



## WORCESTER COUNTY CORRECTIONS

A profile of the Sheriff's Department of  
Worcester County, Massachusetts

### Criminal Justice Policy Coalition COUNTY CORRECTIONS PROJECT

www.CJPC.org  
June 2005

**Worcester County**, incorporated April 2, 1731<sup>1</sup>, and abolished July 1, 1998<sup>2</sup>, includes (cities in **bold**; \*county seat): Ashburnham, Athol, Auburn, Barre, Berlin, Blackstone, Bolton, Boylston, Brookfield, Charlton, Clinton, Douglas, Dudley, East Brookfield, **Fitchburg\*** (39,102), **Gardner** (20,770), Grafton, Hardwick, Harvard, Holden, Hopedale, Hubbardston, Lancaster, Leicester, **Leominster** (41,303), Lunenburg, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Northborough, Northbridge, Oakham, Oxford, Paxton, Petersham, Phillipston, Princeton, Royalston, Rutland, Shrewsbury, Southborough, **Southbridge\*** (17,214), Spencer, Sterling, Sturbridge, Sutton, Templeton, Upton, Uxbridge, Warren, Webster, West Boylston, West Brookfield, Westborough, Westminster, Winchendon, **Worcester\*** (172,648)

**Worcester County Racial Breakdown:** White Non-Hispanic (86.5%); Hispanic/Latino (6.8%); Other Race, (2.9%); Black (2.7%); Asian (2.6%); American Indian (0.3%)

|                               | <b>Worcester County</b> | <b>Massachusetts</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Population:                   | 776,610 <sup>4</sup>    | 453,506 Avg. County  |
| Area (square miles):          | 1,513                   | 560 Avg. County      |
| Unemployment:                 | 6.7%                    | 5.8%                 |
| Median income:                | \$48,939                | \$51,085             |
| Persons below poverty         | 9.2% <sup>5</sup>       | 9.3%                 |
| High school graduates:        | 83.5%                   | 84.8%                |
| College degrees:              | 26.9%                   | 33.2%                |
| Other language <sup>6</sup> : | 15%                     | 18.7%                |

\* One of 11 Massachusetts communities granted city form of government, but remaining known as "the town of," [www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisctlist/ctlistcoun.htm](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisctlist/ctlistcoun.htm).

<sup>1</sup> [www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisctlist/ctlistcounin.htm](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisctlist/ctlistcounin.htm).

<sup>2</sup> Counties remain, but some county governments have been "abolished;" their offices now under the direction of certain state offices; for instance, Registry of Deeds offices are under the direction of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, [www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisctlist/ctlistcounin.htm](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisctlist/ctlistcounin.htm); abolished counties do not receive "county" revenue to fund corrections; all funding comes through the state budget.

<sup>3</sup> All population, demographic, and economic data from U.S. Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov>; and 2003, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov).

<sup>4</sup> 1999, U.S. Census Bureau, Census, <http://quickfacts.census.gov>.

<sup>5</sup> A language other than English is spoken in the home, U.S. Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov>.

## GUY GLODIS, SHERIFF (DEM.)

**Elected:** 2004 (first term); 64% of the vote<sup>7</sup>  
**Education:** B.A., Political Science (UMass Amherst, 1991)  
Some graduate work in public policy (Worcester State College)  
**Background:** State Senator (1998 - 2004, Chair of Joint Committee on Insurance; Vice Chair of Joint Committee on Election Laws); State Representative (1996 - 1998); former correctional officer, Worcester County Sheriff's Dept.

## CORRECTIONS POPULATION AND BUDGET

|   | Worcester          | Average all Counties       |
|---|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Average daily population:                   | 1,297 <sup>8</sup> | 969 <sup>9</sup>           |
| Total design capacity:                      | 790                | 617                        |
| Percent over design capacity:               | 164% <sup>10</sup> | 157%                       |
| New commitments annually:                   | 2,361              | 1,157 <sup>11</sup>        |
| Inmates released annually:                  | N/A <sup>12</sup>  | N/A                        |
| FY05 operating budget:                      | \$38,034,321       | \$32,234,015 <sup>13</sup> |
| Annual per inmate cost:                     | \$29,325           | \$35,821                   |
| Women committed:                            | 10                 | 65 <sup>14</sup>           |
| Average sentence length:                    | N/A <sup>15</sup>  | <12 months <sup>16</sup>   |
| Average age county inmates:                 | N/A <sup>17</sup>  | N/A                        |
| Inmates <i>without</i> high school diploma: | N/A <sup>18</sup>  | N/A                        |
| Community Corrections participants:         | 142/42             | 62/11 <sup>19</sup>        |

<sup>7</sup> Unofficial election results from [www.boston.com](http://www.boston.com).

<sup>8</sup> Average daily population, Jan. 5, 2004 to Dec. 28, 2004, Mass. Department of Correction (DOC), *Quarterly Report on the Status of Prison Overcrowding, First Quarter, 2005*. During this period, Worcester held 10% of county inmates statewide.

<sup>9</sup> Average daily population of the 13 counties that maintain correctional facilities.

<sup>10</sup> DOC annual (2003) and quarterly overcrowding reports.

<sup>11</sup> New commitments 2003, DOC, *New Court Commitments to County Facilities* (2003).

<sup>12</sup> Release numbers are not currently tracked for county corrections; CJPC is gathering this data from sheriff's departments.

<sup>13</sup> From FY05 State Budget and information provided by the Massachusetts Sheriff's Association; Worcester accounted for 8% of statewide spending; approx. \$451,276,205 total statewide spending.

<sup>14</sup> In 2003, female county commitments totaled 909 statewide; seven counties had two or fewer newly committed women; the other seven counties averaged 129 women, DOC, *New Court Commitments* (2003).

<sup>15</sup> Sentence length is not currently reported for county corrections; CJPC is gathering this data from sheriff's departments.

<sup>16</sup> In 2003, 70% of new county commitments received sentences under 12 months, DOC, *New Court Commitments*.

<sup>17</sup> Inmate age is not currently reported for county corrections; CJPC is gathering this data from sheriff's departments.

<sup>18</sup> Education levels are not currently reported for county corrections; CJPC is gathering this data from sheriff's departments.

<sup>19</sup> First number indicates total participants in the county; second is the number supervised by sheriff's departments; approx. 866 offenders supervised statewide (2003); 149 supervised by sheriff's departments, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Trial Court Office of Community Corrections, *Utilization of Community Corrections Centers Statistical Report, FY 200*.