Mathematics, Algebra I Unit II: Lesson B1

Debate: Prison Overcrowding



A specific formula is used to determine how soon a convict will be eligible for parole. Call a local judge or parole board to find out what formula is used in your state or county. Then, contact at least three other states for their formulas.

Research how much of a sentence prisoners must serve before they can be considered for parole in your state and three others. Include the time that would be subtracted for good behavior.

Suppose a person has a ten-year sentence. Calculate the minimum number of days that will be served and what percentage of the sentence this would be. Using this information, construct a chart to compare the results. Organize a debate using students in your classes to solve the problem of prison overcrowding.

FORTE: Mathematics, Algebra I – Unit II: Lesson B1