



California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

STATEWIDE RECIDIVISM REPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS RELEASED FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION IN FISCAL YEAR 2019-20

Division of Correctional Policy Research and Internal Oversight

OFFICE OF RESEARCH | APRIL 2025

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Executive Summary

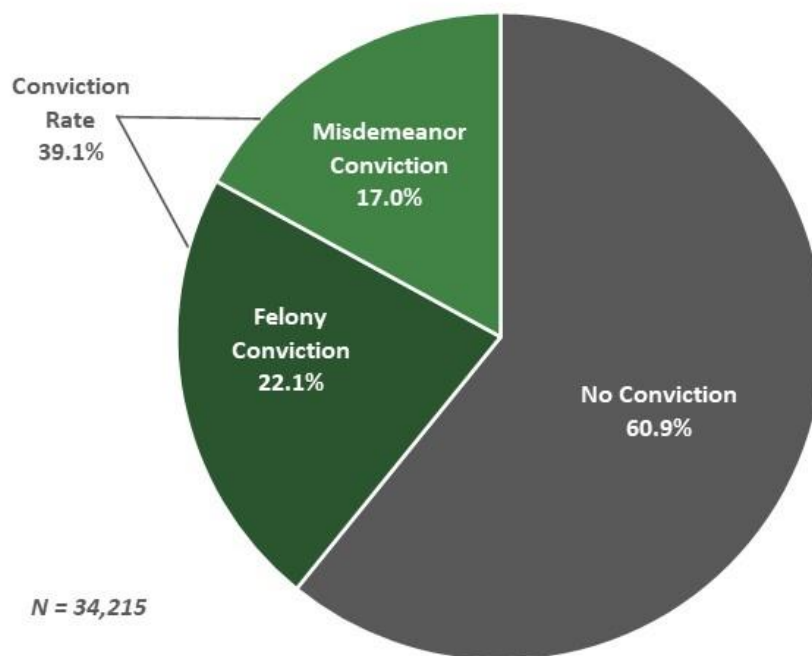
The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) examines recidivism outcomes (arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates) for formerly incarcerated individuals released from CDCR's adult institutions over a given fiscal year. This report presents recidivism rates for the 34,215 individuals released between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020 (Fiscal Year 2019-20). CDCR tracks individuals for three years following the date of their release. The three-year conviction rate is used as CDCR's primary measure of recidivism, while arrests and returns to prison are provided as supplemental measures of recidivism.

In addition to examining overall recidivism rates and the impact of recent policies and initiatives, this report provides the type and timing of post-release convictions and recidivism rates by demographics (e.g., age, race/ethnicity) and characteristics (e.g., sentence type, length of stay).

Recidivism Rates for Individuals Released During Fiscal Year 2019-20

The three-year conviction rate for the 34,215 individuals who comprise the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20 release cohort is 39.1 percent.¹ As shown in Figure A, 60.9 percent of the release cohort (20,820 individuals) successfully completed the three-year follow-up period without a conviction. Within three years of their release from prison, 22.1 percent of the release cohort (7,567 individuals) were convicted of a felony offense, and 17.0 percent (5,828 individuals) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense.

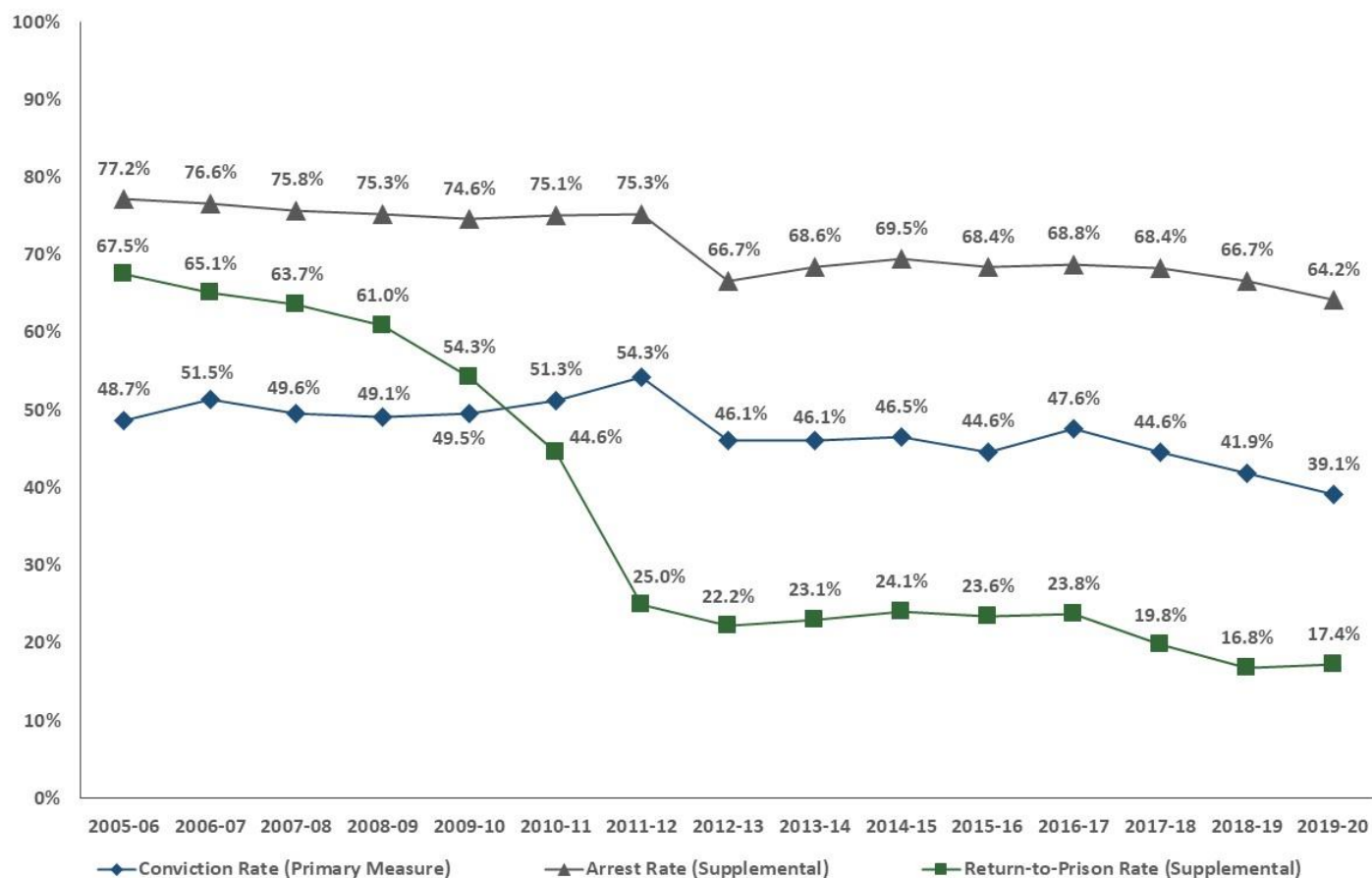
Figure A. Three-Year Outcomes for the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohort



¹ During Fiscal Year 2019-20, a total of 34,493 individuals were released from a CDCR adult institution. Of these individuals, 34,215 individuals had a California Department of Justice (DOJ) automated Record of Arrest and Prosecution (RAP) sheet. Arrest and conviction data only include the 34,215 individuals with an automated RAP sheet and return-to-prison data include all 34,493 individuals released from prison. The return-to-prison rate only includes those returned to CDCR custody and does not include those sentenced to county jail.

The three-year conviction rate decreased by 2.8 percentage points (from 41.9 percent to 39.1 percent) between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts (Figure B). The rate reached a high of 54.3 percent with the FY 2011-12 release cohort and subsequently declined to 46.1 percent with the FY 2012-13 release cohort. The three-year conviction rate is generally stable with slight fluctuations (increases and decreases) between the FY 2012-13 and 2015-16 release cohorts. The rate increased 3.0 percentage points with the FY 2016-17 release cohort (47.6 percent). The three-year conviction rate decreased 3.0 percentage points with the FY 2017-18 release cohort (44.6 percent) and 2.7 percentage points with the FY 2018-19 cohort (41.9 percent) before declining an additional 2.8 percentage points to the current rate of 39.1 percent.

Figure B. Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates for the Fiscal Year 2005-06 through 2019-20 Release Cohorts



Arrests and returns to prison, which are supplemental measures of recidivism, also saw changes between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts, as shown in Figure B. The three-year arrest rate decreased by 2.5 percentage points (from 66.7 percent to 64.2 percent) and the three-year return-to-prison rate increased by less than one percentage point (from 16.8 percent to 17.4 percent). Similar to the conviction rate, the arrest rate has been relatively stable over reporting years, while the return-to-

prison rate has seen substantial decreases due to a sharp decline in the number of individuals returned to prison for parole violations as a result of Public Safety Realignment.²

Recent Rate Changes and Impacts of COVID-19 on Recidivism Rates and Post-Release Reoffending

Recidivism rates fluctuate due to many complex factors, including the implementation of correctional policies and initiatives, crime rates, and the demographics and characteristics associated with each release cohort. The last three release cohorts (FY 2017-18, 2018-19, and 2019-20) saw the introduction of a new factor influencing recidivism rates: the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic began just before the final year of follow-up for the FY 2017-18 release cohort and was active for the final two years of follow-up for the FY 2018-19 cohort and for all three-years of follow-up for the current FY 2019-20 release cohort. Sudden changes to local policing practices, crime rates, court closures, the transfer of court proceedings to electronic/remote proceedings, and the temporary suspension of intakes and transfers to CDCR are only a few factors that likely influenced all three measures of recidivism (arrests, convictions, and returns to prison) downward with the last three cohorts of releases.³

Fluctuations in the three-year conviction rate between the FY 2014-15 and 2017-18 release cohorts are partially attributed to Proposition 47 and the demographic composition of each release cohort.⁴ Some of the increase in the rate with the FY 2016-17 release cohort (47.6 percent) is attributed to a substantial increase in convictions among individuals released to Post-Release Community Supervision (PRCS).⁵ The rate decreased to 44.6 percent with the FY 2017-18 release cohort and was likely due to two factors: the three-year conviction rate for individuals released to PRCS decreased and the last year of follow-up was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.⁶

The three-year conviction rate saw a cumulative 8.5 percentage point decrease between the FY 2016-17 and 2019-20 release cohorts. While the 3.0 percentage point decline between the 2016-17 and 2017-18 release cohort was attributed to both a decrease in the rate among those released to PRCS and the COVID-19 pandemic, the two most recent decreases (2.7 and 2.8 percentage points, respectively) with the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 were likely driven by the pandemic.

The arrest rate saw a cumulative 4.6 percentage point decrease since the FY 2016-17 release cohort (the FY 2017-18 cohort was the first affected by the COVID-19 pandemic). The return-to-prison rate saw a

² For detailed information regarding the impact of Public Safety Realignment on parole violations, see Appendix F Correctional Policies and Initiatives.

³ On March 24, 2020, California's Governor issued an Executive Order that halted the intake and transfer of people to CDCR and the Division of Juvenile Justice: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/03/24/governor-newsom-issues-executive-order-on-state-prisons-and-juvenile-facilities-in-response-to-the-covid-19-outbreak>. The last full suspension of intake was November 25, 2020. CDCR modified intake/movement as needed and more information can be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/covid19/updates/>.

⁴ The Fiscal Year 2014-15 release cohort had a three-year conviction rate of 46.5 percent, which represented an increase from one year prior. Part of the increase was attributed to the release of 4,111 (ten percent of the total release cohort) individuals with drug and property offenses released due to Proposition 47. These individuals had a three-year conviction rate of 59.8 percent, which likely influenced the rate upward. Conversely, the FY 2015-16 release cohort had 364 Proposition 47 releases, and although their rate was high (52.7 percent), they likely had little influence on the overall conviction rate of 44.6 percent. The FY 2015-16 release cohort also had a high proportion of individuals committed to prison for crimes against persons, which are associated with low rates of recidivism. These two factors (fewer Proposition 47 releases and a greater number of individuals committed for crimes against persons) likely contributed to the decline observed between the two fiscal years.

⁵ Between FY 2015-16 and 2016-17, the three-year conviction rate for individuals released to PRCS increased 5.5 percentage points (from 49.0 percent to 54.5 percent). Individuals released to PRCS comprised over half of the release cohort and typically have higher recidivism rates than individuals released to parole. The uptick in the conviction rate for individuals released to PRCS was one factor contributing to the overall increase in the statewide conviction rate.

⁶ The subsequent decline to 44.6 percent with the FY 2017-18 release cohort is attributed to two factors. First, the three-year conviction rate for individuals released to PRCS in FY 2017-18 decreased. Second, interruptions in arrests and convictions related to COVID-19 during the last year of the follow-up period for this cohort influenced the rate downward.

cumulative decrease of 7.0 percentage points between the FY 2016-17 and 2018-19 release cohorts; however, the return-to-prison rate saw its first increase (less than one percentage point) with the current FY 2019-20 release cohort. This increase is consistent with a rise in the violent crime rate across the United States, including California, during the FY 2019-20 release cohort's three-year follow-up period. Recidivism rates are anticipated to stabilize or slightly increase as the temporary effects of the COVID-19 become less pronounced.⁷ Although the increase in the return-to-prison rate with the FY 2019-20 release cohort is small, it may indicate that recidivism rates could increase to pre-pandemic levels in the coming years.

One- and two-year recidivism rates for the FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 release cohorts also indicate potential increases in future arrest and conviction rates, in addition to the increase observed in the return-to-prison rate (Appendix E).⁸ It should be noted that one- and two-year data are considered preliminary and will fluctuate until three-year rates are established. Additionally, a slight decrease in the percentage of individuals released who were committed to CDCR for crimes against persons (typically associated with low rates of recidivism) and slight increases in the percentage of individuals committed for property and crimes categorized as "other" (typically associated with higher rates of recidivism) are observed for the FY 2019-20 cohort. Further increases in recidivism rates could occur if this trend continues, as large groups of individuals with a tendency to recidivate at higher rates may influence overall recidivism rates upward. Further, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including interruptions to arrest and conviction cycles, the temporary halt of individuals from county jails to state prison, and accelerated releases of some individuals are largely viewed as temporary.

The COVID-19 pandemic and recent increases in violent crime rates also impacted the type of post-release conviction for the FY 2019-20 release cohort. Since the implementation of Proposition 47 with the FY 2014-15 release cohort, the percentage of post-release convictions for misdemeanors increased steadily, while felonies decreased, resulting in a larger percentage of post-release misdemeanor convictions when compared to felony convictions.⁹ The FY 2019-20 release cohort saw an increase in the percentage of individuals convicted of felony crimes against persons, property crimes, and crimes categorized as "other", resulting in a larger portion of individuals convicted of post-release felonies (56.5 percent of all convictions) compared to misdemeanors (43.5 percent) and a departure from the trends associated with Proposition 47. The increases in these categories are consistent with increases to the violent and property crime rates observed in California and across the United States during this period.¹⁰

Conviction Rates by Demographics and Characteristics

An examination of the three-year conviction rate by demographics (e.g., age, race/ethnicity) and characteristics (e.g., commitment offense category, length of stay) for individuals released in the current FY 2019-20 release cohort shows general decreases among most groups, particularly individuals with

⁷ Between 2019 and 2022 the violent crime rate in California increased and between 2020 and 2022 the property crime rate in California increased. For more information, see: <https://data-openjustice.doj.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2023-06/Crime%20In%20CA%202022f.pdf> Uniform Crime Reporting Data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which provides national violent and property crime rates is currently only available through 2020 for violent crime. The data show an increase in the national violent crime rate between 2019 and 2020. For more information, see: <https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/more-fbi-services-and-information/ucr>

⁸ Available data indicate the effects of COVID-19 may wane with future cohorts: the two-year conviction and return-to-prison rate increased slightly between the FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 release cohorts and all three one-year recidivism rates (arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison) increased slightly between the FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 release cohorts (Appendix E).

⁹ Under Proposition 47, certain felony drug/alcohol and property crimes were reclassified to misdemeanors, causing the percentage of post-release felonies to decrease, followed by subsequent increases in post-release misdemeanors. See Appendix F for more details.

¹⁰ For more information regarding violent and property crime rates, see Table 1 of the Crime in California series or the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program's data releases: <https://data-openjustice.doj.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2023-06/Crime%20In%20CA%202022f.pdf> and <https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/more-fbi-services-and-information/ucr>

non-serious and non-violent drug and property offenses (Appendix D). General increases or decreases across recidivism rates by demographics and characteristics are common when a substantial increase or decrease in the statewide recidivism rate occurs. The rate decreased 3.4 percentage points (from 48.8 percent to 45.4 percent) for individuals with non-serious/non-violent offenses, 5.0 percentage points (from 52.7 percent to 47.7 percent) for individuals committed for property crimes, and 2.7 percentage points (from 42.5 percent to 39.8 percent) for individuals committed for drug crimes when comparing the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts. The rate for those with a serious offense decreased 4.4 percentage points (from 44.7 percent to 40.3 percent) and 2.0 percentage points for individuals committed for crimes against persons (from 36.3 percent to 34.3 percent). The rate for individuals with a violent offense was consistent between the two fiscal years (Appendix D).¹¹

Proposition 57 allows for various types of enhanced credit earning. The FY 2019-20 release cohort is the third cohort for which data regarding credit earnings under Proposition 57 are available.¹² Over half of the individuals released (59.6 percent) earned some type of enhanced credit. The three-year conviction rate for individuals who earned credit is lower than the rate for individuals with no enhanced credit earnings (35.8 percent and 44.0 percent, respectively). The group of individuals who only earned Milestone Completion Credits have a higher conviction rate (43.4 percent) than those who earned Educational Merit Credit (31.7 percent), or Rehabilitative Achievement Credit (25.0 percent).¹³ This report provides a more detailed breakdown of individuals who earn more than one type of credit than previous reports and indicates that individuals with more than one credit earning type have lower rates of recidivism than individuals with only one credit earning type.¹⁴ Individuals with Educational Merit Credits and Rehabilitative Achievement credits have a rate of 14.3 percent, while those earning all three types of credits have a rate of 14.8 percent. The rates for individuals with each type of credit earning decreased between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohort, consistent with the decrease in the overall statewide conviction rate (Appendix D).

CDCR will continue to examine the arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates of individuals released from CDCR during each fiscal year. As data pertaining to Proposition 57 and the COVID-19 pandemic become available, CDCR will study these rates to better understand recidivism and the influence of policies and programming on recidivism outcomes.

¹¹ All violent offenses are also considered serious (reported as violent), but not all serious offenses are violent.

¹² Individuals in the FY 2019-20 release cohort were released prior to the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation litigation. For more information, see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/bph/wp-content/uploads/sites/161/2024/07/Fact-Sheet-CJLF-Litigation-Impact-to-Release-Dates.pdf>.

¹³ Milestone Completion Credits are awarded for successful completion of rehabilitative or educational programs designed to prepare participants to find employment upon release. Educational Merit Credits are awarded for completion of high school diploma or equivalency programs, higher education degrees, or the Offender Mentor Certification Program (OMCP). Rehabilitative Achievement Credits are awarded to those who complete specified hours of approved self-help and volunteer public service activities. To learn more about the various types of credit earnings, see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/proposition57/>.

¹⁴ The reporting methodology for Proposition 57 credit earnings has changed. Individuals are no longer represented in more than one credit earning group, therefore, the rates provided in this current recidivism report should not be compared to rates provided in earlier reports. Detailed information regarding the methodology, credit earning types and their association with recidivism rates are provided in Section 6 of this report.

Key Findings

Three-Year Recidivism Rates

- The three-year conviction rate for the 34,215 individuals released from CDCR between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020, is 39.1 percent, a decrease of 2.8 percentage points compared to one year prior (41.9 percent).
- The three-year conviction rate of 39.1 percent is the lowest since reporting began, however, much of the decrease is likely attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the FY 2016-17 release cohort the three-year conviction rate has seen a cumulative decline of 8.5 percentage points.
- The COVID-19 pandemic was active for the FY 2019-20 release cohort's three-year follow-up period, causing changes to local policing practices, crime rates, court closures, the transfer of court proceedings to electronic/remote proceedings, and the temporary suspension of intakes and transfers to CDCR, which influenced all three measures of recidivism (arrests, convictions, and returns to prison).
- Supplemental measures of recidivism (arrests and returns to CDCR) also saw changes between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts: the three-year arrest rate decreased from 66.7 percent to 64.2 percent and the three-year return-to-prison rate increased from 16.8 percent to 17.4 percent. Similar to the conviction rate, the arrest rate has seen three consecutive decreases with the onset of the pandemic. The return-to-prison rate's slight increase with the FY 2019-20 release cohort was the first since the pandemic began and could be indicative of future increases in recidivism rates.

Timing and Type of Post-Release Conviction

- Individuals released from prison typically recidivate in the first year of follow-up, however, when comparing the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohort, a larger percentage of individuals were convicted during the second year of follow-up. This is likely due to changes to local policing and court proceedings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Of the 34,215 individuals in the FY 2019-20 release cohort, 60.9 percent (20,820 individuals) completed the follow-up period without a conviction, 22.1 percent (7,567 individuals) have a felony conviction, and 17.0 percent (5,828 individuals) have a misdemeanor conviction.
- More than half (56.5 percent) of the 13,395 total convictions are felony convictions and 43.5 percent are misdemeanor convictions. The largest percentage of those with a conviction (18.8 percent or 2,523 individuals) were convicted of felony crimes against persons, followed by felony crimes categorized as "other" (17.9 percent or 2,401 individuals). Recent increases in felony crimes against persons are consistent with increases in the violent crime rates in California and throughout the United States during the reporting period.

Conviction Rates by Demographics and Characteristics

- The three-year conviction rate for individuals ages 18 and 19 years at their release is the highest (62.8 percent) among all age groups. Individuals 60 and over have the lowest conviction rate of all age groups (13.3 percent). The three-year conviction rate decreased for all age groups except for

individuals ages 18 and 19, which increased 1.7 percentage points compared to the previous fiscal year.

- Individuals released to Post-Release Community Supervision have a substantially higher three-year conviction rate at 45.4 percent compared to individuals under parole supervision (32.7 percent). The difference in rates is largely attributed to the characteristics associated with each group (e.g., individuals released to PRCS are more likely to have non-serious/non-violent property or drug crimes, which are associated with high rates of recidivism).
- Individuals committed to CDCR with a violent offense have a lower three-year conviction rate (25.0 percent) than individuals with a serious offense (40.3 percent), and individuals with a non-serious/non-violent offense (45.4 percent).
- Individuals committed to CDCR for property crimes continue to have the highest recidivism rate (47.7 percent) when compared to individuals committed for crimes categorized as “other” (42.4 percent), drug crimes (39.8 percent), and crimes against persons (34.3 percent).
- The three-year conviction rate for non-sex registrants is 40.5 percent and the rate for sex registrants is 26.9 percent.

Conviction Rates by Proposition 57 Credit Earnings

- Data for individuals with enhanced credit earnings under Proposition 57 indicate a slightly lower rate for those who earn credits: 35.8 percent for those with credits and 44.0 percent for those without credits.
- Individuals who only earn one type of credit generally have higher three-year conviction rates than individuals who earn more than one type of credit. Individuals earning only Milestone Completion Credits have a three-year conviction rate of 43.4 percent, followed by those with Educational Merit Credits (31.7 percent), and Rehabilitative Achievement Credits (25.0 percent).
- Individuals who earn both Educational Merit Credits and Rehabilitative Achievement Credits have the lowest rate of all credit earning combinations at 14.3 percent. Those with all three types of credits have a three-year conviction rate of 14.8 percent, which is substantially lower than the rate for individuals with no enhanced credit earnings (44.0 percent).

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION

RECIDIVISM REPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS RELEASED IN FISCAL YEAR 2019-20

1 Introduction

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) presents the *Statewide Recidivism Report for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2019-20*, part of an annual series, which examines recidivism outcomes (arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates) for individuals released from CDCR adult institutions over the course of a given fiscal year. This year's report presents recidivism rates for the 34,215 individuals released from CDCR's adult institutions between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020 (FY 2019-20). Consistent with earlier reports published by CDCR, all individuals released from an adult institution over the course of a fiscal year are followed for three years after the date of their release. The three-year conviction rate is CDCR's primary measure of recidivism, while arrests and returns to prison are provided as supplemental measures of recidivism.¹⁵

The three-year conviction rate for the 34,215 individuals released in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20 is 39.1 percent. Section 2 of this report provides further details and a discussion of the supplemental measures of recidivism (arrest and return-to-prison rates). Section 3 presents recidivism rates over time and influences on recidivism rates (e.g., correctional policies, crime rates). Section 4 presents the type of post-release conviction (i.e., felony or misdemeanor) and the time until conviction for individuals released in FY 2019-20. Section 5 presents a profile of the FY 2019-20 release cohort and the three-year conviction rate by demographics (e.g., age, race/ethnicity) and characteristics (e.g., commitment offense category, length of stay). Section 6 provides data regarding conviction rates and credit earnings under Proposition 57.

Detailed tables providing the demographics and characteristics of the current FY 2019-20 release cohort and their conviction rate by demographics and characteristics are provided in Appendices A and B. Appendix C provides conviction rates by county of release. Appendix D provides a comparison of the recidivism rate by demographics and characteristics for both the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts. Appendix E provides historical recidivism rates for the FY 2002-03 through FY 2019-20 release cohorts and preliminary one- and two-year recidivism rates for the upcoming FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 release cohorts. Three-year recidivism rates are considered final, while one- and two-year rates are considered preliminary. Finally, Appendix F describes recent correctional policies and practices and their influence on post-release outcomes.

Recidivism rates for individuals serving an indeterminate term (life with the possibility of parole) are available in this report and may be found in Appendix B. Previous reports provided type of conviction data for individuals sentenced to an indeterminate term. Further recidivism information for individuals released from CDCR following a review or hearing conducted by the Board of Parole Hearings is now available in a supplemental briefing.¹⁶

The FY 2019-20 release cohort is the eighth post-Public Safety Realignment (Realignment) cohort and the sixth cohort with individuals released after the implementation of Proposition 47. The FY 2019-20 release cohort is the third cohort for which Proposition 57 data related to credit earnings are available.

¹⁵ The return-to-prison rate only includes those returned to CDCR custody and does not include those sentenced to county jail. Return-to-custody data are not available for individuals who are not eligible to return to CDCR custody and serve sentences in county jail.

¹⁶ Supplemental recidivism reports are available on our website at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/research/offender-outcomes-characteristics/offender-recidivism/>

Detailed descriptions of each of these policies are provided in Appendix F. Additionally, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the last three release cohorts (FY 2017-18, 2018-19, and 2019-20), as well as future cohorts (FY 2020-21 and 2021-22) are emerging. The influence of correctional policies and initiatives on recidivism rates and the type of post-release recidivism will continue to be provided as information is available. CDCR will continue to update arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison data as they become available with the goal of spurring discussion around the best possible ways to reduce recidivism among individuals released from CDCR adult institutions.

2 Statewide Recidivism Rates and Rates by Post-Release Supervision

2.1 Recidivism Rates for the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohort

Figure 1. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Recidivism Rates for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2019-20

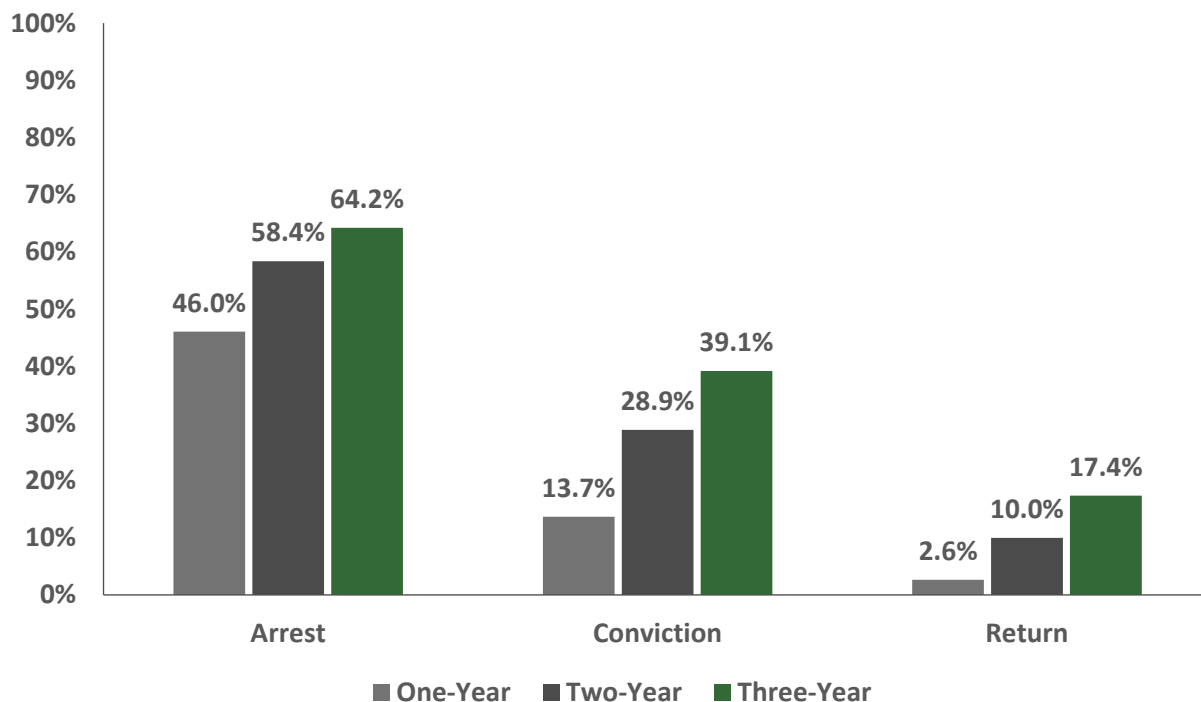


Figure 1 and Table 1 provide one-, two-, and three-year conviction rates (CDCR's primary measure of recidivism), as well as arrest and return-to-prison rates (CDCR's supplemental measures of recidivism) for the FY 2019-20 release cohort.¹⁷ The three-year conviction rate for the 34,215 individuals released from CDCR during FY 2019-20 is 39.1 percent, with 13,395 individuals convicted during the three-year follow-up period.¹⁸ Over 60 percent of the release cohort (60.9 percent or 20,820 individuals) successfully completed the three-year follow-up period without a conviction. The three-year arrest rate is 64.2 percent and the three-year return-to-prison rate is 17.4 percent.

Table 1. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Recidivism Rates for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2019-20

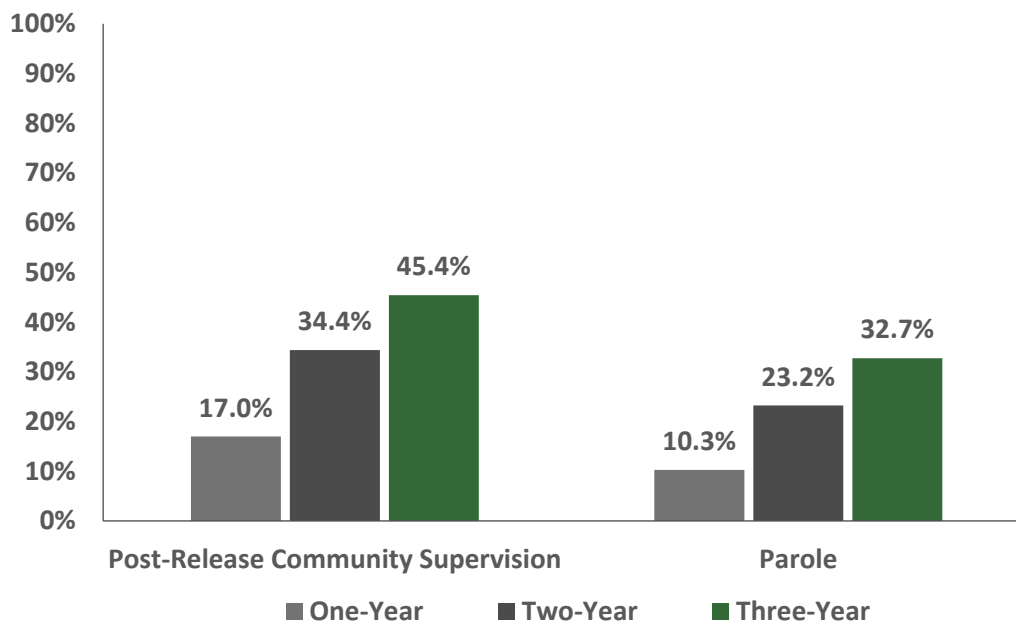
Recidivism Type	Total	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Arrest	34,215	15,750	46.0%	19,968	58.4%	21,964	64.2%
Conviction	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%
Return	34,493	911	2.6%	3,440	10.0%	5,988	17.4%

¹⁷ The number of individuals arrested, convicted, or returned to prison over the three-year follow-up period is cumulative. Each individual convicted in year one is also included in the total number of individuals convicted in year two. All individuals convicted in year one and two are included in the three-year total. For more information on rate calculations, see Appendix G Evaluation Design.

¹⁸ During FY 2019-20, a total of 34,493 individuals were released from a CDCR adult institution. Of these individuals, 34,215 had a California DOJ automated Record of Arrest and Prosecution (RAP) sheet. Arrest and conviction data only include the 34,215 individuals with an automated RAP sheet and return-to-prison data include all 34,493 formerly incarcerated individuals.

2.2 Conviction Rates by Type of Post-Release Supervision

Figure 2. Conviction Rates by Type of Post-Release Supervision for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2019-20



Formerly incarcerated individuals released from CDCR are either released to Post-Release Community Supervision (PRCS), parole supervision, or are directly discharged from prison. Approximately half of the FY 2019-20 release cohort were released to PRCS (50.6 percent) and approximately half to parole supervision (49.3 percent). Only 13 individuals were directly discharged from CDCR and conviction rates are not calculated for this group, as it includes less than 30 individuals (Appendix G).

Typically, higher rates are observed among individuals released to PRCS when compared to individuals under parole supervision. Consistent with changes to post-release supervision following Realignment, individuals with a non-serious/non-violent offense, who are characterized by a higher risk of reoffending, are released to PRCS. Conversely, individuals with serious and violent offenses are characterized by a lower risk of reoffending and supervised under parole, which contributes to the differences observed between the two groups (Appendix F).

The three-year conviction rate for individuals released to PRCS is 45.4 percent, which is 12.7 percentage points higher than the rate for individuals under parole supervision (32.7 percent), as shown in Figure 2 and Table 2. The rates for both groups decreased between FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20: the rate for those released to PRCS decreased by 3.7 percentage points (from 49.1 percent to 45.4 percent) and the rate for those released to parole by 2.0 percentage points (from 34.7 percent to 32.7 percent).

Although the conviction rates for individuals under parole supervision and PRCS are the lowest observed since reporting began, the sharp decreases are likely attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic, which is discussed in the following section. CDCR advises against making direct comparisons between individuals released from PRCS, parole supervision, or directly discharged from CDCR, as differences in the demographics and characteristics of the three groups influence recidivism rates. Instead, individuals belonging to one group of releases may be compared to individuals in the same group who were

released in a prior fiscal year (e.g., individuals under parole supervision should be compared to other individuals under parole supervision in an earlier fiscal year).

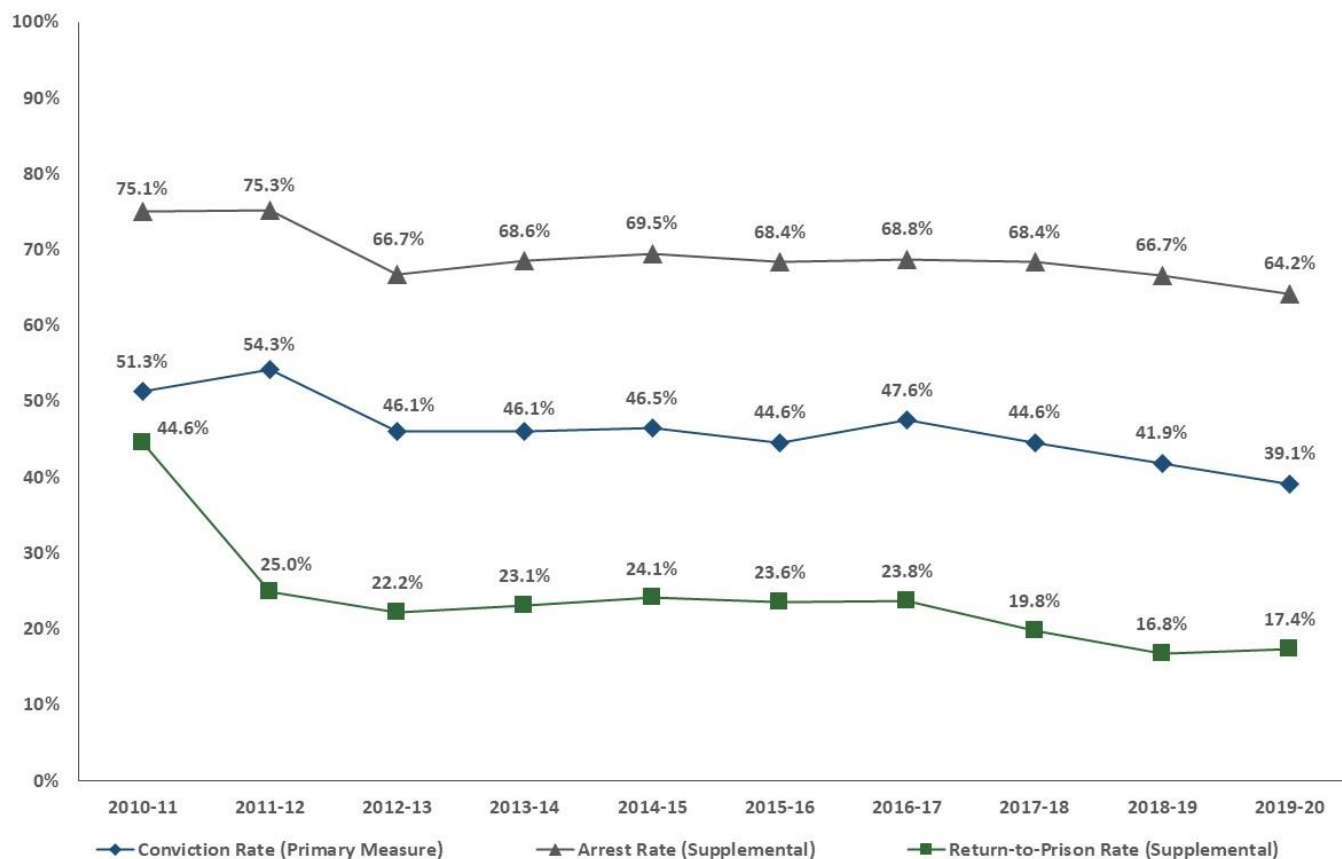
Table 2. Conviction Rates by Post-Release Supervision for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2019-20

Type of Post-Release Supervision	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Post-Release Community Supervision	17,320	2,943	17.0%	5,951	34.4%	7,868	45.4%
Parole	16,882	1,733	10.3%	3,923	23.2%	5,527	32.7%
Directly Discharged	13	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%

3 Recidivism Rates Over Time and Influences on the Statewide Recidivism Rate

Figure 3 shows the three-year arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates for the FY 2010-11 through 2019-20 release cohorts. In general, the three-year arrest and conviction rates are stable with small fluctuations. The three-year return-to-prison rate, which saw a series of drastic decreases following the implementation of Realignment, has also seen stability with some fluctuations (between the FY 2011-12 through 2016-17 release cohorts). Beginning with the FY 2017-18 release cohort, a series of decreases are observed in the arrest and conviction rates, consistent with the COVID-19 pandemic. Detailed tables with one-, two-, and three-year arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates are provided in Appendix E.

Figure 3. Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2010-11 through 2019-20



3.1 Changes in the Conviction Rate

The COVID-19 pandemic is the driving force behind recent decreases in the conviction rate

In recent years, the three-year conviction rate has been relatively stable with a series of decreases driven by the COVID-19 pandemic. After reaching a high of 54.3 percent with the FY 2011-12 release cohort, the rate decreased to 46.1 percent with the FY 2012-13 and 2013-14 release cohorts. The rate saw a slight uptick (46.5 percent) with the FY 2014-15 release cohort, with some of the increase

attributable to Proposition 47 (Appendix F). The rate decreased to 44.6 percent with the FY 2015-16 release cohort, which was comprised of fewer individuals released under Proposition 47 compared to one year prior. The rate then increased to 47.6 percent with the FY 2016-17 release cohort. The rate increase was largely concentrated among individuals released to PRCS, who are typically associated with higher recidivism rates than individuals under parole supervision (Section 2.2).

Following the increase in the rate with the FY 2016-17 release cohort, the three-year conviction rate saw a series of decreases: the rate decreased 3.0 percentage points and reached a rate of 44.6 percent with the FY 2017-18 release cohort. The decrease in the rate was largely attributed to two factors. First, the three-year conviction rate for individuals under PRCS (54.5 percent with the FY 2016-17 release cohort) decreased 2.8 percentage points with the FY 2017-18 cohort to 51.7 percent, influencing the overall statewide recidivism rate downward. Second, interruptions in arrests and convictions during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic also influenced the rate downward.

The three-year conviction rate for the FY 2018-19 release cohort is 41.9 percent, which marked a 2.7 percentage point decrease from one year prior (44.6 percent). Much of the decrease was attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. The current three-year conviction rate for the FY 2019-20 release cohort of 39.1 percent represents a 2.8 percentage point difference from one year prior (41.9 percent) and is the lowest rate since recidivism reporting began. The most recent decrease is also largely attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Overall, the three-year conviction rate has decreased 8.5 percentage points since the FY 2016-17 release cohort. The FY 2017-18 release cohort was the first whose follow-up period was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Sudden changes to local policing practices, crime rates, court closures, the transfer of court proceedings to electronic/remote proceedings, and the temporary suspension of intakes and transfers to CDCR are only a few COVID-19 related factors that likely influenced all three measures of recidivism (arrests, convictions, and returns to prison) downward. The pandemic only affected the final year of the three-year follow-up period for the FY 2017-18 release cohort and two years of follow-up for the FY 2018-19 cohort. All three years of follow-up for the current FY 2019-20 release cohort were impacted by COVID-19. Further fluctuations are expected with future release cohorts.

The following section discusses changes to the supplemental measures of recidivism (arrests and returns to prison) with consideration to changes in the primary measure of recidivism (convictions) and the COVID-19 pandemic.

3.2 Supplemental Measures of Recidivism: Arrests and Returns to CDCR

The COVID-19 pandemic also drove decreases in the arrest and return-to-prison rates, although the return-to-prison rate saw its first increase since the pandemic began, indicating rates are stabilizing and could increase in the future

Similar to the conviction rate, arrest rates have been relatively stable with small fluctuations and recent decreases are largely attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. The three-year arrest rate decreased by 2.5 percentage points (from 66.7 percent to 64.2 percent) between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts and the current rate of 64.2 percent marks the lowest arrest rate since reporting began (Figure 3). Overall, the three-year arrest rate has decreased 4.6 percentage points since the FY 2016-17 release cohort, consistent with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The three-year return-to-prison rate has been relatively stable following a series of drastic decreases that occurred after the implementation of Realignment with the FY 2011-12 release cohort (Appendix F).

Similar to the arrest and conviction rates, the three-year return-to-prison rate decreased between the FY 2016-17 and 2017-18 release cohorts (from 23.8 percent to 19.8 percent) and between the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts (from 19.8 percent to 16.8 percent). These decreases mark a 7.0 percentage point decrease overall and the rate reached its lowest point with the FY 2018-19 release cohort since reporting began. These recent decreases in the return-to-prison rate (7.0 percentage points) are likely influenced by the temporary halt of transfers from county jail to state prison due to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁹

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, the return-to-prison rate saw its first increase (less than one percentage point) with the FY 2019-20 release cohort. Between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts, the rate increased from 16.8 percent to 17.4 percent. Consistent with national trends, California saw increases in its violent crime rate in 2020, 2021 and 2022, which coincides with the three-year follow-up period of the FY 2019-20 release cohort.²⁰ The FY 2019-20 release cohort also saw an increase in post-release convictions for felony crimes against persons and returns to prison for these types of crimes, consistent with the uptick in the violent crime rate as discussed in the following section. An increase in crimes against persons, which tend to be more serious and violent than drug and property crimes, may have contributed to the increase in the return-to-prison rate between the last two cohorts of releases, as more serious and violent post-release crimes may result in a prison sentence (Appendix F). Although the increase observed with the FY 2019-20 release cohort is small, it may indicate recidivism rates could increase to pre-pandemic levels in the coming years.

Although the full effect of the pandemic on recidivism rates is unknown, further fluctuations in arrests, convictions, and returns to prison are expected with future cohorts. Appendix E of this report provides one-, two-, and three-year arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates for upcoming cohorts when available. Two-year recidivism rates are available for the FY 2020-21 release cohort and one-year recidivism rates are available for the FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 release cohorts. Available data indicate the effects of COVID-19 may wane with future cohorts: the two-year conviction and return-to-prison rates increased slightly between the FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 release cohort and all three one-year recidivism rates (arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison) increased slightly between the FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 release cohorts (Appendix E).

¹⁹ On March 24, 2020, California's Governor issued an Executive Order that halted the intake and transfer of people to CDCR and the Division of Juvenile Justice: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/03/24/governor-newsom-issues-executive-order-on-state-prisons-and-juvenile-facilities-in-response-to-the-covid-19-outbreak>. The last full suspension of intake was November 25, 2020. CDCR modified intake/movement as needed and more information can be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/covid19/updates/>

²⁰ For more information regarding violent and property crime rates, see Table 1 of the Crime in California series or the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program's data releases: <https://data-openjustice.doj.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2023-06/Crime%20in%20CA%202022f.pdf> and <https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/more-fbi-services-and-information/ucr>

4 Type and Timing of Post-Release Recidivism

4.1 Three-Year Outcomes for All Individuals Released from CDCR During Fiscal Year 2019-20

Most individuals successfully completed the three-year follow-up period

Figure 4. Three-Year Outcomes for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2019-20

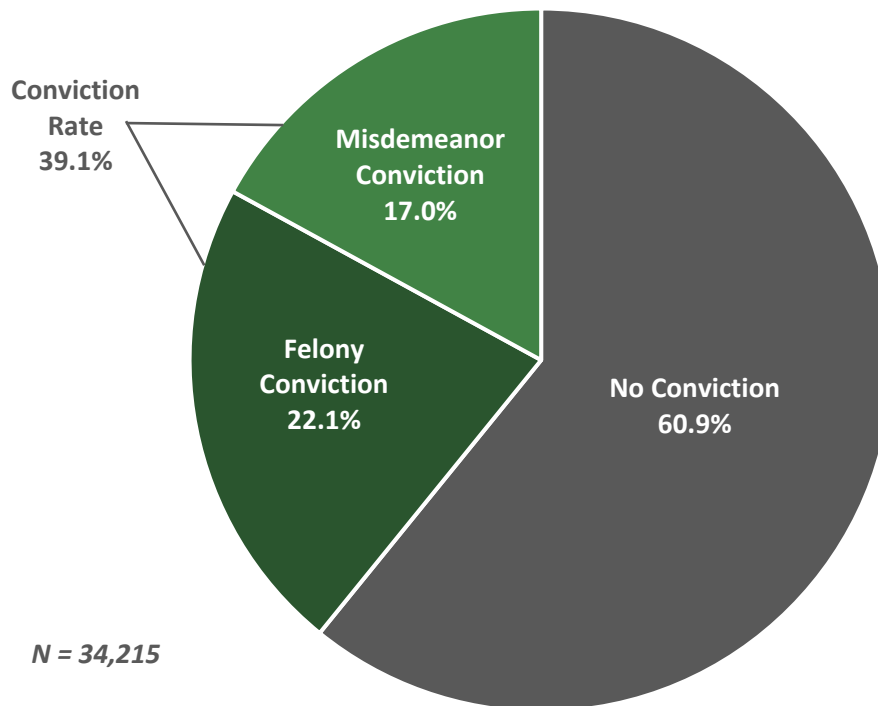


Figure 4 and Table 3 show the type of conviction (i.e., felony or misdemeanor) for the 34,215 individuals released from CDCR in FY 2019-20.²¹ Over half of the release cohort (60.9 percent) had no convictions during the three-year follow-up period and 39.1 percent had a felony or misdemeanor conviction. Over 20 percent (22.1 percent) had a felony conviction and 17.0 percent had a misdemeanor conviction. As shown in Table 3, felony crimes against persons leads all felony conviction types, followed by felony crimes categorized as “other”. Misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes lead all misdemeanor conviction types.²²

²¹ Type of conviction data only include the most serious conviction in the first conviction episode. For instance, if an individual was convicted of a misdemeanor in one conviction episode and subsequently convicted of a felony in another conviction episode, only the misdemeanor conviction from the first conviction episode is included in this analysis.

²² Examples of other felony crimes include carrying a concealed dirk/dagger, evading a peace officer, and felon in possession of a firearm. Other misdemeanor crimes include driving without a license/with a suspended license, presenting false identification or information to a peace officer and contempt of court.

Table 3. Three-Year Outcomes for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2019-20

Type of Conviction	FY 2019-20	
	Number	Percent
No Convictions	20,820	60.9%
All Felonies	7,567	22.1%
Felony Crimes Against Persons	2,523	7.4%
Felony Property Crimes	1,888	5.5%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	755	2.2%
Felony Other Crimes	2,401	7.0%
All Misdemeanors	5,828	17.0%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	1,744	5.1%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	1,188	3.5%
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	2,073	6.1%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	823	2.4%
Total	34,215	100.0%

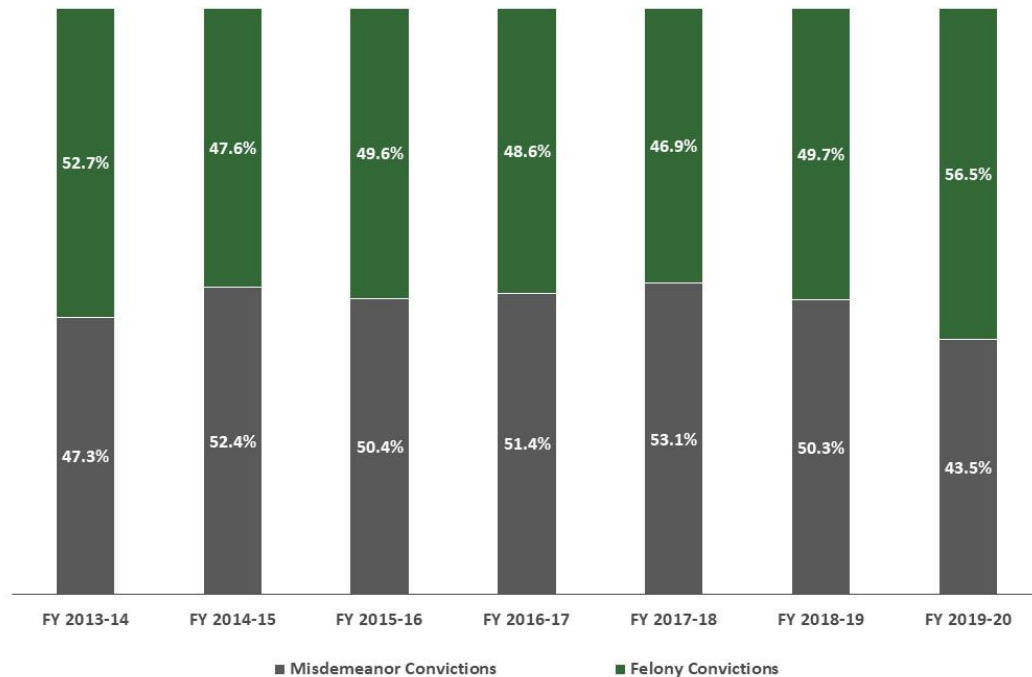
4.2 Type of Post-Release Conviction for Individuals Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

More individuals were convicted of felonies compared to misdemeanors, reversing a five-year trend

This section includes a closer examination of the 13,395 individuals with a conviction in the FY 2019-20 release cohort. It excludes the 20,820 individuals who successfully completed the three-year follow-up period without a conviction.

Until the FY 2014-15 release cohort, felony convictions historically comprised a larger percentage of total convictions than misdemeanors. Under Proposition 47 certain felony drug/alcohol and property crimes were reclassified to misdemeanors and as a result, the percentage of misdemeanors increased and the percentage of felonies subsequently decreased (Appendix F). As shown in Figure 5, the percentage of misdemeanor convictions was higher for the FY 2014-15 through FY 2018-19 release cohorts. The FY 2019-20 release cohort marks a departure from this recent trend: 56.5 percent of the 13,395 individuals were convicted of felony crimes and 43.5 percent were convicted of misdemeanors. As detailed in this section, much of this change is attributed to an increase in felony convictions for crimes against persons, consistent with increases in the violent crime rate observed during the COVID-19 pandemic in California and across the nation.²³

Figure 5. Percentage of Felony and Misdemeanor Post-Release Convictions for the Fiscal Year 2013-14 through Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohorts



²³ For more information regarding violent and property crime rates, see Table 1 of the Crime in California series or the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program's data releases: <https://data-openjustice.doj.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2023-06/Crime%20In%20CA%202022f.pdf> and <https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/more-fbi-services-and-information/ucr>

As shown in Table 4, felony crimes against persons comprised the largest percentage (18.8 percent) of all post-release conviction types, followed by other felony crimes (17.9 percent). The percentage of post-release convictions for felony crimes against persons increased 2.5 percentage points (from 16.3 percent of all convictions to 18.8 percent) between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts. Increases were also observed in other felony crimes (3.2 percentage points) and felony property crimes (1.4 percent), while felony drug/alcohol crimes saw a slight decrease (less than one percentage point).

Previously, misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes comprised the largest percentage of post-release conviction types. The percentage of convictions for misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes decreased by 4.2 percentage points (from 19.7 percent of all convictions to 15.5 percent) between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts. All other misdemeanor conviction type categories also decreased slightly between the two release cohorts (Table 4).

Table 4. Type of Conviction for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20

Type of Conviction	FY 2018-19		FY 2019-20	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Felonies	7,525	49.7%	7,567	56.5%
Felony Crimes Against Persons	2,462	16.3%	2,523	18.8%
Felony Property Crimes	1,918	12.7%	1,888	14.1%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	921	6.1%	755	5.6%
Felony Other Crimes	2,224	14.7%	2,401	17.9%
All Misdemeanors	7,604	50.3%	5,828	43.5%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	2,000	13.2%	1,744	13.0%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	1,559	10.3%	1,188	8.9%
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	2,986	19.7%	2,073	15.5%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	1,059	7.0%	823	6.1%
Total	15,129	100.0%	13,395	100.0%

4.3 Time to Conviction for Individuals Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

Approximately a third of the cohort was convicted within a year of release, compared to half in the year prior, likely resulting from court closures and changes in local policing practices due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Figure 6. Time Until Conviction for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2019-20 and Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

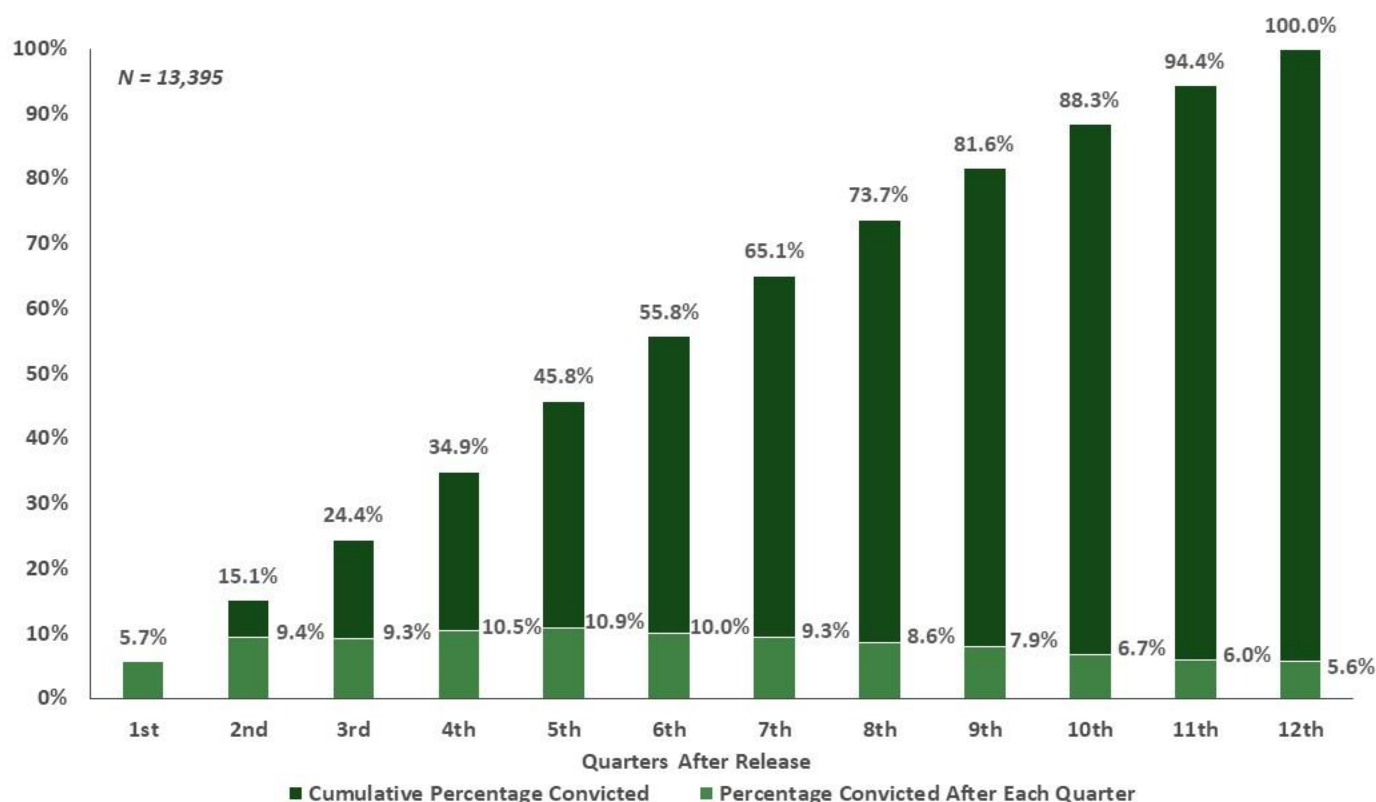


Figure 6 and Table 5 show the percentage and number of individuals who were convicted during each quarter (three-month period) of the three-year follow-up period, as well as the cumulative percentage and number of individuals convicted. Only the 13,395 individuals convicted during the three-year follow-up period are represented in this section to understand how long individuals were in the community before recidivating. The twelfth quarter represents the final, cumulative results (i.e., 100 percent) of the individuals who were convicted.

Of the 13,395 individuals convicted during the three-year follow-up period, 34.9 percent were convicted in the first year following their release from CDCR. By year two, 73.7 percent were convicted, and by year three, 100 percent were convicted. The largest number and percentage of individuals (10.9 percent) were convicted during the fifth quarter following their release. The fewest number of individuals (5.6 percent) were convicted during the twelfth quarter of the follow-up period.

Typically, most individuals are convicted during their first year of post-release follow-up and fewer individuals are convicted during the later quarters of the three-year follow-up period. The FY 2019-20 release cohort marks a departure from this long-standing trend: only 34.9 percent of individuals in the

FY 2019-20 release cohort were convicted during year one compared to 50.5 percent of the FY 2018-19 release cohort.²⁴ Among those released in FY 2019-20, the largest percentage were convicted during the fifth quarter after release (10.9 percent), while the largest percentage convicted in the FY 2018-19 release cohort were convicted during the third quarter after release (15.8 percent). The decrease in convictions during the first year of follow-up observed among the FY 2019-20 cohort is attributed to changes to local policing practices, court closures and the transfer of court proceedings to electronic/remote proceedings due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 5. Time Until Conviction for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2019-20 and Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

Quarters After Release	Percentage Convicted	Cumulative Percentage	Number Convicted	Cumulative Number
1	5.7%	5.7%	762	762
2	9.4%	15.1%	1,264	2,026
3	9.3%	24.4%	1,248	3,274
4	10.5%	34.9%	1,402	4,676
5	10.9%	45.8%	1,461	6,137
6	10.0%	55.8%	1,338	7,475
7	9.3%	65.1%	1,249	8,724
8	8.6%	73.7%	1,150	9,874
9	7.9%	81.6%	1,056	10,930
10	6.7%	88.3%	904	11,834
11	6.0%	94.4%	806	12,640
12	5.6%	100.0%	755	13,395

²⁴ For more information regarding the time until conviction for the FY 2018-19 release cohort, see Section 4.2 of the *Statewide Recidivism Report for Individuals Released from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in Fiscal Year 2018-19*: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/research/offender-outcomes-characteristics/offender-recidivism/>

4.4 Type of Post-Release Arrest and Return-to-Prison

Type of Arrest

All four felony categories increased (led by crimes against persons), consistent with the increase in felony arrests for the FY 2019-20 release cohort

Table 6 shows the type of post-release arrest for individuals released in FY 2019-20.²⁵ One-third of the release cohort had no arrest during the three-year follow-up period. Two-thirds or 21,964 individuals in the release cohort were arrested during the three-year follow-up period. Over 40 percent (41.1 percent) of those arrests were felonies, 34.1 percent were misdemeanors, and 24.8 percent were supervision violations. Similar to the type of conviction presented in Section 4.2, the percentage of felony arrests for the FY 2019-20 (41.1 percent) increased when compared to the FY 2018-19 release cohort (34.4 percent). Misdemeanor arrests also increased (from 32.1 percent to 34.1 percent of all arrests), while the percentage of arrests for supervision violations decreased (from 32.7 percent to 24.8 percent of all arrests).

All four categories of felony arrests increased when comparing the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts, with crimes against persons leading all arrest types (14.8 percent of all arrests), followed by other felony crimes (11.0 percent). All misdemeanor arrest types also increased slightly between the two cohorts with misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes leading all arrest types (16.8 percent), followed by misdemeanor crimes against persons. Supervision violations saw the largest decrease between the two fiscal years, comprising 32.7 percent of all arrests among the FY 2018-19 release cohort and 24.8 percent of all arrests among the FY 2019-20 release cohort.

Table 6. Type of Arrest for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20

Type of Arrest	FY 2018-19		FY 2019-20	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Felonies	8,269	34.4%	9,028	41.1%
Felony Crimes Against Persons	2,927	12.2%	3,254	14.8%
Felony Property Crimes	2,058	8.6%	2,246	10.2%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	1,172	4.9%	1,114	5.1%
Felony Other Crimes	2,112	8.8%	2,414	11.0%
All Misdemeanors	7,728	32.1%	7,495	34.1%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	1,491	6.2%	1,518	6.9%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	1,158	4.8%	1,189	5.4%
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	3,840	16.0%	3,683	16.8%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	1,239	5.1%	1,105	5.0%
Supervision Violations	7,879	32.7%	5,441	24.8%
Unknown	188	0.8%	N/A	N/A
Total	24,064	100.0%	21,964	100.0%

²⁵ Type of arrest data only include the most serious arrest in the first arrest episode. For instance, if an individual was arrested of a misdemeanor in one arrest episode and subsequently convicted of a felony in another arrest episode, only the misdemeanor arrest from the first arrest episode is included in this analysis.

Type of Return

Crimes against persons represented the largest increase in type of returns to CDCR

Although the return-to-prison rate slightly increased with the FY 2019-20 release cohort, most individuals released from CDCR did not return to prison during the three-year follow-up period (82.6 percent). Of the 5,988 individuals who returned to prison, 42.4 percent returned for crimes against persons, 26.6 percent for crimes categorized as “other”, 22.0 percent for property crimes and 8.8 percent for drug crimes. Following the passage of Realignment, very few individuals are eligible to return to prison for parole violations, with only 15 individuals released in FY 2019-20 returned to CDCR for parole violations (Table 7).

The percentage of individuals returned for crimes against persons increased by 2.9 percentage points, the largest increase of any return type. The increase in returns to prison for crimes against persons is consistent with increases in the violent crime rate in California and throughout the United States during the FY 2019-20 release cohort’s three-year follow-up period.²⁶ For individuals released in FY 2018-19, 39.5 percent of all returns to prison were for crimes against persons and for those released in FY 2019-20, 42.4 percent. This increase, although slight, is consistent with the type of post-release conviction type, which saw a similar increase in felony crimes against persons between the two years.

Table 7. Type of Return to CDCR for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20

Type of Return	FY 2018-19		FY 2019-20	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Crimes Against Persons	2,421	39.5%	2,536	42.4%
Property Crimes	1,473	24.0%	1,320	22.0%
Drug Crimes	593	9.7%	527	8.8%
Other Crimes	1,621	26.5%	1,590	26.6%
Parole Violations	18	0.3%	15	0.3%
Total	6,126	100.0%	5,988	100.0%

²⁶ For more information regarding violent and property crime rates, see Table 1 of the Crime in California series or the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Uniform Crime Reporting Program’s data releases: <https://data-openjustice.doj.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2023-06/Crime%20In%20CA%202022f.pdf> and <https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/more-fbi-services-and-information/ucr>

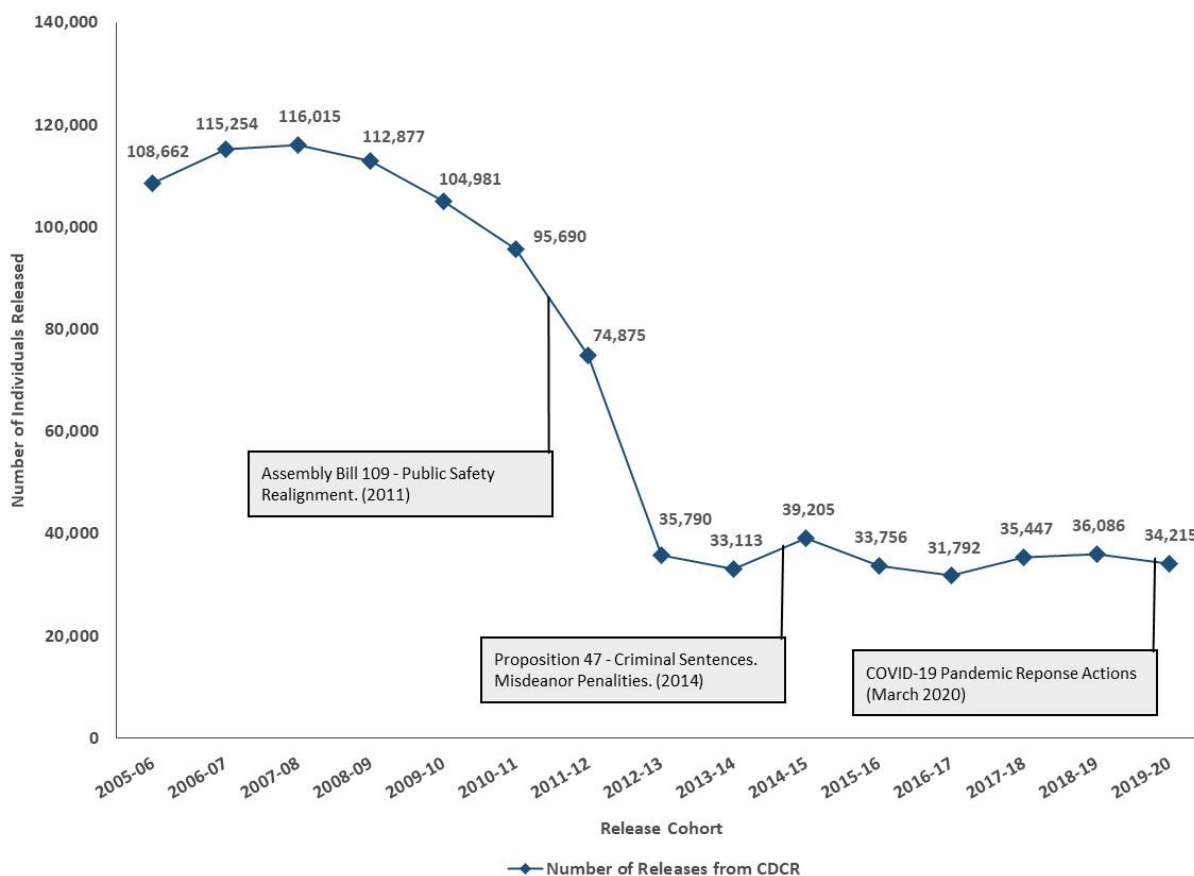
5 Profile of the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohort

This section presents information regarding the size of each release cohort since FY 2005-06 and the major policies and factors that influenced CDCR's release cohorts. This section also presents the composition and conviction rates of CDCR's FY 2019-20 release cohort in terms of their demographics (e.g., gender, age) and characteristics (e.g., sentence type, length of stay), as well as comparisons to the previous release cohort (FY 2018-19). Appendix A provides a table of the cohort composition and Appendix B provides the one-, two-, and three-year conviction rates by demographics and characteristics. Appendix D provides the three-year conviction rates for the FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 release cohorts by demographics and characteristics for comparative purposes.²⁷

5.1 Number of Individuals Released from CDCR in Fiscal Year 2005-06 through 2019-20

The size of each release cohort is driven by correctional policies and other factors, oftentimes influencing recidivism rates

Figure 7. Number of Individuals in the Fiscal Year 2005-06 through Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohorts



²⁷ When comparing rates, greater variation (increases and decreases) is typically observed within small groups of individuals; however, considerable rate changes within small groups of individuals will have less influence on the statewide rate, whereas even small rate changes within large groups of individuals will have a notable impact on the rate.

Figure 7 presents the number of individuals released from CDCR during each fiscal year beginning with the 2005-06 cohort.²⁸ The number of individuals released reached a high of 116,015 in FY 2007-08 and a low of 31,792 in FY 2016-17. The implementation of Realignment in October 2011 primarily contributed to the series of consistent decreases observed since the FY 2011-12 cohort, along with a substantial decrease in the return-to-prison rate (Appendix G). Releases increased to 39,205 individuals in FY 2014-15, which was largely attributed to the resentencing and release of 4,111 individuals under Proposition 47 (Appendix F). At this time, the conviction rate saw an increase largely due to the characteristics of the individuals released (e.g., individuals committed for property and drug offenses) under Proposition 47 (Section 3.1 and Appendix F). The following year, only 364 of the 33,756 individuals released in FY 2015-16 were resentenced and released due to Proposition 47, resulting in a decrease in the overall number of individuals released compared to one year earlier.

During FY 2016-17, releases decreased again to 31,792 individuals as the effect of Proposition 47 waned, with only 59 individuals impacted. Releases increased to 35,447 individuals in FY 2017-18, which was the first cohort affected by the implementation of Proposition 57 (Section 6 and Appendix F). The number of releases increased to 36,086 individuals with the FY 2018-19 release cohort, followed by a decrease to 34,215 individuals with the current FY 2019-20 release cohort.

The total number of releases is contingent on the population of CDCR's adult institutions and correctional policies at the time, such as Realignment, Proposition 47, and Proposition 57. CDCR expects the number of releases to fluctuate in future release cohorts, as policies that influence the CDCR population are modified and implemented.²⁹

5.2 Demographics and Characteristics of the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohort

The size and composition of release cohorts can influence recidivism rates as some demographics and characteristics are associated with higher and lower rates of recidivism

Gender

Males comprise a much larger proportion of the FY 2019-20 release cohort (31,628 individuals or 92.4 percent) than females (2,587 individuals or 7.6 percent) and are associated with much higher rates of recidivism than females (Appendix A). The three-year conviction rate for males released in FY 2019-20 is 39.8 percent (12,595 individuals), while the conviction rate for females is 30.9 percent or 800 individuals (Appendix B). Historically, the conviction rate for females each year is about ten percentage points lower compared to males with some variation, and this trend continues with the current cohort.

Compared to FY 2018-19, the rate for males decreased by 2.7 percentage points, and the rate for females decreased by 3.3 percentage points. These decreases are consistent with the decrease in the statewide rate (39.1 percent), which decreased 2.8 percent between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts (Appendix D).

²⁸ The total number of individuals released in the FY 2011-12 through FY 2019-20 release cohorts only includes individuals with a California DOJ automated RAP sheet. Prior to transitioning the primary measure of recidivism from the three-year return-to-prison rate to the three-year conviction rate with the FY 2011-12 release cohort, Figure 7 presented in previous reports included all individuals released from prison, regardless of DOJ automated RAP sheets.

²⁹ More information regarding CDCR's population may be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/research/population-reports-2/>

Age at Release

Age has a well-documented relationship with recidivism, which is supported by the rates observed with the FY 2019-20 cohort.³⁰ Although individuals ages 18 and 19 comprise less than one percent of the release cohort, their three-year conviction rate is the highest among all age groups (62.8 percent). Overall, the rate steadily decreases as age increases, with individuals ages 60 and over having the lowest three-year conviction rate of all age groups (13.3 percent). This general trend has persisted with time, making older individuals some of the least likely to recidivate.

When examined by age at time of release, individuals ages 25 to 29 represent the largest proportion of releases (18.9 percent) in the cohort. The smallest proportion of releases are individuals ages 18 and 19, which represent less than one percent of the total release cohort (0.4 percent). In general, younger individuals comprise larger percentages of the release cohort, with 84.2 percent under the age of 50 at the time of their release.

When compared to the three-year conviction rate for the FY 2018-19 cohort, the rates decreased for all age categories except for individuals in the 18 and 19 age group, which increased 1.7 percentage points. The rate for individuals ages 55 to 59 saw the largest decrease between the two fiscal years, with a decrease of 4.0 percentage points (Appendix D).

Race/Ethnicity

In the FY 2019-20 release cohort, the largest portion of individuals are Hispanic/Latino (45.3 percent), followed by White (25.2 percent), and Black/African American (23.8 percent). Altogether, these three groups consistently comprise over 90 percent of each release cohort. The smaller race/ethnicity categories of the population include Asian, Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaskan Native individuals, who each represent less than three percent of releases in the current cohort. Individuals not included in the above race/ethnicity groups are categorically included as “Other.”

Generally, individuals in the American Indian/Alaskan Native category have relatively higher conviction rates. This continues to be the case in the FY 2019-20 release cohort, where American Indian/Alaskan Native individuals have the highest three-year conviction rate at 45.3 percent. The categories of White, Hispanic/Latino, and Black/African American individuals have similar conviction rates that range between 36.7 and 40.7 percent. The rate for those in the Pacific Islander category is 43.2 percent and the rate for Asian individuals is 33.3 percent. Finally, the rate for individuals in the Other category is the lowest at 29.0 percent (Appendix B).

The three-year conviction rate for each race/ethnicity category decreased between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts. The rate among White individuals saw the greatest decrease (3.8 percentage points), while the rate for American Indian/Alaskan Native individuals saw the smallest decrease (0.6 percentage points).

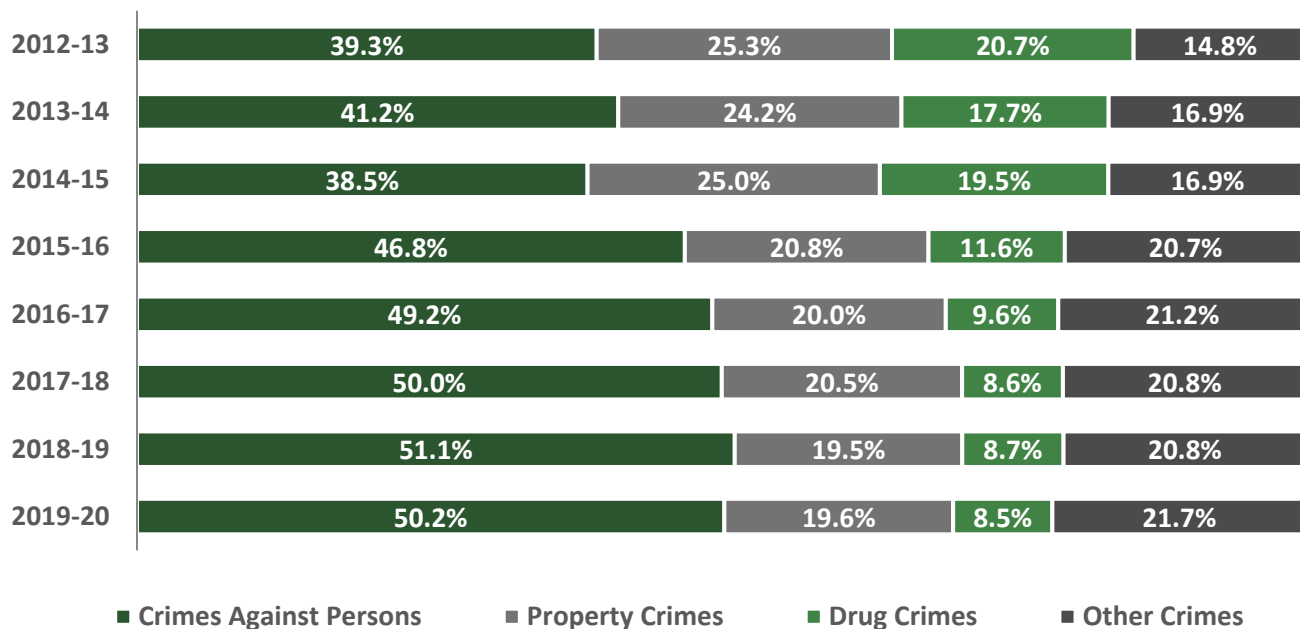
Commitment Offense Category

Each commitment offense category (property crimes, drug crimes, crimes against persons and those categorized as “other”) represents the category of offense an individual was committed to prison for

³⁰ For more information regarding the relationship between age and recidivism, see Section 7.5 of the “Recidivism Report for Offenders Released from CDCR in Fiscal Year 2015-16”, available at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/research/outcomes-characteristics/offender-recidivism/>

prior to their release in FY 2019-20.³¹ Certain categories are associated with higher or lower rates of recidivism, which may influence changes in the statewide recidivism rate when there are substantial changes to the composition of the cohort.³² As shown in Figure 8, the proportion of individuals committed to CDCR for crimes against persons has steadily increased overall since the FY 2012-13 release cohort, while the percentage of individuals committed for property and drug offenses have generally decreased, largely due to Realignment (Appendix F). Individuals committed for crimes against persons comprise 50.2 percent of the FY 2019-20 release cohort, followed by other crimes (21.7 percent), property crimes (19.6 percent), and drug crimes (8.5 percent).

Figure 8. Percentage of Releases by Commitment Offense Category for the Fiscal Year 2012-13 through 2019-20 Release Cohorts



For the FY 2019-20 release cohort, individuals committed for property crimes have the highest three-year conviction rate at 47.7 percent. Lower rates are observed for individuals committed for other crimes (42.4 percent), drug crimes (39.8 percent), and crimes against persons (34.3 percent). This trend is consistent with CDCR historical patterns – individuals committed for property crimes generally have the highest rate (around 50 percent). In contrast, individuals committed for crimes against persons generally have the lowest rate (around 40 percent).

The conviction rate for each category declined compared to the FY 2018-19 cohort (Appendix D). The largest decrease occurred for individuals committed for property crimes (5.0 percentage points), and the smallest decrease occurred for those committed for crimes against persons (2.0 percentage points).

³¹ Examples of crimes categorized as “other” include driving under the influence, arson, escape, possession of a weapon, criminal threats, and false imprisonment.

³² If the percentage of individuals belonging to a certain commitment offense category (e.g., crimes against persons) increases or comprises a large portion of a release cohort, the statewide recidivism rate could be influenced downward, as these individuals are typically associated with low rates of recidivism. Conversely, if a larger group of individuals committed for property or drug offenses comprises a large portion of a release cohort, the statewide recidivism rate could be influenced upward, as these individuals are typically associated with high rates of recidivism.

Sentence Type

Most individuals sentenced to prison in California receive a determinate term (their sentence is set to a specific length) and are generally released after completing their sentence. Individuals sentenced to an indeterminate term (e.g., 25 years to life) are released once the Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) has found them suitable for release, or the court orders their release. Under California's Three Strikes Law, a third strike sentence is also an indeterminate sentence.³³ Under Proposition 47 certain felony drug/alcohol and property crimes were reclassified to misdemeanors (Appendix F). Proposition 64 authorizes resentencing for eligible marijuana convictions. Note that resentencing under Propositions 47 or 64 are not actual sentence types but are included in this section due to the resulting sentence.³⁴

Those who served a determinate term make up over 70 percent of releases and those with a second strike sentence (which is also a determinate term) comprise an additional 25 percent of releases. Consistent with historical trends, those with a determinate second strike term have the highest three-year conviction rate at 41.7 percent, followed by individuals sentenced to a determinate term at 39.6 percent. The rate decreased for both second strike and determinately sentenced individuals (2.5 and 3.1 percentage points, respectively) compared to the FY 2018-19 release cohort.

Individuals who serve an indeterminate term at CDCR consistently comprise a small proportion of each release cohort and have the lowest conviction rate when compared to all other sentence types. Indeterminately sentenced individuals in the FY 2019-20 release cohort have a three-year conviction rate of 2.7 percent. Additionally, there are 157 individuals with a third strike (indeterminate term) and their three-year conviction rate is 4.5 percent.

Serious/Violent Offense

Over half of the individuals in the FY 2019-20 release cohort were originally committed to CDCR for a non-serious/non-violent offense (53.7 percent), followed by those committed for a violent offense (25.4 percent) and a serious offense (20.9 percent). While all violent offenses are also considered serious, not all serious offenses are violent (individuals in the serious category have a non-violent offense).³⁵ Individuals committed for serious or violent offenses have slowly accounted for larger portions of each release cohort over time, largely due to Realignment (Appendix F). Individuals committed for violent offenses tend to have lower rates of recidivism than those committed for serious offenses or non-serious/non-violent offenses.

In the FY 2019-20 cohort, individuals committed for non-serious/non-violent offenses have the highest three-year conviction rate at 45.4 percent, followed by individuals committed for serious offenses (40.3 percent). Individuals committed for violent offenses have the lowest rate at 25.0 percent, which is generally consistent with historical trends.

Overall, conviction rates decreased for each category when compared to the FY 2018-19 cohort. The rate for individuals committed for serious offenses decreased 4.4 percentage points, and the rate for those committed for non-serious/non-violent offenses decreased by 3.4 percentage points. The rate for

³³ See the supplemental recidivism report on individuals released through Board of Parole Hearings processes: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/research/offender-outcomes-characteristics/offender-recidivism/>

³⁴ Individuals resentenced are categorized as "Resentenced to Misdemeanor" in applicable tables (Appendices A, B, and D). For more information on Proposition 47, see: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/Prop-47-Information.pdf>. For more information on Proposition 64, see: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/prop64.htm>

³⁵ For the definition of a serious felony offense, see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/parole/serious-offenses-defined/>. For the definition of a violent felony offense, see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/parole/violent-offenses-defined/>

individuals with a violent offense was flat compared to the previous fiscal year as the rate decreased by 0.1 percent.

County of Release

Nearly 80 percent of the release cohort (79.0 percent) were released to 12 of the 58 California counties. Los Angeles County accounts for the most releases each year, comprising 29.5 percent of the FY 2019-20 cohort.³⁶ Less than one percent of the cohort were directly discharged from prison and their rates are not associated with a county.

Conviction rates by county of release should be interpreted with caution for several reasons. Individuals may leave the county to which they are released, or individuals may be released and convicted in a different county. When an individual is convicted in another county, the conviction is still associated with their original county of release (e.g., if an individual is released in Sacramento County and is subsequently convicted in Riverside County, for the purposes of this report, the new conviction is still associated with Sacramento County).

Regarding the 12 counties with the largest number of releases, Kern County has the highest three-year conviction rate (50.4 percent), while Alameda County has the lowest three-year conviction rate (25.6 percent). The three-year conviction rate for the remaining 46 California counties is 39.7 percent, which is slightly higher than the overall conviction rate (39.1 percent as shown in Appendix C).

When comparing the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts, the three-year conviction rate decreased for nearly all counties with Alameda County having a slight increase (0.4 percentage points). Santa Clara County has the largest decrease at 5.7 percentage points, followed by San Diego County at 5.1 percentage points, and Stanislaus County at 3.9 percentage points.

Risk Score

The California Static Risk Assessment (CSRA) is a tool used to calculate an individual's risk of conviction for a new offense after release from prison.³⁷ Based on criminal history and demographics including age, individuals are designated as having a low, moderate, or high-risk of being convicted of a new offense. Approximately 41.2 percent of individuals in the FY 2019-20 release cohort have a high-risk score according to the CSRA. Low-risk scores account for 31.2 percent of the cohort and moderate-risk scores account for 27.6 percent.

High-risk individuals have the highest three-year conviction rate at 54.9 percent, followed by moderate-risk individuals (38.0 percent) and low-risk individuals (19.4 percent). This trend has been consistent for several years, where high, moderate, and low-risk individuals recidivate at about 60 percent, 40 percent, and 20 percent, respectively.

Compared to FY 2018-19, the conviction rate for each group decreased. The three-year conviction rate for individuals with a high-risk score decreased by 3.5 percentage points, moderate-risk score by 3.6 percentage points, and low-risk score by 0.3 percentage points (Appendix D).

³⁶ Los Angeles County also accounts for the most admissions to CDCR each year.

³⁷ More information regarding the CSRA and its development may be found at: <https://cpb-us-e2.wpmucdn.com/sites.uci.edu/dist/0/1149/files/2013/12/Development-of-the-CSRA-Recidivism-Risk-Prediction-in-the-CDCR.pdf>

Mental Health Designation

Over three-quarters of individuals in the FY 2019-20 cohort did not have a mental health designation through CDCR's Mental Health Services Delivery System (MHSDS) at the time of their release. Approximately 18 percent of individuals were assigned to the Correctional Clinical Case Management System (CCCMS), the most common and low-level designation, at the time of release. Fewer individuals (4.0 percent total) were assigned to higher-level designations, including the Enhanced Outpatient Program (EOP), Mental Health Crisis Bed (MHCB), and the Psychiatric Inpatient Program (PIP).

In general, historical trends show that individuals released from CDCR with a mental health designation at release have elevated conviction rates when compared to those without a mental health designation. A similar trend is observed with the FY 2019-20 cohort – those assigned to PIP have a three-year recidivism rate of 48.7 percent, followed by 46.6 percent for EOP, and 41.5 percent for CCCMS. Individuals with no mental health designation have a rate of 38.2 percent.

Compared to the FY 2018-19 release cohort, the three-year conviction rate decreased for each group in the FY 2019-20 cohort. The largest decrease was for individuals assigned to EOP (5.7 percentage points) and the smallest decrease was for individuals assigned to PIP (0.9 percentage points). The rate for individuals without a mental health designation decreased by 2.4 percentage points.

Length of Stay

Length of stay refers to the amount of time an individual is incarcerated at CDCR prior to their release in FY 2019-20. Historically, over half of each release cohort spends less than two years in prison. See the corresponding tables in Appendix A, B, or D for the categories of length of stay referenced in this section.

Generally, as the length of stay increases, both the number of people released and the conviction rate for each category decreases. Approximately 40 percent of individuals in the FY 2019-20 release cohort have a stay of less than one year, and 24.9 percent have a stay between one and two years. The percentage of individuals in each length of stay category tends to decrease as the length of stay increases, with the exception of individuals with a stay of five to nine years (8.1 percent of the release cohort) or 15 years or more (4.5 percent of the release cohort).

Conviction rates generally decrease as the length of stay increases. Individuals in the FY 2019-20 cohort who spent less than one year in prison have a three-year conviction rate of 45.5 percent, while those who spent 15 years or more have a rate of 7.2 percent. Historically, conviction rates decrease considerably for those who stay for ten years or more (rates below 25 percent) and are lowest for individuals with a stay of 15 years or more. A longer length of stay is most common for violent offenses, leading to an older age at release and an overall lower likelihood of recidivism. Additionally, individuals with shorter lengths of stay may be limited in their availability to participate in programming that may influence recidivism reports.

Compared to the FY 2018-19 release cohort, conviction rates decreased for nearly all length of stay categories. Decreases in conviction rates ranged between 0.3 and 4.0 percentage points for each category. The largest decrease in the rates is observed for individuals with less than one year at 4.0 percentage points, while the rate increased slightly (1.5 percentage points) for those with a stay between five and nine years (Appendix D).

Number of CDCR Stays

A stay is defined as any period of time an individual is housed in a CDCR adult institution.³⁸ The number of stays for an individual is cumulative over their criminal history. Nearly half of the FY 2019-20 release cohort were released after their first stay at CDCR (48.1 percent). As the number of stays increases, the number of individuals in each category generally decreases.

Conviction rates are typically lowest for those with one stay and rates gradually increase as the number of stays increases. In the FY 2019-20 release cohort, individuals with one stay have the lowest three-year conviction rate at 32.8 percent and those with eight stays have the highest rate at 48.3 percent. Compared to the previous FY 2018-19 release cohort, the three-year recidivism rate decreased for most categories. The rate for individuals with eight stays increased by 2.9 percentage points while those with 13 stays saw the largest decrease (9.1 percentage points).

Commitment Offense Group

Commitment offense refers to the offense an individual was committed to prison for prior to their release in FY 2019-20. Also known as the controlling offense, it is the most serious offense in an individual's most recent conviction cycle. Data regarding conviction rates by commitment offense are available in Appendix B. Rates vary greatly when analyzed by commitment offense, with a high of 58.7 percent for those committed for vehicle theft and a low of 1.6 percent for those committed for first-degree murder. Please note, some categories are associated with very few releases and should be interpreted with caution.

Of the commitment offenses associated with the highest three-year conviction rates in the FY 2019-20 cohort, the top three are vehicle theft, receiving stolen property, and second-degree burglary (58.7 percent, 54.0 percent, and 48.7 percent, respectively). The commitment offenses associated with the lowest conviction rates are first-degree murder, second-degree murder, and attempted first-degree murder (1.6 percent, 2.0 percent, and 3.9 percent, respectively). Of the ten offenses associated with the lowest conviction rates in this cohort, all were for crimes against persons.

Sex Registration Requirement

Most individuals in the FY 2019-20 release cohort (90.4 percent) did not have a sex registration requirement (non-sex registrants). The remaining 9.6 percent of individuals were required to register pursuant to California Penal Code 290 (sex registrants).

The three-year conviction rate for sex registrants released in FY 2019-20 is 26.9 percent, and the rate for non-sex registrants is 40.5 percent. This difference in the rate between these groups is generally consistent with historical trends – sex registrants generally have a lower conviction rate than non-sex registrants. Compared to the FY 2018-19 cohort, the rate for sex registrants increased slightly by 0.2 percentage points and the rate for non-sex registrants decreased by 3.0 percentage points.

As shown in Table 8 and Figure 9, the largest portions of sex registrants who recidivated were convicted of non-sex crimes (misdemeanor or felony). Regarding those who were convicted, 19.5 percent were

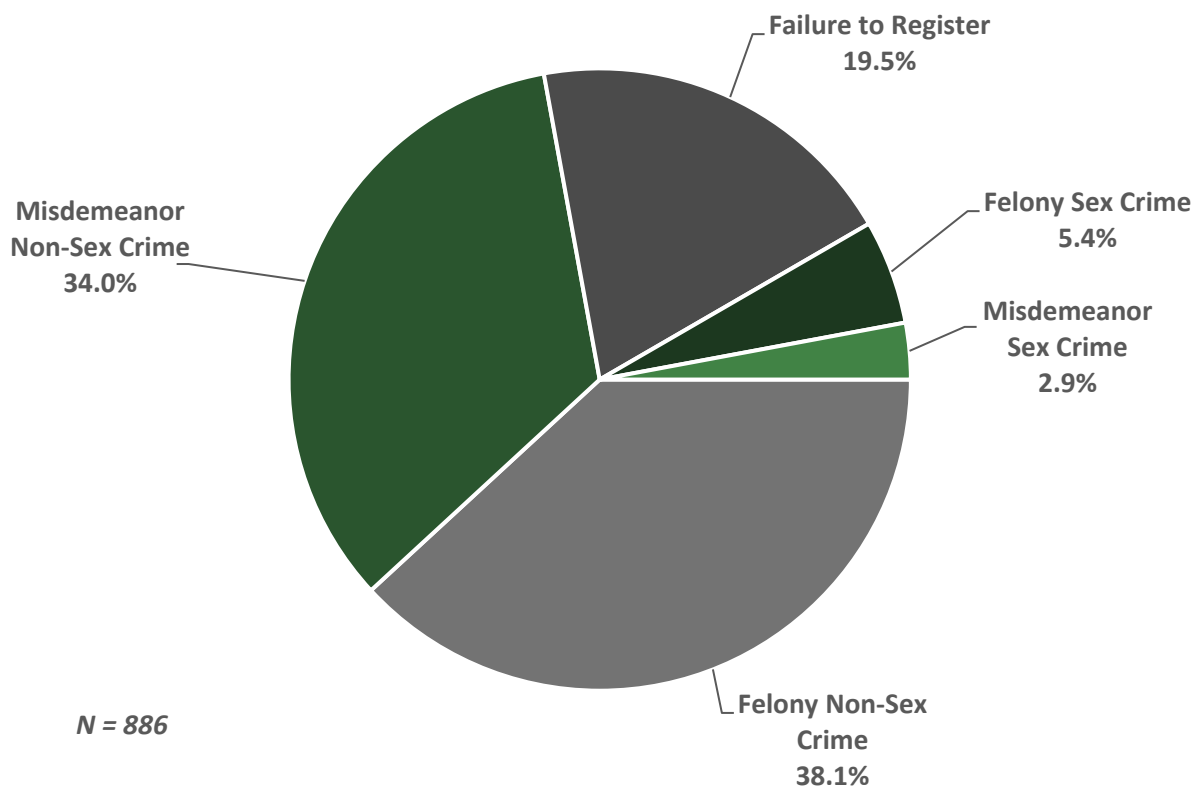
³⁸ The total number of stays could include past stays for parole violations. Since the passage of Realignment in 2011, only individuals previously sentenced to a life term (indeterminate sentence) and some sex registrants serve parole violations in state prison. Penal Code section 3000.08 remands persons on parole pursuant to section 3000.0, subdivision (b), paragraph (4) to the custody of CDCR. For more information regarding specific sex offenses, see Penal Code 3000.0(b)(4). For more information regarding decreases in returns to prison for parole violations, see Section 4.4 Type of Return to Prison.

convicted for failure to register, while relatively few sex registrants were convicted of new sex crimes: 5.4 percent for felony sex crimes and 2.9 percent for misdemeanor sex crimes.

Table 8. Type of Conviction for the 886 Sex Registrants Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

Reason for Conviction	Convicted	
	Number	Percent
Felony Non-Sex Crime	338	38.1%
Misdemeanor Non-Sex Crime	301	34.0%
Failure to Register	173	19.5%
Felony Sex Crime	48	5.4%
Misdemeanor Sex Crime	26	2.9%
Total	886	100.0%

Figure 9. Type of Conviction for the 886 Sex Registrants Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period



6 Individuals with Enhanced Credit Earnings Under Proposition 57

Proposition 57 was passed in November 2016 and allows eligible individuals to earn credits for good behavior and approved rehabilitative and educational achievements.³⁹ It increased the amount of credits that may be earned through the Good Conduct Credit (GCC) and Milestone Completion Credit (MCC) Programs; it also added two new types of credits: Rehabilitative Achievement Credit (RAC) and Educational Merit Credit (EMC).⁴⁰ The FY 2019-20 release cohort is the third cohort of individuals who were impacted by the implementation of Proposition 57, which began in May 2017.⁴¹ These findings are preliminary. The regulations regarding credit earning (e.g., who earns credit, how much they earn, availability of rehabilitative programs and more) change often and may see changes in future cohorts as a result.

6.1 Conviction Rates for Individuals with Enhanced Credit Earnings

Recidivism rates for those with enhanced credit earnings are lower than those without credit earnings and the number of individuals receiving credits increases each year

Table 9 displays the conviction rates for individuals who earned any enhanced credits under Proposition 57 during their incarceration (EMC, MCC, or RAC).⁴² Over half of the individuals released (59.6 percent) earned at least one of the three credit earning types (Appendix A). The percentage of individuals who earned credits increased by 1.9 percentage points when compared to the FY 2018-19 release cohort (57.7 percent of all individuals released in FY 2018-19 earned credit). The three-year conviction rate for individuals who earned credit (35.8 percent) is 8.2 percentage points lower than the rate for individuals with no enhanced credit earnings (44.0 percent). The rate for individuals with credit earnings decreased by 3.4 percentage points (from 39.2 percent to 35.8 percent) and the rate for those without credits decreased 1.6 percentage points (from 45.6 percent to 44.0 percent) between the FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 release cohorts, consistent with the overall decrease in the statewide recidivism rate (Appendix D).

Table 9. Conviction Rates by Enhanced Credit Earnings

Any Enhanced Credit Earning	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
No	13,833	2,269	16.4%	4,589	33.2%	6,092	44.0%
Yes	20,382	2,407	11.8%	5,285	25.9%	7,303	35.8%
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%

³⁹ For more details on Proposition 57 credit earnings, see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/proposition57/>. Individuals in the FY 2019-20 release cohort were released prior to the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation litigation. For more information, see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/bph/wp-content/uploads/sites/161/2024/07/Fact-Sheet-CJLF-Litigation-Impact-to-Release-Dates.pdf>

⁴⁰ In addition to increasing the number of MCCs that could be earned, Proposition 57 expanded the eligibility criteria to include individuals with a violent offense, sex registrants, and indeterminately sentenced individuals. These three groups are oftentimes associated with lower rates of recidivism, and their exclusion from earning MCCs prior to Proposition 57 may contribute to the higher rates observed among MCC earners.

⁴¹ RAC and EMC were not implemented until August 2017 and RAC were not regularly earned until October 2017.

⁴² Milestone Completion Credits are awarded for successful completion of rehabilitative or educational programs designed to prepare participants to find employment upon release. Educational Merit Credits are awarded for completion of high school diploma or equivalency programs, higher education degrees, or the Offender Mentor Certification Program (OMCP). Rehabilitative Achievement Credits are awarded to those who complete specified hours of approved self-help and volunteer public service activities. To learn more about the various types of credit earnings, see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/proposition57/>.

6.2 Conviction Rates by Credit Earning Types

Individuals earning RACs or a combination of the three credit earning types have lower conviction rates than individuals earning only MCCs or EMCs

Table 10 displays conviction rates by enhanced credit type. In previous reports, only three groupings (MCCs, EMCs, and RACs) were provided and individuals could appear in more than one group. Table 10 provides additional detail and individuals no longer appear in more than one group, therefore, the rates provided in Table 10 should not be compared to previous reports.

For individuals who received only one credit type, those who earned MCCs have the highest three-year conviction rate (43.4 percent), followed by those with EMCs (31.7 percent), and those with RACs (25.0 percent). The group of individuals who earned MCCs is much larger than those earning EMCs or RACs. The higher recidivism rates observed among the MCC group can be attributed to multiple factors. The MCC group includes individuals with non-violent offenses and non-sex registrants who were eligible to earn MCCs prior to the passage of Proposition 57. Individuals with less serious offenses generally have higher recidivism rates than individuals with more violent crimes against persons, as discussed in Section 5.2 of this report. Further, programs that award EMCs or RACS often have longer completion times, which limits participation for individuals with shorter lengths of stay (an additional characteristic associated with higher recidivism rates) when compared to programs that award MCCs. Programs that award MCCs oftentimes award smaller increments of credit in comparison to programs that award EMCs or RACs.

In general, individuals who earn more than one credit type have lower rates than individuals with one credit earning type. Individuals who earn EMCs and RACs have the lowest three-year conviction rate at 14.3 percent, followed by those with EMCs, MCCs and RACs (14.8 percent). Individuals who earn RACs and MCCs or EMCs and MCCs also have low rates of recidivism (20.8 percent and 27.0 percent, respectively). These rates are likely slightly higher due to the composition of these groups (e.g., individuals with MCCs tend to be associated with higher rates of recidivism). Last, all the credit earning combinations presented in Table 10 have lower recidivism rates than those without credit earnings (44.0 percent).

Table 10. Conviction Rates by Enhanced Credit Earning Type for the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohort

Type of Enhanced Credit Earning	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
EMC Only	319	35	11.0%	71	22.3%	101	31.7%
MCC Only	13,205	2,011	15.2%	4,237	32.1%	5,734	43.4%
RAC Only	552	33	6.0%	97	17.6%	138	25.0%
More than One Credit Type:							
EMC and RAC	35	3	8.6%	4	11.4%	5	14.3%
EMC and MCC	1,283	79	6.2%	237	18.5%	346	27.0%
RAC and MCC	4,010	219	5.5%	548	13.7%	834	20.8%
EMC, MCC and RAC	978	27	2.8%	91	9.3%	145	14.8%
No Enhanced Credit	13,833	2,269	16.4%	4,589	33.2%	6,092	44.0%
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%

The FY 2019-20 cohort is only the third release cohort impacted by Proposition 57 and these findings are considered preliminary. The regulations regarding credit earning (e.g., who earns credit, how much they earn, availability of rehabilitative programs, and more) change often and may see changes in future cohorts as a result. CDCR will continue to monitor the potential impact of Proposition 57 on recidivism and continue to provide data as it is available.

6.3 Enhanced Credit Earning Methodology

The group of individuals who earned credit includes individuals who earned any EMCs, MCCs, or RACs during their incarceration, even if the credit did not result in a sentence length reduction. This includes non-violent non-sex registrants sentenced to a determinate term who earned MCCs prior to the passage of Proposition 57. Individuals earning EMC, MCC, or RAC may have earned GCC or Extraordinary Conduct Credit (ECC) in addition to EMC, MCC, or RAC. Individuals who only earned GCC, enhanced GCC (fire camp participants), or ECC are excluded, as these are not awarded for program participation.

Reasons an individual's earned credit may not result in sentence length reduction include:

- Lost credits that became non-restorable due to multiple serious Rules Violation Reports.
- A release date restriction or resentence that brought the individual's release date too close to apply credits. CDCR requires a minimum number of days to prepare for an individual's release prior to their release date (typically 15 days for non-violent individuals and 60 days for violent individuals or sex registrants).
- Earning too many credits for a specific time period. Up to 84 days may be taken off an individual's sentence for MCC earnings per year starting on the anniversary of their first MCC earning. Additional MCCs roll over to the next year. Up to 40 days may be taken off an individual's sentence for RAC earnings per year starting on the anniversary of their first RAC earning. Additional RACs do not roll over.
- For incarcerated individuals granted release by the Board of Parole Hearings: for individuals with an indeterminate sentence who receive a parole hearing, credits apply to their Minimum Eligible Parole Date, potentially allowing for earlier release. Earned credits do not reduce eligibility release dates for individuals eligible for Youth Parole, Elderly Parole, or Nonviolent Parole.⁴³

⁴³ For more details on Proposition 57 credit earnings, see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/proposition57/>

Conclusion and Appendices

This concludes CDCR's examination of the 34,215 individuals released from adult institutions in Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The following sections include detailed data tables regarding the demographics, characteristics, and major correctional policies and initiatives that influence recidivism rates. We invite you to further explore recidivism analyses of subpopulations and program participants through our supplemental recidivism reports, as well as our recidivism dashboard.⁴⁴

The Statewide Recidivism Report is developed on an annual basis. CDCR will continue to update arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison data as they become available with the goal of spurring discussion around the best possible ways to reduce recidivism among individuals released from CDCR adult institutions.

⁴⁴ Statewide recidivism reports, supplemental recidivism reports, and the recidivism dashboard may be found on CDCR's website, available at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/research/offender-outcomes-characteristics/offender-recidivism/>

Appendix A: Demographics and Characteristics of the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohort

Table 11. Demographics and Characteristics of the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohort

Demographics and Characteristics	Number	Percent
Total	34,215	100.0%
Gender		
Male	31,628	92.4%
Female	2,587	7.6%
Age at Release		
18 and 19	145	0.4%
20 to 24	3,569	10.4%
25 to 29	6,465	18.9%
30 to 34	6,260	18.3%
35 to 39	5,538	16.2%
40 to 44	4,038	11.8%
45 to 49	2,791	8.2%
50 to 54	2,185	6.4%
55 to 59	1,732	5.1%
60 and over	1,492	4.4%
Race/Ethnicity		
Hispanic/Latino	15,483	45.3%
White	8,617	25.2%
Black/African American	8,151	23.8%
Asian	415	1.2%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	408	1.2%
Pacific Islander	118	0.3%
Other	1,023	3.0%
Commitment Offense Category		
Crimes Against Persons	17,184	50.2%
Other Crimes	7,434	21.7%
Property Crimes	6,697	19.6%
Drug Crimes	2,900	8.5%
Sentence Type		
Determinate Term	24,016	70.2%
Second Strike (Determinate Term)	9,210	26.9%
Indeterminate Term	820	2.4%
Third Strike (Indeterminate Term)	157	0.5%
Resentenced to Misdemeanor	12	0.0%

Table 11. Demographics and Characteristics of the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohort (continued)

Demographics and Characteristics	Number	Percent
Total	34,215	100.0%
Type of Post-Release Supervision		
Post-Release Community Supervision	17,320	50.6%
Parole	16,882	49.3%
Directly Discharged	13	0.0%
Serious/Violent Offense		
Non-Serious/Non-Violent	18,358	53.7%
Violent	8,697	25.4%
Serious	7,160	20.9%
County of Release		
Los Angeles County	10,091	29.5%
San Bernardino County	2,775	8.1%
Riverside County	2,707	7.9%
San Diego County	2,367	6.9%
Sacramento County	1,673	4.9%
Orange County	1,593	4.7%
Fresno County	1,530	4.5%
Kern County	1,415	4.1%
San Joaquin County	851	2.5%
Santa Clara County	721	2.1%
Alameda County	699	2.0%
Stanislaus County	627	1.8%
All Other Counties	7,153	20.9%
Directly Discharged	13	0.0%
CSRA Risk Score		
High	14,083	41.2%
Moderate	9,444	27.6%
Low	10,688	31.2%
Mental Health Designation		
Correctional Clinical Case Management System	6,135	17.9%
Enhanced Outpatient Program	1,175	3.4%
Psychiatric Inpatient Program	156	0.5%
Mental Health Crisis Bed	27	0.1%
No Mental Health Designation	26,722	78.1%

Table 11. Demographics and Characteristics of the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohort (continued)

Demographics and Characteristics	Number	Percent
Total	34,215	100.0%
Length of Stay		
Less than 1 year	13,474	39.4%
1 year (12 to 23 months)	8,525	24.9%
2 years (24 to 35 months)	3,752	11.0%
3 years (36 to 47 months)	1,841	5.4%
4 years (48 to 59 months)	1,167	3.4%
5 to 9 years	2,781	8.1%
10 to 14 years	1,137	3.3%
15 years or more	1,538	4.5%
Number of CDCR Stays		
1	16,459	48.1%
2	5,808	17.0%
3	2,785	8.1%
4	1,774	5.2%
5	1,433	4.2%
6	1,064	3.1%
7	908	2.7%
8	766	2.2%
9	627	1.8%
10	516	1.5%
11	396	1.2%
12	317	0.9%
13	278	0.8%
14	211	0.6%
15 or more	873	2.6%
Sex Registration Requirement		
No	30,923	90.4%
Yes	3,292	9.6%
Proposition 57 Credits Earned		
Yes	20,382	59.6%
No	13,833	40.4%

Appendix B: Recidivism Rates by Demographics and Characteristics for the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohort

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 by Demographics and Characteristics

Conviction Rates by Demographics/Characteristics	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%
Gender							
Male	31,628	4,416	14.0%	9,303	29.4%	12,595	39.8%
Female	2,587	260	10.1%	571	22.1%	800	30.9%
Age at Release							
18 and 19	145	36	24.8%	70	48.3%	91	62.8%
20 to 24	3,569	736	20.6%	1,419	39.8%	1,853	51.9%
25 to 29	6,465	1,148	17.8%	2,302	35.6%	3,060	47.3%
30 to 34	6,260	932	14.9%	2,059	32.9%	2,784	44.5%
35 to 39	5,538	734	13.3%	1,600	28.9%	2,203	39.8%
40 to 44	4,038	465	11.5%	1,017	25.2%	1,433	35.5%
45 to 49	2,791	259	9.3%	569	20.4%	825	29.6%
50 to 54	2,185	183	8.4%	416	19.0%	580	26.5%
55 to 59	1,732	118	6.8%	278	16.1%	367	21.2%
60 and over	1,492	65	4.4%	144	9.7%	199	13.3%

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 by Demographics and Characteristics
(continued)

Conviction Rates by Demographics/Characteristics	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%
Race/Ethnicity							
American Indian/Alaskan Native	408	65	15.9%	145	35.5%	185	45.3%
Pacific Islander	118	18	15.3%	37	31.4%	51	43.2%
Hispanic/Latino	15,483	2,281	14.7%	4,680	30.2%	6,302	40.7%
White	8,617	1,242	14.4%	2,604	30.2%	3,431	39.8%
Black/African American	8,151	940	11.5%	2,109	25.9%	2,991	36.7%
Asian	415	43	10.4%	96	23.1%	138	33.3%
Other	1,023	87	8.5%	203	19.8%	297	29.0%
Commitment Offense Category							
Property Crimes	6,697	1,146	17.1%	2,401	35.9%	3,194	47.7%
Other Crimes	7,434	1,105	14.9%	2,334	31.4%	3,153	42.4%
Drug Crimes	2,900	376	13.0%	855	29.5%	1,155	39.8%
Crimes Against Persons	17,184	2,049	11.9%	4,284	24.9%	5,893	34.3%
Sentence Type							
Second Strike (Determinate Term)	9,210	1,194	13.0%	2,747	29.8%	3,843	41.7%
Determinate Term	24,016	3,478	14.5%	7,113	29.6%	9,521	39.6%
Third Strike (Indeterminate Term)	157	2	1.3%	3	1.9%	7	4.5%
Indeterminate Term	820	2	0.2%	10	1.2%	22	2.7%
Resentenced to Misdemeanor	12	0	N/A	1	N/A	2	N/A
Type of Post-Release Supervision							
Post-Release Community Supervision	17,320	2,943	17.0%	5,951	34.4%	7,868	45.4%
Parole	16,882	1,733	10.3%	3,923	23.2%	5,527	32.7%
Directly Discharged	13	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 by Demographics and Characteristics
(continued)

Conviction Rates by Demographics/Characteristics	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%
Serious/Violent Offense							
Non-Serious/Non-Violent	18,358	3,133	17.1%	6,317	34.4%	8,338	45.4%
Serious	7,160	932	13.0%	2,083	29.1%	2,883	40.3%
Violent	8,697	611	7.0%	1,474	16.9%	2,174	25.0%
County of Release							
Kern County	1,415	287	20.3%	559	39.5%	713	50.4%
Orange County	1,593	365	22.9%	631	39.6%	790	49.6%
San Joaquin County	851	159	18.7%	316	37.1%	406	47.7%
Stanislaus County	627	97	15.5%	208	33.2%	297	47.4%
San Bernardino County	2,775	394	14.2%	898	32.4%	1,164	41.9%
Sacramento County	1,673	186	11.1%	461	27.6%	692	41.4%
Riverside County	2,707	350	12.9%	788	29.1%	1,071	39.6%
San Diego County	2,367	289	12.2%	638	27.0%	903	38.1%
Los Angeles County	10,091	1,305	12.9%	2,685	26.6%	3,627	35.9%
Santa Clara County	721	82	11.4%	169	23.4%	244	33.8%
Fresno County	1,530	111	7.3%	303	19.8%	472	30.8%
Alameda County	699	40	5.7%	103	14.7%	179	25.6%
All Other Counties	7,153	1,011	14.1%	2,115	29.6%	2,837	39.7%
Directly Discharged	13	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 by Demographics and Characteristics
(continued)

Conviction Rates by Demographics/Characteristics	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%
CSRA Risk Score							
High	14,083	2,992	21.2%	5,929	42.1%	7,738	54.9%
Moderate	9,444	1,136	12.0%	2,537	26.9%	3,588	38.0%
Low	10,688	548	5.1%	1,408	13.2%	2,069	19.4%
Mental Health Designation							
Psychiatric Inpatient Program	156	33	21.2%	61	39.1%	76	48.7%
Enhanced Outpatient Program	1,175	236	20.1%	434	36.9%	548	46.6%
Correctional Clinical Case Management System	6,135	931	15.2%	1,865	30.4%	2,545	41.5%
No Mental Health Designation	26,722	3,471	13.0%	7,501	28.1%	10,212	38.2%
Mental Health Crisis Bed	27	5	N/A	13	N/A	14	N/A
Length of Stay							
Less than 1 year	13,474	2,369	17.6%	4,659	34.6%	6,137	45.5%
1 year (12 to 23 months)	8,525	1,270	14.9%	2,730	32.0%	3,715	43.6%
2 years (24 to 35 months)	3,752	480	12.8%	1,116	29.7%	1,531	40.8%
3 years (36 to 47 months)	1,841	217	11.8%	475	25.8%	653	35.5%
4 years (48 to 59 months)	1,167	103	8.8%	253	21.7%	367	31.4%
5 to 9 years	2,781	175	6.3%	473	17.0%	709	25.5%
10 to 14 years	1,137	36	3.2%	104	9.1%	172	15.1%
15 years or more	1,538	26	1.7%	64	4.2%	111	7.2%

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 by Demographics and Characteristics
(continued)

Conviction Rates by Demographics/Characteristics	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%
Number of CDCR Stays							
1	16,459	1,827	11.1%	3,912	23.8%	5,391	32.8%
2	5,808	960	16.5%	1,987	34.2%	2,672	46.0%
3	2,785	464	16.7%	947	34.0%	1,266	45.5%
4	1,774	260	14.7%	569	32.1%	784	44.2%
5	1,433	206	14.4%	444	31.0%	609	42.5%
6	1,064	146	13.7%	323	30.4%	443	41.6%
7	908	131	14.4%	299	32.9%	407	44.8%
8	766	118	15.4%	274	35.8%	370	48.3%
9	627	115	18.3%	216	34.4%	283	45.1%
10	516	77	14.9%	177	34.3%	238	46.1%
11	396	79	19.9%	142	35.9%	176	44.4%
12	317	60	18.9%	94	29.7%	131	41.3%
13	278	50	18.0%	95	34.2%	127	45.7%
14	211	30	14.2%	74	35.1%	91	43.1%
15 or more	873	153	17.5%	321	36.8%	407	46.6%

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 by Demographics and Characteristics
(continued)

Conviction Rates by Demographics/Characteristics	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%
Commitment Offense Group							
Vehicle Theft	1,580	389	24.6%	723	45.8%	927	58.7%
Receiving Stolen Property	413	87	21.1%	186	45.0%	223	54.0%
Burglary Second	844	149	17.7%	304	36.0%	411	48.7%
Other Property	435	91	20.9%	168	38.6%	212	48.7%
Controlled Substance Other	337	57	16.9%	124	36.8%	162	48.1%
Possession of Weapon	4,042	674	16.7%	1,417	35.1%	1,907	47.2%
Escape	84	13	15.5%	28	33.3%	37	44.0%
Other Offenses	1,975	309	15.6%	644	32.6%	863	43.7%
Grand Theft	552	84	15.2%	187	33.9%	241	43.7%
Controlled Substance Possession	776	114	14.7%	260	33.5%	335	43.2%
Other Assault/Battery	5,024	806	16.0%	1,617	32.2%	2,143	42.7%
Burglary First	2,312	280	12.1%	686	29.7%	961	41.6%
Assault with a Deadly Weapon	4,190	597	14.2%	1,233	29.4%	1,677	40.0%
Other Sex Offenses	982	153	15.6%	295	30.0%	386	39.3%
Forgery/Fraud	535	62	11.6%	139	26.0%	209	39.1%
Controlled Substance Manufacturing	47	4	8.5%	10	21.3%	18	38.3%
Controlled Substance Possession For Sale	1,509	177	11.7%	411	27.2%	571	37.8%
Arson	318	46	14.5%	96	30.2%	120	37.7%
Robbery	3,726	422	11.3%	943	25.3%	1,379	37.0%
Controlled Substance Sales	210	22	10.5%	45	21.4%	63	30.0%
Sodomy	33	3	9.1%	5	15.2%	8	24.2%
Driving Under Influence	1,015	63	6.2%	149	14.7%	226	22.3%

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 by Demographics and Characteristics
(continued)⁴⁵

Conviction Rates by Demographics/Characteristics	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%
Commitment Offense Group (continued)							
Kidnapping	207	9	4.3%	24	11.6%	38	18.4%
Attempted Murder Second	363	14	3.9%	43	11.8%	66	18.2%
Manslaughter	439	9	2.1%	33	7.5%	63	14.4%
Oral Copulation	95	4	4.2%	8	8.4%	12	12.6%
Vehicular Manslaughter	190	4	2.1%	11	5.8%	18	9.5%
Penetration With Object	50	3	6.0%	3	6.0%	4	8.0%
Rape	226	2	0.9%	9	4.0%	18	8.0%
Lewd Act With Child	931	21	2.3%	50	5.4%	66	7.1%
Attempted Murder First	77	0	0.0%	1	1.3%	3	3.9%
Murder Second	346	0	0.0%	6	1.7%	7	2.0%
Murder First	305	2	0.7%	3	1.0%	5	1.6%
Petty Theft With Prior	26	4	N/A	8	N/A	10	N/A
Marijuana Other	9	1	N/A	3	N/A	4	N/A
Marijuana Sale	6	1	N/A	2	N/A	2	N/A
Marijuana Possess For Sale	6	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A

⁴⁵ "Controlled Substance" and "Marijuana Other" offenses include planting, cultivating or processing marijuana, furnishing/giving marijuana to a minor, or employing a minor to transport marijuana. "Controlled Substance Other" offenses include possession of a controlled substance in prison/jail; maintaining place for the use/sale of a controlled substance; or employment of minor to furnish/sell a controlled substance. "Other Offenses" include threatening to commit a crime resulting in death or great bodily injury, participation in a street gang, and stalking. "Other Sex Offenses" include failure to register as a sex offender, indecent exposure, and pimping.

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 by Demographics and Characteristics
(continued)

Conviction Rates by Demographics/Characteristics	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%
Sex Registration Requirement							
No	30,923	4,329	14.0%	9,194	29.7%	12,509	40.5%
Yes	3,292	347	10.5%	680	20.7%	886	26.9%
Proposition 57 Credits Earned							
No	13,833	2,269	16.4%	4,589	33.2%	6,092	44.0%
Yes	20,382	2,407	11.8%	5,285	25.9%	7,303	35.8%

Appendix C: Conviction Rates by County of Release

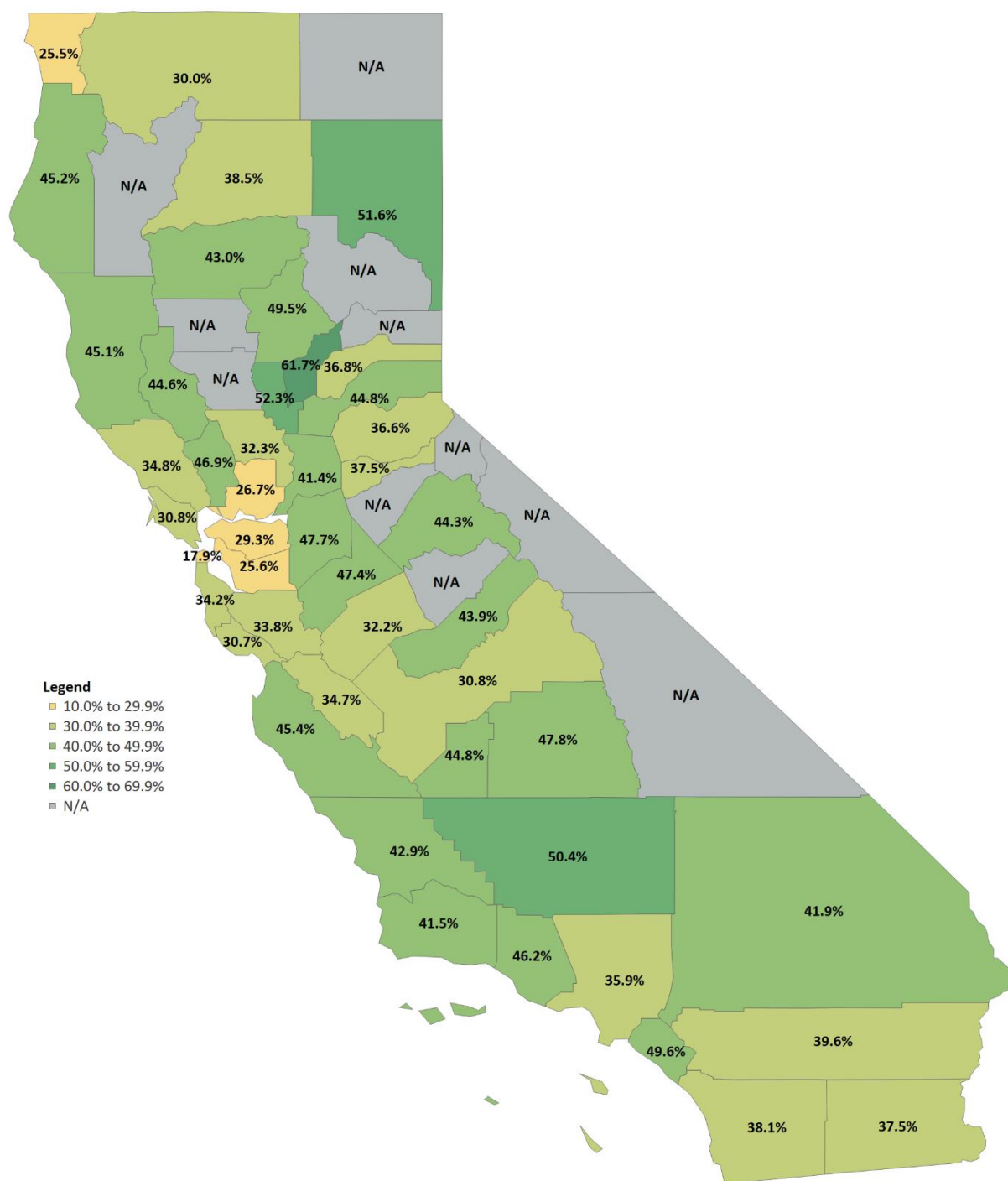
Table 13. Conviction Rates by County of Release

County of Release	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Alameda County	699	40	5.7%	103	14.7%	179	25.6%
Alpine County	1	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Amador County	32	4	12.5%	8	25.0%	12	37.5%
Butte County	319	56	17.6%	124	38.9%	158	49.5%
Calaveras County	29	1	N/A	6	N/A	11	N/A
Colusa County	23	3	N/A	5	N/A	8	N/A
Contra Costa County	406	46	11.3%	86	21.2%	119	29.3%
Del Norte County	51	4	7.8%	11	21.6%	13	25.5%
El Dorado County	123	17	13.8%	28	22.8%	45	36.6%
Fresno County	1,530	111	7.3%	303	19.8%	472	30.8%
Glenn County	29	4	N/A	7	N/A	10	N/A
Humboldt County	155	17	11.0%	48	31.0%	70	45.2%
Imperial County	144	16	11.1%	36	25.0%	54	37.5%
Inyo County	22	3	N/A	11	N/A	13	N/A
Kern County	1,415	287	20.3%	559	39.5%	713	50.4%
Kings County	310	52	16.8%	111	35.8%	139	44.8%
Lake County	112	13	11.6%	27	24.1%	50	44.6%
Lassen County	31	3	9.7%	12	38.7%	16	51.6%
Los Angeles County	10,091	1,305	12.9%	2,685	26.6%	3,627	35.9%
Madera County	212	26	12.3%	60	28.3%	93	43.9%
Marin County	52	6	11.5%	12	23.1%	16	30.8%
Mariposa County	12	0	N/A	1	N/A	3	N/A
Mendocino County	113	16	14.2%	44	38.9%	51	45.1%
Merced County	270	28	10.4%	63	23.3%	87	32.2%
Modoc County	14	4	N/A	6	N/A	7	N/A
Mono County	7	0	N/A	0	N/A	1	N/A
Monterey County	421	82	19.5%	152	36.1%	191	45.4%
Napa County	64	7	10.9%	21	32.8%	30	46.9%
Nevada County	38	5	13.2%	10	26.3%	14	36.8%
Orange County	1,593	365	22.9%	631	39.6%	790	49.6%
Placer County	165	20	12.1%	57	34.5%	74	44.8%
Plumas County	22	0	N/A	1	N/A	4	N/A
Riverside County	2,707	350	12.9%	788	29.1%	1,071	39.6%
Sacramento County	1,673	186	11.1%	461	27.6%	692	41.4%

Table 13. Conviction Rates by County of Release (continued)

County of Release	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
San Benito County	49	4	8.2%	7	14.3%	17	34.7%
San Bernardino County	2,775	394	14.2%	898	32.4%	1,164	41.9%
San Diego County	2,367	289	12.2%	638	27.0%	903	38.1%
San Francisco County	329	16	4.9%	40	12.2%	59	17.9%
San Joaquin County	851	159	18.7%	316	37.1%	406	47.7%
San Luis Obispo County	196	32	16.3%	64	32.7%	84	42.9%
San Mateo County	272	30	11.0%	70	25.7%	93	34.2%
Santa Barbara County	328	52	15.9%	103	31.4%	136	41.5%
Santa Clara County	721	82	11.4%	169	23.4%	244	33.8%
Santa Cruz County	137	16	11.7%	29	21.2%	42	30.7%
Shasta County	418	68	16.3%	132	31.6%	161	38.5%
Sierra County	1	1	N/A	1	N/A	1	N/A
Siskiyou County	50	4	8.0%	10	20.0%	15	30.0%
Solano County	277	26	9.4%	54	19.5%	74	26.7%
Sonoma County	267	37	13.9%	74	27.7%	93	34.8%
Stanislaus County	627	97	15.5%	208	33.2%	297	47.4%
Sutter County	109	23	21.1%	44	40.4%	57	52.3%
Tehama County	149	25	16.8%	55	36.9%	64	43.0%
Trinity County	20	4	N/A	6	N/A	8	N/A
Tulare County	487	70	14.4%	164	33.7%	233	47.8%
Tuolumne County	61	11	18.0%	19	31.1%	27	44.3%
Ventura County	500	112	22.4%	186	37.2%	231	46.2%
Yolo County	164	13	7.9%	37	22.6%	53	32.3%
Yuba County	162	34	21.0%	73	45.1%	100	61.7%
Directly Discharged	13	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Total	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%

Figure 10. Map of Three-Year Conviction Rates by County of Release



**Table 13 (pages 41 and 42) provides a list of each California County, the number of releases to each county, and one-, two-, and three-year conviction rates.*

Appendix D: Change in Recidivism Rate by Demographics and Characteristics Between the Fiscal Year 2018-19 and 2019-20 Release Cohorts

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20

	FY 2018-19 Number Released	FY 2019-20 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2018-19 Number Convicted	FY 2019-20 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2019-20 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
Total	36,086	34,215	(1,871)	15,129	13,395	(1,734)	41.9%	39.1%	(2.8)
Gender									
Male	33,441	31,628	(1,813)	14,224	12,595	(1,629)	42.5%	39.8%	(2.7)
Female	2,645	2,587	(58)	905	800	(105)	34.2%	30.9%	(3.3)
Age at Release									
18 and 19	157	145	(12)	96	91	(5)	61.1%	62.8%	1.7
20 to 24	4,152	3,569	(583)	2,280	1,853	(427)	54.9%	51.9%	(3.0)
25 to 29	7,081	6,465	(616)	3,576	3,060	(516)	50.5%	47.3%	(3.2)
30 to 34	6,548	6,260	(288)	3,007	2,784	(223)	45.9%	44.5%	(1.4)
35 to 39	5,785	5,538	(247)	2,489	2,203	(286)	43.0%	39.8%	(3.2)
40 to 44	4,018	4,038	20	1,463	1,433	(30)	36.4%	35.5%	(0.9)
45 to 49	2,916	2,791	(125)	901	825	(76)	30.9%	29.6%	(1.3)
50 to 54	2,375	2,185	(190)	663	580	(83)	27.9%	26.5%	(1.4)
55 to 59	1,725	1,732	7	435	367	(68)	25.2%	21.2%	(4.0)
60 and over	1,329	1,492	163	219	199	(20)	16.5%	13.3%	(3.2)

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20
(continued)

	FY 2018-19 Number Released	FY 2019-20 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2018-19 Number Convicted	FY 2019-20 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2019-20 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
Total	36,086	34,215	(1,871)	15,129	13,395	(1,734)	41.9%	39.1%	(2.8)
Race/Ethnicity									
American Indian/Alaskan Native	416	408	(8)	191	185	(6)	45.9%	45.3%	(0.6)
Hispanic/Latino	16,153	15,483	(670)	6,950	6,302	(648)	43.0%	40.7%	(2.3)
White	9,170	8,617	(553)	3,995	3,431	(564)	43.6%	39.8%	(3.8)
Black/African American	8,609	8,151	(458)	3,429	2,991	(438)	39.8%	36.7%	(3.1)
Asian/Pacific Islander	590	N/A	N/A	204	N/A	N/A	34.6%	N/A	N/A
Asian	N/A	415	N/A	N/A	138	N/A	N/A	33.3%	N/A
Pacific Islander	N/A	118	N/A	N/A	51	N/A	N/A	43.2%	N/A
Other	1,148	1,023	(125)	360	297	(63)	31.4%	29.0%	(2.4)
Commitment Offense Category									
Property Crimes	7,020	6,697	(323)	3,701	3,194	(507)	52.7%	47.7%	(5.0)
Other Crimes	7,494	7,434	(60)	3,412	3,153	(259)	45.5%	42.4%	(3.1)
Drug Crimes	3,124	2,900	(224)	1,327	1,155	(172)	42.5%	39.8%	(2.7)
Crimes Against Persons	18,448	17,184	(1,264)	6,689	5,893	(796)	36.3%	34.3%	(2.0)
Sentence Type									
Second Strike (Determinate Term)	9,285	9,210	(75)	4,106	3,843	(263)	44.2%	41.7%	(2.5)
Determinate Term	25,722	24,016	(1,706)	10,991	9,521	(1,470)	42.7%	39.6%	(3.1)
Third Strike (Indeterminate Term)	81	157	76	4	7	3	4.9%	4.5%	(0.4)
Indeterminate Term	976	820	(156)	20	22	2	2.0%	2.7%	0.7
Resentenced to Misdemeanor	22	12	(10)	8	2	(6)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20
(continued)

	FY 2018-19 Number Released	FY 2019-20 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2018-19 Number Convicted	FY 2019-20 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2019-20 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
Total	36,086	34,215	(1,871)	15,129	13,395	(1,734)	41.9%	39.1%	(2.8)
Type of Post-Release Supervision									
Post-Release Community Supervision	18,128	17,320	(808)	8,904	7,868	(1,036)	49.1%	45.4%	(3.7)
Parole	17,944	16,882	(1,062)	6,219	5,527	(692)	34.7%	32.7%	(2.0)
Directly Discharged	14	13	(1)	6	0	(6)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Serious/Violent Offense									
Non-Serious/Non-Violent	19,303	18,358	(945)	9,422	8,338	(1,084)	48.8%	45.4%	(3.4)
Serious	7,624	7,160	(464)	3,409	2,883	(526)	44.7%	40.3%	(4.4)
Violent	9,159	8,697	(462)	2,298	2,174	(124)	25.1%	25.0%	(0.1)
County of Release									
Kern County	1,283	1,415	132	689	713	24	53.7%	50.4%	(3.3)
Orange County	1,699	1,593	(106)	889	790	(99)	52.3%	49.6%	(2.7)
San Joaquin County	811	851	40	408	406	(2)	50.3%	47.7%	(2.6)
Stanislaus County	663	627	(36)	340	297	(43)	51.3%	47.4%	(3.9)
San Bernardino County	3,112	2,775	(337)	1,391	1,164	(227)	44.7%	41.9%	(2.8)
Sacramento County	1,862	1,673	(189)	818	692	(126)	43.9%	41.4%	(2.5)
Riverside County	2,837	2,707	(130)	1,123	1,071	(52)	39.6%	39.6%	0.0
San Diego County	2,460	2,367	(93)	1,062	903	(159)	43.2%	38.1%	(5.1)
Los Angeles County	10,649	10,091	(558)	4,206	3,627	(579)	39.5%	35.9%	(3.6)
Santa Clara County	835	721	(114)	330	244	(86)	39.5%	33.8%	(5.7)
Fresno County	1,539	1,530	(9)	518	472	(46)	33.7%	30.8%	(2.9)
Alameda County	690	699	9	174	179	5	25.2%	25.6%	0.4
All Other Counties	7,632	7,153	(479)	3,175	2,837	(338)	41.6%	39.7%	(1.9)
Directly Discharged	14	13	(1)	6	0	(6)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20
(continued)

	FY 2018-19 Number Released	FY 2019-20 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2018-19 Number Convicted	FY 2019-20 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2019-20 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
Total	36,086	34,215	(1,871)	15,129	13,395	(1,734)	41.9%	39.1%	(2.8)
CSRA Risk Score									
High	14,972	14,083	(889)	8,747	7,738	(1,009)	58.4%	54.9%	(3.5)
Moderate	10,152	9,444	(708)	4,227	3,588	(639)	41.6%	38.0%	(3.6)
Low	10,962	10,688	(274)	2,155	2,069	(86)	19.7%	19.4%	(0.3)
Mental Health Designation									
Psychiatric Inpatient Program	131	156	25	65	76	11	49.6%	48.7%	(0.9)
Enhanced Outpatient Program	1,345	1,175	(170)	703	548	(155)	52.3%	46.6%	(5.7)
Correctional Clinical Case Management System	6,826	6,135	(691)	3,067	2,545	(522)	44.9%	41.5%	(3.4)
No Mental Health Designation	27,755	26,722	(1,033)	11,279	10,212	(1,067)	40.6%	38.2%	(2.4)
Mental Health Crisis Bed	29	27	(2)	15	14	(1)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Length of Stay									
Less than 1 year	13,877	13,474	(403)	6,864	6,137	(727)	49.5%	45.5%	(4.0)
1 year (12 to 23 months)	9,484	8,525	(959)	4,473	3,715	(758)	47.2%	43.6%	(3.6)
2 years (24 to 35 months)	3,740	3,752	12	1,588	1,531	(57)	42.5%	40.8%	(1.7)
3 years (36 to 47 months)	1,950	1,841	(109)	726	653	(73)	37.2%	35.5%	(1.7)
4 years (48 to 59 months)	1,304	1,167	(137)	423	367	(56)	32.4%	31.4%	(1.0)
5 to 9 years	2,999	2,781	(218)	719	709	(10)	24.0%	25.5%	1.5
10 to 14 years	1,251	1,137	(114)	225	172	(53)	18.0%	15.1%	(2.9)
15 years or more	1,481	1,538	57	111	111	0	7.5%	7.2%	(0.3)

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20
(continued)

	FY 2018-19 Number Released	FY 2019-20 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2018-19 Number Convicted	FY 2019-20 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2019-20 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
Total	36,086	34,215	(1,871)	15,129	13,395	(1,734)	41.9%	39.1%	(2.8)
Number of CDCR Stays									
1	17,340	16,459	(881)	6,097	5,391	(706)	35.2%	32.8%	(2.4)
2	6,008	5,808	(200)	2,817	2,672	(145)	46.9%	46.0%	(0.9)
3	2,846	2,785	(61)	1,364	1,266	(98)	47.9%	45.5%	(2.4)
4	1,774	1,774	0	862	784	(78)	48.6%	44.2%	(4.4)
5	1,421	1,433	12	648	609	(39)	45.6%	42.5%	(3.1)
6	1,259	1,064	(195)	588	443	(145)	46.7%	41.6%	(5.1)
7	1,009	908	(101)	526	407	(119)	52.1%	44.8%	(7.3)
8	828	766	(62)	376	370	(6)	45.4%	48.3%	2.9
9	684	627	(57)	365	283	(82)	53.4%	45.1%	(8.3)
10	596	516	(80)	282	238	(44)	47.3%	46.1%	(1.2)
11	444	396	(48)	221	176	(45)	49.8%	44.4%	(5.4)
12	357	317	(40)	179	131	(48)	50.1%	41.3%	(8.8)
13	314	278	(36)	172	127	(45)	54.8%	45.7%	(9.1)
14	259	211	(48)	134	91	(43)	51.7%	43.1%	(8.6)
15 or more	947	873	(74)	498	407	(91)	52.6%	46.6%	(6.0)

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20
(continued)

	FY 2018-19 Number Released	FY 2019-20 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2018-19 Number Convicted	FY 2019-20 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2019-20 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
Total	36,086	34,215	(1,871)	15,129	13,395	(1,734)	41.9%	39.1%	(2.8)
Commitment Offense Group									
Vehicle Theft	1,725	1,580	(145)	1,078	927	(151)	62.5%	58.7%	(3.8)
Receiving Stolen Property	464	413	(51)	265	223	(42)	57.1%	54.0%	(3.1)
Burglary Second	810	844	34	469	411	(58)	57.9%	48.7%	(9.2)
Other Property	395	435	40	217	212	(5)	54.9%	48.7%	(6.2)
Controlled Substance Other	384	337	(47)	178	162	(16)	46.4%	48.1%	1.7
Possession of Weapon	4,158	4,042	(116)	2,088	1,907	(181)	50.2%	47.2%	(3.0)
Escape	73	84	11	52	37	(15)	71.2%	44.0%	(27.2)
Other Offenses	1,937	1,975	38	871	863	(8)	45.0%	43.7%	(1.3)
Grand Theft	526	552	26	261	241	(20)	49.6%	43.7%	(5.9)
Controlled Substance Possession	721	776	55	351	335	(16)	48.7%	43.2%	(5.5)
Other Assault/Battery	5,478	5,024	(454)	2,541	2,143	(398)	46.4%	42.7%	(3.7)
Burglary First	2,499	2,312	(187)	1,151	961	(190)	46.1%	41.6%	(4.5)
Assault with a Deadly Weapon	4,530	4,190	(340)	1,916	1,677	(239)	42.3%	40.0%	(2.3)
Other Sex Offenses	1,059	982	(77)	406	386	(20)	38.3%	39.3%	1.0
Forgery/Fraud	575	535	(40)	249	209	(40)	43.3%	39.1%	(4.2)
Controlled Substance Manufacturing	68	47	(21)	14	18	4	20.6%	38.3%	17.7
Controlled Substance Possession For Sale	1,690	1,509	(181)	693	571	(122)	41.0%	37.8%	(3.2)
Arson	271	318	47	120	120	0	44.3%	37.7%	(6.6)
Robbery	3,870	3,726	(144)	1,510	1,379	(131)	39.0%	37.0%	(2.0)
Controlled Substance Sales	232	210	(22)	82	63	(19)	35.3%	30.0%	(5.3)
Sodomy	26	33	7	3	8	5	N/A	24.2%	N/A
Driving Under Influence	1,055	1,015	(40)	281	226	(55)	26.6%	22.3%	(4.3)
Kidnapping	241	207	(34)	44	38	(6)	18.3%	18.4%	0.1

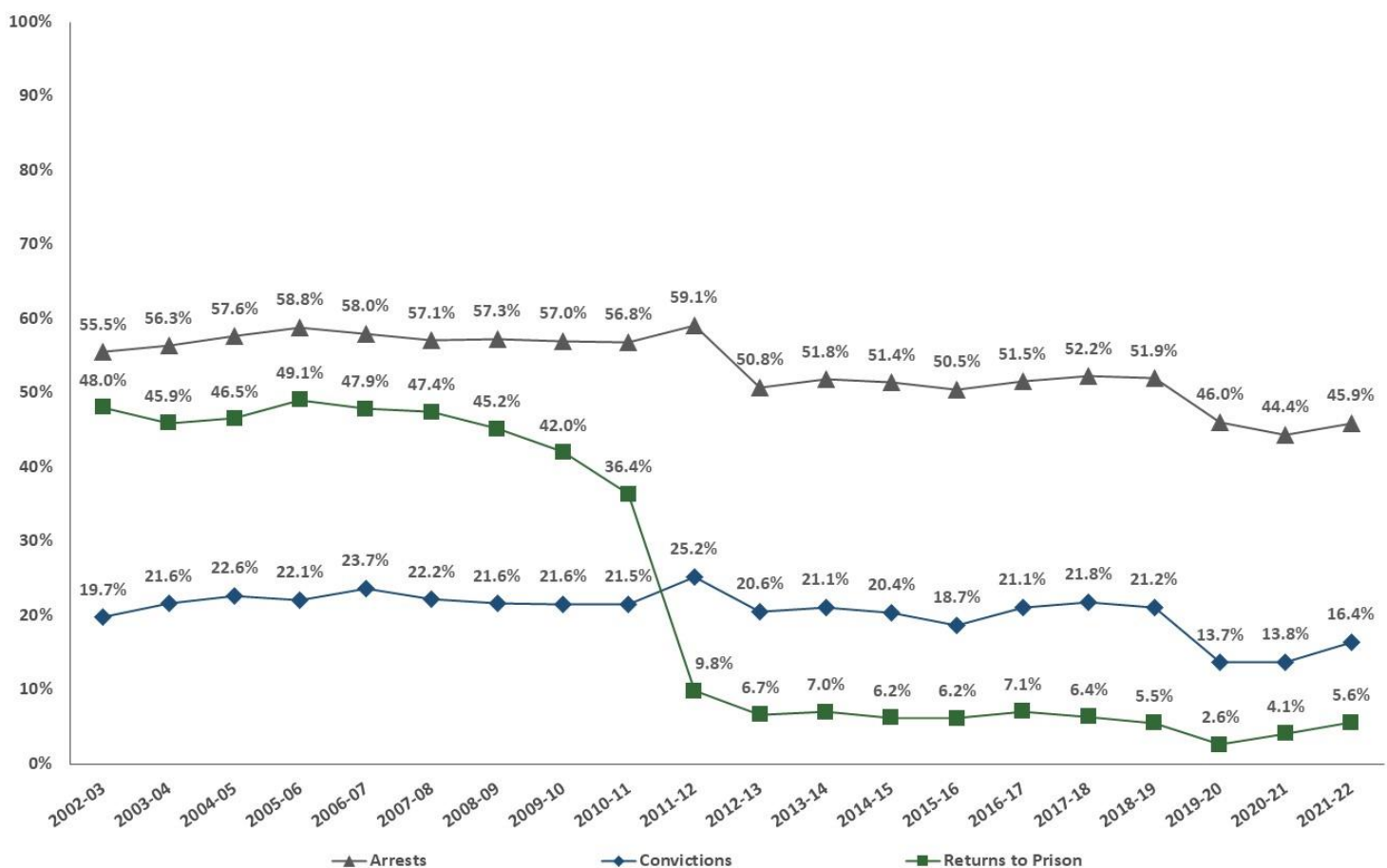
Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and 2019-20
(continued)

	FY 2018-19 Number Released	FY 2019-20 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2018-19 Number Convicted	FY 2019-20 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2019-20 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
Total	36,086	34,215	(1,871)	15,129	13,395	(1,734)	41.9%	39.1%	(2.8)
Commitment Offense Group (continued)									
Attempted Murder Second	376	363	(13)	68	66	(2)	18.1%	18.2%	0.1
Manslaughter	427	439	12	58	63	5	13.6%	14.4%	0.8
Oral Copulation	84	95	11	13	12	(1)	15.5%	12.6%	(2.9)
Vehicular Manslaughter	194	190	(4)	15	18	3	7.7%	9.5%	1.8
Penetration With Object	56	50	(6)	4	4	0	7.1%	8.0%	0.9
Rape	220	226	6	24	18	(6)	10.9%	8.0%	(2.9)
Lewd Act With Child	1,044	931	(113)	68	66	(2)	6.5%	7.1%	0.6
Attempted Murder First	100	77	(23)	2	3	1	2.0%	3.9%	1.9
Murder Second	426	346	(80)	11	7	(4)	2.6%	2.0%	(0.6)
Murder First	317	305	(12)	6	5	(1)	1.9%	1.6%	(0.3)
Petty Theft With Prior	26	26	0	11	10	(1)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Marijuana Other	14	9	(5)	5	4	(1)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Marijuana Possess For Sale	9	6	(3)	2	0	(2)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Marijuana Sale	6	6	0	2	2	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sex Registration Requirement									
No	32,619	30,923	(1,696)	14,203	12,509	(1,694)	43.5%	40.5%	(3.0)
Yes	3,467	3,292	(175)	926	886	(40)	26.7%	26.9%	0.2
Proposition 57 Credits Earned									
No	15,257	13,833	(1,424)	6,960	6,092	(868)	45.6%	44.0%	(1.6)
Yes	20,829	20,382	(447)	8,169	7,303	(866)	39.2%	35.8%	(3.4)

Appendix E: Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2002-03 through 2021-22

Appendix E provides supplemental recidivism measures (arrests and returns to prison), as well as CDCR's primary measure of recidivism (convictions), in one-, two-, and three-year intervals, when available, for individuals released from CDCR adult institutions between FY 2002-03 and 2019-20.⁴⁶ Two-year rates are provided for individuals released between FY 2002-03 through 2020-21 and one-year rates for individuals released between FY 2002-03 and 2021-22.⁴⁷

Figure 11. One-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates by Fiscal Year



⁴⁶ Arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison data were extracted on July 31, 2024, to minimize the effects of any lag time associated with data entry into the state's system.

⁴⁷ Recidivism rates are fixed at three years, meaning the three-year follow-up period is complete and no further analyses are performed. One-year and two-year rates may fluctuate slightly, as the data used in subsequent reporting years will likely change, particularly for arrests and convictions, since these data are routinely updated in accordance with criminal justice processing.

Figure 12. Two-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates by Fiscal Year

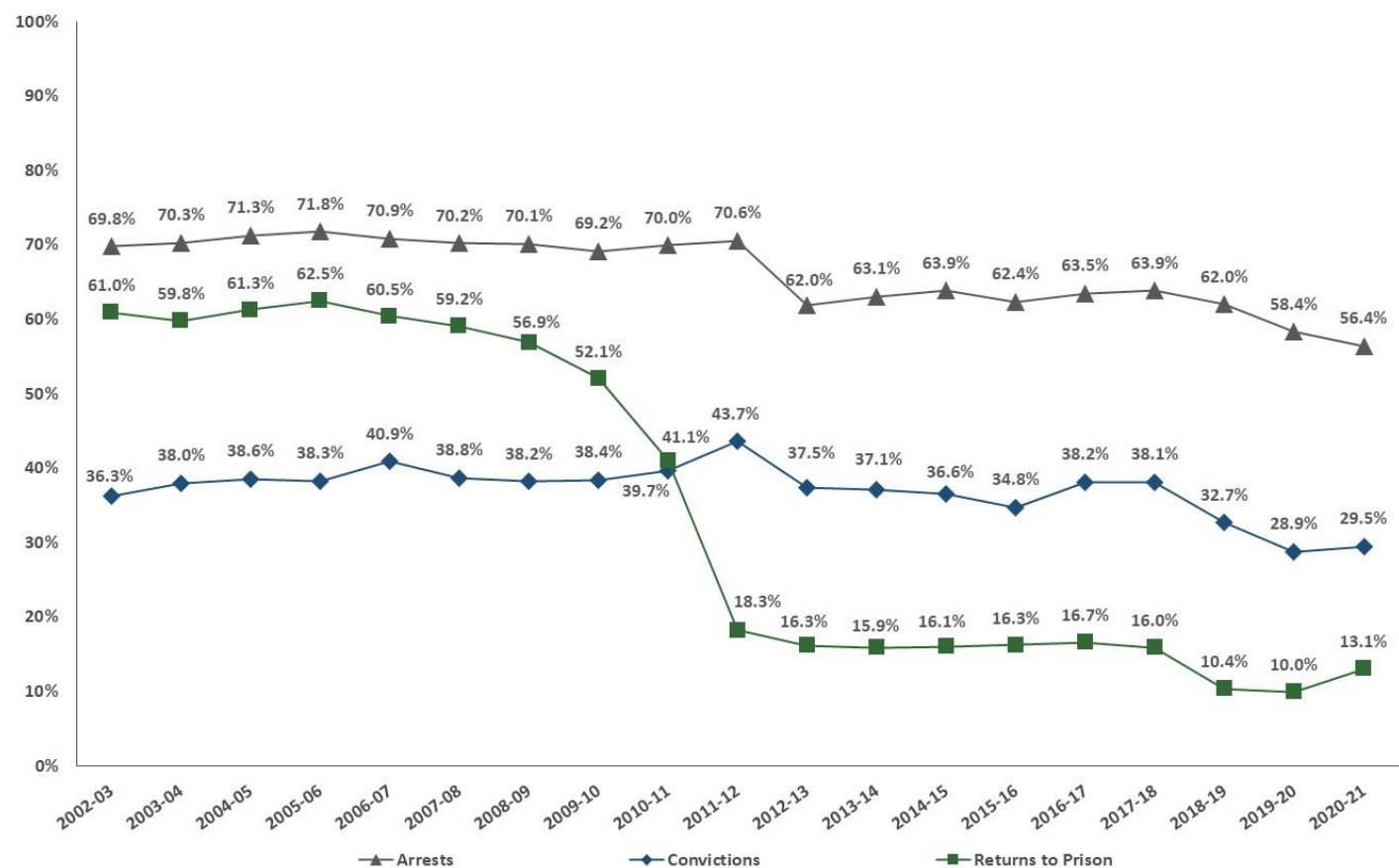


Figure 13. Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates by Fiscal Year

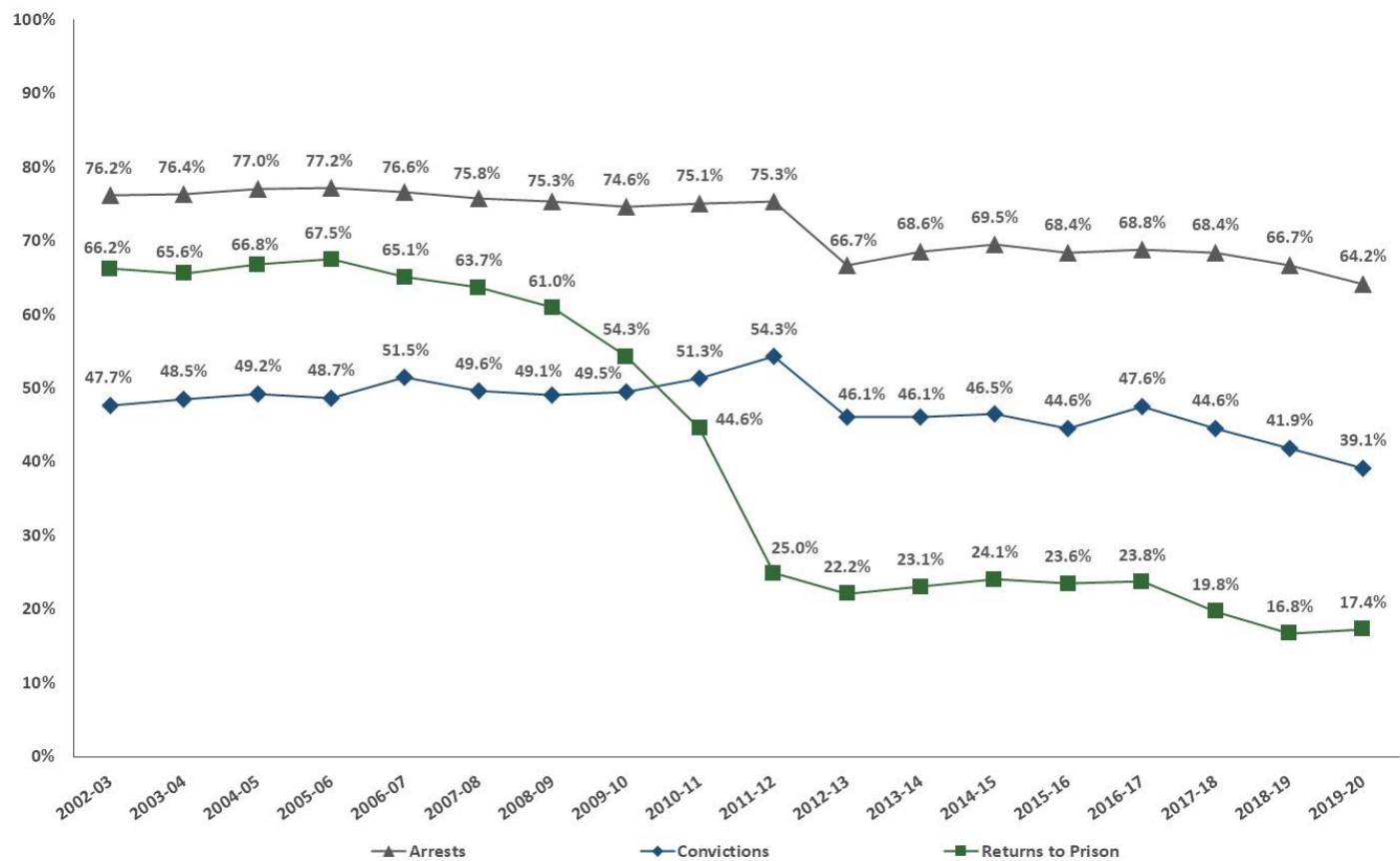


Table 15. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Arrest Rates by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Arrested	Arrest Rate	Number Arrested	Arrest Rate	Number Arrested	Arrest Rate
2002-03	99,482	55,204	55.5%	69,449	69.8%	75,765	76.2%
2003-04	99,635	56,127	56.3%	70,070	70.3%	76,135	76.4%
2004-05	103,647	59,703	57.6%	73,881	71.3%	79,819	77.0%
2005-06	105,974	62,331	58.8%	76,079	71.8%	81,786	77.2%
2006-07	112,665	65,369	58.0%	79,893	70.9%	86,330	76.6%
2007-08	113,888	64,981	57.1%	79,978	70.2%	86,309	75.8%
2008-09	110,356	63,193	57.3%	77,412	70.1%	83,080	75.3%
2009-10	103,867	59,159	57.0%	71,837	69.2%	77,495	74.6%
2010-11	94,888	53,911	56.8%	66,399	70.0%	71,284	75.1%
2011-12	74,875	44,236	59.1%	52,829	70.6%	56,371	75.3%
2012-13	35,790	18,165	50.8%	22,184	62.0%	23,885	66.7%
2013-14	33,113	17,153	51.8%	20,893	63.1%	22,700	68.6%
2014-15	39,205	20,142	51.4%	25,047	63.9%	27,239	69.5%
2015-16	33,756	17,034	50.5%	21,061	62.4%	23,094	68.4%
2016-17	31,792	16,378	51.5%	20,199	63.5%	21,871	68.8%
2017-18	35,447	18,514	52.2%	22,645	63.9%	24,247	68.4%
2018-19	36,086	18,741	51.9%	22,378	62.0%	24,064	66.7%
2019-20	34,215	15,750	46.0%	19,968	58.4%	21,964	64.2%
2020-21	30,121	13,375	44.4%	17,001	56.4%	N/A	N/A
2021-22	28,956	13,292	45.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 16. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
2002-03	99,482	19,643	19.7%	36,087	36.3%	47,443	47.7%
2003-04	99,635	21,509	21.6%	37,881	38.0%	48,350	48.5%
2004-05	103,647	23,464	22.6%	40,022	38.6%	51,026	49.2%
2005-06	105,974	23,428	22.1%	40,635	38.3%	51,650	48.7%
2006-07	112,665	26,657	23.7%	46,106	40.9%	57,980	51.5%
2007-08	113,888	25,233	22.2%	44,164	38.8%	56,525	49.6%
2008-09	110,356	23,831	21.6%	42,181	38.2%	54,175	49.1%
2009-10	103,867	22,410	21.6%	39,908	38.4%	51,456	49.5%
2010-11	94,888	20,403	21.5%	37,710	39.7%	48,689	51.3%
2011-12	74,875	18,894	25.2%	32,746	43.7%	40,644	54.3%
2012-13	35,790	7,363	20.6%	13,423	37.5%	16,496	46.1%
2013-14	33,113	6,990	21.1%	12,295	37.1%	15,264	46.1%
2014-15	39,205	8,003	20.4%	14,355	36.6%	18,235	46.5%
2015-16	33,756	6,312	18.7%	11,743	34.8%	15,059	44.6%
2016-17	31,792	6,710	21.1%	12,141	38.2%	15,123	47.6%
2017-18	35,447	7,719	21.8%	13,519	38.1%	15,804	44.6%
2018-19	36,086	7,633	21.2%	11,800	32.7%	15,129	41.9%
2019-20	34,215	4,676	13.7%	9,874	28.9%	13,395	39.1%
2020-21	30,121	4,150	13.8%	8,893	29.5%	N/A	N/A
2021-22	28,956	4,748	16.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 17. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Return-to-Prison Rates by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Returned	Return Rate	Number Returned	Return Rate	Number Returned	Return Rate
2002-03	103,934	49,924	48.0%	63,415	61.0%	68,810	66.2%
2003-04	103,296	47,423	45.9%	61,788	59.8%	67,734	65.6%
2004-05	106,920	49,761	46.5%	65,559	61.3%	71,444	66.8%
2005-06	108,662	53,330	49.1%	67,958	62.5%	73,350	67.5%
2006-07	115,254	55,167	47.9%	69,691	60.5%	75,018	65.1%
2007-08	116,015	55,049	47.4%	68,643	59.2%	73,885	63.7%
2008-09	112,877	51,010	45.2%	64,244	56.9%	68,803	61.0%
2009-10	104,981	44,104	42.0%	54,713	52.1%	57,022	54.3%
2010-11	95,690	34,810	36.4%	39,331	41.1%	42,661	44.6%
2011-12	75,733	7,456	9.8%	13,843	18.3%	18,908	25.0%
2012-13	36,527	2,435	6.7%	5,937	16.3%	8,110	22.2%
2013-14	33,449	2,348	7.0%	5,334	15.9%	7,726	23.1%
2014-15	39,399	2,447	6.2%	6,336	16.1%	9,505	24.1%
2015-16	33,861	2,091	6.2%	5,512	16.3%	7,976	23.6%
2016-17	31,975	2,255	7.1%	5,324	16.7%	7,607	23.8%
2017-18	35,821	2,285	6.4%	5,721	16.0%	7,086	19.8%
2018-19	36,420	2,021	5.5%	3,799	10.4%	6,126	16.8%
2019-20	34,493	911	2.6%	3,440	10.0%	5,988	17.4%
2020-21	30,674	1,265	4.1%	4,027	13.1%	N/A	N/A
2021-22	30,004	1,675	5.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 18. Three-Year Success Rates (Arrests, Convictions, and Returns to Prison)

Fiscal Year	Non-Arrest Rates			Non-Conviction Rates			Non-Return Rates		
	Number Released	No Arrest	Success Rate	Number Released	No Conviction	Success Rate	Number Released	No Return	Success Rate
2002-03	99,482	23,717	23.8%	99,482	52,039	52.3%	103,934	35,124	33.8%
2003-04	99,635	23,500	23.6%	99,635	51,285	51.5%	103,296	35,562	34.4%
2004-05	103,647	23,828	23.0%	103,647	52,621	50.8%	106,920	35,476	33.2%
2005-06	105,974	24,188	22.8%	105,974	54,324	51.3%	108,662	35,312	32.5%
2006-07	112,665	26,335	23.4%	112,665	54,685	48.5%	115,254	40,236	34.9%
2007-08	113,888	27,579	24.2%	113,888	57,363	50.4%	116,015	42,130	36.3%
2008-09	110,356	27,276	24.7%	110,356	56,181	50.9%	112,877	44,074	39.0%
2009-10	103,867	26,372	25.4%	103,867	52,411	50.5%	104,981	47,959	45.7%
2010-11	94,888	23,604	24.9%	94,888	46,199	48.7%	95,690	53,029	55.4%
2011-12	74,875	18,504	24.7%	74,875	34,231	45.7%	75,733	56,825	75.0%
2012-13	35,790	11,905	33.3%	35,790	19,294	53.9%	36,527	28,417	77.8%
2013-14	33,113	10,413	31.4%	33,113	17,849	53.9%	33,449	25,723	76.9%
2014-15	39,205	11,966	30.5%	39,205	20,970	53.5%	39,399	29,894	75.9%
2015-16	33,756	10,662	31.6%	33,756	18,697	55.4%	33,861	25,885	76.4%
2016-17	31,792	9,921	31.2%	31,792	16,669	52.4%	31,975	24,368	76.2%
2017-18	35,447	11,200	31.6%	35,447	19,643	55.4%	35,821	28,735	80.2%
2018-19	36,086	12,022	33.3%	36,086	20,957	58.1%	36,420	30,294	83.2%
2019-20	34,215	12,251	35.8%	34,215	20,820	60.9%	34,493	28,505	82.6%

Appendix G: Correctional Policies and Initiatives

The following section describes recent correctional policies and initiatives and their influence on post-release outcomes. At the time of the development of this report, California's local facilities and prisons also accelerated the release of some individuals due to the COVID-19 pandemic.⁴⁸ Although it takes time to examine both the temporary and lasting impacts of correctional policies on CDCR's population, CDCR will continue to provide this information as it becomes available.

Realignment

Assembly Bill (AB) 109, California's Public Safety Realignment Act (Realignment) became law on October 1, 2011. Realignment required certain individuals be sentenced to and serve parole revocations in county jails, rather than state prison. Realignment changed the parole revocation process so that only individuals previously sentenced to a life term (indeterminate term) and some sex registrants can be revoked to prison.⁴⁹

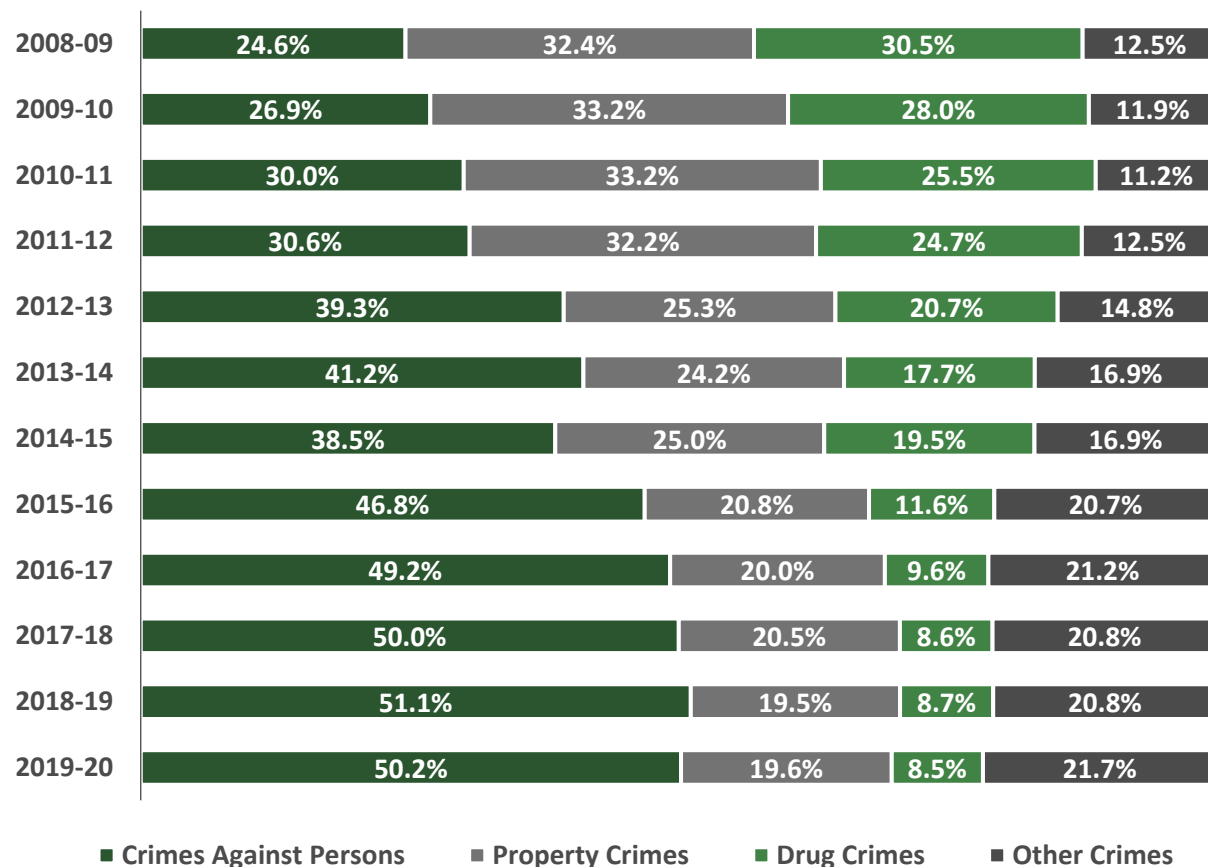
Realignment also changed the state's system of post-release supervision. Prior to Realignment, most individuals released from CDCR were released to parole and supervised by parole agents. Most non-serious, non-violent, and non-sex registrants are released to Post-Release Community Supervision, which is administered by county probation departments; whereas most high-risk sex registrants, individuals who served an indeterminate sentence, and individuals committed for a serious or violent crime are released to parole and supervised by parole agents.

The FY 2019-20 release cohort represents the eighth cohort of individuals whose period of release (July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020) and three-year follow-up period (ending no later than June 30, 2023) occurred after the implementation of Realignment. Realignment had some pronounced effects on CDCR's population, including a large drop in the number of individuals admitted to and released from prison each fiscal year, the composition (e.g., demographics and characteristics) of those individuals, and substantial decreases in one of CDCR's supplemental measures of recidivism: the three-year return-to-prison rate.

⁴⁸ For more information regarding COVID-19, releases, and departmental updates: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/covid19/>

⁴⁹ Penal Code section 3000.08 remands persons on parole pursuant to section 3000.0, subdivision (b), paragraph (4) to the custody of CDCR. For more information regarding specific sex offenses, see Penal Code 3000.0(b)(4). For more information regarding decreases in returns to prison for parole violations, see Section 4.4.

Figure 14. Percentage of Releases by Commitment Offense Category for the Fiscal Year 2008-09 through Fiscal Year 2019-20 Release Cohorts



After Realignment, the arrest and conviction rates for CDCR releases remained fairly stable with minor fluctuations. In contrast, the return-to-prison rate saw a series of substantial decreases, attributed to a decrease in parole violations.⁵⁰ Recent fluctuations and the slight increase in the three-year return-to-prison rate observed with the current FY 2019-20 release cohort, indicate relative stability in the return-to-prison rate.

Proposition 47

Proposition 47 was passed by California voters in November 2014 and reduced penalties for certain non-serious, non-violent property and drug crimes by mandating a misdemeanor sentence instead of a felony. It also allowed individuals serving sentences in prison for felony offenses to petition the courts for resentencing under new sentencing provisions.⁵¹ Proposition 47 was implemented in November 2014 prior to the FY 2019-20 release cohort's period of release (July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020) and was active during all of the cohort's three-year follow-up period.

⁵⁰ With the exception of individuals previously sentenced to a life term (indeterminate term) and some sex registrants. Penal Code section 3000.08 remands persons on parole pursuant to section 3000.0, subdivision (b), paragraph (4) to the custody of CDCR. For more information regarding specific sex offenses, see Penal Code 3000.0(b)(4). For more information regarding decreases in returns to prison for parole violations, see Section 4.4 Type of Return to Prison.

⁵¹ More information regarding Proposition 47 may be found at: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/Prop-47-Information.pdf>

Most individuals eligible under Proposition 47 provisions were resentenced and released during FY 2014-15, shortly after the measure was passed. Twelve individuals belonging to the FY 2019-20 release cohort were released under Proposition 47. Individuals committed to CDCR for non-serious/non-violent property and drug crimes, such as those released under Proposition 47, historically have higher recidivism rates than individuals committed for violent offenses (e.g., crimes against persons). Proposition 47's influence on the three-year conviction rate has waned as the number of Proposition 47 releases has sharply declined since FY 2014-15.

In addition to resentencing for some individuals, the sentencing provisions of Proposition 47 affected post-release conviction types (i.e., felony or misdemeanor). Specifically, the percentage of post-release convictions for felony drug/alcohol crimes decreased and the percentage of misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes increased. The most substantial decreases in post-release convictions for felony drug/alcohol crimes occurred between the FY 2012-13 and 2013-14 release cohorts (increased 7.6 percentage points) and FY 2013-14 and 2014-15 release cohorts (decreased 6.7 percentage points). A similar pattern, though less pronounced, was observed among felony and misdemeanor property crimes that fell under Proposition 47 guidelines. Recent changes in misdemeanor drug/alcohol and property crimes have been gradual since the FY 2014-15 release cohort and indicate the immediate effects of Proposition 47 on post-release convictions have stabilized. Future cohorts may see stability with small fluctuations in terms of the percentage of felony and misdemeanor convictions.

Prior to the passage of Proposition 47, more individuals were convicted of post-release felonies than misdemeanors. With decreases in felony drug/alcohol and property crimes and subsequent increases in misdemeanors for the same categories as a result of Proposition 47, misdemeanor convictions began comprising a larger percentage of total convictions. However, felony convictions comprised a larger percentage of total convictions for the current FY 2019-20 release cohort, as discussed in Section 4 of this report.

Proposition 57

Proposition 57 was passed in November 2016 and allows eligible CDCR individuals to earn credits for good behavior and approved rehabilitative and educational achievements.⁵² Proposition 57 increased the amount of credits that may be earned through the Good Conduct Credit (GCC), and Milestone Completion Credit (MCC) Programs, and includes two new types of credits: Rehabilitative Achievement Credit (RAC) and Educational Merit Credit (EMC). Proposition 57 also established a parole consideration process for determinately sentenced and indeterminately sentenced nonviolent individuals who serve the full term for their primary criminal offense and demonstrate no current or unreasonable risk to the public.

Since implementation began in May 2017, many changes have been made to the regulations regarding credit earning. That includes which individuals earn credit, how much credit they are earning, availability of rehabilitative programs, and more. This may alter the effects of Proposition 57 seen in future cohorts. CDCR will continue to monitor the impacts Proposition 57 may have on the composition of CDCR's release cohorts, as well as the three-year conviction rate and post-release conviction type.

⁵² More information regarding Proposition 57 and changes to credit earnings may be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/proposition57/>. Individuals in the FY 2019-20 release cohort were released prior to the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation litigation. For more information, see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/bph/wp-content/uploads/sites/161/2024/07/Fact-Sheet-CJLF-Litigation-Impact-to-Release-Dates.pdf>.

Appendix H: Evaluation Design

Definitions

The State of California defines recidivism as “conviction of a new felony or misdemeanor committed within three years of release from custody or committed within three years of placement on supervision for a previous criminal conviction.”⁵³ The definition also allows for supplemental measures of recidivism including new arrests, returns to custody, criminal filings, or supervision violations. In earlier reports, CDCR used a supplemental measure, the three-year return-to-prison rate, as the primary measure of recidivism. Commencing with the *2016 Outcome Evaluation Report*, CDCR implemented the State of California’s definition of recidivism and used the three-year conviction rate as the primary measure of recidivism.⁵⁴

The three-year conviction rate is defined as follows:

“An individual convicted of a felony and incarcerated in a CDCR adult institution who was released to parole, released to Post-Release Community Supervision, or directly discharged during Fiscal Year 2019-20 and subsequently convicted of a felony or misdemeanor offense within three years of their release date.”

The conviction rate is calculated using the ratio of the number of individuals in the release cohort who were convicted during the follow-up period to the total number of individuals in the release cohort, multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Conviction Rate} = \frac{\text{Number Convicted}}{\text{Release Cohort}} \times 100$$

Appendix E of this report provides supplemental recidivism rates using arrest and return-to-prison data for year-to-year comparisons. Three-year rates for each of the supplemental measures are available from FY 2002-03 through 2019-20. Preliminary one-year and two-year rates are available for the FY 2020-21 release cohort and one-year rates are available for the FY 2021-22 release cohort.

Methods

This report provides conviction rates at one-, two-, and three-year intervals for individuals released from CDCR’s Division of Adult Institutions (DAI) between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020 (FY 2019-20). The release cohort includes: 1) individuals who were directly discharged from CDCR; 2) individuals who were released to parole or PRCS for the first time on their current term; and 3) individuals who were released to parole on their current term prior to FY 2019-20, returned to prison on this term and were then re-released during FY 2019-20. Convictions are further examined according to demographics (e.g., gender and age) and characteristics (e.g., commitment offense and sentence type).

⁵³ Section 3027 of California Penal Code required the Board of State and Community Corrections to develop a statewide definition of recidivism.

⁵⁴ CDCR’s Recidivism Report series was previously titled the “Outcome Evaluation” report series. The 2018 Recidivism Report followed the 2017 Outcome Evaluation Report. Previous reports were referenced by the calendar year in which they were published (i.e., 2017, 2018). Commencing with the *Recidivism Report for Offenders Released from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in FY 2014-15*, the report title references the fiscal year in which individuals were released from CDCR. All of these reports provide recidivism rates (arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates) for individuals released in a given fiscal year, with this current report providing rates for individuals released in FY 2019-20.

Data Sources

Data were extracted from CDCR's Strategic Offender Management System (SOMS), CDCR's system of record, to identify individuals released between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020, and to determine which released individuals returned to state prison during the three-year follow-up period. Arrest and conviction data were obtained from the California DOJ's Criminal Justice Information System and the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System. The return-to-prison data only include those returned to CDCR custody and does not include those sentenced to county jail. Return-to-custody data are not available for individuals who are not eligible to return to CDCR custody and serve sentences in county jail.

Data Limitations

Data quality is important with all analyses performed by CDCR's Office of Research. The intent of this report is to provide summary (aggregate) information, rather than individual information. The aggregate data are strong when a large number of records (releases) are available for analysis but are less robust as subgroups are influenced by nuances associated with each case. Therefore, caution should be exercised when interpreting results associated with fewer records. As such, conviction rates are only presented for releases (i.e., denominators) equal to or greater than 30.

Conviction rates are fixed at three years, meaning the follow-up period is considered complete and no further analyses are performed. Arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison data presented in Appendix E of this report may see slight fluctuations, particularly as the one-year and two-year rates are updated in subsequent reporting years. These data are routinely updated in accordance with criminal justice system processing. As data become available, subsequent reports will be updated.

Appendix I: Definition of Terms

Arrest

Taking a person into custody, in a case and in the manner authorized by the law, California Penal Code (PC) section 834.

California Static Risk Assessment (CSRA)

The CSRA is a validated risk assessment tool that utilizes demographic and criminal history data to predict an individual's risk of conviction at the time they are released from CDCR. The tool produces a risk number value that will predict the likelihood that an individual will incur a conviction within a three-year period after release from CDCR. Risk categories designated by the CSRA include low, moderate, and high (high includes high-risk drug, high-risk property, and high-risk violence).

Cohort

A group of individuals who share a common characteristic, such as all individuals who were released during a given fiscal year.

Commitment Offense Category

Refers to the category of offense (property crimes, drug crimes, other crimes, and crimes against persons) that an individual committed prior to their release from CDCR in Fiscal Year 2019-20.

Commitment Offense Group

Categorizes the commitment offense into 38 specific offense groups, which correspond to one of four commitment offense categories (property crimes, drug crimes, other crimes, and crimes against persons).

Controlling Crime or Commitment Offense

The most serious offense for which the individual was sentenced to prison on that term.

Conviction

A judgment based either on the verdict of a jury or a judicial officer or on the guilty plea of the defendant that the defendant is guilty.

Correctional Clinical Case Management System (CCCMS)

The CCCMS facilitates mental health care by linking individuals/patients to needed services and providing sustained support while accessing such services. CCCMS services are provided to patients whose condition is relatively stable and whose symptoms are largely controlled in an outpatient setting with the general population at all institutions.

Correctional Offender Management for Profiling Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS)

The COMPAS is a tool utilized to determine an individual's needs in areas such as substance abuse, criminal thinking, and education. Individuals are categorized as having no need, a probable need, or a highly probable need for services and treatment.

County of Release

The county to which an individual is released. Conviction rates by county should be interpreted with caution as individuals may leave the county to which they are released and may be convicted in a county other than their county of release.

Determinate Sentencing Law (DSL)

Established by Penal Code section 1170 in 1977, Determinate Sentencing Law identifies a specified sentence length for convicted felons who are remanded to state prison. Essentially, three specific terms of imprisonment (low, middle, and high) are assigned for crimes, as well as enhancements (specific case factors that allow judges to add time to a sentence). Opportunities to earn “credits” can reduce the length of incarceration.

Direct Discharge

A direct discharge is a release status for individuals who are released directly from prison and do not receive parole supervision or Post-Release Community Supervision.

Enhanced Outpatient Program (EOP)

A mental health services designation for mentally disordered patients receiving treatment at a level similar to day treatment services for patients who have shown an inability to function in the General Population. EOP provides a setting that is less restrictive than inpatient care, but more intensive than CCCMS. The patients assigned to the EOP level of care do not require nursing care and are often transitioning from inpatient care and or may have a serious mental illness that is of long duration with moderate to severe and persistent functional impairment(s).

Indeterminate Sentencing Law (ISL)

Established by Penal Code section 1168 in 1917, the Indeterminate Sentencing Law allowed judges to determine a range of time (minimum and maximum) a convicted individual would serve. Different individuals convicted for the same crimes could spend varying lengths of time in prison; release depended on many factors, including each individual’s conduct in prison. After the minimum sentence passed, individuals were brought to a parole board to identify the actual release date. Indeterminate Sentencing was replaced by Determinate Sentencing (Penal Code section 1170) in 1977. After the implementation of Determinate Sentencing, only individuals with life sentences and individuals with a third strike are considered “indeterminately” sentenced since the parole board determines their release.

Length of Stay

The length of time an individual spends in prison during a prison term. Typical lengths of stay range from zero to six months up to 15 years or more.

Manual California Static Risk Assessment (CSRA)

Individuals who do not have automated criminal history data from the California Department of Justice (DOJ) must have their CSRA score calculated manually. Calculations are completed with a review of a paper copy of the individual’s Record of Arrest and Prosecution or RAP sheet.

Mental Health Crisis Bed (MHCB)

A mental health service designation for patients that provides short-term treatment (usually less than ten days) for severe episodes of psychiatric distress or mental disorder.

Parole

A period of conditional supervised release following a prison term. Prior to Public Safety Realignment, almost all individuals released from CDCR were placed on state parole supervision after their release. After Public Safety Realignment, most serious or violent individuals, high-risk sex offenders, and individuals released after serving a life term are released to CDCR parole supervision, and most non-serious, non-violent, non-sex registrants are released to county supervision.

Parole Violation (Law or Technical)

A parole law violation occurs when a parolee commits a crime while on parole and returns to CDCR custody (RTC) by action of the Board of Parole Hearings rather than by prosecution in the courts. A technical violation occurs when a parolee violates a condition of his/her parole that is not considered a new crime and returns to CDCR custody.

Parole Violator Returning with a New Term (PV-WNT)

A parolee who receives a court sentence for a new crime committed while under parole supervision and is returned to prison. Realignment changed the parole revocation process so that only individuals previously sentenced to a life term (indeterminate term) and some sex registrants can be revoked to prison. The vast majority of parole violations are served in county jail.

Post-Release Community Supervision (PRCS)

Post Release Community Supervision is a form of supervision provided to an individual who has been released from a CDCR institution to the jurisdiction of a county agency, pursuant to the Post Release Community Supervision Act of 2011. Prior to Public Safety Realignment, almost all individuals released from CDCR were placed on state parole supervision after their release. After Public Safety Realignment, most non-serious, non-violent, and non-sex registrants are released to PRCS.

Proposition 47

Proposition 47, The Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, was passed on November 5, 2014, and reclassified certain theft and drug offenses from felonies to misdemeanors. Proposition 47 also allowed individuals serving sentences in prison for felony offenses to petition the courts for resentencing under new misdemeanor provisions. It also allowed individuals who completed their sentences for felony convictions to apply to reclassify those convictions to misdemeanors.

Proposition 57

Proposition 57, the Public Safety and Rehabilitation Act of 2016 was passed into law on November 8, 2016. Proposition 57 increased the number of non-violent individuals eligible for parole consideration and allowed for parole consideration after an individual served the full term of their sentences for the primary offense. Proposition 57 also authorized CDCR to award sentence credits for rehabilitation, good behavior, or educational achievements. Proposition 57 also allows juvenile court judges the authority to determine whether juveniles aged 14 and over should be sentenced as adults for specific offenses.

Psychiatric Inpatient Program

A mental health services designation for patients whose conditions cannot successfully be treated in an outpatient setting or through short-term Mental Health Crisis Bed placement. Patients may require acute or intermediate levels of care, available at some prisons and State Hospitals.

Race/Ethnicity

The race/ethnicity categories are used to describe specific sub-populations of CDCR. The categories CDCR use for reporting include American Indian/Alaskan Native, Hispanic/Latino, White, Black/African American, Asian, Pacific Islander and Other.

Recidivism

Conviction of a new felony or misdemeanor committed within three years of release from custody. Convictions are CDCR's primary measure of recidivism.

Release Type

Release type refers to the type of release an individual is categorized under and includes direct discharge, parole, or PRCS.

Return-to-Prison

An individual convicted of a felony and incarcerated in a CDCR adult institution who was released to parole, discharged after being paroled, or directly discharged during FY 2019-20 and subsequently returned to prison within three years of their release date.

Second Strike Sentence

A determinate sentence served by an individual who has a prior serious or violent felony conviction pled and proven in court and who is convicted of any new offense, which results in the new term being doubled.

Sentence Type

The type of sentence an individual is categorized under, such as determinate sentences (including individuals with a second strike) and indeterminate sentences (including individuals with a third strike, life with or without the possibility of parole, and condemned individuals). For the purposes of this report, individuals are categorized as sentenced under Determinate Sentencing Law, Indeterminate Sentencing Law, Second Strike Individuals, or individuals Resentenced to a Misdemeanor. Proposition 47 and 64 changed some offenses from felonies to misdemeanors and some marijuana offenses, which affected the sentence type of some individuals.

Serious Felony Offenses

Serious felony offenses are specified in Penal Code section 1192.7(c) and Penal Code section 1192.8.

Sex Registrant

An individual is designated a sex registrant if CDCR records show that the individual has at some point been convicted of an offense that requires registration as a sex offender under Penal Code section 290. This designation is permanent in CDCR records.

Stay

A stay is any period of time an individual is housed in a CDCR institution. Each time an individual returns to prison, it is considered a new stay, regardless of the reason for returning.

Term

A term is a sentence an individual receives from a court to be committed to CDCR for a length of time. If an individual is released after serving a term and is later returned to prison for a parole violation, the individual returns and continues serving the original (current) term. If that individual returns for committing a new crime, the individual begins serving a new term.

Violent Felony Offense

Violent felony offenses are specified in Penal Code section 667.5(c).



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Division of Correctional Policy Research and Internal Oversight
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