

Review of the 2024 Comprehensive Risk Assessments (CRA)

- ▶ Jasmine A. Tehrani, Ph.D.
- ▶ Chief Psychologist
- ▶ Forensic Assessment Division
- ▶ October 22, 2025

Observed Recidivism Base Rate Comparisons at Three Years Post-Release

	Shorter-term Supervised Persons Released Without Discretion in California (2019-20)	Longer-term Supervised Persons Discretionarily Released in California (2019-20)
Violent Crime Convictions	<p>7.4% (92.6% were conviction free)</p> <p>(Felony Crimes Against Persons)</p>	<p>0.7% (99.3% were conviction free)</p> <p>(0.7 % Felony Crimes Against Persons)</p>
All Misdemeanor and Felony Convictions	<p>39.1% (60.9% were conviction free)</p> <p>(22.1% felony and 17% misdemeanor convictions)</p>	<p>3.0 % (97% were conviction-free)</p> <p>(1.4% felony and 1.5% misdemeanor convictions)</p>

Recidivism of Persons (N =3,152) Granted Parole and Released by the Board (Released between 7/1/2018 and 6/30/21)

	Three-Year Felony Re-Convictions
Low	43 of 1,771 (2.4%)
Moderate	38 of 1,241 (3.1%)
High	N/A

Recidivism of Persons (N = 172) Denied Parole but Released at the Conclusion of Determinate Terms (Released between 7/1/2018 and 6/30/21)

	Three-Year Felony Re-Convictions
Low	N/A
Moderate	10 of 89 (11.2%) (88.8% conviction free)
High	10 of 45 (22.2%) (77.8% conviction free)

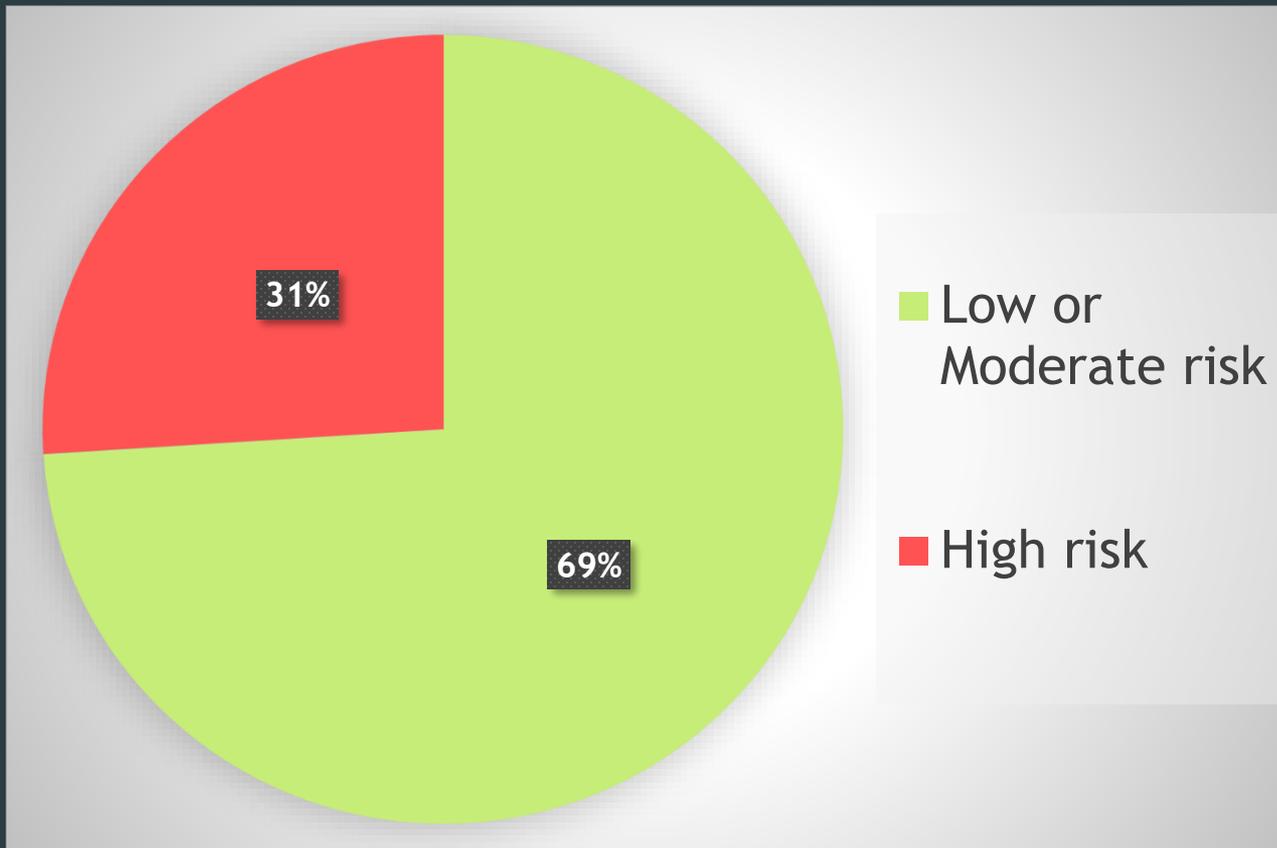
Violent Recidivism for Individuals (N = 151)
Denied Parole but Released at the
Conclusion of Determinate Terms (Released
between 7/1/2018 and 6/30/21)

	Three-Year Felony Re-Convictions
Low	N/A
Moderate	9 of 79 (11.4%)
High	10 of 43 (23.3%)

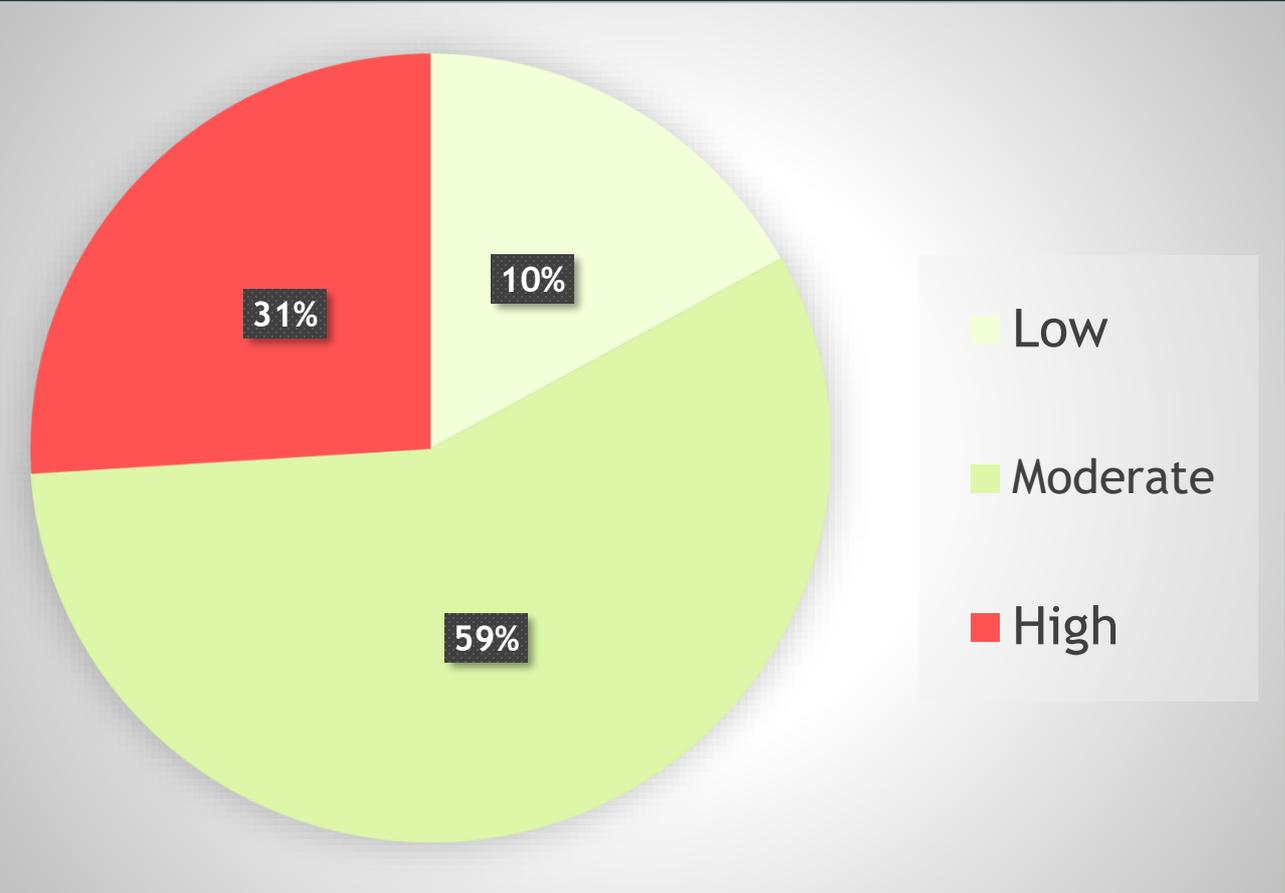
Risk Categories

Risk Category	Definition
Low Risk	Non-elevated risk relative to long-term incarcerated persons and other persons under supervision.
Moderate Risk	Elevated risk relative to long-term incarcerated persons and non-elevated risk relative to other persons under supervision.
High Risk	Markedly elevated risk relative to long-term incarcerated persons and average risk relative to other persons under supervision.

- ▶ Most long-term incarcerated persons (**69%**) in 2024 were assessed by FAD psychologists to represent non-elevated risk relative to shorter-term supervised individuals released without discretion.



► Of 3,607 CRAs administered in 2024, FAD psychologists opined (10%) of examinees were Low Risk, (59%) were Moderate Risk and (31%) were High Risk



Risk Categories and Average Classification Scores and Ages

	Average Classification Score	Average Age
Low	21	55
Moderate	34	54
High	105	50

HCR-20-V3's Twenty Risk Factors Assessed to be *Present To Some Degree*

	Average Number of Risk Factors Assessed to be Present to Some Degree
Low	11 of 20 Risk Factors
Moderate	14 of 20 Risk Factors
High	17 of 20 Risk Factors

Relevance

- ▶ Relevance refers to the extent to which a factor is critical to the evaluator's formulation of what caused the person to perpetrate violence and how best to prevent future violence. Are there sufficient risk management strategies in place to mitigate the salience of that risk factor?
- ▶ The current relevance of history of substance abuse, for example, may vary according to the types of substances used, severity of use, degree of impairment caused, **relationship to violence**, length of sobriety, responsiveness to treatment, degree of self-awareness and appreciation of relapse prevention, and potential for future harm.

More on Relevance

- ▶ Historical factors, such as history of violence, become more dynamic and changeable in nature when we factor in current relevance.
- ▶ For example, let's take an individual who committed a violent crime 25 years ago. Their history of violence may have less relevance today because they have not engaged in violence in many years and this risk factor has been sufficiently addressed through treatment, programming, maturation, personal growth, etc.

Risk Categories and Historic Risk Relevance

	<i>Current High Relevance of History of Problems With Other Antisocial Behavior</i>	<i>Current High Relevance of History of Problems With Substance Use</i>	<i>Current High Relevance of History of Problems With Personality Disorder</i>	<i>Current High Relevance of History of Problems With Treatment Or Supervision Response</i>	<i>Current High Relevance of History of Problems With Traumatic Experiences</i>
Low	1%	5%	1%	1%	1%
Mod	22%	26%	29%	29%	6%
High	74%	62%	78%	90%	19%

History of Problems with Major Mental Disorder

	Present to Some Degree (H6)
Low	36%
Moderate	45%
High	62%

Recent Problems with Symptoms of Major Mental Disorder

- ▶ Of long term incarcerated persons with recent problems with symptoms of mental disorder:
 - ▶ 9% were rated Low risk.
 - ▶ 24% were rated Moderate risk.
 - ▶ 51% were rated High risk.

- ▶ Participation in mental health services is not a barrier for favorable risk assessment and parole release and for some people it is an essential component of risk management and successful community transition.

Clinical and Risk Management Problems

Clinical *or Recent* Problems and Risk Management *or Future* Problems Differentiate Low, Moderate, and High Risk Groups Better than *Historic* Problems.

Recent Problems with Instability

	Present to Some Degree	Assessed to be Highly Relevant to Current Risk
Low	4%	0%
Moderate	33%	11%
High	83%	72%

Recent Problems with Instability

- ▶ Of long term incarcerated persons with recent problems with instability:
 - ▶ 4% were rated Low risk.
 - ▶ 45% were rated Moderate risk.
 - ▶ 51% were rated High risk.

Recent Problems with Treatment or Supervision Response

	Present to Some Degree (C5)	Assessed to be Highly Relevant to Current Risk
Low	16%	1%
Moderate	63%	22%
High	97%	87%

Recent Problems with Treatment or Supervision Response

- ▶ Of long term incarcerated persons with recent problems with treatment or supervision response:
 - ▶ 6% were rated Low risk.
 - ▶ 53% were rated Moderate risk.
 - ▶ 41% were rated High risk.

Recent Problems with Self-Awareness

	Present to Some Degree	Assessed to be Highly Relevant to Current Risk
Low	41%	3%
Moderate	85%	31%
High	88%	73%

Recent Problems with Self-Awareness

- ▶ Of long term incarcerated persons with recent problems with self-awareness:
 - ▶ 11% were rated Low risk.
 - ▶ 63% were rated Moderate risk.
 - ▶ 31% were rated High risk.

Future Problems with Stress or Coping (Anticipated In the Community)

	Present to Some Degree (R5)	Assessed to be Highly Relevant to Current Risk
Low	92%	8%
Moderate	98%	43%
High	99%	91%

Future Problems with Stress or Coping (Anticipated In the Community)

- ▶ Of long term incarcerated persons expected to have future problems with stress and coping:
 - ▶ 18% were rated Low risk.
 - ▶ 53% were rated Moderate risk.
 - ▶ 28% were rated High risk.

Static-99R

Static-99 Risk Category	Percent	Recidivism Estimate
Very Low Risk	5%	N/A
Below Average Risk	18%	< 1%
Average Risk	40%	1.3% to 2.8%
Above Average Risk	24%	4.8%
Well Above Average Risk	12%	20.2%

Static-99R

- ▶ Of those who obtained **Well-Above Average** Static-99R Ratings
 - ▶ 4% were Low Risk
 - ▶ 44% were Moderate Risk
 - ▶ 52% were High Risk

Comparing ISL and DSL Individuals

	ISL Average age = 55	DSL Average age = 42
Low	11%	3%
Moderate	62%	47%
High	28%	50%

Elderly Parolees and Non-Elderly Parolees

	EP	NON - EP
Low	11%	8%
Moderate	64%	55%
High	24%	36%

Elderly Parolees

	ISL	DSL
Low	12%	3%
Moderate	65%	58%
High	23%	39%

Elderly Parolees

	Sexual Offending History	No Sexual Offending History
Low	5%	14%
Moderate	64%	64%
High	30%	21%

Indeterminately Sentenced 3rd Strike

	ISL 3 RD Strikers (N= 697)	All Other ISL Persons (N = 2366)
Low	7%	12%
Moderate	59%	62%
High	34%	26%

Indeterminately Sentenced 3rd Strike vs. Other ISL

	ISL 3 RD Strikers	All Other ISL Long-term
Prior Sexual Offending Histories	35%	22%
Average Static-99R Score	4.0	2.0

Gender Comparisons: Overall Risk

	Persons Housed at an Institution for Women	Persons Housed at an Institution for Men
Low Risk	22%	9%
Moderate Risk	57%	59%
High Risk	21%	31%

Parole Decisions Associated With Each Risk Category

	Low Risk	Moderate	High Risk
Grant	65%	22%	0%
Denial	34%	67%	68%
Stipulation	2%	10%	31%

Parole Decisions and Assessed Risk

	Grants	Denials	Stipulations
Average No. Risks Assessed Present to Some Degree	13	15	16
Average No. Risks Assessed to Have <i>High Current Relevance</i>	2	6	9

Parole Decisions and Dynamic Risks

	Grants		Denials		Stipulations	
	Present	Relevant	Present	Relevant	Present	Relevant
Recent Problems with Self-Awareness	61%	11%	86%	44%	89%	56%
Recent Problems with Instability	13%	2%	46%	28%	64%	49%
Recent Problems with Treatment or Supervision Response	30%	6%	72%	39%	87%	62%

Parole Decisions and Dynamic Risks

	Grants		Denials		Stipulations	
	Present	Relevant	Present	Relevant	Present	Relevant
Anticipated Problems with Personal Support	40%	8%	61%	22%	70%	30%
Anticipated Problems Managing Stress	95%	23%	98%	54%	98%	74%
Anticipated Problems with Treatment or Supervision Compliance	69%	15%	90%	48%	95%	72%

Comparing Parole Denial Lengths

	3-YR	5-YR	7-YR	10 TO 15
Average Risks Assessed Present to Some Degree	15	16	17	15
Average Risks Assessed to Have <i>High Current Relevance</i>	5	8	12	11

Parole Decisions and Race/Ethnicity

	Black	Latinx	White
Grants	23%	19%	22%
Denials	64%	63%	65%
Stipulations	12%	18%	14%

Summary of 2024 CRA Findings

- ▶ Future violence risk, as our data show, year after year, hinges on the dynamic (changeable) factors and current relevance.
- ▶ Historical risk factors (e.g., number of prior arrests), do not drive overall risk. The current relevance of those historical factors and the dynamic variables (i.e., Clinical and Risk Management factors) are what differentiate the three risk categories.
- ▶ Dynamic risks, especially when assessed to be highly relevant, best differentiate persons granted parole from those denied parole or stipulating to unsuitability.
- ▶ The distribution of Low, Moderate, and High is expected to shift over time based on the risk characteristics of individuals assessed.
- ▶ Most persons (69%) in 2024 were assessed by psychologists to represent non-elevated risk relative to shorter-term supervised persons released without discretion.