

# El Centro College Jail Education Program

## Business and Public Service Division

### DCCCD Goal: Citizenship

**The Business and Public Service Division students will acquire the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in and contribute to a global community to understand the value of life long learning and to exercise their rights and responsibilities as citizens.**

#### 2001-2002 Jail Education Statistics

**432** Enrollees    **84%** Completion    **46,144** Contact Hours    **31** Classes    **29** Certificates Granted

In Dallas County there are approximately **7,000** inmates in county jails. This does not include state jails and prisons in Dallas, Seagoville, and Hutchinson.....On any given day there may be **60,000 to 70,000** residents on some form of county supervision. **63% of offenders booked in at Low Sterrett are on drugs; this does not include alcohol.**

*DAILY POLICY DIGEST*, April 4, 2001.

“This year more than **600,000** convicts will be released from prisons. Only **9%** of these inmates have had full-time vocational training or education programs while in prison, and fewer still gained any real work experience. In a typical state prison, only **7%** of inmates work in jobs producing goods and services for use beyond. Unsurprisingly, many end up in prison again. **Only 50% of parolees successfully completed their parole in 1990, and by 1999 the figure had shrunk to 43%**”

*Journal of Correctional Education*, 9/1992

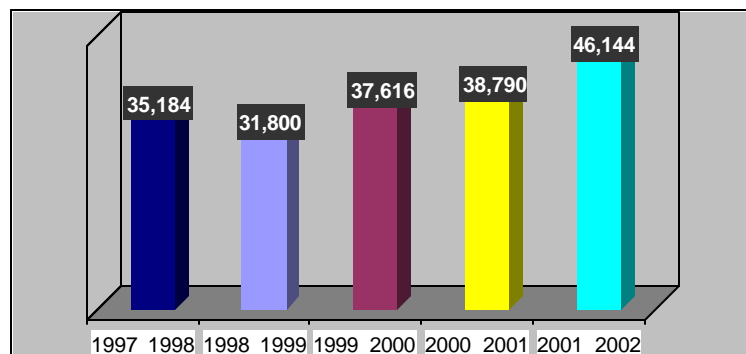
“...Gather conducted an in-house evaluation of Texas Department of Corrections college programs and concluded: ‘participation in the junior college program definitely results in lower recidivism rates’.”

*Corrections Today*, 2/1/93

...40% of inmates do not have a consistent employment history before incarceration...

...Inmates need to learn job skills and develop thinking strategies that will help them avoid committing crimes.”

### Jail Education Contact Hours



## **STATS FOR THE WEB PAGE**

**“Rates of recidivism in the United States are extraordinarily high, ranging from 41% to 71%”**

-Harer, M.D. (1998)

Programs like the Jail Education Program at El Centro help to reduce the alarming rates of recidivism among incarcerated individuals. If there are efforts to rehabilitate individuals while they are incarcerated, they become a more marketable asset to the community upon release. The following statistics help reinforce the theory of rehabilitation and reduced recidivism rates:

**“Prison-based education is the single most effective tool for lowering recidivism.”**

-Karpowitz & Kenner (2003)

**“A 20% lowered recidivism for those who received a GED certificate and completed a vocational training.”**

-The State of Texas report from the Windham School District.(1994)

**The State of Texas reported the extraordinary recidivism impacts of postsecondary education: “[T]wo years after release, the overall recidivism rate for college degree holders was as low as 12%, and inversely differentiated by type of degree.” The exact figures indicating these inverse recidivism rates for degree recipients were: Associate’s (13.7%); Baccalaureate’s (5.6%); Master’s (0%).**

- Karpowitz & Kenner 2003

**“Prison-based vocational training programs provided an average of \$5.76 in taxpayer benefits for every \$1 of cost.”**

-RKC Group, Roger Przybylski(2008)