



California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

RECIDIVISM REPORT FOR YOUTH RELEASED FROM THE DIVISION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE IN FISCAL YEAR 2013-14

Division of Correctional Policy Research and Internal Oversight

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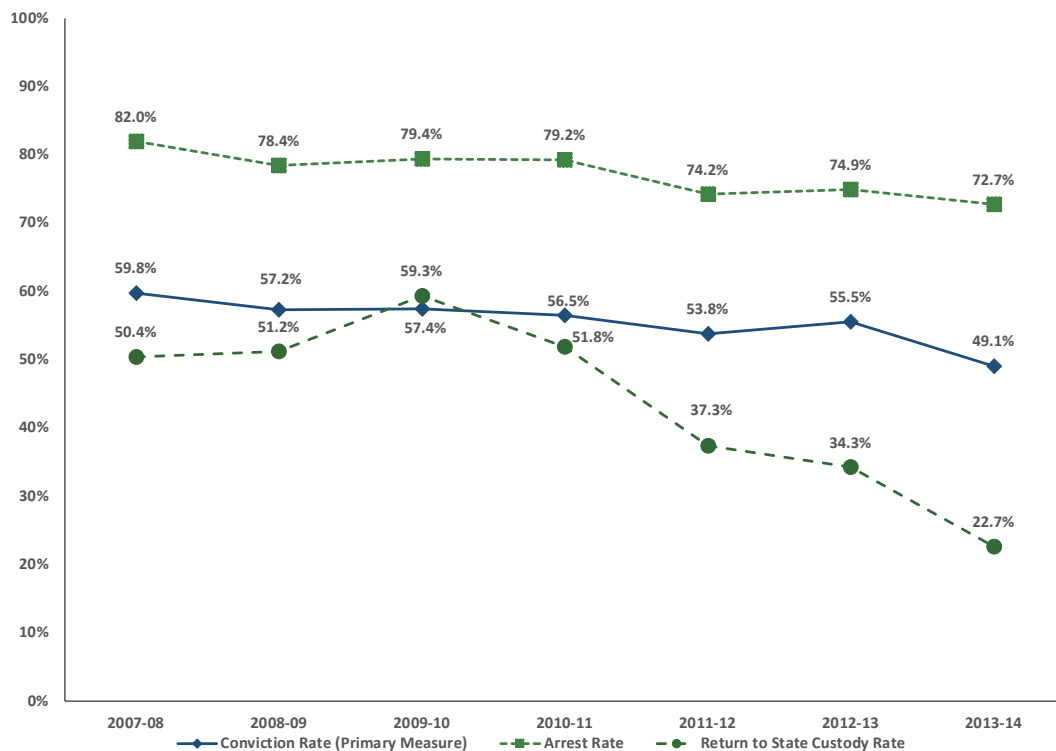
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Executive Summary

The Recidivism Report for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14 examines recidivism outcomes (arrests, convictions, and returns to state custody) for youth released from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) during Fiscal Year 2013-14. Between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014, a total of 216 youth were released from DJJ and recidivism outcomes were measured for three years following the date of their release. The size of each DJJ release cohort has sharply declined since the release of 1,404 youth in Fiscal Year 2007-08. The decrease in the number of youth released from DJJ is largely due to legislation passed in 2007, which required commitment to DJJ only if youth had committed a sex offense requiring registration as a sex offender, or a violent and/or serious offense, and youth committed from an adult court.¹ In addition to recidivism outcomes, this report provides demographics (e.g. gender, race/ethnicity) and characteristics (e.g. commitment offense category) for the 216 youth that comprise the Fiscal Year 2013-14 DJJ release cohort, as well as historical recidivism outcomes for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 through 2012-13 release cohorts (Appendix A).

Figure A. Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return to State Custody Rates for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2007-08 through Fiscal Year 2013-14



¹ With the passage of Senate Bill 81 in 2007, only youth whose most recent sustained offense was listed under the Welfare and Institutions Code (W&IC) 707(b), violent offenses, or an offense listed in Penal Code (PC) 290.008, sex offenses were eligible for commitment to DJJ. The legislation also required that remaining non-707(b) offenders be returned to the county of commitment upon release for community supervision, rather than DJJ parole.

DJJ was in the process of developing and implementing the Integrated Behavioral Treatment Model (IBTM)² during the period of release and the follow-up period for the cohort examined in this report. The IBTM may have partially affected some of the youth in the cohort examined in this report. However, IBTM's full effect on outcomes is not anticipated to be evident for several years, and it will be discussed in greater detail for future DJJ release cohorts impacted by its implementation.

Recidivism Outcomes

The three-year conviction rate is the primary measure of recidivism.³ As shown in Figure A, the three-year conviction rate for the Fiscal Year 2013-14 release cohort was 49.1 percent, which was 6.4 percentage points lower than the Fiscal Year 2012-13 release cohort's rate of 55.5 percent. The three-year arrest and return to state custody rates are supplemental measures of recidivism. Returns to state custody include returns to DJJ and CDCR's Division of Adult Institutions (DAI). The three-year arrest rate was 72.7 percent, which was 2.2 percentage points lower than the Fiscal Year 2012-13 release cohort's rate of 74.9 percent, and the three-year return to state custody rate was 22.7 percent, which was 11.6 percentage points lower than the Fiscal Year 2012-13 release cohort's rate of 34.3 percent.

Each of the three measures of recidivism for the Fiscal Year 2013-14 release cohort were the lowest observed since reporting began with the Fiscal Year 2007-08 release cohort. The three-year arrest rate for DJJ youth remained relatively stable between the Fiscal Year 2007-08 and 2013-14 DJJ release cohorts, ranging from a high of 82.0 percent with the Fiscal Year 2007-08 release cohort and a low of 72.7 percent with the Fiscal Year 2013-14 release cohort. The three-year conviction rate followed a similar pattern: ranging from 59.8 percent with the Fiscal Year 2007-08 release cohort and a low of 49.1 percent with the Fiscal Year 2012-13 release cohort. For both measures (arrests and convictions) small fluctuations (increases and decreases) occurred between cohorts.

The three-year return to state custody rate saw the most substantial fluctuations with the seven release cohorts shown in Figure A: the Fiscal Year 2009-10 release cohort had the highest three-year return to state custody rate (59.3 percent) of each cohort and from that point, the three-year return to state custody rate began to decline, reaching 22.7 percent with the Fiscal Year 2013-14 release cohort. Much of the decline in the three-year return to state custody rate is attributed to changes in DJJ parole processes (and the end of DJJ parole in 2013), which led to substantial decreases in returns for parole violations.

Arrests

The three-year arrest rate for the 216 youth released from DJJ during Fiscal Year 2013-14 was 72.7 percent (157 youth). Over a quarter of the release cohort (27.3 percent or 59 youth) had no arrests

² The IBTM is a comprehensive model that includes evidence-based interventions, case management, and a reinforcement system.

³ Consistent with the Board of State and Community Corrections definition of recidivism, the primary measure of recidivism is the three-year conviction rate and arrests and returns to prison serve as supplemental measures of recidivism. In earlier reports, CDCR did not specify a primary measure of recidivism. For more information regarding the definition of recidivism, please see Section 2. Evaluation Design.

within three years of their release from DJJ, 51.4 percent (111 youth) were arrested for a felony offense, and 17.6 percent (38 youth) were arrested for a misdemeanor offense. Eight youth or 3.7 percent of the DJJ release cohort were arrested for supervision violations.

As shown in Figure A, the three-year arrest rate of 72.7 percent is slightly lower (2.2 percentage points) than the three-year arrest rate for youth released in Fiscal Year 2012-13 (74.9 percent). Overall, the three-year arrest rate has declined with each cohort of DJJ releases since reporting began with the Fiscal Year 2007-08 release cohort. The three-year arrest rate ranged from a high of 82.0 percent with the Fiscal Year 2007-08 release cohort and a low of 74.2 percent with the Fiscal Year 2011-12 cohort. Following a slight increase in the three-year arrest rate of 74.9 percent with the Fiscal Year 2012-13 release cohort, the three-year arrest rate reached its lowest point with the release of the Fiscal Year 2013-14 cohort (72.7 percent).

Convictions

The three-year conviction rate for the Fiscal Year 2013-14 DJJ cohort was 49.1 percent, with 106 of the 216 youth released from DJJ convicted during the three-year follow-up period. Over half of the release cohort (50.9 percent or 110 youth) had no convictions during the three-year follow-up period, 27.8 percent (60 youth) were convicted of a felony offense, and 21.3 percent (46 youth) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense. Nearly half of the 106 convictions (45.3 percent or 48 convictions) occurred within the first year of the cohort's release from DJJ.

The three-year conviction rate of 49.1 percent for the FY 2013-14 release cohort was 6.4 percentage points lower than the three-year conviction rate for youth released in FY 2012-13 (55.5 percent or 261 youth). As shown in Figure A, the three-year conviction rate was generally stable between the Fiscal Year 2007-08 and 2013-14 release cohorts with small fluctuations (increases and decreases) observed. Following the rate of 59.8 percent with the Fiscal Year 2007-08 release cohort, the three-year conviction rate gradually decreased, reaching its lowest point with the FY 2013-14 release cohort's rate of 49.1 percent.

Returns to State Custody

For the 216 youth released in Fiscal Year 2013-14, the three-year return to state custody rate was 22.7 percent (49 youth). Youth released from DJJ may be released and returned to DJJ or DAI. Over three-quarters of the release cohort (77.3 percent or 167 youth) did not return to state custody during the three-year follow-up period. Slightly over ten percent of the release cohort (10.6 percent or 23 youth) were returned to state custody for crimes against persons, followed by other crimes (7.4 percent or 16 youth), drug crimes (2.8 percent or six youth), and property crimes (1.9 percent or four youth).

The three-year return to state custody rate for youth released from DJJ saw consistent decreases after reaching a high of 59.3 percent with the Fiscal Year 2009-10 release cohort. The three-year return to

state custody for the Fiscal Year 2013-14 release cohort of 22.7 percent marks the lowest rate observed since rates were reported with the Fiscal Year 2007-08 release cohort.

Decreases in the three-year return to state custody rate are attributed to decreases in parole violations, which are largely due to changes in DJJ's post-release supervision structure.⁴ Until 2013, DJJ oversaw the parole supervision of youth released from DJJ and beginning in 2011, all youth discharged from DJJ were placed on community supervision, administered by county probation departments. As a result, the number of youth returned to state custody for parole violations diminished: 25.7 percent of the Fiscal Year 2007-08 DJJ release cohort were returned to state custody for parole violations, while none of the 216 youth released in Fiscal Year 2013-14 were returned to state custody for parole violations. The FY 2013-14 release cohort was the first group of DJJ releases where each youth was released to their county of commitment for community supervision and returns to state custody for parole violations were no longer possible.

⁴ Beginning in 2007, some 707(b) youth were released to their county of commitment, while other youth were released to state parole supervision. Senate Bill 81 (2007) required release of non-707(b)/290 youth to their county of commitment and beginning in 2011, all youth discharged from DJJ were supervised by their committing county. State parole supervision of DJJ releases ended in 2013.

Key Findings

Youth Demographics and Characteristics

- A total of 216 youth were released from DJJ between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014 and comprised the Fiscal Year 2013-14 release cohort.
- Male youth comprised the majority of the release cohort (95.8 percent or 207 youth) and females comprised 4.2 percent (nine youth).
- Most youth were between the ages of 14 and 19 (97.2 percent or 210 youth) when first admitted to DJJ. Very few youth were ages 12 and 13 (1.9 percent or four youth) or 20 years and over (less than one percent or two youth).
- Upon their release from DJJ, most youth in the Fiscal Year 2013-14 release cohort were between the ages of 18 and 24 (91.7 percent or 198 youth). Less than eight percent (7.4 percent or 16 youth) were between the ages of 15 and 17 and two youth were 25 or over.
- Youth released in Fiscal Year 2013-14 were most often committed to DJJ for crimes against persons (95.8 percent or 207 youth) and 4.2 percent (nine youth) were committed for property crimes.

Convictions

- The three-year conviction rate for the 216 youth released in Fiscal Year 2013-14 was 49.1 percent (106 youth). Almost half of the youth convicted (45.3 percent or 48 youth) were convicted within the first year of their release from DJJ.
- The three-year conviction rate for the Fiscal Year 2013-14 DJJ release cohort was 6.4 percentage points lower than the Fiscal Year 2012-13 release cohort's rate of 55.5 percent.
- Over half of the Fiscal Year 2013-14 DJJ release cohort (50.9 percent or 110 youth) had no convictions during the three-year follow-up period, 27.8 percent (60 youth) were convicted of a felony offense, and 21.3 percent (46 youth) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense.
- Less than ten percent of the release cohort (9.7 percent or 21 youth) were convicted of other felony crimes, followed by felony crimes against persons (9.3 percent or 20 youth), felony property crimes (6.0 percent or 13 youth), and felony drug/alcohol crimes (2.8 percent or six youth).
- Over six percent of the release cohort (6.5 percent or 14 youth) were convicted of misdemeanor property crimes, followed by misdemeanor crimes against persons (5.6 percent or 12 youth), other misdemeanor crimes (5.1 percent or 11 youth), and misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes (4.2 percent or nine youth).

Arrests and Returns to State Custody Rate

- The three-year arrest rate for the Fiscal Year 2013-14 DJJ release cohort was 72.7 percent (157 youth). Over a quarter of the release cohort (27.3 percent or 59 youth) had no arrests during the three-year follow-up period.
- Slightly over 50 percent of the release cohort (51.4 percent or 111 youth) were arrested for felony offenses, 17.6 percent (38 youth) were arrested for misdemeanor offenses, and 3.7 percent (eight youth) were arrested for supervision violations.
- Over 20 percent of the DJJ release cohort (22.2 percent or 48 youth) were arrested for felony crimes against persons, followed by other felony crimes (15.7 percent or 34 youth), felony property crimes (7.4 percent or 16 youth), and felony drug/alcohol crimes (6.0 percent or 13 youth).
- Fewer youth were arrested for misdemeanor offenses than felony offenses: 5.6 percent (12 youth) of the release cohort were arrested for other misdemeanor crimes, 5.1 percent (11 youth) for misdemeanor crimes against persons, 5.1 percent (11 youth) for misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes, and 1.9 percent (four youth) were arrested for misdemeanor property crimes.
- The three-year return to state custody rate for the 216 youth released in Fiscal Year 2013-14 was 22.7 percent (49 youth). Over three-quarters of the release cohort (77.3 percent or 167 youth) had no returns to state custody during the three-year follow-up period.
- The largest percentage of returns were for crimes against persons (10.6 percent or 23 youth), followed by other crimes (7.4 percent or 16 youth), drug crimes (2.8 percent or six youth), and property crimes (1.9 percent or four youth).

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION

2018 DIVISION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE RECIDIVISM REPORT

1 Introduction

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) provides treatment and education to California’s juvenile and young adult offenders. Between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014, 216 youth were released from DJJ and tracked for three years following the date of their release. This report presents recidivism outcomes (arrests, convictions, and returns to state custody), as well as demographics (e.g. gender, race/ethnicity) and characteristics (e.g. commitment offense category) for the 216 youth released from DJJ during Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14. The three-year conviction rate is the primary measure of recidivism. The three-year arrest and return to state custody rates are supplemental measures of recidivism.⁵ Returns to state custody include returns to DJJ and CDCR’s Division of Adult Institutions (DAI).

The juvenile justice system has undergone a number of policy reforms since 2007, including changes to the eligibility criteria for commitment to DJJ.⁶ Only youth whose most recent sustained offense was listed under Welfare and Institutions Code 707(b) (violent offenses), or Penal Code 290.008 (sex offenses), commonly referred to as 707(b)/290 youth, were eligible for commitment to DJJ, while most non-707(b)/290 youth were committed to county-level facilities.⁷ As a result of these reforms, the number of youth incarcerated and released from DJJ since FY 2007-08 has declined. The demographics and characteristics have also changed, with much larger percentages of youth whose commitment offenses were serious, violent, or required registration as a sex offender comprising each release cohort. In FY 2007-08, 1,404 youth were released from DJJ and just under two-thirds of the release cohort (65.2 percent or 916 youth) were 707(b) or 290 youth. In FY 2013-14, 216 youth were released from DJJ and almost all of the youth released were 707 (b) or 290 youth (99.5 percent of the release cohort or 215 youth).

The post-release supervision processes for youth also changed with the 2007 reforms. Prior to 2011, most youth released from DJJ were released to state parole supervision, which DJJ oversaw until 2013. Beginning in 2011, DJJ released non-707(b)/290 youth to their county of commitment for community supervision.⁸ As a result, the number of youth released to state parole supervision and subsequently

⁵ Consistent with the Board of State and Community Corrections definition of recidivism, the primary measure of recidivism is the three-year conviction rate and arrests and returns to prison serve as supplemental measures of recidivism. In earlier reports, CDCR did not specify a primary measure of recidivism. For more information regarding the definition of recidivism, please see Section 2. Evaluation Design.

⁶ Senate Bill 81 (2007) and Assembly Bill 191 (2011) changed the eligibility criteria for youth committed to DJJ. Only youth whose most recent sustained offense was listed under the Welfare and Institutions Code (W&IC) 707(b) (violent offenses), or Penal Code (PC) 290.008 (sex offenses), commonly referred to as 707(b)/290 youth, were eligible for commitment to DJJ, and most non-707(b)/290 youth were committed to county-level facilities.

⁷ Youth whose most recent sustained offense was listed under Welfare and Institutions Code 707(b) (violent offenses), or PC 290.008 (sex offenses), commonly referred to as 707(b)/290 youth are referred to as “707(b)/290 youth” throughout this report.

⁸ Beginning in 2007, some 707(b) youth were released to their county of commitment, while all other youth were released to state parole supervision. Senate Bill 81 required release of non-707(b)/290 youth to their county of commitment and beginning in 2011, all youth discharged from DJJ were supervised by their committing county. State parole supervision of DJJ releases ended in 2013.

returning to state custody for parole violations declined. The FY 2013-14 release cohort marks the first group of DJJ releases where each youth was released to their county of commitment for community supervision and returns to state custody for parole violations were no longer possible.

DJJ was in the process of developing and implementing the Integrated Behavioral Treatment Model (IBTM) during the period of release (FY 2013-14) for the cohort examined in this report. The IBTM is a comprehensive model that includes evidence-based interventions, case management, and a reinforcement system.⁹

Of the 216 youth released from DJJ in FY 2013-14, 72.7 percent (157 youth) were arrested, 49.1 percent (106 youth) were convicted, and 22.7 percent (49 youth) were returned to state custody. Returns to state custody include returns to both DJJ and CDCR's DAI.¹⁰ In prior reports, returns to DJJ and DAI were provided separately. Due to the low number of releases and returns among DJJ youth, CDCR began reporting a single return to custody rate, which includes both returns to DJJ and DAI with the FY 2012-13 DJJ release cohort. Rates for 707(b)/290 youth and non-707(b)/290 youth were also provided separately in prior reports. Beginning with the FY 2012-13 release cohort, a combined rate of arrest, conviction, and return were reported for all youth 707(b)/290 youth and non-707(b)/290 youth released from DJJ over the course of a fiscal year.

In addition to recidivism outcomes, this report provides the type of arrest, conviction, and return to state custody, as well as a count of arrests and convictions (i.e. the number of times a release was arrested or convicted during the three-year follow-up period. Appendix A provides arrest, conviction, and return to state custody rates at one-, two-, and three-year intervals for the FY 2007-08 through FY 2013-14 release cohorts for comparative purposes.

⁹ The IBTM may have partially affected some of the youth in the cohort examined in this report. However, the full effect on outcomes is not anticipated to be evident for several years. The IBTM will be discussed in greater detail for future DJJ release cohorts impacted by its implementation.

¹⁰ The return to state custody rate only includes the first return to either DJJ or DAI during the three-year follow-up period and more detail is provided in Section 4.2 Time to Conviction of the report.

2 Evaluation Design

2.1 Definitions

The State of California defines recidivism as “conviction of a new felony or misdemeanor committed within three years of release from custody or committed within three years of placement on supervision for a previous criminal conviction.”¹¹ The definition also allows for supplemental measures of recidivism including: new arrests, returns to custody, criminal filings, or supervision violations. In prior reports, five measures of recidivism were used to evaluate the outcomes of youth: arrests, convictions, returns to DJJ, returns to DAI, and returns to any state level custody. Commencing with the Recidivism Report for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2012-13, three measures of recidivism are used and include: arrests, convictions, and returns to state custody, which includes both returns to DJJ and DAI. The three-year conviction rate is the primary measure of recidivism and arrests and returns to state custody are supplemental measures of recidivism.

Three-year recidivism rates are defined as follows:

“An arrest, conviction, or return to state custody within three years of release from DJJ custody.”

The rates are calculated using the ratio of the youth in the release cohort who were arrested, convicted, or returned to state custody during the follow-up period, to the total number of youth in the release cohort, multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Arrest/Conviction/Return to State Custody Rate} = \frac{\text{Number Arrested/Convicted/Returned to State Custody}}{\text{Release Cohort}} \times 100$$

2.2 Methods

This report provides arrest, conviction, and return to state custody rates at one-, two-, and three-year intervals for youth released from DJJ between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014. In some instances, youth may be serving concurrent sentences in DJJ and DAI. Concurrent jurisdiction cases have two release dates: the release from DJJ (even if they are still incarcerated in DAI) and a release from DAI (even if they are still incarcerated in DJJ). In these cases, the date youth were shown to have been released from both sentences was used as the “release date” regardless of whether the last stay was in a DJJ facility or a DAI facility. Recidivism rates are further examined by the type of arrest or conviction (i.e. misdemeanor or felony) and by the type of return to state custody (e.g. drug crimes, property crimes).

¹¹ Section 3027 of California Penal Code required the Board of State and Community Corrections to develop a state-wide definition of recidivism.

2.3 Data Sources

Data were extracted from the Offender Based Information Tracking System, DJJ's system of record, to determine which released youth returned to DJJ during the three-year follow-up period. Admissions to DAI were extracted from the Strategic Offender Management System, DAI's system of record. Arrest and conviction data were obtained from the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Criminal Justice Information System and the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System.

2.4 Data Limitations

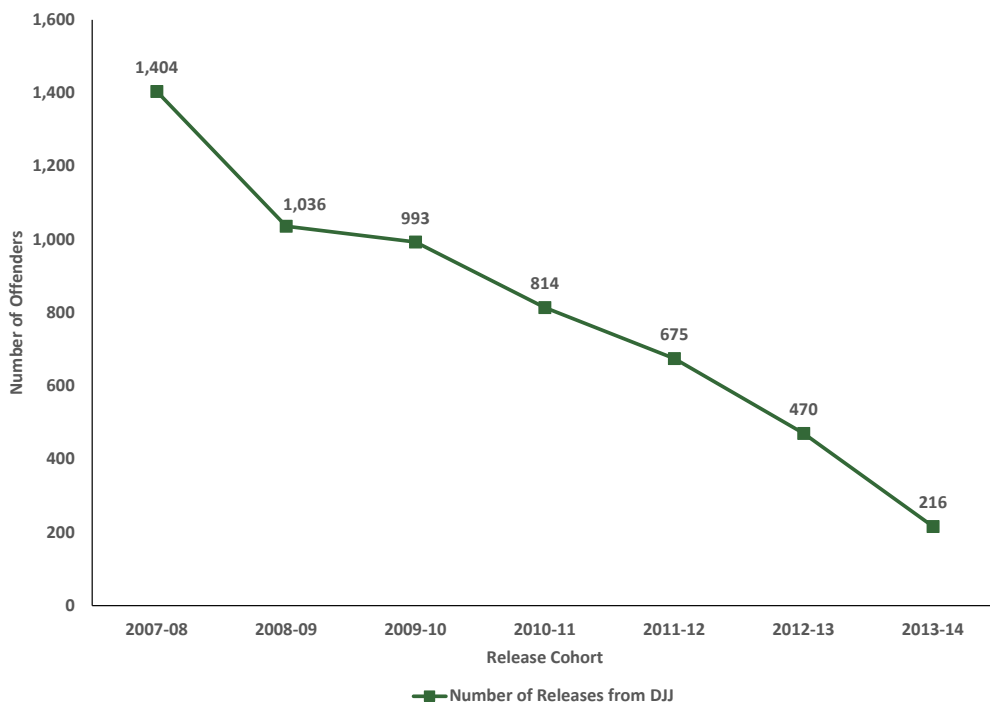
Data quality is important with all analyses performed by CDCR's Office of Research. The intent of this report is to provide summary (aggregate) information, rather than individual information. The aggregate data are strong when a large number of records (releases) are available for analysis, but are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

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

3 Description of the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Division of Juvenile Justice Release Cohort

As shown in Figure 1, the size of DJJ’s release cohorts have decreased substantially since the release of the FY 2007-08 cohort. In FY 2007-08, 1,404 youth were released from DJJ and from that point, the size of each release cohort decreased, reaching 216 youth in FY 2013-14. Between FY 2012-13 and 2013-14, the size of the cohort decreased 54.0 percent, from 470 youth to 216 youth. The decline in DJJ releases is largely due to legislation passed in 2007, which required commitment to DJJ only for youth with a sex offense requiring registration as a sex offender, youth with violent and/or serious offenses, and youth committed to DJJ from an adult court.¹² Other youth were committed to county facilities, which led to a sharp decline in DJJ’s overall population and the number of youth released from DJJ each fiscal year. In previous reports, youth demographics and recidivism rates were reported by a youth’s status as a 707(b)/290 or non-707(b)/290 offender. Because the number of non-707(b)/290 youth has substantially decreased, the two groups (non-707(b)/290 and 707(b)/290 youth) are reported as one group in this report.

Figure 1. Number of Youth in the Fiscal Year 2007-08 through Fiscal Year 2013-14 Division of Juvenile Justice Release Cohorts



¹² With the passage of Senate Bill 81 in 2007, only youth whose most recent sustained offense was listed under the Welfare and Institutions Code (W&IC) 707(b), violent offenses, or an offense listed in Penal Code (PC) 290.008, sex offenses were eligible for commitment to DJJ. The legislation also required that remaining non-707(b) offenders be returned to the county of commitment upon release for community supervision, rather than DJJ parole.

3.1 Youth Demographics and Characteristics

Gender

Of the 216 youth released in FY 2013-14, 95.8 percent (207 youth) were male and 4.2 percent (nine youth) were female.

Race/Ethnicity

Over half of the FY 2013-14 release cohort (61.1 percent or 132 youth) were Hispanic/Latino, followed by Black/African American (28.7 percent or 62 youth), and White (6.5 percent or 14 youth). Slightly over three percent (3.2 percent or seven youth) were Asian/Pacific Islander and less than one percent (0.5 percent or one youth) were categorized as “Other”.

Age at First Admission

When admitted to DJJ, most youth in the FY 2013-14 release cohort were 16 or 17 years of age (47.2 percent or 102 youth). Less than two percent (1.9 percent or four youth) were 12 or 13 years of age, followed by youth 14 or 15 years of age (17.1 percent or 37 youth), and 18 or 19 years of age (32.9 percent or 71 youth). Less than one percent of the DJJ release cohort were 20 years or over at their first admission (0.9 percent or two youth).

Age at Release

Most youth in the FY 2013-14 DJJ release cohort were between the ages of 18 and 24 when released. Less than eight percent (7.4 percent or 16 youth) were ages 15 to 17, 61.6 percent (133 youth) were ages 18 to 20, and 30.1 percent (65 youth) were ages 21 to 24. Less than one percent were 25 or over when released from DJJ (0.9 percent or two youth).

Commitment Offense Category

Nearly all youth in the FY 2013-14 DJJ release cohort were committed to DJJ for crimes against persons (95.8 percent or 207 youth). Nine youth (or 4.2 percent of the release cohort) were committed to DJJ for property crimes.

Youth Offender Type

The majority of youth released from DJJ in FY 2013-14 (82.9 percent or 179 youth) were 707(b) youth (committed a violent offense) and less than one percent (0.9 percent or two youth) were 290 youth (committed a sex offense). Less than 16 percent (15.7 percent or 34 youth) were both 707(b)/290 youth (committed both a violent or sex offense) and one youth was non-707(b)/290.

Table 1. Demographics and Characteristics of Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice During Fiscal Year 2013-14

Demographics and Characteristics		Number	Percent
Total		216	100.0%
Gender			
	Male	207	95.8%
	Female	9	4.2%
Race/Ethnicity			
	Hispanic/Latino	132	61.1%
	Black/African American	62	28.7%
	White	14	6.5%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	7	3.2%
	Other	1	0.5%
Age at First Admission			
	12 - 13	4	1.9%
	14 - 15	37	17.1%
	16 - 17	102	47.2%
	18 - 19	71	32.9%
	20+	2	0.9%
Age at Release			
	15 - 17	16	7.4%
	18 - 20	133	61.6%
	21 - 24	65	30.1%
	25 +	2	0.9%
Commitment Offense Category			
	Crimes Against Persons	207	95.8%
	Property Crimes	9	4.2%
Youth Offender Type			
	707(b)	179	82.9%
	290	2	0.9%
	707(b) and 290	34	15.7%
	Non-707(b)/290	1	0.5%

4 Three-Year Outcomes

4.1 Arrest, Conviction, and Return to State Custody Rates

Figure 2. Arrest, Conviction, and Return to State Custody Rates for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14

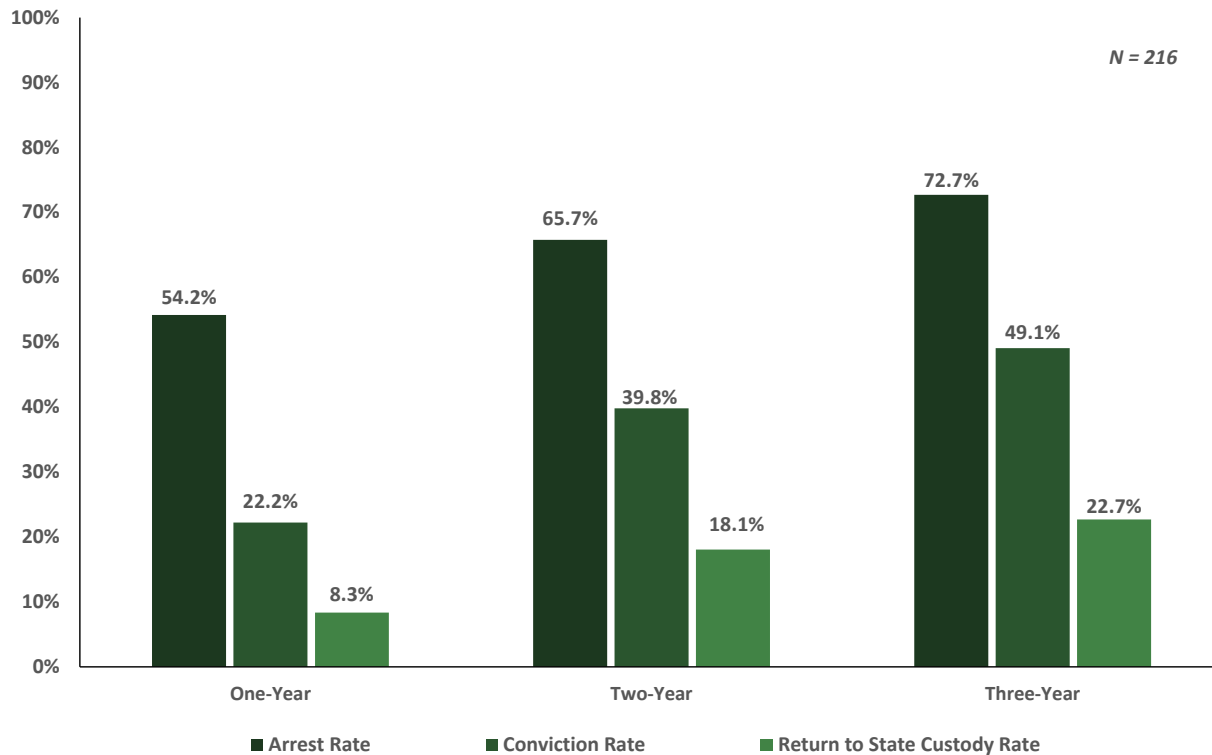


Figure 2 and Table 2 show three-year outcomes (arrest, convictions, and returns to state custody) for the 216 youth released from DJJ during FY 2013-14. The three-year conviction rate is the primary measure of recidivism. The three-year arrest and return to state custody rates are supplemental measures of recidivism.¹³ After the three-year follow-up period, 72.7 percent of the release cohort were arrested (157 youth), 49.1 percent were convicted (106 youth), and 22.7 percent (49 youth) were returned to state custody (DJJ or DAI). Most youth who recidivated were arrested, convicted, or returned to state custody within the first year of their release.

The FY 2013-14 release cohort had lower three-year arrest, conviction, and return to prison rates when compared to the FY 2012-13 release cohort (Appendix A). The three-year arrest rate for the FY 2012-13 release cohort was 74.9 percent, which was 2.2 percentage points higher than the FY 2013-14 release cohort's arrest rate of 72.7 percent. The three-year conviction rate for the FY 2012-13 release cohort (55.5 percent) was 6.4 percentage points higher than the conviction rate for the FY 2013-14 release

¹³ Consistent with the Board of State and Community Corrections definition of recidivism, the primary measure of recidivism is the three-year conviction rate and arrests and returns to prison serve as supplemental measures of recidivism. In earlier reports, CDCR did not specify a primary measure of recidivism. For more information regarding the definition of recidivism, please see Section 2. Evaluation Design.

cohort (49.1 percent) and the three-year return to state custody rate for the FY 2012-13 release cohort (34.3 percent) was 11.6 percentage points higher than the return to state custody rate for the FY 2013-14 release cohort (22.7 percent).

Each of the three measures of recidivism for the FY 2013-14 release cohort were the lowest observed since reporting began with the FY 2007-08 release cohort (Appendix A). The three-year arrest rate for DJJ youth remained relatively stable between the FY 2007-08 and 2013-14 DJJ release cohorts, ranging from a high of 82.0 percent with the FY 2007-08 release cohort and a low of 72.7 percent with the FY 2013-14 release cohort. The three-year conviction rate followed a similar pattern: ranging from 59.8 percent with the FY 2007-08 release cohort and a low of 49.1 percent with the FY 2012-13 release cohort. For both measures (arrests and convictions) small fluctuations (increases and decreases) occurred between cohorts.

The three-year return to state custody rate saw the most substantial fluctuations with the seven release cohorts observed: the FY 2009-10 release cohort had the highest three-year return to state custody rate (59.3 percent) of each cohort and from that point, the three-year return to state custody rate began to decline, reaching 22.7 percent with the FY 2013-14 release cohort. Much of the decline in the three-year return to state custody rate is attributed to changes in DJJ parole processes (and the end of DJJ parole in 2013), which led to substantial decreases in returns for parole violations.

Table 2. Arrest, Conviction, and Return to State Custody Rates for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14

Type of Recidivism	Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Arrest	216	117	54.2%	142	65.7%	157	72.7%
Conviction	216	48	22.2%	86	39.8%	106	49.1%
Return to State Custody	216	18	8.3%	39	18.1%	49	22.7%

4.2 Time to Conviction

Figure 3. Three-Year Quarterly and Cumulative Rate of Conviction for the 106 Youth Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

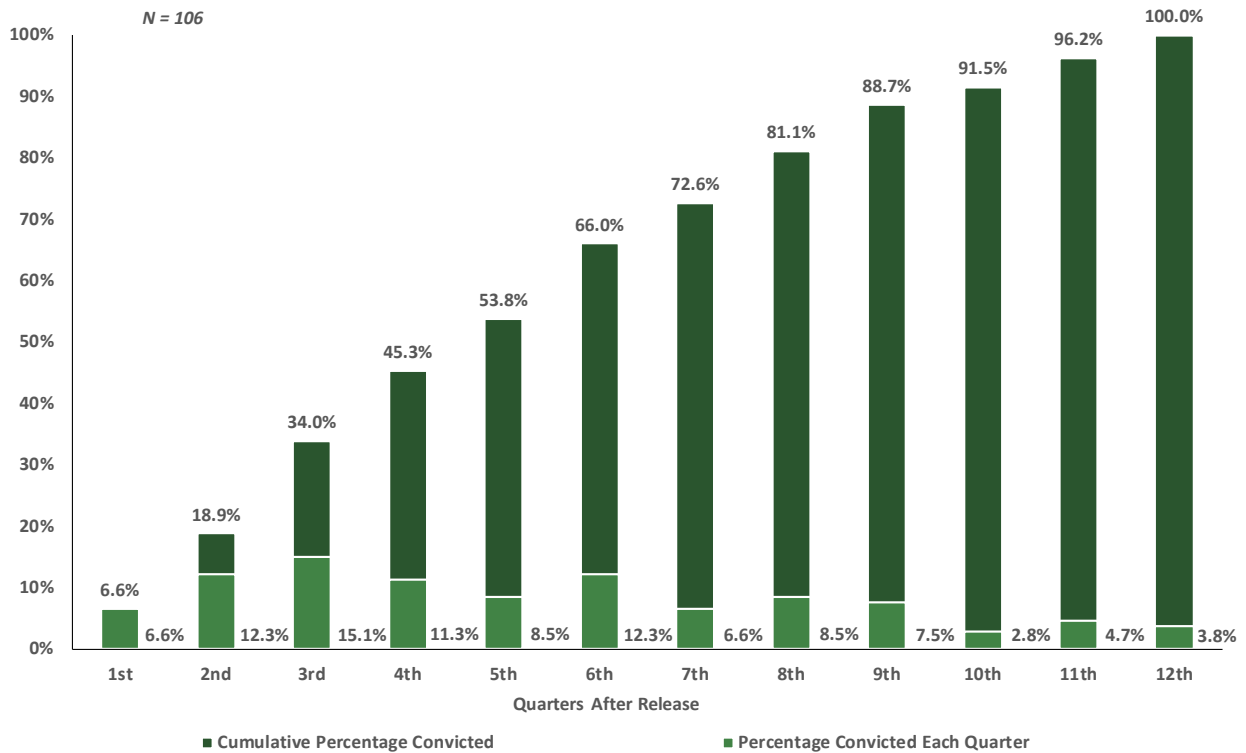


Figure 3 and Table 3 show the percentage and number of youth who were convicted during each quarter (three-month period) following their release, as well as the cumulative percentage and number of youth convicted over the three-year follow-up period. In order to examine how long youth were in the community before recidivating, only the 106 youth convicted during the three-year follow-up are represented in this section. The 12th quarter represents the final, cumulative results (i.e. 100 percent) of the 106 youth that were convicted.

Of the 106 youth convicted within three years of their release, nearly half (45.3 percent or 48 youth) were convicted in the first year of the three-year follow-up period. By year two, 81.1 percent (86 youth) were convicted. The remaining 20 youth were convicted during the third year following their release, for a total of 106 youth. The largest percentage of youth convicted (15.1 percent or 16 youth) were convicted during the third quarter following their release and smallest percentage (2.8 percent or three youth) were convicted during the 10th quarter of the three-year follow-up period.

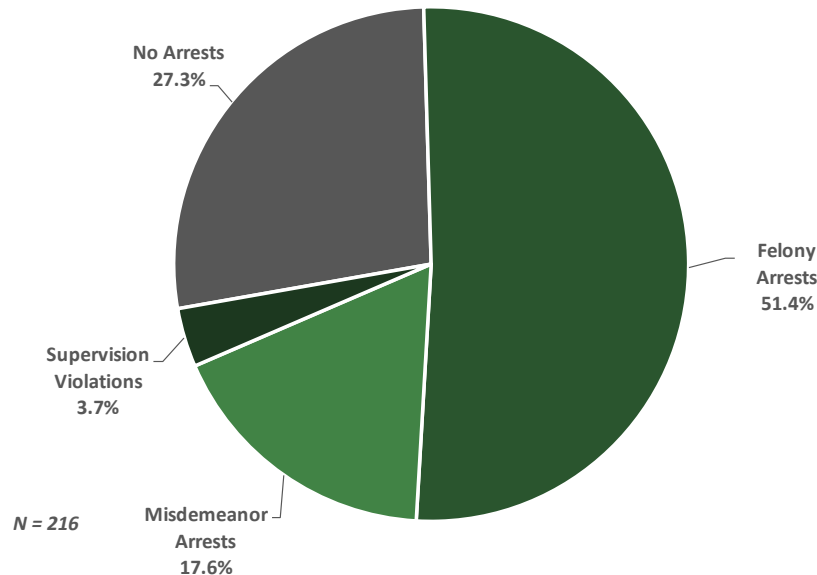
Table 3. Three-Year Quarterly and Cumulative Rate of Conviction for the 106 Youth Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

Quarters After Release	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Percentage Convicted	6.6%	12.3%	15.1%	11.3%	8.5%	12.3%	6.6%	8.5%	7.5%	2.8%	4.7%	3.8%
Cumulative Percentage	6.6%	18.9%	34.0%	45.3%	53.8%	66.0%	72.6%	81.1%	88.7%	91.5%	96.2%	100.0%
Number Convicted	7	13	16	12	9	13	7	9	8	3	5	4
Cumulative Number	7	20	36	48	57	70	77	86	94	97	102	106

5 Type and Count of Arrests, Convictions, and Returns to State Custody

5.1 Type of Arrest

Figure 4. Type of Arrest for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14



Of the 216 youth released from DJJ in Fiscal Year 2013-14, 27.3 percent (59 youth) had no arrests during the three-year follow-up period. Over half of the release cohort (51.4 or 111 youth) were arrested for felony offenses, 17.6 percent (38 youth) were arrested for misdemeanor offenses, and 3.7 percent (eight youth) were arrested for supervision violations.

As shown in Table 4, over 20 percent (22.2 percent or 48 youth) were arrested for felony crimes against persons, followed by other felony crimes (15.7 percent or 34 youth), felony property crimes (7.4 percent or 16 youth), and felony drug/alcohol crimes (6.0 percent or 13 youth).¹⁴

Misdemeanor arrests comprised smaller percentages of arrests for the FY 2013-14 release cohort than felony arrests, with 5.6 percent (12 youth) arrested for misdemeanor other crimes, 5.1 percent (11 youth) for misdemeanor crimes against persons, 5.1 percent (11 youth) for misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes, and 1.9 percent (four youth) arrested for misdemeanor property crimes.

¹⁴ Examples of “other crimes” could include stalking, criminal gang activity, hit and run death/injury, street gang acts, and accessory to felony crimes.

Table 4. Type of Arrest for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14

Type of Arrest	Number	Percent
No Arrests	59	27.3%
All Felony Arrests	111	51.4%
Felony Crimes Against Persons	48	22.2%
Felony Other Crimes	34	15.7%
Felony Property Crimes	16	7.4%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	13	6.0%
All Misdemeanor Arrests	38	17.6%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	12	5.6%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	11	5.1%
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	11	5.1%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	4	1.9%
Supervision Violations	8	3.7%
Total	216	100.0%

5.2 Count of Arrests

As shown in Table 5, over a quarter of the FY 2013-14 DJJ release cohort (27.3 percent or 59 youth) had no arrests during the three-year follow-up period. Almost 20 percent (18.5 percent or 40 youth) had one arrest following their release, 13.9 percent (30 youth) had two arrests, and 10.2 percent (22 youth) had three arrests. In general, the percentage of youth arrested declines as the number of arrests increases, with the exception of youth with seven arrests (3.2 percent or seven youth) and ten or more arrests (2.8 percent or six youth).

Table 5. Number of Arrests for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14

Number of Arrests	Number	Percent
0	59	27.3%
1	40	18.5%
2	30	13.9%
3	22	10.2%
4	24	11.1%
5	16	7.4%
6	5	2.3%
7	7	3.2%
8	6	2.8%
9	1	0.5%
10+	6	2.8%
Total	216	100.0%

5.3 Type of Conviction

Figure 5. Type of Conviction for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14

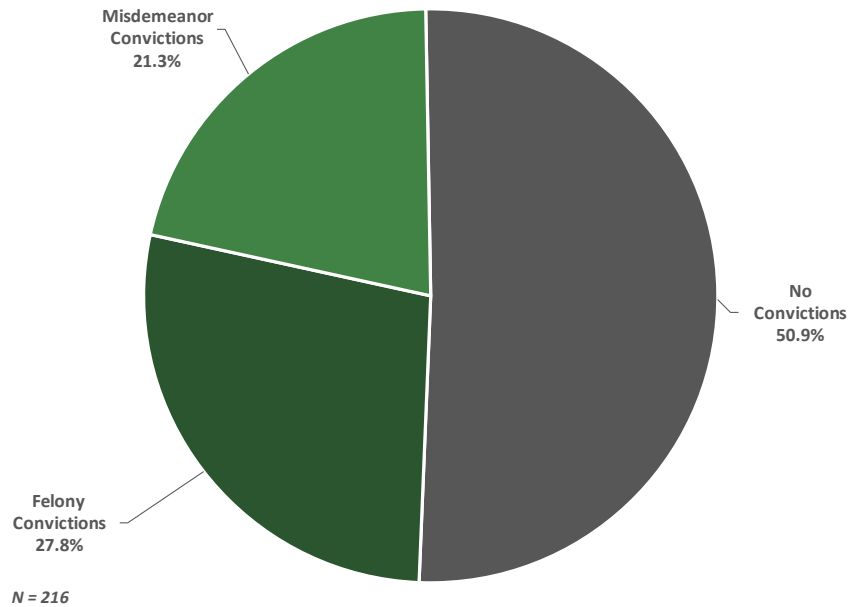


Figure 5 and Table 6 show the percentage of youth in the FY 2013-14 release cohort convicted of misdemeanor and felony offenses during the three-year follow-up period. Approximately half of the release cohort (50.9 percent or 110 youth) had no convictions during the three-year follow-up period. Over a quarter of the 216 youth were convicted of a felony offense (27.8 percent or 60 youth) and 21.3 percent (46 youth) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense.

With regards to convictions for felonies, nearly ten percent of the release cohort (9.7 percent or 21 youth) were convicted of other felony crimes, followed by felony crimes against persons (9.3 percent or 20 youth), felony property crimes (6.0 percent or 13 youth), and felony drug/alcohol crimes (2.8 percent or six youth).¹⁵ Fewer youth were convicted for misdemeanors: 6.5 percent (14 youth) were convicted of misdemeanor property crimes, followed by 5.6 percent (12 youth) for misdemeanor crimes against persons, 5.1 percent (11 youth) for misdemeanor other crimes, and 4.2 percent (nine youth) for misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes.

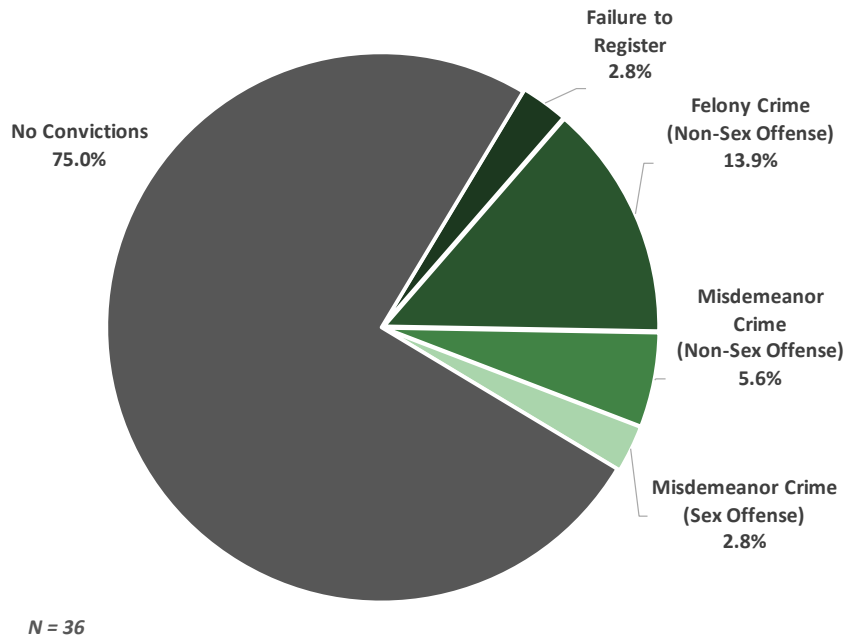
¹⁵ Examples of “other crimes” could include stalking, criminal gang activity, hit and run death/injury, street gang acts, and accessory to felony crimes.

Table 6. Type of Conviction for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14

Type of Conviction	Number	Percent
No Convictions	110	50.9%
All Felony Convictions	60	27.8%
Felony Other Crimes	21	9.7%
Felony Crimes Against Persons	20	9.3%
Felony Property Crimes	13	6.0%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	6	2.8%
All Misdemeanor Convictions	46	21.3%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	14	6.5%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	12	5.6%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	11	5.1%
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	9	4.2%
Total	216	100.0%

5.3.1 Type of Conviction for Sex Registrants

Figure 6. Type of Conviction for Sex Registrant Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14



The FY 2013-14 DJJ release cohort consisted of 36 youth required to register as sex offenders (sex registrants) after their release. The above figure and below table show outcomes for the 36 sex registrants. Seventy-five percent (27 sex registrants) had no convictions during the three-year follow-up period and 25.0 percent (nine youth) were convicted. One youth was convicted for failure to register as a sex offender. An additional five youth were convicted of felony crimes that were not sex offenses and two youth were convicted of misdemeanor crimes that were not sex offenses. One of the 36 youth required to register as a sex offender was convicted of a misdemeanor sex crime during the three-year follow-up period.

Table 7. Type of Conviction for Sex Registrant Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14

Type of Conviction (Sex Registrants Only)	Number	Percent
Failure to Register	1	2.8%
Felony Crime (Non-Sex Offense)	5	13.9%
Misdemeanor Crime (Non-Sex Offense)	2	5.6%
Misdemeanor Crime (Sex Offense)	1	2.8%
No Convictions	27	75.0%
Total	36	100.0%

5.4 Count of Convictions

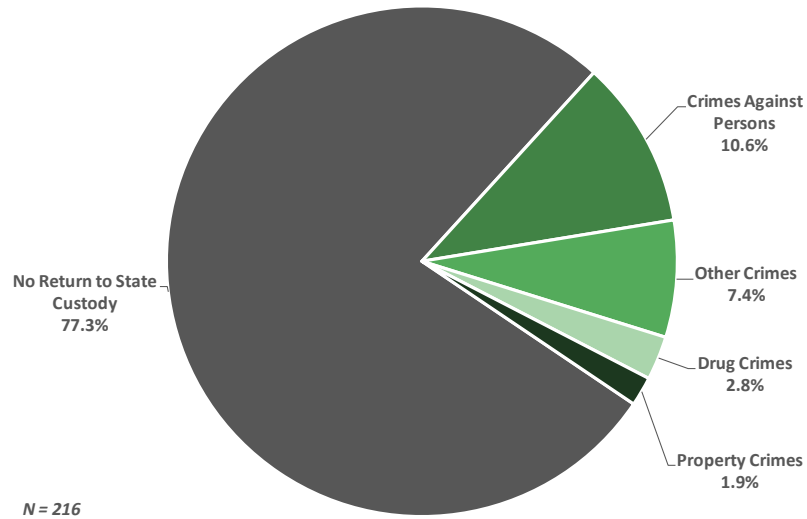
Over half of the 216 youth released from DJJ in FY 2013-14 (50.9 percent or 110 youth) had no convictions during the three-year follow-up period. Less than 30 percent (27.3 percent or 59 youth) had one conviction, 17.6 percent (38 youth) had two convictions, and 3.2 percent (seven youth) had three convictions. Less than one percent (0.9 percent or two youth) of the release cohort had four convictions.

Table 8. Count of Convictions for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14

Number of Convictions	Number	Percent
0	110	50.9%
1	59	27.3%
2	38	17.6%
3	7	3.2%
4	2	0.9%
Total	216	100.0%

5.5 Type of Return to State Custody

Figure 7. Type of Return to State Custody for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14



Of the 216 youth released from DJJ during FY 2013-14, 77.3 percent (167 youth) did not return to state custody within three years of their release and less than a quarter (22.7 percent or 49 youth) were returned to state custody. The largest percentage of youth returned (10.6 percent or 23 youth) returned to state custody for crimes against persons, followed by other crimes (7.4 percent or 16 youth), drug crimes (2.8 percent or six youth), and property crimes (1.9 percent or four youth).

Table 9. Type of Return to State Custody for Youth Released from the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fiscal Year 2013-14

Type of Return	Number	Percent
No Return to State Custody	167	77.3%
Crimes Against Persons	23	10.6%
Other Crimes	16	7.4%
Drug Crimes	6	2.8%
Property Crimes	4	1.9%
Total	216	100.0%

Appendix A

Primary and Supplemental Measures of Recidivism: Arrests, Convictions, and Returns to State Custody

Arrest Rates for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 through Fiscal Year 2013-14 Division of Juvenile Justice Release Cohorts

Fiscal Year	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Arrested	Arrest Rate	Number Arrested	Arrest Rate	Number Arrested	Arrest Rate
2007-08	1,404	868	61.8%	1,091	77.7%	1,151	82.0%
2008-09	1,036	641	61.9%	757	73.1%	812	78.4%
2009-10	993	602	60.6%	734	73.9%	788	79.4%
2010-11	814	473	58.1%	599	73.6%	645	79.2%
2011-12	675	366	54.2%	457	67.7%	501	74.2%
2012-13	470	249	53.0%	326	69.4%	352	74.9%
2013-14	216	117	54.2%	142	65.7%	157	72.7%

Conviction Rates for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 through Fiscal Year 2013-14 Division of Juvenile Justice Release Cohorts

Fiscal Year	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
2007-08	1,404	388	27.6%	677	48.2%	839	59.8%
2008-09	1,036	269	26.0%	475	45.8%	593	57.2%
2009-10	993	243	24.5%	439	44.2%	570	57.4%
2010-11	814	181	22.2%	347	42.6%	460	56.5%
2011-12	675	148	21.9%	280	41.5%	363	53.8%
2012-13	470	112	23.8%	219	46.6%	261	55.5%
2013-14	216	48	22.2%	86	39.8%	106	49.1%

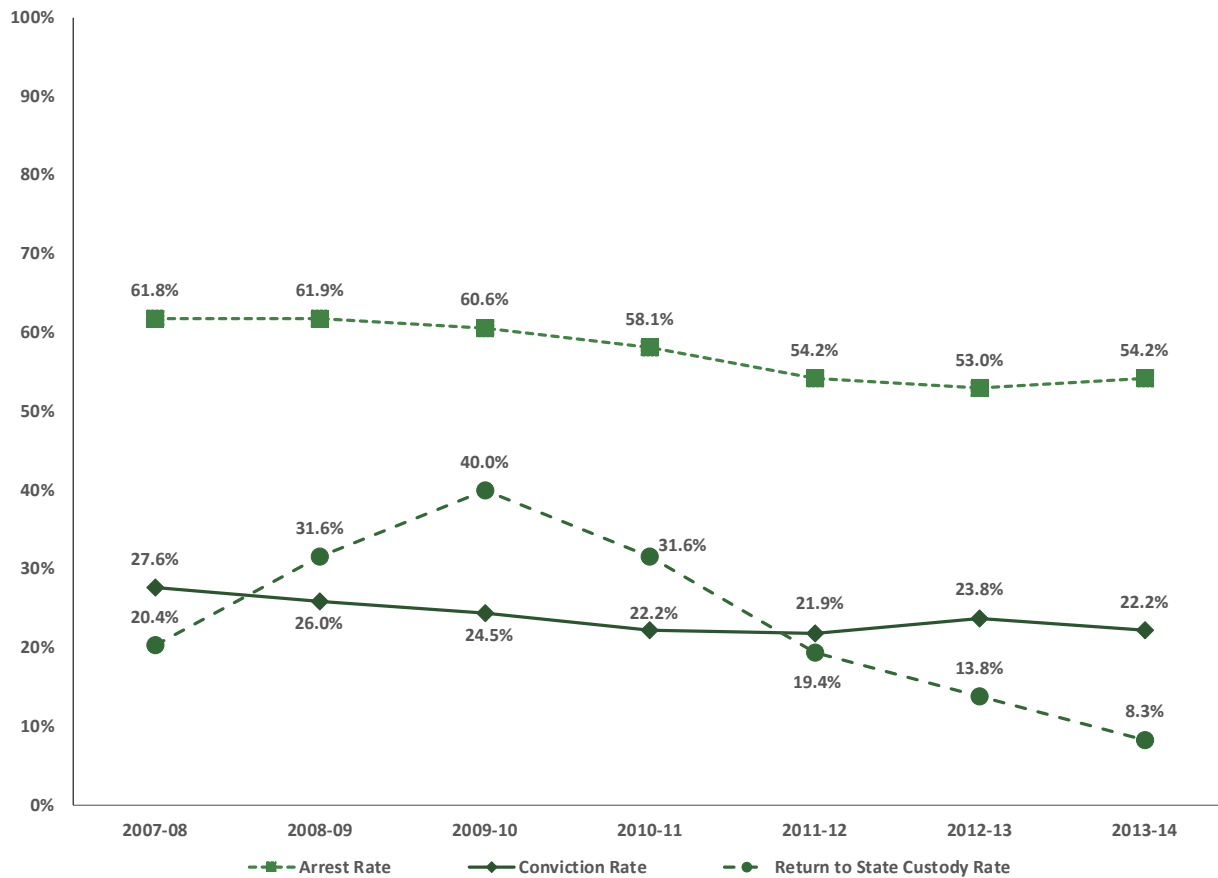
Return to State Custody Rates for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 through Fiscal Year 2013-14 Division of Juvenile Justice Release Cohorts

Fiscal Year	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Returned	Return Rate	Number Returned	Return Rate	Number Returned	Return Rate
2007-08	1,404	286	20.4%	573	40.8%	708	50.4%
2008-09	1,036	327	31.6%	466	45.0%	530	51.2%
2009-10	993	397	40.0%	532	53.6%	589	59.3%
2010-11	814	257	31.6%	380	46.7%	422	51.8%
2011-12	675	131	19.4%	196	29.0%	252	37.3%
2012-13	470	65	13.8%	132	28.1%	161	34.3%
2013-14	216	18	8.3%	39	18.1%	49	22.7%

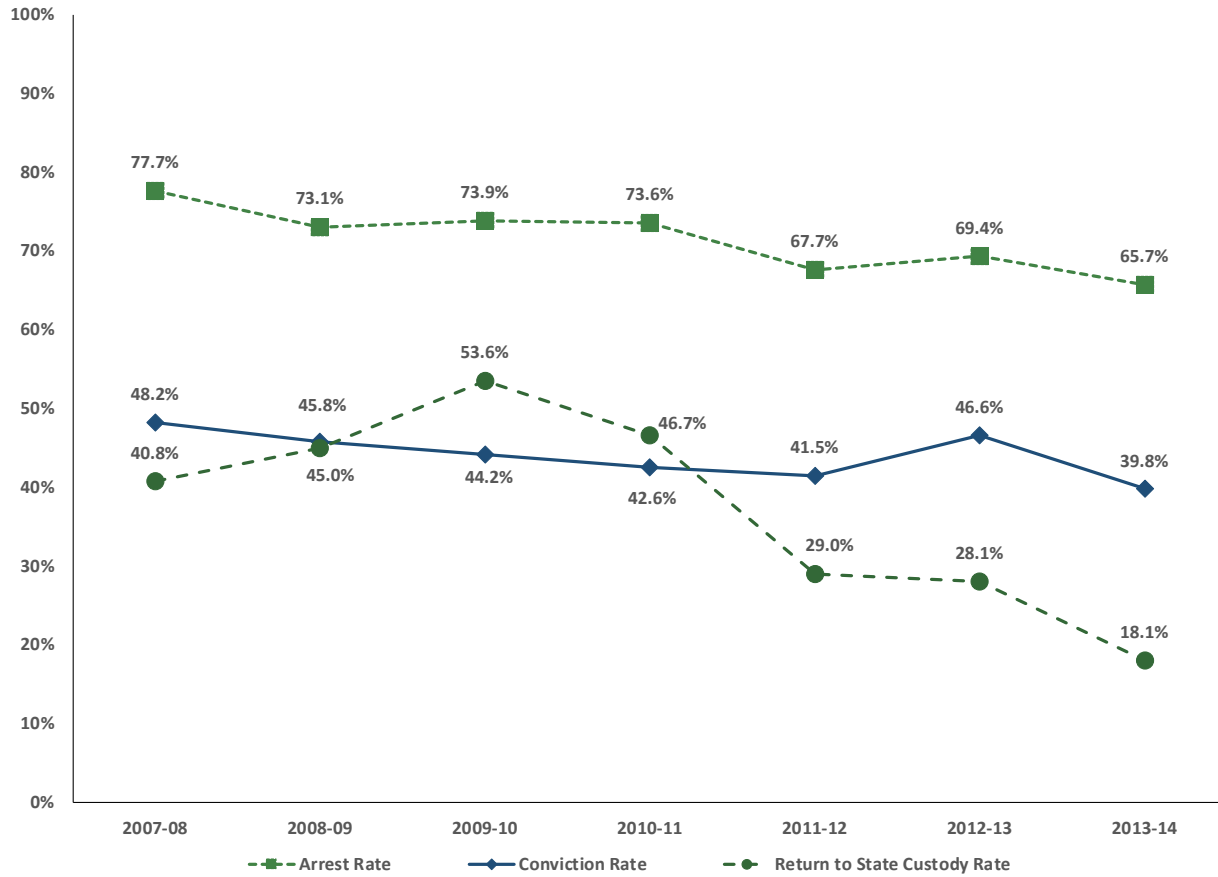
Appendix A (continued)

Primary and Supplemental Measures of Recidivism: Arrests, Convictions, and Returns to State Custody

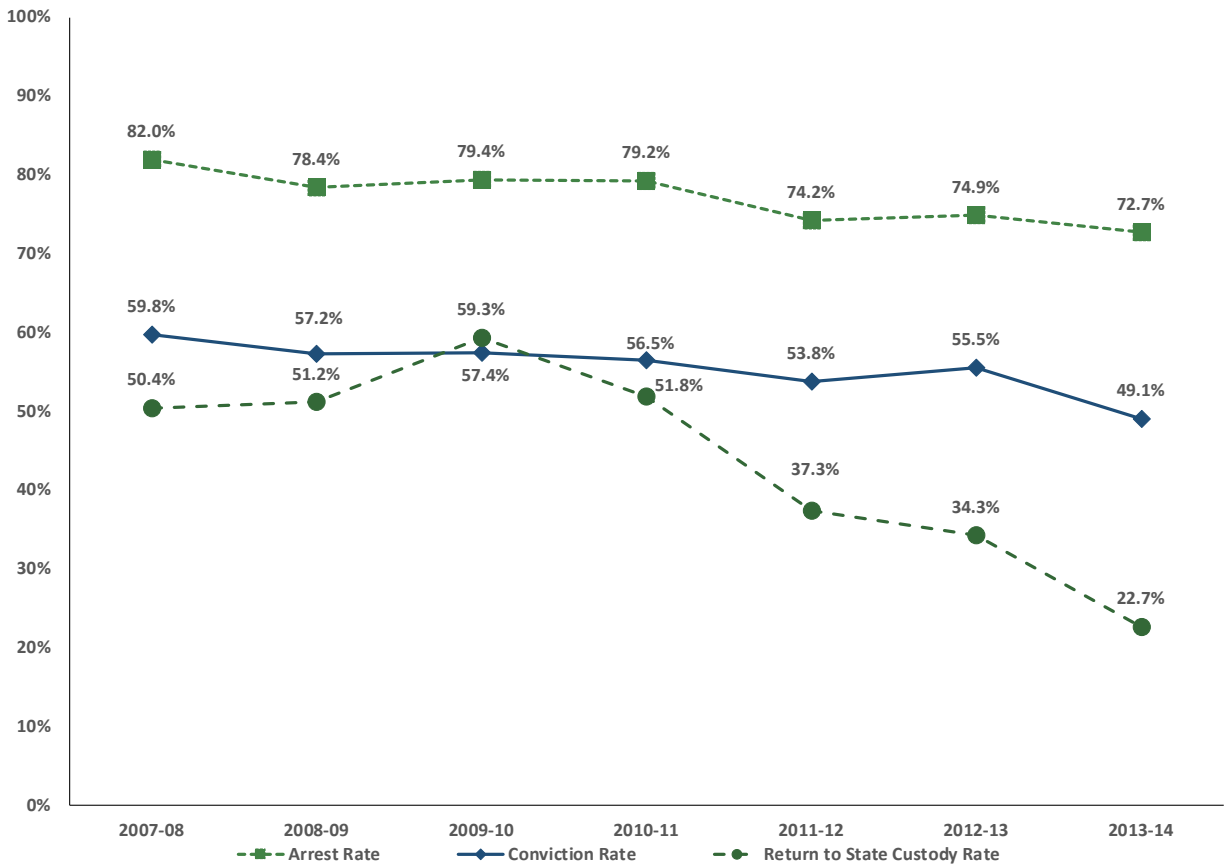
One-Year Arrest, Conviction and Return to State Custody Rates for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 through Fiscal Year 2013-14 Division of Juvenile Justice Release Cohorts



Two-Year Arrest, Conviction and Return to State Custody Rates for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 through Fiscal Year 2013-14 Division of Juvenile Justice Release Cohorts



Three-Year Arrest, Conviction and Return to State Custody Rates for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 through Fiscal Year 2013-14 Division of Juvenile Justice Release Cohorts



Appendix B

Definition of Terms

Arrest

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

Assembly Bill (AB) 191

AB 191 – A bill enacted on September 27, 2007 that provides more specific language for Senate Bill 81.

Conviction

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

Department of Justice Identifier

DOJ assigns a Criminal Identification and Index number (CII number) to anyone who is arrested or fingerprinted. An initial record of arrest and prosecution (rap sheet) is then created and subsequent arrests are added to it as DOJ received notification from the courts. A CII number may also be issued if a youth not fingerprinted by DOJ has received a disposition notification from the court.

Division of Adult Institutions (DAI)

The DAI is part of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and is responsible for the state-level supervision and custody of adult, felony offenders.

Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)

The DJJ is a part of the CDCR and is responsible for state-level supervision and custody of youth offenders.

DJJ Population

This DJJ release cohort is comprised of youth directly committed from the juvenile or adult/superior court. Not included in this release cohort are the housing and contract cases, C cases (county referrals), D cases (adult court diagnostic), E cases (youth under age 18 committed to DAI but housed at DJJ for education), G cases (emergency housing from the counties), J cases (overflow cases from Juvenile Hall), M cases [youth under the age of 18 who under W&IC 1731.5(c) are committed to DAI but ordered by adult court to be housed in DJJ], S cases (juvenile cases whose records are sealed), and Z cases (parole caseload from other cases).

707(b)/290 Offenders

Youth committed to DJJ with an offense included in W&IC 707(b), or youth required to register as sex offenders under PC section 290. Youth committed to DJJ from adult court are considered a 707(b) case whether or not their commitment offense is included in W&IC 707(b).

Non-707(b)/290 Offenders

All other DJJ youth who were committed to the DJJ with commitment offenses not falling under W&IC 707(b) or PC section 290.

Juvenile Court Commitment

Youth committed to DJJ from the juvenile court. DJJ maintains jurisdiction until age 21 if any commitment offense is not designated by the court to be a W&IC 707(b) offense. If the court deems one of the commitment offenses as falling under the offenses listed in W&IC 707(b), DJJ's jurisdiction increases to age 25.

Parole Violation

During the period that DJJ parole existed, a youth could be returned to DJJ or DAI custody by the Juvenile Parole Board for committing a law violation or a technical parole violation (e.g., absence without leave, positive drug test). Beginning in 2011, DJJ released non-707(b)/290 youth to their county of commitment for community supervision, and in 2013 DJJ parole ended for all youth.

Registered Sex Offender

Under PC section 290, if a committing court designates someone as a sex offender, she/he must register with local law enforcement as such.

Senate Bill (SB) 81

SB 81 – A bill enacted on September 1, 2007 mandating that only youth with a sex offense requiring their registration as a sex offender (PC section 290), youth with violent and/or serious offense [W&IC 707(b)], and youth committed to DJJ from adult court may be committed to DJJ. Since 2007, youth with new court commitments who do not meet these criteria are retained in county facilities.

Superior Court Commitment

Youth committed to DJJ from adult court. DJJ maintains jurisdiction until age 25 from the adult court under W&IC 1731.5(a). Not to be confused with "E" or "M" cases [W&IC 1731.5(c)], which are also adult court commitments to DJJ but are not included in the release cohort analyzed in this report. "E" and "M" case admissions are juveniles sentenced to an adult institution but housed in juvenile facilities.



**California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Division of Correctional Policy Research and Internal Oversight
Office of Research**