



California Department of Corrections
and Rehabilitation

**BIENNIAL REPORT OF
RESEARCH AND
EVALUATION PROJECTS**

JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2020

**Division of Correctional Policy Research and Internal
Oversight, Office of Research**

**2021
January**

The California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation's (CDCR) mission is to facilitate the successful reintegration of the individuals in our care back to their communities equipped with the tools to be drug-free, healthy, and employable members of society by providing education, treatment, rehabilitative, and restorative justice programs, all in a safe and humane environment.

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This report would not have been possible without the generous support of Michelle Martinez from the Office of Research.

You can obtain reports by contacting the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on the internet at: Data.Requests@cdcr.ca.gov.

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INTRODUCTION

California Penal Code section [3520](#) requires the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to prepare a biennial report for the California State Legislature that documents each research project approved and conducted on inmates within the Department. This report covers research projects that were approved and conducted during the reporting period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020. Additionally, this report includes active or ongoing projects described in the previous Biennial Report, published in January 2019. Research projects are grouped based on the entity responsible for completing the project and listed under one of the following classifications: 1) projects contracted by CDCR or 2) projects external to CDCR.

The projects contracted by CDCR examine a wide range of corrections-related subjects such as mental health programs, behavioral focused treatment programs, and community reentry practices to reduce recidivism and increase gender responsiveness. CDCR contracted research projects that focused on the evaluation of programs and instrument validation studies.

The external research and evaluation projects may be conducted by private and governmental research entities, universities, graduate students, and independent scholars whose research was approved by CDCR, but was not initiated by CDCR. External researchers studied a wide range of topics including recidivism, mental health issues of inmates and parolees, juvenile offenders, substance abuse, and community-based programs.

There was a total of 35 projects that were in progress during the reporting period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020. Areas of research that were studied most frequently by researchers include recidivism, substance abuse treatment, and mental health and behavioral treatment programs.

In order to develop this report, information was gathered from a survey disseminated to eighteen Divisions/Offices within CDCR. Appendix A identifies those Divisions/Offices who received the survey and Appendix B contains a copy of the survey. Appendix C includes definitions of the terminologies used in the report.

1.1 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION RESEARCH APPROVAL PROCESS

CDCR's processes are set forth by law, including Penal Code sections 3502, 3505 and 3515, as well as Departmental policies and procedures.

To facilitate the consideration of research and evaluation projects, California Code of Regulations, [Title 15, Article 9.1, 3369.5](#), requires the review of research requests through a formal review process before external researchers may conduct research studies with inmates and parolees. The intent of this process is to protect the rights of human subjects, ensure legality, and consider a research project's viability in conjunction with resource availability.

The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) process was enhanced in August 2018 to provide a more comprehensive and standardized approach for selecting and overseeing all CDCR research projects. The Division of Correctional Policy Research and Internal Oversight facilitates the current RAC process. The current RAC process uses a rapid-response and diverse approach with monthly-calendared meetings including all CDCR Divisions and Offices represented by voting cabinet-level executives:

Director, Division of Correctional Policy Research and Internal Oversight
Assistant Secretary/Chief Counsel, Office of Legal Affairs
Director, Division of Administrative Services
Director, Division of Adult Institutions
Director, Division of Adult Parole Operations
Director, Division of Correctional Health Care Services
Director, Division Enterprise Information Services
Director, Facility Planning, Construction & Management
Director, Division of Rehabilitative Programs
Chief, Office of Labor Relations

The current RAC process provides an open continuous [application submission](#) opportunity for all individual researchers and research institutions. A [guidelines document](#) for the submission of RAC applications provides detailed instructions on completing the application form, preparing other requirements such as Institutional Review Board (IRB) and [Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects](#) (CPHS) approvals, and obtaining criminal history background checks.

The RAC reviews research applications during monthly scheduled meetings. The RAC assesses, approves, coordinates, and monitors its research activities to ensure:

- alignment with CDCR's *Future Vision* as stated in the [January 2016 Blueprint](#);
- appropriate and lawful access to CDCR resources;
- compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

The committee may approve, conditionally approve, continue, or deny any application on initial review. An application is continued if more work is required before the application can be considered by the committee. If an application is conditionally approved, the applicant is notified

of the specific problem(s) with the application and the modification(s) that are required for approval of the application. If an application is approved by the committee, the applicant must provide to CDCR additional internal and external approval documents such as IRB and [CPHS](#) approvals before the project can be initiated.

Applications are processed in the order that they are received. Applications received after the monthly cutoff date are automatically forwarded to the next meeting agenda.

All interactions between the applicant and CDCR are directed to Data.Requests@cdcr.ca.gov (mail to: Data.Requests@cdcr.ca.gov).

1.2 SUMMARY OF RESEARCH PROJECTS

During the reporting period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020, there were a total of 38 research and evaluation projects. Out of the 38 projects, 35 were initiated and conducted by external researchers while three were conducted by researchers contracted by CDCR. Overall, recidivism, substance abuse treatment, and mental health and behavioral treatment programs were frequently studied subjects across all research groups.

Status of Research Project During Reporting Period: July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018				
	Completed	Current/Active	Closed	Total
Contracted Research	2	1	-	3
External Research	12	15	8	35
Total	14	16	8	38

For the current report, the Office of Research received additional information from 35 external researchers to determine a status of their research projects. The Office of Research received responses from 27 external researchers and was able to determine the current status of these projects. However, eight external researchers did not provide additional information and the Office of Research was not able to determine the status of these previously approved projects. Therefore, these eight studies that did not provide information regarding the projects' status were closed two years after their initial approval date.

The Office of Research introduced an enhanced research application review process in August 2018 called the Research Oversight Committee (ROC) process. The enhanced RAC process does not permit the "Closed Due to Non-Renewal" status described in previous Biennial reports. A new research application must be submitted and approved every two years for continuing projects. Therefore, the eight studies that did not provide information regarding the projects' status were closed two years after their initial approval date.

The following sections are organized by the entity responsible for completing research and evaluation projects. A brief description of the research, status, and link to the published report (when available) are presented for each project.

CDCR CONTRACTED RESEARCH AND EVALUATION PROJECTS



2.1 LISTS OF THE PROJECTS CONTRACTED BY CDCR

Project Title: **Division of Juvenile Justice: Treatment Model Process Evaluation**

Principal Investigator: Susan Turner, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: University of California, Irvine

Project Description: The Integrated Behavioral Treatment Model (IBTM) was implemented to provide incarcerated youth with resources such as education, vocation, cognitive behavioral therapy and skills training to address their individual risks, needs and strengths. The Treatment Model Process Evaluation project examined implementation process of the IBTM. The evaluators recommended the following as results of the evaluation:

- 1) Formalize the documentation and concrete understanding of IBTM, its policies and its practices for all parties;
- 2) Collect and prioritize the data for program effectiveness evaluation;
- 3) Examine the positive reinforcement system in Department of Juvenile Justice.

The final evaluation report can be found at <https://ucicorrections.seweb.uci.edu/files/2020/07/DJJ-Treatment-Model-Process-Evaluation-FINAL.pdf>

Date Initiated: July 2018
Status: Completed
Date Completed: May 2020

Project Title: **Program Accountability Review and Fidelity Tool Development for Community Programs**

Principal Investigator: Susan Turner, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: University of California, Irvine

Project Description: The project was to produce a revised Program Accountability Review (PAR) and new fidelity tool for Division of Rehabilitative Programs’ (DRP) community programs. The project developed a fidelity tool for in-prison Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) programs.

Date Initiated: July 2017
Status: Completed
Date Completed: June 2020

<i>Project Title:</i>	Contraband Interdiction Pilot Program (CIPP), California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility (SATF) and Corcoran State Prison: Evaluation Roadmap
<i>Principal Investigator:</i> <i>Institutional Affiliation:</i>	K. Clement, PhD, J. Kieckhafer, PhD, & H. Marshall, PhD California State University, Fresno
<i>Project Description:</i>	<p>This study is focused on evaluating the effectiveness of the CIPP at the SATF. The CIPP is a pilot program that was developed to reduce contraband in prisons through deploying contraband interdiction devices at the entrance areas, employing a staffing complement to operate the devices, expanding canine teams, conducting enhanced vehicle and institution searches and implementing a Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program. Statistical analyses are conducted to (1) assess relative cost-effectiveness in reducing inmate drug use of each contraband interdiction strategy used in the pilot program, including medication assisted treatment; (2) analyze instances of contraband entering the prison, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• how the contraband was brought or attempted to be brought into the prison;• when the violation occurred;• whether the person who is alleged to have committed the violation is an inmate, staff member, visitor, volunteer, contractor, or other;• the type of contraband involved;• how the violation was discovered. <p>(3) collect and analyze data on non-prisoner arrests resulting from contraband violations;</p> <p>(4) collect and analyze data on disciplinary actions taken against staff or inmates;</p> <p>(5) assess whether the pilot program caused declines in or any other observable impact on visitation;</p> <p>(6) assess whether the pilot program caused changes in the prevalence of violence or lockdowns in the prison.</p>
<i>Date Initiated:</i>	May 2019
<i>Status:</i>	Current/Active
<i>Date to be Completed:</i>	December 2020

EXTERNAL RESEARCH AND EVALUATION PROJECTS



3.1 COMPLETED EXTERNAL STUDIES (JULY 2018-JUNE 2020)

<i>Project Title:</i>	A Longitudinal Study of Parolees with Serious Mental Illness
<i>Principal Investigator:</i>	David Farabee, PhD.
<i>Institutional Affiliation:</i>	Integrated Substance Abuse Program, UCLA
<i>Project Description:</i>	The project assessed parolees with serious mental illnesses (SMI), their access to psychiatric services and their participation in these services. The study was focused on overall psychological functioning of the participants over time, the reasons they entered or did not enter psychiatric care, and reasons for remaining in or dropping out of psychiatric care. Data were collected through monthly interviews with up to 100 parolees with SMI for 12 months. The study was to assist in understanding the relationship between SMI and recidivism, as well as to provide guidance on how post-release psychiatric services can be better tailored to meet the needs of this high-risk and high-cost population.
<i>Date Initiated:</i>	May 2016
<i>Status:</i>	Completed
<i>Date Completed:</i>	October 2018
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<i>Project Title:</i>	HIV Screening and Linkage to Care
<i>Principal Investigator:</i>	Janet Mohle-Boetani, MD. MPH
<i>Institutional Affiliation:</i>	California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS)
<i>Project Description:</i>	The purpose of this study was to examine HIV screening and treatment program at the CCHCS. The study investigated the HIV test results, timing on linkage to care, baseline viral load and CD4 cell count, timing of antiretroviral treatment, and viral suppression. The research project provided recommendations to improve treatment outcomes for HIV positive patients at the CCHCS.
<i>Date Initiated:</i>	March 2018
<i>Status:</i>	Completed
<i>Date Completed:</i>	February 2019
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Project Title: **Restorative Identity Work in Room 21: The Reconceptualization of Restorative Practice and Narrative Identity Work of Juvenile Offenders within Counterspaces**

Principal Investigator: Jahmon Gibbs
Institutional Affiliation: University of the Pacific

Project Description: The CDCR has created a counseling center (Room 21) within Department of Juvenile Justice. The counseling center included two school psychologists who worked in Room 21 to council students. The evaluation project utilized qualitative research methods to examine effectiveness of the counseling conducted in Room 21 and to gain a deeper understanding of how the Room 21 space affected the psychological well-being and self-identification of juvenile offenders. Adult (18-22 years old) offenders who committed crimes as juveniles participated in a leadership group. Interviews and focus group discussions with participants were used to collect data. The participants were asked to write in a journal after each counseling session.

Date Initiated: April 2018
Status: Completed
Date Completed: December 2019

Project Title: **Tuberculosis Surveillance 2010-2016**

Principal Investigator: Janet Mohle-Boetani, MD. MPH
Institutional Affiliation: California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS)

Project Description: The study examined Tuberculosis (TB) disease among incarcerated individuals to improve the TB surveillance at the CCHCS. Archived CCHCS data from 2010 to 2016 were utilized to investigate the TB screening and prevalence among the incarcerated individuals. The study results were published on Lifeline, California Correctional Health Care Services webpage.

Date Initiated: April 2018
Status: Completed
Date Completed: February 2019

Project Title: **Correctional Norms for Cognitive and Personality Assessment Measures Routinely Utilized in an Inpatient Psychiatric Setting**

Principal Investigator: Leanne Ekstrom, PhD
Institutional Affiliation: California Department of State Hospitals (DSH), Vacaville

Project Description: This study was focused on examining how performance patterns of psychiatric hospitalized incarcerated male inmates differ from the current available norms of the commonly used cognitive and psychological assessments. The research study investigated performance pattern differences between psychotic and non-psychotic, and head injured and non-head injured male inmates, who were psychiatrically hospitalized in a California Medical Center. Assessment results from January 2007 to January 2017 were utilized for statistical analyses. In addition, outcomes of the project included identifying neurocognitive and psychological patterns of functioning within the population in order to understand risk levels for violence and other maladaptive behaviors in prison (e.g., poor impulse control) and recommendations of more effective treatment interventions. More information about the study can be found on https://www.researchgate.net/publication/327776279_Correctional_Norms_for_Cognitive_Screening_Measures_in_an_Inpatient_Psychiatric_Setting_preliminary_data

Date Initiated: June 2017
Status: Completed
Date Completed: May 2019

Project Title: **Renewing Communities**

Principal Investigator: Leon Digard, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Vera Institute of Justice

Project Description: This project examined stakeholders' perceptions of the programs, effectiveness of educational programs, and strengths and weaknesses of different program models. Data were collected through a post program survey questionnaire comprised of a series of multiple choice, Likert scale and open-ended questions. Purposes of the evaluation project were to coordinate a statewide initiative, to expand higher education opportunities and successes for currently and formerly incarcerated students and to identify unmet educational needs and program experiences to improve the program outcomes. More information regarding the evaluation project results can be found on <https://www.vera.org/publications/from-corrections-to-college-california>

Date Initiated: August 2017
Status: Completed
Date Completed: April 2020

Project Title: **The Old Globe's Reflecting Shakespeare Program Evaluation**

Principal Investigator: Patti Saraniero, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Moxie Research

Project Description: This research project investigates the effectiveness of the Old Globe's Reflecting Shakespeare Program. Reflecting Shakespeare is a 12-20-week program focused on team-building, reading and discussing Shakespeare, creating original poetry and dialogue and producing performances that includes Shakespeare's plays as well as original works created by participants. Data were collected through pre and post surveys and informal observation.

Date Initiated: August 2017
Status: Completed
Date Completed: February 2019

Project Title: **Retrospective Review of Treating Hepatitis C Patients in the Correctional Setting**

Principal Investigator: Robert Rudas, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: University of California, Davis

Project Description: This research project evaluated the efficacy of Hepatitis C (Hep C) treatment in correctional settings. Archived data were used for statistical analyses of pre-treatment parameters, treatment cures and treatment failures of chronic Hep C among incarcerated individuals at Mule Creek State Prison from September 2016 through December 2016. This study included 140 Hep C patients at the State Prison. The purpose of the study was to improve treatment outcomes for Hep C individuals in correctional settings. More information regarding the study results can be found at <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1078345819832875>

Date Initiated: December 2017
Status: Completed
Date Completed: November 2018

Project Title: **Post-realignment Criminal Justice Populations and Recidivism Outcomes in Twelve Counties**

Principal Investigator: Ryken Grattet, PhD. & Mia Bird, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Public Policy Institute of California

Project Description: This is an archived data analyses of Community Correction’s Multicounty Study (MCS) to examine how criminal justice populations have changed in the aftermath of California’s historic 2011 reform Public Safety Realignment (AB 109), and to investigate how realignment has affected recidivism outcomes. Purposes of the study is to evaluate the historic shift in public policies on local criminal justice systems and recidivism, and to provide recommendations about how counties can improve the management of local criminal justice populations and reduce recidivism. More information regarding the study results can be found at <https://www.ppic.org/topics/criminal-justice/>

Date Initiated: December 2017
Status: Completed
Date Completed: June 2018

Project Title: **Getting a Grip on Grip: Perceptions of Effects on Socio-Emotional Development and Behavioral Patterns in Two California State Prisons**

Principal Investigator: Bowen Paille, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: University of Amsterdam

Project Description: The Guiding Rage into Power (GRIP) is a yearlong offender accountability program based on trauma healing and somatic awareness. This pilot study is collecting data through semi-structured interviews with the former and current program participants and non-participants. The study is planned to investigate anecdotal evidence of the program’s effectiveness in reducing inmate violence and recidivism; learn cycles of violence; understand the cycles that transform the individuals into agents for peace and nonviolence in their communities both inside and outside prison; and gain understanding of changes on inmates’ perceptions of themselves and on their observed behaviors with other inmates. Data are collected through semi-structured interviews with the program participants and correctional officers.

Date Initiated: December 2017

Status: Completed

Date Completed: December 2019

Project Title: **Ongoing Study of California Prison Statistics for California Sentencing and Related Reports**

Principal Investigator: Michael Males, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice (CJCJ)

Project Description: The CJCJ annually updates and informs the public on the CJCJ webpage regarding the most recent statistics on California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation inmates. Therefore, the CJCJ requests statistics of inmate population count, admissions, race, gender, age, and types of offenses.

Date Initiated: October 2017

Status: Completed

Date Completed: October 2019

Project Title: **The Third National Survey of Youth in Custody (NSYC-3)**

Principal Investigator: David Cantor, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Westat

Project Description: The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 requires the Bureau of Justice Statistics to conduct “a comprehensive statistical review and analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape”. This research project makes national estimates of the rate of nonconsensual sexual contact for the total target population and for females; defines state estimates for the overall population; and develops facility-level estimates of the rate of nonconsensual sexual contact in larger juvenile facilities. Self-report surveys and interviews on sexual assault in juvenile facilities are used to collect data. The study results are published and reported to the Congress. More information regarding the study results can be found at <https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=6746>

Date Initiated: April 2018
Status: Completed
Date Completed: December 2018

3.2 ACTIVE EXTERNAL STUDIES

Project Title: **National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, 1979 (NLSY79) and National Longitudinal Study of Youth, 1997 (NLSY97)**

Principal Investigator: Kymn Kochanek, PhD
Institutional Affiliation: NORC at the University of Chicago & Carnegie Mellon University

Project Description: This is a longitudinal study that collects data through in-person or phone interviews regarding labor force experiences of adults and young adults. Since their first interview, the respondents have made transitions from school to work, and from their parents' homes to becoming parents and homeowners themselves. Additionally, some respondents are now under CDCR jurisdiction. Purpose of the NLSY is to promote government officials and policymakers to create opportunities which increase the success of rehabilitative strategies and create a more favorable atmosphere for inmates once they are released from prison.

Date Initiated: May 2015
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: December 2021

Project Title: **Prisons of Peace Regular Program Evaluation**

Principal Investigator: Laurel Kaufer, JD
Institutional Affiliation: Prison of Peace

Project Description: The Prisons of Peace program is focused on problem solving skills (listening, reflecting and agreement), peace circles (discussion of values, understanding of collaboration, respect and equality), and moral disengagement (examine the moral disengagement that led to criminal behavior). Data collection through pre and post surveys with open ended components. Purposes of this study are to examine effectiveness of the Prison of Peace program and provide information about quality of conflict resolution programs and successful rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates into communities upon release.

Date Initiated: March 2017
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: December 2020

Title of the Project **Recidivism of Persons released from State Prisons in 2008**

Principal Investigator Mariel Alper, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation Bureau of Justice Statistics

Project Description: The study produces national recidivism statistics on persons released from prison. This project examines the post-release offending patterns of former prisoners and their involvement in criminal activity. The study measures cumulative arrest percentage, annual percentage of first arrests, annual arrest percentage of released prisoners, and annual volume of arrests. This is a longitudinal study.

Date Initiated: January 2019
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: October 2021

Project Title: **Characteristics of Persons Admitted to State Prisons, 2009 and 2014**

Principal Investigator: Matt Durose
Institutional Affiliation: Recidivism Statistics Unit, Bureau of Justice Statistics

Project Description: This study provides national criminal history estimates of individuals who were admitted to state prison between 2009 and 2014. The study uses criminal history data to provide statistical information about incarcerated individuals. Purposes of the study are to produce valuable information for policymakers, researchers and legislators in understanding of prisoner needs and their relative threat to society, uncover limitations of the information contained in the criminal history records such as missing or inconsistent entries, and assist the BJS's efforts to improve the utility of the information resource.

Date Initiated: September 2017
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: February 2021

Project Title: **Recidivism of Persons released from State Prisons in 2012**

Principal Investigator: Matt Durose
Institutional Affiliation: Recidivism Statistics Unit, Bureau of Justice Statistics

Project Description: This study uses criminal history data to provide statistical information about incarcerated individuals. The study produces national criminal history estimates on individuals admitted to state prison in 2012. In addition, the study compares the offending patterns and characteristics of the prison admission cohorts and examines the nature and frequency of contact with the justice system prior to entering prison. Purposes of the study are to produce fuller picture of criminal patterns and activity of released prisoners and assist the BJS’s efforts to improve the utility of the information resource.

Date Initiated: December 2017
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: October 2021

Project Title: **Annual Parole Survey**

Principal Investigator: Matthew DeMichele, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: RTI International

Project Description: The Annual Parole Survey is designed to collect all parole information from community supervising jurisdictions at state levels. The survey tracks changes in the State community corrections population and collects data from 52 parole agencies through an online survey. Purposes of the survey are to fill a gap in the state information systems, provide an opportunity to project anticipated trends in the State community corrections population and track trends in the state’s community corrections population.

Date Initiated: January 2018
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: December 2020

Project Title: **Evaluation of Arts-Based Interventions at the California Correctional Institute (CCI)**

Principal Investigator: Nolan Zane, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Four Winds Research Corporation & University of California, Davis

Project Description: This evaluation project examines the Arts-in-Corrections (AIC) Demonstration Project: Wellbeing through Engagement in Heritage and Traditional Arts at California Correctional Institution.
The AIC is a series of workshop programs that focused on visual, performing, literary and/or media arts to improve behaviors of participants.
This qualitative study collects data through observations and participant interviews. Fifteen participants are randomly selected from the list of total participants for one-hour phone interviews to discuss impacts of the interventions. The purpose of this study is to assist the CDCR in developing a rehabilitative program in a safe and secure environment and improve strategies for rehabilitation.

Date Initiated: November 2017
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: October 2021

Project Title: **National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP)**

Principal Investigator: Elizabeth Carson, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Abt Associates

Project Description: National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP) is a nationwide project on annual movements of offenders admitted to prison, released from prison, held in prison, admitted to post-custody community supervision and discharged from post-custody community supervision. The project is focused on describing and explaining changes in the size and composition of states' prison populations, and the transition between incarceration and community corrections, examining changes in release into the general community, understanding factors that contribute to successful reentry into society, and examining inter-relationship among poverty, health, crime and other social and economic factors; The CDCR has been participating in the project since 1983.

Date Initiated: January 2018
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: December 2020

Project Title: **National Prisoners Statistics Program (NPS)**

Principal Investigator: Elizabeth Carson, PhD
Institutional Affiliation: Abt Associates

Project Description: The study is a national research project conducted in all 50 states. The study is focused on measuring the number of persons in physical custody of a state's correctional facilities at year end; and the number of persons under the legal jurisdiction of a state's correctional system at year end. In addition, the research analyzes the sex and racial distribution of the jurisdictional population at year end, the number and type of admissions and releases to a state's correctional system in a given calendar year, and the number of noncitizens and persons under the age of 18 held at year end. The CDCR has participated in the project since 1978.

Date Initiated: December 2017
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: December 2020

Project Title: **Prison University Project (PUP) Longitudinal Study**

Principal Investigator: Amy Lerman, PhD
Institutional Affiliation: University of California, Berkeley

Project Description: The PUP is a multi-year research project on prison higher education. This project is to evaluate PUP’s impact on participants both during incarceration and after release. The study examines whether in-prison higher education programs can diminish in-prison misconduct and post-release recidivism. The project will compare in-prison behavior and post-prison recidivism rates of current and former PUP students with in-prison behavior and post-prison recidivism rates of a matched control group based on CDCR data. In addition, the project also collects data through longitudinal surveys with PUP participants. Purpose of the study is to provide recommendations to strengthen the capacity of the PUP at CDCR facilities.

Date Initiated: April 2018
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: September 2021

Project Title: **Mortality in Correctional Institutions (Formerly Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, DCRP)**

Principal Investigator: Christopher Ellis
Institutional Affiliation: RTI International

Project Description: This research project is focused on collecting accurate, timely, and relevant correctional mortality statistics at the national and state level. Purposes of the project are to maintain the high historical response rates of data collection that have been consistently achieved, improve data collection, maintain systems, provide tracking and status updates, and improve delivery systems that are consistent, reliable and comprehensive.

Date Initiated: January 2015
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: December 2020

Project Title: **Male Community Reentry Program (MCRP) Effectiveness Study**

Principal Investigator: Joe Nation PhD. & Christine Pal Chee, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Stanford University

Project Description: This study is focused on providing a comprehensive analysis of the outcomes and effectiveness associated with two rehabilitative programs: the academic education program and the MCRP. Descriptive analyses are conducted using the population of offenders in California to provide baseline information on recidivism and employment across demographic groups and program groups (academic education programs and the MCRP) over time. These descriptive statistics provide important basic information regarding the percentage of participants (and non-participants) who are repeat offenders and who are able to secure employment, separable by demographic group (e.g., location, age, race/ethnicity, education), crime risk, and other prison-relevant factors (e.g., type of offense, sentence length). Multivariate regression analyses are used to measure the effect of participation in each program on outcomes related to recidivism and employment while controlling for differences in offenders' demographics and other previous experiences related to crime.

Date Initiated: December 2019

Status: Current/Active

Date to be Completed: June 2021

<i>Project Title:</i>	Assessment of Peer-Led Trauma and Addiction Based Programs
<i>Principal Investigator:</i>	Nena Messina, PhD
<i>Institutional Affiliation:</i>	UCLA
<i>Project Description:</i>	<p>This study examines a trauma-informed and gender-responsive program to reduce trauma-related difficulties and aggression among incarcerated individuals consisting of six sessions focusing on psycho-educational and skills building. Peer facilitators are trained to carry out the intervention. The study uses a quasi-experimental control group design (treatment and wait-list groups). Data are collected through pre and post surveys that include detailed questions about demographics, familial history, education/employment, substance use, and criminal justice involvement. This study uses multiple domains of data such as prior and in-prison psychological functioning, trauma history, current mental health, violence history, relationship history, anger, aggression, and impulsivity. Purposes of the project are to better understand how best to provide appropriate services in hopes of creating a safer environment while increasing potential for successful rehabilitation and to provide evidence of the reduction of re-occurrence of violence and aggression among men and women to create a safer custody environment.</p>
<i>Date Initiated:</i>	May 2019
<i>Status:</i>	Current/Active
<i>Date to be Completed:</i>	May 2021

Project Title: **Data Collection for Prison Arts Collective (PAC) CDCR Facilities Arts Programming**

Principal Investigator: Annie Buckley, PhD & Annika Anderson, PhD
Institutional Affiliation: San Diego State University

Project Description: The PAC is a program that addresses offender responsibility and integrates principles of restorative justice through art-making, discourse on art history and contemporary art, creative writing, art, and social practice. The study uses a pre-and post-test design to compare the participants' self-perceptions and sense of well-being before and after the program through Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale and compare the participants' rule violation behavior with overall prison population. The purpose of the study is to assess the effect of taking part in the Prison Arts Collection program, the participants' well-being, and their rules violation behaviors.

Date Initiated: March 2020
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: March 2022

Project Title: **Examining the Effects of Programming and Gang Abatement Strategies**

Principal Investigator: Robert Weide, PhD
Institutional Affiliation: California State University, LA

Project Description: This research project measures the effects of educational/enrichment programming and gang abatement strategies on the occurrence of inmate violence. Ten years of data from state prisons are used to assess the effectiveness of the programming. Additionally, the research project provides a model for future program evaluation on the effectiveness of similar educational/enrichment programming and gang abatement strategies that are employed at other institutions and support and expand successful programming and gang abatement strategies being implemented in the CDCR system.

Date Initiated: March 2020
Status: Current/Active
Date to be Completed: March 2022

3.3 CLOSED EXTERNAL STUDIES

<i>Project Title:</i>	Evaluation of Insider-Facilitated Emotional Regulation and Coping Skills Program for Incarcerated Young Adults
<i>Principal Investigator:</i>	Ashley Kilmer, PhD.
<i>Institutional Affiliation:</i>	Bridgewater State University, MA and Lionheart Foundation, MA
<i>Project Description:</i>	The study is focused on assessing incarcerated young adult participants' perceptions about the Power Source Young Adult (PSYA) program including whether they believe completion of the course has impacted their emotional regulation and coping skills. PSYA is a 13-sessions program that focuses on improving social, emotional, and behavioral skills of incarcerated individuals. The program also has an emphasis on providing offenders with a safe and successful transition back to community by encouraging them to take responsibility for their offense histories, increasing their victim awareness, and equipping them with cognitive and social skills. The program is facilitated by trained inmates serving life or other long-term sentences. Data are collected through two different surveys that interview both facilitators and participants. Descriptive statistical analyses and qualitative analyses for the open-ended questions are conducted.
<i>Date Initiated:</i>	January 2018
<i>Status:</i>	Closed
<i>Date Closed:</i>	January 2020

Title of the Project: **Predictors of Violence and Suicide Risk in Psychiatrically Hospitalized Inmates/Patients**

Principal Investigator: Darci Delgado, Psy.D.
Institutional Affiliation: Texas Tech University and California Department of State Hospitals

Project Description: This study examines validity and reliability of standardized suicide risk instruments for correctional population; reviews rates of suicidal ideation history and suicide attempt history due to suicidal ideation; investigates associations between psychiatric symptom severity, criminal risk factors and suicide risk.

Date Initiated: April 2017
Status: Closed
Date Closed: April 2019

Title of the Project: **California Juvenile Sex Offender Recidivism Study and Risk Assessment Validation Study**

Principal Investigator: Douglas Epperson, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Department of Justice

Project Description: This study is designed to validate Juvenile Sexual Offense Recidivism Risk Assessment Tool-II (JSORRAT-II). The study participants are 500-700 juvenile sex offenders who were admitted to Division of Juvenile Justice;

Date Initiated: June 2018
Status: Closed
Date Closed: June 2020

Project Title: **Correctional Officer Safety Equipment Study**

Principal Investigator: James Colden
Institutional Affiliation: CNA Corporation

Project Description: The study is focused on examining the safety equipment modalities currently used in a sample of state-level adult correctional institutions; highlighting the rationale for using these modalities; identifying the policy attributes and training requirements for the modalities; and providing preliminary evidence regarding the effectiveness of the modalities that are currently used among correctional officers. In addition, the study examines associations between the safety equipment use and correctional officer safety and facility security.

Date Initiated: November 2017
Status: Closed
Date Closed: November 2019

Project Title: **Disequilibrium Effects of Shifting Prison Populations**

Principal Investigator: Jonathan Kurzfeld, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: University of California, Riverside

Project Description: The study is focused on how crowdedness in prisons affect violent misconduct and on how differentiated crowding affects violence resulting from the disequilibrium effects of unfamiliar inmates being introduced to previously “stable” facilities. This study uses existing data and conducts regression analysis to generate statistical estimates of the key relationships. The study assists the CDCR to accurately predict the impacts of policy related and managerial adjustments to prison populations and informs the CDCR administrators on how the distribution of inmates can be expected to influence their behaviors.

Date Initiated: August 2017
Status: Closed
Date Closed: August 2019

Project Title: **The Actor’s Gang Prison Project Longitudinal Evaluation**

Principal Investigator: Jorja Leap, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Leap & Associates, University of California, Los Angeles

Project Description: The Actor’s Gang is a program that emphasizes building identity and healing trauma through artistic performance. The program implementors believe that the Actor’s Gang program fosters tolerance and nonviolent expression while reducing in-prison violence, increasing self-esteem and tolerance and reducing recidivism. This programs evaluation study examines effectiveness of the Actor’s Gang project, investigates impacts of the project in increasing self-esteem and reducing violence and recidivism, increases knowledge about the significance and impacts of creative arts, and amplifies understanding of the relationships between the arts, trauma, healing and behavioral changes. Data are collected through (1) observation, (2) in-depth interviews, (3) participants’ journaling, (4) self-reported surveys, and (5) review of program materials and documents.

Date Initiated: June 2017
Status: Closed
Date Closed: June 2019

Project Title: **The Third National Survey of Youth in Custody**

Principal Investigator: Ralph Fretz, PhD.
Institutional Affiliation: Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)

Project Description: The National Survey of Youth in Custody (NSYC) is part of BJS's National Prison Rape Statistics Program, which gathers mandated data on the incidence and prevalence of sexual assault in juvenile facilities under the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003. Data are collected from youth in a private setting using audio computer-assisted self-interview (ACASI) technology with a touchscreen laptop and an audio feed to maximize inmate confidentiality and minimize literacy issues.

Date Initiated: January 2018
Status: Closed
Date Closed: January 2020

Project Title: **Positive Behavior Support Services (PBSS) with Incarcerated Psychiatrically Hospitalized Males: An Archival Treatment and Outcome Variable Study**

Principal Investigator: Wesley Bettger, MA
Institutional Affiliation: California Department of State Hospitals (DSH), Vacaville

Project Description: The research project examines the effectiveness of PBSS programs and determine which interventions are more effective in reducing problematic behaviors such as self-injuries, aggressiveness, disruptive behaviors and treatment noncompliance. Purposes of the study is to equip staff with the ability to implement more effective interventions.

PBSS is focused on treatment to develop individualized behavior plans for patients with purposes of decreasing problematic behaviors and increasing positive behaviors. Target behaviors for each participant will be listed and frequency and severity of the behaviors will be recorded both before and after behavior plans to determine changes in their behaviors. Archival data are used for analyses.

Date Initiated: May 2017
Status: Closed
Date Closed: May 2019

Appendix A

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Divisions Surveyed

Board of Parole Hearings

California Prison Industry Authority

Division of Adult Institutions

Division of Adult Parole Operations

Division of Administrative Services

Division of Facility Planning, Construction

Division of Health Care Services

Division of Juvenile Justice

Division of Rehabilitative Programs

Division of Enterprise Information Services

Office of Audits & Court Compliance

Office of Correctional Safety

Office of Fiscal Services

Office of Internal Affairs

Office of Labor Relations

Office of Legal Affairs

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of Public and Employee Communications

Appendix B

Survey of Research and Evaluation Activities

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Departmental Research Survey
The CDCR, Office of Research is conducting this short three-question survey to compile CDCR research and evaluation activities including departmental, contracted and pilot projects, that were in progress or completed during the period of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020. The results will be included in a report to satisfy the California Penal Code section 3520 requirement. This information will also provide CDCR stakeholders with a centralized source of information on CDCR research and evaluation activities.

1. Has your Division conducted and/or completed research during the period from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020?

Yes

No. Please skip to Question #3 and complete the contact information below.

2. Please provide the research project title(s) and name of the principle investigator(s) (PI)?

Research Title #1 and PI:

Research Title #2 and PI:

Research Title #3 and PI:

Research Title #4 and PI:

Research Title #5 and PI:

3. Contact Information of person who completed this survey:

Name:

Division:

Email address:

Phone number:

Thank you for completing the survey!

Appendix C

Definitions

Approved and Closed Due to Non-Renewal

Research project that was initially approved and will be closed and removed from the report due to non-renewal.

Contracted Research

Conducted by external contracted researchers funded by CDCR for CDCR-sponsored research projects.

Completed Status

Research projects that have been conducted and completed, at least to the level of data collection.

Closed Status

Research project authors did not respond to the follow up requests and the project passed the two-year ROC expiration date.

Current/Active Status

Research projects are in progress. This includes previously approved projects that have reached their expiration date and the researcher has a pending application for renewal.

External Research

Conducted strictly by and for outside research entities such as research academics or other organizations, in accordance with applicable laws and policies.

Research and Evaluation Activities

A systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to knowledge of CDCR programs and/or projects. (Note: This does not include data developed and used purely for management analysis.)