

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION
ON
SENTENCING

STRATEGIES TO REDUCE
CORRECTIONS POPULATIONS

IMPACT OF SENTENCING GUIDELINES

- ✓ REDUCED DISPARITY IN SENTENCING
- ✓ INCREASED SENTENCE SEVERITY
- ✓ INCREASED SENTENCING UNIFORMITY AND CONSISTENCY
- ✓ INCREASED JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY
- ✓ INCREASED AVAILABILITY OF SENTENCING INFORMATION

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON SENTENCING
COMPONENTS OF SENTENCING GUIDELINES

✓ OFFENSE GRAVITY SCORE

- *Measures Seriousness of Crime*
- *Varies from 1 to 10*

✓ PRIOR RECORD SCORE

- *Measures Extent and Gravity of Prior Record*
- *Varies from 0 to 6*

✓ GUIDELINE SENTENCE RANGES

- *Recommends Minimum Sentences*

✓ SPECIAL ENHANCEMENTS

- *Increases for Possessing a Deadly Weapon*
- *Increases for Distributing Drugs to Minors*
- *Increases for Dealing in Drugs Near School*

SENTENCING GUIDELINE CHART

CURRENT GUIDELINES

OFFENSE GRAVITY SCORE

10	48-120	54-120	60-120	72-120	84-120	96-120	102-120
9	36-60	42-66	48-72	54-78	66-84	72-90	78-102
8	24-48	30-54	36-60	42-66	54-72	60-78	66-90
7	8-12	12-29	17-34	22-39	33-49	38-54	43-64
6	4-12	6-12	8-12	12-29	23-34	28-44	33-49
5	0-12	3-12	5-12	8-12	18-27	21-30	24-36
4	0-12	0-12	0-12	5-12	8-12	18-27	21-30
3	0-12	0-12	0-12	0-12	3-12	5-12	8-12
2	0-12	0-12	0-12	0-12	0-12	2-12	5-12
1	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

PRIOR RECORD SCORE

STRATEGIES TO REDUCE CORRECTIONS POPULATIONS
ADVANTAGES OF SENTENCING GUIDELINES:

- ✓ INSURES FAIRNESS AND EQUITY
- ✓ PROTECTS PUBLIC SAFETY
- ✓ AFFECTS LARGE NUMBERS OF OFFENDERS
- ✓ SETS THE TYPE AND LENGTH OF SENTENCE
- ✓ SETS THE LOCATION OF SENTENCE

**PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON SENTENCING
STRATEGIES TO REDUCE CORRECTIONS POPULATIONS**

✓ REDUCE COMMITMENTS TO STATE PRISON

- *Identify Less Serious Crimes and Criminals*
- *Reduce Guideline Ranges From 12 to 11.5 Months*
- *Place These Offenders in Jail Instead of Prison*

✓ REDUCE COMMITMENTS TO COUNTY JAILS

- *Identify Least Serious Crimes and Criminals*
- *Prescribe Community Sanctions for These Offenders:*
 - *Electronic monitoring*
 - *Intensive probation*
 - *House arrest*

SENTENCING GUIDELINE CHART

STRATEGY TO REDUCE PRISON COMMITMENTS

OFFENSE GRAVITY SCORE

10	48-120	54-120	60-120	72-120	84-120	96-120	102-120
9	36-60	42-66	48-72	54-78	66-84	72-90	78-102
8	24-48	30-54	36-60	42-66	54-72	60-78	66-90
7	8-11.5	11.5-29	17-34	22-39	33-49	38-54	43-64
6	4-11.5	6-11.5	8-11.5	11.5-29	23-34	28-44	33-49
5	0-11.5	3-11.5	5-11.5	8-11.5	18-27	21-30	24-36
4	0-11.5	0-11.5	0-11.5	5-11.5	8-11.5	18-27	21-30
3	0-11.5	0-11.5	0-11.5	0-11.5	3-11.5	5-11.5	8-11.5
2	0-11.5	0-11.5	0-11.5	0-11.5	0-11.5	2-11.5	5-11.5
1	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

PRIOR RECORD SCORE

SENTENCING GUIDELINE CHART

STRATEGIES TO REDUCE PRISON AND JAIL COMMITMENTS

OFFENSE GRAVITY SCORE

10	48-120	54-120	60-120	72-120	84-120	96-120	102-120
9	36-60	42-66	48-72	54-78	66-84	72-90	78-102
8	24-48	30-54	36-60	42-66	54-72	60-78	66-90
7	8-11.5	11.5-29	17-34	22-39	33-49	38-54	43-64
6	4-11.5	6-11.5	8-11.5	11.5-29	23-34	28-44	33-49
5	0-11.5	3-11.5	5-11.5	8-11.5	18-27	21-30	24-36
4	0-11.5	0-11.5	0-11.5	5-11.5	8-11.5	18-27	21-30
3	* C.S.*	0-11.5	0-11.5	0-11.5	3-11.5	5-11.5	8-11.5
2	* C.S.*	* C.S.*	0-11.5	0-11.5	0-11.5	2-11.5	5-11.5
1	* C.S.*	* C.S.*	* C.S.*	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6

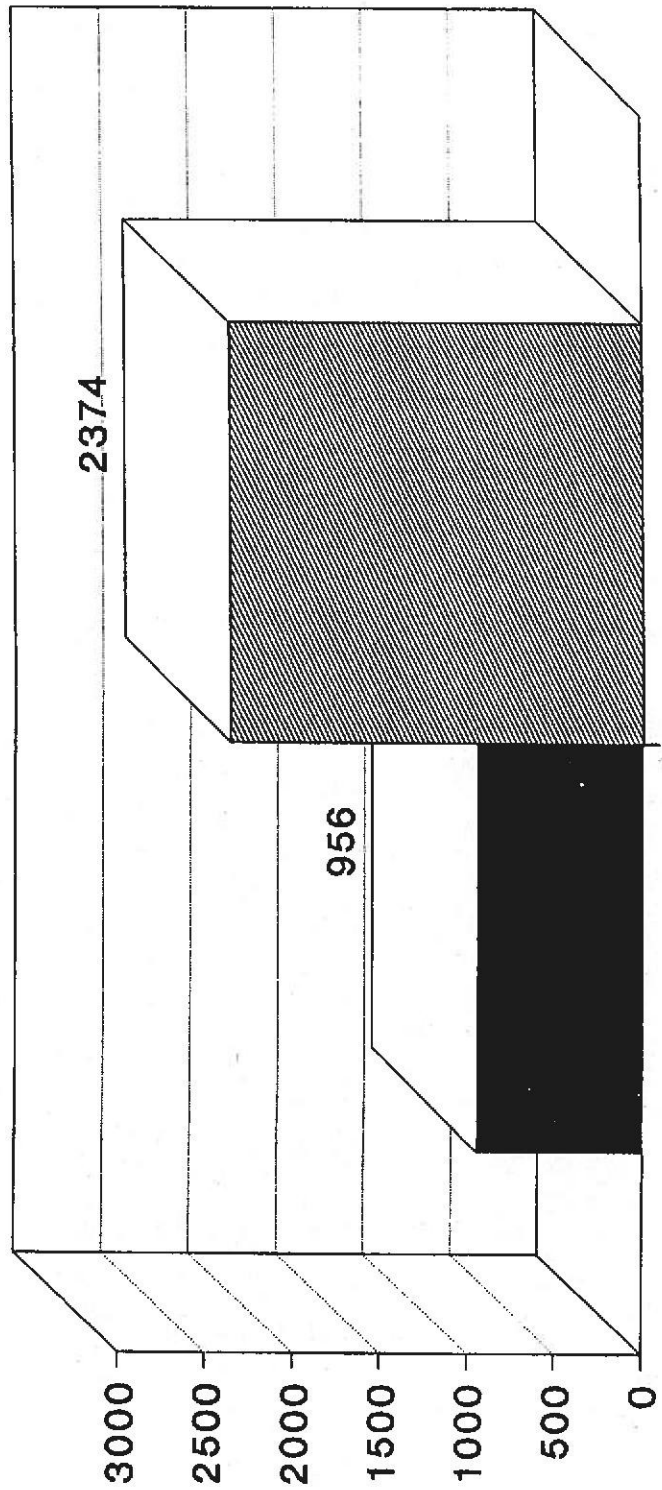
0 1 2 3 4 5 6

PRIOR RECORD SCORE

* C.S.* - COMMUNITY SANCTIONS

GUIDELINE STRATEGIES TO REDUCE PRISON AND JAIL POPULATIONS

ANNUAL MAXIMUM REDUCTION IN COMMITMENTS



COMBINED IMPACT OF BOTH STRATEGIES



SUMMARY OF GUIDELINE STRATEGIES

- ✓ REDUCE ANNUAL STATE PRISON COMMITMENTS
 - A MAXIMUM REDUCTION OF 956 PER YEAR
- ✓ REDUCE ANNUAL COUNTY JAIL COMMITMENTS
 - A MAXIMUM REDUCTION OF 2,374 PER YEAR
- ✓ MAINTAIN PUBLIC SAFETY
- ✓ EFFICIENTLY UTILIZE CORRECTIONAL RESOURCES
- ✓ ASSURE CONSISTENT, FAIR AND EQUITABLE SENTENCES