

2003 Environmental Scan Update

January 2004

I. International Developments

Historically, corrections in the U.S. has been affected by International events such as major wars that resulted in reduced prison populations and manpower shortages. The terrorist attacks of September 2001 demonstrated that forces and developments from outside the U.S. have sudden and dramatic influences on public attitudes, public policies, and the economy - with unexpected "ripple effects" for corrections.

- A. The globalized economy will contribute to increased political stability and improved living conditions for much of the world. In regions not benefitting from economic growth and feeling culturally alienated, political, ethnic, and religious extremism has and will foster violent reactions.
- B. The U.S. and other developed nations will experience a fast-paced technological revolution, while maintaining military, diplomatic, and intelligence capabilities to deal with problems and threats from low-tech countries and groups.
- C. The populations in many developed nations will have higher proportions of elderly as birthrates decline and life expectancy increases. The world's elderly population (age 65 and older) is now increasing by 800,000 per month. The shift will place more strains on social services and available workforces.
- D. Political instability in some developing countries will result in more health problems (such as AIDS) and food shortages, resulting in reduced life expectancies and continued disorder.
- E. A global network of detention facilities is being developed by the CIA and Defense Department. The system detains terrorists and captives from military efforts such as those in Afghanistan and Iraq.
- F. Some legal scholars cite the proliferation of judicial institutions since the end of the "Cold War" having an impact on criminal law and human rights, among other international issues.
- G. There has been a worldwide trend toward privatization of enterprises previously state-owned or state-operated.

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II. Social and Demographic Trends

In contrast to many Western countries, the birthrate and immigration rates in the U.S. will continue to sustain population expansion in coming decades. In the next ten years, the U.S. population will see higher percentages of elderly, minorities, and foreign-born residents.

- A. The U.S. population grew by 13.2% from 1990 to 2000, reaching 281.4 million. Growth in the West and South doubled the growth rate of the Midwest and tripled the rate of the Northeast. During that ten-year period, the Hispanic population increased by 57.9%, the Black population grew by 15.6-21.5%, and the White population increased by 5.9-8.6%.
- B. From the 2000 Census: 80.3% of U.S. residents live in metropolitan areas; 2.8% live in institutional settings; 50.9% of the residents are female; and over one-half of the population lives in ten states.
- C. The U.S. population is expected to increase to 292.6 million in 2007 with the following ethnic breakdowns:

	<u>Percent of Population</u>	<u>Percent Foreign-Born</u>
White, Non-Hispanic	68.5%	3.7%
Black	13.2%	8.7%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.8%	59.1%
Hispanic	13.8%	34.6%

- D. Women comprise 23% of the adult probation population, 6.7% of prison inmates, and 10.1% of the jail population. The ethnic breakdown of corrections populations in 2002 was:

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>
Probation	55%	31%	12%
Jail	43.7%	39.%	14.7%
Prison	34.2%	45.1%	18.1%

- E. In 2000, almost 13% of the U.S. population was age 65 or older. In 2011, the “baby boom” generation begins to reach age 65 and by 2030 one in five people will be 65 or older. The size of the older population will double over the next three decades.
- F. An estimated 16 million Americans use illegal drugs on a monthly basis, with roughly 6 million meeting the clinical criteria for needing drug treatment.
- G. Recent studies of youth in grades 8 - 12 indicate declining rates of drug use. But researchers are concerned that use of drugs and alcohol by younger teens may be on the rise.

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III. The Economy

Through the strong economic period of the 1990s, the American corrections systems grew to record levels of offenders and spending. The U.S. economic downturn in 2001 triggered a worldwide economic slowdown. Government funding (see Section V), public attitudes, and public policy (see Section IV) were dramatically affected by the shift in the economy. The economic recovery for the U.S. showed stronger than expected growth in mid 2003.

- A. The global economy increases potential for wide-spread economic growth, but periods of economic instability are expected to occur due to increasing economic interdependence among nations and regions of the world.
- B. U.S. consumers and businesses are crucial to the world economy since the \$10 billion American economy is one-fourth of the world's economic output.
- C. Economies in nations such as China and India, less dependent on U.S. trade, are not affected as much by changes in the U.S. economy. Asian economies are expected to grow by 6.6% in 2004, outpacing the world economy growth.
- D. After projections for a modest and gradual economic recovery, the U.S. economy showed a surprising jump in 2003. The U.S. economy experienced its best quarterly growth rate in nearly two decades with an annualized 8.2% rate in gross domestic product in the quarter ending September 30, 2003. Many economists doubt that the fourth quarter of 2003 will be as strong and project that the economic growth rate will level off.
- E. The economic recovery which began in 2002 was not generating many new jobs until midyear 2003. The economy then gained 286,000 new jobs from August through October.
- F. The International Monetary Fund sees the global economy set for its best growth since 2001, but cautions that the U.S. account deficit and volatility of the dollar's exchange rate could hinder the advance. The Fund predicts a 4.1% world economy growth in 2004 compared to 3.2% in 2003. Latin America and the Euro zone are predicted to see only slight growth.

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IV. Government Spending

The economic downturn of 2001 resulted in many state governments leaving the “best of times” and landing in the “worst of times” economically, all within a period of only 12 to 24 months. Over one half of the state corrections departments were hit with budget cuts in 2001-2002. Many states enter 2004 with rising revenues and improving fiscal outlooks as the U.S. economy showed strong gains in mid 2003. But some states, most noticeably California, still have significant budget shortfalls. Eleven states will see corrections budget reductions in 2004 as aggregate state corrections spending is projected to increase by less than 1%. Many corrections departments will continue to face stiff competition for resources as state governments deal with rising costs in other service areas.

- A. During the extended economic expansion of the mid and late 1990s, state governments increased spending levels, and in some cases returned excess revenues to taxpayers, while sources of federal revenue sharing were being reduced.
- B. Governments spent \$9.57 billion on corrections in 1982. Corrections expenditures increased to \$53.86 billion in 1999. State spending on corrections grew faster than any other justice system component during the 1980s and 1990s, increasing by 476.1% between 1982 to 1999. Local government spending on corrections increased by 401.4% during that period.
- C. From 1977 to 1999, state and local spending on corrections increased by 946%. During that time education spending increased by 370%, hospital healthcare increased by 418%, and the national debt increased by 490%.
- D. Most corrections expenditures (62.8%) occur at the state level. In 1999, 2.8% of all state and local spending went to corrections.
- E. The nation’s economic problems of 2001 resulted in a sudden drop of revenues to state governments. During the three-year period beginning in 2001 states experienced a cumulative \$200 billion budget gap. Many states were forced to reduce operating budgets of state agencies, tap financial reserves, delay capital improvements, and raise fees and taxes.
- F. In FY 2002, 26 state corrections agencies had their budgets cut from levels of the previous year or from funding levels set at the beginning of the fiscal year. Many state corrections agencies that did not experience direct cuts reported that funding levels were not keeping pace with increased expenses. Most cuts that year were in the range of 1-6%, but budget cuts in two states were more than 10%.
- G. Common methods used by corrections agencies to deal with budget cuts were to:
 - freeze hiring
 - downsize the workforce
 - reduce staff training
 - reduce travel expenditures
 - increase levels of double or triple-bunking.
 - delay purchase of supplies
 - reduce inmate programs and services
 - close facilities or inmate housing units
 - delay opening of new beds
- H. Total state spending in 2003 increased by only a rate of 1.3% during the first 9 months of the year. Total corrections spending by states in FY 2003 grew by 2.6%, compared to the annual average increase of 8.4% from 1992 - 2002. State legislatures appropriated 0.2% less for FY 2004 than was spent in FY 2003 and total spending on corrections in 2004 is projected to increase by only 0.8%.
- I. Grim predictions for continued budget troubles in FY 2004 have been upgraded for

some states due to the unexpected upswing of the U.S. economy in mid 2003. As of November 2003, only 10 states were projecting budget gaps and 34 states reported revenues at or above projected levels.

- J. Eleven states are reporting actual funding reductions for corrections in FY 2004. Those states report that actions to be taken to accommodate the cuts include:
- eliminating staff positions;
 - reducing inmate education contract services;
 - implementing unpaid staff furloughs one day per month;
 - reducing use of contractual prison beds; and
 - closing facilities or delaying the opening of new housing units.
- K. Competition for state resources should remain tight. Recent fiscal problems point to the need for some states to overhaul tax structures, which rely heavily on taxing goods instead of services. States anticipate continued increases in Medicaid, education, and social services. Observers do not expect legislative initiatives to raise taxes in 2004 (an election year).
- L. State budget officials observe that state governments' revenues rebound 12 to 18 months after the national economy recovers. County government revenues lag behind even more.
- M. Federal spending has increased by 23.7% in the past three years to \$2.31 trillion in FY 2004. Increases are due to military actions, expansion of Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare, and higher medical costs for federal employees.
- N. Increased spending, the economic downturn in 2001, and major tax cuts have reversed a four-year string of federal budget surpluses into a record deficit of \$374 billion last year and an estimated \$500 billion deficit for FY 2004.
- O. Recent additions to Medicare and increasing numbers of retirees receiving Social Security will continue to drive federal spending increases through at least the next two decades.
- P. The FY 2004 funding for the Department of Justice calls for elimination of funds for prison drug treatment, reductions in funds to house criminal aliens, but new funding for a federal initiative to reduce prison rapes. Federal funding for state prison construction was discontinued in 2002.

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V. Public Attitudes and Public Policy

One of the most significant changes relating to crime and justice in the past five years has been the shift in public concern and fear of crime. Crime was listed in opinion polls as the nation's most important problem in the mid and late 1990s. During those years, public policy reflected "tough" approaches that continued the expansion of corrections populations even as crime rates dropped. Since September 2001, public concerns and fears have refocused. Some states are seeking more moderate justice policies in a time of changing public priorities and government budget problems.

- A. From 1994-1998, crime and violence were rated the nation's most important problem by 20-37% of respondents to a Gallup Poll. In the same poll in 2002, only 1% rated crime and violence the top problem - fifteen issues were rated more important (terrorism and the economy were first and second).
- B. A Pew Research Center Poll had similar results with concerns regarding the economy, international issues, terrorism, unemployment, and Iraq far outdistancing concerns regarding crime and the justice system.
- C. A recent study of public opinion related to punishment and corrections concluded that:
- while not uniformly punitive, the public prefers or at the very least accepts "get tough" policies with offenders;
 - punitive attitudes soften when given more information regarding offenders and alternatives, attitudes harden when given more information regarding victims and crime-related problems;
 - the public is utilitarian, accepting of moderate sanctions that reduce cost, provide victim restitution, and provide opportunities for offender reform;
 - the public is not as accepting of more moderate sanctions for violent offenders;
 - rehabilitation is still supported as a goal of corrections;
 - the public supports programs that "save children," but consider violent youth to have forfeited their status as children; and
 - the central tendency is to be punitive and progressive - "do justice, protect society, and reform offenders."
- D. With public opinion shifting and states experiencing fiscal problems, policy makers in several states are beginning to explore measures or enact legislation to reduce corrections costs. In the past year, about half of the states have passed laws eliminating some lengthy mandatory minimum sentencing provisions enacted in the 1980s and 1990s. Other examples of recent policy changes:
- Washington increased "good time" provisions for inmates and eliminated parole supervision for some low-risk inmates;
 - Kansas mandated treatment instead of prison for first-time, non-violent drug offenders;
 - Arkansas developed community corrections facilities to divert minor parole violators from state prisons;
 - Iowa, Missouri, and Wisconsin eased their "truth in sentencing" laws;
 - Delaware shortened the length of probation supervision for some offenders to reduce revocations based on technical violations;

- Arizona reduced sentences for some drug offenders and invested savings in additional treatment programs;
 - six states implemented early release programs for some inmates;
 - at least four states have established commissions or groups to study sentencing policies; and
 - several states are examining ways to increase parole releases, including compassionate release for elderly or ill inmates.
- E. Political observers expect polarization by Republicans and Democrats to increase in 2004, an election year when 78% of state legislative seats, the White House, and control of Congress are up for grabs in the coming election. The numbers of Republicans and Democrats holding state legislative seats are almost even, with Republicans holding a slight edge of 0.2%.
- F. A national public affairs director for a state legislative organization, predicting the top ten issues for legislatures in 2004, sees expansion of the debate on treatment versus incarceration of offenders.

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VI. The Workforce

Within the next ten years, the general workforce is expected to undergo two major shifts - a change in demographics of workers and a tightening of the labor market, especially for skilled workers. These trends will affect the corrections workforce, in addition to high turnover of management, challenges in meeting staff training needs, and strains due to budget cuts and recent hiring freezes.

- A. The U.S. workforce is expected to grow by 15% in the decade ending 2010, a slightly slower pace than the previous decade. The service-producing sector will add the most jobs, while manufacturing and office/administrative support occupations will grow at rates below previous averages.
- B. Reversing patterns of previous decades, the workforce will see increases in proportions of younger and older workers and a decline in the proportion of middle age workers. The median age of the U.S. workforce will be 40.7 years by 2008, compared to 34.8 years in 1978.
- C. By 2005, 20.5% of the workforce will be 55 years of age or older compared to 12.5% in 1990.
- D. Between 2000 and 2010:
 - more women (in nearly all age groups) will enter the U.S. workforce, increasing from 47% to 48% of the workforce;
 - the projected growth rate of White workers will be 9%;
 - the projected growth rate of Black workers will be 21%;
 - the projected growth rate of Hispanic workers will be 36%; and
 - the projected growth rate of Asian workers will be 44%.
- E. Over the next three decades, 76 million “baby boomers” will retire, but only 46 million of the next generation workers are waiting in the wings. By 2010, there could be a shortage of 4 to 6 million qualified workers.
- F. As the labor market tightens, more employers are initiating measures to attract and retain skilled employees. A recent study showed that average employee tenure is at an all-time low of 3.6 years. A previous report showed that the average worker holds nine different jobs between the ages of 18 and 34.
- G. The growing use of temporary workers, independent contractors, consultants, part-time employees and outsourced labor challenges organizations to find ways to build synergy, teamwork and a cohesive culture from “all the fragments.”
- H. The “bubble” of more younger and older workers, and the increase of Hispanics, Asians, and Blacks result in an inter-generational, multi-racial workforce that often shares differing values and backgrounds.
- I. The number of corrections workers increased from 394,677 in 1985 to 716,573 in 1999. Most corrections workers (63.7%) are employed by state governments. Based on ratios of an NIC Information Center survey, 12-13% of the corrections workers are in supervisory/management positions. Based on 1999 corrections workforce levels, there are an estimated 1,290 corrections executives, 5,520 senior leaders, 16,360 middle managers, and 67,360 supervisors.
- J. Twenty-nine percent (29%) of all corrections executive positions were filled within the past 12 months and 60% of all corrections executives will be eligible to retire

- within the next 5 years.
- K. The majority of prison and community corrections agency respondents to a recent poll did not consider the training and development opportunities for executive staff to be sufficient. States are also reporting general reductions to staff training as a result of agency budget cuts.
- L. At a November 2003 rally in New Hampshire, 200 corrections officers from 11 Eastern states gathered outside a state prison to call for more funding for personnel to improve safety of prison staff.
- M. When asked how their agencies could perform better, managers in federal government suggested:
- better recruiting,
 - fewer layers of bureaucracy,
 - implementation of new technology, and
 - more discipline for poor performers.
- N. Even though “pieces of the training and development puzzle” have existed in the past, only now are organizations beginning to organize and integrate classroom instruction, online training, applications for performance management, and knowledge management systems. Organizations are moving from a job-based model to a competency-based model.

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VII. Technology

Significant advances in all areas of technology will continue in the coming decades, with some of the most dramatic in the fields of health care, agriculture, and new disciplines that integrate technologies. Recent developments in information technology alone have been characterized as the most significant global transformation since the Industrial Revolution of the mid-1700s to mid-1800s. New technologies provide opportunities for correctional innovation, even in an era of reduced or tight budgets.

- A. From a report by the National Intelligence Council: “The integration of information technology, biotechnology, materials sciences, and nanotechnology will generate a dramatic increase in innovation. The effects will be profound on business and commerce, public health, and safety.”
- B. By 2015, the biotechnology revolution will be in full swing in areas such as genomic profiling, biomedical engineering, therapy and drug developments, and genetic modification.
- C. Technological advances in the next two decades will come from fields of: 1) Energy, 2) Information technology, 3) Biological sciences, and 4) Materials science.
- D. Integration of the four disciplines listed above will spawn new fields of knowledge. Example: Cognitive computing, “smart materials,” and genomics intersect resulting in the field of biointeractive materials worn on the body and able to sense and react to changes in vital signs.
- E. The Internet is expanding so quickly that it is difficult to determine how many people are online worldwide. One source reports that Internet users worldwide grew from 26 million in 1995 to 580.78 million in May 2002.
- F. More than one-third (37%) of workers in the U.S. regularly use the Internet at the office and 86% of these users have broadband access to the Internet. The number of broadband subscribers in the US is expected to surpass narrowband subscribers in 2005 and is expected to grow to around 49 million in 2007.
- G. In a 2002 survey of correctional workers, 92% indicated that online training is or would be supported by their agencies and over 55% of respondents could use a computer at work for such training.
- H. Forty-two percent (42%) of Americans do not use the Internet and 56% of them say that they will probably never go online.
- I. The U.S. ranks tenth in the world in attracting users to its government websites. Only 44% of adults surveyed in the U.S. visited a government website in the last 12 months compared to 63% in Denmark and 62% in Norway. The most frequently offered service on government websites is document delivery.
- J. Addressing the “Digital Divide” will be an increasingly difficult challenge for government organizations as they move more and more towards electronic systems that increase efficiency, reduce costs and better serve the majority. The decision for determining the government’s responsibility in providing better service while not excluding the non-tech community will need to be addressed.
- K. A 2003 study shows the number of users accessing online government resources and services rose from 26% in 2001 to 30% in 2002. In 2003 usage remained flat at 30%.

- L. Computer protocols and languages are developing (such as XML) that allow interaction and sharing of data among existing databases and mainframe systems. The Department of Justice is currently testing such a system that allows integration of state agency databases such as courts, corrections, and motor vehicles.
- M. Technological applications being developed for corrections include:
 - staff safety and protection;
 - less than lethal weapons;
 - investigative and security tools;
 - information systems;
 - offender monitoring; and
 - facility design.
- M. The levels of intrusiveness associated with some applications of technology for monitoring or controlling offenders could raise public policy questions regarding their ethical and constitutional implications.

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VIII. Crime & Justice Trends

Crime rates in the U.S. began dropping in 1992, a trend opposite to many developed countries. The arrest rates for Blacks, compared to their incarceration rates, continues to raise questions regarding their disproportionate rate of imprisonment. Budget cuts are occurring in the judicial and law enforcement sectors of criminal justice, as well as corrections. The results of one state's move to replace a large institution with smaller treatment facilities for juvenile offenders is being examined as a model for future reform.

- A. Transnational crimes emerged as a leading international justice issue in the 1990s. They include trafficking in arms, drugs, children, women, immigrants, body organs, cultural artifacts, nuclear materials, terrorism, and money laundering.
- B. In a 2001 study, the British Home Office found violent crime and property crime rates increased in most developed countries, except the U.S. One observer attributed community policing and increased use of incarceration as factors in the U.S. trend.
- C. U.S. crime rates in the past two decades reached a peak in 1991 (5,898.4 per 100,000), then began a significant drop to a rate of 4,118.8 per 100,000 in 2002. Violent crime rates in 2002 were 33.8% below the level in 1983, and property crime rates were 23.5% below the 1983 level.
- D. Law enforcement made 13.7 million arrests in 2002. Since 1993, the number of arrests for violent crime dropped by 13.4% and arrests for property crime dropped by 25.2%.
- E. In 2002, 83.5% of all arrests were adults and 77% of those arrested were male. Since 1993, the number of males arrested dropped by 5.9% and the number of females arrested increased by 14.1%.
- F. In 2002, 70.7% of arrestees were White and 26.9% were Black.
- G. Budget cuts to state courts are slowing the processing of cases, eliminating hearing of certain types of cases, and impeding critical services such as services for crime victims.
- H. Missouri's closure of their large "training school" and shift to placing juvenile offenders in smaller, treatment-oriented facilities has lowered recidivism and costs, drawing attention from other states.
- I. The Federal government plans continued cuts in 2004 for funding additional state and local police officers in the community policing initiative started under the Clinton administration.

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IX. Corrections Populations and Trends

After record rates of growth, offender populations in the U.S. are leveling off. Corrections is managing a population that has disproportionately high numbers of mentally ill and individuals with communicable diseases compared to the general population. Those factors, combined with an aging inmate population, are driving up corrections medical costs. While there are promising signs from offender treatment research, there are obstacles to expanding offender treatment. Research indicates high recidivism rates for inmates after release from prison, and offenders are now leaving prisons in record numbers.

- A. After fast-paced growth throughout the 1980s and 1990s, U.S. corrections populations have increased at slower rates during the past three years. Over 2.2 million Americans were under corrections supervision in 1982; 6.7 million were under corrections supervision in 2002. The U.S. now has the highest incarceration rate in the world.

	<u>1982</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2002</u>
Jail Inmates	209,582	507,044	621,149	665,475
Prison Inmates	412,303	1,078,542	1,316,333	1,367,856
Adult Probationers	1,335,359	3,077,861	3,826,209	3,995,165
Adult Parolees	243,880	507,044	621,149	665,475

- B. About 3.1% of the U.S. population (1 of every 32 adults) is in correctional custody or under correctional supervision.
- The prison population annual growth rate of 6.7% in 1995 slowed to 1.1% in 2001 and 2.6% in 2002.
 - Jail populations increased by 5.4% from 2001 to 2002, a pace higher than the average annual increase of 4% since 1995.
 - The growth rate of probationers in 2002 was 1.6%, about half the annual average growth rate since 1995.
 - Parole populations grew by 2.8% in 2002, higher than the annual average increase of 1.5% since 1995.
- C. Twenty-eight percent (28%) of Black men will be sent to prison or jail in their lifetime. An estimated 12% of Black men between the ages of 20 and 34 are in prison or jail (the highest rate in history). By comparison, 1.6% of White men in the same age group are incarcerated.
- D. The number and proportion of women under correctional supervision has been increasing. At midyear 2002, 96,099 women were in state and federal prisons. Since 1995, the number of women inmates has increased an annual average rate of 5.4%, compared to 3.6% for men. In 1995, 10.2% of jail inmates were women compared to 11.6% in 2002. Also in 1995, 21% of probationers were women compared to 23% in 2002.
- E. In state prisons, 49% of inmates were convicted of violent crimes, 19% convicted of property crimes, 20% convicted of a drug crimes, and 11% convicted of public order crimes.
- F. Since 1995, the proportion of Whites has increased in both prisons and jails.

		<i>White</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>Hispanic</i>
Prison Population	1995	33.5%	45.7%	17.6%
	<u>2002</u>	<u>34.2%</u>	<u>45.1%</u>	<u>18.1%</u>
Jail Population	1995	40.1%	43.5%	14.7%
	<u>2002</u>	<u>43.8%</u>	<u>39.8%</u>	<u>14.7%</u>
Probation Population	1995	53%	31%	14%
	2002	55%	31%	12%

- G. Most offenders have substance abuse histories. It is estimated that 70% of jail inmates used drugs regularly or committed a drug offense. Fourteen percent (14%) of jail inmates reported participation in treatment programs after being admitted to jail. Over 80% of prison inmates report using illegal drugs and 51% admitted they were under the influence of drugs or alcohol while committing their crimes. About one-third of prison inmates were involved in a prison treatment program when surveyed in 1997. In a 1995 survey of probationers, 70% reported past drug use and 17% reported participation in substance abuse treatment during their current probation.
- H. Some studies report that offender substance abuse treatment can reduce recidivism by as much as 50% and is less expensive than incarceration.
- I. The number of women in the correctional population is growing at a faster rate than men. The percentage of women in the probation population increased from 18% in 1990 to 23% in 2002. In 1990, 5.6% of prison inmates were women compared to 6.7% in 2002. The percentage of women in the jail population increased from 9.2% in 1990 to 10.1% in 2003. Approximately 70% of women under correctional supervision have minor children. Forty-four percent (44%) of women offenders have been physically or sexually abused.
- J. The number of elderly inmates increased from 6,500 in 1979 to nearly 50,000 in 1998. Florida projects that 8.2% of its prison population will be elderly inmates. Costs for incarcerating the elderly are three times that of younger inmates. Some states are using separate housing units for elderly inmates or exploring ways to release them from prison earlier.
- K. Costs of health care, which have risen at double-digit rates for the past three years, are consuming much of correctional spending. Example: California spent \$663 million for health services to state inmates in FY 2002. A 2002 survey showed that roughly 9.15% of correctional agency spending is for health services.
- L. AIDS is five times more prevalent in offender populations. Offenders also have higher rates of TB, hepatitis, asthma, and mental illness, as well as high rates of chronic illness. A 2002 report for Congress called for better medical and preventive care for inmates to reduce transmission of disease within prisons and reduce later health costs when inmates are released.
- M. Estimates of inmates with mental illness are:
16.2% of state prison inmates; 7.4% of Federal inmates; and 16.3% of jail inmates.
In 2000, 1,394 of the 1,558 correctional facilities in the U.S. were providing mental health services to inmates. Thirteen percent (13%) of probationers in a 1998 study were required to seek mental health treatment, but only 53% of those had complied at

- the time of the survey.
- N. In 1994 nearly 234,000 sex offenders were under correctional supervision. Sixty percent (60%) of those were under community supervision. In a 2002 survey, 90% of prison systems in 43 states and the District of Columbia reported that they provide sex offender treatment, usually focusing on relapse prevention through cognitive-behavioral group therapy.
- O. Nearly 97% of all prison inmates will eventually be released from prison and more than 625,000 inmates a year are now leaving custody. The number of parolees is increasing, but not because of more lenient parole boards. The numbers of mandatory parole releases is increasing and the number of discretionary releases has declined.
- P. A recidivism study of 272,111 inmates released in 1994 found that within 3 years:
- 67.5% were rearrested for a new crime;
 - 46.9% were convicted of a new crime;
 - 25.4% were in prison for a new conviction; and
 - 51.8% were in prison for a new conviction or parole violation(s).
- Q. Federal agencies and several private organizations have initiated programs to improve inmate transition and re-entry efforts. \$100 million in federal grants were provided for that purpose to 68 state and local agencies in 2002.
- R. Analysis of controlled studies indicate that treatment interventions have reduced recidivism by about 10%. One author, commenting on implementation of offender treatment programs, observed that “scientific knowledge... is not getting to the potential consumers of the new technology.” He cited three factors:
- A communication gap between academic criminologists and correctional practitioners;
 - Difficulty in converting research into well-designed and effective programs; and
 - Obstacles to shifting the field of corrections to more treatment-oriented approaches.

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This scan update was prepared as a working draft for the management staff of the National Institute of Corrections to support their strategic planning. The report was prepared by staff of the NIC Information Center, managed by LIS, Inc., under contract #J1COc-038.