



California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

RECIDIVISM REPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS RELEASED FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION IN FISCAL YEAR 2018-19

Division of Correctional Policy Research and Internal Oversight

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Executive Summary

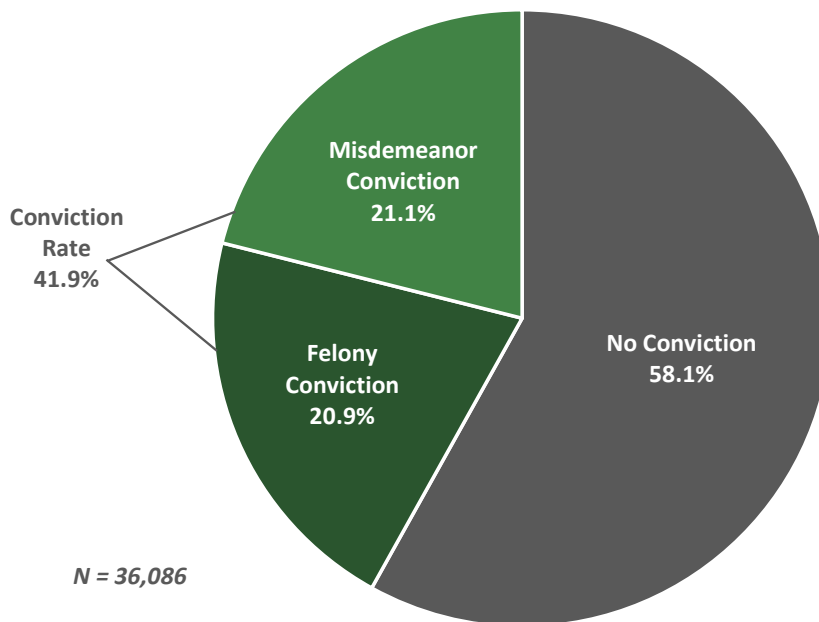
The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) examines recidivism outcomes (arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates) for formerly incarcerated individuals released from CDCR’s adult institutions over a given fiscal year. This report presents recidivism rates for the 36,086 individuals released between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019 (Fiscal Year 2018-19). 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 2018-19

The three-year conviction rate for the 36,086 individuals who comprise the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19 release cohort is 41.9 percent.¹ As shown in Figure A, 58.1 percent of the release cohort (20,957 individuals) had no convictions within three years of their release from prison, 20.9 percent (7,525 individuals) were convicted of a felony offense, and 21.1 percent (7,604 individuals) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense.

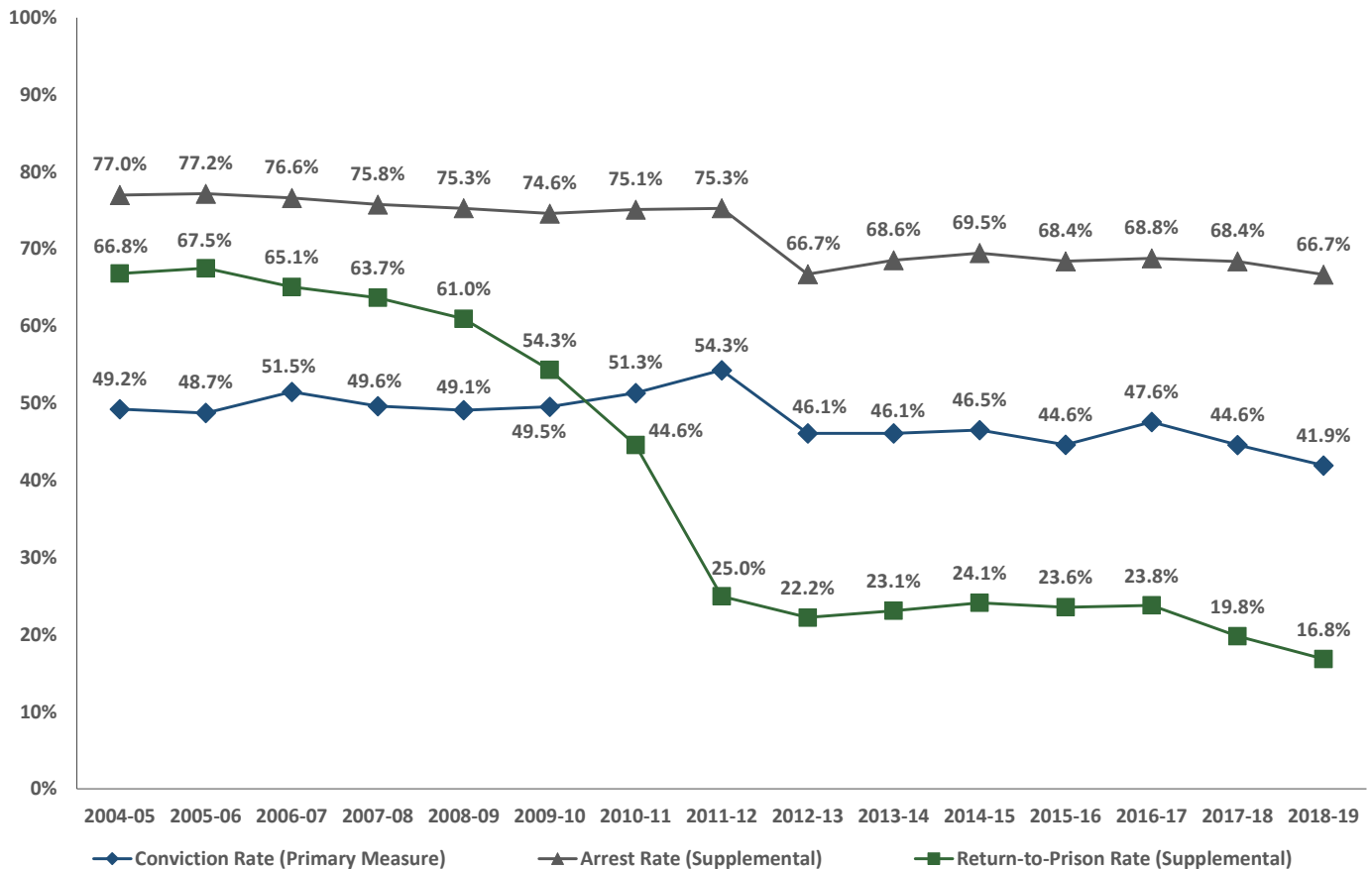
Figure A. Three-Year Outcomes for the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Release Cohort



¹ During Fiscal Year 2018-19, a total of 36,420 individuals were released from a CDCR adult institution. Of these individuals, 36,086 individuals had a California Department of Justice (DOJ) automated Record of Arrest and Prosecution (RAP) sheet. Arrest and conviction data only include the 36,086 individuals with an automated RAP sheet and return-to-prison data include all 36,420 individuals released from prison.

The three-year conviction rate decreased by 2.7 percentage points (from 44.6 percent to 41.9 percent) between the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts (Figure B). After reaching a high of 54.3 percent with the FY 2011-12 release cohort and subsequently declining 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). Following an increase of 3.0 percentage points with the FY 2016-17 release cohort when the rate reached 47.6 percent, the three-year conviction rate decreased 3.0 percentage points with the FY 2017-18 release cohort (44.6 percent) before declining an additional 2.7 percentage points to the current rate of 41.9 percent.

Figure B. Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates for the Fiscal Year 2004-05 through 2018-19 Release Cohorts



Arrests and returns to prison, which are supplemental measures of recidivism, also saw decreases between the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts, as shown in Figure B. The three-year arrest rate decreased by 1.7 percentage points (from 68.4 percent to 66.7 percent), and the three-year return-to-prison rate decreased by 3.0 percentage points (from 19.8 percent to 16.8 percent). Similar to the conviction rate, the arrest rate has been relatively stable over the 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

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

Recidivism rates typically 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 two release cohorts (FY 2017-18 and 2018-19) 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 the final two years of follow-up for the current FY 2018-19 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 two cohorts of releases.³

Recent 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. The increase observed with the FY 2014-15 release cohort is ascribed to the resentencing and release of 4,111 individuals with drug and property offenses under Proposition 47.⁴ A much smaller number of Proposition 47 releases in FY 2015-16 influenced the three-year conviction downward when it reached a rate of 44.6 percent. 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 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.

The three-year conviction rate saw a cumulative 5.7 percentage point decrease between the FY 2016-17 and 2018-19 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 most recent decrease (2.7 percentage points) is largely driven by the pandemic. Preliminary one- and two-year rates for the future FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 release cohorts indicate further decreases in the conviction rate could be observed (Appendix E).

The COVID-19 pandemic occurred during the follow-up period of the 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts. The FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 release cohorts will be the first cohorts whose period of release (the fiscal year in which individuals are released from CDCR) will be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the effects on the release period are unknown.⁶ Depending on the composition of future cohorts,

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>.

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 as a result of 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 Only the final months (March to June) of the FY 2019-20 cohort's period of release (July 1, 2019 through July 30, 2020) were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and all of the FY 2020-2021 cohort's period of release will be affected (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021). The release and follow-up periods of future cohorts will also coincide with increases in violent and property crime rates throughout the nation and California. Between 2019 and 2022 the violent crime rate in California increased and between 2020 and 2022 the property crime rate in California

crime rates, and other influences on recidivism rates, it is possible rates could see further fluctuations. Further, the rate could stabilize as the temporary effects of the COVID-19 pandemic wane. CDCR will continue to monitor the impacts of these factors and provide data as they become available.

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 2018-19 release cohort shows general decreases among most groups, particularly individuals with non-serious and non-violent drug and property offenses (Appendix D), which is common when a substantial increase or decrease in the statewide recidivism rate occurs. The rate decreases 2.7 percentage points (from 51.5 percent to 48.8 percent) for individuals with non-serious/non-violent offenses, 3.3 percentage points (from 56.0 percent to 52.7 percent) for individuals committed for property crimes, and 3.0 percentage points (from 45.5 percent to 42.5 percent) for individuals committed for drug crimes when comparing the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts (Appendix D).

Approximately half of the total post-release convictions are for felonies (49.7 percent of all convictions) and half for misdemeanor convictions (50.3 percent).⁷ Most convictions occur during the first and second year of the three-year follow-up period. When examining the type of post-release conviction for the 15,129 individuals convicted during the follow-up period, the largest percentage of individuals were convicted of misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes (19.7 percent), followed by felony crimes against persons (16.3 percent). The percentage of felony conviction types increased slightly between the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts, while most misdemeanor categories saw slight decreases (except for misdemeanor crimes against persons, which saw a slight increase). Following Proposition 47, misdemeanor crime categories saw slight increases, however, recent decreases in misdemeanors indicate stabilization post-Proposition 47. Increases in violent and property crime rates that impact future cohorts could further influence the types of post-release convictions.

Proposition 57 allows for various types of enhanced credit earning. The FY 2018-19 release cohort is the second cohort for which preliminary data regarding credit earning under Proposition 57 are available. Over half of the individuals released (57.7 percent) earned some type of enhanced credit. The three-year conviction rate for individuals who earned credit (39.2 percent) is slightly lower than the rate for individuals with no enhanced credit earnings (45.6 percent). The group of individuals who earned Milestone Completion Credits have a higher conviction rate (39.8 percent) than those who earned Educational Merit Credit (26.1 percent) or Rehabilitative Achievement Credit (21.1 percent).

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.

increased. For more information, please see: <https://data-openjustice.doi.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, please see: <https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/more-fbi-services-and-information/ucr>

⁷ Proposition 47 reduced penalties for certain non-serious, non-violent property and drug crimes by mandating a misdemeanor sentence instead of a felony. As a result, the number of felony convictions for property and drug crimes has decreased. Conversely, the number of misdemeanor convictions for the same crimes has increased. For more information, please see Appendix F.

Key Findings

Three-Year Recidivism Rates

- The three-year conviction rate for the 36,086 individuals released from CDCR between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019 is 41.9 percent, a decrease of 2.7 percentage points compared to one year before (44.6 percent).
- Combined with a 3.0 percentage point decline between the 2016-17 and 2017-18 release cohorts, which preceded the decrease of 2.7 percentage points, the three-year conviction rate of 41.9 percent is the lowest since reporting began. However, much of the decrease is attributed to interruptions in arrests and convictions during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The COVID-19 pandemic was active for the final two years of the 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) downward.
- Supplemental measures of recidivism (arrests and returns to CDCR) also saw decreases between the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts: the three-year arrest rate decreased from 68.4 percent to 66.7 percent and the three-year return-to-prison rate decreased from 19.8 percent to 16.8 percent. Again, the COVID-19 pandemic was active for the full two years of the follow-up period (FY 2020-21 and 2021-22), which likely contributed to the decline in all three recidivism measures.

Type of Post-Release Conviction

- Of the 36,086 individuals in the FY 2018-19 release cohort, 58.1 percent (20,957 individuals) completed the follow-up period without a conviction, 20.9 percent (7,525 individuals) have a felony conviction, and 21.1 percent (7,604 individuals) have a misdemeanor conviction.
- Less than half (49.7 percent) of the 15,129 total convictions are felony convictions and 50.3 percent are misdemeanor convictions. The largest percentage of those with a conviction (19.7 percent or 2,986 individuals) were convicted of misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes, followed by felony crimes against persons (16.3 percent or 2,462 individuals).

Conviction Rates by Demographics and Characteristics

- The three-year conviction rate for individuals ages 18 and 19 years at their release is the highest (61.1 percent) among all age groups. Individuals 60 and over had the lowest conviction rate of all age groups (16.5 percent). Consistent with the statewide conviction rate, the three-year conviction rate decreased for all age groups reported.
- Individuals released to Post-Release Community Supervision have a substantially higher three-year conviction rate at 49.1 percent compared to individuals under parole supervision (34.7 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 and 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 (25.1 percent) than individuals with a serious offense (44.7 percent), and individuals with a non-serious/non-violent offense (48.8 percent).
- Individuals committed to CDCR for property crimes continue to have the highest recidivism rate (52.7 percent) when compared to individuals committed for other crimes (45.5 percent), drug crimes (42.5 percent), and crimes against persons (36.3 percent).
- The three-year conviction rate for non-sex registrants is 43.5 percent and the rate for sex registrants is 26.7 percent.

Conviction Rates by Proposition 57 Credit Earnings

- Preliminary data for individuals with enhanced credit earnings under Proposition 57 indicate a slightly lower rate for those who earn credits: 39.2 percent for those with credits and 45.6 percent for those without.
- Individuals earning Milestone Completion Credits have a three-year conviction rate of 39.8 percent, followed by those with Educational Milestone Credits (26.1 percent), and Rehabilitative Achievement Credits (21.1 percent).

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION

RECIDIVISM REPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS RELEASED IN FISCAL YEAR 2018-19

1 Introduction

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) presents the Recidivism Report for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19, 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 36,086 individuals released from CDCR's adult institutions between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019 (FY 2018-19). 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.

The three-year conviction rate for the 36,086 individuals released in FY 2018-19 is 41.9 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. Section 4 presents the type of post-release conviction (i.e., felony or misdemeanor) and the time until conviction for individuals released in FY 2018-19. Section 5 presents a profile of the FY 2018-19 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 preliminary data regarding conviction rates and credit earnings under Proposition 57.

Detailed tables providing the demographics and characteristics of the current FY 2018-19 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 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts. Appendix E provides historical recidivism rates for the FY 2002-03 through FY 2018-19 release cohorts and preliminary one- and two-year recidivism rates for the upcoming FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 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.

In addition to recidivism rates, this report examines the type of recidivism, historical recidivism rates, and recidivism rates by various demographics, characteristics, and program participation. The FY 2018-19 release cohort is the seventh post-Public Safety Realignment (Realignment) cohort and the fifth cohort with individuals released after Proposition 47. The FY 2018-19 release cohort is the second cohort for which preliminary Proposition 57 data related to credit earning are available. Detailed descriptions of each of these policies are provided in Appendix F. Additionally, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the later years of the FY 2018-19's three-year follow-up period 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 2018-19 Release Cohort

Figure 1. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Recidivism Rates for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2018-19

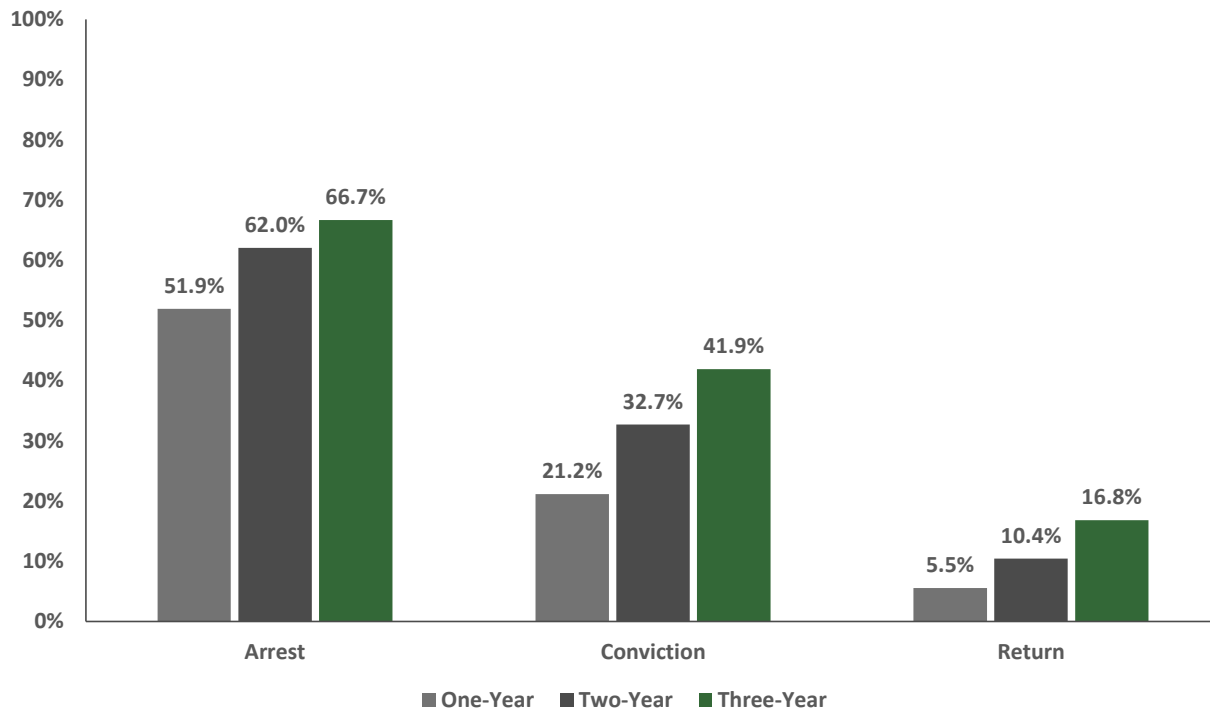


Figure 1 and Table 1 provide one-, two-, and three-year conviction rates (CDCR’s primary measure of recidivism), as well as arrest and return-to-prison rates (CDCR’s supplemental measures of recidivism) for the FY 2018-19 release cohort. The three-year conviction rate for the 36,086 individuals released from CDCR during FY 2018-19 is 41.9 percent, with 15,129 individuals convicted during the three-year follow-up period.⁸ The three-year arrest rate is 66.7 percent and the three-year return-to-prison rate is 16.8 percent.

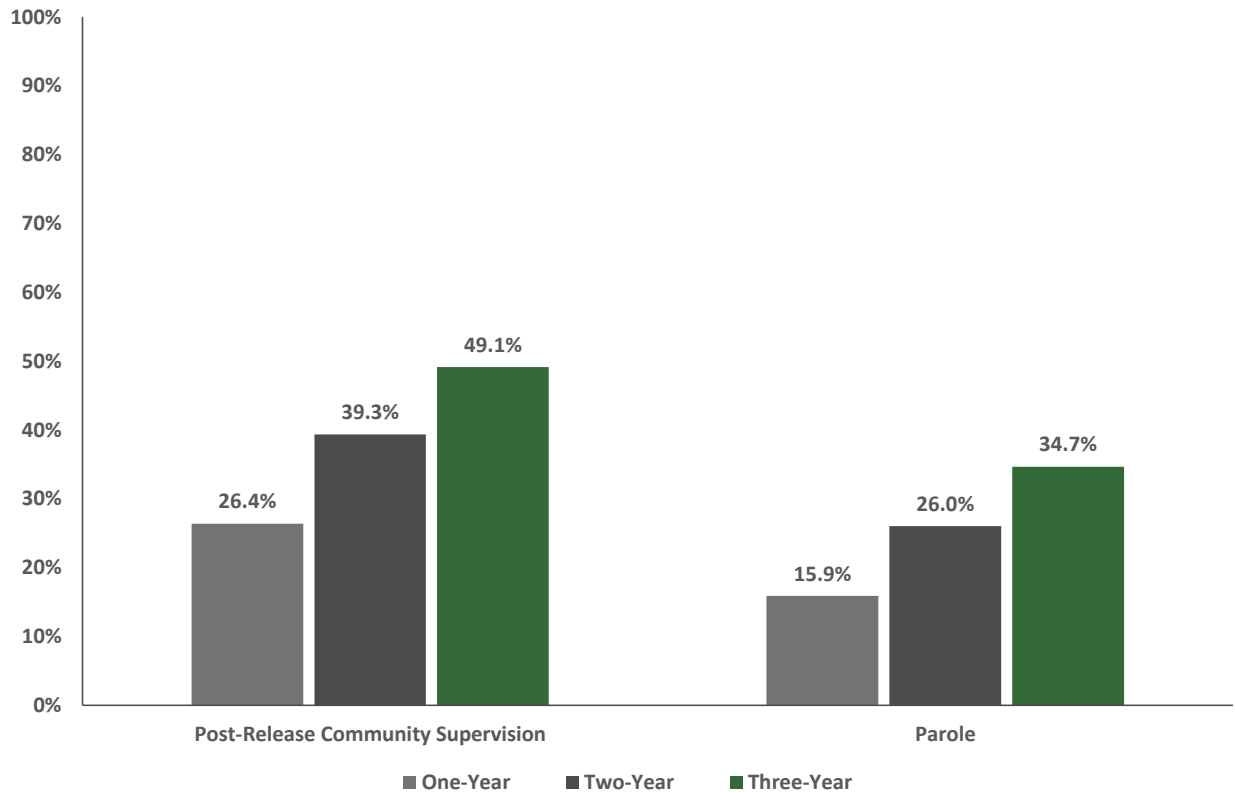
Table 1. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Recidivism Rates for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2018-19

| Recidivism Type | Total | One-Year | | Two-Year | | Three-Year | |
|-----------------|--------|----------|---------|----------|---------|------------|---------|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Arrest | 36,086 | 18,741 | 51.9% | 22,378 | 62.0% | 24,064 | 66.7% |
| Conviction | 36,086 | 7,633 | 21.2% | 11,800 | 32.7% | 15,129 | 41.9% |
| Return | 36,420 | 2,021 | 5.5% | 3,799 | 10.4% | 6,126 | 16.8% |

⁸ During FY 2018-19, a total of 36,420 individuals were released from a CDCR adult institution. Of these individuals, 36,086 had a California DOJ automated Record of Arrest and Prosecution (RAP) sheet. Arrest and conviction data only include the 36,086 individuals with an automated RAP sheet and return-to-prison data include all 36,420 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 2018-19



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 2018-19 release cohort were released to PRCS (50.2 percent) and half to parole supervision (49.7 percent). Only 14 individuals were directly discharged from CDCR and conviction rates are not calculated for this group, as it includes less than 30 individuals (Appendix G).

The three-year conviction rate for individuals released to PRCS is 49.1 percent, which is 14.4 percentage points higher than the rate for individuals under parole supervision (34.7 percent), as shown in Figure 2 and Table 2. Typically, higher rates are observed among individuals released to PRCS when compared to individuals under parole supervision. After 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, who are characterized by a lower risk of reoffending are supervised under parole, which contributes to the differences observed between the two groups.

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 groups under parole supervision in an earlier fiscal year).

Table 2. Conviction Rates by Post-Release Supervision for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2018-19

| 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 | 18,128 | 4,779 | 26.4% | 7,129 | 39.3% | 8,904 | 49.1% |
| Parole | 17,944 | 2,852 | 15.9% | 4,667 | 26.0% | 6,219 | 34.7% |
| Directly Discharged | 14 | 2 | N/A | 4 | N/A | 6 | N/A |
| Total | 36,086 | 7,633 | 21.2% | 11,800 | 32.7% | 15,129 | 41.9% |

Recent Changes to the Conviction Rate for Individuals Released to PRCS and Parole

The three-year conviction rate for individuals under PRCS decreased 2.6 percentage points between the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts (from 51.7 percent to 49.1 percent). This follows a decrease of 2.8 percentage points (from 54.5 percent to 51.7 percent) between the FY 2016-17 and 2017-18 release cohorts. Individuals released to PRCS during FY 2016-17 saw the highest conviction rate observed in this group (54.5 percent) since reporting began. The overall statewide rate tends to fluctuate when large increases or decreases are observed among individuals released to PRCS, as approximately half of the release cohort is supervised under PRCS.

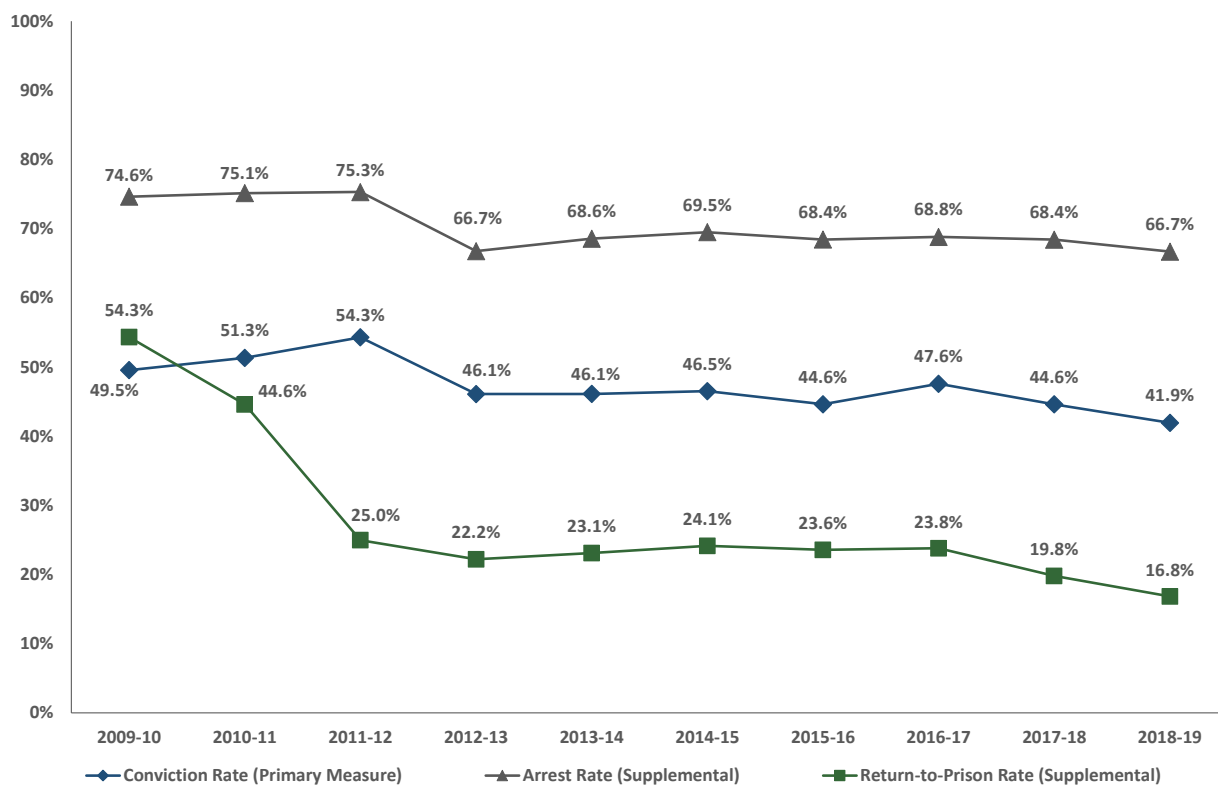
The three-year conviction rate for individuals under parole supervision also fluctuated during the same period. Between the FY 2016-17 and 2017-18 release cohorts, the three-year conviction rate decreased by 2.8 percentage points (from 40.4 percent to 37.6 percent) and between FY 2017-18 and 2018-19, the rate decreased by 2.9 percentage points (from 37.6 percent to 34.7 percent).

Although the 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.

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 2009-10 through 2018-19 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 over the last six cohorts (FY 2011-12 through 2016-17). 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 FY 2009-10 through 2018-19



3.1 Changes in the Conviction Rate

In recent years, the three-year conviction rate has been relatively stable. 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 and 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 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 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, 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 COVID-19 pandemic's influence on recidivism rates continues and is a key factor contributing to the most recent decline in the three-year conviction rate. The current three-year conviction rate of 41.9 percent marks a 2.7 percentage point decrease from one year prior (44.6 percent) and is the lowest three-year conviction rate since reporting began.

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 FY 2017-18 release cohort's three-year follow-up period ended on June 30, 2021, with the pandemic only affecting the final year of the three-year follow-up period. Two years of follow-up for the FY 2018-19 release cohort were impacted by COVID-19 and the rates could see further fluctuations with the next two release cohorts, which will see the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic on all three years of follow-up.

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

Similar to the conviction rate, the three-year arrest and return-to-prison rates also saw decreases between the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts (Figure 3). The three-year arrest rate decreased by 1.7 percentage points (from 68.4 percent to 66.7 percent) and the three-year return-to-prison rate decreased by 3.0 percentage points (from 19.8 percent to 16.8 percent). These decreases continued from one year prior: the three-year arrest rate decreased by less than one percentage point between FY 2016-17 and FY 2017-18 (from 68.8 percent to 68.4 percent) and the three-year return-to-prison rate decreased 4.0 percentage points (from 23.8 percent to 19.8 percent). As shown in Figure 3, convictions and returns to prison are at their lowest points since reporting began (41.9 percent and 16.8 percent, respectively) and the arrest rate is equal to its lowest point (66.7 percent with the FY 2012-13 release cohort). In general, arrest and conviction rates have been relatively stable with small fluctuations over time. The three-year return-to-prison rate has stabilized since a series of drastic decreases that occurred after the implementation of Realignment (Appendix F).

The recent declines in all three measures of recidivism are largely attributed to several factors. First, the uptick in the three-year conviction rate that was concentrated among individuals released to PRCS in FY 2016-17 normalized with the FY 2017-18 release cohort. Second, the last two years of follow-up for the FY 2018-19 release cohort coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic. The most recent decreases in the

return-to-prison rate (7.0 percentage points combined over the last two cohorts) are likely influenced by the temporary halt of transfers from county jail to state prison due to the COVID-19 pandemic.⁹

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 2019-20 release cohort and one-year recidivism rates are available for the FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 release cohorts. Available data indicate the effects of COVID-19 may be more pronounced in the next year of reporting: all three measures of recidivism decreased during the first and second year of follow-up for the FY 2019-20 release cohort compared to the one- and two-year rates of earlier cohorts (Appendix E). The COVID-19 pandemic was active for part of the release period for the FY 2019-2020 cohort and during their first year of follow-up. As the immediate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic begin to wane with future release cohorts, it is possible recidivism rates may see future increases.

⁹ 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>.

4 Type and Timing of Post-Release Recidivism

4.1 Three-Year Outcomes for All Individuals Released from CDCR During Fiscal Year 2018-19

Figure 4. Three-Year Outcomes for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2018-19

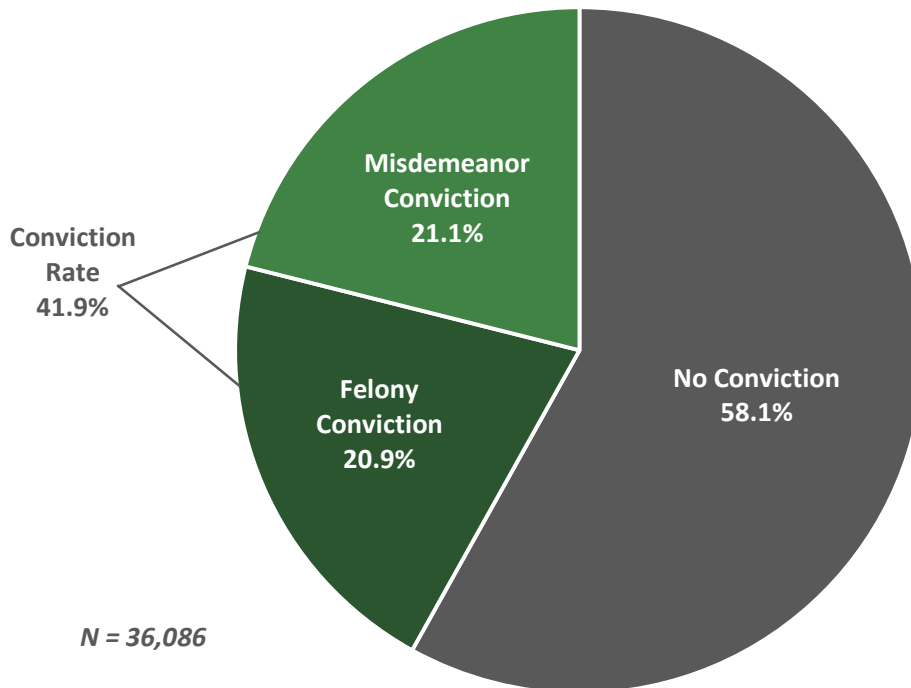


Figure 4 and Table 3 show the type of conviction (i.e., felony or misdemeanor) for the 36,086 individuals released from CDCR in FY 2018-19.¹⁰ Over half of the release cohort (58.1 percent) have no convictions during the three-year follow-up period and 41.9 percent have a felony or misdemeanor conviction. Approximately 20 percent (20.9 percent) have a felony conviction and 21.1 percent have a misdemeanor conviction. As shown in Table 3, felony crimes against persons leads all felony conviction types and misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes leads all misdemeanor conviction types.

¹⁰ 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 is included in this analysis.

Table 3. Three-Year Outcomes for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2018-19

| Type of Conviction | FY 2018-19 | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| No Convictions | 20,957 | 58.1% |
| All Felonies | 7,525 | 20.9% |
| Felony Crimes Against Persons | 2,462 | 6.8% |
| Felony Property Crimes | 1,918 | 5.3% |
| Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes | 921 | 2.6% |
| Felony Other Crimes | 2,224 | 6.2% |
| All Misdemeanors | 7,604 | 21.1% |
| Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons | 2,000 | 5.5% |
| Misdemeanor Property Crimes | 1,559 | 4.3% |
| Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes | 2,986 | 8.3% |
| Misdemeanor Other Crimes | 1,059 | 2.9% |
| Total | 36,086 | 100.0% |

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

This section includes a closer examination of the 15,129 individuals in the FY 2018-19 release cohort with a conviction. It excludes the 20,957 individuals without a conviction during the three-year follow-up period. Historically, felony convictions comprised a larger percentage of total convictions than misdemeanors. Consistent with changes resulting from Proposition 47, misdemeanors now comprise a larger proportion of all convictions due to the reclassification of certain felony drug/alcohol crimes and property crimes to misdemeanors (Appendix F).

As shown in Table 4, misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes are the most common conviction type with just under 20 percent of all post-release conviction types. The percentage of convictions for misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes decreased by 1.9 percentage points (from 21.6 percent of all convictions to 19.7 percent) between the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts, the largest decrease observed between the two fiscal years. Felony crimes against persons, which leads all felony conviction type categories, increased 1.4 percentage points (from 14.9 percent of all convictions to 16.3 percent) between the two cohorts and was the largest increase observed. All other felony conviction types saw small increases (less than one percentage point). In comparison, all misdemeanor conviction types decreased by less than one percentage point, except misdemeanor crimes against persons, which increased by less than one percentage point (Table 4).

Table 4. Type of Conviction for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2017-18 and 2018-19

| Type of Conviction | FY 2017-18 | | FY 2018-19 | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| All Felonies | 7,406 | 46.9% | 7,525 | 49.7% |
| Felony Crimes Against Persons | 2,352 | 14.9% | 2,462 | 16.3% |
| Felony Property Crimes | 1,946 | 12.3% | 1,918 | 12.7% |
| Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes | 849 | 5.4% | 921 | 6.1% |
| Felony Other Crimes | 2,259 | 14.3% | 2,224 | 14.7% |
| All Misdemeanors | 8,398 | 53.1% | 7,604 | 50.3% |
| Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons | 2,057 | 13.0% | 2,000 | 13.2% |
| Misdemeanor Property Crimes | 1,661 | 10.5% | 1,559 | 10.3% |
| Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes | 3,419 | 21.6% | 2,986 | 19.7% |
| Misdemeanor Other Crimes | 1,261 | 8.0% | 1,059 | 7.0% |
| Total | 15,804 | 100.0% | 15,129 | 100.0% |

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

Figure 5. Time Until Conviction for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2018-19 and Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

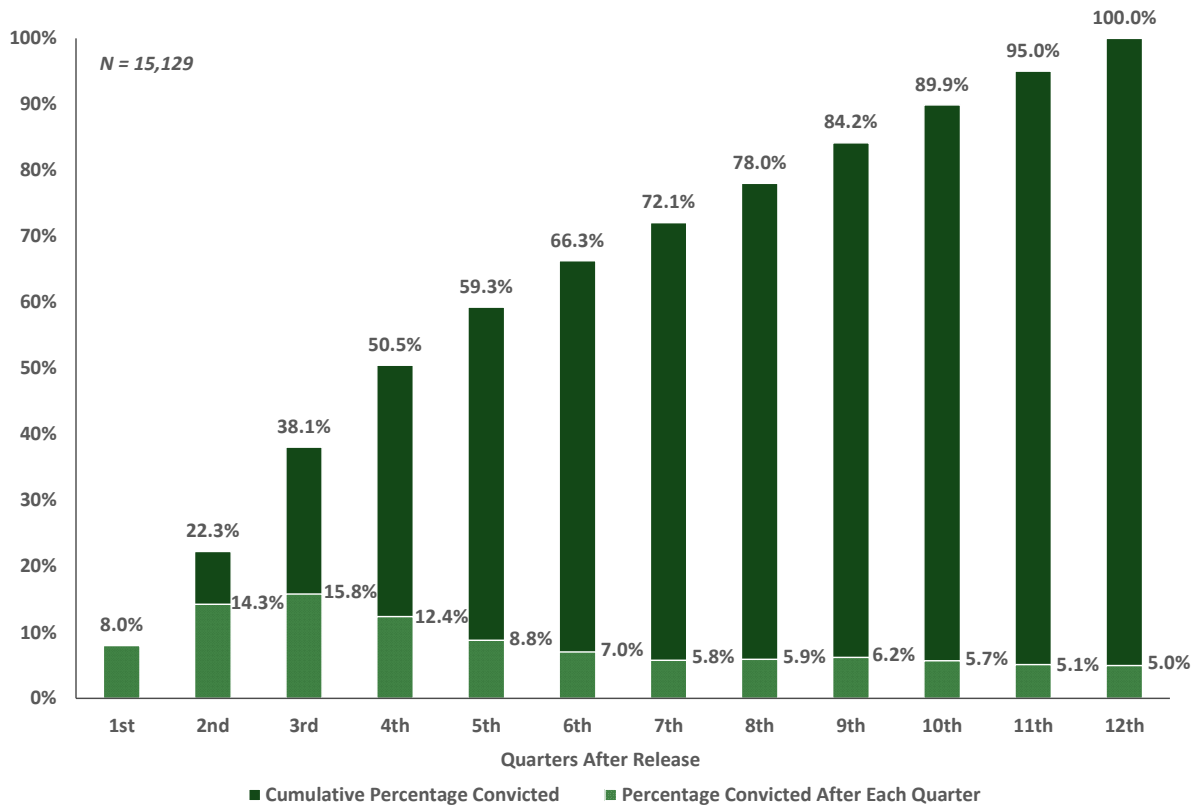


Figure 5 and Table 5 show the percentage and number of individuals who were convicted during each quarter (three-month period) of the three-year follow-up period, as well as the cumulative percentage and number of individuals convicted. Only the 15,129 individuals convicted during the three-year follow-up 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 15,129 individuals convicted during the three-year follow-up period, 50.5 percent were convicted in the first year following their release from CDCR. By year two, 78.0 percent were convicted, and by year three, 100 percent were convicted. The largest number and percentage of individuals (15.8 percent) were convicted during the third quarter following their release. The fewest number of individuals (5.0 percent) were convicted during the twelfth quarter of the follow-up period.

Table 5. Time Until Conviction for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2018-19 and Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

| Quarters After Release | Percentage Convicted | Cumulative Percentage | Number Convicted | Cumulative Number |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 8.0% | 8.0% | 1,213 | 1,213 |
| 2 | 14.3% | 22.3% | 2,156 | 3,369 |
| 3 | 15.8% | 38.1% | 2,390 | 5,759 |
| 4 | 12.4% | 50.5% | 1,874 | 7,633 |
| 5 | 8.8% | 59.3% | 1,332 | 8,965 |
| 6 | 7.0% | 66.3% | 1,062 | 10,027 |
| 7 | 5.8% | 72.1% | 877 | 10,904 |
| 8 | 5.9% | 78.0% | 896 | 11,800 |
| 9 | 6.2% | 84.2% | 936 | 12,736 |
| 10 | 5.7% | 89.9% | 865 | 13,601 |
| 11 | 5.1% | 95.0% | 773 | 14,374 |
| 12 | 5.0% | 100.0% | 755 | 15,129 |

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

Table 6 shows the type of post-release arrest for individuals released in FY 2018-19. One-third of the release cohort had no arrest during the three-year follow-up period. Over 20 percent of the FY 2018-19 release cohort were arrested for supervision violations (21.8 percent), 22.9 percent were arrested for felonies, and 21.4 percent were arrested for misdemeanors. Of all arrest types, 10.6 percent of the release cohort were arrested for misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes and 8.1 percent were arrested for felony crimes against persons.

Table 6. Type of Arrest for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2018-19

| Type of Arrest | FY 2018-19 | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| No Arrest | 12,022 | 33.3% |
| All Felonies | 8,269 | 22.9% |
| Felony Crimes Against Persons | 2,927 | 8.1% |
| Felony Property Crimes | 2,058 | 5.7% |
| Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes | 1,172 | 3.2% |
| Felony Other Crimes | 2,112 | 5.9% |
| All Misdemeanors | 7,728 | 21.4% |
| Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons | 1,491 | 4.1% |
| Misdemeanor Property Crimes | 1,158 | 3.2% |
| Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes | 3,840 | 10.6% |
| Misdemeanor Other Crimes | 1,239 | 3.4% |
| Supervision Violations | 7,879 | 21.8% |
| Unknown | 188 | 0.5% |
| Total | 36,086 | 100.0% |

The vast majority of individuals released from CDCR did not return to prison during the three-year follow-up period. Less than 20 percent of all individuals released from CDCR (16.8 percent or 6,126 individuals) were returned to prison. Crimes against persons led all type of return categories, followed by other crimes, property crimes, and drug crimes. Following the passage of Realignment, very few individuals are eligible to return to prison for parole violations, with only 18 individuals released in FY 2018-19 returned for parole violations (Table 7).

Table 7. Type of Return to CDCR for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2018-19

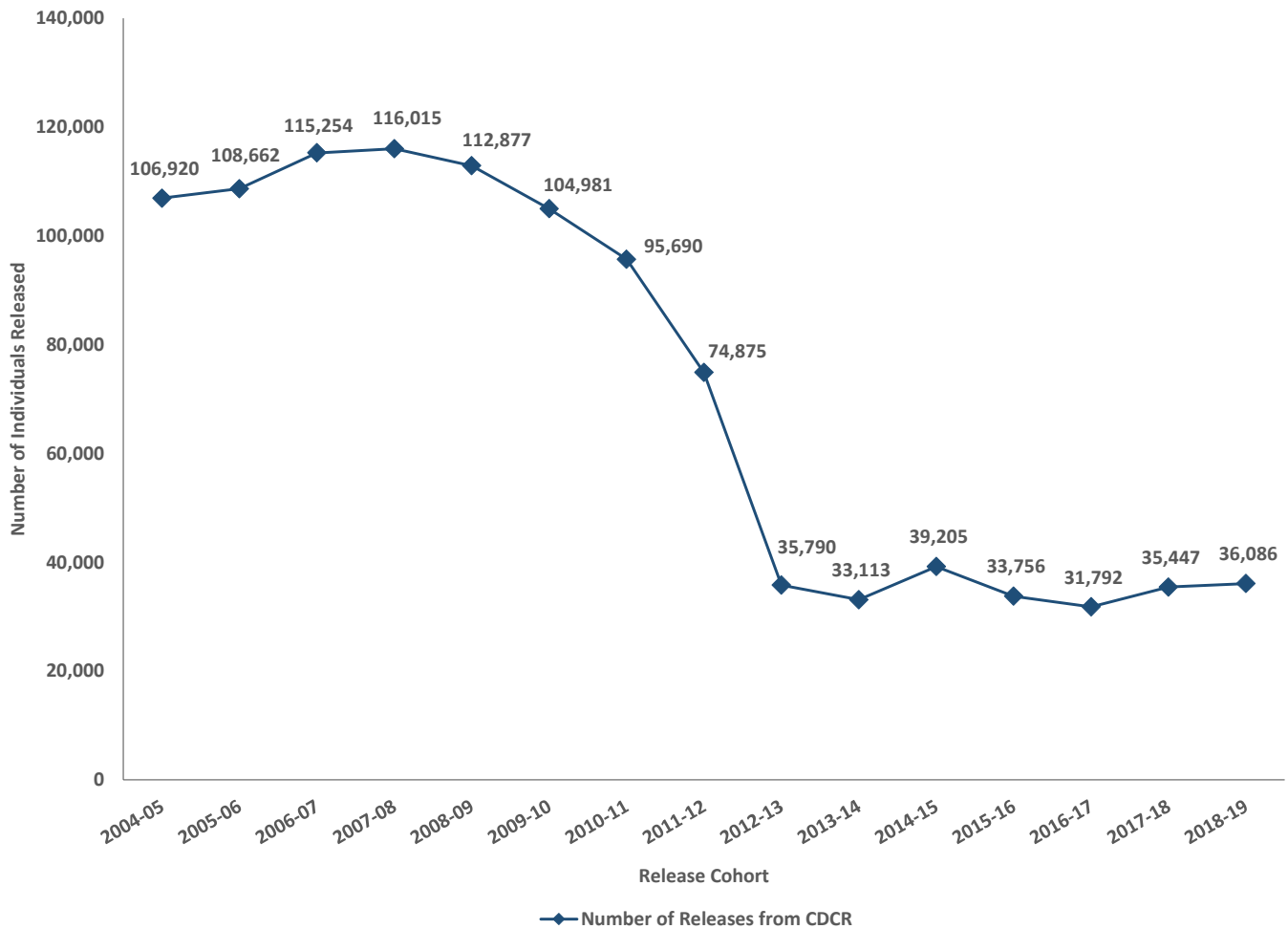
| Type of Return | FY 2018-19 | |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| No Return to Prison | 30,294 | 83.2% |
| Crimes Against Persons | 2,421 | 6.6% |
| Property Crimes | 1,473 | 4.0% |
| Drug Crimes | 593 | 1.6% |
| Other Crimes | 1,621 | 4.5% |
| Parole Violations | 18 | 0.0% |
| Total | 36,420 | 100.0% |

5 Profile of the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Release Cohort

5.1 Number of Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2004-05 through 2018-19

In FY 2018-19, 36,086 individuals were released from CDCR adult institutions, and 15,129 of these individuals were convicted within three years of their release (41.9 percent). This section presents information regarding the composition and conviction rates of CDCR’s FY 2018-19 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 cohort (FY 2017-18). 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 2017-18 and FY 2018-19 release cohorts by demographics and characteristics for comparative purposes.¹¹

Figure 6. Number of Individuals in the Fiscal Year 2004-05 through Fiscal Year 2018-19 Release Cohorts



¹¹ 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 6 presents the number of individuals released from CDCR during each fiscal year beginning with the 2004-05 release cohort.¹² The number of individuals peaked at 116,015 releases with the FY 2007-08 cohort. The implementation of Realignment in October 2011 primarily contributed to the series of decreases seen between FY 2008-09 and 2013-14, reaching a low of 33,113 individuals released in FY 2013-14. Releases then 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). The following year, just 364 of the 33,756 individuals released in FY 2015-16 were resentenced and released due to Proposition 47. 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. In the current FY 2018-19 cohort, the number of releases rose to 36,086 individuals (Appendix F). 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.¹³

5.2 Demographics and Characteristics of the FY 2018-19 Release Cohort

Gender

As shown in Appendix A, males comprise a much larger proportion of the FY 2018-19 release cohort (92.7 percent) than females (7.3 percent). These percentages have largely stayed constant since Realignment, even as the size of each cohort has changed. The three-year conviction rate for males released in FY 2018-19 is 42.5 percent, while the conviction rate for females is 34.2 percent (Appendix B). Historically, the conviction rate for females each year is about ten percentage points lower than the rate for males with some variation, and this trend continues with the current cohort. Compared to FY 2017-18, the rate for males decreased by 2.8 percentage points, and the rate for females decreased by 1.7 percentage points (Appendix D).

Age at Release

Individuals ages 25 to 29 represent the largest number of releases (19.6 percent) in the cohort. Individuals ages 18 and 19 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 84.8 percent under the age of 50 at the time of their release.

Age has a well-documented relationship with recidivism, which is supported by the rates observed with this cohort.¹⁴ 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 (61.1 percent). The rate steadily decreases as age increases, with individuals ages 60 and over having the lowest conviction rate of all age groups (16.5 percent). This general trend has persisted with time, making older individuals some of the least likely to recidivate.

¹² The total number of individuals released in the FY 2011-12 through FY 2018-19 release cohorts only include 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, the release cohort presented in Figure 6 included all individuals released from prison, regardless of a DOJ automated RAP sheet.

¹³ More information regarding CDCR's population may be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/research/population-reports-2/>

¹⁴ For more information regarding the relationship between age and recidivism, please 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/>

The three-year conviction rate decreased for all age groups when compared to the FY 2017-18 release cohort. The rate for individuals ages 18 and 19 saw the largest decrease between the two fiscal years, with a decrease of 6.4 percentage points, followed closely by individuals ages 45 to 49 with a decrease of 6.2 percentage points. The smallest decrease is observed for individuals ages 35 to 39 with a decrease of less than one percentage point.

Race/Ethnicity

In the FY 2018-19 release cohort, the largest portion of individuals are Hispanic/Latino (44.8 percent), followed by White and Black/African American individuals (each representing about one-quarter of the release cohort). 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 individuals and American Indian/Alaskan Native individuals, who each represent less than two percent of releases in the current cohort. Individuals not in the aforementioned race/ethnicity groups are categorically included as “Other” and typically comprise less than four percent of each cohort.

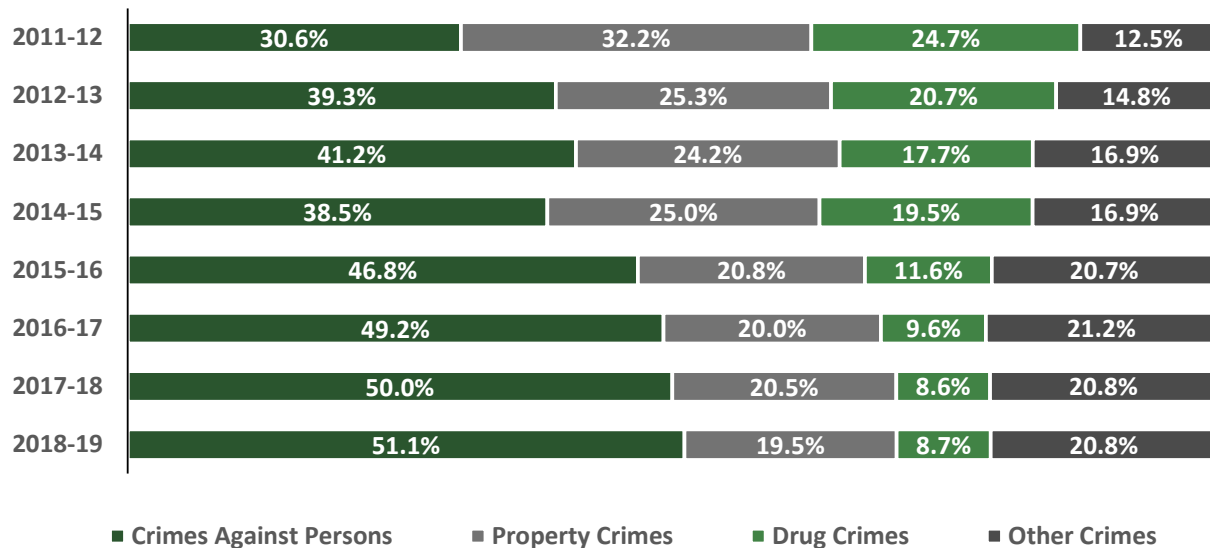
Generally, individuals in the American Indian/Alaskan Native category have relatively higher conviction rates, while those in the Other category have markedly lower rates. This continues to be the case in the FY 2018-19 release cohort, where American Indian/Alaskan Native individuals have the highest three-year conviction rate (45.9 percent). The larger categories of White, Hispanic/Latino, and Black/African American individuals have similar conviction rates between 39.8 percent and 43.6 percent (Appendix B). Asian/Pacific Islander individuals have a slightly lower rate (34.6 percent) and the rate for individuals in the Other category is 31.4 percent.

The three-year conviction rate for each race/ethnicity category decreased between the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts. The rate among American Indian/Alaskan Native individuals saw the greatest decrease (4.5 percentage points), while the rate for Asian/Pacific Islander individuals saw the smallest decrease (1.3 percentage points). This variation is somewhat expected due to the relative size of each group, as rates associated with smaller groups of individuals are more susceptible to variation than larger groups.

Commitment Offense Category

Each category (property crimes, drug crimes, other crimes, and crimes against persons) represents the category of offense an individual was committed to prison for prior to their release in FY 2018-19. As shown in Figure 7, the proportion of individuals committed for crimes against persons has steadily increased since the FY 2011-12 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 51.1 percent of the FY 2018-19 release cohort – the largest portion of any cohort so far and these individuals also have the lowest three-year conviction rate when compared to all other commitment offense categories.

Figure 7. Percentage of Releases by Commitment Offense Category for the Fiscal Year 2011-12 through 2018-19 Release Cohorts



Conviction rates by commitment offense category may be found in Appendix B. For the FY 2018-19 release cohort, individuals committed for property crimes have the highest conviction rate at 52.7 percent. Lower rates are observed for individuals committed for other crimes, drug crimes, and crimes against persons, respectively. This trend is consistent with CDCR historical patterns – individuals committed for property crimes generally have the highest rate (over 50 percent). In contrast, individuals committed for crimes against persons generally have the lowest rate (about 40 percent). For individuals in the FY 2018-19 release cohort, those committed for crimes against persons have a conviction rate of 36.3 percent.

The conviction rate for each category declined compared to the FY 2017-18 cohort (Appendix D). The largest decrease occurred for individuals committed for property crimes (3.3 percentage points), and the smallest decrease occurred for those committed for crimes against persons (1.9 percentage points).

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.¹⁵ Individuals released under Proposition 47 were originally sentenced to serve a CDCR felony sentence in one of the three sentence type categories (determinate, second striker, or indeterminate) prior to its passage. 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.¹⁶

¹⁵ Please see our supplemental recidivism report on individuals released through Board of Parole Hearings processes: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/research/offender-outcomes-characteristics/offender-recidivism/>

¹⁶ For more information on Proposition 47, please see: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/Prop-47-Information.pdf>. For more information on Proposition 64, please see: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/prop64.htm>

In the FY 2018-19 release cohort, those who served a determinate term make up over 70 percent of releases and second strikers make up approximately 25 percent of releases. Consistent with historical trends, second strikers had the highest three-year conviction rate at 44.2 percent, followed by individuals sentenced to a determinate term (42.7 percent). The rate for both groups decreased by two to three percentage points compared to the FY 2017-18 release cohort.

Individuals who serve an indeterminate term at CDCR consistently comprise less than one percent of each release cohort and have the lowest conviction rate when compared to all other sentence types. Indeterminately sentenced individuals in the FY 2018-19 release cohort have a three-year conviction rate of 2.0 percent. Additionally, there are 81 third strikers with a three-year conviction rate of 4.9 percent.

Serious/Violent Offense

Over half of the individuals in the FY 2018-19 release cohort were originally committed to CDCR for a non-serious/non-violent offense (53.5 percent), while those committed for a serious offense or a violent offense comprise about 21 and 25 percent of the cohort, respectively. Note that all violent offenses are also considered serious, but not all serious offenses are violent (individuals in the serious category have a non-violent offense).¹⁷ Individuals committed for serious or violent offenses have slowly accounted for larger portions of each release cohort over time, largely because of Realignment (Appendix F).

In the FY 2018-19 cohort, individuals committed for non-serious/non-violent offenses have the highest three-year conviction rate at 48.8 percent, followed by those committed for serious offenses (44.7 percent). People committed for violent offenses have the lowest rate of each category at 25.1 percent, generally consistent with historical trends.

Conviction rates for all three categories decreased compared to FY 2017-18. The rate for individuals committed for violent offenses decreased by 2.4 percentage points, and the rates for those committed for serious or non-serious/non-violent offenses each decreased by 2.7 percentage points.

County of Release

Nearly 80 percent of the release cohort (78.8 percent) were released to 12 of the 58 California counties. Los Angeles County alone accounts for the most releases each year, comprising 29.5 percent of the FY 2018-19 cohort. Less than one percent of the cohort were directly discharged from prison.

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 (53.7 percent), while Alameda County had the lowest three-year conviction rate (25.2 percent). The three-year conviction rate for the remaining 46 California counties was 41.6 percent, slightly lower than the overall conviction rate (Appendix C).

¹⁷ For the definition of a serious felony offense, please see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/parole/serious-offenses-defined/>. For the definition of a violent felony offense, please see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/parole/violent-offenses-defined/>

When comparing the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 release cohorts, the three-year conviction rate decreased for nine of the twelve counties and increased for three. Among the counties with decreases, Fresno County saw the largest decrease (6.6 percentage points). The largest increase in the three-year conviction rate was observed in Orange County (2.5 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.¹⁸ 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 41.5 percent of individuals in the FY 2018-19 release cohort have a high risk score according to the CSRA. Moderate and low risk individuals each make up about 30 percent of the cohort.

As anticipated, high risk individuals had the highest three-year conviction rate at 58.4 percent, followed by moderate risk individuals (41.6 percent) and low risk individuals (19.7 percent). This trend has been consistent for several years, where high, moderate, and low risk individuals recidivate at about 60 percent, 45 percent, and 20 percent, respectively.

Compared to FY 2017-18, the conviction rate for each group decreased. The rate for individuals with a high risk score decreased by 2.7 percentage points, moderate risk score by 1.5 percentage points, and low risk score by 1.1 percentage points. The number of releases and convictions for people with a high or moderate risk score decreased, while individuals and convictions for those with a low risk score increased.

Mental Health Designation

Over 76 percent of individuals in the FY 2018-19 cohort did not have a mental health designation through CDCR's Mental Health Delivery System (MHDS) at the time of release. Nearly 20 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 (4.2 percent total) were assigned to higher-level designations, including the Enhanced Outpatient Program (EOP), Inpatient Care, and a Mental Health Crisis Bed (MHCB).

In general, historical trends show that individuals released from CDCR who were assigned a mental health designation have elevated conviction rates when compared to those without a mental health designation. A similar trend appears in FY 2018-19, where those who were assigned to EOP recidivated at 52.3 percent, Inpatient Care at 49.6 percent, and CCCMS at 44.9 percent, while those with no mental health designation have a rate of 40.6 percent.

Compared to the FY 2017-18 release cohort, the three-year conviction rate decreased for each group in the FY 2018-19 cohort. The largest decrease was for individuals assigned to Inpatient Care (4.4 percentage points) and the smallest decrease was for individuals assigned to EOP (1.1 percentage points). The rate for individuals without a mental health designation decreased by 2.5 percentage points.

¹⁸ 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>

Length of Stay

Length of stay refers to the amount of time an individual was incarcerated at CDCR prior to release in FY 2018-19. Generally, over half of each release cohort spends less than two years in prison. Please 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, the number of people in each category decreases. Approximately 40 percent of individuals in the FY 2018-19 release cohort have a stay of less than one year in prison, and 26.3 percent have a stay between one and two years in prison. Just 4.1 percent of individuals in the current cohort have a length of stay of 15 years or more.

Conviction rates generally decrease as the length of stay increases. Individuals in the FY 2018-19 cohort who spent less than one year in prison have a three-year conviction rate of 49.5 percent, while those who spent 15 years or more in prison have a rate of 7.5 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.

Compared to the FY 2017-18 release cohort, conviction rates decreased for all length of stay categories except those who had a stay of 15 years or more. Decreases in conviction rates ranged between 0.1 and 3.2 percentage points for each category. An increase of 0.8 percentage points occurred for individuals with a length of stay of 15 years or more (Appendix D).

Number of CDCR Stays

A stay is defined as any period of time an individual is housed in a CDCR adult institution.¹⁹ The number of stays for an individual is cumulative over an individual's criminal history. Nearly half of the FY 2018-19 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 2018-19 release cohort, individuals with one stay have the lowest three-year conviction rate in this analysis at 35.2 percent, and those with 13 stays have the highest rate at 54.8 percent.

Commitment Offense Group

Commitment offense refers to the offense an individual was committed to prison for prior to their release in FY 2018-19. Also known as the controlling offense, it is the most serious offense in an individual's most recent conviction cycle. Full data regarding conviction rates by commitment offense are available in Appendix B. Rates vary greatly when analyzed by commitment offense, with a high of 71.2 percent for those committed for escape and a low of 1.9 percent for those committed for first-

¹⁹ The total number of stays could include past stays for parole violations. Please note that 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, please see Penal Code 3000.0(b)(4). For more information regarding decreases in returns to prison for parole violations, please see Section 4.4 Type of Return to Prison.

degree murder. Please note that some categories are associated with very few releases and should be interpreted with caution.

Of the commitment offenses associated with the highest conviction rates in the FY 2018-19 cohort, the top three are escape, vehicle theft, and second-degree burglary (71.2 percent, 62.5 percent, and 57.9 percent, respectively). The commitment offenses associated with the lowest conviction rates are second-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, and first-degree murder (2.6 percent, 2.0 percent, and 1.9 percent, respectively). Of the ten offenses associated with the lowest conviction rates in this cohort, all ten were crimes against persons.

Sex Registration Requirement

Most individuals in the FY 2018-19 release cohort (90.4 percent) did not have a sex registration requirement (non-sex registrants). About ten percent (3,467 individuals) were required to register pursuant to California Penal Code 290 (sex registrants).

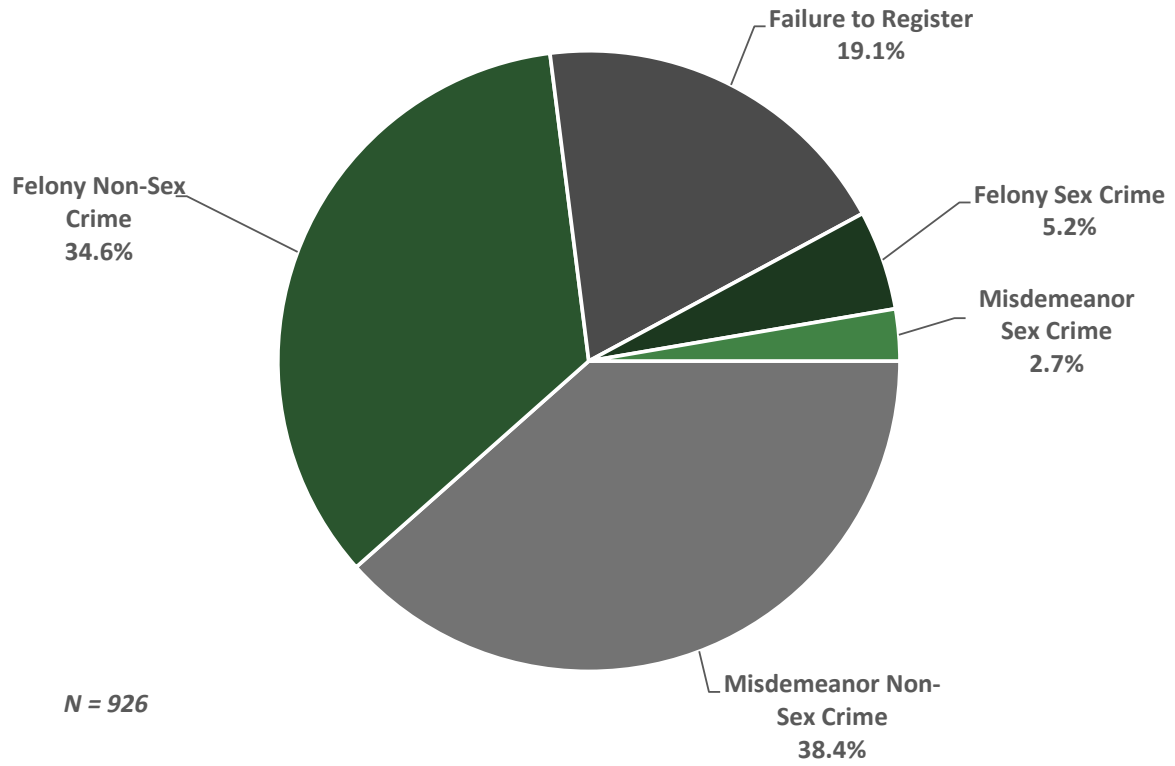
The three-year conviction rate for sex registrants released in FY 2018-19 is 26.7 percent (926 individuals), and the rate for non-sex registrants is 43.5 percent. This difference in the rate between these groups is generally consistent with historical trends – sex registrants generally have a lower conviction rate than non-sex registrants. Compared to the FY 2017-18 cohort, the rate for sex registrants decreased by 2.7 percentage points and the rate for non-sex registrants decreased by 2.8 percentage points.

As shown in Table 8 and Figure 8, the largest portions of sex registrants who recidivated were convicted of misdemeanor non-sex crimes (misdemeanor or felony). Regarding those who were convicted, approximately 20 percent were convicted for failure to register, while relatively few sex registrants were convicted of new sex crimes: 5.2 percent for felony sex crimes and 2.7 percent for misdemeanor sex crimes.

Table 8. Type of Conviction for the 926 Sex Registrants Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

| Reason for Conviction | Convicted | |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------|
| | Number | Percent |
| Misdemeanor Non-Sex Crime | 356 | 38.4% |
| Felony Non-Sex Crime | 320 | 34.6% |
| Failure to Register | 177 | 19.1% |
| Felony Sex Crime | 48 | 5.2% |
| Misdemeanor Sex Crime | 25 | 2.7% |
| Total | 926 | 100.0% |

Figure 8. Type of Conviction for the 926 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.²⁰ 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).²¹ The FY 2018-19 release cohort is the second cohort of individuals who were impacted by the implementation of Proposition 57, which began in May 2017.²² These findings are preliminary. The regulations regarding credit earning change often (e.g., who earns credit, how much they earn, availability of rehabilitative programs and more) and may see changes in future cohorts as a result.

6.1 Conviction Rates for Individuals with Enhanced Credit Earnings

Table 9 displays the conviction rates for individuals who earned any enhanced credits under Proposition 57 during their incarceration (EMC, MCC or RAC). Over half of the individuals released (57.7 percent) earned at least one of the three credit earning types (Appendix A). The percentage of individuals who earned credits increased by 7.6 percentage points when compared to the FY 2017-18 release cohort (50.1 percent of all individuals released in FY 2017-18 earned credit). The three-year conviction rate for individuals who earned credit (39.2 percent) was 6.4 percentage points lower than the rate for individuals with no enhanced credit earnings (45.6 percent). The rate for individuals with credit earnings decreased by 4.6 percentage points (from 43.8 percent to 39.2 percent) and the rate for those without credits increased slightly (from 45.4 percent to 45.6 percent) between the FY 2017-18 and 2018-19 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 | 15,257 | 3,741 | 24.5% | 5,582 | 36.6% | 6,960 | 45.6% |
| Yes | 20,829 | 3,892 | 18.7% | 6,218 | 29.9% | 8,169 | 39.2% |
| Total | 36,086 | 7,633 | 21.2% | 11,800 | 32.7% | 15,129 | 41.9% |

Table 10 displays conviction rates by enhanced credit type. Please note that individuals may appear in more than one group – meaning they earned more than one type of enhanced credit, and therefore a total is not provided. The group of individuals who earned MCCs had the highest three-year conviction rate (39.8 percent). Those who earned EMCs had notably lower rates (26.1 percent), and individuals who earned RACs had the lowest rate (21.1 percent).

²⁰ For more details on Proposition 57 credit earnings please see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/proposition57/>

²¹ 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 and sex registrants.

²² Please note RAC and EMC were not implemented until August 2017 and RAC were not regularly earned until October 2017.

Table 10. Conviction Rates by Enhanced Credit Earning Type for the Fiscal Year 2018-19 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 |
| Educational Merit Credit | 2,867 | 321 | 11.2% | 542 | 18.9% | 747 | 26.1% |
| Milestone Completion Credit | 19,887 | 3,769 | 19.0% | 6,028 | 30.3% | 7,921 | 39.8% |
| Rehabilitative Achievement Credit | 3,218 | 263 | 8.2% | 478 | 14.9% | 678 | 21.1% |

*Individuals may appear in more than one group.

Please note, the group of individuals who earned MCCs is much larger than those earning EMCs or RACs. The MCC group includes non-violent and non-sex registrants who were eligible to earn MCCs prior to the passage of Proposition 57. This may also assist in explaining the higher conviction rate: as mentioned earlier in this report, individuals with less serious offenses generally have higher recidivism rates. In addition, programs that award MCCs sometimes award smaller increments of credit as opposed to programs that award EMCs or RACs.

The FY 2018-19 cohort is only the second release cohort impacted by Proposition 57 and these findings are considered preliminary. The regulations regarding credit earning change often (e.g., who earns credit, how much they earn, availability of rehabilitative programs, and more) and may see changes in future cohorts as a result. CDCR will continue to monitor the potential impact of Proposition 57 on recidivism.

6.2 Enhanced Credit Earning Methodology

The group of individuals who earned credit includes individuals who earned any EMC, MCC, or RAC credit during their incarceration, even if the credit did not result in a sentence length reduction. This includes non-violent non-sex registrants sentenced to an determinate term who earned MCCs prior to the passage of Proposition 57. Please note that 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 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 resentencing 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 Non-Violent Parole.²³

²³ For more details on Proposition 57 credit earnings please see: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/proposition57/>

Appendix A: Demographics and Characteristics of the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Release Cohort

Table 11. Demographics and Characteristics of the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Release Cohort

| Demographics and Characteristics | Number | Percent |
|------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Total | 36,086 | 100.0% |
| Gender | | |
| Male | 33,441 | 92.7% |
| Female | 2,645 | 7.3% |
| Age at Release | | |
| 18 and 19 | 157 | 0.4% |
| 20 to 24 | 4,152 | 11.5% |
| 25 to 29 | 7,081 | 19.6% |
| 30 to 34 | 6,548 | 18.1% |
| 35 to 39 | 5,785 | 16.0% |
| 40 to 44 | 4,018 | 11.1% |
| 45 to 49 | 2,916 | 8.1% |
| 50 to 54 | 2,375 | 6.6% |
| 55 to 59 | 1,725 | 4.8% |
| 60 and over | 1,329 | 3.7% |
| Race/Ethnicity | | |
| Hispanic/Latino | 16,153 | 44.8% |
| White | 9,170 | 25.4% |
| Black/African American | 8,609 | 23.9% |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 590 | 1.6% |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | 416 | 1.2% |
| Other | 1,148 | 3.2% |
| Commitment Offense Category | | |
| Crimes Against Persons | 18,448 | 51.1% |
| Other Crimes | 7,494 | 20.8% |
| Property Crimes | 7,020 | 19.5% |
| Drug Crimes | 3,124 | 8.7% |

Table 11. Demographics and Characteristics of the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Release Cohort (continued)

| Demographics and Characteristics | Number | Percent |
|---|--------|---------|
| Sentence Type | | |
| Determinate Term | 25,722 | 71.3% |
| Second Strikers | 9,285 | 25.7% |
| Indeterminate Term | 976 | 2.7% |
| Third Strikers | 81 | 0.2% |
| Resentenced to Misdemeanor | 22 | 0.1% |
| Type of Post-Release Supervision | | |
| Post-Release Community Supervision | 18,128 | 50.2% |
| Parole | 17,944 | 49.7% |
| Directly Discharged | 14 | 0.0% |
| Serious/Violent Offense | | |
| Non-Serious/Non-Violent | 19,303 | 53.5% |
| Violent | 9,159 | 25.4% |
| Serious | 7,624 | 21.1% |
| County of Release | | |
| Los Angeles County | 10,649 | 29.5% |
| San Bernardino County | 3,112 | 8.6% |
| Riverside County | 2,837 | 7.9% |
| San Diego County | 2,460 | 6.8% |
| Sacramento County | 1,862 | 5.2% |
| Orange County | 1,699 | 4.7% |
| Fresno County | 1,539 | 4.3% |
| Kern County | 1,283 | 3.6% |
| Santa Clara County | 835 | 2.3% |
| San Joaquin County | 811 | 2.2% |
| Alameda County | 690 | 1.9% |
| Stanislaus County | 663 | 1.8% |
| All Other Counties | 7,632 | 21.1% |
| Directly Discharged | 14 | 0.0% |
| CSRA Risk Score | | |
| High | 14,972 | 41.5% |
| Moderate | 10,152 | 28.1% |
| Low | 10,962 | 30.4% |

Table 11. Demographics and Characteristics of the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Release Cohort (continued)

| Demographics and Characteristics | Number | Percent |
|--|--------|---------|
| Mental Health Designation | | |
| Correctional Clinical Case Management System | 6,826 | 18.9% |
| Enhanced Outpatient Program | 1,345 | 3.7% |
| Inpatient Care | 131 | 0.4% |
| Mental Health Crisis Bed | 29 | 0.1% |
| No Mental Health Designation | 27,755 | 76.9% |
| Length of Stay | | |
| Less than 1 year | 13,877 | 38.5% |
| 1 year (12 to 23 months) | 9,484 | 26.3% |
| 2 years (24 to 35 months) | 3,740 | 10.4% |
| 3 years (36 to 47 months) | 1,950 | 5.4% |
| 4 years (48 to 59 months) | 1,304 | 3.6% |
| 5 to 9 years | 2,999 | 8.3% |
| 10 to 14 years | 1,251 | 3.5% |
| 15 years or more | 1,481 | 4.1% |
| Number of CDCR Stays | | |
| 1 | 17,340 | 48.1% |
| 2 | 6,008 | 16.6% |
| 3 | 2,846 | 7.9% |
| 4 | 1,774 | 4.9% |
| 5 | 1,421 | 3.9% |
| 6 | 1,259 | 3.5% |
| 7 | 1,009 | 2.8% |
| 8 | 828 | 2.3% |
| 9 | 684 | 1.9% |
| 10 | 596 | 1.7% |
| 11 | 444 | 1.2% |
| 12 | 357 | 1.0% |
| 13 | 314 | 0.9% |
| 14 | 259 | 0.7% |
| 15 or more | 947 | 2.6% |
| Sex Registration Requirement | | |
| No | 32,619 | 90.4% |
| Yes | 3,467 | 9.6% |
| Proposition 57 Credit Earned | | |
| Yes | 20,829 | 57.7% |
| No | 15,257 | 42.3% |

Appendix B: Recidivism Rates by Demographics and Characteristics for the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Release Cohort

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2018-19 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 | 36,086 | 7,633 | 21.2% | 11,800 | 32.7% | 15,129 | 41.9% |
| Gender | | | | | | | |
| Male | 33,441 | 7,226 | 21.6% | 11,108 | 33.2% | 14,224 | 42.5% |
| Female | 2,645 | 407 | 15.4% | 692 | 26.2% | 905 | 34.2% |
| Age at Release | | | | | | | |
| 18 and 19 | 157 | 58 | 36.9% | 80 | 51.0% | 96 | 61.1% |
| 20 to 24 | 4,152 | 1,234 | 29.7% | 1,832 | 44.1% | 2,280 | 54.9% |
| 25 to 29 | 7,081 | 1,841 | 26.0% | 2,817 | 39.8% | 3,576 | 50.5% |
| 30 to 34 | 6,548 | 1,497 | 22.9% | 2,338 | 35.7% | 3,007 | 45.9% |
| 35 to 39 | 5,785 | 1,200 | 20.7% | 1,900 | 32.8% | 2,489 | 43.0% |
| 40 to 44 | 4,018 | 733 | 18.2% | 1,139 | 28.3% | 1,463 | 36.4% |
| 45 to 49 | 2,916 | 425 | 14.6% | 691 | 23.7% | 901 | 30.9% |
| 50 to 54 | 2,375 | 317 | 13.3% | 505 | 21.3% | 663 | 27.9% |
| 55 to 59 | 1,725 | 219 | 12.7% | 335 | 19.4% | 435 | 25.2% |
| 60 and over | 1,329 | 109 | 8.2% | 163 | 12.3% | 219 | 16.5% |

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2018-19 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 |
| Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | 416 | 86 | 20.7% | 150 | 36.1% | 191 | 45.9% |
| White | 9,170 | 2,128 | 23.2% | 3,162 | 34.5% | 3,995 | 43.6% |
| Hispanic/Latino | 16,153 | 3,524 | 21.8% | 5,473 | 33.9% | 6,950 | 43.0% |
| Black/African American | 8,609 | 1,629 | 18.9% | 2,567 | 29.8% | 3,429 | 39.8% |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 590 | 93 | 15.8% | 156 | 26.4% | 204 | 34.6% |
| Other | 1,148 | 173 | 15.1% | 292 | 25.4% | 360 | 31.4% |
| Commitment Offense Category | | | | | | | |
| Property Crimes | 7,020 | 2,045 | 29.1% | 2,998 | 42.7% | 3,701 | 52.7% |
| Other Crimes | 7,494 | 1,725 | 23.0% | 2,681 | 35.8% | 3,412 | 45.5% |
| Drug Crimes | 3,124 | 697 | 22.3% | 1,045 | 33.5% | 1,327 | 42.5% |
| Crimes Against Persons | 18,448 | 3,166 | 17.2% | 5,076 | 27.5% | 6,689 | 36.3% |
| Sentence Type | | | | | | | |
| Second Strikers | 9,285 | 1,972 | 21.2% | 3,141 | 33.8% | 4,106 | 44.2% |
| Determinate Term | 25,722 | 5,651 | 22.0% | 8,641 | 33.6% | 10,991 | 42.7% |
| Third Strikers | 81 | 1 | 1.2% | 2 | 2.5% | 4 | 4.9% |
| Indeterminate Term | 976 | 4 | 0.4% | 10 | 1.0% | 20 | 2.0% |
| Resentenced to Misdemeanor | 22 | 5 | N/A | 6 | N/A | 8 | N/A |
| Type of Post-Release Supervision | | | | | | | |
| Post-Release Community Supervision | 18,128 | 4,779 | 26.4% | 7,129 | 39.3% | 8,904 | 49.1% |
| Parole | 17,944 | 2,852 | 15.9% | 4,667 | 26.0% | 6,219 | 34.7% |
| Directly Discharged | 14 | 2 | N/A | 4 | N/A | 6 | N/A |

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2018-19 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 |
| Serious/Violent Offense | | | | | | | |
| Non-Serious/Non-Violent | 19,303 | 5,035 | 26.1% | 7,545 | 39.1% | 9,422 | 48.8% |
| Serious | 7,624 | 1,647 | 21.6% | 2,617 | 34.3% | 3,409 | 44.7% |
| Violent | 9,159 | 951 | 10.4% | 1,638 | 17.9% | 2,298 | 25.1% |
| County of Release | | | | | | | |
| Kern County | 1,283 | 408 | 31.8% | 575 | 44.8% | 689 | 53.7% |
| Orange County | 1,699 | 529 | 31.1% | 738 | 43.4% | 889 | 52.3% |
| Stanislaus County | 663 | 175 | 26.4% | 260 | 39.2% | 340 | 51.3% |
| San Joaquin County | 811 | 200 | 24.7% | 328 | 40.4% | 408 | 50.3% |
| San Bernardino County | 3,112 | 601 | 19.3% | 1,044 | 33.5% | 1,391 | 44.7% |
| Sacramento County | 1,862 | 397 | 21.3% | 619 | 33.2% | 818 | 43.9% |
| San Diego County | 2,460 | 594 | 24.1% | 845 | 34.3% | 1,062 | 43.2% |
| Riverside County | 2,837 | 520 | 18.3% | 855 | 30.1% | 1,123 | 39.6% |
| Los Angeles County | 10,649 | 2,243 | 21.1% | 3,385 | 31.8% | 4,206 | 39.5% |
| Santa Clara County | 835 | 163 | 19.5% | 255 | 30.5% | 330 | 39.5% |
| Fresno County | 1,539 | 261 | 17.0% | 386 | 25.1% | 518 | 33.7% |
| Alameda County | 690 | 54 | 7.8% | 109 | 15.8% | 174 | 25.2% |
| All Other Counties | 7,632 | 1,486 | 19.5% | 2,397 | 31.4% | 3,175 | 41.6% |
| Directly Discharged | 14 | 2 | N/A | 4 | N/A | 6 | N/A |

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2018-19 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 |
| CSRA Risk Score | | | | | | | |
| High | 14,972 | 4,749 | 31.7% | 7,036 | 47.0% | 8,747 | 58.4% |
| Moderate | 10,152 | 1,976 | 19.5% | 3,184 | 31.4% | 4,227 | 41.6% |
| Low | 10,962 | 908 | 8.3% | 1,580 | 14.4% | 2,155 | 19.7% |
| Mental Health Designation | | | | | | | |
| Enhanced Outpatient Program | 1,345 | 366 | 27.2% | 572 | 42.5% | 703 | 52.3% |
| Inpatient Care | 131 | 33 | 25.2% | 53 | 40.5% | 65 | 49.6% |
| Correctional Clinical Case Management System | 6,826 | 1,546 | 22.6% | 2,378 | 34.8% | 3,067 | 44.9% |
| No Mental Health Designation | 27,755 | 5,678 | 20.5% | 8,782 | 31.6% | 11,279 | 40.6% |
| Mental Health Crisis Bed | 29 | 10 | N/A | 15 | N/A | 15 | N/A |
| Length of Stay | | | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 13,877 | 3,694 | 26.6% | 5,524 | 39.8% | 6,864 | 49.5% |
| 1 year (12 to 23 months) | 9,484 | 2,319 | 24.5% | 3,521 | 37.1% | 4,473 | 47.2% |
| 2 years (24 to 35 months) | 3,740 | 750 | 20.1% | 1,216 | 32.5% | 1,588 | 42.5% |
| 3 years (36 to 47 months) | 1,950 | 325 | 16.7% | 525 | 26.9% | 726 | 37.2% |
| 4 years (48 to 59 months) | 1,304 | 194 | 14.9% | 316 | 24.2% | 423 | 32.4% |
| 5 to 9 years | 2,999 | 252 | 8.4% | 478 | 15.9% | 719 | 24.0% |
| 10 to 14 years | 1,251 | 70 | 5.6% | 149 | 11.9% | 225 | 18.0% |
| 15 years or more | 1,481 | 29 | 2.0% | 71 | 4.8% | 111 | 7.5% |

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2018-19 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 |
| Number of CDCR Stays | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 17,340 | 2,976 | 17.2% | 4,709 | 27.2% | 6,097 | 35.2% |
| 2 | 6,008 | 1,438 | 23.9% | 2,209 | 36.8% | 2,817 | 46.9% |
| 3 | 2,846 | 681 | 23.9% | 1,076 | 37.8% | 1,364 | 47.9% |
| 4 | 1,774 | 448 | 25.3% | 686 | 38.7% | 862 | 48.6% |
| 5 | 1,421 | 344 | 24.2% | 511 | 36.0% | 648 | 45.6% |
| 6 | 1,259 | 281 | 22.3% | 449 | 35.7% | 588 | 46.7% |
| 7 | 1,009 | 278 | 27.6% | 396 | 39.2% | 526 | 52.1% |
| 8 | 828 | 195 | 23.6% | 300 | 36.2% | 376 | 45.4% |
| 9 | 684 | 185 | 27.0% | 283 | 41.4% | 365 | 53.4% |
| 10 | 596 | 125 | 21.0% | 209 | 35.1% | 282 | 47.3% |
| 11 | 444 | 120 | 27.0% | 172 | 38.7% | 221 | 49.8% |
| 12 | 357 | 94 | 26.3% | 140 | 39.2% | 179 | 50.1% |
| 13 | 314 | 87 | 27.7% | 137 | 43.6% | 172 | 54.8% |
| 14 | 259 | 75 | 29.0% | 108 | 41.7% | 134 | 51.7% |
| 15 or more | 947 | 306 | 32.3% | 415 | 43.8% | 498 | 52.6% |

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2018-19 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 |
| Commitment Offense | | | | | | | |
| Escape | 73 | 31 | 42.5% | 44 | 60.3% | 52 | 71.2% |
| Vehicle Theft | 1,725 | 631 | 36.6% | 901 | 52.2% | 1,078 | 62.5% |
| Burglary Second | 810 | 275 | 34.0% | 375 | 46.3% | 469 | 57.9% |
| Receiving Stolen Property | 464 | 160 | 34.5% | 222 | 47.8% | 265 | 57.1% |
| Other Property | 395 | 131 | 33.2% | 186 | 47.1% | 217 | 54.9% |
| Possession of Weapon | 4,158 | 1,109 | 26.7% | 1,664 | 40.0% | 2,088 | 50.2% |
| Grand Theft | 526 | 134 | 25.5% | 218 | 41.4% | 261 | 49.6% |
| Controlled Substance Possession | 721 | 189 | 26.2% | 282 | 39.1% | 351 | 48.7% |
| Other Assault/Battery | 5,478 | 1,262 | 23.0% | 1,974 | 36.0% | 2,541 | 46.4% |
| Controlled Substance Other | 384 | 105 | 27.3% | 153 | 39.8% | 178 | 46.4% |
| Burglary First | 2,499 | 591 | 23.6% | 897 | 35.9% | 1,151 | 46.1% |
| Other Offenses | 1,937 | 431 | 22.3% | 678 | 35.0% | 871 | 45.0% |
| Arson | 271 | 55 | 20.3% | 98 | 36.2% | 120 | 44.3% |
| Forgery/Fraud | 575 | 117 | 20.3% | 191 | 33.2% | 249 | 43.3% |
| Assault with a Deadly Weapon | 4,530 | 901 | 19.9% | 1,442 | 31.8% | 1,916 | 42.3% |
| Controlled Substance Possession For Sale | 1,690 | 360 | 21.3% | 533 | 31.5% | 693 | 41.0% |
| Robbery | 3,870 | 692 | 17.9% | 1,127 | 29.1% | 1,510 | 39.0% |
| Other Sex Offenses | 1,059 | 214 | 20.2% | 322 | 30.4% | 406 | 38.3% |
| Controlled Substance Sales | 232 | 36 | 15.5% | 61 | 26.3% | 82 | 35.3% |
| Driving Under Influence | 1,055 | 99 | 9.4% | 197 | 18.7% | 281 | 26.6% |
| Controlled Substance Manufacturing | 68 | 3 | 4.4% | 8 | 11.8% | 14 | 20.6% |
| Kidnapping | 241 | 14 | 5.8% | 30 | 12.4% | 44 | 18.3% |

Table 12. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Conviction Rates for Individuals Released in the Fiscal Year 2018-19 by Demographics and Characteristics (continued)²⁴

| 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 |
| Commitment Offense (continued) | | | | | | | |
| Attempted Murder Second | 376 | 26 | 6.9% | 48 | 12.8% | 68 | 18.1% |
| Oral Copulation | 84 | 2 | 2.4% | 10 | 11.9% | 13 | 15.5% |
| Manslaughter | 427 | 16 | 3.7% | 39 | 9.1% | 58 | 13.6% |
| Rape | 220 | 3 | 1.4% | 14 | 6.4% | 24 | 10.9% |
| Vehicular Manslaughter | 194 | 4 | 2.1% | 12 | 6.2% | 15 | 7.7% |
| Penetration With Object | 56 | 3 | 5.4% | 4 | 7.1% | 4 | 7.1% |
| Lewd Act With Child | 1,044 | 24 | 2.3% | 42 | 4.0% | 68 | 6.5% |
| Murder Second | 426 | 3 | 0.7% | 7 | 1.6% | 11 | 2.6% |
| Attempted Murder First | 100 | 0 | 0.0% | 1 | 1.0% | 2 | 2.0% |
| Murder First | 317 | 1 | 0.3% | 2 | 0.6% | 6 | 1.9% |
| Petty Theft with Prior | 26 | 6 | N/A | 8 | N/A | 11 | N/A |
| Sodomy | 26 | 1 | N/A | 2 | N/A | 3 | N/A |
| Marijuana Other | 14 | 2 | N/A | 5 | N/A | 5 | N/A |
| Marijuana Possess For Sale | 9 | 1 | N/A | 1 | N/A | 2 | N/A |
| Marijuana Sale | 6 | 1 | N/A | 2 | N/A | 2 | N/A |

²⁴ “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.

Appendix C: Conviction Rates by County of Release

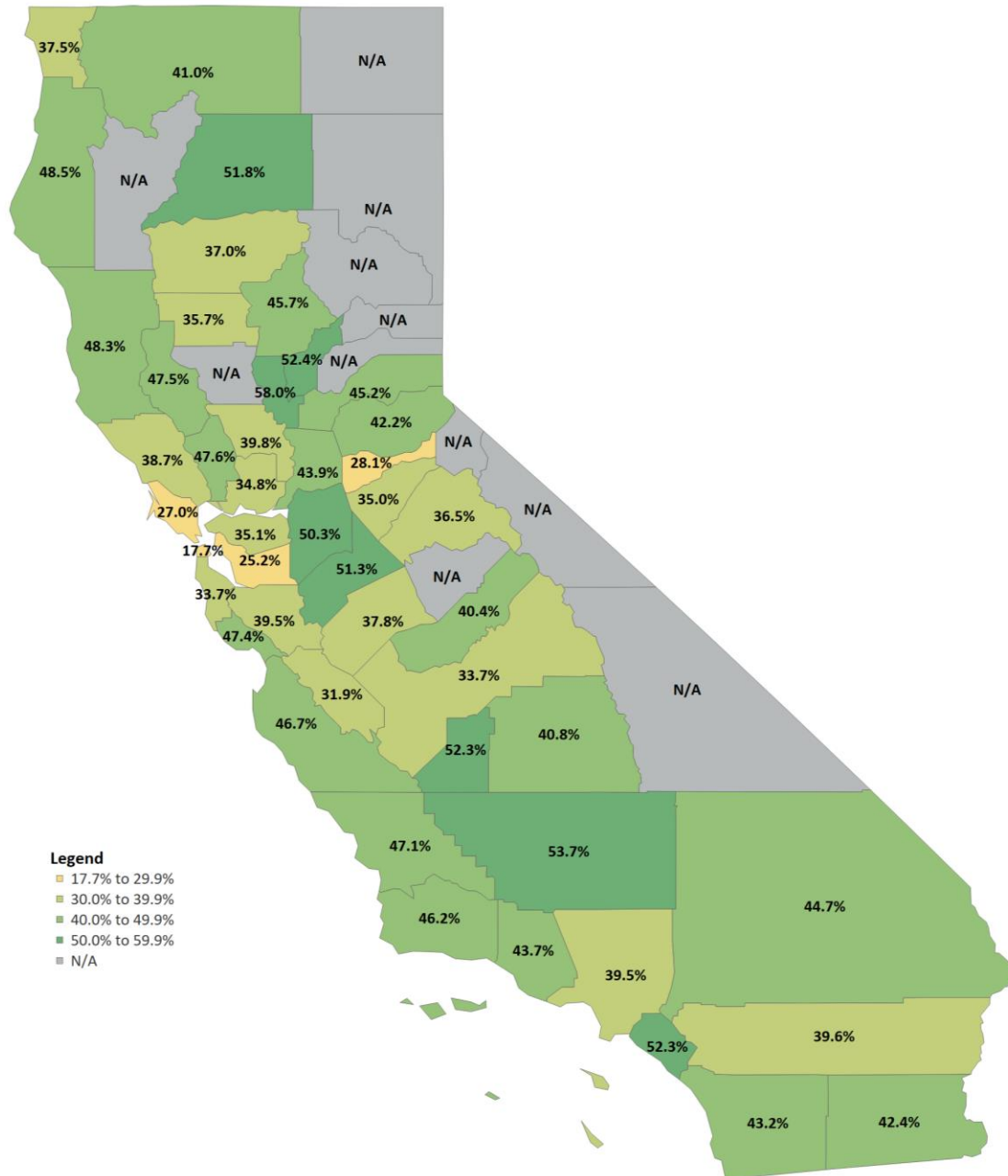
Table 13. Conviction Rates by County of Release

| 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 | 690 | 54 | 7.8% | 109 | 15.8% | 174 | 25.2% |
| Alpine County | 1 | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A |
| Amador County | 32 | 1 | 3.1% | 4 | 12.5% | 9 | 28.1% |
| Butte County | 348 | 76 | 21.8% | 117 | 33.6% | 159 | 45.7% |
| Calaveras County | 40 | 7 | 17.5% | 10 | 25.0% | 14 | 35.0% |
| Colusa County | 29 | 8 | N/A | 10 | N/A | 14 | N/A |
| Contra Costa County | 484 | 64 | 13.2% | 115 | 23.8% | 170 | 35.1% |
| Del Norte County | 48 | 3 | 6.3% | 12 | 25.0% | 18 | 37.5% |
| El Dorado County | 102 | 14 | 13.7% | 30 | 29.4% | 43 | 42.2% |
| Fresno County | 1,539 | 261 | 17.0% | 386 | 25.1% | 518 | 33.7% |
| Glenn County | 42 | 5 | 11.9% | 8 | 19.0% | 15 | 35.7% |
| Humboldt County | 171 | 42 | 24.6% | 65 | 38.0% | 83 | 48.5% |
| Imperial County | 184 | 21 | 11.4% | 44 | 23.9% | 78 | 42.4% |
| Inyo County | 21 | 6 | N/A | 9 | N/A | 12 | N/A |
| Kern County | 1,283 | 408 | 31.8% | 575 | 44.8% | 689 | 53.7% |
| Kings County | 287 | 75 | 26.1% | 123 | 42.9% | 150 | 52.3% |
| Lake County | 141 | 35 | 24.8% | 55 | 39.0% | 67 | 47.5% |
| Lassen County | 28 | 5 | N/A | 8 | N/A | 12 | N/A |
| Los Angeles County | 10,649 | 2,243 | 21.1% | 3,385 | 31.8% | 4,206 | 39.5% |
| Madera County | 198 | 42 | 21.2% | 61 | 30.8% | 80 | 40.4% |
| Marin County | 37 | 2 | 5.4% | 9 | 24.3% | 10 | 27.0% |
| Mariposa County | 20 | 6 | N/A | 8 | N/A | 9 | N/A |
| Mendocino County | 120 | 27 | 22.5% | 44 | 36.7% | 58 | 48.3% |
| Merced County | 331 | 51 | 15.4% | 91 | 27.5% | 125 | 37.8% |
| Modoc County | 10 | 0 | N/A | 1 | N/A | 2 | N/A |
| Mono County | 6 | 1 | N/A | 2 | N/A | 4 | N/A |
| Monterey County | 467 | 119 | 25.5% | 185 | 39.6% | 218 | 46.7% |
| Napa County | 84 | 27 | 32.1% | 32 | 38.1% | 40 | 47.6% |
| Nevada County | 28 | 6 | N/A | 11 | N/A | 13 | N/A |
| Orange County | 1,699 | 529 | 31.1% | 738 | 43.4% | 889 | 52.3% |
| Placer County | 186 | 37 | 19.9% | 60 | 32.3% | 84 | 45.2% |
| Plumas County | 18 | 2 | N/A | 3 | N/A | 4 | N/A |
| Riverside County | 2,837 | 520 | 18.3% | 855 | 30.1% | 1,123 | 39.6% |
| Sacramento County | 1,862 | 397 | 21.3% | 619 | 33.2% | 818 | 43.9% |

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 | 47 | 8 | 17.0% | 9 | 19.1% | 15 | 31.9% |
| San Bernardino County | 3,112 | 601 | 19.3% | 1,044 | 33.5% | 1,391 | 44.7% |
| San Diego County | 2,460 | 594 | 24.1% | 845 | 34.3% | 1,062 | 43.2% |
| San Francisco County | 384 | 24 | 6.3% | 49 | 12.8% | 68 | 17.7% |
| San Joaquin County | 811 | 200 | 24.7% | 328 | 40.4% | 408 | 50.3% |
| San Luis Obispo County | 187 | 43 | 23.0% | 65 | 34.8% | 88 | 47.1% |
| San Mateo County | 300 | 41 | 13.7% | 73 | 24.3% | 101 | 33.7% |
| Santa Barbara County | 325 | 90 | 27.7% | 119 | 36.6% | 150 | 46.2% |
| Santa Clara County | 835 | 163 | 19.5% | 255 | 30.5% | 330 | 39.5% |
| Santa Cruz County | 116 | 29 | 25.0% | 41 | 35.3% | 55 | 47.4% |
| Shasta County | 361 | 91 | 25.2% | 150 | 41.6% | 187 | 51.8% |
| Sierra County | 2 | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A |
| Siskiyou County | 61 | 7 | 11.5% | 17 | 27.9% | 25 | 41.0% |
| Solano County | 339 | 44 | 13.0% | 76 | 22.4% | 118 | 34.8% |
| Sonoma County | 279 | 46 | 16.5% | 85 | 30.5% | 108 | 38.7% |
| Stanislaus County | 663 | 175 | 26.4% | 260 | 39.2% | 340 | 51.3% |
| Sutter County | 138 | 36 | 26.1% | 61 | 44.2% | 80 | 58.0% |
| Tehama County | 135 | 27 | 20.0% | 46 | 34.1% | 50 | 37.0% |
| Trinity County | 17 | 2 | N/A | 4 | N/A | 5 | N/A |
| Tulare County | 542 | 103 | 19.0% | 163 | 30.1% | 221 | 40.8% |
| Tuolumne County | 52 | 8 | 15.4% | 14 | 26.9% | 19 | 36.5% |
| Ventura County | 542 | 123 | 22.7% | 190 | 35.1% | 237 | 43.7% |
| Yolo County | 176 | 39 | 22.2% | 51 | 29.0% | 70 | 39.8% |
| Yuba County | 166 | 43 | 25.9% | 67 | 40.4% | 87 | 52.4% |
| Directly Discharged | 14 | 2 | N/A | 4 | N/A | 6 | N/A |
| Total | 36,086 | 7,633 | 21.2% | 11,800 | 32.7% | 15,129 | 41.9% |

Figure 9. Map of Three-Year Conviction Rates by County of Release



*Table 13 (pages 38 and 39) 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 2017-18 and 2018-19 Release Cohorts

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2017-18 and 2018-19

| | FY 2017-18 Number Released | FY 2018-19 Number Released | Number Released Difference | FY 2017-18 Number Convicted | FY 2018-19 Number Convicted | Number Convicted Difference | FY 2017-18 Three-Year Conviction Rate | FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate | Three-Year Rate Difference |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Total | 35,447 | 36,086 | 639 | 15,804 | 15,129 | (675) | 44.6% | 41.9% | (2.7) |
| Gender | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 32,860 | 33,441 | 581 | 14,874 | 14,224 | (650) | 45.3% | 42.5% | (2.8) |
| Female | 2,587 | 2,645 | 58 | 930 | 905 | (25) | 35.9% | 34.2% | (1.7) |
| Age at Release | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 and 19 | 209 | 157 | (52) | 141 | 96 | (45) | 67.5% | 61.1% | (6.4) |
| 20 to 24 | 4,506 | 4,152 | (354) | 2,595 | 2,280 | (315) | 57.6% | 54.9% | (2.7) |
| 25 to 29 | 7,067 | 7,081 | 14 | 3,728 | 3,576 | (152) | 52.8% | 50.5% | (2.3) |
| 30 to 34 | 6,362 | 6,548 | 186 | 3,074 | 3,007 | (67) | 48.3% | 45.9% | (2.4) |
| 35 to 39 | 5,546 | 5,785 | 239 | 2,409 | 2,489 | 80 | 43.4% | 43.0% | (0.4) |
| 40 to 44 | 3,650 | 4,018 | 368 | 1,395 | 1,463 | 68 | 38.2% | 36.4% | (1.8) |
| 45 to 49 | 2,932 | 2,916 | (16) | 1,088 | 901 | (187) | 37.1% | 30.9% | (6.2) |
| 50 to 54 | 2,361 | 2,375 | 14 | 747 | 663 | (84) | 31.6% | 27.9% | (3.7) |
| 55 to 59 | 1,561 | 1,725 | 164 | 411 | 435 | 24 | 26.3% | 25.2% | (1.1) |
| 60 and over | 1,253 | 1,329 | 76 | 216 | 219 | 3 | 17.2% | 16.5% | (0.7) |

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2017-18 and 2018-19 (continued)

| | FY 2017-18 Number Released | FY 2018-19 Number Released | Number Released Difference | FY 2017-18 Number Convicted | FY 2018-19 Number Convicted | Number Convicted Difference | FY 2017-18 Three-Year Conviction Rate | FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate | Three-Year Rate Difference |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | | | |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | 383 | 416 | 33 | 193 | 191 | (2) | 50.4% | 45.9% | (4.5) |
| White | 9,101 | 9,170 | 69 | 4,180 | 3,995 | (185) | 45.9% | 43.6% | (2.3) |
| Hispanic/Latino | 15,821 | 16,153 | 332 | 7,261 | 6,950 | (311) | 45.9% | 43.0% | (2.9) |
| Black/African American | 8,475 | 8,609 | 134 | 3,605 | 3,429 | (176) | 42.5% | 39.8% | (2.7) |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 521 | 590 | 69 | 187 | 204 | 17 | 35.9% | 34.6% | (1.3) |
| Other | 1,146 | 1,148 | 2 | 378 | 360 | (18) | 33.0% | 31.4% | (1.6) |
| Commitment Offense Category | | | | | | | | | |
| Property Crimes | 7,284 | 7,020 | (264) | 4,077 | 3,701 | (376) | 56.0% | 52.7% | (3.3) |
| Other Crimes | 7,381 | 7,494 | 113 | 3,575 | 3,412 | (163) | 48.4% | 45.5% | (2.9) |
| Drug Crimes | 3,056 | 3,124 | 68 | 1,389 | 1,327 | (62) | 45.5% | 42.5% | (3.0) |
| Crimes Against Persons | 17,726 | 18,448 | 722 | 6,763 | 6,689 | (74) | 38.2% | 36.3% | (1.9) |
| Sentence Type | | | | | | | | | |
| Second Strikers | 9,515 | 9,285 | (230) | 4,487 | 4,106 | (381) | 47.2% | 44.2% | (3.0) |
| Determinate Term | 25,144 | 25,722 | 578 | 11,299 | 10,991 | (308) | 44.9% | 42.7% | (2.2) |
| Third Strikers | 7 | 81 | 74 | 1 | 4 | 3 | N/A | 4.9% | N/A |
| Indeterminate Term | 750 | 976 | 226 | 14 | 20 | 6 | 1.9% | 2.0% | 0.1 |
| Resentenced to Misdemeanor | 30 | 22 | (8) | 3 | 8 | 5 | 10.0% | N/A | N/A |
| Life Without Parole | 1 | 0 | (1) | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Type of Post-Release Supervision | | | | | | | | | |
| Post-Release Community Supervision | 17,617 | 18,128 | 511 | 9,102 | 8,904 | (198) | 51.7% | 49.1% | (2.6) |
| Parole | 17,811 | 17,944 | 133 | 6,697 | 6,219 | (478) | 37.6% | 34.7% | (2.9) |
| Directly Discharged | 19 | 14 | (5) | 5 | 6 | 1 | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2017-18 and 2018-19 (continued)

| | FY 2017-18 Number Released | FY 2018-19 Number Released | Number Released Difference | FY 2017-18 Number Convicted | FY 2018-19 Number Convicted | Number Convicted Difference | FY 2017-18 Three-Year Conviction Rate | FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate | Three-Year Rate Difference |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|
| Serious/Violent Offense | | | | | | | | | |
| Non-Serious/Non-Violent | 18,777 | 19,303 | 526 | 9,673 | 9,422 | (251) | 51.5% | 48.8% | (2.7) |
| Serious | 7,754 | 7,624 | (130) | 3,675 | 3,409 | (266) | 47.4% | 44.7% | (2.7) |
| Violent | 8,916 | 9,159 | 243 | 2,456 | 2,298 | (158) | 27.5% | 25.1% | (2.4) |
| County of Release | | | | | | | | | |
| Kern County | 1,309 | 1,283 | (26) | 759 | 689 | (70) | 58.0% | 53.7% | (4.3) |
| Orange County | 1,701 | 1,699 | (2) | 847 | 889 | 42 | 49.8% | 52.3% | 2.5 |
| Stanislaus County | 628 | 663 | 35 | 331 | 340 | 9 | 52.7% | 51.3% | (1.4) |
| San Joaquin County | 796 | 811 | 15 | 399 | 408 | 9 | 50.1% | 50.3% | 0.2 |
| San Bernardino County | 3,123 | 3,112 | (11) | 1,475 | 1,391 | (84) | 47.2% | 44.7% | (2.5) |
| Sacramento County | 1,741 | 1,862 | 121 | 761 | 818 | 57 | 43.7% | 43.9% | 0.2 |
| San Diego County | 2,557 | 2,460 | (97) | 1,200 | 1,062 | (138) | 46.9% | 43.2% | (3.7) |
| Riverside County | 2,697 | 2,837 | 140 | 1,214 | 1,123 | (91) | 45.0% | 39.6% | (5.4) |
| Los Angeles County | 10,574 | 10,649 | 75 | 4,525 | 4,206 | (319) | 42.8% | 39.5% | (3.3) |
| Santa Clara County | 893 | 835 | (58) | 363 | 330 | (33) | 40.6% | 39.5% | (1.1) |
| Fresno County | 1,493 | 1,539 | 46 | 602 | 518 | (84) | 40.3% | 33.7% | (6.6) |
| Alameda County | 691 | 690 | (1) | 204 | 174 | (30) | 29.5% | 25.2% | (4.3) |
| All Other Counties | 7,225 | 7,632 | 407 | 3,119 | 3,175 | 56 | 43.2% | 41.6% | (1.6) |
| Directly Discharged | 19 | 14 | (5) | 5 | 6 | 1 | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2017-18 and 2018-19 (continued)

| | FY 2017-18 Number Released | FY 2018-19 Number Released | Number Released Difference | FY 2017-18 Number Convicted | FY 2018-19 Number Convicted | Number Convicted Difference | FY 2017-18 Three-Year Conviction Rate | FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate | Three-Year Rate Difference |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| CSRA Risk Score | | | | | | | | | |
| High | 15,224 | 14,972 | (252) | 9,302 | 8,747 | (555) | 61.1% | 58.4% | (2.7) |
| Moderate | 10,316 | 10,152 | (164) | 4,443 | 4,227 | (216) | 43.1% | 41.6% | (1.5) |
| Low | 9,907 | 10,962 | 1,055 | 2,059 | 2,155 | 96 | 20.8% | 19.7% | (1.1) |
| Mental Health Designation | | | | | | | | | |
| Enhanced Outpatient Program | 1,379 | 1,345 | (34) | 736 | 703 | (33) | 53.4% | 52.3% | (1.1) |
| Inpatient | 126 | 131 | 5 | 68 | 65 | (3) | 54.0% | 49.6% | (4.4) |
| Correctional Clinical Case Management System | 6,987 | 6,826 | (161) | 3,378 | 3,067 | (311) | 48.3% | 44.9% | (3.4) |
| No Mental Health Designation | 26,908 | 27,755 | 847 | 11,594 | 11,279 | (315) | 43.1% | 40.6% | (2.5) |
| Mental Health Crisis Bed | 47 | 29 | (18) | 28 | 15 | (13) | 59.6% | N/A | N/A |
| Length of Stay | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 13,489 | 13,877 | 388 | 7,112 | 6,864 | (248) | 52.7% | 49.5% | (3.2) |
| 1 year (12 to 23 months) | 9,345 | 9,484 | 139 | 4,659 | 4,473 | (186) | 49.9% | 47.2% | (2.7) |
| 2 years (24 to 35 months) | 3,673 | 3,740 | 67 | 1,625 | 1,588 | (37) | 44.2% | 42.5% | (1.7) |
| 3 years (36 to 47 months) | 2,082 | 1,950 | (132) | 776 | 726 | (50) | 37.3% | 37.2% | (0.1) |
| 4 years (48 to 59 months) | 1,488 | 1,304 | (184) | 502 | 423 | (79) | 33.7% | 32.4% | (1.3) |
| 5 to 9 years | 3,065 | 2,999 | (66) | 825 | 719 | (106) | 26.9% | 24.0% | (2.9) |
| 10 to 14 years | 1,147 | 1,251 | 104 | 227 | 225 | (2) | 19.8% | 18.0% | (1.8) |
| 15 years or more | 1,158 | 1,481 | 323 | 78 | 111 | 33 | 6.7% | 7.5% | 0.8 |

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2017-18 and 2018-19
(continued)

| | FY 2017-18 Number Released | FY 2018-19 Number Released | Number Released Difference | FY 2017-18 Number Convicted | FY 2018-19 Number Convicted | Number Convicted Difference | FY 2017-18 Three-Year Conviction Rate | FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate | Three-Year Rate Difference |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Number of CDCR Stays | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 16,968 | 17,340 | 372 | 6,266 | 6,097 | (169) | 36.9% | 35.2% | (1.7) |
| 2 | 5,590 | 6,008 | 418 | 2,816 | 2,817 | 1 | 50.4% | 46.9% | (3.5) |
| 3 | 2,631 | 2,846 | 215 | 1,304 | 1,364 | 60 | 49.6% | 47.9% | (1.7) |
| 4 | 1,851 | 1,774 | (77) | 956 | 862 | (94) | 51.6% | 48.6% | (3.0) |
| 5 | 1,445 | 1,421 | (24) | 691 | 648 | (43) | 47.8% | 45.6% | (2.2) |
| 6 | 1,291 | 1,259 | (32) | 663 | 588 | (75) | 51.4% | 46.7% | (4.7) |
| 7 | 1,002 | 1,009 | 7 | 540 | 526 | (14) | 53.9% | 52.1% | (1.8) |
| 8 | 850 | 828 | (22) | 440 | 376 | (64) | 51.8% | 45.4% | (6.4) |
| 9 | 738 | 684 | (54) | 402 | 365 | (37) | 54.5% | 53.4% | (1.1) |
| 10 | 572 | 596 | 24 | 312 | 282 | (30) | 54.5% | 47.3% | (7.2) |
| 11 | 487 | 444 | (43) | 261 | 221 | (40) | 53.6% | 49.8% | (3.8) |
| 12 | 391 | 357 | (34) | 234 | 179 | (55) | 59.8% | 50.1% | (9.7) |
| 13 | 321 | 314 | (7) | 175 | 172 | (3) | 54.5% | 54.8% | 0.3 |
| 14 | 278 | 259 | (19) | 153 | 134 | (19) | 55.0% | 51.7% | (3.3) |
| 15 or more | 1,032 | 947 | (85) | 591 | 498 | (93) | 57.3% | 52.6% | (4.7) |

Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2017-18 and 2018-19 (continued)

| | FY 2017-18 Number Released | FY 2018-19 Number Released | Number Released Difference | FY 2017-18 Number Convicted | FY 2018-19 Number Convicted | Number Convicted Difference | FY 2017-18 Three-Year Conviction Rate | FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate | Three-Year Rate Difference |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Commitment Offense | | | | | | | | | |
| Escape | 98 | 73 | (25) | 59 | 52 | (7) | 60.2% | 71.2% | 11.0 |
| Vehicle Theft | 1,743 | 1,725 | (18) | 1,203 | 1,078 | (125) | 69.0% | 62.5% | (6.5) |
| Burglary Second | 868 | 810 | (58) | 494 | 469 | (25) | 56.9% | 57.9% | 1.0 |
| Receiving Stolen Property | 438 | 464 | 26 | 278 | 265 | (13) | 63.5% | 57.1% | (6.4) |
| Other Property | 363 | 395 | 32 | 208 | 217 | 9 | 57.3% | 54.9% | (2.4) |
| Possession Weapon | 4,022 | 4,158 | 136 | 2,207 | 2,088 | (119) | 54.9% | 50.2% | (4.7) |
| Grand Theft | 527 | 526 | (1) | 271 | 261 | (10) | 51.4% | 49.6% | (1.8) |
| Controlled Substance Possession | 607 | 721 | 114 | 309 | 351 | 42 | 50.9% | 48.7% | (2.2) |
| Other Assault/Battery | 5,205 | 5,478 | 273 | 2,509 | 2,541 | 32 | 48.2% | 46.4% | (1.8) |
| Controlled Substance Other | 320 | 384 | 64 | 164 | 178 | 14 | 51.3% | 46.4% | (4.9) |
| Burglary First | 2,668 | 2,499 | -169 | 1,299 | 1,151 | -148 | 48.7% | 46.1% | (2.6) |
| Other Offenses | 1,889 | 1,937 | 48 | 903 | 871 | (32) | 47.8% | 45.0% | (2.8) |
| Arson | 257 | 271 | 14 | 108 | 120 | 12 | 42.0% | 44.3% | 2.3 |
| Forgery/Fraud | 642 | 575 | (67) | 303 | 249 | (54) | 47.2% | 43.3% | (3.9) |
| Assault with a Deadly Weapon | 4,266 | 4,530 | 264 | 1,851 | 1,916 | 65 | 43.4% | 42.3% | (1.1) |
| Controlled Substance Possession For Sale | 1,736 | 1,690 | (46) | 793 | 693 | (100) | 45.7% | 41.0% | (4.7) |
| Robbery | 3,849 | 3,870 | 21 | 1,600 | 1,510 | (90) | 41.6% | 39.0% | (2.6) |
| Other Sex Offenses | 1,120 | 1,059 | (61) | 465 | 406 | (59) | 41.5% | 38.3% | (3.2) |
| Controlled Substance Sales | 284 | 232 | (52) | 91 | 82 | (9) | 32.0% | 35.3% | 3.3 |
| Driving Under Influence | 1,115 | 1,055 | (60) | 298 | 281 | (17) | 26.7% | 26.6% | (0.1) |
| Controlled Substance Manufacturing | 48 | 68 | 20 | 9 | 14 | 5 | 18.8% | 20.6% | 1.8 |
| Kidnapping | 219 | 241 | 22 | 34 | 44 | 10 | 15.5% | 18.3% | 2.8 |
| Attempted Murder Second | 306 | 376 | 70 | 59 | 68 | 9 | 19.3% | 18.1% | (1.2) |

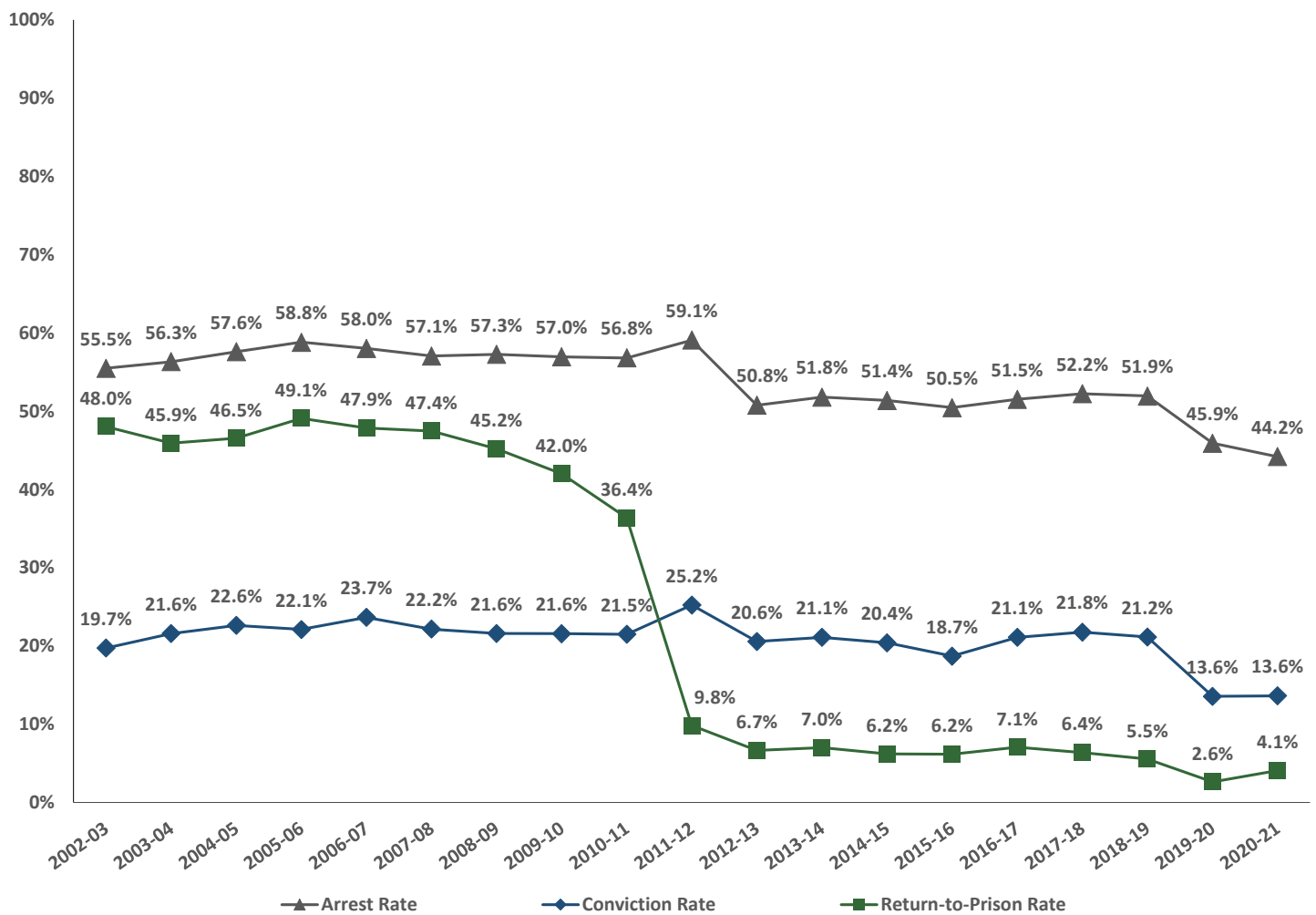
Table 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Demographics and Characteristics for Individuals Released in Fiscal Years 2017-18 and 2018-19
(continued)

| | FY 2017-18 Number Released | FY 2018-19 Number Released | Number Released Difference | FY 2017-18 Number Convicted | FY 2018-19 Number Convicted | Number Convicted Difference | FY 2017-18 Three-Year Conviction Rate | FY 2018-19 Three-Year Conviction Rate | Three-Year Rate Difference |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Commitment Offense (continued) | | | | | | | | | |
| Oral Copulation | 78 | 84 | 6 | 18 | 13 | (5) | 23.1% | 15.5% | (7.6) |
| Manslaughter | 443 | 427 | (16) | 84 | 58 | (26) | 19.0% | 13.6% | (5.4) |
| Rape | 232 | 220 | (12) | 24 | 24 | 0 | 10.3% | 10.9% | 0.6 |
| Vehicular Manslaughter | 181 | 194 | 13 | 23 | 15 | (8) | 12.7% | 7.7% | (5.0) |
| Penetration With Object | 67 | 56 | (11) | 8 | 4 | (4) | 11.9% | 7.1% | (4.8) |
| Lewd Act With Child | 1,066 | 1,044 | (22) | 76 | 68 | (8) | 7.1% | 6.5% | (0.6) |
| Murder Second | 357 | 426 | 69 | 3 | 11 | 8 | 0.8% | 2.6% | 1.8 |
| Attempted Murder First | 62 | 100 | 38 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1.6% | 2.0% | 0.4 |
| Murder First | 253 | 317 | 64 | 7 | 6 | (1) | 2.8% | 1.9% | (0.9) |
| Petty Theft with Prior | 35 | 26 | (9) | 21 | 11 | (10) | 60.0% | N/A | N/A |
| Sodomy | 22 | 26 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Marijuana Other | 18 | 14 | (4) | 5 | 5 | 0 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Marijuana Possess For Sale | 26 | 9 | (17) | 11 | 2 | (9) | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Marijuana Sale | 16 | 6 | (10) | 7 | 2 | (5) | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Sex Registration Requirement | | | | | | | | | |
| No | 31,860 | 32,619 | 759 | 14,750 | 14,203 | (547) | 46.3% | 43.5% | (2.8) |
| Yes | 3,587 | 3,467 | (120) | 1,054 | 926 | (128) | 29.4% | 26.7% | (2.7) |
| Proposition 57 Credits Earned | | | | | | | | | |
| No | 17,677 | 15,257 | (2,420) | 8,019 | 6,960 | (1,059) | 45.4% | 45.6% | 0.2 |
| Yes | 17,770 | 20,829 | 3,059 | 7,785 | 8,169 | 384 | 43.8% | 39.2% | (4.6) |

Appendix E: Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates for Individuals Released in Fiscal Year 2002-03 through 2020-21

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 2018-19.²⁵ Two-year rates are provided for individuals released between FY 2002-03 through 2019-20 and one-year rates for individuals released between FY 2002-03 and 2020-21.²⁶

Figure 10. One-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates by Fiscal Year



²⁵ Arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison data were extracted on June 30, 2023 to minimize the effects of any lag time associated with data entry into the state’s system.

²⁶ Recidivism rates are “frozen” 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 11. Two-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates by Fiscal Year

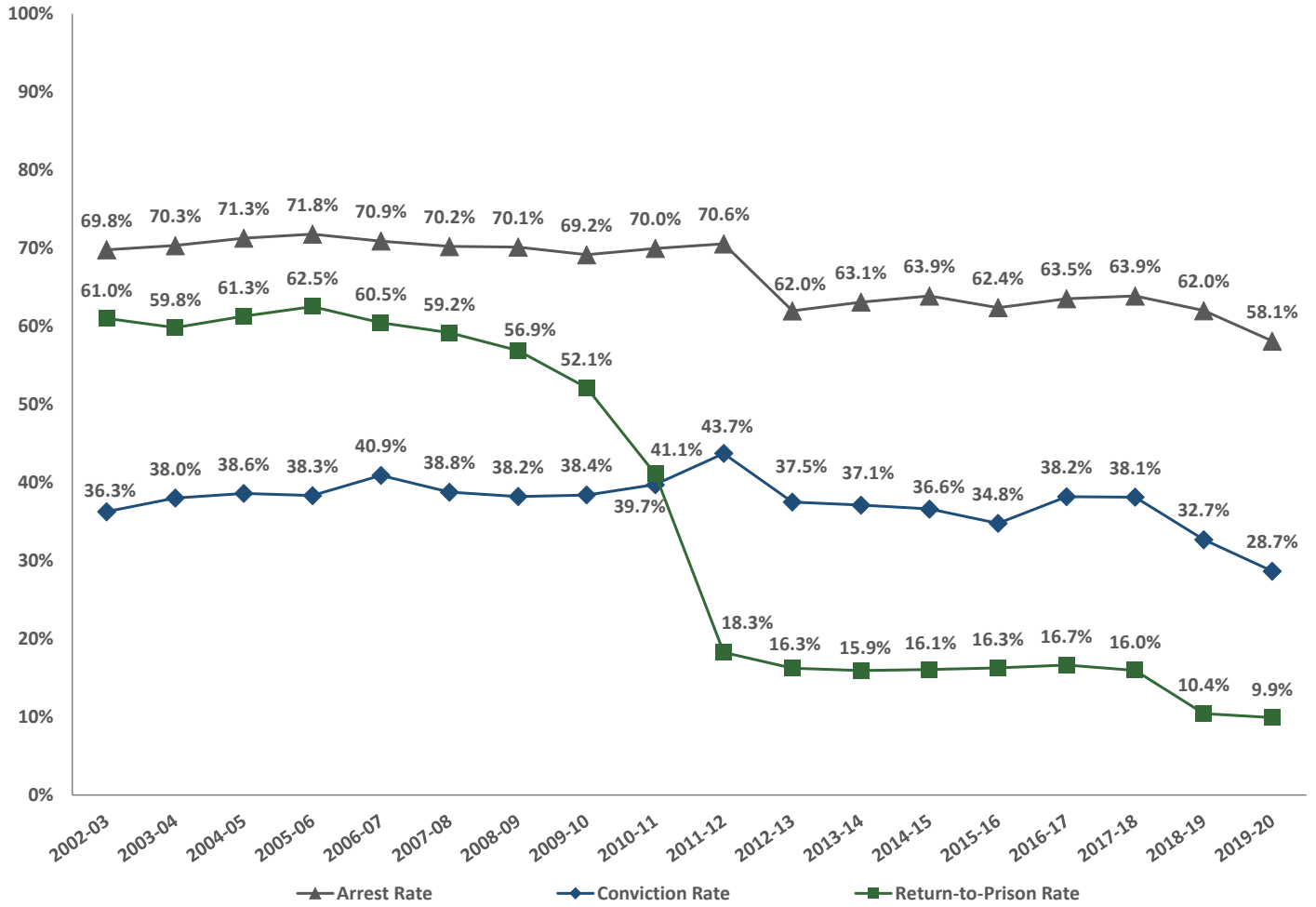


Figure 12. Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates by Fiscal Year

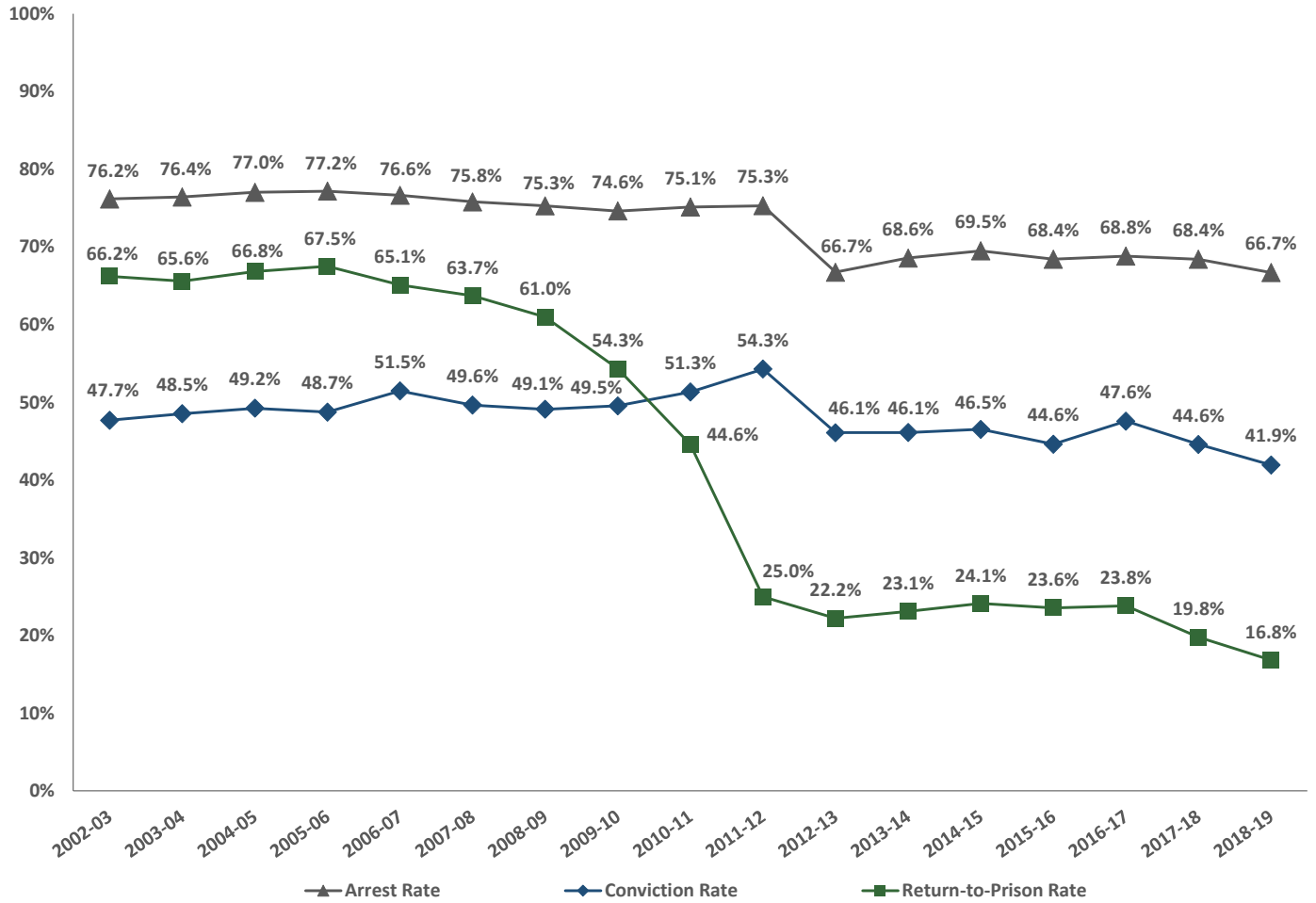


Table 15. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Arrest Rates by Fiscal Year

| 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 | 34,364 | 15,777 | 45.9% | 19,971 | 58.1% | N/A | N/A |
| 2020-21 | 30,279 | 13,384 | 44.2% | 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 | 34,364 | 4,662 | 13.6% | 9,848 | 28.7% | N/A | N/A |
| 2020-21 | 30,279 | 4,130 | 13.6% | 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 | 34,649 | 908 | 2.6% | 3,437 | 9.9% | N/A | N/A |
| 2020-21 | 30,857 | 1,258 | 4.1% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Appendix F: Correctional Policies and Initiatives

The following section describes recent correctional policies and practices 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.²⁷ 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.

Public Safety 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.²⁸

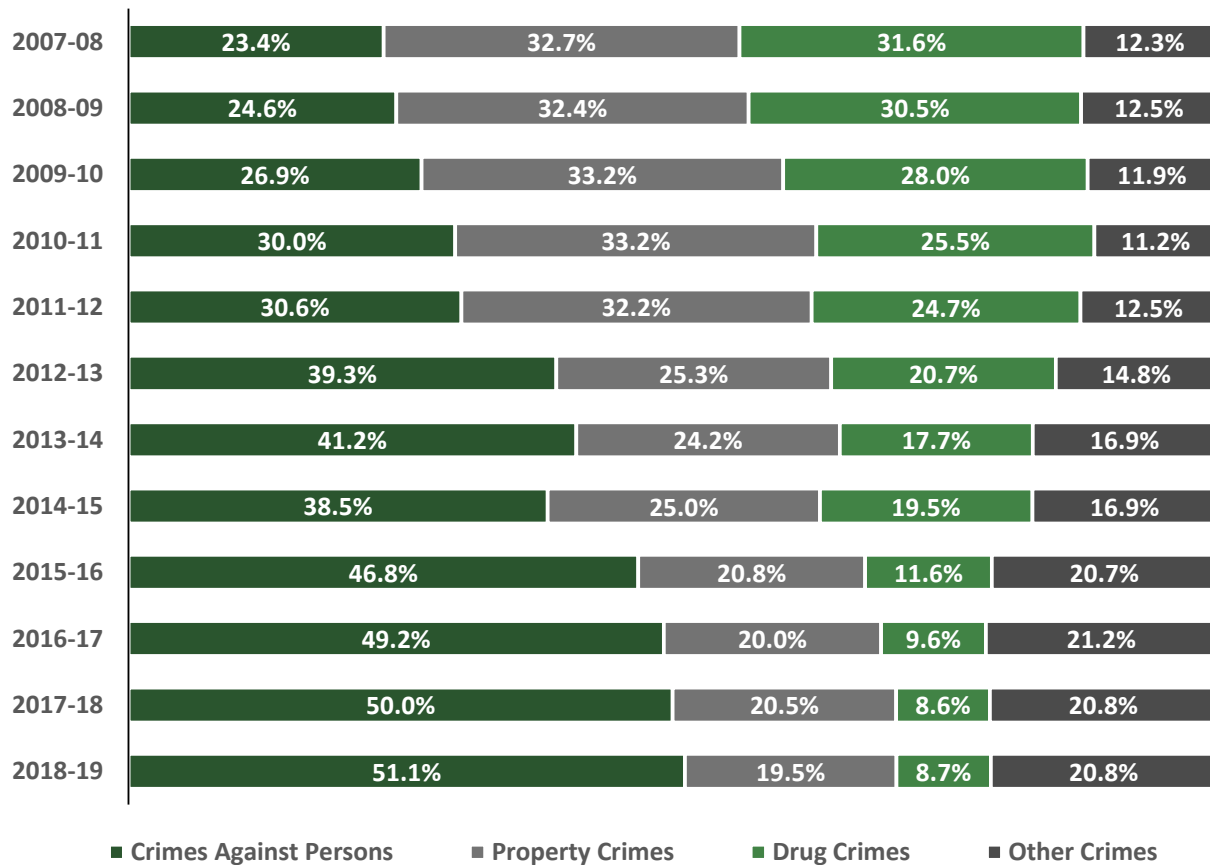
Realignment also changed the state's system of post-release supervision. Prior to Realignment, most individuals released from CDCR were released to parole and supervised by parole agents. Most non-serious, non-violent, and non-sex registrants are released to Post-Release Community Supervision, which 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 2018-19 release cohort represents the seventh cohort of CDCR individuals whose period of release (July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019) and three-year follow-up period (ending no later than June 30, 2022) 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.

²⁷ For more information regarding COVID-19, releases, and departmental updates: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/covid19/>

²⁸ 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, please see Penal Code 3000.0(b)(4). For more information regarding decreases in returns to prison for parole violations, please see Section 4.4.

Figure 13. Percentage of Releases by Commitment Offense Category for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 through Fiscal Year 2018-19 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.²⁹ The small fluctuations observed over the last four release cohorts and the recent decrease observed among the current FY 2018-19 release cohort indicate 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.³⁰ Proposition 47 was implemented in November 2014 prior to the 2018-19 release cohort’s period of release (July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019) and was active during all of the cohort’s three-year follow-up period.

²⁹ 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, please see Penal Code 3000.0(b)(4). For more information regarding decreases in returns to prison for parole violations, please see Section 4.4 Type of Return to Prison.

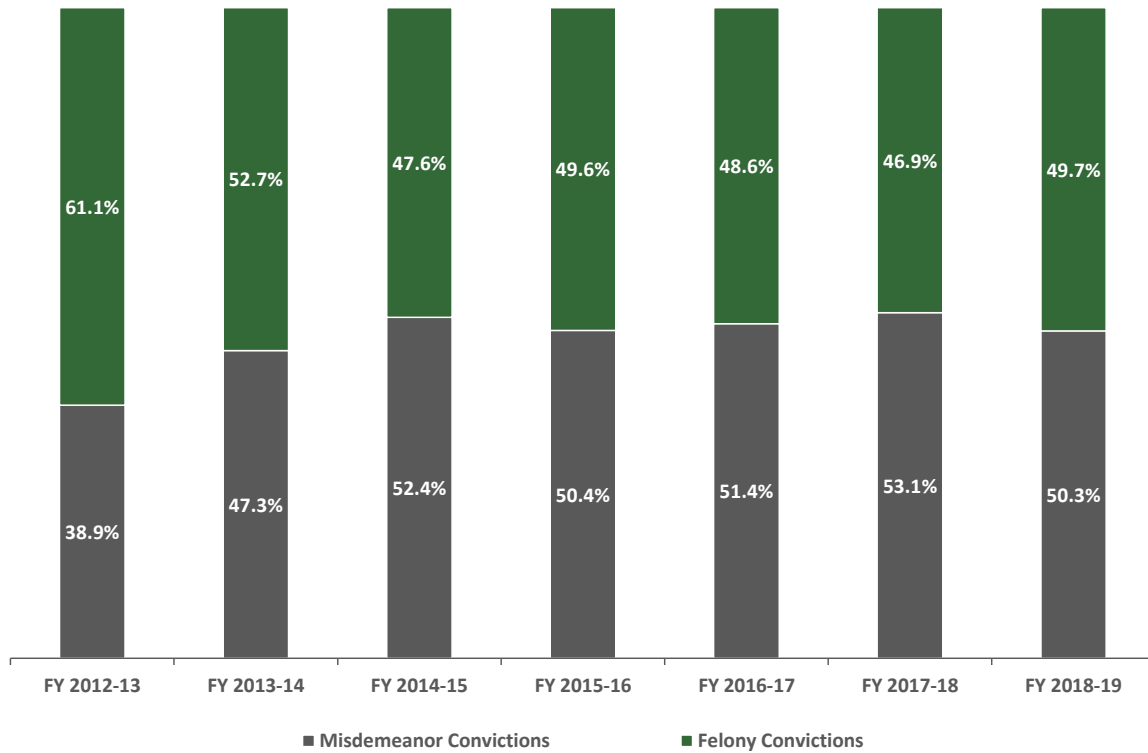
³⁰ More information regarding Proposition 47 may be found at: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/Prop-47-Information.pdf>

Most individuals eligible under Proposition 47 provisions were resentenced and released during FY 2014-15, shortly after the measure was passed. Twenty-two individuals belonging to the FY 2018-19 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). Higher conviction rates were observed among Proposition 47 releases in recent cohorts and may have influenced the recidivism rate upward. 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 the types of post-release convictions (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 recent decreases in felony drug/alcohol and property crimes and subsequent increases in misdemeanors for the same categories, misdemeanor convictions now comprise a larger percentage of total convictions, as shown in Figure 14.

Figure 14. Felony and Misdemeanor Convictions for the Fiscal Year 2012-13 through 2018-19 Release Cohorts



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.³¹ Proposition 57 increased the amount of credits that may be earned through the Good Conduct Credit (GCC), and Milestone Completion Credit (MCC) Programs, and also added 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.

³¹ More information regarding Proposition 57 and changes to credit earnings may be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/proposition57/>

Appendix G: 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.”³² The definition also allows for supplemental measures of recidivism including new arrests, returns to custody, criminal filings, or supervision violations. In prior 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.³³

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 2018-19 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 2018-19. Preliminary one-year and two-year rates are available for the FY 2019-20 release cohort and one-year rates are available for the FY 2020-21 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, 2018, and June 30, 2019 (FY 2018-19). 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 2018-19, returned to prison on this term and were then re-released during FY 2018-19. Convictions are further examined according to demographics (e.g., gender and age) and characteristics (e.g., commitment offense and sentence type).

³² Section 3027 of California Penal Code required the Board of State and Community Corrections to develop a statewide definition of recidivism.

³³ 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 2018-19.

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, 2018, and June 30, 2019, 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.

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 H: 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 2018-19.

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).

Gender

Gender is utilized to distinguish between data reported for males and females.

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 third strikers are considered “indeterminately” sentenced since the parole board determines their release.

Inpatient Care

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.

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 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.

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 2017-18 and subsequently returned to prison within three years of their release date.

Second Strikers

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 second strikers) and indeterminate sentences (including third strikers, 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 Proposition 47 Releases. Proposition 47 changed some offenses from felonies to misdemeanors, 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.

Substance Use Disorder Treatment (SUDT)

The SUDT refers to treatment programs offered in the prison or aftercare setting for substance use.

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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