

**CALIFORNIA  
PRISONERS**

1955

CALIFORNIA PRISONERS  
1955

SUMMARY STATISTICS  
OF  
PRISONERS AND PAROLEES

*Prepared for the*  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

*By the*  
BUREAU OF CRIMINAL STATISTICS  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Sacramento, California

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## FOREWORD

When the Department of Corrections was established in May, 1945, no accurate factual information was available to aid the new administration in its planning and establishment of an organized prison program. Management to be effective in planning for the future must have facts concerning the numbers and types of prisoners committed to the correctional system, their distribution in the institutions and programs, the sentence or length of time served, the methods of release and the results of prison experience in terms of parole and post-institution conduct.

During 1945 a comprehensive statistical accounting system was established to provide such basic data on California prisoners. This is the sixth annual release of summary information, the first of this series having been issued for the year 1950. Statistical data covering the 5-year period 1945-1949 were released previously in a single report.

The statistical data in this report summarize the facts as to movement of prisoners and parolees and as to admissions and releases for the year 1955 making comparisons with like information for previous years. The existing statistical accounting system makes available considerably more detailed information than is included in this report. Such data are of value to the administrators, planners, legislators, researchers, and others concerned with the operation of the correctional system. Basic information of the type presented in this report makes possible the development of applied research which would not otherwise be practical.

We, who administer a specific phase of criminal justice, find many uses for this report. Because of the technical nature and the many related factors considered in this brochure it is important for all of us who are interested in this field to interpret conscientiously and carefully the statistical information presented herein.

RICHARD A. MCGEE  
Director of Corrections

Sacramento, California  
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# CALIFORNIA PRISONERS 1955

## SUMMARY

### *Prison Population*

The year 1955 is the first since World War II in which a decrease occurred in the California prison population. The number of inmates in the prison system on December 31, 1955, was 15,230 or 146 less than the population on December 31, 1954. This reduction is a reflection of the 1955 trend of felony crimes throughout the State.

### *Admissions*

During 1955, 3,461 male prisoners were received newly from court, which was a rate of 26.6 per 100,000 California population. In 1954, there were 4,003 men committed at a rate of 31.8 per 100,000 population. The number of women prisoners committed was 177 during 1955 as compared to 229 committed in 1954.

### *Offense*

The commitment rates for men in 1955 showed a decrease in such offenses as auto theft, narcotics, burglary, forgery, and also robbery. Only in assault and homicide were there some indications of increase. The women commitment rates of 1955 over 1954 decreased in homicide, forgery and checks, and narcotics, which were three of the four offense groups in which more than 20 women were committed.

### *County or Area of Commitment*

Comparisons with the 1950-1954 average annual rates per 100,000 population show that in most geographical areas the rates of commitment of men during 1955 were less than the rates of the past five year average, particularly in San Francisco, the seven San Joaquin Valley Counties and in Los Angeles.

### *Age of Admission*

A slight increase in the age level of both men and women committed to prison in 1955 was noted as compared with previous years. The median age for men received was 29.9 years whereas it was 29.0 years in 1954. The median age of women at admission was 31.9 in 1955, one and one half years older than 30.3 years in 1954.

### *Prior Criminal Record*

Of the total number of men committed during 1955 approximately 18 percent had no record of any prior criminal commitment. About 47 percent had records of prior commitments to institutions of less than prison type and 35 percent showed a record of prior commitments

to prison. The distribution of prior record coincides very closely to that of men committed during previous years.

#### ***Offense and Prior Criminal Record***

The percentage of men with prior record varies considerably when the offense groups are considered. Of those committed for homicide offenses 54 percent had no prior commitment record. Of the men received for auto theft and for burglary only 5.5 and 8.4 percents respectively had not served prior sentences before commitment.

#### ***Offense and Narcotic Addiction***

About 16 percent of the men committed during 1955 were classified as having a history of narcotic addiction. Of those committed for narcotic law violations approximately 70 percent were addicts. Of those committed for burglary and theft about 13 percent were classed as addicted, while those received for other types of offenses only about 5 percent were so categorized.

#### ***Method of Release***

Of the men released during 1955, 76 percent were paroled, 23 percent were discharged and one percent died or were executed. This 1955 percentage distribution is very similar to that for the past five years.

#### ***First Parole***

Almost 3,000 men were released to parole for the first time during 1955. The median time served in prison by these men was 30 months, the same as for the 1950-1954 period. The median time served in prison by the 187 women paroled for the first time during 1955 was 24 months, one month shorter than the median time served by those first paroled during 1950-1954.

#### ***Reparole***

Male parole violators who were returned with a new commitment served a median time of 45 months before rep parole in 1955 while men who had been returned as technical violators served a median time of 17 months before rep parole.

#### ***Discharge From Prison at Expiration of Sentence***

More than 1,000 men were released from prison during 1955 at expiration of sentence. About one-half (491) of these were released for the first time having served a median of 30 months. Of the other one-half released, four-fifths (427) were men who had been returned for parole violation without a new commitment having served a median of 19 months before discharge, and one-fifth (98) were men returned from parole with a new commitment and served a median of 48 months before expiration of sentence.

#### ***Parole Population***

On December 31, 1955, there were 6,719 men and 466 women on parole. Of these 5,493 men and 407 women were under supervision in California.

***Discharge From Parole***

For those persons who successfully completed their first paroles during 1955, the median time served on parole before discharge was 27 months for the men and 34 months for women.

***Suspensions***

The men who were suspended in 1955 stayed out of trouble longer than those who were suspended in 1954. The median time was seven months before violation for men suspended from California paroles in 1955 and five months for those suspended in 1954.

## INTRODUCTION

Each year a statistical report is issued accounting for the prisoners in the institutions of the Department of Corrections, and those who are under parole supervision. It presents data showing the characteristics of prisoners received, the methods of release from institutional treatment, the length of time served before release, the time on parole, and the number whose paroles were terminated by suspension or by discharge at expiration of sentence.

Essentially the same statistical data are presented in each annual report so that comparable information is available for those concerned with the prison and parole systems and their administrations. There are variations from past experience to be noted in each year's data. Such differences may result from changed conditions or from administrative policy revisions at various levels of the administration of justice. This report for the calendar year 1955 offers comparisons with like statistics for the year 1954; and in order to relate the 1955 data to general trends of recent years, comparisons in many instances are made with the average data for the five-year period 1950-1954.

Descriptive information concerning the organization and functions of the Department of Corrections, the Adult Authority and the Board of Trustees of the California Institution for Women must of necessity be repeated each year so that those examining the report for the first time will have a better understanding of the operation of the California prison system. Therefore the following paragraphs are repeated from previous published reports.

"All persons who are convicted of felony offenses in the superior courts of California and sentenced to the state prisons are committed to the custody of the Director of Corrections. Men are delivered to one of two reception-guidance centers, located at the California State Prison at San Quentin for men convicted in the northern part of the State and at the California Institution for Men at Chino for those in the southern area. All women committed to prison are received at the California Institution for Women at Corona. After diagnostic study by the reception-guidance center staffs and with the approval of the Director of Corrections, the men are transferred to one of seven institutions for treatment. They may be transferred among the institutions or to a camp as is appropriate for the particular training needs of the individual. The women after initial study remain at the California Institution for Women.

"The great preponderance of prisoners in the Department of Corrections are adult felons committed to the Director of Corrections after conviction in the superior courts; however, other types of inmates under special sections of the law are housed in the institutions of the Department. The largest additional group consists of young males who have been committed to the Department of the Youth Authority, and who have been placed by that authority in an institution of the Department of Corrections. Most of these youths who might benefit from

a program of vocational training are confined in the Deuel Vocational Institution, which was established to care for young men committed to either the Youth Authority or the Department of Corrections. At the present time this institution, with a capacity of 1,200 beds, is housing 800 Youth Authority boys and 400 adult prisoners. In addition to these youths there are other specialized types of prisoners being cared for by the Department, such as recalcitrant tubercular defendants committed to the custody of the State Department of Public Health and placed by it in the California Medical Facility, some sex psychopaths and psychopathic delinquents placed, for custodial reasons, in the institutions of the Department of Corrections by the Department of Mental Hygiene. As will be seen in the detailed information presented, these specialized types account only for a very small portion of the total number of prisoners.

"This statistical analysis of California prisoners reviews information not only on persons who were committed to the control and custody of the Director of Corrections, but also on the determinations made by the two sentencing and paroling authorities. With the exception of persons committed under the death penalty or for a definite term of life, as after conviction for first degree murder, all others are committed to the Director of Corrections under the indeterminate sentence provided by law for the particular offense involved. The determination of the length of sentence and how long a man will serve in prison before parole, if he is paroled, is made by the Adult Authority. In the case of women, the Board of Trustees of the California Institution for Women has the same powers of determining sentence and parole for the inmates of this institution as the Adult Authority has for the men.

"While persons committed to the Director of Corrections under California law remain in his official custody until the expiration of their sentences, those who are released on parole are supervised by agencies that are independent of the Director of Corrections. Male parolees are supervised by the Division of Adult Paroles which is under the administrative control of the Adult Authority, and women parolees are supervised by women parole officers under the jurisdiction of the board of trustees.

"The Adult Authority and the board of trustees have an interest in the general policies which govern the administration of the institutions, just as the Director of Corrections has an interest in the general determinations of sentence and time served in prison. The three administrative entities meet in consideration of these policies.

"In presenting information relating to time served, two general measures are used, the median time served and the range of the middle 80 percent of the cases within the class. The median is the most acceptable average for purposes of measuring time served as it is the middle case in any group when all are arranged in order from lowest to highest, and cannot be influenced, as is the arithmetic average, by the extreme values particularly of the cases with the longest time served. The range of the middle 80 percent of the cases also is a better representative of the general spread of the total group than is the entire range from one extreme to the other. By eliminating the extreme cases that occur in the lowest 10 percent and the highest 10 percent of the

distribution, attention is concentrated on the time served by the more stabilized middle four-fifths of the cases.''

The annual and historical data are presented in four sections:

- Institution Population and Movement
- Prisoners Newly Received From Court
- Prisoners Released
- Parole Population and Movement

The statistical data in each section are shown separately for men and women. In practically all stages of the administration of criminal justice differences will be found between the two sexes in the types of offense and methods of disposition and treatment. In general women are considerably less active in crime than are men. The types of offense in which they predominate are homicide, theft, forgery, and narcotics; whereas, they are less active in such offenses as robbery and burglary which show heavy frequencies for men. As a result it must be carefully remembered that data showing differences between men and women with respect to offense, rates of commitment, and experience on release are comparable only in the most general terms.

## INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION AND MOVEMENT

During the eleven year period 1944 through 1954 the California prison population expanded at a rapid rate. The year 1955 is the first since World War II in which a decrease occurred in the total population. The number of inmates in the prison system on December 31, 1955 was 15,230 or 146 less than the population on December 31, 1954. This decrease occurred as a result of a substantial reduction in the number of the persons committed to prison in 1955 as compared with the previous year, a reduction in the number of parole violators returned to prison, and more persons released from prison during 1955 than there had been the previous year. The reduced number of admissions is consistent with the general trend of felony crime throughout the State in 1955 as compared with 1954. During 1955 there was an 8 percent drop in felony arrests and approximately a 15 percent decrease in the number of persons prosecuted on felony charges in the superior courts during 1955.\*

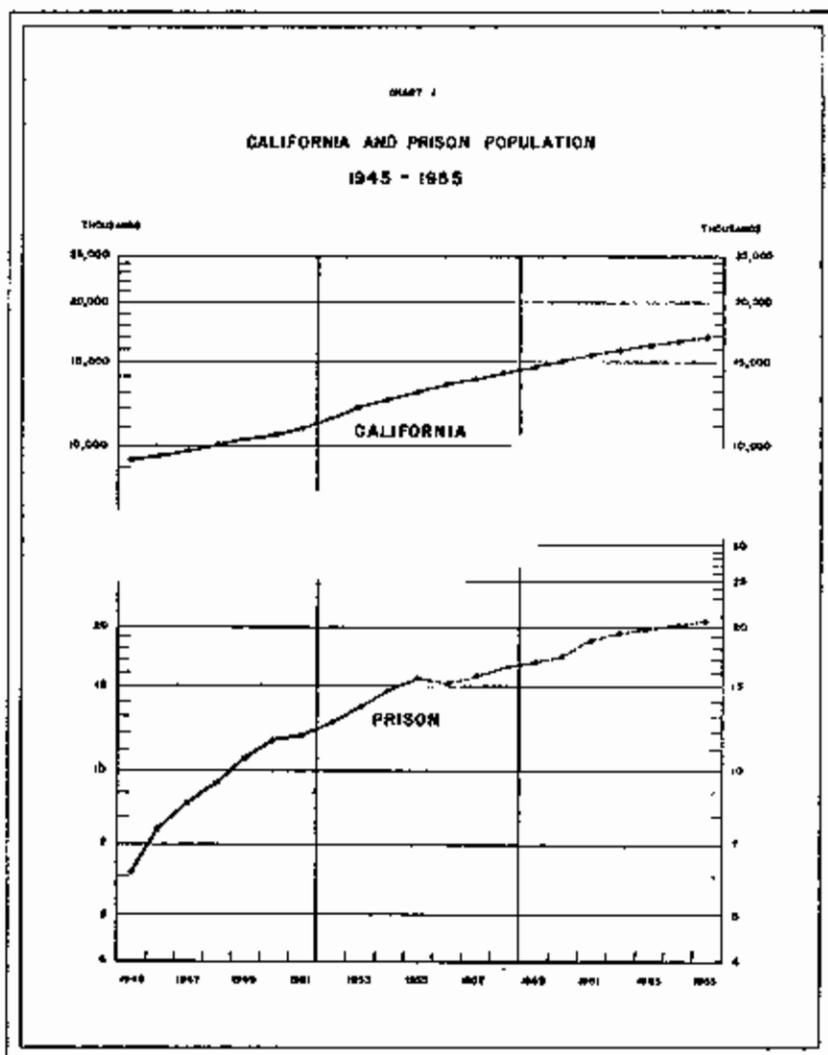
The prison population on December 31, the rate per 100,000 of the State population, and the annual change for each year since 1944 were:

<i>December 31</i>	<i>Prison population</i>	<i>Rate per 100,000 California population</i>	<i>Annual change prison population</i>	
			<i>number</i>	<i>percent</i>
1944	5,710	65.2	—	—
1945	6,628	71.7	918	16.1
1946	7,839	80.7	1,211	15.3
1947	9,036	89.8	1,197	13.3
1948	10,084	97.6	1,048	11.6
1949	10,899	103.1	815	8.1
1950	11,598	106.9	699	6.4
1951	11,939	104.7	341	2.9
1952	13,169	110.2	1,230	10.3
1953	14,149	114.3	980	7.4
1954	15,376	120.0	1,227	8.7
1955	15,230	114.0	-146	-1.0

At the beginning of this 12-year period prison population was probably at its lowest point in recent decades not only in California but all over the United States due to World War II. Presumably the return to what might be called "normal" prison population did not occur until about 1949. Since then the rate of increase in prison population has exceeded slightly that of general population except in 1951 and 1955.

The growths of California population and prison population are compared in Chart I from 1945 through 1955, and estimated for the next ten years. It is assumed in the estimate that in the future prison population will increase approximately at the same rate as State population.

\* *Crimes in California—1955*—Bureau of Criminal Statistics; Sacramento, California.



The distribution of prison population among the institutions of the Department of Corrections as of December 31, 1955 is shown in Table 1. Of necessity there has been an expansion of prison facilities over the past few years to meet the needs caused by the tremendous pressures of population. During 1955, the California Institution for Men added a branch institution located at the site of the former women's institution at Tehachapi which increased the total capacity of the California Institution for Men by 500 beds and accounts for the growth shown in Table 1 from about 2,200 to 2,600 inmates. The California Mens Colony in San Luis Obispo which opened as a new institution in 1954, expanded to nearly full capacity during 1955, and had a total of 988 inmates on December 31. The California Medical Facility, which first opened in 1950 at a Federal installation located on Terminal Island,

moved to its new permanent site at Vacaville during 1955. The population of this institution dropped from approximately 1,000 at the end of 1954 to 500 while being moved to its new site but since has grown to over 1,100 by December 1955, approaching its maximum capacity of 1,350 beds. The fact that there was no growth in the over-all population, and that the additional capacities just mentioned were available, made it possible to reduce the San Quentin prison population to slightly under 4,000 as of the end of the year.

Supplemental to the institutional programs the Department of Corrections operates camp programs in conjunction with the California Department of Public Works and the California Department of Natural Resources. The camps, supervised by the four California prisons at Chino, Folsom, San Quentin, and Soledad, had a population total of 818 men on December 31, 1955, which is included in the institutional figures shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1  
POPULATION OF CALIFORNIA PRISONS  
December 31, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1955

Institution	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Total .....	11,939	13,169	14,140	15,376	15,230
California Institution for Men.....	2,096	2,155	2,184	2,213	2,601
California Mens Colony.....	—	—	—	443	688
Diuel Vocational Institution.....	475	557	993	1,206	1,185
Folsom Prison.....	2,392	2,237	2,678	2,716	2,637
Medical Facility.....	1,910	1,912	1,089	1,037	1,117
San Quentin Prison.....	4,742	4,841	4,745	4,351	3,851
Soledad Prison.....	536	1,952	2,008	2,386	2,214
California Institution for Women.....	588	415	449	544	557

Prison population increases or decreases as a result of variations in both intake and outgo. The chief sources of intake are persons newly committed by the superior courts and the parole violators returned to prison. The principle sources of outgo are parole and discharge at the expiration of sentence. In Table 2, the movement of population is given by sex for 1954 and 1955. The total received was around 700 less in 1955 than in 1954. This resulted primarily from some 600 fewer commitments of new prisoners, and a reduction of over 150 in the number of parole violators returned. On the other hand, the number of persons leaving prison increased about 650 in 1955 as compared with 1954. An increase in the number of persons discharged at expiration of sentence by 240, and an increase in the number of persons paroled by almost 200 accounted for most of this difference. Also, there was an increase of over 150 in the number of Youth Authority wards released from the institutions of the Department.

Items such as escapes and escapees returned, out to court and return from court, transferred to State hospitals and received from State hospitals, and miscellaneous other receipts and releases, for the most part tend to balance each other, and thus do not effect to any great extent the variations in total population.

The category, Youth Authority, refers to boys who have been committed to the Youth Authority and placed by it in some institution of the Department of Corrections, chiefly, the Deuel Vocational Institution. These youths are still under the control of the Youth Authority and are not included in the analysis of adult prisoners. The 61 "other" males received during 1955 included five sexual psychopaths, one psychopathic delinquent, 50 recalcitrant tuberculars, and five safekeepers.

Essentially, the same trends in fewer commitments and more paroles are noted for both men and women. In the case of women, however, there was an increase over the previous year in the number of parole violators returned, and there was almost no use made of release by discharge at expiration of sentence.

TABLE 2  
MOVEMENT OF PRISON POPULATION  
1954 and 1955

Movement	1954				1955			
	Total	Men		Women	Total	Men		Women
		Prisoners	Youth Authority			Youth Authority	Other	
Population, January 1.....	14,149	12,814	633	52	16,276	13,896	890	76
Total received.....	7,379	5,790	1,172	95	6,584	5,159	1,185	61
First commitments.....	4,232	4,008	—	—	3,638	3,481	—	—
Parole violators returned.....	1,262	1,257	—	—	1,135	1,047	—	—
With new commitments.....	581	585	—	—	527	506	—	—
Without new commitments.....	411	562	—	—	368	541	—	—
Escapes returned.....	67	47	4	—	70	66	3	—
Returned from court.....	508	407	1	—	337	525	2	—
Returned from State hospitals.....	13	—	—	—	44	38	—	—
Youth Authority commitments.....	1,165	—	1,157	—	1,161	—	1,160	—
All other.....	114	16	—	95	89	32	—	61
Total released.....	6,162	4,768	1,145	74	6,810	5,166	1,210	78
Discharged, expiration of sentence.....	778	778	—	—	1,017	1,016	—	—
Paroled.....	3,462	3,272	—	—	3,049	3,419	—	—
Died.....	69	63	1	3	56	62	1	—
Executed.....	0	0	—	—	0	8	—	—
Escaped.....	72	65	4	—	69	65	3	—
To court.....	600	489	1	—	548	534	2	—
To State hospitals.....	51	7	—	—	43	30	—	—
To Youth Authority.....	1,141	—	1,150	—	1,305	—	1,304	—
All other.....	100	27	—	71	115	32	—	77
Population, December 31.....	15,376	13,856	860	70	15,230	13,896	715	50
Population change.....	1,227	1,082	27	21	—146	3	—145	—17

## PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT

In this section "prisoners newly received from court" refers to those persons who are received during the year under commitment from the superior courts of California exclusive of parolees who are returned to prison as violators with additional court commitments. The number of persons committed to prison from year to year is not necessarily a valid index of felony crime. This is evidenced from the availability and use of methods for treatment other than prison and the selectivity that occurs in the criminal process where only about one person out of 15 who are arrested on felony charges actually is committed to prison.

All new male prisoners are received at one of two reception-guidance centers; one in northern California at San Quentin, and one in southern California at Chino. Diagnostic studies are made of the male prisoners in these reception-guidance centers and of the women prisoners by the staff of the California Institution for Women at Corona. From these case histories certain basic information is recorded statistically on all persons received and this record forms the basis of the data presented herein.

Those factors for which the 1955 data are compared with those for 1954 and in several instances with the average of the 1950-1954 group are offense, county or area of commitment, age at admission, prior criminal record, race, and time in California before offense was committed. Data on three additional factors are presented in cases of men only. These are educational achievement level, military record, and narcotic addiction history.

In the tables portraying offense and county or area of commitment, the rates of commitment per 100,000 California population are compared for 1954 and 1955 as well as the percentage change in the commitment rates of 1955 over 1954. Also, the average annual rate of commitment per 100,000 State population is given for the five-year period 1950-1954. For the tables other than the two mentioned above the number and percent for the years 1954 and 1955 are given along with the percent distribution for the five-year period, 1950-1954.

During 1955 the number of male prisoners received from court were 3,461 which was a rate of 26.6 per 100,000 California population, Table 3A. Both the number and the rate of commitment were lower during 1955 than during 1954 when there were 4,003 men committed with the rate of 31.8 per 100,000 population. The average annual rate of commitment for the 1950-1954 period was 30.1 ranging from 28.0 in 1950 and 1951 to 32.0 in 1953.

For the women prisoners received from court the rate of commitment during 1954 was 1.8 and the rate during 1955 was 1.4. The 1954 rate was higher and the 1955 rate was slightly lower than the average annual rate of 1.5 per 100,000 population during 1950-1954, Table 3B.

TABLE 3A  
OFFENSE GROUPS  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

Offense	1954		1955		Percent change in rate 1955 over 1954	1950-1954 Average annual rate per 100,000 population
	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*		
Total.....	4,008	31.8	3,461	26.6	-16.5	30.1
Homicide.....	147	1.2	161	1.2	+6.0	1.2
Murder 1st.....	22	—	48	—	—	—
Murder 2d.....	51	—	58	—	—	—
Manslaughter.....	61	—	59	—	—	—
Manslaughter by vehicle.....	7	—	7	—	—	—
Robbery.....	679	5.4	619	4.7	-11.9	5.0
Robbery 1st.....	455	—	408	—	—	—
Robbery 2d.....	191	—	177	—	—	—
Other.....	33	—	34	—	—	—
Assault.....	108	0.8	132	1.0	+20.2	1.0
Assault with deadly weapon.....	85	—	119	—	—	—
Other.....	21	—	13	—	—	—
Burglary.....	602	6.4	645	5.0	-22.1	6.0
Burglary 1st.....	84	—	73	—	—	—
Burglary 2d.....	684	—	557	—	—	—
Other.....	34	—	15	—	—	—
Theft except auto.....	278	2.2	242	1.9	-15.8	2.3
Grand theft.....	174	—	164	—	—	—
Petty theft with prior.....	81	—	60	—	—	—
Receiving stolen property.....	23	—	18	—	—	—
Auto theft.....	190	1.5	146	1.1	-26.8	1.5
Forgery and checks.....	751	6.0	646	4.9	-16.2	5.7
Sex offenses.....	242	1.9	240	1.8	-4.2	2.2
Rape.....	74	—	96	—	—	—
Lewd acts with children.....	105	—	94	—	—	—
Other.....	63	—	50	—	—	—
Narcotics.....	660	5.2	500	3.8	-25.6	3.8
Other offenses.....	158	1.3	130	1.0	-20.0	1.7
Deadly weapons.....	15	—	18	—	—	—
Drunk driving.....	16	—	14	—	—	—
Failure to render aid.....	5	—	4	—	—	—
Abortion.....	2	—	6	—	—	—
Arson.....	13	—	9	—	—	—
Escape.....	38	—	39	—	—	—
Kidnaping.....	24	—	13	—	—	—
Habitual criminal.....	2	—	6	—	—	—
Other.....	45	—	23	—	—	—

\* SOURCE: California population estimates from State Department of Finance, "Estimated Population of California's Areas and Counties, 1950-1955," November, 1955.

TABLE 3B  
OFFENSE GROUPS  
WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

Offense	1954		1955		Percent change in rate 1955 over 1954	1950-1954 Average annual rate per 100,000 population
	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*		
Total.....	229	1.8	177	1.4	-25.3	1.5
Homicide.....	28	0.2	22	0.2	-23.7	0.2
Murder 1st.....	3	—	2	—	—	—
Murder 2d.....	8	—	7	—	—	—
Manslaughter.....	17	—	13	—	—	—
Robbery.....	11	—	7	—	—	0.1
Assault.....	11	—	6	—	—	—
Burglary.....	13	—	12	—	—	0.1
Theft.....	24	0.2	26	0.2	+5.8	0.2
Forgery and checks.....	73	0.6	61	0.5	-19.0	0.5
Sex offenses.....	4	—	5	—	—	—
Narcotics.....	52	0.4	35	0.3	-34.1	0.3
Other offenses.....	14	—	3	—	—	—

\* SOURCE: California population estimates from State Department of Finance, "Estimated Population of California's Areas and Counties, 1950-1955," November, 1955.

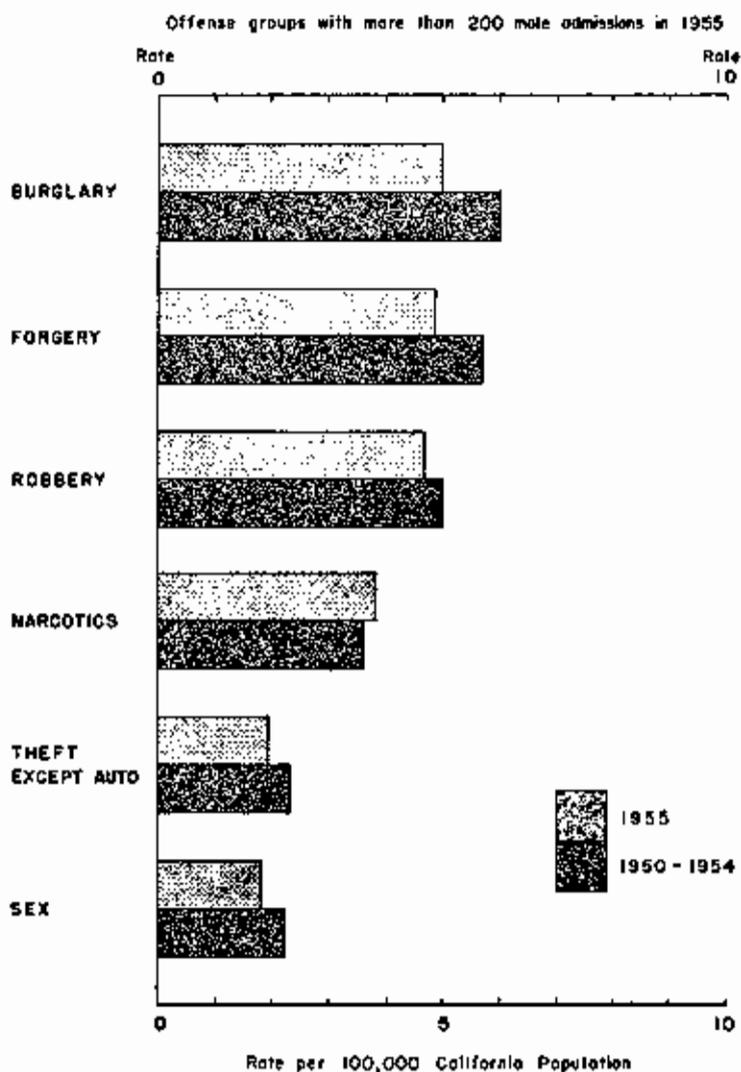
### OFFENSE

The offense for which a person is committed to prison is one of the most important factors available which will differentiate between types of offenders. While the offense is in no sense an indication of the type of person involved as to personality or motivation, it nevertheless makes it possible to separate prisoners into meaningful groups that show real differences in general items such as age, race, and recidivism. Furthermore, there are marked differences in sentences and time served before release to be found among the various offense groups.

In presenting offense data, the standard general groupings are used and within each group the specific charge of which the offender was convicted is shown. Each person committed is classified for statistical purposes for only one offense. If he is admitted to prison for more than one type of offense he is counted for the most serious as measured by the maximum punishment prescribed by law.

In Table 3A for men and Table 3B for women, those committed in 1955 are shown by offense and compared with the 1954 data. On the basis of State population there was an over-all rate of decrease of 16.5 percent for men when comparing total male prisoners newly received. Commitment rates of the men showed substantial decreases in the offenses of auto theft, narcotics, burglary, and forgery. There was also a noticeable decrease in robbery commitments. On the other hand, there was an increase of about 20 percent in the commitment rate of assault offenders and a relatively small increase in the rate of homicide offenders. In these latter two groups, the number of cases involved was

**CHART II**  
**SELECTED OFFENSE GROUPS AND RATES OF ADMISSION**  
 Male Prisoners Newly Received From Court  
 1955 AND ANNUAL AVERAGE 1950-1954



relatively small. In most instances the 1955 rates showed either a lower rate than the average annual rate for the period 1950-1954 or approximately the same. This is further evidence that 1955 was the year in which there was a definite drop in the general activity of serious crime. The rates per 100,000 State population for offenses with more than 200 men admitted during 1955, have been given special consideration in Chart II by graphically contrasting the 1955 rates with the average annual rates for 1950-1954.

In Table 3B there are only four offense groups in which there were more than 20 women committed to prison; homicide, thefts, forgery and checks, and narcotics. There was a marked decrease in the commitment rates of 1955 over 1954 in each of these groups except theft, but in all groups including theft the rates of commitment per 100,000 population were exactly the same as the average annual rate for the five years 1950-1954.

#### COUNTY OR AREA OF COMMITMENT

In studying the source of commitment of California prisoners, the counties have been allocated into three basic geographical areas, and these areas have been further defined according to the size of counties and subgeographical groups. The southern California area is divided into Los Angeles and the nine other counties. The San Francisco Bay area includes Alameda, San Francisco, and seven other counties; while

TABLE 4A  
COUNTY OR AREA OF COMMITMENT  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

County or area of commitment	1954		1955		Percent change in rate 1955 over 1954	Average annual rate per 100,000 population
	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*		
Total.....	4,008	31.8	3,461	26.6	-16.5	30.1
Southern California.....	2,426	33.3	2,063	27.2	-18.3	29.6
Los Angeles County.....	1,617	33.2	1,220	23.6	-26.9	28.0
9 other counties.....	809	35.6	843	36.0	+1.2	33.1
San Francisco Bay area.....	662	28.4	568	17.9	-20.0	22.7
Alameda County.....	175	20.8	166	22.8	+9.8	20.8
San Francisco County.....	304	38.1	168	21.1	-44.5	36.3
7 other counties.....	213	14.8	214	14.0	-4.2	15.8
Balance of State.....	885	40.1	830	36.6	-8.9	41.5
16 Sacramento Valley counties.....	189	28.4	204	29.4	+3.7	32.0
7 San Joaquin Valley counties.....	496	51.1	467	47.1	-7.9	52.6
22 other counties.....	200	35.0	159	27.0	-22.9	33.3

\* SOURCE: California population estimates from State Department of Finance, "Estimated Population of California's Areas and Counties, 1950-1955," November, 1955.

for the balance of the State, there are combined the ten Sacramento Valley Counties, the seven in San Joaquin Valley, and the twenty-two other counties throughout California.

The prisoners received from court also are studied in relation to the number of commitments to total population in the county and area. The California population figures are from the State Department of Finance, "Estimated Population of California's Area and Counties, 1950-1955," November 1955, page 16.

The rates of commitments differ greatly among counties and areas and from year to year. Of the area groupings presented in Table 4A for the men the seven San Joaquin Valley Counties had the highest rates of commitment in both 1954 and 1955, 51.1 men per 100,000 population in 1954 and 47.1 in 1955, which was a decrease of 7.9 percent in the 1955 rate from the 1954 rate. San Francisco County which had a rate of 38.1, the second highest rate in 1954, dropped to 21.1 men per 100,000 population in 1955, a 44.5 percent decrease in rate between the two years, the greatest decrease of any one area. Alameda County, in the same general area as San Francisco, during the same period increased its rate of commitment from 20.8 to 22.8 or almost 10 percent. These noticeable area differences were true also in the southern California region. Los Angeles with a decrease in commitment rate from 32.2 in 1954 to 23.6 in 1955 or a 26.9 percent drop, the second largest

TABLE 4B  
COUNTY OR AREA OF COMMITMENT  
WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

County or area of commitment	1954		1955		Percent change in rate 1955 over 1954	1950-1954 Average annual rate per 100,000 population
	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*		
Total.....	229	1.8	177	1.4	-25.3	1.5
Southern California.....	129	1.8	112	1.5	-16.4	1.5
Los Angeles County.....	79	1.6	62	1.2	-23.7	1.3
8 other counties.....	50	2.2	50	2.1	-5.5	1.8
San Francisco Bay area.....	55	1.8	31	1.0	-44.9	1.7
Alameda County.....	17	—	7	—	—	1.8
San Francisco County.....	21	—	10	—	—	3.0
7 other counties.....	17	—	14	—	—	0.9
Balance of State.....	45	2.0	34	1.5	-27.0	1.5
10 Sacramento Valley counties.....	9	—	10	—	—	1.0
7 San Joaquin Valley counties.....	25	—	18	—	—	2.0
22 other counties.....	11	—	6	—	—	1.3

\* SOURCE: California population estimates from State Department of Finance, "Estimated Population of California's Areas and Counties, 1950-1955," November, 1955.

percentage change in rate of 1955 over 1954, presented just the opposite picture from the group of nine other southern California counties which had a rate change from 35.6 per 100,000 population in 1954 to 36.0 in 1955, a slight increase in rate of 1.2 percent.

Comparisons with the 1950-1954 average annual rates per 100,000 population show that in most geographical areas the rates of commitment during 1955 were less than the rates of the past five-year average, particularly in San Francisco, the seven San Joaquin Valley Counties and in Los Angeles.

Los Angeles County sent more women to prison during 1955 than any other county, see Table 4B, but the rate of commitment with respect to its population decreased 23.7 percent from the previous year. During 1955, each of the three principal geographical divisions of the State had reduced commitment rates in 1955 over 1954. The rate of commitment from the southern California area in 1955 was 1.5 per 100,000 population which is the same as the average rate during 1950-1954. In the San Francisco Bay area, commitments in 1955 were at the rate of 1.0 per 100,000 population while the average annual 1950-1954 rate was 1.7 women.

In the appendix the number of persons committed to prison during 1954 and 1955 from each county is given separately for men and women.

TABLE 5A  
AGE AT ADMISSION  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

Age at admission in years	1954		1955		1950-1954 percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total.....	4,003	100.0	3,461	100.0	100.0
Under 20.....	102	2.5	83	2.4	2.3
15-17.....	—	—	5	—	—
18.....	22	—	16	—	—
19.....	80	—	62	—	—
20-24.....	1,028	25.7	838	24.2	26.5
20.....	142	—	85	—	—
21.....	206	—	209	—	—
22.....	251	—	197	—	—
23.....	188	—	187	—	—
24.....	246	—	160	—	—
25-29.....	1,060	26.5	819	23.7	24.5
30-34.....	620	15.0	636	18.4	15.4
35-39.....	411	10.3	363	10.5	10.8
40-44.....	315	7.9	285	8.3	7.8
45-49.....	242	5.8	175	5.1	6.5
50 and over.....	249	6.2	268	7.4	7.2
Median age.....	20.0	—	20.9	—	20.3
Percent under 21.....	—	6.0	—	4.8	5.5
Percent under 25.....	—	28.2	—	26.6	28.8

## AGE AT ADMISSION

There has been a great deal of public comment in recent years about the supposed increase in crime on the part of the younger offenders. To the extent that trends in prison commitment might give some indication of the increase or decrease in serious crimes by those under 25 years the data on age are of particular interest.

Over the past few years there is little evidence of any marked change in the age at admission of those sentenced to California prisons. There have been small fluctuations, but the median age has been consistently about 29 years. The proportion of total males that were under the age of 25 when committed to prison has ranged around 28 or 29 percent. In 1955, however, there was a slight shift in the direction of an older age group. Both men and women show slightly higher median ages than was the case for the previous year and the proportion of prisoners received who were under the age of 25 decreased as compared with previous years.

As evidenced in Table 5A, the median age of the men received during 1955 was 29.9 years as compared with a median age of 29.0 years for those arriving during 1954. For those admitted during 1950-1954 the median age was 29.3 years. Relatively fewer males were received under the age of 21, dropping from 6.0 percent in 1954 to 4.8 percent during 1955. Another indication that the men admitted were older was that

TABLE 5B  
AGE AT ADMISSION  
WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

Age at admission in years	1954		1955		1950-1954 percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total .....	229	100.0	177	100.0	100.0
Under 20 .....	6	2.6	—	—	3.8
15-17 .....	—	—	—	—	—
18 .....	—	—	—	—	—
19 .....	6	—	—	—	—
20-24 .....	53	23.1	31	17.5	22.4
20 .....	11	—	6	—	—
21 .....	5	—	6	—	—
22 .....	16	—	7	—	—
23 .....	10	—	6	—	—
24 .....	12	—	6	—	—
25-29 .....	54	23.6	41	23.2	24.9
30-34 .....	31	13.5	40	22.6	17.4
35-39 .....	29	12.7	25	14.1	10.7
40-44 .....	24	10.5	17	9.6	8.5
45-49 .....	12	5.2	10	5.6	5.3
50 and over .....	20	8.8	13	7.4	7.0
Median age .....	30.3		31.0		29.8
Percent under 21 .....		7.4		3.4	7.1
Percent under 25 .....		25.7		17.6	26.2

28.2 percent were under 25 years of age at admission during 1954 and only 26.7 were in that age group at admission during 1955. The availability of Youth Authority facilities for the younger ages has some effect on the number of younger men being sent to prison.

The median age at admission of the women received during 1955 was 31.9 years which is one and one-half years older than the median age of those received during 1954, 30.3 years. This indicates that for the women also there was an older group admitted during 1955, see Table 5B. There is a noticeable drop during 1955 in the percents of those received under 21 years of age and under 25 years of age. The percent of women received who were under 25 years of age was only 17.5 in 1955, 25.7 in 1954, and 26.2 during the 5 years 1950-1954. This indicates that gradually during the past few years there have been relatively fewer women under 25 newly received from court.

### RACE

The race classification as used in this study refers more to cultural and racial groups than to color. While the Mexicans are of the white race, in California they usually are identified separately because of semi-racial and cultural differences. Of the total number of men received from court during 1955, the white group comprised 59.8 percent of the population, the Negro 20.2 percent and the Mexican 17.4 percent, Table 6A. When compared with those received during 1954, the per-

TABLE 6A  
RACE  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

Race	1954		1955		1950-1954 percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total.....	4,063	100.0	3,461	100.0	100.0
White.....	2,383	59.5	2,070	59.8	61.5
Mexican.....	738	18.5	601	17.4	17.0
Negro.....	781	19.5	699	20.2	19.2
Other.....	101	2.5	91	2.6	2.3
Indian.....	34	0.8	53	1.5	0.9
Chinese.....	44	1.1	22	0.6	0.9
Japanese.....	0	0.2	1	0.0	0.1
Filipino.....	7	0.2	13	0.4	0.3
Hawaiian.....	9	0.2	2	0.1	0.1
Other.....	1	0.0	—	—	0.0

centage of white and of Negro increased slightly while that of Mexicans decreased. Of the men received from court during the 5-year period 1950-1954, 61.5 percent were white, 19.2 percent were Negro, and 17.0 percent were Mexican. This is an indication that there had been some percentage decrease in the white race and a slight increase in both the Mexican and Negro groups received during 1955 over the previous 5 years.

The racial distribution of women received from court is given in Table 6B. Approximately 64 percent of the women received in 1955

TABLE 6B  
RACE  
WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

Race	1954		1955		1955- 1954 percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total.....	220	100.0	177	100.0	100.0
White.....	137	59.8	114	64.4	60.9
Mexican.....	22	9.6	15	8.5	6.9
Negro.....	47	20.3	45	25.4	28.8
Other.....	3	1.3	3	1.7	3.4
Indian.....	3	1.3	3	1.7	3.0
Chinese.....	—	—	—	—	0.3
Japanese.....	—	—	—	—	—
Filipino.....	—	—	—	—	—
Hawaiian.....	—	—	—	—	0.1
Other.....	—	—	—	—	—

were white and 25 percent were Negro. The Mexican group comprised a very small percent, 8.5, of those received in prison. There are marked changes in race ratios of those admitted in 1955 as compared with those received in 1954 when slightly less than 60 percent of those received were white and a little less than 30 percent were Negro.

#### PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD

The information on the prior criminal record of each person admitted to prison is based on California Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation reports, Federal Bureau of Investigation reports, probation officers' summaries, and staff interviews with each individual. For the purposes of this report the types of prior commitments have been classified into three principal groups: first, those who had served no prior time in any correctional institution; second, those who had served sentences in a correctional institution of a type less than prison, i.e., jail, local camp, or juvenile institutions before their present commitment to prison; and third, those who had served one or more prior sentences in a prison.

In Table 7A it can be seen that 18 percent of the men newly received from court during 1955 had never served a sentence in a correctional institution prior to this admission. Slightly under 50 percent had served at least jail or juvenile sentences. Another 35 percent of the men had served prison terms prior to this commitment.

When 1955 data are compared with the 5-year period 1950-1954 the percentage distribution of the type of prior commitments has not shown much change. During 1950-1954, 35.6 percent of the men received

TABLE 7A  
**PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD**  
 MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
 1954 and 1955

Type of prior commitment	1954		1955		1950-1954 percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total.....	4,008	100.0	3,461	100.0	100.0
No prior commitment.....	620	15.5	615	17.8	17.9
Prior jail or juvenile only.....	1,951	48.7	1,633	47.2	48.5
Prior prison commitment.....	1,432	35.8	1,213	35.0	35.6
One prison.....	762	19.1	647	18.7	19.4
Two prison.....	384	9.6	278	8.0	8.9
Three or more prison.....	316	7.9	288	8.3	7.3

had had prior prison commitments and 35.0 percent of the men arriving in 1955 also had served prior prison commitments. Likewise, during 1950-1954, 46.5 percent of the men committed from court had served sentences of a misdemeanor type and 47.2 percent of the men received in 1955 were so classified.

The prior commitment record of the women differs greatly from that of the men as seen in Table 7B. Approximately 42 percent of all women received in prison during 1955 had served no prior sentences. The women show a far lesser degree of recidivism than do the men,

TABLE 7B  
**PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD**  
 WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
 1954 and 1955

Type of prior commitment	1954		1955		1950-1954 percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total.....	229	100.0	177	100.0	100.0
No prior commitment.....	94	41.1	75	42.3	42.1
Prior jail or juvenile only.....	110	48.0	82	46.3	46.0
Prior prison commitment.....	25	10.9	20	11.4	11.9
One prison.....	18	7.9	17	9.6	8.7
Two prison.....	7	3.0	1	0.6	2.5
Three or more prison.....	2	0.9	2	1.2	0.7

as only ten to twelve percent of those committed had served prison terms previously. The pattern of slightly more than 40 percent having no prior history and a little less than twelve percent having served prison terms has been about the same during 1955 and for the previous 5 years, 1950-1954.

## TIME IN STATE BEFORE OFFENSE

The question is frequently asked "Have the people who are sent to prison been in California very long?" In Tables 8A and 8B, the length of time in California before commitment is given for the number of persons received from court in 1954 and 1955. The cumulative percentage distribution is shown also, so that for any point of time the percentage of persons who had been in California less than that time can be determined.

Of the male prisoners newly received from court about 60 percent had been in California ten or more years before the present felony conviction, while only eleven percent had been in this state less than one year, Table 8A. A comparison of 1955 statistics with the 1950-1954

TABLE 8A  
TIME IN CALIFORNIA BEFORE OFFENSE  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

Time in State before offense	1954			1955			1950-1954	
	Number	Percent	Cumulative percent	Number	Percent	Cumulative percent	Percent	Cumulative percent
Total.....	4,003	100.0	—	3,401	100.0	—	100.0	—
Less than 6 months.....	290	7.2	7.2	246	7.1	7.1	7.8	7.8
6-11 months.....	140	3.7	10.9	134	3.9	11.0	3.9	11.7
1 year.....	167	4.2	15.1	126	3.6	14.6	4.5	16.2
2 years.....	174	3.4	18.5	116	3.4	18.0	3.5	19.7
3-4 years.....	223	5.5	24.0	207	6.0	24.0	5.9	25.6
5-9 years.....	533	13.3	37.3	437	12.8	36.6	15.6	41.2
10 or more years.....	2,610	62.7	100.0	2,195	63.4	100.0	58.8	100.0

TABLE 8B  
TIME IN CALIFORNIA BEFORE OFFENSE  
WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

Time in State before offenses	1954			1955			1950-1954	
	Number	Percent	Cumulative percent	Number	Percent	Cumulative percent	Percent	Cumulative percent
Total.....	229	100.0	—	177	100.0	—	100.0	—
Less than 6 months.....	8	3.5	3.5	12	6.8	6.8	3.9	3.9
6-11 months.....	2	0.9	4.4	2	1.1	7.9	1.9	5.8
1 year.....	8	3.5	7.9	8	4.5	12.4	3.5	9.3
2 years.....	9	3.9	11.8	5	2.8	15.2	9.7	13.0
3-4 years.....	5	2.2	14.0	12	6.8	22.0	4.2	17.2
5-9 years.....	29	12.7	26.7	19	10.8	32.8	19.1	36.3
10 or more years.....	168	73.3	100.0	119	67.2	100.0	53.7	100.0

data indicate that a slightly greater percentage of the men committed in 1955 had been in California longer than those committed during the 5-year period. All but about eleven percent of the men committed had been in California more than one year and could have been legal residents of this state.

Of the women committed to prison during 1955, almost 70 percent had been in California 10 or more years and about eight percent had been here less than one year, Table 8B. These percentages are somewhat similar to those for the 5-year period 1950-1954 during which 64 percent had been in California 10 years or over and about 6 percent less than one year.

### EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Educational achievement tests are administered to almost all men received in the reception-guidance centers. The grade ratings received by those tested are given in Table 9. Approximately 29.4 percent of

TABLE 9  
EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

Grade achievement scores*	1954		1955		1950-1954 percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total measured.....	3,782	100.0	3,272	100.0	100.0
Illiterate.....	216	5.7	211	6.5	7.6
Grade 2.....	83	2.2	60	1.8	1.8
Grade 4.....	283	7.0	199	6.0	6.1
Grade 5.....	431	11.5	382	11.7	10.6
Grade 6.....	480	13.0	496	15.2	13.2
Grade 7.....	531	14.1	490	15.0	14.0
Grade 8.....	517	13.8	471	14.4	14.5
Grade 9.....	568	15.1	428	13.0	14.7
Grade 10-11.....	566	15.0	471	14.4	15.2
Grade 12 and over.....	98	2.6	66	2.0	2.3
Median.....	7th		7th		7th

\* Grade placement score tested at admission.

those men who were received from court in 1955 and tested, rated 9th grade or higher, most of which were at high school level. About 6.5 percent tested below 3rd grade and were considered illiterate. Of the men admitted during 1950-1954 who were tested, 32.2 percent measured at high school level or above, and 7.6 percent were illiterate.

### MILITARY RECORD

The military service record for the men newly received from court is presented in Table 10. During the past few years approximately one half of the men received have never been in the service. The kind of

discharge received by those men who had been in service has been recorded in Table 10 also. The majority, 64 percent, of the males admitted in 1955 had received dishonorable or less than honorable releases. These are slightly different percentages than the distribution of the felons received from court in 1950-1954 during which time about 54.4 percent had been honorably discharged and 34.7 percent were classified with discharges of dishonorable or less than honorable.

TABLE 10  
MILITARY RECORD  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1954 and 1955

Military record	1954		1955		1950- 1954 percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total.....	4,003	100.0	3,461	100.0	100.0
No service record.....	2,008	50.1	1,758	50.9	49.9
Service record.....	1,995	49.9	1,703	49.1	50.1
Service record with type of discharge.....	1,995	100.0	1,703	100.0	100.0
Honorable.....	1,157	58.0	1,088	63.9	54.4
Medical.....	94	4.7	84	4.9	6.9
Less than honorable.....	517	25.9	346	20.2	25.5
Dishonorable.....	149	7.5	122	7.2	9.2
Not discharged when admitted.....	78	3.9	63	3.7	4.0

#### RELATIONSHIP OF OFFENSE TO SELECTED FACTORS

In this section of the report the relationship of general offense groups to each of 5 other factors, namely, age at admission, race, prior criminal record, educational achievement score, and narcotic addiction is presented. Definite patterns between certain characteristics such as offense and age, and particularly between offense and prior record may be observed. These data are presented for the men received during 1955 only.

#### OFFENSE AND AGE AT ADMISSION

The offense groups for which the younger men were committed to prison during 1955 were rape, auto theft, and robbery, with the median ages of these groups being 26.4, 26.7, and 26.9 years respectively, Table 11. These median ages were 3.0-3.5 years younger than the median age at admission for all men received during 1955, 29.9 years. The older criminals were committed for lewd acts with children, other sex offenses, homicide, and assault, as shown by the median ages which were 41.6, 34.5, 34.4, and 34.1 years, respectively.

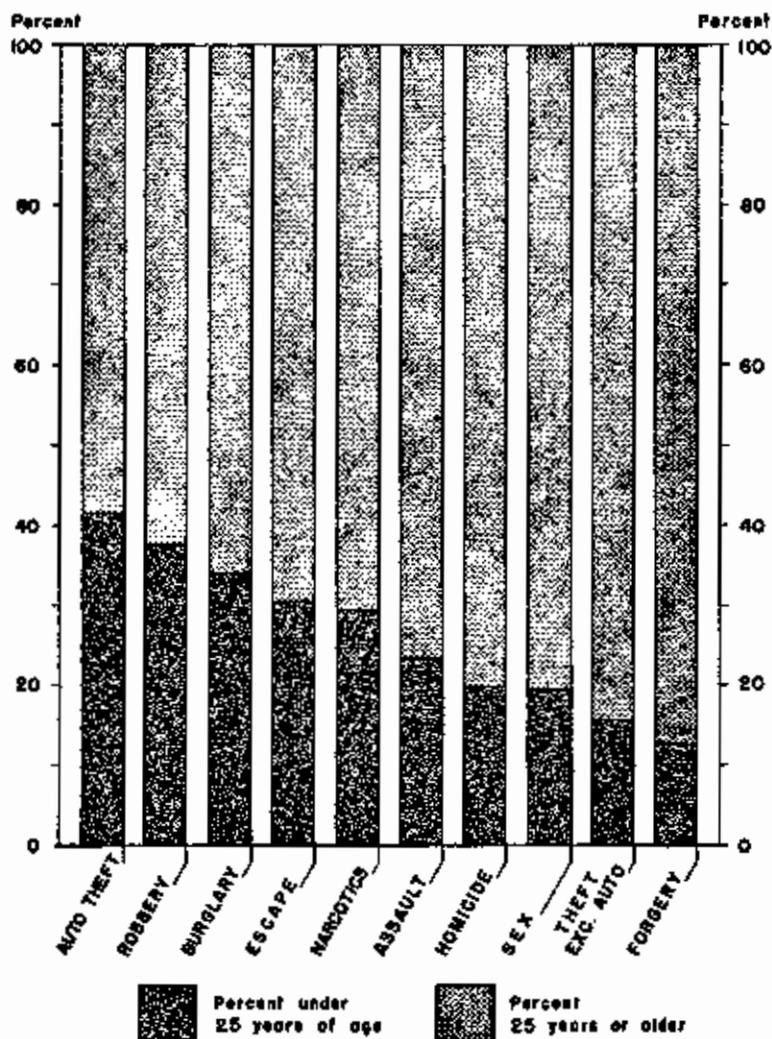
The proportion of those received who were under 25 years of age is given by offense groups in Table 11 and portrayed in Chart III.

TABLE 11  
OFFENSE AND AGE AT ADMISSION  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1955

Offense	Total	Age at admission							Median age in years	Percent under		
		Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49		50 and over	21 years	25 years
Total	5,461	83	838	819	636	363	288	175	209	29.9	4.9	26.7
Homicide	151	11	21	25	29	17	20	18	22	34.3	10.6	19.9
Robbery	810	20	208	100	102	44	25	13	17	25.9	7.3	36.8
Assault	132	9	22	21	20	17	17	8	18	34.1	9.1	23.5
Burglary	845	18	202	172	113	57	39	22	21	27.8	7.0	34.1
Theft except auto	242	1	36	54	40	25	31	18	31	32.9	1.7	15.3
Auto theft	148	4	57	40	19	13	5	6	2	26.7	6.2	41.8
Forgery and checks	648	4	77	121	133	103	81	43	60	33.6	1.4	12.0
Sex offenses	240	8	39	37	44	25	26	10	42	24.0	4.2	19.6
Rape	96	7	31	22	12	11	5	4	4	26.4	0.4	29.0
Lewd acts with children	94	—	4	5	21	10	14	10	20	41.6	0.0	4.3
Other	50	1	4	10	11	4	7	5	8	34.5	2.0	10.0
Narcotics	500	4	144	143	85	45	29	20	30	28.2	2.0	29.6
Escape	39	—	12	6	8	4	5	2	3	30.8	2.6	30.8
Habitual criminal	8	—	—	1	2	1	2	—	—	—	0.0	0.0
Other offenses	85	4	20	12	13	10	8	6	12	31.9	7.1	28.2

CHART III  
OFFENSE AND AGE GROUPS IN PERCENT

Male Prisoners Newly Received From Court  
1955



## OFFENSE AND RACE

There are some marked differences among the racial groups and the offense for which committed; note Table 12. Almost 87 percent of all persons committed for forgery and checks were classified as white, while the percentage of white to total received was 59.8 percent. The white group was relatively high also in those committed for first degree murder and for grand theft, 75 percent and 72 percent respectively.

TABLE 12  
OFFENSE AND RACE  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1955

Percent Not Computed Where Total Was Less Than 30 Cases

Offense	Total	White		Mexican		Negro		Other	
		Num-ber	Per-cent	Num-ber	Per-cent	Num-ber	Per-cent	Num-ber	Per-cent
Total.....	3,451	2,070	59.8	601	17.4	699	20.2	91	2.6
Homicide.....	161	83	54.6	17	10.8	42	26.1	14	8.7
Murder 1st.....	48	36	75.0	—	—	7	14.6	5	10.4
Murder 2nd.....	56	26	46.5	5	8.9	21	37.5	4	7.1
Manslaughter.....	50	21	42.0	11	22.0	13	26.0	5	10.0
Manslaughter by vehicle.....	7	6	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Robbery.....	619	382	61.7	71	11.5	155	25.0	11	1.8
Robbery 1st.....	408	272	66.7	40	9.8	92	22.6	4	1.0
Robbery 2nd.....	177	90	50.9	25	14.1	58	31.8	6	3.4
Other.....	34	20	58.8	6	17.7	7	20.6	1	2.9
Assault.....	132	39	29.5	34	25.8	56	42.4	3	2.3
Assault with deadly weapon.....	119	34	28.6	31	26.0	52	43.7	2	1.7
Other.....	13	5	—	3	—	4	—	1	—
Burglary.....	646	393	61.0	100	15.5	130	21.0	16	2.5
Burglary 1st.....	73	37	50.7	19	26.0	15	20.6	2	2.7
Burglary 2nd.....	557	347	62.3	78	14.2	117	21.0	14	2.5
Other.....	15	9	—	2	—	4	—	—	—
Theft except auto.....	242	157	64.9	25	10.3	57	23.6	3	1.2
Grand theft.....	164	118	72.0	13	7.9	31	18.9	2	1.2
Petty theft with prior.....	60	28	46.6	7	11.7	24	40.0	1	1.7
Receiving stolen property.....	18	11	—	5	—	2	—	—	—
Auto theft.....	145	101	69.2	20	13.7	23	15.7	2	1.4
Forgery and checks.....	548	501	96.8	26	4.0	45	7.0	14	2.2
Sex offenses.....	240	151	62.9	50	20.8	26	10.0	3	1.3
Rape.....	96	54	56.2	24	25.0	18	18.8	—	—
Lewd acts with children.....	94	85	89.1	18	19.2	9	9.6	2	2.1
Other.....	50	32	64.0	8	16.0	9	18.0	1	2.0
Narcotics.....	500	113	22.6	236	47.2	130	26.0	21	4.2
Escape.....	39	26	66.7	9	23.1	2	5.1	2	5.1
Habitual criminal.....	6	2	—	1	—	3	—	—	—
Other offenses.....	85	57	67.1	12	14.1	14	16.5	2	2.3

The Mexican group, which comprised 17.4 percent of all males received during 1955, made up 47 percent of all men committed for narcotics. This racial group also had a high proportion committed for assault, 25.8 percent, and a low proportion committed for forgery and checks, 4.0 percent. No one of this racial classification was received in prison during 1955 convicted of first degree murder.

A still different pattern is evidenced when the offense groups are studied for the proportion of commitments who were of the Negro race. The Negro group, which was 20.2 percent of the total men received in 1955, comprised 42.4 percent of those committed to prison for assault, about 26 percent of those committed for homicide and for narcotics, and 25 percent of those received for robbery. The Negro group was very low in proportion for those committed for escape and also for forgery and checks, i.e., 5.1 percent and 7.0 percent.

### OFFENSE AND PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD

Of all the men newly received from court during 1955, less than 18 percent had no prior commitment records, see Table 13. The percentage varies considerably when the offense groups are considered. Of those committed for homicide offenses 54 percent had no prior commitment record. Of those committed for sex offenses 44 percent had never served

TABLE 13  
OFFENSE AND PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1955

Offense	Total	Type of prior commitment							
		No prior		Prior jail or juvenile		One prison		Two or more prison	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	3,401	615	17.8	1,633	47.2	847	18.7	566	18.3
Homicide.....	161	87	54.0	41	25.5	24	14.9	9	5.6
Robbery.....	619	131	21.2	305	49.3	111	17.9	72	11.6
Assault.....	132	34	25.8	65	49.2	19	14.4	14	10.6
Burglary.....	645	54	8.4	319	49.5	129	20.0	143	22.1
Theft except auto.....	242	34	14.0	97	37.6	51	21.1	66	27.3
Auto theft.....	145	8	5.5	76	52.1	32	21.9	30	20.5
Forgery and checks.....	646	76	11.8	284	43.9	144	22.3	142	22.0
Sex offenses.....	240	106	44.2	87	36.2	33	13.8	14	5.8
Rape.....	96	39	40.6	39	40.6	14	14.6	4	4.2
Lewd acts with children.....	94	43	45.8	30	31.9	13	13.8	8	8.5
Other.....	50	24	48.0	18	36.0	6	12.0	2	4.0
Narcotics.....	500	65	13.0	303	60.5	82	16.4	50	10.0
Escape.....	39	—	—	26	66.7	4	10.2	9	23.1
Habitual criminal.....	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
Other offenses.....	85	20	23.5	36	42.4	18	21.2	11	12.9

a sentence previously and for assault about 26 percent were non-recidivists. However, of the men received for auto theft and for burglary only 5.5 and 8.4 percents respectively had not served prior sentences before this commitment.

Of those admitted to prison in 1955 who had served prior jail or juvenile sentences, persons charged with escape, narcotics, auto thefts, burglary, robbery, and assault had proportionately greater numbers in this group than the 47.2 percent of all males admitted. Conversely, those who had served previous misdemeanor type sentences made up only 25.5 percent of the men charged with homicide, and 36.2 percent of the sex offenders.

Almost 50 percent of those committed for theft except auto had served prior prison terms. Other offenses with high proportions of men having served prison terms previously were forgery and checks, 44.3 percent; auto theft, 42.4 percent; and burglary, 42.1 percent.

#### OFFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

As may have been expected, the relationship between offense and education indicates that those committed for forgery and checks had a higher educational level than those received in prison for assault, narcotics, sex offenses and homicide. At least 10 percent or more of those committed for these last four offenses measured illiterate, see Table 14. In each offense group shown, except forgery and other sex

TABLE 14  
OFFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1955

Offense	Total tested	Grade achievement score							
		Illiterate		Grade 3-8		Grade 9-11		Grade 12 and over	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	3,272	211	6.5	2,098	64.1	897	27.4	66	2.0
Homicide.....	137	14	10.2	90	65.7	30	21.9	3	2.2
Robbery.....	800	28	4.7	380	63.3	185	30.8	7	1.2
Assault.....	115	18	15.7	81	70.4	16	13.0	1	0.9
Burglary.....	692	42	6.6	422	68.8	154	24.4	14	2.2
Theft except auto.....	231	15	6.5	144	62.3	67	29.0	5	2.2
Auto theft.....	139	4	2.9	99	71.2	31	22.3	6	3.6
Forgery and checks.....	624	8	1.3	331	53.0	263	42.0	23	3.7
Sex offenses.....	213	23	10.3	145	68.1	43	20.2	3	1.4
Rape.....	86	7	8.1	62	72.3	15	17.4	1	1.2
Lewd acts with children.....	82	11	13.4	57	69.5	12	14.6	2	2.5
Other.....	45	4	8.9	25	55.5	16	35.6	—	—
Narcotics.....	462	62	11.3	331	71.6	78	16.5	3	0.6
Escape.....	32	3	9.4	24	75.0	5	15.6	—	—
Habitual criminal.....	5	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Other offenses.....	82	4	4.9	49	59.8	27	32.9	2	2.4

offenses, over 60 percent of the men tested achieved grade placement scores in the third-eighth grades group. Those committed for forgery and checks and for other sex offenses had over 45 percent and 36 percent, respectively, measuring as of high school grade level or above.

### OFFENSE AND NARCOTIC ADDICTION

Statistical data indicating the narcotic history of persons admitted to prison are being released for the first time by this bureau in Table 15. As used in this report, narcotic addicts were defined as those men

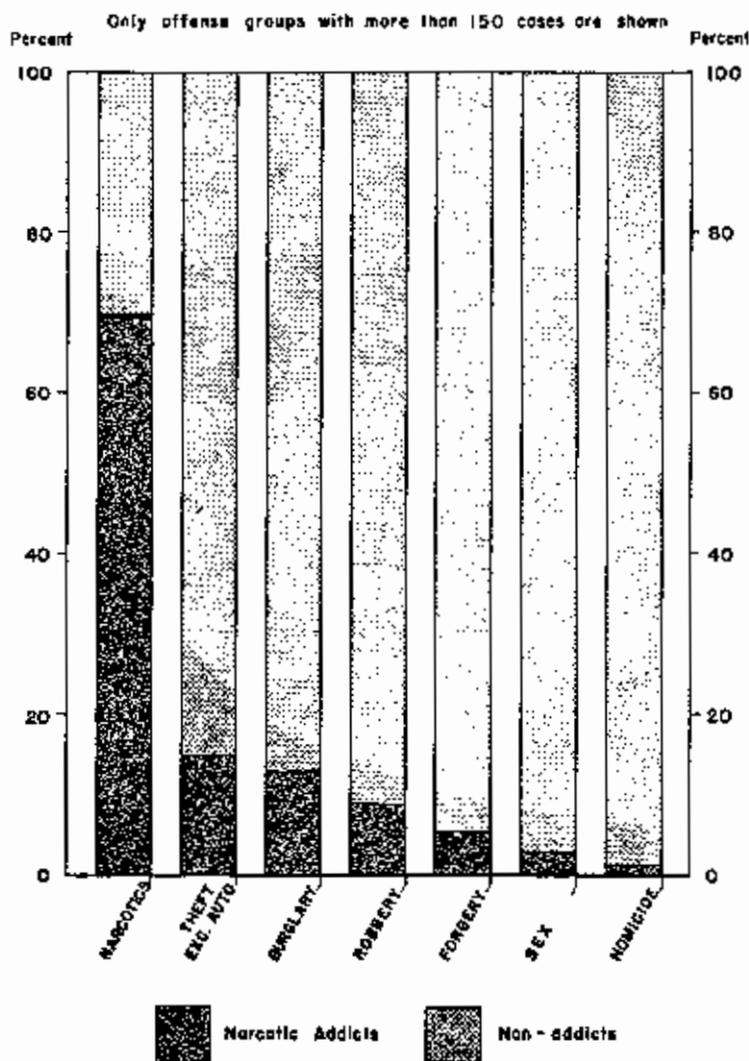
TABLE 15  
OFFENSE AND NARCOTIC ADDICTION  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1955

Offense	Total	Narcotic history			
		Unknown	No narcotics	Narcotic addiction	Percent narcotic excluding unknown
Total.....	3,481	53	2,857	561	16.2
Homicide.....	161	3	156	2	1.3
Robbery.....	619	5	561	53	8.6
Assault.....	132	1	129	2	1.5
Burglary.....	643	7	557	81	12.7
Theft except auto.....	242	3	204	35	14.6
Auto theft.....	146	—	138	8	5.5
Forgery and checks.....	646	1	612	33	5.1
Sex offenses.....	240	3	231	6	2.5
Narcotics.....	500	26	146	328	69.5
Escape.....	39	—	36	3	7.7
Habitual criminal.....	6	1	5	—	0.0
Other offenses.....	85	3	82	—	0.0

who, in the opinion of the reception-guidance center clinicians, had in recent years used heroin or its derivative to the extent that withdrawal symptoms were experienced upon termination of dosage.

Of the 3,461 men received during 1955, the narcotic history was not known for 53 men. Of those for which it was known, 16.2 percent were classified as narcotic addicts. The percentage with addiction differs widely when studied by offense groups. Those committed for narcotic violations had the highest percentage of addicts, 69.5 percent. The two offense groups with the next highest proportion of narcotic addicts were theft except auto, 14.6 percent, and burglary 12.7 percent. There was very little addiction reported among those committed for homicide, assault, or sex offenses. In Chart 1V, the percentage of men classified as narcotic addicts in each offense group with more than 150 men is shown pictorially.

CHART IV  
**NARCOTIC ADDICTS IN OFFENSE GROUPS**  
 Male Prisoners Newly Received From Court  
 1955



## PRISONERS RELEASED

A person sentenced to prison in California receives either an indeterminate sentence or a definite term of life or death, depending on the crime for which convicted. Under the indeterminate sentence law, the maximum and the minimum periods of confinement are specified for each offense but special limitations aggravate the minimum term when consecutive sentences are imposed by the court for more than one felony conviction, when possession of a deadly weapon at the time of the offense or arrest is proven, and when a prior felony conviction is pled and proven. Within the statutory limitations and after studying and interviewing the person concerned the Adult Authority for the male felons and the Board of Trustees of the California Institution for Women determine the length of sentence for each individual except the mandatory life or death cases, indicate the type of release as either parole or discharge from prison, and set the parole date for each person granted parole.

Since the laws are designed so that almost all persons received in prison will be released to the community eventually, it is necessary for each board to determine the length of time an inmate must remain in the correctional program of training and treatment for his own good and for the protection of society. These authorities desire to keep a person in prison no longer than necessary in order to avoid the economic and social loss to the individual, his family, and the community.

In determining the length of stay for each individual the two sentencing and parole boards consider the nature of offense, the behavior pattern of the inmate before and during imprisonment, and the individual case summary which includes social, psychiatric, medical, personality, work and adjustment records. For one released after return from parole, the boards' determinations are based on the original offense and the reasons for return. In this and following sections, time served is presented separately for those first released and for those re-released. The analyses of those re-released are classified further by those returned for a technical parole violation and by those returned with a new felony commitment.

### METHOD OF RELEASE

The release information on adult male felons first presented in Table 2 has been further developed in Table 16. Of all men released during 1955, 76 percent were paroled and 23 percent were discharged. The other one percent died or were executed. This was a slightly different pattern from the method of release during 1954, when 79 percent were paroled and 19 percent were released at expiration of sentences and less than two percent were executed or died. The percentage differences noted between releases by parole and by expiration of sentences indicate that the 1955 distribution was more similar to that of the 5-year period 1950-1954. The percentage distributions in method of release for those who were released for the first time during 1955 are very similar also

TABLE 16  
METHOD OF RELEASE  
MALE PRISONERS RELEASED FROM PRISON  
1954 and 1955

Method of release	1954		1955		1950-1954 Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total.....	4,120	100.0	4,995	100.0	100.0
Parole.....	3,272	79.4	3,419	75.1	78.8
Expiration of sentence.....	775	18.8	3,018	22.6	21.7
Death or execution.....	72	1.8	60	1.3	1.7
First release.....	3,310	100.0	3,512	100.0	100.0
Parole.....	2,874	85.8	2,975	84.7	84.7
Expiration of sentence.....	379	11.5	191	14.0	13.0
Death or execution.....	57	1.7	46	1.3	1.7
Re-release.....	810	-	953	-	-
After return with new commitment.....	323	100.0	402	100.0	100.0
Parole.....	251	77.7	295	73.4	79.5
Expiration of sentence.....	62	19.2	88	24.4	18.0
Death or execution.....	10	3.1	9	2.2	2.5
After return without new commitment.....	487	100.0	581	100.0	100.0
Parole.....	147	30.2	149	25.8	31.1
Expiration of sentence.....	335	68.8	427	73.5	67.9
Death or execution.....	5	1.0	5	0.9	1.0

to the 1950-1954 design and, in reality, because of the large number of persons involved, determine the pattern of the total distribution.

Differences in release methods are noticeable between those who were re-released after return for parole violation with a new commitment and those returned without a new commitment. Of the men released during 1955, after return from parole with new commitments, 73 percent were re-paroled and 24 percent were discharged directly from prison while of those men returned to prison for parole violation without new commitments and re-released in 1955, the situation was just the opposite, 26 percent were paroled and almost 74 percent were discharged at expiration of sentence.

Of the men released after return for parole violation the pattern of those released during 1954 more closely followed the percentage distribution of those released during the 5 years 1950-1954 than did the distribution of those released during 1955.

#### PAROLE

In presenting data on the amount of time served before a prisoner is paroled it is necessary to distinguish between those paroled for the first time and those who are re-paroled. Of the latter group a further distinction must be made between those re-paroled after having been returned to prison on a technical violation and those who are re-paroled

after having been returned to prison on a new commitment. First paroles represent the general trend of time served for the original offense. From such data general patterns of time served relating to offense and recidivism can be determined. A person returned to prison on a technical violation may or may not have his term refixed to a greater length of time because of the violation. The amount of time he serves before reparole may be influenced by both the original offense and the violation. A person who is reparaoled after having been returned as a violator on a new felony offense will serve a period of time including a term for the new offense plus further time served on the original offense as this original term may be reset to a greater length because of the violation.

### First Parole

Almost 3,000 men were released to parole during 1955 for the first time on the present commitment. The time served in prison by these men, those released during 1954, and the 5-year period 1950-1954 are shown in Table 17A for the offense groups in which there were more

TABLE 17A  
OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
MALE PRISONERS PAROLED FOR THE FIRST TIME  
1954 and 1955

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown

Selected offenses	1954			1955			1950-1954	
	Number	Time served in months		Number	Time served in months		Time served in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 80%	Median	Range of middle 80%
All offenses.....	2,874	30	15-54	2,975	30	18-55	30	18-55
Murder 1st.....	29	138	90-180	31	138	102-181	147	102-208
Murder 2d.....	50	60.5	42-106	52	61.5	36-95	63	42-100
Manslaughter.....	39	36	18-52	49	33	24-51	33	21-48
Robbery 1st.....	286	42	30-72	352	36	30-66	38	23-64
Robbery 2d.....	138	30	18-47	151	27	18-45	30	18-48
Assault with deadly weapon.....	80	30	17-40	80	30	18-49	30	18-48
Burglary 1st.....	69	36	27-60	77	36	24-60	36	26-60
Burglary 2d.....	517	27	17-43	567	27	17-42	27	18-43
Grand theft except auto.....	139	27	15-42	136	24	15-39	25.5	16-40
Auto theft.....	180	25.5	15-34	127	24	15-35	24	15-30
Forgery and checks.....	615	24	15-36	682	24	15-36	24	15-36
Rape.....	72	39	15-78	81	42	21-87	42	18-96
Lewd acts with children.....	90	48	30-89	122	66.5	31-96	45	30-86
Narcotics.....	328	27	16-38	261	27	18-42	24	16-36
Escape from jail.....	35	16	12-28	30	24	12-36	18	12-31

than 25 men. The median time served by all men released on first parole was 30 months, the same for the three periods just mentioned. The range of the time served by the middle 80 percent of the men was slightly lower for those released in 1954 as compared with 1955 and the five year group. The 80 percent range in 1954 was 15-54 months and that in 1955 and the five year group was 18-55 months.

An examination of the time served by selected offense groups shows very little change between 1955 and the five previous years except for the offenses of lewd acts with children, murder first, and escape from jail. The median time served by those who had been convicted of lewd acts with children and were released in 1955 was 55.5 months, 10½ months longer than the median of 45 months served by those released during 1950-1954. The range of the time served by the middle 80 percent in this offense group also reflected some of this increase in time, being 30-86 months for those released in 1950-1954 and 31-96 months for those in 1955.

For those men who had been imprisoned for first degree murder the median time served decreased from 147 months before first parole during 1950-1954 to 138 months for those released during 1955. The range of the middle 80 percent of the cases in this category was 102 months at the lower limits for both series of years and was 203 at the upper limit for the 1950-1954 years and 181 for the first parolees during 1955.

Men paroled for the first time during 1955 who had been convicted of escape from jail served 24 months median time in prison before such release while those placed on first parole during 1950-1954 had served 18 months. Other than escape from jail, those convicted of thefts and forgery served lesser time in prison before first parole than those convicted of other offenses.

The median time served by the women released to parole for the first time during 1955, Table 17B, was 24 months, one month longer than the time served by those released in 1954, and one month shorter

TABLE 17B  
OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
WOMEN PRISONERS PAROLED FOR THE FIRST TIME  
1954 and 1955

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases in 1955 Are Shown

Selected offenses	1954			1955			1950-1954	
	Number	Time served in months		Number	Time served in months		Time served in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 80%	Median	Range of middle 80%
All offenses.....	148	23	17-33	187	24	18-38	26	17-37
Forgery and checks.....	49	23	17-33	58	23.5	19-36	25	17-33
Narcotics.....	33	26	18-26	30	20.5	15.5-27	20	15-26

than the median time served by those first paroled during 1950-1954. There were only two offense groups, forgery and checks and narcotics in which more than 25 women were paroled in 1955 and, therefore, were the only selected groups for which time served measures were computed. In both of these offense classifications the time increased one-half a month for those released in 1955 as compared with those first paroled in 1954. The women forgers and check writers who were released during 1950-1954 served 25 months median time before parole, slightly longer than that of those placed under parole supervision during 1955. The range of the middle 80 percent of women forgers and check writers was lower (17-33 months) for the 1950-1954 period than the range of 19-36 months for those paroled for the first time during 1955.

### Reparole

The men who had been returned to prison for parole violation with a new commitment served a median time of 45 months before rep parole in 1955, three months longer than the median time served by those so released during 1950-1954, Table 18. The median time served before

TABLE 18  
STATUS AT RETURN FROM PAROLE AND TIME SERVED IN  
PRISON BEFORE REPAROLE  
MALE PRISONERS REPAROLED  
1954 and 1955

Status at return from parole	1954			1955			1950-1954	
	Number	Time served in months		Number	Time served in months		Time served in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 90%	Median	Range of middle 80%
Total.....	398	—	—	451	—	—	—	—
With new commitment...	251	44	30-72	295	45	30-73	42	30-71
Without new commitment	147	20	10-43	149	17	8-54	16	7-36

rep parole in 1955 by the men returned for parole violations of a technical nature was 17 months, only one month more than the 16 month median time served by those rep paroled during 1950-1954. It is noticeable that parole violators returned with a new commitment served on an average at least one year longer in prison before rep parole than those men paroled for the first time. Men who had been returned for technical reasons served a median time after return about one year less than the first parolees.

## DISCHARGE FROM PRISON AT EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE

Slightly more than 1,000 men were released from prison during 1955 at expiration of sentence. About one-half of these were released for the first time and of the other one-half released, four-fifths were men who had been returned for parole violation without a new commitment and one-fifth were men returned from parole with a new conviction.

Men who served their entire sentences in prison without having been paroled spent a median time of 30 months before discharge in 1955, which was 6 months longer than those so released during 1950-1954, Table 19. By inspecting the selected offense groups, it can be

TABLE 19

## OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED IN PRISON

MALE PRISONERS FIRST RELEASED FROM PRISON BY DISCHARGE  
AT EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE  
1954 and 1955

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases in 1955 Are Shown  
Median and Range Shown Only for 25 or More Cases

Selected offenses	1954			1955			1950-1954	
	Number	Time served in months		Number	Time served in months		Time served in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 80%	Median	Range of middle 80%
All offenses .....	379	24	12-60	481	30	15-60	24	12-57
Burglary 2d.....	61	27	18-60	77	30	15-60	30	18-57
Grand theft except auto	28	26.5	14-40	31	36	18-60	24	14-45
Auto theft.....	38	25.5	15-44	39	24	15-43	24	15-42
Petty theft with prior.....	43	24	12-36	61	18	12-36	24	12-36
Forgery and checks ..	61	31	18-48	110	30	18-54	24	18-46
Narcotics.....	16	—	—	37	35	12-48	26	12-48
Escape from jail.....	55	12	12-24	22	—	—	15	12-27

seen that this increase in median time served occurred in grand theft except auto, narcotics, and forgery and checks. The range of the time served by the middle 80 percent of men discharged also reflected the longer stay in prison. This range for all men first released in 1955 was 15-60 months while for those discharged in 1950-1954 it was 12-57 months. The narcotic offense group, which had a 10 month longer median time served, showed the same middle 80 percent range, 12-48 months, for 1955 as for 1950-1954, while grand theft except auto and forgery and checks indicated a longer stay in prison for both the median and the selected range.

Those convicted of petty theft with a prior served a shorter median time, 18 months, before first release by discharge in 1955 than those in the same offense group who served a median of 25 months time before such a release during 1950-1954. In this offense the range of the

middle 80 percent was the same in these two periods of comparison, i.e., 12-36 months.

Men who were discharged from prison at expiration of sentence in 1955 after having been returned for parole violation with new commitments served a median time of 48 months before re-release, Table 20.

TABLE 20  
STATUS AT RETURN AND TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
MALE PRISONERS RE-RELEASED FROM PRISON BY DISCHARGE  
AT EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE  
1954 and 1955

Status at return	1954			1955			1950-1954	
	Number	Time served in months		Number	Time served in months		Time served in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 80%	Median	Range of middle 80%
Total.....	397	—	—	525	—	—	—	—
With new commitment....	62	48.5	30-72	98	48	36-72	48	36-71
Without new commitment	335	20	10-38	427	19	10-31	20	11-31

This was three months longer than the median of 45 months served by those who had violated parole, been returned with new commitments and had been re-paroled. Male felons who had been returned for parole violation without a new commitment served a median time of 19 months before discharge from prison in 1955. The length of time served in prison by men returned after parole violation and before discharge has been approximately the same for the past six years, when considering each status at return separately.

#### DEATHS

During 1955, 52 adult male felons, one Youth Authority ward, one male recalcitrant tubercular, and two women felons died in the California prisons. This total of 56 deaths was below the number of 69 deaths which occurred during 1954. For the 52 male felons whose deaths occurred during 1955, the median time in prison between last admission and death was 36.5 months and the middle 80 percent of the cases were in prison from 10 to 131 months.

#### EXECUTIONS

There were a total of nine executions during each of the last two years. All nine males executed during 1954 had been convicted of first degree murder. Six of the eight men and the one woman who received capital punishment during 1955 had been sentenced for first degree murder. Of the other two men executed in 1955, one had been convicted for assault by life prisoner and the other for kidnapping. Of the 18 executions during the two years 16 were white, one Mexican and one Negro.

## PAROLE POPULATION AND MOVEMENT

The Division of Adult Paroles which is charged with the supervision of male parolees is administered by the Adult Authority and the supervision of women parolees is carried on under the jurisdiction of the Board of Trustees of the California Institution for Women.

The population and the movement of male parolees is presented for 1954 and 1955 in Table 21A. On December 31, 1955, there were 6,719 men serving the remainder of their California terms on parole. Most

**TABLE 21A**  
**MOVEMENT OF MALE PAROLE POPULATION AND**  
**PLACE OF SUPERVISION**  
**1954 and 1955**

Movement	1954				1955			
	Total	Supervised in		Deport or custody	Total	Supervised in		Deport or custody
		California	Other states			California	Other states	
Population, January 1.....	5,628	4,408	678	542	6,176	4,943	657	576
Total received on parole.....	6,002	4,422	402	178	5,184	4,629	372	183
Paroled from prison.....	3,272	2,858	240	174	3,419	3,034	213	172
Reinstated after suspension.....	263	195	55	2	284	217	61	6
By transfer.....	1,477	1,368	107	2	1,481	1,378	98	5
Total removed from parole.....	4,154	3,887	423	144	4,641	4,073	374	188
Discharged*.....	1,429	1,078	258	93	1,704	1,308	286	130
Suspended.....	1,493	1,343	100	10	1,399	1,331	51	7
Died.....	55	45	10	—	67	57	10	—
By transfer.....	1,177	1,381	53	41	1,481	1,283	47	51
Population, December 31.....	6,176	4,943	657	576	6,719	5,493	655	571
Population change.....	548	535	-21	34	543	550	-2	-5

\* Includes pardons and commutations, of which there were five in 1954 and 13 in 1955.

of these, almost 5,500, or 80 percent, were in California while 655 men were in other states. The additional 571 had been deported by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service or were in the custody of other prisons, but still serving their California sentences. While California had 655 men on parole in states outside of California, this state was supervising about 700 men on parole for other states. This interchange of supervision is accomplished under the provisions of the Interstate Compact. The parolees discussed in this chapter are only those who have been released from California prisons.

During 1955 male parole population increased by 543 men over the figure of 6,176 at the close of 1954, see Table 21A. This increase was approximately the same as the 548 increase in the parole population in the previous year. During 1955, 3,419 men were received on parole from prison and 284 were reinstated to parole supervision after suspension for violation. Of those men removed from parole supervision 1,704 were discharged, 1,389 were suspended and 67 died. The number of movements by transfer of 1,481 men is a figure accounting for the intermovement from one of the fourteen supervising parole districts to another.

Annual data relating to women parole population are presented for 1954 and 1955 in Table 21B. On December 31, 1955, the number of women on parole from the California prison was 466 of which 407, or

TABLE 21B  
MOVEMENT OF WOMEN PAROLE POPULATION AND  
PLACE OF SUPERVISION  
1954 and 1955

Movement	1954			1955		
	Total	Supervised in		Total	Supervised in	
		California	Other states*		California	Other states*
Population, January 1.....	306	342	54	430	370	51
Total received on parole.....	271	261	20	345	316	30
Paroled from prison.....	190	173	17	230	208	22
Reinstated after suspension.....	66	66	1	90	98	1
By transfer.....	15	13	2	16	9	7
Total removed from parole.....	237	214	23	309	287	22
Discharged.....	66	50	16	88	75	13
Suspended.....	152	146	6	201	193	8
Died.....	4	4	—	4	4	—
By transfer.....	15	14	1	16	16	1
Population, December 31.....	430	379	51	466	407	59
Population change.....	34	37	—3	36	28	8

\* 1954 includes two paroled to deport or custody during the year and in such status on December 31, 1954. 1955 includes six paroled to deport or custody during the year, one discharged and seven in such status on December 31, 1955.

87 percent, were in California and 59 were in other states or in deport or custody status. On this date the California parole officers also were supervising 42 women on parole in California from other states. In 1955, the number of women which were placed under the California parole system was greater than during 1954. There were 230 California prisoners placed on parole in 1955, as compared with 190 in 1954. Also in 1955, there were 99 women restored to parole supervision after having been suspended for violation as compared with 66 during the

previous year. More women were discharged from parole in 1955 than in 1954, namely, 88 during 1955 and 66 during 1954. Although there were 201 women suspended from parole by violation during 1955, which was 49 more than the 152 suspended during 1954, there was also a relatively higher number of reinstatements (99) after suspension.

#### DISCHARGE FROM PAROLE

Parolees who are discharged have finished their sentences for one or more felony offenses. Most of the persons discharged from parole supervision were serving their first parole from prison under the original commitment. Those discharged from first parole and those terminated from reparole are shown separately in this section.

In Table 22A, the medians of time served on parole by those men discharged from first parole and reparole are given for 1950 and each year since. For the men discharged from first parole during 1950 and

TABLE 22A  
TYPE OF PAROLE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED ON PAROLE BY YEAR  
MALE PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE  
1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1955

Year	First parole		Reparole after return to prison			
			With new commitment		Without new commitment	
	Number	Median time served on parole in months	Number	Median time served on parole in months	Number	Median time served on parole in months
1950	1,073	24	48	28.5	97	10
1951	1,108	24	58	27.5	82	14
1952	1,043	27	39	29	84	20
1953	1,191	27	71	27	78	21
1954	1,283	30	75	25	60	15
1955	1,529	27	73	27	89	18

1951 the median time on parole was 24 months. This median time increased by three months for those discharged during 1952 and 1953, increased by another three months for those discharged in 1954, and dropped back to 27 months for those released during 1955.

The median time served on reparole by those who had been returned to prison with a new commitment and were discharged in 1954 was 25 months. This was less than the median time served by those discharged from this type of reparole during any other year since 1950. These medians have ranged from 27 to 29 months. The medians of time served on reparole after return to prison without a new commitment ranged during the six years from a high of 21 months in 1953 to a low of 15 months in 1954. Those discharged during 1955 served a median time of 18 months.

The number of women discharged from parole is so small that the median time served on parole before discharge can be computed only for those released from first parole, Table 22B. Those discharged from

TABLE 22B  
TYPE OF PAROLE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED ON PAROLE BY YEAR  
WOMEN PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE  
1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1955

Year	First parole		Reparole after return to prison			
			With new commitment		Without new commitment	
	Number	Median time served on parole in months	Number	Median time served on parole in months	Number	Median time served on parole in months
1950	54	21	—	—	3	—
1951	53	26	—	—	6	—
1952	37	26	—	—	5	—
1953	45	28	1	—	7	—
1954	60	33	—	—	6	—
1955	80	34	1	—	7	—

first parole during 1950 served a median of 21 months on parole before discharge. This median of parole time served before discharge has increased each year so that the 1955 discharges served a median time of 34 months on parole, which was 13 months more than the 1950 median.

Among the offense groups there were some differences in the median time served by the men discharged from first parole during 1954 compared with 1955. Table 23A. The greatest differences occurred in the offense groups of manslaughter, second degree murder and rape. For manslaughter the median time for those discharged in 1955 was six months longer, and for the other two groups it was six months less. Those discharged during 1955 from manslaughter commitments had served a median time on parole of 36 months, the second degree murderers had served 42 months, and those convicted of rape had spent 30 months on parole. A five-month drop in median time on parole occurred in the offense group of second degree robbery; the median was 25 months in 1955. The middle 80 percent ranges reflect the changes in each of these offense groups except second degree murder in which the upper limit of this range was twice as great in 1955 as that for the prior year, namely 150 months in 1955 and 74 months in 1954.

Again, the number of women discharged from first parole is so small that in order to have any comparison by offense groups the six-year period 1950-1955 has been summarized in Table 23B. During this six year period the median time served by the women on first parole before discharge was 27 months. Of the four offense groups which had more than 25 cases when added for the six years, manslaughter, grand theft except auto, and forgery and checks, each had a median time of 29 months while those committed for narcotics served a median time of 22.5 months before discharge from first parole.

TABLE 23A  
OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED ON PAROLE  
MALE FIRST PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE  
1954 and 1955

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown

Selected offenses	1954			1955		
	Number	Time served in months		Number	Time served in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 80%
All offenses.....	1,283	30	18-39	1,529	27	18-38
Murder 2nd.....	29	48	32-74	37	42	30-150
Manslaughter.....	47	30	24-36	41	36	27-42
Robbery 1st.....	186	33	27-42	175	33	24-42
Robbery 2nd.....	75	30	18-36	65	25	21-33
Assault with deadly weapon.....	50	27	18-36	68	30	21-36
Burglary 1st.....	41	33	24-41	44	31.5	24-42
Burglary 2nd.....	211	24	18-36	209	24	16-30
Grand theft except auto.....	60	29.5	18-36	91	27	18-39
Auto theft.....	49	22	12-30	78	24	15-33
Forgery and checks.....	207	24	18-36	246	24	18-33
Rape.....	38	30	27-47	41	30	22-46
Lewd acts with children.....	35	36	24-43	42	33.5	24-46
Narcotics.....	66	24	15-30	124	24	17-30

TABLE 23B  
OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED ON PAROLE  
WOMEN FIRST PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE  
1950-1955

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown

Selected offenses	Time served in months		
	Number	Median	Range of middle 80%
All offenses.....	337	27	12-46
Manslaughter.....	60	29	19-52
Grand theft except auto.....	39	29	17-41
Forgery and checks.....	74	29	15-46
Narcotics.....	42	22.5	11-38

An interesting comparison has been presented for men and the women in Tables 24A and 24B respectively. In these two tables the medians of time served in prison before release and on parole before

TABLE 24A  
OFFENSE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED IN PRISON BEFORE PAROLE  
AND ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE

MALE FIRST PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE

1954 and 1955

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown

Selected offenses	1954			1955		
	Median time served in months			Median time served in months		
	Number	In prison before parole	On parole before discharge	Number	In prison before parole	On parole before discharge
All offenses.....	1,253	30	30	1,529	30	27
Murder 2d.....	29	54	48	37	70	42
Manlaughter.....	47	30	30	41	33	36
Robbery 1st.....	186	30	33	175	36	33
Robbery 2d.....	75	30	30	65	27	25
Assault with deadly weapon.....	50	31	27	68	30	30
Burglary 1st.....	41	31	33	44	38	31.5
Burglary 2d.....	211	24	24	209	27	24
Grand theft except auto.....	60	25.6	29.5	91	24	27
Auto theft.....	49	20	22	78	27	24
Forgery and checks.....	207	24	24	245	24	24
Rape.....	38	48.5	36	41	33	30
Lewd acts with children.....	25	42	58	42	42	33.5
Narcotics.....	66	21	24	134	24	24

TABLE 24B

OFFENSE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED IN PRISON BEFORE PAROLE  
AND ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE

WOMEN FIRST PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE

1950-1955

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown

Selected offenses	Median time served in months		
	Number	In prison before parole	On parole before discharge
All offenses.....	337	24	27
Manlaughter.....	60	25	29
Grand theft except auto.....	39	24	29
Forgery and checks.....	74	24	29
Narcotics.....	42	20	22.5

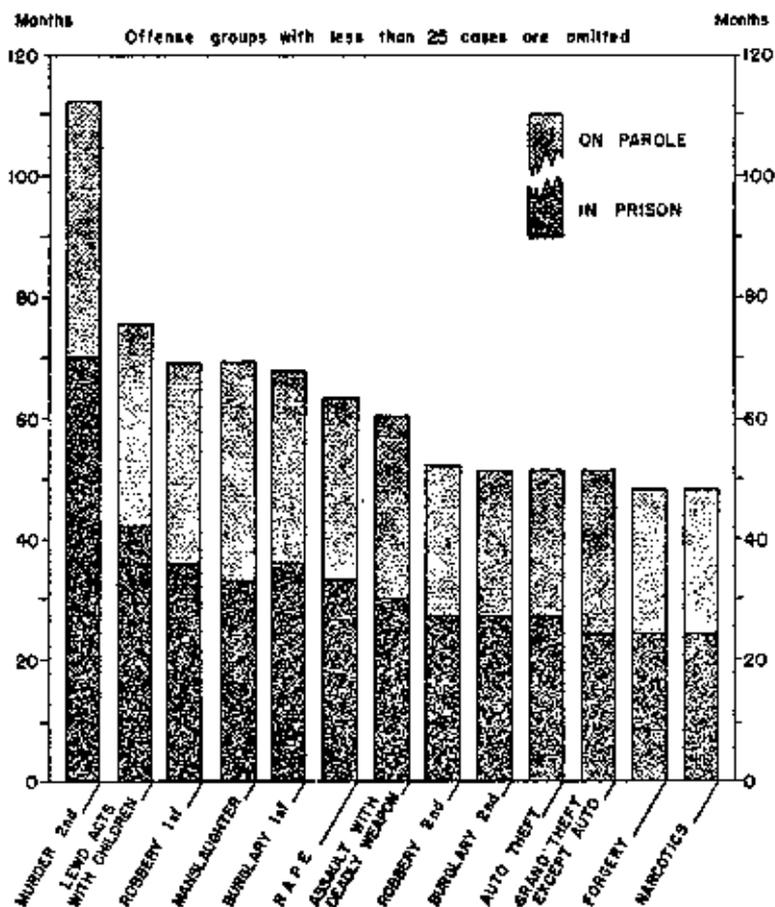
discharge by persons discharged from first parole have been compared by offense groups having more than 25 cases. As seen from Table 24A, the male felons discharged from first parole in 1954 served a median time of 30 months in prison before parole and 30 months on parole before discharge totaling 5 years served, with half time in prison and half time on parole. Those discharged during 1955 served a median of 30 months in prison and 3 months less time on parole which equaled 57 months, slightly less total time than those discharged in 1954. This somewhat consistent pattern of half time in prison and half time on parole was not constant for each offense group. The respective medians of time served by those convicted of second degree murder who were discharged in 1954 were 64 months in prison and 48 months on parole, and in 1955, were 70 months in prison and 42 months on parole. This offense had the greatest variance in medians of any one presented in this table. The medians for those committed for rape demonstrated a somewhat different pattern. Those discharged from parole in 1954 had served 46.5 months in prison and 36 months on parole, while those discharged in 1955 served a median of 33 months in prison and 30 months on parole. The medians of time served by those convicted of grand theft except auto indicate that slightly longer periods of time were spent on parole than in prison. In the offense group of forgery and checks the medians of time served were the same, 24 months, in prison and on parole by those discharged during 1954 and 1955. The number of months served in prison and on parole are pictured in Chart V for the men discharged from first parole during 1955.

For the women, again six years have been added in order to have enough cases for study by offense groups, Table 24B. The women first parolees who were discharged during 1950-1955 served a median time of 24 months in prison before first parole and 27 months on parole before discharge, totaling 51 months. The serving of a greater length of time on parole than in prison was true for each of the four offense groups with more than 25 cases. For grand theft except auto and for forgery and checks the median time in prison was 24 months and on parole was 29 months. For manslaughter, 25 months were served in prison and 29 months on parole, while those convicted of narcotics served a median time of 20 months in prison and 22.5 months on parole before discharge.

#### SUSPENSIONS

The case of a person who has violated his conditions of parole is reviewed by the Adult Authority or by the Board of Trustees for the California Institution for Women. In most instances, each of these authorities directs a suspension of parole which stops the time served towards the term and the parolee is ordered returned to prison. A board may reconsider a suspension at some later date and the suspended parolee may be reinstated to good parole status. The section discussing reinstatements follows this topic.

**CHART V**  
**OFFENSE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED**  
**IN PRISON BEFORE PAROLE**  
**ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE**  
**Male First Parolees Discharged From Parole**  
**1955**



The number and percent of California male parolees suspended from supervision in this state as well as out of state during the last two years are shown by reason for suspension in Table 25. The three general

TABLE 25  
REASON FOR SUSPENSION AND TYPE OF PAROLE  
MALE PAROLEES SUSPENDED FROM PAROLE  
1954 and 1955

Reason for suspension	1954				1955				5-year average suspensions 1950-1954	
	Total suspensions		Type of parole		Total suspensions		Type of parole		Number	Per-cent
	Num-ber	Per-cent	First parole	Re-parole	Num-ber	Per-cent	First parole	Re-parole		
Total	1,493	100.0	1,222	271	1,389	100.0	1,170	219	1,275	100.0
Technical	162	10.9	130	32	119	8.6	99	20	111	8.7
PVAL	441	29.5	350	91	391	28.1	324	67	422	33.1
Criminal charge	890	59.6	742	148	879	63.3	747	132	742	58.2

reasons for parole suspension are: first, the violation of technical provisions of parole; second, the absconding from parole supervision, designated as PVAL, for parole violator at large; and third, the fact that the parolee has been charged with a new offense.

During 1955, the paroles of 1,389 men were ordered suspended, a drop of 104 below the figure for 1954. The proportion of men who were suspended in 1955 for violating technical provisions of their paroles was less than the 1954 percent. A comparison of annual proportions with 5-year average figures for 1950-1954 showed very little change in this technical group, but did indicate a drop in the propor-

TABLE 26  
REASON FOR SUSPENSION AND TIME ON PAROLE BEFORE VIOLATION  
MALE PAROLEES SUSPENDED FROM SUPERVISION IN CALIFORNIA  
1954 and 1955

Reason for suspension	1954			1955		
	Number	Time on parole in months		Number	Time on parole in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 80%
Total	1,383	5	1-17	1,331	7	1-20
Technical	159	6	1-20	117	7	1-21
PVAL	388	4	0.5-16	390	6	1-17
Criminal charge	836	6	1-16	824	9	1-21

tionate size of the PVAL group in 1955, and a corresponding rise during 1955 in the percent of those parolees charged with a new offense.

In the next two tables further information is presented on those men whose paroles were being supervised in California. For the annual suspension groups of 1954 and 1955 the time spent on parole before the violating act is shown by reason for suspension in Table 26. The men who were suspended in 1955 stayed out of trouble slightly longer than those who were suspended in 1954. This is true of the over-all group and of each of the three subdivisions. The median time was seven months before violation for the men suspended from California parole in 1955 and five months for those suspended in 1954. Of those suspended in 1955, 1,226 were suspended for the first time since release from prison and 105 were suspended again after having been reinstated on parole previously.

In Table 27A, the cumulative percentage of men released to California supervision who violated their paroles for the first time are shown grouped by year of parole release and distributed by each suc-

TABLE 27A  
CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE OF PAROLEES SUSPENDED  
EACH YEAR AFTER PAROLE

MALE PAROLEES SUSPENDED AFTER PAROLED TO SUPERVISION IN CALIFORNIA  
1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1955

Year during which suspended	Year of parole				
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Number paroled	2,171	2,110	2,773	2,858	3,034
Year of parole	19.1	15.4	16.1	15.1	10.9
1st year after parole	40.5	39.1	39.7	37.7	
2d year after parole	47.4	46.3	46.9		
3d year after parole	48.8	48.3			
4th year after parole	49.0				

cessive year after parole for 1951 through 1955. During 1955, the paroles of 10.9 percent of the men released that year were suspended. It may be observed that this group of parolees had a lower percentage suspended for the calendar year of parole than their fellow parolees who were released during the earlier years 1951-1954.

The data in Table 27A show that the paroles of 37.7 percent of the men placed on parole during 1954 had been suspended by the end of the first calendar year after release, slightly less than the percentages of those released during the three previous years. It may be seen also that most of those who violate do so by the end of the second year after release.

In Table 27B, the cumulative percentage of women parolees suspended for the first time is shown for each year after parole, for 1951 through 1955. During 1955, 20.4 percent of the women who were paroled that year had been suspended, while in 1954, 25.8 percent were suspended during the same year of parole. These two percentages are somewhat higher than the 15.6 percent who were released to parole

TABLE 27B  
 CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE OF PAROLEES SUSPENDED  
 EACH YEAR AFTER PAROLE  
 WOMEN PAROLEES SUSPENDED FOR THE FIRST TIME  
 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1955

Year during which suspended	Year of parole				
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Number paroled.....	115	177	200	190	230
Year of parole.....	15.6	15.8	18.5	26.8	20.4
1st year after parole.....	35.7	33.3	42.0	47.9	
2d year after parole.....	40.0	44.6	52.5		
3d year after parole.....	47.0	49.2			
4th year after parole.....	50.4				

and suspended in 1951. Of those paroled during 1953, 52.5 percent had been suspended within the second year after parole while of those paroled in 1951, only 50.4 percent had been suspended by the end of the fourth year after parole. There has been an increase in the portion who violate parole during the first few years after release from prison.

#### REINSTATEMENTS

A person who is suspended from parole may be reinstated to supervision by the same authority that suspended him. Some circumstances which influence the determination for reinstatement are: one, when a parolee absconded from supervision, later is located and it is determined that during the time "at large" he has conducted himself in a law abiding manner; and two, when a parolee convicted of a new offense has served a term and the board is of the opinion that to the best interests of society it would not be beneficial for the parolee to serve more time in a California prison.

The number of men reinstated to parole during each year, 1950 through 1955, is classified by reason for suspension in Table 28A. Also shown is the ratio of the number of reinstatements per 100 average number of suspensions for the two year period which included the year of reinstatement and the previous year. Since about three-fourths of all reinstatements occur within the first two years following suspension this two-year average has been used.

During 1955, there were 284 men reinstated to parole supervision. In relation to the average number of suspensions for the past two years, this was 20 reinstatements out of every 100 suspensions. The classification of reinstatements during 1955 by reason for suspension shows that of every 100 men suspended for PVAL, 34 were reinstated; of every 100 suspended for criminal charges, 16 were reinstated, and of every 100 suspended for technical reasons, one was reinstated.

Comparison of year by year ratios shown in Table 28A indicate that although the over-all reinstatement pattern was almost constant there has been some upward trend in reinstatements of parolees who originally were suspended for PVAL. The reinstatement ratios of those

TABLE 28A  
 NUMBER OF REINSTATEMENTS  
 RATIO OF REINSTATEMENTS PER 100 AVERAGE SUSPENSIONS  
 REASON FOR SUSPENSION BY YEAR  
 MALE PAROLEES REINSTATED ON PAROLE  
 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1955

Year	Total		Reason for suspension					
			Technical		PVAL		Criminal charge	
	Number	Ratio per 100 average suspensions*	Number	Ratio per 100 average suspensions*	Number	Ratio per 100 average suspensions*	Number	Ratio per 100 average suspensions*
1950.....	195	17	3	6	84	21	108	15
1951.....	195	17	3	4	86	21	105	16
1952.....	249	21	6	6	126	32	117	17
1953.....	249	20	6	4	121	28	123	17
1954.....	253	18	3	1	123	37	128	15
1955.....	284	20	1	1	142	34	141	16

\* Ratio based on two-year average number of cases suspended during the year indicated and the previous year.

who were suspended for technical reasons or for criminal charges remained nearly regular.

As mentioned earlier when discussing the movement of the women parole population, there was a high ratio of reinstatements to suspension. The ratio of reinstatements for each 100 average suspensions for a two year period is given in Table 28B. In 1955, the restoration of 99 women to parole supervision after suspension for some violation created the ratio of 56 per 100 average suspensions, the highest ratio during the past few years. Since 1950, this ratio has ranged for a low of 30 in 1950 to 53 in 1952, dropped to 34 in 1953, and reached an all time high of 56 during 1955.

TABLE 28B  
 NUMBER OF REINSTATEMENTS  
 RATIO OF REINSTATEMENTS PER 100 AVERAGE SUSPENSIONS  
 BY YEAR  
 WOMEN PAROLEES REINSTATED ON PAROLE  
 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1955

Year	Number	Ratio per 100 average suspensions*
1950.....	17	30
1951.....	23	38
1952.....	39	53
1953.....	32	34
1954.....	66	53
1955.....	99	56

\* Ratio based on two-year average number of cases suspended during the year indicated and the previous year.

## APPENDIX

### COUNTY OR AREA OF COMMITMENT PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT 1954 and 1955

County or area of commitment	1954		1955	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Total .....	4,003	229	3,461	177
<b>Southern California</b> .....	2,426	129	2,063	112
Los Angeles County .....	1,817	79	1,220	52
5 other counties .....	609	50	843	60
Imperial .....	53	2	58	2
Kern .....	66	1	79	5
Orange .....	96	1	97	3
Riverside .....	104	8	80	2
San Bernardino .....	130	2	123	6
San Diego .....	238	20	287	25
San Luis Obispo .....	18	5	20	1
Santa Barbara .....	33	3	43	3
Ventura .....	73	6	56	3
<b>San Francisco Bay Area</b> .....	692	55	668	31
Alameda County .....	175	17	186	7
San Francisco County .....	304	21	168	10
7 other counties .....	213	17	214	14
Contra Costa .....	49	5	56	2
Marin .....	12	2	8	1
Napa .....	5	—	8	—
San Mateo .....	31	1	22	2
Santa Clara .....	73	8	77	7
Solano .....	31	1	23	1
Sutro .....	12	—	20	1
<b>Balance of State</b> .....	885	45	820	24
<b>10 Sacramento Valley Counties</b> .....	189	9	204	10
Butte .....	9	1	24	—
Colusa .....	2	—	6	—
Glenn .....	3	—	11	—
Huerfano .....	15	1	9	1
Sacramento .....	93	4	82	7
Shasta .....	12	—	25	1
Sutter .....	5	—	11	—
Tehama .....	6	—	4	—
Yolo .....	35	3	24	1
Yuba .....	9	—	8	—
<b>7 San Joaquin Valley Counties</b> .....	490	25	467	18
Fresno .....	121	9	104	6
Kings .....	18	1	25	1
Madera .....	29	1	17	—
Mered .....	32	3	46	1
San Joaquin .....	101	8	121	5
Stanislaus .....	50	2	52	3
Tulare .....	49	1	44	2

**COUNTY OR AREA OF COMMITMENT—Continued**  
**PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT**  
**1954 and 1955**

County or area of commitment	1954		1955	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
22 other counties.....	200	11	159	6
Del Norte.....	13	—	12	—
Humboldt.....	19	—	13	—
Lake.....	5	—	4	—
Mendocino.....	37	1	38	—
Trinity.....	3	—	3	—
Alpine.....	—	1	—	—
Amador.....	1	—	1	—
Calaveras.....	7	—	6	—
El Dorado.....	4	—	5	—
Lassen.....	6	—	6	—
Modoc.....	3	—	7	—
Nevada.....	4	—	4	—
Plumas.....	1	1	1	—
Sierra.....	—	—	—	—
Sierraville.....	12	—	9	—
Inyo.....	5	1	8	1
Mariposa.....	—	—	—	—
Mono.....	—	—	—	—
Monterey.....	43	5	30	4
San Benito.....	8	—	2	—
Santa Cruz.....	25	2	16	1
Tuolumne.....	2	—	4	—

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