

Joint Budget Committee

January 9, 2017



Colorado State Board of Parole



Mission Statement

The mission of the Parole Board is to increase public safety by critical evaluation, through the utilization of evidence-based practices of inmate potential for successful reintegration to society. The Board determines parole suitability through the process of setting conditions of parole and assists the parolee by helping to create an atmosphere for a successful reintegration and return to the community.



Parole Board Members

Joe Morales, Chairperson

Rebecca Oakes, Vice-Chairperson

Denise Balazic

Dr. Brandon Mathews

John O'Dell

Alfredo Peña

Alexandra Walker



Staffing

The Parole Board is supported by eleven (11) full-time employees (FTE). The Board support staff is structured as follows:

- Parole Board Administrator, Pueblo (1 FTE)
- Office Manager, Pueblo (1 FTE)
- Revocation Unit, Pueblo (4 FTE)
- Application Unit, Pueblo (2 FTE)
- Administrative Support Staff, Pueblo (1 FTE)
- Administrative Support Staff, Denver (1 FTE)
- Statistical Analyst, CO Springs (1 FTE)
- Contract Employees:
 - 2 Administrative Hearing Officers to conduct revocation hearings pursuant to 17-2-202.5, C.R.S. (2016)
 - 1 defense attorney to represent parolees who are not competent to represent themselves during revocation hearings
 - 1 Temp-worker in Pueblo to help scan files for the Board's automation project.



Budget

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Personal Services	\$1,348,408 (17.5 FTE)	\$1,197,526 (12.5 FTE)	\$1,197,526 (13.5 FTE)	\$1,197,526 (13.5 FTE)	\$1,376,891 (16.2 FTE)	\$1,389,395 (16.2 FTE)
Operating Expenses	\$101,545	\$99,545	\$104,890	\$104,890	\$106,390	\$106,390
Contract Services	\$152,000	\$228,637	\$288,437	\$272,437	\$272,437	\$272,437
Start-Up Costs	0	0	0	0	\$14,109	0
Total	\$1,601,953	\$1,525,708	\$1,590,853	\$1,574,853	\$1,769,827	\$1,768,222



FY 2016 Hearings

- 16,188 Application Hearings
- 2,205 Full Board Reviews
- 673 Rescission Hearings
- 7,055 Revocation Hearings
- 692 Parole Early Release Reviews
- 42 Special Needs Parole Hearings
- 48 Interstate Probable Cause Hearings
- 62 Sex Offender Supervision Level Reduction Request
- **Total: 26,965 hearings**
 - Approximately 2,247 decisions per month



FY 2016 Hearings Cont.

The Parole Board also completed the following during FY 2016:

- Issued 2,222 arrest warrants
- Granted 603 waivers
- Conducted 1,617 File Reviews in lieu of hearings

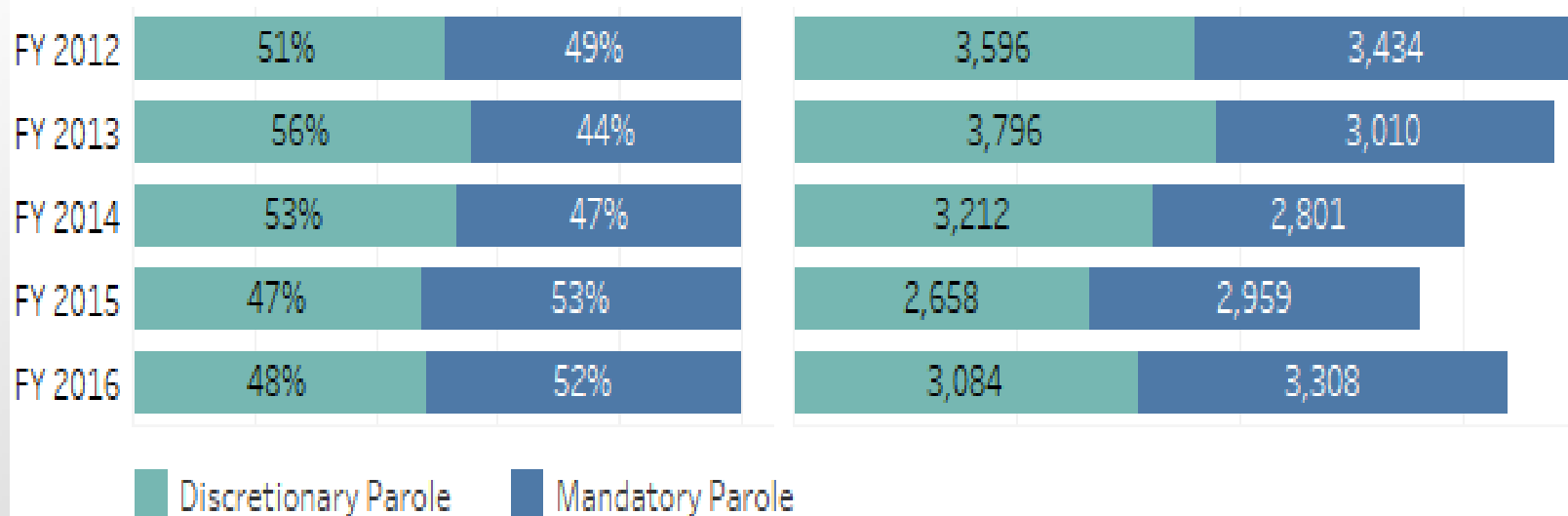


Early Parole Discharges

	FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015		FY 2016	
APPROVED	87%	142	80%	156	75%	417	80%	552
DENIED	13%	21	20%	38	25%	139	20%	134

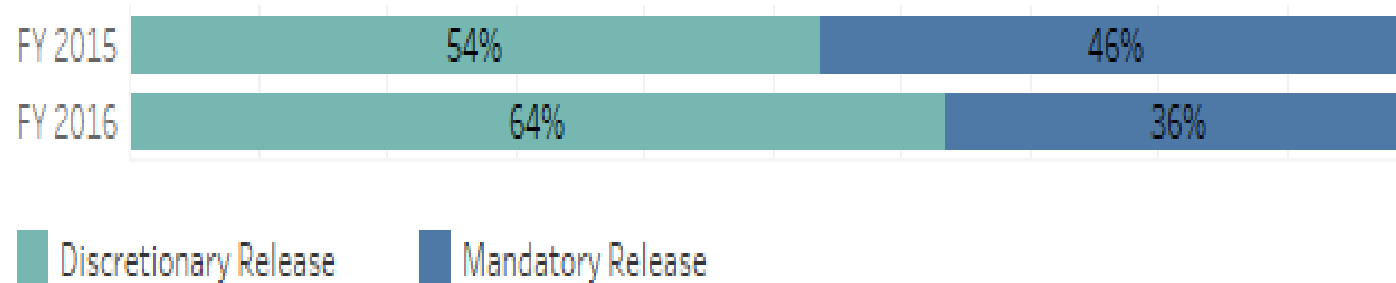


Discretionary and Mandatory Releases FY 2011- FY 2016



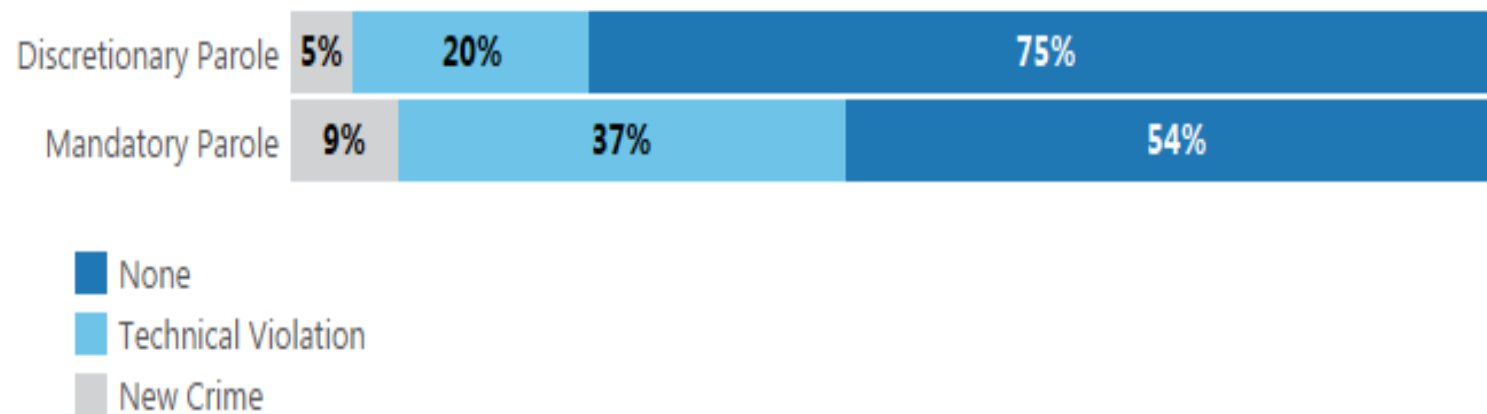


PB Hearing Decisions (NOT including File Reviews) FY 2015-2016





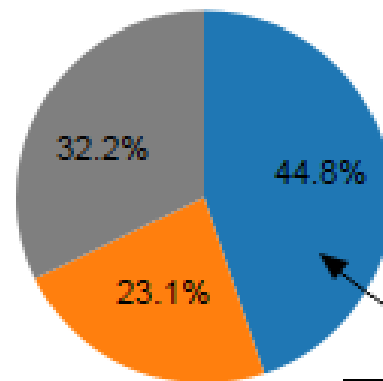
1-Year Return Rates by Parole Release Type



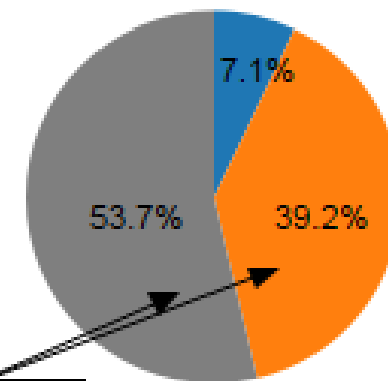


Parole Board Release Guideline Instrument (PBRGI)

PBRGI recommended RELEASE



PBRGI recommended DEFER



Agreement with the PBRGI recommendation

Discretionary Release

Defer ("Release") to MRD

Defer



Parole Board Release Guideline Instrument (PBRGI)

- Two-sided tool (matrix format)
 - Risk & Readiness variables
 - Lower risk score is favorable
 - Higher readiness score is favorable

ADVISORY RELEASE DECISION RECOMMENDATION MATRIX			
<u>RISK CATEGORY</u>	<u>READINESS CATEGORY</u>		
	3 High	2 Medium	1 Low
1 Very Low	RELEASE (Best candidates for release)	RELEASE	RELEASE
2 Low	RELEASE	RELEASE	DEFER
3 Medium	RELEASE	RELEASE	DEFER
4 High	RELEASE	DEFER	DEFER
5 Very High	DEFER	DEFER	DEFER (Best candidates for defer)

Risk Categories:

Very low: 0 - 1.99 Med: 3 – 3.99
Low: 2 – 2.99 High: 4 – 4.99
High: 5+

Readiness Categories:

Low: 0 - 1.99 Med: 2 – 2.99
High: 3+



Parole Board Release Guideline Instrument (PBRGI)

- Gaps and Opportunities

- General Issues

- Face validity is lacking due to missing variables that are indicators of both risk and readiness (strengths).
 - Predictive validity is currently unknown (No validation study to date).
 - Recommendation is a dichotomous “Defer” or “Release”
 - EBDM Instruments across the discipline tend to use a “Red, Yellow, Green” recommendation scheme.



Parole Board Release Guideline Instrument (PBRGI)

- Gaps and Opportunities

- Risk Variables

- Half a point is deducted from the offender's risk score for no Class I COPD violations in previous 12 mos.
 - Generally all offenders receive this point deduction because we no longer see individuals within 12 mos of any Class I COPD.
 - Class II COPDs are only evaluated over the previous 3 mos.
 - Should be evaluating RECENCY, FREQUENCY & SEVERITY of violations (patterns of behavior are indicative of underlying criminogenic needs)
 - Probation and Community Corrections revocations (not escapes) are not accounted for in the instrument
 - Recency, Frequency & Severity Should be evaluated.



Parole Board Release Guideline Instrument (PBRGI)

- Gaps and Opportunities
 - Risk Variables
 - Misdemeanor crimes are not accounted for in the instrument; particularly challenging when dealing with repeat DV and DUI offenders
 - Recency, Frequency & Severity Should be evaluated.
 - Misdemeanor offense history can be a good indicator of antisocial attitudes/values and impulse control deficits.
 - Criminogenic Need clusters are not currently evaluated
 - The presence of 3 or more criminogenic needs increases risk according to the most up to date research.



Parole Board Release Guideline Instrument (PBRGI)

- Gaps and Opportunities
 - Readiness Variables
 - The Level of Supervision Inventory “Total Score” is currently used as a readiness measure.
 - LSI is a risk/need assessment and was neither designed nor intended to be used to evaluate an individual’s readiness for release to community supervision.
 - Measures risk of recidivism, not readiness.
 - Additional measures should be included to provide a more holistic view of readiness/strengths:
 - Frequency of previously granted early terminations from Probation, Parole &/or Community Corrections
 - Average LOS under previous parole supervision (longer averages indicate manageability in the community)



Parole Board Release Guideline Instrument (PBRGI)

- Gaps and Opportunities
 - Readiness Variables
 - Treatment Matching/Dosage
 - Treatment is critical in reducing/mitigating risk of re-offense when released into the community.
 - Treatment that has been delivered to address criminogenic needs must be accounted for.
 - An untreated offender is not as ready as an offender who has received targeted interventions to address specific criminogenic needs.



Special Needs Parole

A special needs offender means an inmate who:

- is 60 years of age or older; is diagnosed to have a chronic infirmity, illness, condition, disease or mental illness; AND is determined by the Parole Board to be incapacitated to the extent that he or she is not likely to pose a risk to public safety; OR
- suffers from a chronic, permanent, terminal, or irreversible physical or mental illness, condition, disease or mental illness that requires costly care or treatment AND is determined by the Parole Board to be incapacitated to the extent that he or she is not likely to pose a risk to public safety.



Special Needs Parole

- 42 applications received
 - 30 (71%) were initiated by the offender
 - 7 (17%) were initiated by Clinical services staff
 - 5 (12%) were initiated by the Case Manager
- 2 (5%) were given a recommendation decision to the Parole Board by the DOC committee
- 2 offenders were granted parole, and 2 offenders are tabled for acceptance into a suitable nursing/care facility

Thank you!

Colorado State Board of Parole

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<https://www.colorado.gov/paroleboard>

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