

Colorado Division of Criminal Justice
Summer 2013
Interim Prison Population
Forecasts

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The Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Summer 2013 Interim Prison Population and Parole Caseload Projections

Introduction

These interim projections provide adjustments to the annual correctional population projections issued by the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice. The 2012 prison population projections released in February of 2013 forecast that the Colorado prison inmate population would decline by 4.6% by the end of FY 2013, to 20,079. The actual population at year-end was 20,135, a difference of less than 0.3%.

However, the projected decline in the female inmate population did not meet the expected 11.4% drop, with the population falling only 5.6% from 1,885 to 1,780 by the end of FY 2013. The female population began to increase in February of this year, a significant deviation from the negative growth observed over the prior 16 months.

The DCJ Winter 2012 juvenile commitment and detention projections underestimated the year to date average daily population (ADP) realized at the end of fiscal year 2013 by 0.6% for each of these populations. The projected juvenile parole year-end average daily caseload (ADC) exceeded the actual ADC by 3.5%.

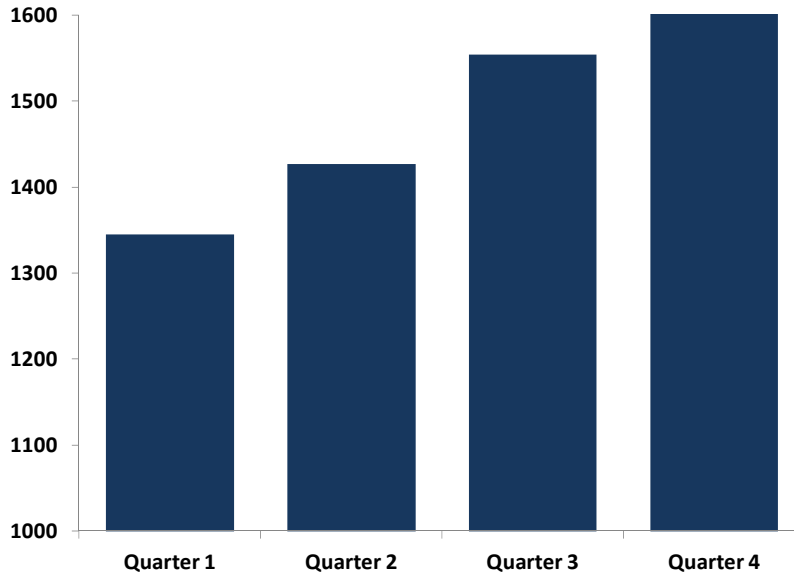
Interim Prison Population Projections

Due to the factors discussed below, the DCJ 2012 projections have been adjusted upward. These adjustments are moderated by recent legislation which is expected to divert some offenders from prison, and lower the length of incarceration for others.¹

- The reversal in the decline in the female prison population is mainly due to recent increases in female new court commitments and parole returns with a new crime, which rose 4.1% in FY 2013. The majority of this growth occurred during the second half of the year, with a 24.4% increase in such admissions between the first and second 6 months of FY 2013.
- Even though the total population at the end of the year was very close to the forecast, the number of new court commitments and parole returns with a new crime was underestimated by 7.6%. After four years of consistent decline, such admissions grew 3.4% across FY 2013. As in the case of the female population, the majority occurred in the second half of the year. The following graph demonstrates this shift in the numbers of admissions of prisoners with new sentences during each quarter throughout FY 2013:

¹ See Colorado Senate Bill 13-250 and House Bill 13-1160.

FY 2013 prison admissions* with new sentences by quarter



* Includes new court commitments and parole returns with a new crime

- Parole returns due to technical violations were overestimated by 5.8%. With the recent rise in admissions with new crimes, and a reduction in the projected number of returns for technical parole violations, the overall length of stay for new admissions will be longer than accounted for in the Winter 2012 projections.
- Additionally, overall parole releases decreased 2.7%. Discretionary releases increased as expected, but mandatory releases fell 8.0%, significantly more than expected.
- Preliminary data indicates that criminal court filings increased substantially over the past year, after 6 years of consistent decline.

The DCJ interim quarterly and annual adjusted figures are displayed in Tables 1 and 2, below. Figure 1 depicts the actual year-end prison populations for fiscal years 2012 through 2013, and compares the DCJ December 2012 projection to the Summer 2013 interim projection. Figure 2 displays the same for the female prison population projection.

Table 1. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Quarterly Adult Prison Population Projection

Year	End of month:	Total Population	Quarterly Growth	Male Population	Quarterly Growth	Female Population	Quarterly Growth
2012	<i>June*</i>	21,037	-1.4%	19,152	-1.2%	1,885	-2.7%
2012	<i>September*</i>	20,628	-1.9%	18,825	-1.7%	1,803	-4.4%
2012	<i>December*</i>	20,379	-1.2%	18,634	-1.0%	1,745	-3.2%
2013	<i>March*</i>	20,127	-1.2%	18,371	-1.4%	1,756	0.6%
2013	<i>June*</i>	20,135	0.0%	18,355	-0.1%	1,780	1.4%
2013	September	20,154	0.1%	18,361	0.0%	1,794	0.8%
2013	December	20,156	0.0%	18,368	0.0%	1,788	-0.3%
2014	March	20,176	0.1%	18,390	0.1%	1,786	-0.1%
2014	June	20,149	-0.1%	18,378	-0.1%	1,771	-0.8%
2014	September	20,052	-0.5%	18,297	-0.4%	1,755	-0.9%
2014	December	20,049	0.0%	18,305	0.0%	1,744	-0.6%
2015	March	20,143	0.5%	18,401	0.5%	1,742	-0.1%
2015	June	20,135	0.0%	18,393	0.0%	1,742	0.0%
2015	September	20,145	0.1%	18,413	0.1%	1,733	-0.5%
2015	December	20,196	0.3%	18,459	0.3%	1,737	0.3%
2016	March	20,260	0.3%	18,528	0.4%	1,732	-0.3%
2016	June	20,243	-0.1%	18,516	-0.1%	1,727	-0.3%
2016	September	20,293	0.2%	18,568	0.3%	1,725	-0.1%
2016	December	20,400	0.5%	18,666	0.5%	1,734	0.5%
2017	March	20,522	0.6%	18,777	0.6%	1,744	0.6%
2017	June	20,499	-0.1%	18,756	-0.1%	1,742	-0.1%
2017	September	20,479	-0.1%	18,738	-0.1%	1,741	-0.1%
2017	December	20,673	0.9%	18,915	0.9%	1,757	0.9%
2018	March	20,714	0.2%	18,953	0.2%	1,761	0.2%
2018	June	20,728	0.1%	18,966	0.1%	1,762	0.1%
2018	September	20,795	0.3%	19,028	0.3%	1,768	0.3%
2018	December	20,905	0.5%	19,124	0.5%	1,781	0.8%
2019	March	21,027	0.6%	19,234	0.6%	1,794	0.7%
2019	June	21,024	0.0%	19,229	0.0%	1,795	0.1%

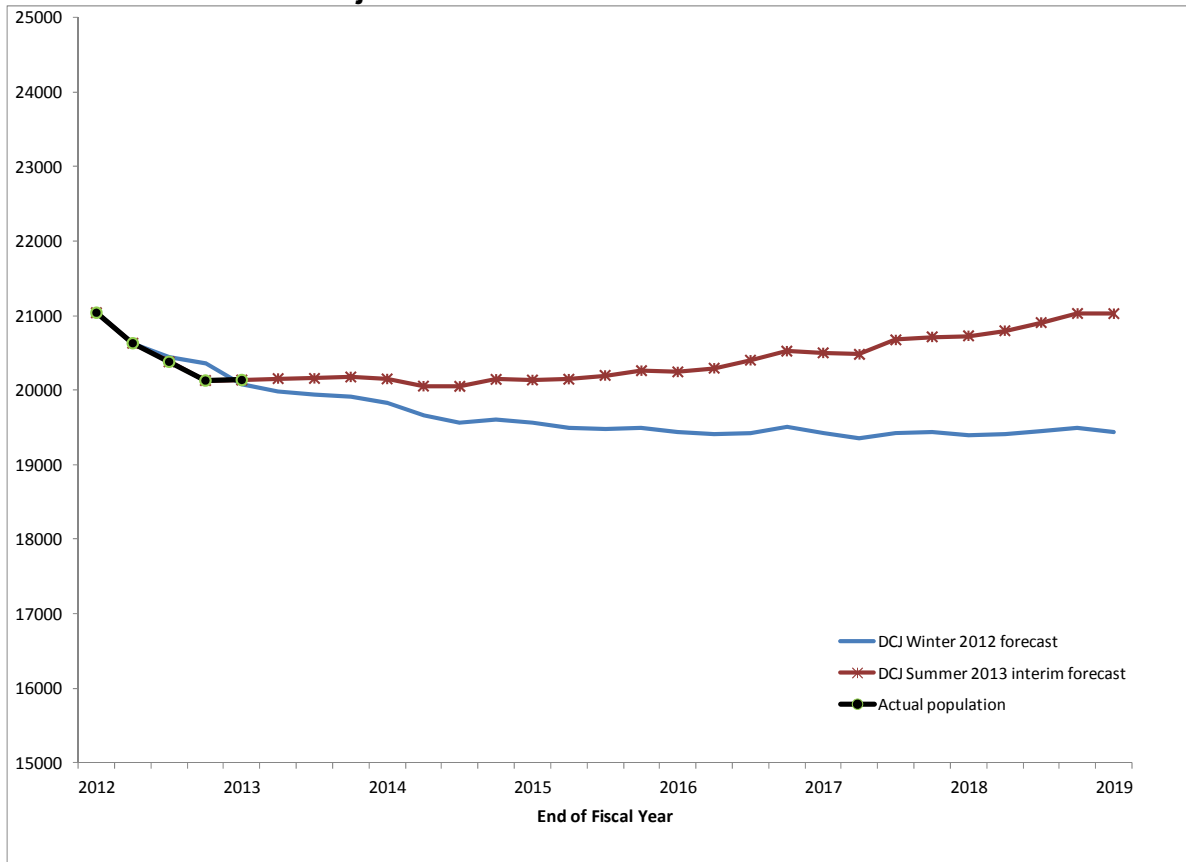
* Actual data provided by Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>

Table 2. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Annual Adult Prison Population Projection

End of Fiscal Year	Total Population	Annual Growth	Male Population	Annual Growth	Female Population	Annual Growth
FY 2012*	21,037	-7.0%	19,152	-6.6%	1,885	-10.2%
FY 2013*	20,135	-4.3%	18,355	-4.2%	1,780	-5.6%
FY 2014	20,149	0.1%	18,378	0.1%	1,771	-0.5%
FY 2015	20,135	-0.1%	18,393	0.1%	1,742	-1.7%
FY 2016	20,243	0.5%	18,516	0.7%	1,727	-0.9%
FY 2017	20,499	1.3%	18,756	1.3%	1,742	0.9%
FY 2018	20,728	1.1%	18,966	1.1%	1,762	1.1%
FY 2019	21,024	1.4%	19,229	1.4%	1,795	1.9%

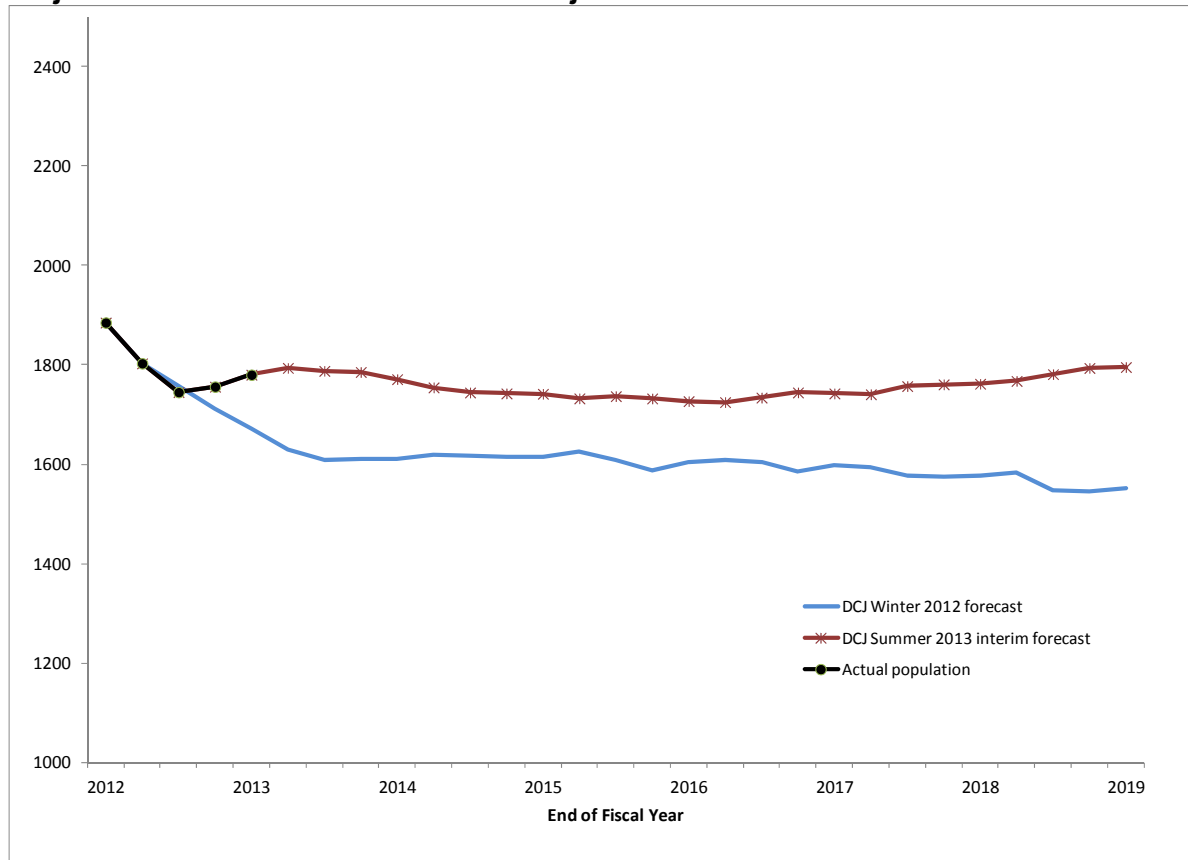
* Actual data provided by Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>

Figure 1. Quarterly Inmate Population Fiscal Year 2013, DCJ Winter 2012 Projection and Summer 2013 Interim Projection



Sources: Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>; Harrison, Linda (2013) *Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Correctional Population Forecasts*. Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Denver, Colorado. Available at: <http://dcj.state.co.us/ors/ppp.htm>

Figure 2: Quarterly Female Inmate Population Fiscal Year 2013, DCJ Winter 2012 Projection and Summer 2013 Interim Projection



Sources: Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>; Harrison, Linda (2012). *Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Correctional Population Forecasts*. Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Denver, Colorado. Available at: <http://dcj.state.co.us/ors/ppp.htm>

Interim Parole Population Projection

The DCJ Winter 2012 projection anticipated that the domestic parole population would increase by 3.4% by the end of FY 2013, very close to the actual growth rate of 3.6%. The parole caseload was 8746 at year-end, differing from the projected 8734 by 0.1%.

However, releases to parole decreased 2.7%, while the forecast indicated a small increase. Parole returns due to technical violations were overestimated by 5.8%, suggesting fewer parole revocations than anticipated. These factors, in combination with the upward adjustment in the prison population forecast, yield an upward adjustment in the parole population forecast.

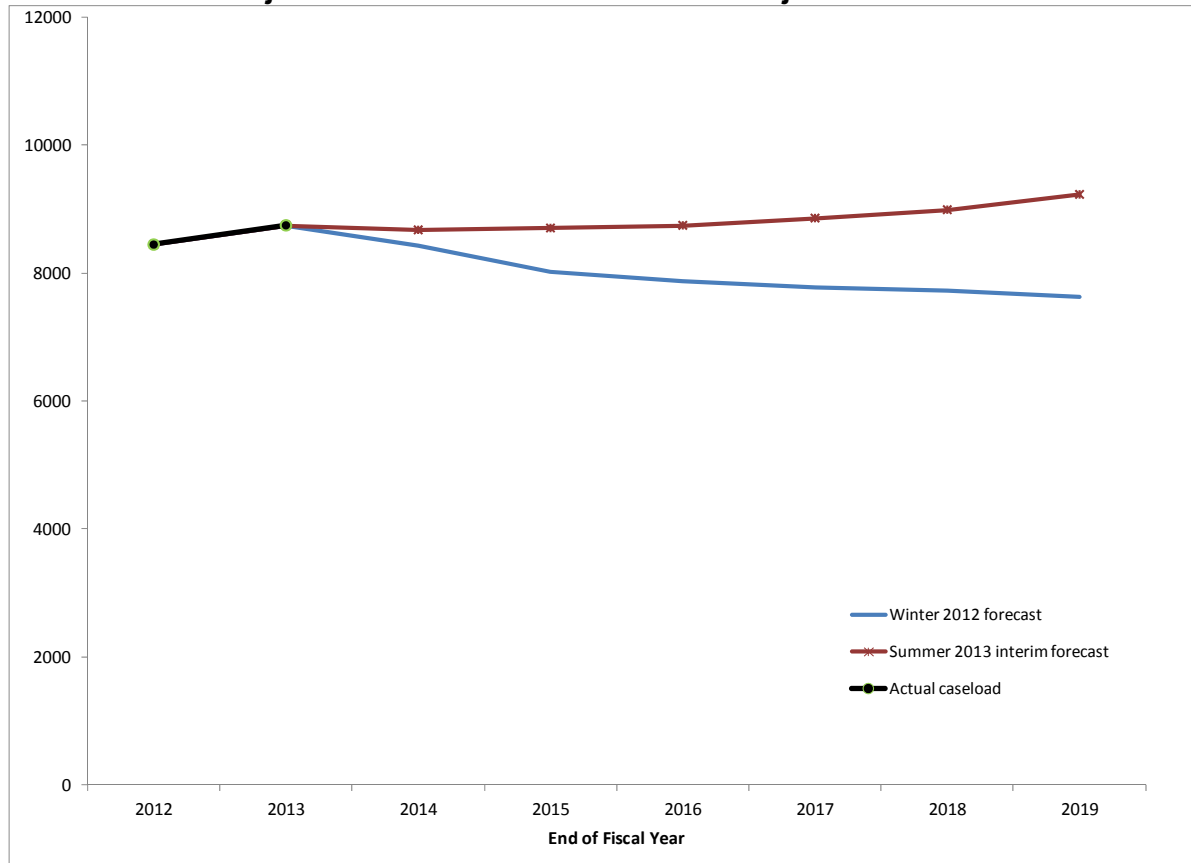
Table 3 displays the adjusted DCJ 2013 interim year-end domestic parole caseload projection. Figure 3 graphically depicts the actual year-end caseload for fiscal years 2006 through 2013, and compares the DCJ Winter 2012 and Summer 2013 Interim parole projections.

Table 3. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Domestic Parole Caseload Projection

End of Fiscal Year	Parole Caseload	Annual Growth
FY 2012*	8,445	3.2%
FY 2013*	8,746	3.6%
FY 2014	8,675	-0.8%
FY 2015	8,705	0.3%
FY 2016	8,746	0.5%
FY 2017	8,860	1.3%
FY 2018	8,990	1.5%
FY 2019	9,230	2.7%

* Actual data. Source: Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>

Figure 3: Year-End Domestic Parole Caseload Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013, DCJ Winter 2012 Caseload Projection and Summer 2013 Interim Projection



Sources: Colorado Department of Corrections Monthly Population and Capacity Reports, available at: <http://www.doc.state.co.us/statistical-reports-and-bulletins>; Harrison, Linda (2012). *Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Correctional Population Forecasts*. Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Denver, Colorado. Available at: <http://dcj.state.co.us/ors/ppp.htm>

Interim Juvenile Commitment, Detention and Parole Projections

The DCJ Winter 2012 juvenile commitment and detention projections underestimated the year to date average daily population (ADP) realized for both of these populations at the end of fiscal year 2013 by 0.6%. New commitments to DYC were also underestimated by 0.6%. However, the projected juvenile parole year-end average daily caseload (ADC) was 3.5% lower than the actual year-end ADC. The parole caseload fell 8.8%, compared to the projected decline of 5.4%.

Very slight upward adjustments were made to the DCJ Winter 2012 commitment projection, as shown in Tables 4 through 7. A downward adjustment was made to the parole caseload projection, shown in Table 8.

Table 4. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Quarterly Juvenile Commitment Average Daily Population Projection, FY 2012 Through FY 2017

Year	Quarter Ending	YTD ADP ¹ Forecast	Quarterly Growth
2012	<i>June*</i>	983.1	-1.9%
2012	<i>September*</i>	892.5	-9.2%
2012	<i>December*</i>	875.2	-2.2%
2013	<i>March*</i>	859.5	-1.8%
2013	<i>June*</i>	851.0	-1.4%
2013	September	787.4	-7.5%
2013	December	781.7	-0.7%
2014	March	769.7	-1.5%
2014	June	759.7	-1.3%
2014	September	706.7	-7.0%
2014	December	699.4	-1.0%
2015	March	685.2	-2.0%
2015	June	676.3	-1.3%
2015	September	628.7	-7.0%
2015	December	624.7	-0.6%
2016	March	616.2	-1.4%
2016	June	610.4	-0.9%
2016	September	576.6	-5.5%
2016	December	572.7	-0.7%
2017	March	568.2	-0.8%
2017	June	562.4	-1.0%

¹ Year to date average daily population.

* Actual average daily population: Data source CDHS DYC Monthly Population Reports, available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251581932067>.

Table 5. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Juvenile Commitment Fiscal Year-End Average Daily Population and New Admissions Projections, FY 2012 Through FY 2017

End of Fiscal Year	YTD ADP ¹ Forecast	Annual Growth	Annual DYC Admissions	Annual Growth
<i>FY 2012*</i>	983.1	-5.6%	532	17.5%
<i>FY 2013*</i>	851.0	-13.4%	488	-8.3%
FY 2014	759.7	-10.7%	445	-8.8%
FY 2015	676.3	-11.0%	412	-7.4%
FY 2016	610.4	-9.7%	388	-5.9%
FY 2017	562.4	-7.9%	372	-3.9%

¹ Year to date average daily population.

* Actual average daily population: Data source CDHS DYC Monthly Population Reports, available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251581932067>.

Table 7. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Quarterly Juvenile Detention Fiscal Year-End Average Daily Population Projection, FY 2012 Through FY 2017

Year	Quarter Ending	YTD ADP ¹ Forecast	Quarterly Growth
2012	<i>June*</i>	316.4	1.9%
2012	<i>September*</i>	314.3	-0.7%
2012	<i>December*</i>	308.4	-1.9%
2013	<i>March*</i>	304.7	-1.2%
2013	<i>June*</i>	307.6	1.0%
2013	September	289.6	-5.9%
2013	December	284.3	-1.8%
2014	March	286.2	0.7%
2014	June	288.3	0.7%
2014	September	273.2	-5.2%
2014	December	270.7	-0.9%
2015	March	270.6	0.0%
2015	June	270.3	-0.1%
2015	September	254.9	-5.7%
2015	December	249.5	-2.1%
2016	March	250.6	0.5%
2016	June	250.4	-0.1%
2016	September	234.6	-6.3%
2016	December	229.2	-2.3%
2017	March	228.9	-0.1%
2017	June	228.7	-0.1%

¹ Year to date average daily population.

* Actual average daily population: Data source CDHS DYC Monthly Population Reports, available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251581932067>.

Table 6. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Juvenile Detention Fiscal Year-End Average Daily Population Projection, FY 2012 Through FY 2017

End of Fiscal Year	YTD ADP ¹ Forecast	Annual Growth
<i>FY 2012*</i>	316.4	-10.3%
<i>FY 2013*</i>	307.6	-2.8%
FY 2014	288.3	-6.3%
FY 2015	270.3	-6.2%
FY 2016	250.4	-7.4%
FY 2017	228.7	-8.7%

¹ Year to date average daily population.

* Actual average daily population: Data source CDHS DYC Monthly Population Reports, available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251581932067>.

Table 8. DCJ Summer 2013 Interim Juvenile Parole Fiscal Year-End Average Daily Caseload Projection, FY 2012 Through FY 2017

End of Fiscal Year	YTD ADC ¹ Forecast	Annual Growth
<i>FY 2012*</i>	363.4	-13.1%
<i>FY 2013*</i>	331.6	-8.8%
FY 2014	296.0	-10.7%
FY 2015	263.5	-11.0%
FY 2016	237.8	-9.7%
FY 2017	219.1	-7.9%

¹ Year to date average daily caseload.

* Actual average daily caseload: Data source CDHS DYC Monthly Population Reports, available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251581932067>.