

LESSON 33

TEXAS ALMANAC TEACHERS GUIDE

Department of Criminal Justice

- *Prisons, Parole, Probation*

SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 19, 21, 22, 23

7 - 21, 22, 23

8 - 29, 30

STAAR

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 1, 3

4, 7 - Writing - 1

INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

- 1. PRISON & PAROLE QUESTIONS:** Use the “Texas Department of Criminal Justice” pages in the Government section of the Texas Almanac to **answer the questions** on the **Student Activity Sheet**.
- 2. ON-HAND POPULATION GRAPH:** Using the Line/Bar Graph Grid found in the Appendix, students will **create a graph** from the information provided in the “On-Hand Population” chart.
- 3. PERCENT OF SENTENCE SERVED:** Students will look at the “Inmate Profile” chart to find out the **“average part of sentence served” for prison inmates**. They will list and then discuss ideas as to why they think this is so. Students may take this assignment further by researching the overcrowding of prisons in Texas.
- 4. INMATE EDUCATION:** Students will **write a paragraph** explaining their opinion on why **education information** is listed in the “Inmate Profile” chart.
- 5. PRISON GRAPHIC ORGANIZER:** Students will find the **closest prison unit to their town** using the “Correctional Institutions Division” chart and research online statistics about that prison to create a graphic organizer.
- 6. CONTACT A PRISON EMPLOYEE:** Invite an **employee from the local prison or state jail** to visit your class and discuss prison life.

The Hilltop Unit at the Gatesville Correctional Institution in Coryell County. Photo by Robert Plocheck.



Prison and Parole Questions

Use the "Texas Department of Criminal Justice" pages in the Government section of the Texas Almanac to answer the following questions.

- a. What division is responsible for adult felonies? _____

- b. Who supervises all offenders released on parole? _____

- c. According to the "On-Hand Population" chart, how many prisoners were incarcerated in Texas? _____
- d. How many people were on probation? _____
- e. According to the "Correctional Institutions Division" chart, which unit has the most inmates? _____
- f. Why do the two units in Galveston County have such few people? _____

- g. In the Kegans unit in Harris County, there are how many employees per inmate? _____
- h. Which is Texas' oldest prison that is still in use today? _____
