

Neutral Testimony on HB 2565
To
The House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee

By Joe Norwood
Secretary
Kansas Department of Corrections
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The Department of Corrections appreciates the opportunity to provide information to the Committee regarding drug offender registration. HB 2565 would repeal the obligation for drug offenders to register with the state. Currently, offenders convicted of sex offenses, violent offenses and drug offenses involving the sale, growing or manufacturing of drugs must register. These drug offenders must register for (15) fifteen years from the date of conviction or release from prison whichever is later. Persons convicted of such drug offenses twice, are required to register for life.

Statewide, there are 19,787 offenders required to register. Of those, 23% (4593) are drug offenders. Of the whole population required to register, according to the KBI, 4% are non-compliant. Of the drug offenders required to register, 36% are non-compliant.

In the current incarcerated population:

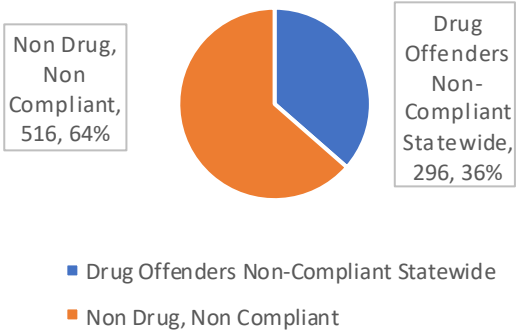
- 5489 are required to register,
 - 22% (1289) are drug offenders
- 185 are incarcerated solely because of failure to register,
 - 12% (23) are drug offenders,
 - 57% (13) are serving 25+ months

Each year, KDOC staff register incoming offenders, at this rate,

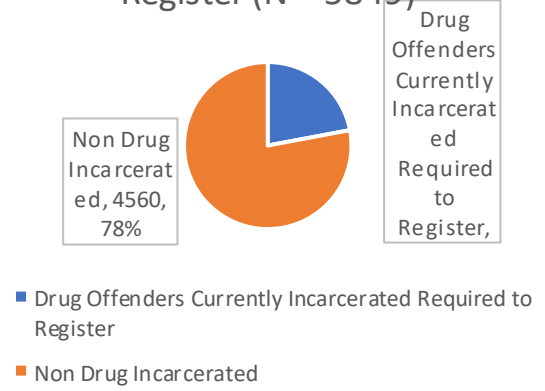
- 1224 per year are registered,
 - Of those, 22% (269) are drug offenders

Overall, drug offenders make up 22-23% of the population required to register. They are over-represented in the non-compliant group, and under-represented in the group being sent back to prison for non-registration, which suggests there is less focus on requiring them to comply than sex or violent offenders.

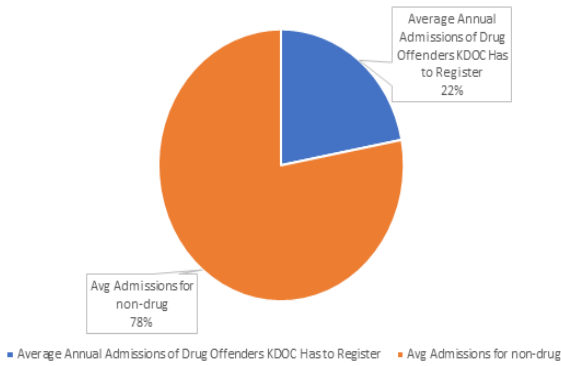
Registration Noncompliance (N=812, 4%)



Incarcerated Required to Register (N = 5849)



Annual Admissions Requiring to Register (N = 1224)



Registered Statewide

