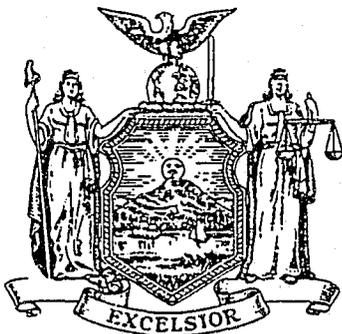


State of New York  
Department of Correctional Services

Building Number 2  
Harriman Office Campus  
Albany, New York 12226

**INMATE ESCAPE INCIDENTS**

**1988 - 1992**



Mario M. Cuomo  
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145243

145243

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

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**DIVISION OF PROGRAM PLANNING, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION**

**INMATE ESCAPE INCIDENTS**

**1988 - 1992**

**This report provides descriptive information on incidents of escape from the correctional facilities of the New York State Department of Correctional Services between 1988 and 1992. 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.**

1993

**INMATE ESCAPE INCIDENTS**

**1988 - 1992**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 1. Number and Rate of Escaped Inmates

In the five year time period of 1988 - 1992, 47 inmates escaped from custody. Nine inmates escaped in calendar year 1992. The rate of escapes per 1000 inmates has shown a downward trend during the last four years (see Table 1.1, p.2).

### 2. Most Escapees Inmates from Minimum Custody

The majority of escapees (68%) in the time period of 1988 - 1992 were from minimum security facilities or medium custody inmates assigned to work details outside of the security perimeter. The 1992 rate of escapes (.05 per 1,000 inmates) from secure custody was slightly lower than the rate for the five year period (.06 per 1,000 inmates) (see Table 1.2, p.3).

### 3. Number of Escapees Inmates by Facility Security Level

Over the time period of 1988 through 1992, 21% of escapes occurred at maximum security prisons, 19% at medium security facilities and 60% at minimum security facilities. In 1992 one inmate assigned to a maximum security facility, two inmates assigned to a medium security prison and six inmates assigned to minimum security facilities escaped (see Table 2.1, p.4).

### 4. Incarceration Offenses of Escapees

In 1992 inmates who escaped were incarcerated for the offenses of murder, robbery, forgery and burglary. Forty-three percent of escaped inmates during 1988 - 1992 had been imprisoned for burglary compared to 10% of the undercustody population (see Table 3.1 and Table 3.2, p.5). Burglars have been overrepresented in the escapee population in each year of the five year period.

### 5. Age of Escapees

During the period 1988-1992 escapees were younger when compared to the total inmate population; 47% of the escapees were under 25 years of age while 23% of undercustody inmates were under 25 years of age (see Table 4.1 and Chart 4.1, p.6). In 1992, however, 56% (N=5) of all escapees were under 25 years old while 21% of the undercustody population were under 25 years old.

6. **Race/Ethnicity of Escapees**

During the 1988 - 1992 time span, 60% of escapees were White. The total is in contrast to the total undercustody population where 17% were White. In 1992, 67% of escaped inmates were White (see Chart 4.2, p.7).

7. **Prior Incarcerations of Escapees**

Of the total 47 escapees in 1988 - 1992, 38% had served a prior commitment at a state prison while 26% had been previously incarcerated at a local jail (see Table 5.2, p.8).

8. **Minimum Sentence of Escapees**

During the time period of 1988 - 1992, 64% of escaped inmates were serving a minimum sentence of less than three years. This percentage compares with 33% of the undercustody population (see Table 6.2, p.9).

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

Thirty-eight percent of escapees between 1988 - 1992 had served less than 6 months in Department custody; only 28% had served more than three years. Of 1992 escapees, 22% (N=2) had served less than one year in custody and 22% 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 47 escapees between 1988 - 1992, 57% (N=27) were caught within 12 hours and 87% (N=41) were apprehended within 72 hours. In 1992, 56% of escapees were caught within 24 hours (see Table 8, p.12).

## INTRODUCTION

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 five years. Characteristics of escapees are examined for the time period of 1988 through 1992, 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 47 inmates who escaped in 35 separate incidents during the 1988 - 1992 time period. With the exception of 1988 when five inmates escaped, the number of escape incidents and inmate escapees remained relatively constant at 6 to 11 escape incidents per year involving a total of between 9 and 12 inmates. However, the rate of escaped inmates per thousand inmates in custody declined over the five year period from .23 in 1989 to .14 in 1992. This trend may be explained by (1) fewer escapes, and/or (2) an increase in the number of inmates undercustody in correctional facilities. The inmate population increased 51% from the beginning of 1988 (N=40,842) to the end of 1992 (N=61,736). 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 47 inmates who escaped from Department custody between 1988 and 1992. In the most recent year 1992, 9 inmates escaped from correctional facilities or from correctional officers while outside of the correctional facility. Table 1.1 presents data on the frequency and rate of escapes for the years 1988 - 1992.

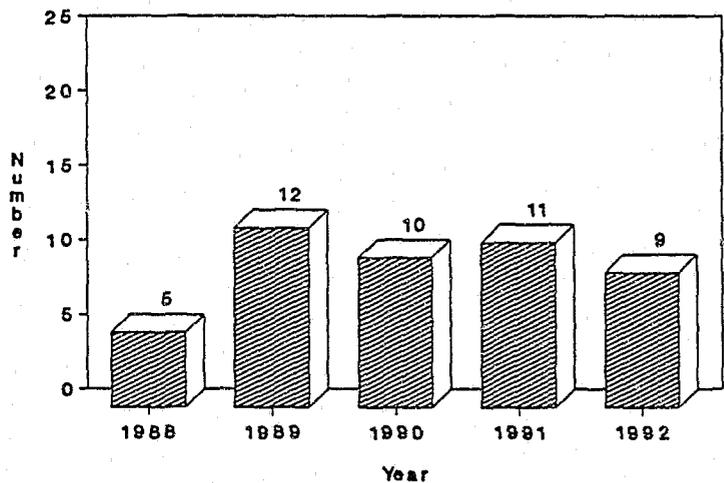
The number of escapes declined from 1991 (N=11) to 1992 (N=9), and the total number of 1992 escapes was similar to the five year average of slightly more than 9 escapes per year.

The end of year undercustody population in New York correctional facilities increased 51% between 1988 and 1992. 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 when there are large fluctuations in year to year totals of incarcerated inmates. The 1992 rate of escape, .14 per thousand inmates, was below the five year average of .17.

Table 1.1  
Frequency and Rate of Escapes  
1988 - 1992

Calendar Year	Number of Escapes	Rate per 1000/Inmates
1988	5	.11
1989	12	.23
1990	10	.18
1991	11	.19
1992	9	.14
Total	47	.17

Chart 1  
Number of Inmate Escapes  
1988 - 1992



### Escapes From Secure Custody

A total of 47 inmates escaped from custody between 1988 and 1992. However, 15 inmates escaped from a secure custody setting while 32 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 47 escapees, 51% (N=24) were from minimum security facilities and 17% (N=8) were walkaways from maximum or medium security facility assignments outside of the perimeter fence. The remaining 32% (N=15) of escapees were persons who escaped from secure custody at maximum or medium security prisons. The rate of escapes from secure custody in 1992 was lower than the 5 year average of the 1988-1992 time period. The rate of escapes from minimum custody. The total rate of escapes in 1992 were below the 5 year average.

Table 1.2  
Frequency and Rate of Escapes from Secure  
and Less Secure Security Assignment  
1988 - 1992

Year	Escapes from Secure Custody		Escapes from Minimum Security or Walkaways	
	N	Rate	N	Rate
1988	0	.00	5	.11
1989	0	.06	9	.18
1990	4	.07	6	.11
1991	5	.09	6	.10
1992	3	.05	6	.10
Total	15	.06	32	.12

## 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.

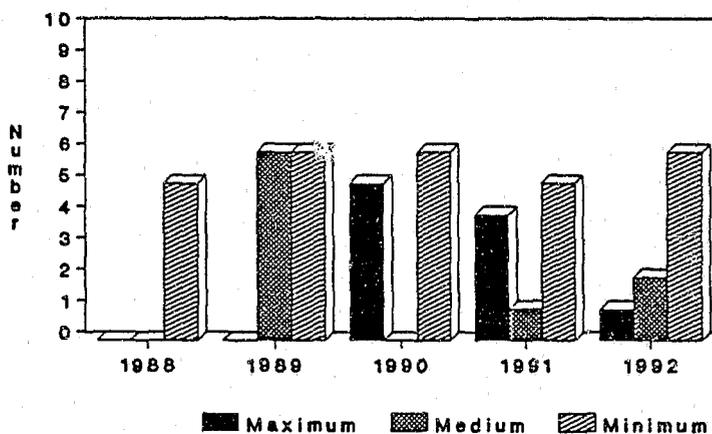
Table 2.1 reveals the security level of inmates who escaped from custody in the years from 1988 through 1992. As indicated in the table, 60% (N=28) of the escapees were in minimum security facilities, 19% (N=9) were located at medium security prisons, and 21% (N=10) were assigned to maximum security institutions.

\*In 1992, one maximum security inmate escaped while out to a hospital and outside the prison perimeter. See Appendix B, page 18, for details of escapes.

Table 2.1  
Facility Security Level of Inmate Escapes  
1988 - 1992

Security Level	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	Total	
Maximum	0	0	4	5	1	10	21%
Medium	0	6	0	1	2	9	19%
Minimum	5	6	6	5	6	28	60%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100%</b>

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 offense among 1992 escapees were burglary (N=5) and robbery (N=2).

The commitment offense for all inmates under custody of the Department of Correctional Services is compared with that of escaped inmates from 1988 - 1992 (see 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 population. Conversely, a higher 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 the inmates' security assessment. Robbery may be considered a more serious offense than crimes such as larceny or forgery, and offenders are more likely to be assigned to higher security facilities, reducing escape opportunities. Stolen property offenses may not be considered as serious an offense as murder, robbery, sex offenses, assault, or other crimes of violence, and offenders convicted of these offenses may be assigned disproportionately to lower security facilities.

Tables 3.1  
Commitment Offense Type by Year of Escape  
Inmate Escapees 1988 - 1992

Crime Type	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	Total	
Murder	0	0	2	5	1	8	17%
Other Homicide	0	1	0	0	0	1	2%
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Other Sex Off.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Robbery	1	2	2	1	2	8	17%
Assault	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
Burglary	4	4	3	4	5	20	43%
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Grand Larceny	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Drugs	0	3	0	0	0	3	6%
Stolen Property	0	0	1	1	0	2	4%
Forgery	0	1	1	0	1	3	6%
DWI	0	1	0	0	0	1	2%
Youthful Off.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Other Felony	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 3.2  
Commitment Offense of Escapees  
and Undercustody Population  
1988 - 1992

Crime Type	Escapees 1988 - 1992	Undercustody Population 1988 - 1992
Murder	17%	8%
Other Homicide	2%	5%
Rape	0%	3%
Other Sex Off.	0%	3%
Robbery	17%	22%
Assault	2%	3%
Burglary	43%	10%
Arson	0%	0%
Grand Larceny	0%	2%
Drugs	6%	32%
Stolen Property	4%	2%
Forgery	6%	1%
DWI	2%	1%
Youthful Off.	0%	1%
Other Felony	0%	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Section Four Age of Escapees

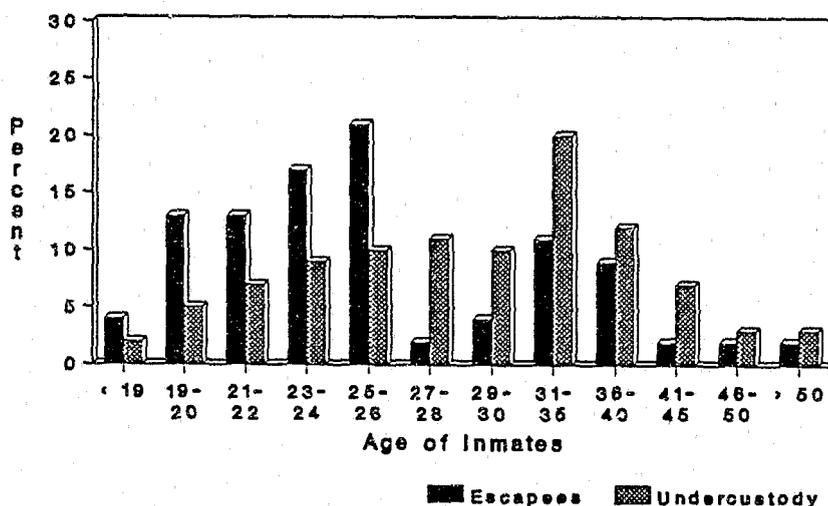
The average age of inmate escapees in 1992 was 26 years old. Of the nine escaped inmates, three were 22 years old or younger; four were between the ages of 23 and 30 and two were between 31 and 40. The majority of escapees were under 31 years old (approximately 78% in 1992 as compared to 74% in the 1988-1992 period).

A comparison of the ages of escapees in 1988-1992 with the total number of inmates in the undercustody population from 1988-1992 shows that 47% of the escapees were under the age of 25 and 74% were 30 years old or less, while 23% of the undercustody population were under 25 years old and 54% were at least 31 years old. See Chart 4.1 for a comparison of ages of inmates who escaped with total undercustody population. In general, escapees were younger than other inmates in the undercustody population.

Table 4.1  
Age at Time of Escape by Year of Escape  
Inmate Escapees 1988 - 1992

Age In Years	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	TOTAL	
<19	0	0	2	0	0	2	4%
19-20	1	1	1	2	1	6	13%
21-22	0	3	0	1	2	6	13%
23-24	1	2	2	1	2	8	17%
25-26	1	3	3	2	1	10	21%
27-28	0	0	0	1	0	1	2%
29-30	1	0	0	0	1	2	4%
31-35	0	1	1	2	1	5	11%
36-40	1	1	1	0	1	4	9%
41-45	0	1	0	0	0	1	2%
46-50	0	0	0	1	0	1	2%
>50	0	0	0	1	0	1	2%
Total	5	12	10	11	9	47	100%

Chart 4.1  
Age of Inmate Escapees  
and Undercustody Population



### Race/Ethnicity of Escapees

Table 4.2 presents information on the race/ethnicity of escaped inmates for the years 1988-1992. During the five year span, 60% of escapees were White, 9% Black, and 26% Hispanic. Proportionately more inmates classified as White escaped in 1992 when compared to the five year total.

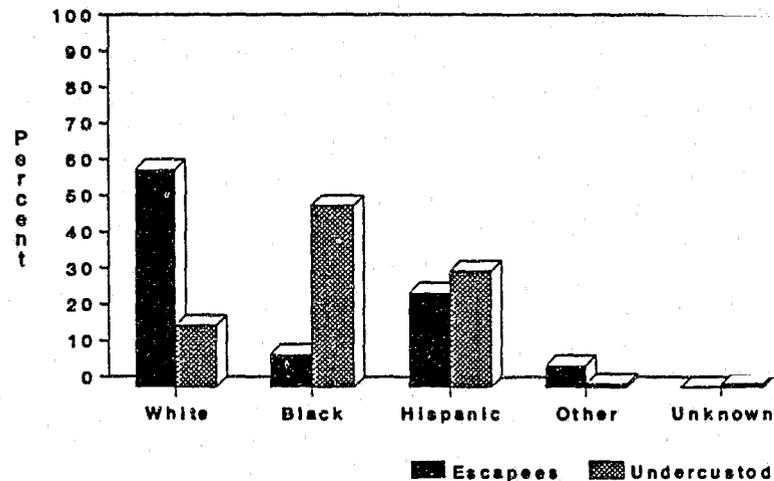
Chart 4.2 presents information on the undercustody population and escapees for the time period 1988-1992. Comparisons between ethnicity of escapees and undercustody population for the five year time period reveal that 60% of escapees were White as compared to 17% of the total inmate population; 9% of escapees were Black compared to 50% in the undercustody population; and, 26% of escapees were Hispanic compared to 32% of the undercustody population. Ethnic group totals have changed from 1988 to 1992 (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 comprise a greater portion of the total population in 1992 compared to 1988 but they make up a smaller portion of the escapee group in 1991 and 1992 as compared with escapees in 1989 and 1990.

Table 4.2  
Ethnicity of Escapees by Year of Escape  
1988 - 1992

Ethnic Group	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	Total	
White	5	5	4	8	6	28	60%
Black	0	2	1	0	1	4	9%
Hispanic	0	5	4	2	1	12	26%
Other	0	0	1	1	1	3	6%
Total	5	12	10	11	9	47	100%

Chart 4.2  
Race/Ethnicity of Inmates  
Escapees vs Undercustody, 1988- 1992



## Section Five Prior Criminal Record of 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., a felony conviction is more serious than a 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 commitment offense for which the inmate is currently serving a prison sentence. Since the burglary felony is more serious than a misdemeanor of DWI, only the felony is reported.

Examination of the data reveals that seventy percent (N=33) of the escapees between 1988 and 1992 had been convicted of at least one prior felony offense. Seventeen percent of the escapees (N=8) 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 47 escapees over the time period of 1988-1992. 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 commitment, the prison term, would be counted. Looking at escapees over the five year period 1988 to 1992 shows that thirty-eight percent had a previous prison incarceration.

Table 5.1  
Most Serious Prior Adult Criminal Conviction  
Inmate Escapees 1988 - 1992

Prior Adult Conviction	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	TOTAL	
No Prior	1	3	0	3	1	8	17%
Misdemeanor	1	1	3	1	0	6	13%
Felony	3	6	7	7	8	33	70%
Total	5	12	10	11	9	47	100%

Table 5.2  
Most Serious Prior Adult Criminal Commitment  
Inmate Escapees 1988 - 1992

Prior Adult Commitment	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	TOTAL	
None	1	3	4	7	2	17	36%
Jail	2	2	2	2	4	12	26%
Prison	2	7	4	2	3	18	38%
Total	5	12	10	11	9	47	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 1988-1992. 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. Twenty-two percent of inmates who escaped in 1992 had less than two year minimum sentences and 56% 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.

Table 6.1  
Minimum Sentence of Escapees  
by Year of Escape  
1988 - 1992

Aggregate Min. Sentence (In months)	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	TOTAL	
12- 23	2	3	4	4	2	15	32.
24- 35	3	4	3	2	3	15	32.
36- 47	0	1	0	0	3	4	9.
48- 59	0	2	0	0	0	2	4.
60- 71	0	1	1	0	0	2	4.
72- 83	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.
84- 95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.
96-107	0	1	0	0	0	1	2.
108-119	0	0	0	0	1	1	2.
120-179	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.
180-239	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.
240-299	0	0	0	2	0	2	4.
> 300	0	0	2	3	0	5	11.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100.</b>

Table 6.2  
Minimum Sentence of Escapees  
and Undercustody Population  
1988 - 1992

Aggregate Min. Sentence (In months)	Escapees 1988 - 1992	Undercustody Population 1988 - 1992
12 - 23	32%	19%
24 - 35	32%	24%
36 - 47	9%	14%
48 - 59	4%	9%
60 - 71	4%	6%
72 - 83	0%	5%
84 - 95	0%	4%
96 - 107	2%	4%
108 - 119	2%	1%
120 - 179	0%	5%
180 - 239	0%	4%
240 - 299	4%	2%
> 300	11%	4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

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 1988 - 1992, 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 43% 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 1988-1992. The percentage totals of maximum sentence categories show dissimilarity in year to year comparisons. The proportion of escapees serving maximum sentences of less than five years was 58% in 1989 and 55% in 1991. However, 60% in 1990 and 67% in 1992 of the escapees were serving sentences of more than five years. Additionally, the percentages reveal that in the total for the five year span, 49% of escapees were serving maximum sentences of less than five years but 25% (N=12) were serving maximum sentences of at least ten years.

The maximum sentences for escapees are compared to the entire undercustody population for the years 1988-1992 in Table 6.4. The largest differences occur in the maximum sentence categories of under five years. Among the escaped inmates, 49% had maximum terms of under 60 months compared to only 30% of the total under custody population for the 1988-1992 period.

Table 6.3  
Aggregate Maximum Sentence by Year of Escape  
Inmate Escapees 1988 - 1992

Aggregate Max. Sentence (in months)	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	TOTAL	
36-47	2	3	2	4	1	12	26%
48-59	1	4	2	2	2	11	23%
60-71	0	0	1	0	1	2	4%
72-83	2	1	0	0	2	5	11%
84-95	0	0	0	0	2	2	4%
96-107	0	2	1	0	0	3	6%
108-119	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
120-179	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
180-239	0	2	1	0	0	3	6%
240-299	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
300-Life	0	0	3	5	1	9	19%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 6.4  
Aggregate Maximum Sentence of Escapees  
and Undercustody Population

Aggregate Max. Sentence (in months)	Escapees 1988 - 1992	Undercustody Population 1988 - 1992
36-47	26%	14%
48-59	23%	16%
60-71	4%	6%
72-83	11%	11%
84-95	4%	4%
96-107	6%	3%
108-119	0%	5%
120-179	0%	10%
180-239	6%	7%
240-299	0%	3%
300-Life	19%	21%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Section Seven:  
Time Served to Date  
of Escape**

For 1992, 33% (N=3) of the inmates had served less than 18 months of their prison sentence, while the remaining 67% (N=6) had served between 18 months and six 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 1992 to the time period of 1988-1992 reveals that 22% of escapees in 1992 and 38% of escapes in 1988-1992 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. Thirty-eight percent of escaped inmates had served less than six months while 23% of the undercustody population had served less than six months.

**Table 7.1  
Time Served Prior to Escape  
Inmate Escapees 1988 - 1992**

Time Served (in months)	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	Total	
< 6	1	5	6	4	2	18	38.
6-11	3	2	0	0	0	5	11.
12-17	0	2	0	1	1	4	9.
18-23	1	0	1	0	2	4	9.
24-35	0	1	0	1	1	3	6.
36-47	0	2	2	0	1	5	11.
48-59	0	0	0	1	0	1	2.
60-71	0	0	0	1	0	1	2.
> 71	0	0	1	3	2	6	13.
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100.</b>

**Table 7.2  
Time Served of Escapees and Undercustody Population  
1988 - 1992**

Time Served (in months)	Escapees 1988 - 1992	Undercustody Population 1988 - 1992
< 6	38%	23%
6-11	11%	19%
12-17	9%	13%
18-23	9%	10%
24-35	6%	11%
36-47	10%	7%
48-59	2%	4%
60-71	2%	3%
> 71	13%	10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Section Eight**  
**Duration of Escape, Subsequent**  
**Penalties**

In 1992, 9 inmates escaped from custody but all were apprehended by correctional staff or police. Four escapees were caught within 12 hours of their escape, while three remained at large for more than 1 month.

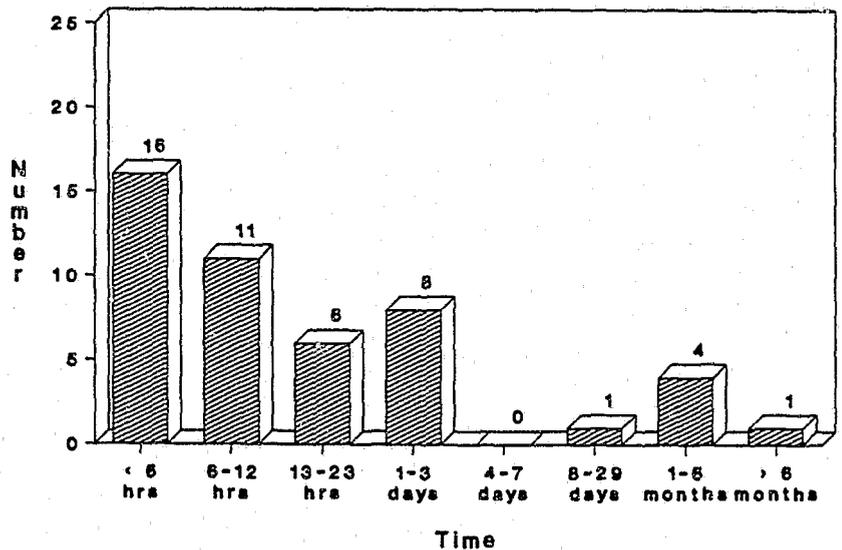
Of the 47 inmates who escaped from custody during the time period of 1988-1992, 57% (N=27) were caught within 12 hours and 87% (N=41) were taken into custody within 72 hours. Chart 8 graphically depicts the time inmates were on escape status prior to apprehension.

Escapes by inmates are of concern to correctional officials and the public. Of the 9 escapees in 1992, all were returned to custody and faced department discipline hearings, and/or 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 onto their current prison sentences.

**Table 8**  
**Duration of Escape**  
**Inmate Escapees 1988 - 1992**

Escape Duration	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	TOTAL	
< 6	0	3	5	7	1	16	34%
6-12 hrs	1	5	1	1	3	11	23%
13-18 hrs	2	1	0	0	1	4	9%
19-24 hrs	0	0	1	1	0	2	4%
25-30 hrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
31-36 hrs	1	1	0	0	0	2	4%
37-42 hrs	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
43-48 hrs	1	0	0	0	0	1	2%
49-72 hrs	0	1	2	0	1	4	9%
4 days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
5 days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
6 days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
7 days	0	0	0	1	0	1	2%
8-29 days	0	0	0	1	3	4	9%
1-6 months	0	1	0	0	0	1	2%
> 6 months							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Chart 8**  
**Duration of Escapes**  
**Inmate Escapees 1988 - 1992**



## Appendix A

## Number of Inmate Escapes by Facility 1988 - 1992

Maximum	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	Total	
Coxsackie	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
Downstate	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
Eastern	0	0	0	4	0	4	9%
Elmira	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
Green Haven	0	0	0	0	1	1	2%
Sing Sing	0	0	1	1	0	2	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>Medium</b>							
Arthurkill	0	2	0	0	0	2	4%
Collins	0	2	0	0	0	2	4%
Greene	0	0	0	1	0	1	2%
Mid-Orange	0	1	0	0	2	3	6%
Mt. McGregor	0	1	0	0	0	1	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Minimum</b>							
Edgecombe	0	2	0	0	0	2	4%
Fallsburg Annex	1	0	0	1	1	3	6%
Mohawk	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
Butler Shock	*	*	2	1	1	4	9%
Camp Beacon	1	0	1	0	0	2	4%
Camp Gabriels	0	1	0	2	0	3	6%
Camp Georgetown	1	2	1	1	2	7	15%
Camp Groveland	*	1	0	0	0	1	2%
Camp McGregor	0	0	1	0	0	1	2%
Camp Pharsalia	2	0	0	0	2	4	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100%</b>

Notes: 1) An asterisk appears in table for those years in which a correctional facility was not yet operating or where the facility changed its designation.

2) Facilities are shown if there was one or more escapes during the 1988 to 1992 time period.

## APPENDIX B

ESCAPES - 1988

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>METHOD OF ESCAPE</u>
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

ESCAPES - 1989

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>METHOD OF ESCAPE</u>
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 instrument
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

ESCAPES - 1990

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>METHOD OF ESCAPE</u>
Elnira	Out to court, jumped from window
Downstate	In transit, jumped from van
Camp McGregor	Walk away
Sing Sing	Out to hospital
Butler Shock	Walk away from work site, stole vehicle
Butler Shock	Walk away from work site, stole vehicle
Camp Georgetown	Walk away
Mohawk	Over fence, stole bicycle
Camp Beacon	Walk away
Coxsackie	Cut through cell window bars, stole vehicle

ESCAPES - 1991

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>METHOD OF ESCAPE</u>
Sullivan (Fallsburg Annex)	Walk away
Camp Georgetown	Walk away
Eastern	Out of window, down firehose
Eastern	Out of window, down firehose
Eastern	Out of window, down firehose
Eastern	Out of window, down firehose
Greene	Walk away from farm
Butler Shock	Walk away

Camp Gabriels	Walk away
Camp Gabriels	Walk away
Sing Sing	Out to hospital

ESCAPES - 1992

FACILITY

METHOD OF ESCAPE

Sullivan (Fallsburg Annex)	Walk away
Mid-Orange	Through fence
Mid-Orange	Through fence
Camp Pharsalia	Walk away
Camp Pharsalia	Walk away
Green Haven	Out to hospital, out of window down sheets
Butler Shock	Walk away
Camp Georgetown	Walk away
Camp Georgetown	Walk away

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