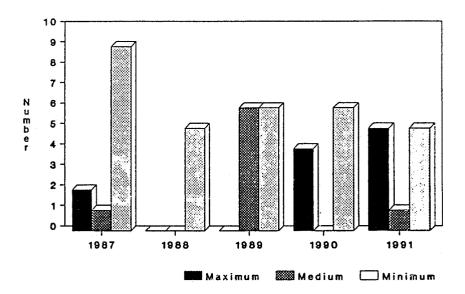
Table 2.1 reveals the security level of inmates who escaped from custody in the years from 1987 through 1991. As indicated in the table, 62% (N=31) of the escapees were in minimum security facilities, 16% (N=8) were located at medium security prisons, and 22% (N=11) were assigned to maximum security institutions.

\*In 1991, one maximum security inmate escaped while out to court and outside prison perimeter. See Appendix B, page 18, for details of escapes.

# Table 2.1Facility Security Level of Inmate Escapes1987 - 1991

1	1987		1989	1990	1991	ſ	otal
Security							
Level	N	N	N	N	N	N	%
Maximum	2	0	0	4	5	11	22%
Medium	1	0	6	0	1	8	16%
Minimum	9	5	6	6	5	31	62%
Total	12	5	12	10	11	50	100%

Chart 2 Number of Escapees by Year and Security Level



### Section Three Commitment Offense of Escapees

The most serious current offense for each escaped inmate is shown in Table 3.1. The most common commitment offenses among 1991 escapees were murder at 45% (N=5), and burglary 36% (N=4).

Data on the commitment offenses for all inmates under custody of the Department of Correctional Services are compared to escaped inmates from 1987 -1991 in Table 3.2. Noteworthy are the percentage differences in the undercustody population and the escape population in the offense types of robbery, burglary, drugs, and stolen property. The percentage of offenders in the undercustody population convicted of robbery and drug offenses is considerably higher when compared to the offense types in the escape Conversely, a higher population. percentage of escaped inmates were convicted of burglary or stolen property as compared to the general population.

One reason for these differences is that offense type consideration is part of inmates' security assessment. Robbery is considered a more serious offense than crimes such as larceny or forgery, and these offenders are more likely to be assigned to higher security facilities, reducing escape opportunities. Stolen property offenses are not considered as serious an offense as murder, robbery, sex offenses, assault, or other crimes of violence, and offenders convicted of these offenses are more likely to be assigned to lower security facilities.

# Table 3.1Commitment Offense Type by Year of EscapeInmate Escapees 1987 - 1991

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	T	DTAL
Crime							
Туре	N	N	N	Ν	N	Ν	%
Murder	0	0	0	2	5	7	14%
Other Homicide	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Other Sex Off.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Robbery	1	1	2	2	1	7	14%
Assault	0	0	0	1	0	1	2%
Burglary	5	4	4	3	4	20	40%
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Grand Larceny	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Drugs	2	0	3	0	0	5	10%
Stolen Property	4	0	0	1	1	6	12%
Forgery	0	0	1	1	0	2	4%
DWI	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
Youthful Off.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Other Felony	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Total	12	5	12	10	11	50	100%

Table 3.2Commitment Offense of Escapees and<br/>Undercustody Population

Crime	Escapees	Average Undercustody
Туре	1987 - 1991	Population 1987 - 1991
Murder	14%	10%
Other Homicide	2%	5%
Rape	0%	3%
Other Sex Off.	0%	3%
Robbery	14%	22%
Assault	2%	3%
Burglary	40%	11%
Arson	0%	0%
Grand Larceny	0%	2%
Drugs	10%	31%
Stolen Property	12%	2%
Forgery	4%	1%
DWI	2%	1%
Youthful Off.	0%	0%
Other Felony	0%	5%
Total	100%	100%

ection Four Age of Escapees

The average age of inmate escapees in 1991 was 30 years old. Of the eleven escaped inmates, three were 22 years old or younger; four were between the ages of 23 and 30; two were between 31 and 45 and two were older than 45 years. The majority of escapees were under 31 years old (approximately 64% in 1991 as compared to 74% in the 1987-1991 period).

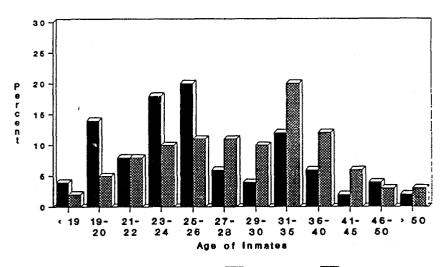
A comparison of the ages of escapees in 1987-1991 with the total number of inmates in the undercustody population from 1987-1991 shows that 44% of the escapees were under the age of 25 and 74% were 30 years old or less, while 25% of the undercustody population were under 25 years old and 57% were 30 years old. See Chart 4.1 for a comparison of ages of inmates who escaped with total undercustody population. In general, escapees were unger than other inmates in the undercustody population. However, half of all escapees over 40 years old in the five year period were accounted for in 1991.

Table 4.1 Age at Time of Escape by Year of Escape Inmate Escapees 1987 - 1991

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	Т	otal
Age In Years	N	N	N	N	N	Ň	%
<u> </u>	0	0	0	2	0	2	4%
19-20	2	1	1	1	2	7	14%
21-22	0	0	3	0	1	4	8%
23-24	3	1	2	2	1	9	18%
25-26	1	1	3	3	2	10	20%
27-28	2	0	0	0	1	3	6%
29-30	1	1	0	0	0	2	4%
31-35	2	0	1	1	2	6	12%
36-40	0	1	1	1	0	3	6%
41-45	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
46-50	1	0	0	0	1	2	4%
> 50	0	0	0	0	1	1	2%
Total	12	5	12	10	11	50	100%

Chart 4.1 Age of Inmate Escapees and Undercustody Population

١,



Escapees 🗱 Undercustody

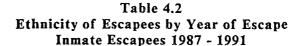
#### **Race/Ethnicity of Escapees**

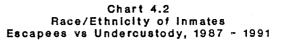
Table 4.2 presents information on the race/ethnicity of escaped inmates for the years 1987-1991. During the five year span, 60% of escapees were White, 10% Black, and 26% Hispanic. Proportionately more inmates classified as White escaped in 1991 as compared to the five year totals.

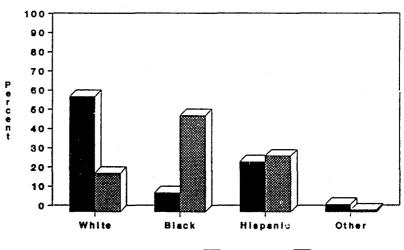
Chart 4.2 presents information on the undercustody population and escapees for the time period 1987-1991. Comparisons between ethnicity of escapees and undercustody population for the five year time period reveal that 60% of escapees were White as compared to 18% of the total inmate population; 10% of escapees were Black compared to 50% in the undercustody population; and, 26% of escapees were Hispanic compared to 31% of the undercustody population. Ethnic group totals have changed from 1987 to 1991 (data not shown) with a larger percentage of Hispanics incarcerated and a concomitant decrease in inmates classified as White within the total inmate population.

Hispanics consist of a greater portion of the total population in 1991 as compared to 1987 and they also make up a greater portion of the escapee group in 1989 and 1990 as compared with escapees in earlier years.

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	Г	otal
Ethnic Group	N	N	N	N	N	N	%
White	8	5	5	4	8	30	60%
Black	2	. 0	2	1	0	5	10%
Hispanic	2	0	5	4	2	13	26%
Other	.0	0	0	1	1	2	4%
Total	12	5	12	10	11	50	100%







Escapees Undercustody

-Section Five Prior Criminal Record Escaped Inmates

#### **Prior Adult Convictions**

Table 5.1 shows the conviction status for prior offenses for the escapee population. Inmates are categorized according to the most serious prior criminal record (i.e., felony conviction more serious than misdemeanor conviction which in turn is treated as more serious than no prior conviction). Inmates are incarcerated for their instant commitment offense: prior offense refers to convictions before the most recent instant commitment offense. For example, consider the case of an inmate convicted of misdemeanor DWI in 1975, a felony offense of burglary in 1980, and a felony of armed robbery in 1987 whereby he received a prison sentence. For purposes of this discussion and Table 5.1, the most serious prior offense was the felony burglary and the 1987 armed robbery is the instant ommitment offense for which the mate is currently serving a prison sentence. Since the burglary felony is more serious than a misdemeanor of DWI, only the felony is counted.

Examination of the data reveals that sixty-eight percent (N=34) of the escapees between 1987 and 1991 had been convicted of at least one prior felony offense. Twenty percent of the escapees (N=10) did not have any prior convictions while six inmates had a prior misdemeanor conviction.

#### **Prior Adult Commitments**

Table 5.2 shows prior jail and prison commitments for the 50 escapees over the time period of 1987-1991. Only the most serious level of commitment is shown for each inmate. If an inmate's prior incarceration included one local commitment and one state prison commitment, the escapee's most serious mmitment, the prison term, would be counted. Looking at escapees over the five year period 1987 to 1991 shows that thirty-eight percent had a previous prison incarceration.

Inmate Escapees 1987 - 1991									
Prior Adult	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	т	DTAL		
Conviction	N	Ν	N	N	N	N	%		
No Prior	3	1	3	0	3	10	20%		
Misdemeanor	0	1	1	3	1	6	12%		
Felony	9	3	8	7	7	34	68%		
Total	12	5	12	10	11	50	100%		

Table 5.1Most Serious Prior Adult Criminal ConvictionInmate Escapees 1987 - 1991

Table 5.2
Most Serious Prior Adult Criminal Commitment
Inmate Escapees 1987 - 1991

Prior	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	т	DTAL
Adult Commitment	N	N	N	N	N	N	%
None	4	1	3	4	7	19	38%
Jail	4	2	2	2	2	12	24%
Prison	4	2	7	4	2	19	38%
Total	12	5	12	10.	11	50	100%

#### Section Six Sentence Length of Escapees

The New York State Penal Law stipulates that an indeterminate sentence be imposed upon convicted felony offenders sentenced to the state correctional system. The indeterminate sentence is comprised of a range of years - a minimum and maximum time period that an inmate may serve. The minimum sentence is the least amount of time an inmate will serve before eligibility for parole (except for inmates approved for Shock Incarceration Program). The maximum sentence is the greatest amount of time an inmate can serve prior to release from custody of the Department of Correctional Services.

The structure of the minimum and maximum sentence range may vary according to the prior felony convictions of the inmate. The length of the range of sentences for first time offenders, convicted of one felony, and sentenced to prison, is determined by the seriousness of the offense. The minimum sentence is normally one-third of the maximum sentence. For example, a first time offender convicted of 1st degree burglary may be sentenced to prison for an indeterminate term of 2-6 years. The two years is the minimum period of incarceration; the six years is the maximum time that can be served.

#### Aggregate Minimum Sentence

Table 6.1 shows the aggregate minimum sentence of escapees for the years 1987-1991. An examination of the table reveals that most prison escapees were serving relatively short minimum sentences and the totals of the minimum sentence categories are similar from year to year. Thirty-six percent of inmates who escaped in 1991 had less than two year minimum sentences and 55% were serving a minimum sentence of less than three years. Percentage totals for the five year span showed 64% of escapees were serving a minimum sentence of less than 3 years.

Aggregate	1987	198	8 1989	199	0 1991	T	DTAL
Minimum							
Sentence	Ν	Ν	N	Ν	N	Ν	%
(in months)							
12-23	5	2	3	4	4	18	36%
24-35	2	3	4	3	2	14	28%
36-47	3	0	1	0	0	4	8%
48-59	2	0	2	0	0	4	8%
60-71	0	0	1	1	0	2	4%
72-83	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
84-95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
96-107	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
108-119	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
120-179	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
180-239	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
240-299	0	0	0	0	2	2	4%
<u>≥</u> 300	0	0	0	2	3	5	10%
Total	12	5	12	10	11	50	100%

Table 6.2 Aggregate Minimum Sentence of Escapees and Undercustody Population 1987 - 1991

Minimum	Escapees	Average Undercustody
Sentence	1987 - 1991	Population 1987 - 1991
(in months)		
12-23	36%	19%
24-35	28%	23%
36-47	8%	13%
48-59	8%	9%
60-71	4%	6%
72-83	0%	5%
84-95	0%	4%
96-107	2%	4%
108-119	0%	1%
120-179	0%	5%
180-239	0%	4%
240-299	4%	2%
<u>≥</u> 300	10%	4%
Total	100%	100%

Table 6.2 shows the minimum sentence in months of escaped inmates. When the calendar year escapee population is compared to the undercustody population for the years of 1987 - 1991, a larger percent of escapees were serving shorter minimum sentences. Sixty-four percent of escapees were serving a minimum sentence of less than three years as compared to only 42% of the undercustody population for the same five year period.

#### Aggregate Maximum Sentence

Table 6.3 shows the maximum sentences of inmate escapees for the time period of 1987-1991. The percentage totals of maximum sentence categories show dissimilarity in year to year comparisons. In 1989 58%, and in 1991 55% of escapees were serving maximum sentences of less than five years, but in 1986 (63%), 1987 (59%), and 1990 (60%) most escapees were serving sentences of more than five years. Additionally, the ercentages reveal that in the total for the five year span, 50% of escapees were serving maximum sentences of less than five years but 22% (N=11) were serving maximum sentences of at least ten years.

The maximum sentences for escapees are compared to the entire undercustody population for the years 1987-1991 in Table 6.4. The largest differences occur at both ends of the maximum sentence continuum. While 32% of escaped inmates in the five year period had maximum sentences of less than four years, only 14% of the total correctional population had a maximum sentence of less than four years. In contrast, although 16% of escapees had maximum sentences of 25 years to life, 21% of the total undercustody population had sentences of that severity.

Table 6.3Aggregate Maximum Sentence by Year of EscapeInmate Escapees 1987 - 1991

Aggregate Maximum	1987	1988	198	9 1990	1991	т	DTAL
Sentence (in months)	N	N	N	N	N	N	%
36-47	5	2	3	2	4	16	32%
48-59	0	1	4	2	2	9	18%
60-71	0	0	0	1	0	1	2%
72-83	2	2	1	0	0	5	10%
84-95	2	0	0	0	0	2	4%
96-107	2	0	2	1	0	5	10%
108-119	1	0	0	0	0	1	2%
120-179	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
180-239	0	0	2	1	0	3	6%
240-299	0	0	0	Ó	0	0	0%
300-Life	0	0	0	3	5	8	16%
Total	12	5	12	10	11	50	100%

Table 6.4						
Aggregate Maximum Sentence of Escapees and						
Undercustody Population						
1987 - 1991						

Aggregate	Escapees	Average Undercustod
Maximum Sent.	1987 - 1991	<b>Population 1987 - 1991</b>
(in months)		
36-47	32%	14%
48-59	18%	16%
60-71	2%	6%
72-83	10%	11%
84-95	4%	4%
96-107	10%	3%
108-119	2%	5%
120-179	0%	10%
180-239	6%	7%
240-299	0%	3%
300-Life	16%	21%
Total	100%	100%

### Section Seven Time Served to Date of Escape

For 1991, 45% (N=5) of the inmates had served less than 18 months of their prison sentence, while the remaining 55% (N=6) had served between 18 months and eleven years. One explanation of the short average time period served by these inmates is that many inmates who are assigned to minimum custody facilities are serving relatively short sentences for less serious offenses. As most escapes occur from minimum custody facilities, the amount of time served is also less.

A comparison of time served in 1991 to the time period of 1987-1991 reveals that thirty-six percent of escapes in 1991 and forty-four percent of escapes in 1987-1991 had served less than 6 months of their current prison sentence.

The data for the undercustody population is derived from the correctional population as of December 31 for each year. Table 7.2 reveals that escapees had served less time when compared to the total inmate population.

Differences are most pronounced at the low end of the time served continuum. 44% of escaped inmates had served less than six months while 19% of the undercustody population had served less than six months.

Table 7.1						
Time Served Prior to Escape by Year of Escape						
Inmate Escapees 1987 - 1991						

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	T	OTAL
Time							
Served	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ň	Ν	%
(in months)							
< 6	6	1	5	6	4	22	44%
6-11	1	3	2	0	0	6	12%
12-17	1	0	2	0	1	4	8%
18-23	2	1	0	1	0	4	8%
24-35	0	0	1	0	1	2	4%
36-47	2	0	2	2	0	6	12%
48-59	0	0	0	0	1	1	2%
60-71	0	0	0	0	1	1	2%
<u>&gt;</u> 72	0	0	0	1	3	4	8%
Total	12	5	12	10	11	50	100%

Table 7.2Time Served of Escapees and Undercustody Population1987-1991

Time	Escapees	Average Undercustody
Served	1987 - 1991	Population 1987 - 1991
(in months)		
< 6	44%	19%
6-11	12%	24%
12-17	8%	13%
18-23	8%	10%
24-35	4%	9%
36-47	12%	6%
48-59	2%	6%
60-71	2%	5%
<u>&gt;</u> 72	8%	<b>9%</b>
Total	100%	100%

# ction Eight Duration of Escape, Subsequent Crimes and Penalties

In 1991, 11 inmates escaped from custody but all were apprehended by correctional staff or police. Eight escapees were caught within 12 hours of their escape, while two remained at large for more than 24 hours. One escape was a homicide victim in New York City while on escape status.

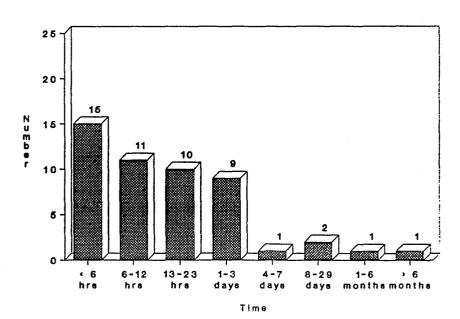
Of the 50 inmates who escaped from custody during the time period of 1987-1991, 52% (N=26) were caught within 12 hours and 90% (N=45) were taken into custody within 72 hours. Chart 8 graphically depicts the time inmates were on escape status prior to apprehension.

While any escapes by inmates are of concern to correctional officials and the public, an added consideration is whether any escapee commits additional mes while on escape status. Of the 11 escapees in 1991, one was arrested on an additional charge. A minimum custody inmate stole a vehicle to escape from the prison locale. With the exception of the homicide victim, all escapees were returned to custody and faced department discipline hearings, as well as criminal charges for escape. At the time that this report was written all escapees had been found guilty of escape in disciplinary hearings and received penalties that ranged up to 7 years in Special Housing and restrictions on reception of packages, commissary, and use of telephone. Additionally, several inmates had received court imposed sentences of up to 5 years onto their current prison sentences.

Table 8 Duration of Escape Inmate Escapees 1987 - 1991

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	T	DTAL
Escape							
Duration	N	N	N	N	N	Ň	%
<6 hrs	0	0	3	5	7	15	30%
6-12 hrs	3	1	5	1	1	11	22%
13-18 hrs	1	2	1	0	0	4	8%
19-24 hrs	4	0	0	1	1	6	12%
25-30 hrs	1	0	0	0	0	1	2%
31-36 hrs	0	1	1	0	0	2	4%
37-42 hrs	0	0	0	1	0	1	2%
43-48 hrs	0	1	0	0	0	1	2%
49-72 hrs	1	0	1	2	0	4	8%
4 days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
5 days	1	0	0	0	0	1	2%
6 days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
7 days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
8-29 days	1	0	0	0	1	2	4%
1-6 months	0	0	0	0	1	1	2%
> 6 months	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
Total	12	5	12	10	11	50	100%

Chart 8 Duration of Escapes Inmate Escapees 1987 - 1991



# APPENDIX A

# NUMBER OF INMATE ESCAPES BY FACILITY 1987-1991

MAXIMUM	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	TOTAL	%
Coxsackie	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Downstate	Ō	Ō	Ō	ī	Ō	1	2
Eastern	2	Ō	Ō	ō	4	6	12
Elmira	ō	0	0	1	Ō	1	2
Sing Sing	0	0	0	l	1	2	4
TOTAL	2	0	0	4	5	11	22
MEDIUM							
Arthurkill	. 0	0	2	0	0	2	4
Collins	ĩ	ŏ	2	ŏ	õ	3	6
Greene	ō	Ő	ō	õ	l	1	2
Mid-Orange	ŏ	Ō	ĩ	ō	ō	ī	2
Mt. McGregor	Ō	Ō	ī	0	Ō	ī	2
TOTAL	1	0	6	0	1	8	16
MINIMUM						· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Edgecombe	1	0	2	0	0	3	6
Fallsburg Annex	ō	i	ō	0	<b>n</b> '	2	4
Mohawk	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Queensboro	2	0	0	0	0	2	4
Butler Shock	*	*	*	2	1	3	6
Camp Beacon	1	1	0	1	0	3	6
Camp Gabriels	0	0	1	0	2	3	6
Camp Georgetown	2	1	2	1	1	7	14
Camp Groveland	*	*	1	0	0	1	2
Camp McGregor	1	0	0	1	0	2	4
Camp Monterey	1	*	*	0	0	1	2
Camp Pharsalia	0	2	0	0	0	2	4
Camp Summit	l	0	*	*	*	1	2
TOTAL	9	5	6	6	5	31	62
GRAND TOTAL	12	5	12	10	11	50	100

A/ An asterisk appears in table for those years in which a correctional facility was not yet operating or where the facility changed its designation.

<sup>B</sup>/ Facilities are shown if there was one or more escapes during the 1987 to 1991 time period.

#### APPENDIX B

# ESCAPES - 1987

FACILITY	METHOD OF ESCAPE
Eastern	Car from farm annex
Eastern	Car from farm annex
Camp Monterey	On foot from dorm
Collins	Walk away from work site
Ecgecombe	Over fence (minimum security facility)
Camp McGregor	Walk away from work site
Camp Georgetown	From work detail by jeep
Camp Georgetown	From work detail by jeep
Queensboro	Front door on work release
Queensboro	Walked out front door
Camp Beacon	Walk away from dorm
Camp Summit	Walk away from dorm

# ESCAPES - 1988

FACILITY	METHOD OF ESCAPE
Camp Georgetown	On foot from boiler room
Camp Pharsalia	Via conservation truck
Camp Pharsalia	Walk away from dorm
Fallsburg Annex	Walk away
Camp Beacon	Walk away from dorm

# 14

ŧ

ESCAPES - 1989

FACILITY	METHOD OF ESCAPE
Edgecombe	Ran out of front door
Collins	Walk away outside work detail
Arthur Kill	Hidden inside dumpster
Arthur Kill	Hidden inside dumpster later charged with criminal possession of stolen instru- ment
Camp Georgetown	Walk away from dorm later charged with theft of motor vehicle
Camp Georgetown	Walk away from dorm
Camp Groveland	Walk away from housing unit
Camp Gabriels	Walk away from outside work crew
Mid-Orange	Walk away from outside work crew
Mt. McGregor	From SHU over fence
Edgecombe	Messhall - walked out the door
Collins	Walk away from outside garage

<u>ESCAPES - 1990</u>

FACILITY

Elmira

ŧ

Downstate

Camp McGregor

Sing Sing

Butler Shock

Butler Shock

Camp Georgetown

Mohawk

Camp Beacon

Coxsackie

METHOD OF ESCAPE

Out to court, jumped from window

In transit, jumped from van

Walk away

Out to hospital

Walk away from work site, stole vehicle

Walk away from work site, stole vehicle

Walk away

Over fence, stole bicycle

Walk away

Cut through cell window bars, stole vehicle

# <u>ESCAPES - 1991</u>

FA	CI	LI	TY	

Sullivan (Fallsburg Annex)

Camp Georgetown

Eastern

.

Eastern

Eastern

Eastern

Greene

Butler Shock

Camp Gabriels

Camp Gabriels

Sing Sing

語いたいないない

METHOD OF ESCAPE

•

Walk away

Walk away

Out of window, down firehose

Walk away from farm

Walk away

Walk away

Walk away

Out to hospital