

Drop the Rock¹

The Campaign to Repeal the Rockefeller Drug Laws

TRENDS IN NEW YORK STATE PRISON COMMITMENTS

	TOTAL COMMITMENTS	*VIOLENT FELONIES	PERCENT VIOLENT	DRUG OFFENSES	% DRUGS	*NON- VIOLENT	% NON- VIOLENT
1980	7,959	4,550	57%	886	11%	2,654	33%
1981	10,311	6,236	60%	1,037	10%	3,318	32%
1982	10,403	6,615	63%	1,243	11%	3,146	30%
1983	12,538	7,926	63%	1,625	12%	3,851	30%
1984	12,248	7,324	59%	1,877	15%	4,069	33%
1985	12,410	6,993	56%	2,218	17%	4,483	36%
1986	14,920	7,759	52%	3,228	21%	5,966	39%
1987	15,705	6,939	44%	5,106	32%	7,608	48%
1988	17,374	6,751	38%	6,432	37%	9,218	53%
1989	21,518	7,116	33%	9,763	45%	12,846	59%
1990	23,098	7,435	32%	10,785	46%	14,030	60%
1991	24,069	8,312	35%	10,766	45%	14,073	58%
1992	25,099	8,628	34%	11,209	45%	14,697	59%
1993	24,834	8,629	35%	10,920	44%	14,398	58%
1994	23,140	7,725	33%	10,508	45%	13,695	59%
1995	22,969	7,122	31%	10,418	45%	13,050	57%
1996	21,171	6,192	29%	9,841	46.5%	12,865	61%
1997	20,800	5,774	27.8%	9,809	47.2%	12,985	62.5%
1998	19,453	5,385	27.7%	9,063	46.6%	11,937	61.4%
1999	19,157	5,374	28.1%	8,520	44.5%	11,641	60.8%
2000	18,561	5,077	27.3%	8,225	44.3%	11,448	61.7%
2001	16,497	4,812	29.2%	6,606	40.1%	9,596	58.2%
2002	16,999	5,104	30.0%	6,647	39.1%	9,751	57.3%
2003	17,336	5,116	29.5%	6,540	37.7%	9,944	57.3%
TOTAL	428,569	158,894		163,272		231,269	

*Example of violent felonies include murder, manslaughter, rape, robbery, assault, and 1st and 2nd degree burglary.

**Examples of non-violent felonies include the possession or sale of drugs, forgery, larceny, and 3rd degree burglary.

NOTE: The combination of violent and non-violent commitments doesn't equal the total because a number of offenders do not fall neatly into either category.

SOURCE: New York State Department of Correctional Services, Feb-04

¹ Chart data obtained from Correctional Association of New York/Drop the Rock Coalition, email correspondence to Human Rights Watch, February 19, 2004.