



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

National Parole
Board

Commission nationale des
libérations conditionnelles

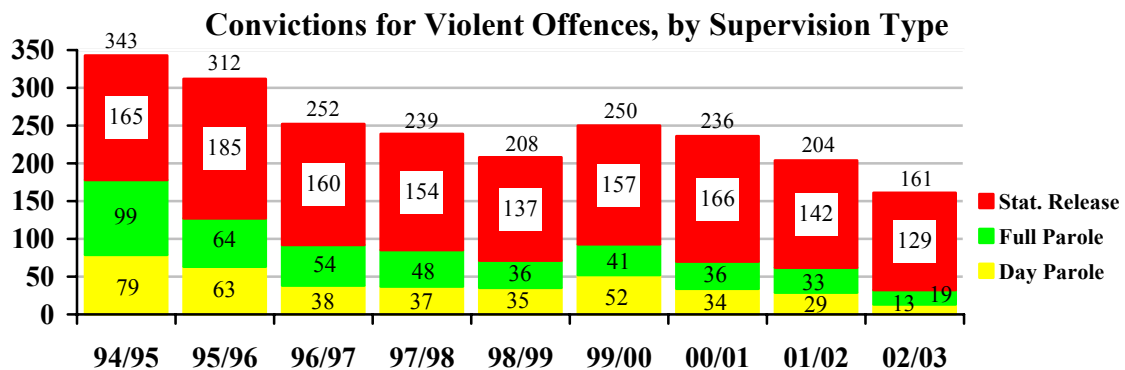
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NATIONAL PAROLE BOARD'S PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT 2002-2003

- ◆ Of the nearly 1600 **full** paroles that ended in 2002-03, the majority (73%) successfully completed their sentences under supervision in the community. Of the remainder, 149 (9%) were convicted for new offences and 287 (18%) had their paroles revoked for violating the conditions of their release.
- ◆ The vast majority (84%) of nearly 3000 **day** paroles were successfully completed. 108 (4%) were revoked for a new offence and 357 (12%) were revoked for breaching their release conditions.
- ◆ Most of the 5360 offenders on **statutory release** (nearly 58%) completed their sentences successfully. 630 (nearly 12%) were convicted of new offences while 1630 (30%) of offenders on statutory release had their releases revoked for violating the conditions.

Successful completion refers to releases in which the offenders remain under supervision in the community without violating the conditions of their release or committing a new offence. The recidivism rate is defined as the number of parole revocations resulting from the commission of a new offence.

Full parole and day parole can only be granted by the National Parole Board (NPB) while statutory release is granted by law at two thirds of the sentence without the approval of NPB.

- ◆ Convictions for violent offences by offenders on conditional release (including day parole, full parole and statutory release) dropped 41% between 1994/95 and 2001/02 from 343 to 204 in 2001/02. The year 2002/03 is shown in the report but is not used because the number of convictions for violent offences will increase during the next 12 to 18 months as it sometimes takes that long for outstanding charges to go through the court system.



Violent offences include crimes such as murder, attempted murder, sexual assault, assault causing bodily harm, hostage-taking, forcible confinement and armed robbery.

- ◆ During 2002-03, the federal prison population remained relatively stable at 12,654, while the conditional release population decreased slightly by 2.5% to 8,371.
- ◆ The 71 National Parole Board Members conducted nearly 22,000 case file reviews during 2002-03, about 6,000 of these were panel hearings involving face-to-face meetings with offenders in federal penitentiaries.
- ◆ The Board conducted 666 detention reviews in 2002-03, including both initial and annual reviews. In 2002-03, 245 offenders were detained in prison past their statutory release date, a decrease of 8.5% over the previous year.
- ◆ The NPB recorded 14,270 contacts with victims. Victims have made 220 verbal presentations at 152 hearings since this policy came into effect in July 2001.
- ◆ 1,140 people attended parole hearings as observers last year and more than 4,000 decisions were released to individuals who submitted written requests.
- ◆ The Board received nearly 17,000 applications for pardons in 2002-03; 14,436 were either granted or issued and 286 were denied. The grant rate was 98%.
- ◆ Since 1970, the National Parole Board has granted more than 291,000 pardons. About 97% of these are still in force indicating that the vast majority of pardon recipients remain crime free in the community.