



California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

# RECIDIVISM REPORT FOR OFFENDERS RELEASED FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION IN FISCAL YEAR 2015-16

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Division of Correctional Policy Research and Internal Oversight

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## Executive Summary

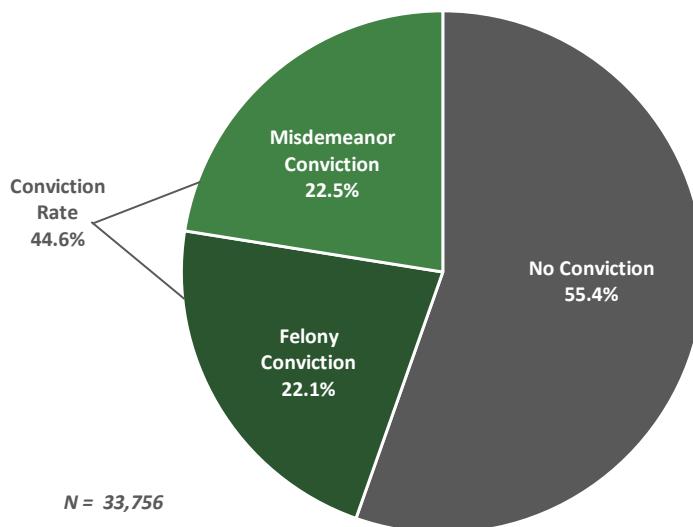
The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) examines recidivism outcomes (arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates) for offenders released from CDCR’s adult institutions over a given fiscal year. This report presents recidivism rates for the 33,756 offenders released between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 (Fiscal Year 2015-16). CDCR tracks offenders for three years following the date of their release. The three-year conviction rate is used as CDCR’s primary measure of recidivism, while arrests and returns to prison are provided as supplemental measures of recidivism.

In addition to examining overall recidivism rates and the impact of recent policies, this report examines recidivism rates by offender demographics (e.g., age, race/ethnicity) and characteristics (e.g., sentence type, length of stay). To the extent possible, this report also provides recidivism rates by participation in CDCR programming (e.g., Substance Use Treatment Programs and Alternative Custody Programs) and rates for offenders found suitable for release by the Board of Parole Hearings (BPH).

### Recidivism Rates for Offenders Released During Fiscal Year 2015-16

The three-year conviction rate for the 33,756 offenders who comprised the Fiscal Year 2015-16 release cohort was 44.6 percent.<sup>1</sup> As shown in Figure A, 55.4 percent of the release cohort (18,697 offenders) had no convictions within three years of their release from prison, 22.1 percent (7,471 offenders) were convicted of a felony offense, and 22.5 percent (7,588 offenders) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense.

Figure A. Three-Year Conviction Rate for Offenders Released from State Prison in Fiscal Year 2015-16

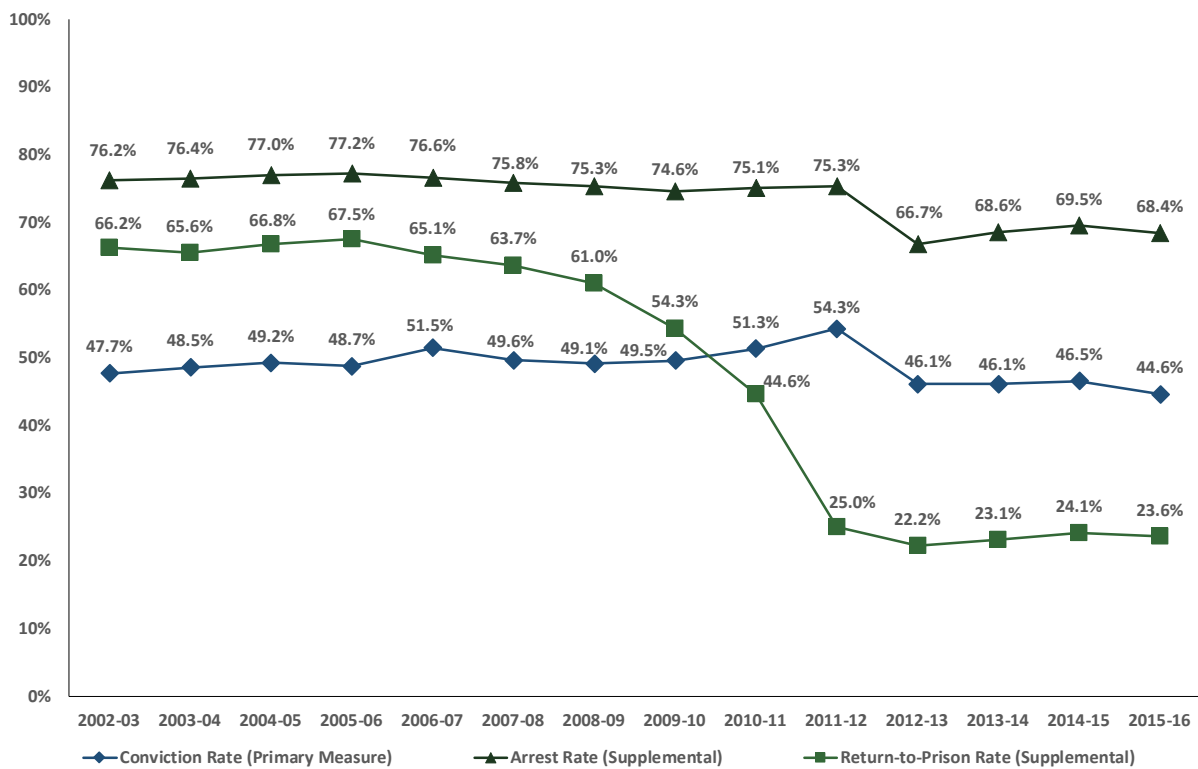


<sup>1</sup> During Fiscal Year 2015-16, a total of 33,861 offenders were released from a CDCR adult institution. Of these offenders, 33,756 offenders had a Department of Justice (DOJ) automated rap sheet. Arrest and conviction data only include the 33,756 offenders with an automated rap sheet, and return-to-prison data include all 33,861 offenders released from prison.

The three-year conviction rate decreased by 1.9 percentage points (from 46.5 percent to 44.6 percent) between the Fiscal Year 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts (Figure B). After reaching a high of 54.3 percent with the Fiscal Year 2011-12 release cohort and subsequently declining to a low of 46.1 percent with the Fiscal Year 2012-13 release cohort, the three-year conviction rate has been markedly stable. The three-year conviction rate was unchanged (46.1 percent) between the Fiscal Year 2012-13 and 2013-14 release cohorts and increased by 0.4 of a percentage point between the Fiscal Year 2013-14 and 2014-15 release cohorts. Following the slight increase, the three-year conviction rate decreased to the current rate of 44.6 percent.

Arrests and returns to prison, which are supplemental measures of recidivism, also saw decreases between the Fiscal Year 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts, as shown in Figure B. The three-year arrest rate decreased by slightly over one percentage point (from 69.5 percent to 68.4 percent), and the three-year return-to-prison rate decreased by less than a percentage point (from 24.1 percent to 23.6 percent). Similar to the conviction rate, the arrest rate has been relatively stable over reporting years, while the return-to-prison rate has seen substantial decreases due to a sharp decline in the number of offenders returning to prison for parole violations. However, unlike the conviction rate, both arrest and return-to-prison rates saw consecutive increases, albeit small, in the previous three reporting years.

Figure B. Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2002-03 through Fiscal Year 2015-16





Drug and property offenders resentenced and released under Proposition 47 had higher three-year conviction rates than other groups. The three-year conviction rates for Proposition 47 offenders released in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and 2015-16 were 59.8 percent and 52.7 percent, respectively. These release cohorts had a large number of Proposition releases (over 4,000), which influenced the overall three-year conviction rate upward. The Fiscal Year 2015-16 release cohort includes a smaller number of Proposition 47 releases in (364 offenders), and they likely had little influence on the overall conviction rate, contributing to the decline observed between the two fiscal years.

An additional factor contributing to the decrease in the three-year conviction rate between the Fiscal Year 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts was a large percentage of releases that were committed to CDCR for crimes against persons (38.5 percent versus 46.8 percent, respectively). Crimes against persons tend to be more serious or violent than drug and property crimes and are often associated with lower recidivism rates. A cohort with a larger percentage of these offenders may have the effect of influencing the overall recidivism rate downward.

Proposition 47 also affected the type of post-release conviction (i.e., felony or misdemeanor) for offenders released from CDCR. Proposition 47 reduced penalties for certain non-serious, non-violent property and drug crimes by mandating a misdemeanor sentence instead of a felony. As a result, the number of felony convictions for property and drug crimes has decreased. Conversely, the number of misdemeanor convictions for the same crimes has increased. Historically, approximately half of all post-release convictions were felonies and half were misdemeanors, with the largest percentage of convictions for felony drug/alcohol crimes. For the 15,059 offenders convicted following their release in Fiscal Year 2015-16, 49.6 percent (7,471 offenders) were convicted of felonies and 50.4 percent (7,588 offenders) were convicted of misdemeanors. Convictions for misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes comprised 20.2 percent (3,045 offenders) of all post-release convictions.

Although limited, early program participation data for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 release cohort indicated positive recidivism outcomes for those who participated. Of the many offenders who received a combination of in-prison and aftercare through the Substance Use Treatment Disorder Program, those who received in-prison treatment and completed aftercare programs had the best outcomes: their three-year conviction rate was 14.8 percent. Females who participated in the Alternative Custody Program had a three-year recidivism rate of 24.0 percent and those participating in the Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program had a rate of 20.3 percent.

Over the reporting years, the number of indeterminately sentenced offenders (lifers) found suitable for release by the Board of Parole Hearings has greatly increased, while their recidivism rates remain low. Of the 723 lifers released in Fiscal Year 2015-16, 23 were convicted for a three-year conviction rate of 3.2 percent. For the first time, this report provides rates for other groups of offenders found suitable for release by BPH. One of the 110 offenders released through the Elderly Parole Program was convicted during the three-year follow-up period. For the 96 youth offenders sentenced to an indeterminate term and found suitable for release through the Youth Parole Program by BPH, five were convicted for a

three-year conviction rate of 5.2 percent. None of the 15 youth offenders who were sentenced to a determinate term and found suitable for release were reconvicted. The non-violent parole process changed with the passage of Proposition 57, though rates for offenders reviewed and released under the former non-violent second striker process are included. The three-year conviction rate for those reviewed and approved by BPH was 41.9 percent, while the rate for all other non-violent second strikers was 48.7 percent.

The overall three-year conviction rate for females was 35.1 percent compared to 45.3 percent for males. While female offenders consistently recidivate at lower rates than male offenders, this report takes a closer look at female offenders released during Fiscal Year 2015-16. Similar to all offenders released during Fiscal Year 2015-16, the 34 females released under Proposition 47 had a higher recidivism rate (47.1 percent) than those who were not released under Proposition 47. None of the 48 female lifers were convicted during the three-year follow-up period. Female offenders committed to CDCR for a violent offense comprised about 20 percent of all female releases (21.5 percent) and had a lower three-year conviction rate (24.5 percent) when compared to those with a non-serious/ non-violent offense (36.9 percent) or a serious offense (39.9 percent).

CDCR will continue to examine the arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates of offenders released from CDCR during each fiscal year. As data pertaining to offender subgroups (e.g., female offenders, offenders with BPH hearings, and youthful offenders) and program participation become available, CDCR will study these rates to better understand recidivism and the influence of policies and programming on recidivism outcomes.

## Key Findings

### Three-Year Conviction Rate and Type of Conviction

- The three-year conviction rate for the 33,756 offenders released from CDCR between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 was 44.6 percent, which is a decrease of 1.9 percentage points compared to one year before (46.5 percent).
- The decrease in the recidivism rate between the last two fiscal years is attributed to a number of factors, including a smaller percentage of offenders committed to CDCR for drug and property crimes subsequently resentenced and released as a result of Proposition 47, along with a larger percentage of offenders in the release cohort who were committed for crimes against persons.
- Of the 33,756 offenders in the Fiscal Year 2015-16 release cohort, 55.4 percent (18,697 offenders) had no convictions, 22.1 percent (7,471 offenders) had a felony conviction, and 22.5 percent (7,588 offenders) had a misdemeanor conviction.
- Approximately half of the 15,059 total convictions were felony convictions (49.6 percent) and 50.4 percent were misdemeanor convictions. The largest percentage of those convicted (20.2 percent or 3,045 offenders) were convicted of misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes.
- The three-year arrest and return-to-prison rates (68.4 percent and 23.6 percent) for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 release cohort showed subtle decreases compared to the Fiscal Year 2014-15 release cohort's arrest rate of 69.5 percent and return-to-prison rate of 24.1 percent.

### Conviction Rates by Offender Characteristics

- Offenders committed with a violent offense had a lower three-year conviction rate (29.4 percent) than offenders with a serious offense (47.7 percent) and offenders with a non-serious/non-violent offense (49.1 percent).
- Second strike offenders and offenders sentenced to a determinate term had very similar three-year conviction rates (45.7 percent and 45.4 percent). Offenders sentenced to an indeterminate term (lifers) had the lowest three-year conviction rate of all sentence types at 3.2 percent.
- Offenders committed to CDCR for property and drug crimes continued to have higher recidivism rates (53.3 percent and 47.3 percent, respectively) when compared to offenders committed for other crimes (43.4 percent) and crimes against persons (39.8 percent).

### Conviction Rates for Female Offenders

- The three-year conviction rate for female offenders (35.1 percent) was much lower than the rate of male offenders (45.3 percent). Female offenders who were convicted during the follow-up period

were also more likely to be convicted of a misdemeanor offense than male offenders. Male offenders were convicted of slightly more felony offenses than misdemeanor offenses.

- The largest percentage of all convictions for both male and female offenders were misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes (20.1 percent and 21.9 percent of all convictions, respectively), with misdemeanor property crimes following for females (19.1 percent) and felony crimes against persons following for males (15.9 percent of all convictions).
- Females offenders who participated in the Alternative Custody Program (ACP) and the Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program (CCTRP) had lower recidivism rates than female offenders overall: 24.0 percent for ACP participants and 20.3 percent for CCTRP participants.

#### Conviction Rates for Offenders Released by the Board of Parole Hearings

- In Fiscal Year 2015-16, 723 lifers were released into the community, and their three-year conviction rate was 3.2 percent. Eleven offenders were convicted of misdemeanors and 12 offenders were convicted of felonies.
- Of the 110 offenders granted parole through the Elderly Parole Program, one offender was convicted during the three-year follow-up period. Of the 111 offenders released through the Youth Parole Program, five were convicted within three years of their release.
- Non-violent second strikers who were reviewed and found suitable for release by the Board of Parole Hearings had a lower three-year conviction rate (41.9 percent) than all other non-violent second strikers (48.7 percent).

#### Proposition 47's Influence on Recidivism

- Proposition 47 passed in Fiscal Year 2014-15. 4,111 CDCR offenders were resentenced and released in the FY 2014-15 cohort and their three-year conviction rate was high (59.8 percent). This pulled the total conviction rate upward (46.5 percent). In Fiscal Year 2015-16, only 364 offenders were released under Proposition 47. This group's rate was also high (52.7 percent), but because it was a small group, the impact on the total recidivism rate was minimal.
- Proposition 47 reclassified felonies for many drug/alcohol crimes and property crimes to misdemeanors. As a result, more CDCR offenders are now convicted of misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes and property crimes than felonies for the same crimes. Prior to Proposition 47, felonies for these crimes comprised the largest percentage of all post-release convictions.

# CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION RECIDIVISM REPORT FOR OFFENDERS RELEASED IN FISCAL YEAR 2015-16

## 1 Introduction

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) presents the Recidivism Report for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-16, part of an annual series, which examines recidivism outcomes (arrests, conviction, and return-to-prison rates) for offenders released from CDCR adult institutions over the course of a given fiscal year.<sup>2</sup> This year's report presents recidivism rates for the 33,756 offenders released from CDCR's adult institutions between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 (Fiscal Year 2015-16).<sup>3</sup> Consistent with earlier reports published by CDCR, all offenders released from an adult institution over the course of a fiscal year were followed for three years after the date of their release. The three-year conviction rate is CDCR's primary measure of recidivism, while arrests and returns to prison are provided as supplemental measures of recidivism.

The three-year conviction rate for the 33,756 offenders released in FY 2015-16 was 44.6 percent and is detailed in Section 2 of this report, along with a discussion of the supplementary measures of recidivism (arrest and return-to-prison rates). The type of post-release conviction (i.e., misdemeanor or felony) and the time until conviction for offenders released in FY 2015-16 are presented in Section 3. Historical recidivism rates and the type of arrest and return-to-prison are presented in Section 4. The impact of recent correctional policies, including Public Safety Realignment and Proposition 47, are detailed in Section 5. The three-year conviction rate by offender demographics (e.g., age, race/ethnicity) and characteristics (e.g., commitment offense category, length of stay) are presented in Section 7. Sections 7 and 8 also provide a closer examination of subgroups of offenders to better understand their recidivism rates: an in-depth examination of CDCR releases by age group (Section 7) and recidivism rates by various demographics and characteristics for female offenders (Section 8). Finally, Sections 8 and 9 provide limited data regarding program participation and offenders found suitable for release by the Board of Parole Hearings.

In addition to recidivism rates, this report examines the type of recidivism, historical recidivism rates, and recidivism rates by various offender demographics, characteristics, and program participation. The FY 2015-16 release cohort is the fourth post-Public Safety Realignment (Realignment) cohort and the

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<sup>2</sup> CDCR's Recidivism Report series was previously titled the "Outcome Evaluation" report series. The 2018 Recidivism Report followed the 2017 Outcome Evaluation Report. Previous reports were referenced by the calendar year in which they were published (i.e. 2017, 2018). Commencing with the Recidivism Report for Offenders Released from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in Fiscal Year 2014-15, the report title references the fiscal year in which offenders were released from CDCR. All of these reports provide recidivism rates (arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates) for offenders released in a given fiscal year, with this current report providing rates for offenders released in Fiscal Year 2015-16.

<sup>3</sup> During Fiscal Year 2015-16, a total of 33,861 offenders were released from a CDCR adult institution. Of these offenders, 33,756 offenders had a Department of Justice (DOJ) automated rap sheet. Arrest and conviction data only include the 33,756 offenders with an automated rap sheet and return-to-prison data include all 33,861 offenders released from prison.

second cohort with offenders released under Proposition 47. The influence of both of these policies on recidivism rates and the type of post-release recidivism are also discussed.

CDCR will continue to update arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison data as they become available with the goal of spurring discussion around the best possible ways to reduce recidivism among offenders released from CDCR adult institutions.

## 2 Recidivism Rates

### 2.1 Recidivism Rates for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohort

The three-year conviction rate for the 33,756 offenders who comprised the FY 2015-16 release cohort was 44.6 percent.<sup>4</sup> As shown in Figure 1, 55.4 percent of the release cohort (18,697 offenders) had no convictions within three years of their release from prison, 22.1 percent (7,471 offenders) were convicted of a felony offense, and 22.5 percent (7,588 offenders) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense. More information regarding post-release convictions may be found in Section 3.2 Type of Conviction.

Figure 1. Three-Year Conviction Rate for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16

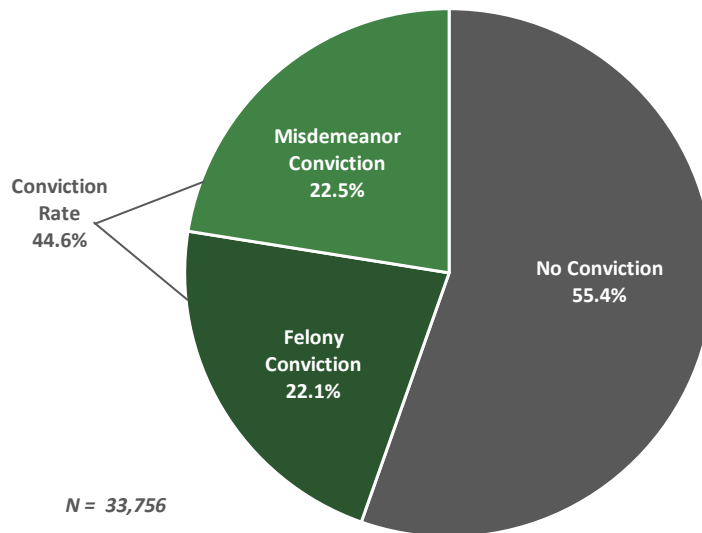


Table 1 provides one-, two-, and three-year conviction rates, CDCR’s primary measure of recidivism, as well as arrest and return-to-prison rates, which are supplemental measures of recidivism for the FY 2015-16 release cohort. During the first year of follow-up, 6,312 of the 33,756 offenders released from prison were convicted for a one-year conviction rate of 18.7 percent. In year two, a combined total of 11,743 offenders were convicted for a two-year conviction rate of 34.8 percent, and in year three, 15,059 offenders were convicted for a three-year conviction rate of 44.6 percent. More information regarding the time to conviction for the FY 2015-16 release cohort, including quarterly and cumulative totals, may be found in Section 3.3 Time to Conviction.

The one-year arrest rate for offenders released in FY 2015-16 was 50.5 percent (17,034 offenders), the two-year rate was 62.4 percent (21,061 offenders), and the three-year rate was 68.4 percent (23,094

<sup>4</sup> During FY 2015-16, a total of 33,861 offenders were released from a CDCR adult institution. Of these offenders, 33,756 offenders had a Department of Justice (DOJ) automated rap sheet. Arrest and conviction data only include the 33,756 offenders with an automated rap sheet and return-to-prison data include all 33,861 offenders released from prison.

offenders). The one-year return-to-prison rate was 6.2 percent (2,091 offenders), the two-year rate was 16.3 percent (5,512 offenders), and the three-year rate was 23.6 percent (7,976 offenders). More information regarding the primary and supplemental measures of recidivism may be found in Section 4.

*Table 1. One-, Two-, and Three-Year Recidivism Rates for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16*

Recidivism Type	Total	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Arrest	33,756	17,034	50.5%	21,061	62.4%	23,094	68.4%
Conviction	33,756	6,312	18.7%	11,743	34.8%	15,059	44.6%
Return	33,861	2,091	6.2%	5,512	16.3%	7,976	23.6%



## 2.2 Conviction Rates by Type of Post-Release Supervision

Figure 2. Conviction Rates by Type of Post-Release Supervision for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16

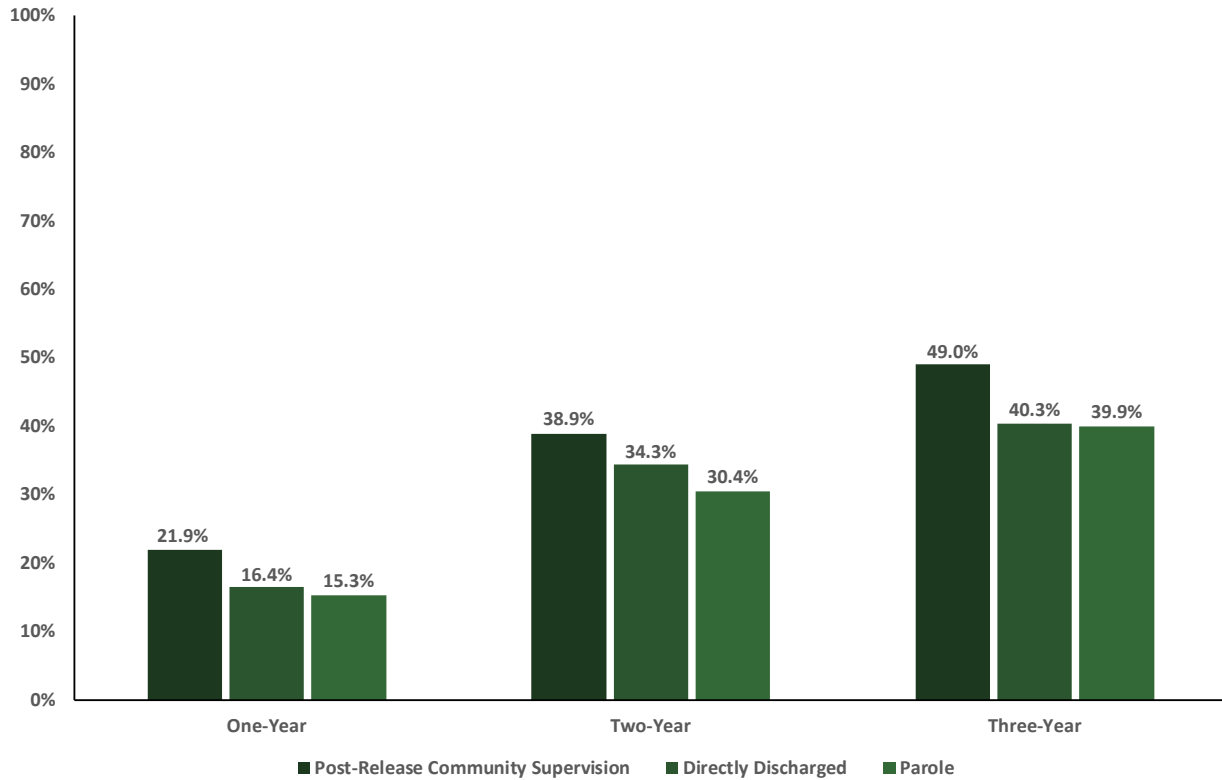


Figure 2 and Table 2 show the three-year conviction rate for direct discharges and offenders released to Post-Release Community Supervision (PRCS) or parole. Approximately half of the 39,205 offenders released in FY 2015-16 (51.7 percent or 17,465 offenders) were released to PRCS, 48.1 percent (16,224 offenders) were released to parole, and less than one percent (67 offenders) were directly discharged from prison. Offenders released to PRCS had the highest three-year conviction rate (49.0 percent or 8,559 offenders), followed by offenders who were directly discharged (40.3 percent or 27 offenders), and offenders released to parole (39.9 percent or 6,473 offenders).

Historically, the three-year conviction rate for direct discharges was lower than the rates for offenders released to PRCS or parole. The three-year conviction rate for offenders directly discharged in the previous fiscal year (FY 2014-15) was 52.7 percent, which was a 25.1 percentage point increase from offenders released in FY 2013-14 (27.6 percent). The higher rates observed among offenders directly discharged in FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 may be attributed to the high concentration of Proposition 47 offenders, who were directly discharged and are characterized by higher recidivism rates (Section 5.2). Of the 67 offenders who were directly discharged from prison, 79.1 percent (53 offenders) were Proposition 47 releases and 20.9 percent (14 offenders) were non-Proposition 47 releases.

With the exception of direct discharges, the three-year conviction rate for offenders released to PRCS and parole remained relatively stable when comparing the FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16 release cohorts: offenders released to PRCS in FY 2014-15 had a rate of 49.3 percent, which was less than a percentage point higher than the rate of offenders released to PRCS in the current cohort (49.0 percent). The three-year conviction rate for offenders released to parole in FY 2014-15 was 43.3 percent, which was 3.4 percentage points higher than the rate of offenders released to parole in FY 2015-16 (39.9 percent).

Under Realignment, most non-serious and non-violent offenders, who are characterized by a higher risk to reoffend, are released to PRCS. As a result, their three-year conviction rate tends to be higher than offenders released to parole. In general, CDCR advises against making direct comparisons between offenders released to PRCS, parole, and directly discharged from prison, as the three groups represent substantially different groups and differences in the demographics and characteristics of each group may influence the rate either upward or downward, as was demonstrated with the increased rate observed among direct discharges. Instead, offenders belonging to one group of releases may be compared to offenders in the same group who were released during a different fiscal year (e.g., offenders released to parole should be compared to other groups of offenders released to parole in an earlier fiscal year).

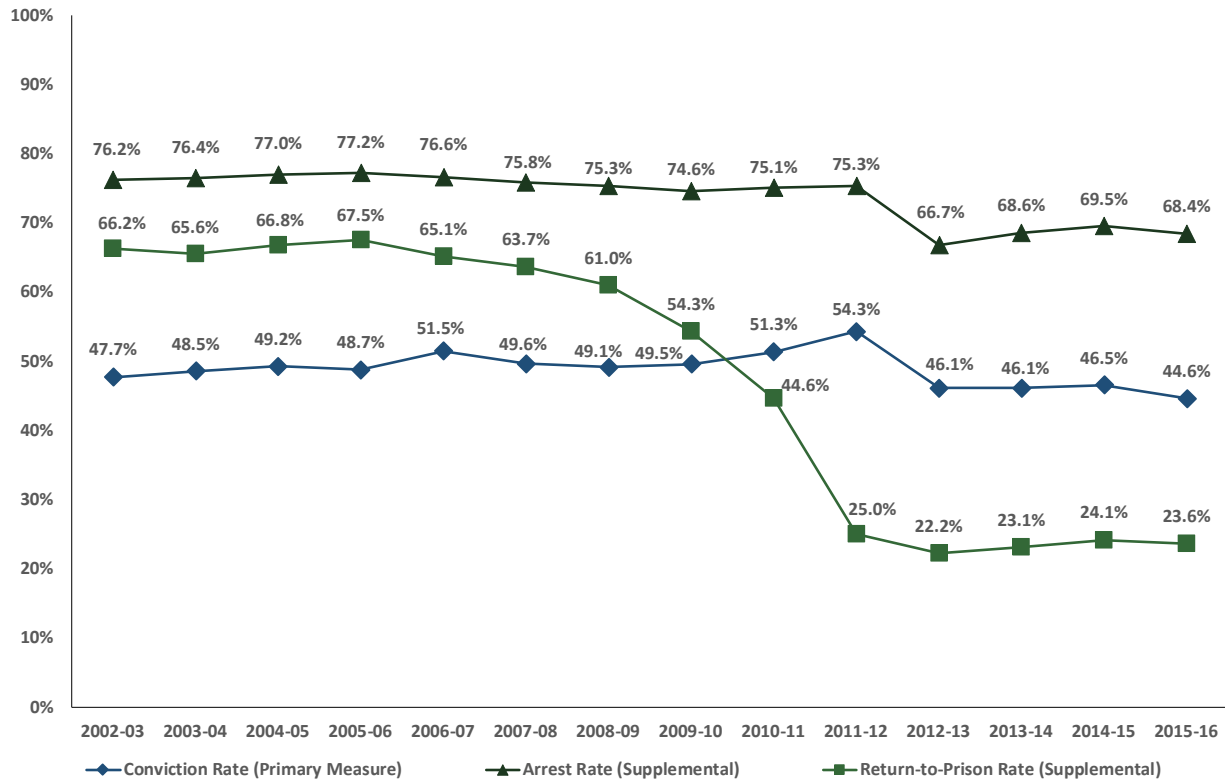
*Table 2. Conviction Rates for by Post-Release Supervision for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16*

Type of Post-Release Supervision	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Post-Release Community Supervision	17,465	3,821	21.9%	6,787	38.9%	8,559	49.0%
Parole	16,224	2,480	15.3%	4,933	30.4%	6,473	39.9%
Directly Discharged	67	11	16.4%	23	34.3%	27	40.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

### 2.3 Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates for the Fiscal Year 2002-03 through Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohorts

Figure 3 shows three-year arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates for the FY 2002-03 through 2015-16 release cohorts. In general, the three-year conviction rate has been relatively stable with small fluctuations (increases and decreases) since CDCR began reporting with the 2002-03 release cohort. After reaching a high of 54.3 percent with the Fiscal Year 2011-12 release cohort and subsequently declining to a low of 46.1 percent with the Fiscal Year 2012-13 release cohort, the three-year conviction rate has been markedly stable. The three-year conviction rate was unchanged (46.1 percent) between the Fiscal Year 2012-13 and 2013-14 release cohorts and increased by 0.4 of a percentage point between the Fiscal Year 2013-14 and 2014-15 release cohorts. Following the slight increase, the three-year conviction rate decreased to the current rate of 44.6 percent.

Figure 3. Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates for Offenders Released from CDCR During Fiscal Year 2002-03 through Fiscal Year 2015-16



A slight increase in the three-year conviction rate was observed with the previous cohort of releases (FY 2014-15) when the rate reached 46.5 percent. The increase was largely attributed to the release of 4,111 drug and property offenders who were resentenced and released from CDCR under Proposition 47 provisions. Offenders committed to prison for drug and property offenses generally have higher rates of recidivism than other groups of offenders. In contrast to the 4,111 offenders released under Proposition 47 in FY 2014-15, only 364 offenders were released under Proposition 47 in FY 2015-16. The slight

increase in the three-year conviction rate observed with the FY 2014-15 release cohort and attributed to Proposition 47 was temporary.

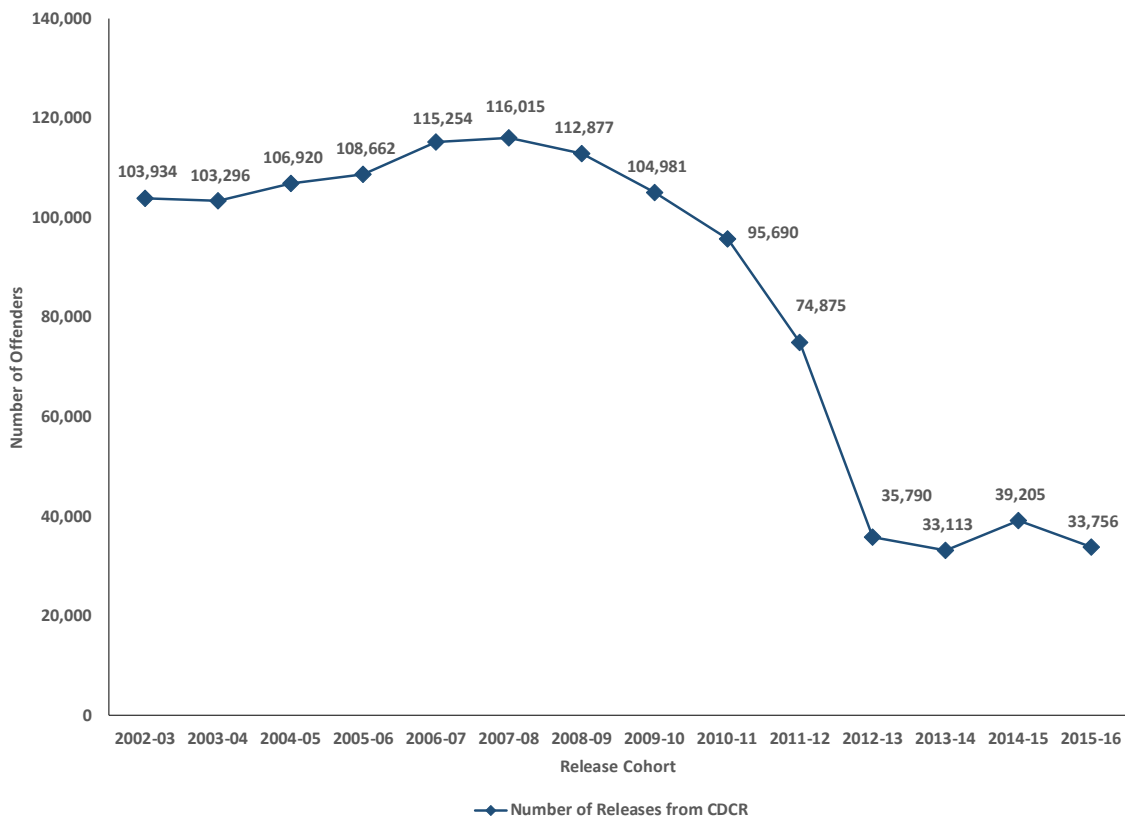
Supplemental measures of recidivism (arrests and returns to prison) also saw slight decreases between the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts. The three-year arrest rate decreased by just over one percentage point (from 69.5 percent to 68.4 percent) and the three-year return-to-prison rate decreased by less than a percentage point (from 24.1 percent to 23.6 percent). The decline in the arrest and return-to-prison rates observed among the FY 2015-16 followed slight increases, although the rates are still slightly higher than the lowest arrest and return-to-prison rates observed with the FY 2012-13 release cohort (66.7 percent and 22.2 percent, respectively).

Similar to conviction rates, arrest rates have remained relatively stable with minor fluctuations since CDCR began reporting with the FY 2002-03 release cohort. Conversely, the three-year return-to-prison rate experienced drastic declines in the years following the implementation of Realignment due to a decrease in returns to prison for parole violations. More detail regarding patterns of recidivism may be found in Section 4 Primary and Supplemental Recidivism Rates Over Time.

## 2.4 Number of Offenders Released in Fiscal Years 2002-03 through 2015-16

Figure 4 presents the number of offenders released from CDCR during each fiscal year since reporting began with the 2002-03 release cohort.<sup>5</sup> The number of offenders released from CDCR peaked at 116,015 releases with the FY 2007-08 cohort and began to slowly decrease with the FY 2008-09 release cohort (112,877 releases). A series of sharp decreases in the number of releases occurred with the implementation of Realignment in October 2011, with 35,790 offenders released during FY 2012-13 and a low of 33,113 offenders released during FY 2013-14. The number of releases increased by 6,092 when 39,205 offenders were released in FY 2014-15. The increase was largely attributed to the resentencing and release of 4,111 offenders under Proposition 47. A total of 33,756 offenders were released in FY 2015-16, and only 364 offenders in the FY 2015-16 cohort were resentenced and released due to Proposition 47. The number of releases is contingent on the population of CDCR’s adult institutions, and correctional policies such as Realignment and Proposition 47. CDCR expects the number of releases to fluctuate in future release cohorts, as policies impacting the offender population are modified and implemented.<sup>6</sup>

Figure 4. Number of Offenders in the Fiscal Year 2002-03 through Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohorts



<sup>5</sup> The total number of offenders released in the FY 2011-12 through FY 2015-16 release cohorts only include offenders with a DOJ automated rap sheet. Prior to transitioning the primary measure of recidivism from the three-year return-to-prison rate to the three-year conviction rate with the FY 2011-12 release cohort, the release cohort presented in Figure 4 included all offenders released from prison, regardless of a DOJ automated rap sheet.

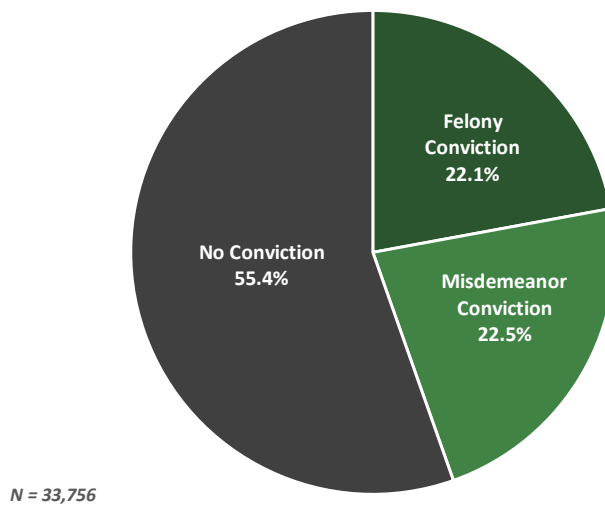
<sup>6</sup> More information regarding CDCR’s population may be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/research/population-reports-2/>

### 3 Offender Outcomes and Type of Conviction

This section presents the type of conviction (i.e., felony or misdemeanor) and the time until conviction (i.e., the time in the community before an offender was convicted) for the 33,756 offenders released during FY 2015-16. Supplemental measures of recidivism (arrests and returns to prison) for the FY 2015-16 release cohort and type of arrest and type of return data are provided in Sections 4.2 and 4.3.

#### 3.1 Three-Year Outcomes for All Offenders Released During Fiscal Year 2015-16

*Figure 5. Three-Year Outcomes for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohort*



As shown in Figure 5, 55.4 percent or 18,697 of the 33,756 offenders released in FY 2015-16 had no convictions during the three-year follow-up period and 44.6 percent were convicted of either a misdemeanor or felony offense. Over 20 percent of the release cohort (22.1 percent or 7,471 offenders) were convicted of a felony offense and 22.5 percent (7,588 offenders) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense. Table 3 presents the type of conviction for the 39,205 offenders released in FY 2014-15 and the 33,756 offenders released in FY 2015-16 for comparative purposes. The percentage of offenders without a conviction during the three-year follow-up period increased by 1.9 percent, from 53.5 percent to 55.4 percent. The percentage of offenders convicted of a felony offense within three years was stable at 22.1 percent. The percentage of offenders convicted of a misdemeanor decreased 1.9 percentage points between the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts (from 24.4 percent to 22.5 percent).

The type of felony or misdemeanor offense (e.g., felony crimes against persons, misdemeanor property crimes) is also provided in Table 3. The largest percentage of felony convictions were for felony crimes against persons (7.0 percent or 2,368 offenders), followed by felony other crimes (6.5 percent or 2,196 offenders), and felony property crimes (5.7 percent or 1,914 offenders). Felony drug/alcohol crimes comprised the lowest percentage of felony convictions (2.9 percent or 993 offenders). Each of the felony

conviction categories decreased between FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16, with the exception of felony other crimes, which increased by less than a percentage point (from 5.8 percent to 6.5 percent) between the two fiscal years.

Misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes comprised the largest percentage of misdemeanor convictions (9.0 percent or 3,045 offenders), followed by misdemeanor crimes against persons (5.5 percent or 1,842 offenders), and misdemeanor property crimes (4.6 percent or 1,560 offenders). Misdemeanor other crimes comprised the lowest percentage of misdemeanor crimes (3.4 percent or 1,141 offenders). Each of the misdemeanor conviction types decreased between FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16, with the exception of misdemeanor crimes against persons, which increased by less than a percentage point (from 5.3 percent to 5.5 percent) between the two fiscal years.

The following section examines only the offenders convicted during the three-year follow-up period, allowing for a more detailed discussion of felony and misdemeanor convictions.

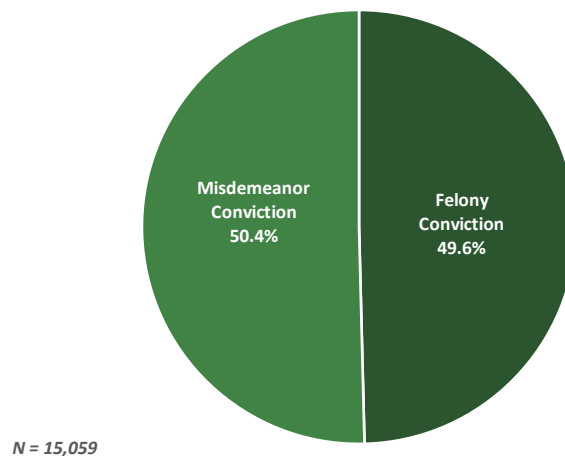
*Table 3. Three-Year Outcomes for the Fiscal Year 2014-15 and Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohorts*

Type of Conviction	FY 2014-15		FY 2015-16	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>No Convictions</b>	<b>20,970</b>	<b>53.5%</b>	<b>18,697</b>	<b>55.4%</b>
<b>All Felonies</b>	<b>8,679</b>	<b>22.1%</b>	<b>7,471</b>	<b>22.1%</b>
Felony Crimes Against Persons	2,788	7.1%	2,368	7.0%
Felony Other Crimes	2,291	5.8%	2,196	6.5%
Felony Property Crimes	2,306	5.9%	1,914	5.7%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	1,294	3.3%	993	2.9%
<b>All Misdemeanors</b>	<b>9,556</b>	<b>24.4%</b>	<b>7,588</b>	<b>22.5%</b>
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	3,950	10.1%	3,045	9.0%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	2,069	5.3%	1,842	5.5%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	2,147	5.5%	1,560	4.6%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	1,390	3.5%	1,141	3.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,205</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### 3.2 Type of Conviction for Offenders Released During Fiscal Year 2015-16 and Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

This section includes an examination of the 15,059 offenders in the FY 2015-16 release cohort who were convicted during the three-year follow-up period and excludes the 18,697 offenders who completed the three-year follow-up period without a conviction. Isolating only those convicted during the three-year follow-up period allows for a better understanding of the type of crimes offenders are convicted for after their release from prison, and how those convictions change over time.

Figure 6. Type of Conviction for the 15,059 Offenders Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period



Of the 15,059 offenders convicted during the three-year follow-up period, 49.6 percent (7,471 offenders) were convicted of a felony offense and 50.4 percent (7,588 offenders) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense. The type of conviction for the 18,235 offenders who were convicted and belonged to the FY 2014-15 release cohort are also provided in Table 4. The proportion of felony convictions increased by 2.0 percentage points (from 47.6 percent to 49.6 percent) and misdemeanor convictions decreased by 2.0 percentage points (from 52.4 percent to 50.4 percent) between the two cohorts. Despite the increase in felony convictions, the percentage of offenders convicted of post-release felonies has generally decreased. Post-release misdemeanors have increased, as a large number of felony offenses were reclassified as misdemeanor offenses with the passage of Proposition 47 in November 2014, as discussed in Section 5.<sup>7</sup>

The largest percentage of offenders were convicted of misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes (20.2 percent or 3,045 offenders). While this category decreased slightly between the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts (from 21.7 to 20.2 percent of all convictions), post-release convictions for misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes have increased substantially since the passage of Proposition 47 in 2014. Offenses

<sup>7</sup> For more information regarding Proposition 47 and its changes to felony sentencing laws, please visit the California Courts' website, available at: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/prop47.htm>



that were formerly classified as felonies are now classified as misdemeanor offenses, resulting in a decrease in felony drug/alcohol crimes and a subsequent increase in misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes. Although less pronounced, property crimes followed a similar pattern as a result of Proposition 47: felony property crimes decreased and misdemeanor property crimes increased.

Historically, felony drug/alcohol crimes comprised the largest percentage of all post-release convictions. With the implementation of Proposition 47, drug/alcohol crimes now comprise the smallest percentage of post-release felony convictions (6.6 percent) and the largest percentage of post-release misdemeanor convictions (20.2 percent). In general, all other categories of felony and misdemeanor convictions have remained fairly stable between CDCR release cohorts. The recent stability observed among the FY 2015-16 release cohort in post-release convictions for drug/alcohol crimes and property crimes indicates the larger increases and decreases observed in the years immediately following the passage of Proposition 47 have subsided.

Felony crimes against persons comprised the largest percentage of felonies (15.7 percent or 2,368 offenders), followed by felony other crimes (14.6 percent or 2,196 offenders), and felony property crimes (12.7 percent or 1,914 offenders). Felony drug/alcohol crimes only comprised 6.6 percent (993 offenders) of all convictions. Between the two release cohorts, three categories of felonies increased: felony other crimes increased by two percentage points, and felony property crimes and crimes against persons both increased by less than a percentage point. Felony drug/alcohol crimes decreased by half of a percentage point.

Misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes comprised the largest percentage of convictions (felony or misdemeanor) at 20.2 percent (3,045 offenders), followed by misdemeanor crimes against persons (12.2 percent or 1,842 offenders), misdemeanor property crimes (10.4 percent or 1,560 offenders), and misdemeanor other crimes (7.6 percent or 1,141 offenders). Misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes and property crimes each decreased by 1.5 percentage points between the two release cohorts, while misdemeanor crimes against persons increased by less than a percentage point, and misdemeanor other crimes stayed the same.

Table 4. Type of Conviction for the Fiscal Year 2014-15 and Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohorts

Type of Conviction	FY 2014-15		FY 2015-16	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>All Felonies</b>	<b>8,679</b>	<b>47.6%</b>	<b>7,471</b>	<b>49.6%</b>
Felony Crimes Against Persons	2,788	15.3%	2,368	15.7%
Felony Other Crimes	2,291	12.6%	2,196	14.6%
Felony Property Crimes	2,306	12.6%	1,914	12.7%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	1,294	7.1%	993	6.6%
<b>All Misdemeanors</b>	<b>9,556</b>	<b>52.4%</b>	<b>7,588</b>	<b>50.4%</b>
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	3,950	21.7%	3,045	20.2%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	2,069	11.3%	1,842	12.2%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	2,147	11.8%	1,560	10.4%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	1,390	7.6%	1,141	7.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,235</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### 3.3 Time to Conviction for Offenders Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-up Period

Figure 7. Three-Year Quarterly and Cumulative Rate of Conviction for the 15,059 Offenders Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

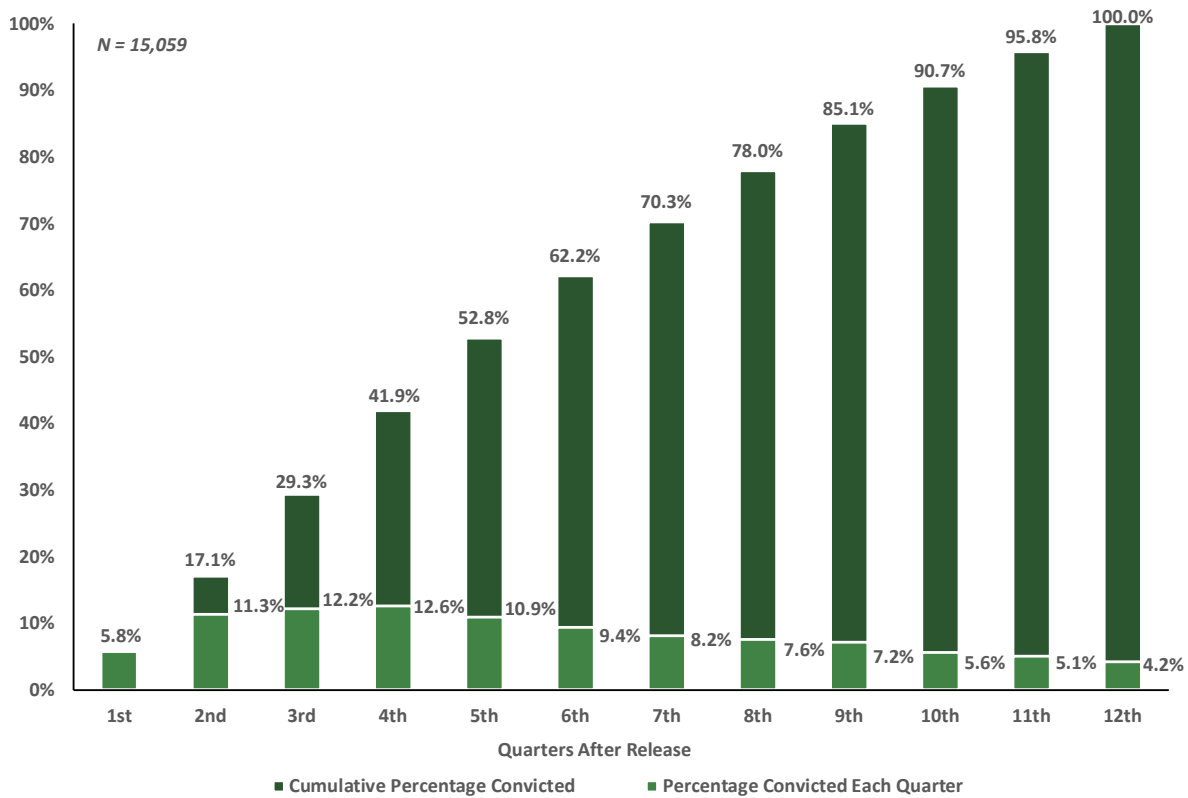


Figure 7 and Table 5 show the percentage and number of offenders who were convicted during each quarter (three-month period) of the three-year follow-up period, as well as the cumulative percentage and number of offenders convicted. Only the 15,059 offenders convicted during the three-year follow-up period are represented in this section to understand how long offenders were in the community before recidivating. The twelfth quarter represents the final, cumulative results (i.e., 100 percent) of the 15,059 offenders that were convicted.

Of the 15,059 offenders convicted during the three-year follow-up period, 41.9 percent (6,312 offenders) were convicted in the first year following their release from CDCR. By year two, 78.0 percent (11,743 offenders) were convicted, and by year three, 15,059 offenders were convicted. The largest number of offenders (12.6 percent or 1,903 offenders) were convicted during the fourth quarter following their release. The fewest number of offenders (4.2 percent or 633 offenders) were convicted during the twelfth and final quarter of the follow-up period after their release.

*Table 5. Three-Year Quarterly and Cumulative Rate of Conviction for the 15,059 Offenders Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period*

<b>Quarters After Release</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
Percentage Convicted	5.8%	11.3%	12.2%	12.6%	10.9%	9.4%	8.2%	7.6%	7.2%	5.6%	5.1%	4.2%
Cumulative Percentage	5.8%	17.1%	29.3%	41.9%	52.8%	62.2%	70.3%	78.0%	85.1%	90.7%	95.8%	100.0%
Number Convicted	870	1,700	1,839	1,903	1,638	1,413	1,231	1,149	1,079	838	766	633
Cumulative Number	870	2,570	4,409	6,312	7,950	9,363	10,594	11,743	12,822	13,660	14,426	15,059

## 4 Primary and Supplemental Measures of Recidivism Over Time

### 4.1 Historical Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates

The following tables and figures present CDCR's primary measure of recidivism (convictions) in one-, two-, and three-year intervals (when available) for adult offenders released from CDCR in FY 2002-03 through FY 2017-18, as well as supplemental measures of recidivism (arrests and returns to prison). One-year rates are provided for offenders released from CDCR in 2002-03 through FY 2017-18 and provide the most years of comparative data. Two-year rates are provided for offenders released from CDCR between FY 2002-03 through FY 2016-17. Three-year rates are provided for offenders released between FY 2002-03 and FY 2015-16. Although three-year recidivism rates provide the most comprehensive picture of reoffending among CDCR offenders, one- and two-year rates present the most recent data available and offer insight into trends associated with the three-year recidivism rates of future cohorts.

#### Arrests

Following ten years of relative stability, the three-year arrest rate saw an 8.6 percentage point decline (from 75.3 percent to 66.7 percent) between the FY 2011-12 and 2012-13 release cohorts. Following this decline, the three-year arrest rate has seen two small increases: the FY 2013-14 release cohort's three-year arrest rate was 68.6 percent and the FY 2014-15 release cohort's arrest rate was 69.5 percent. Despite recent increases, the three-year arrest rate stands at much lower levels than when CDCR first began reporting with the FY 2002-03 release cohort. Prior to the 8.6 percentage point decline between the FY 2011-12 and 2012-13 release cohorts, the three-year arrest rate ranged from a high of 77.2 percent with the FY 2005-06 release cohort and a low of 74.6 percent with the FY 2009-10 release cohort. A decline in the three-year arrest rate occurred between the FY 2011-12 and FY 2012-13 cohorts as the arrest rate was 75.3 percent for the FY 2011-12 cohort and decreased to 66.7 percent for the FY 2012-13 cohort. The three-year arrest rate had been relatively stable up to the FY 2015-16 cohort which was 68.4 percent and saw a decrease of 1.1 percentage points from the FY 2014-15 release cohort's arrest rate of 69.5 percent.

#### Convictions

The three-year conviction rate has remained relatively stable over the last 14 cohorts of releases (FY 2002-03 through 2015-16), although more pronounced fluctuations have occurred since the release of the FY 2011-12 release cohort when the rate peaked at 54.3 percent. Following the FY 2011-12 release cohort's three-year conviction rate of 54.3 percent, the three-year conviction rate decreased 8.2 percentage points reaching, 46.1 percent with the FY 2012-13 release cohort, which was the largest decrease observed since CDCR began reporting the three-year conviction rate. The rate was stable for the following two releases of cohorts: the FY 2013-14 release cohort also had a three-year conviction rate of 46.1 percent and the FY 2014-15 release cohort had a rate of 46.5 percent. The rate decreased to

44.6 percent with the FY 2015-16 cohort. Prior to the recent fluctuations, the three-year conviction rate was very stable, ranging from a low of 47.7 percent with the FY 2002-03 release cohort and a high of 51.5 percent with the FY 2006-07 release cohort. Of the 14 release cohorts reported, the FY 2011-12 release cohort had the highest three-year conviction rate (54.3 percent) and the current FY 2015-16 had the lowest rate at 44.6 percent.

### Returns to Prison

Of the three measures of recidivism (arrests, convictions, and returns to prison), the three-year return-to-prison rate experienced the most substantial changes since reporting began with the FY 2002-03 release cohort. Most of the change is directly attributed to decreases in returns to prison for parole violations as a result of Realignment. Between the FY 2002-03 and 2007-08 release cohorts, the three-year return-to-prison rate was stable, reaching a high of 67.5 percent with the FY 2005-06 release cohort and a low of 63.7 percent with the FY 2007-08 release cohort. The FY 2007-08 cohort was the last pre-Realignment cohort. From this point, the three-year return-to-prison rate began a series of decreases, reaching 22.2 percent with the FY 2012-13 release cohort. Following this decline, the three-year conviction rate saw two small increases: reaching 23.1 percent with the FY 2013-14 release cohort and 24.1 percent with the FY 2014-15 release cohort. The FY 2015-16 release cohort's rate (23.6 percent) saw a small decrease compared to the FY 2014-15 release cohort (24.1 percent).

Figure 8. One-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates by Fiscal Year

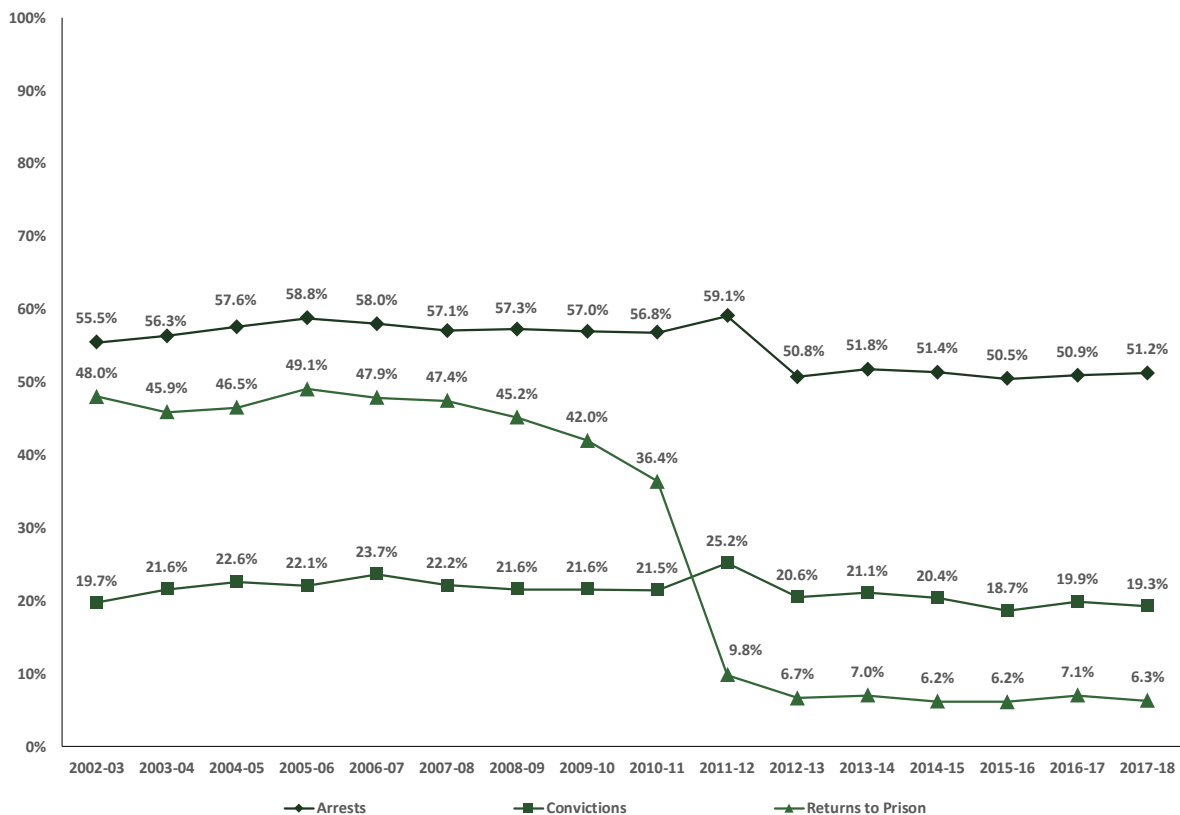


Figure 9. Two-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates by Fiscal Year

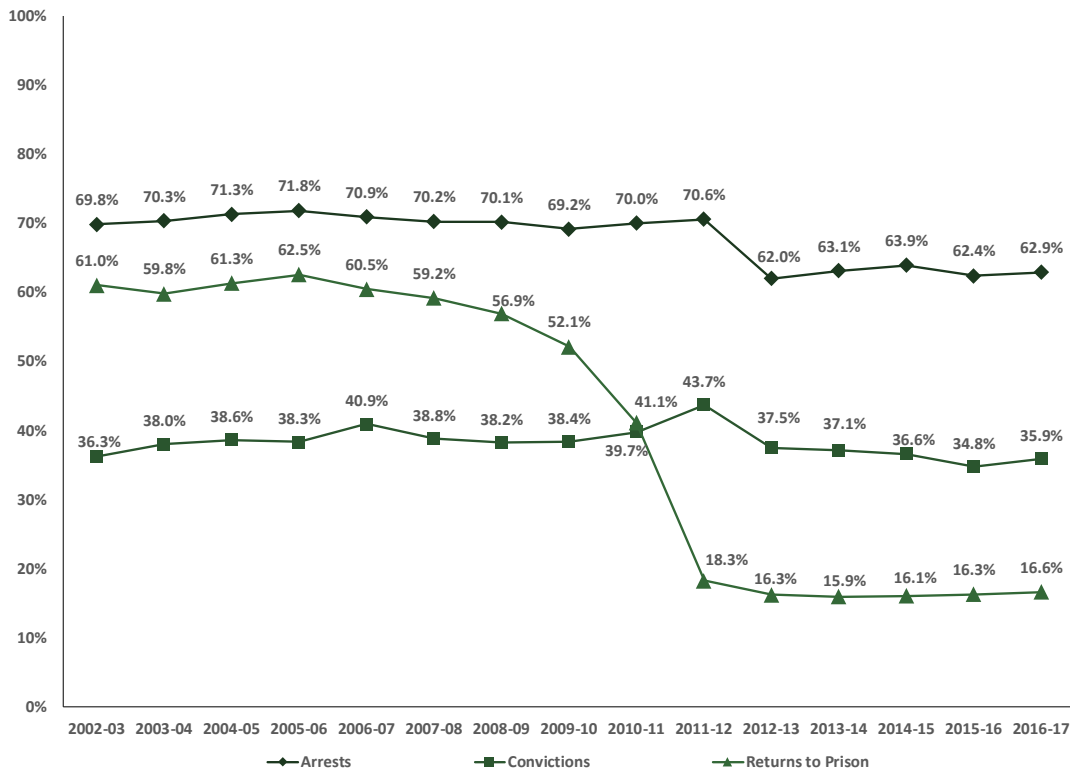


Figure 10. Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates by Fiscal Year

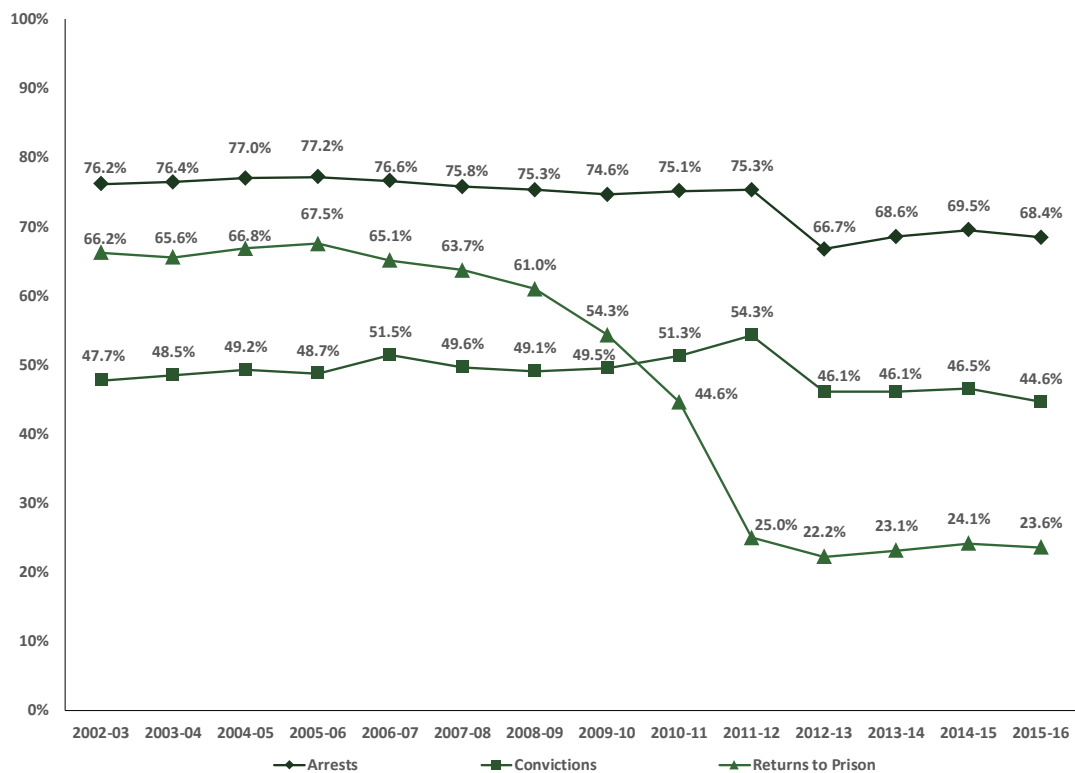


Table 6. Arrest Rates for the Fiscal Year 2002-03 through Fiscal Year 2017-18 Release Cohorts

Fiscal Year	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Arrested	Arrest Rate	Number Arrested	Arrest Rate	Number Arrested	Arrest Rate
2002-03	99,482	55,204	55.5%	69,449	69.8%	75,765	76.2%
2003-04	99,635	56,127	56.3%	70,070	70.3%	76,135	76.4%
2004-05	103,647	59,703	57.6%	73,881	71.3%	79,819	77.0%
2005-06	105,974	62,331	58.8%	76,079	71.8%	81,786	77.2%
2006-07	112,665	65,369	58.0%	79,893	70.9%	86,330	76.6%
2007-08	113,888	64,981	57.1%	79,978	70.2%	86,309	75.8%
2008-09	110,356	63,193	57.3%	77,412	70.1%	83,080	75.3%
2009-10	103,867	59,159	57.0%	71,837	69.2%	77,495	74.6%
2010-11	94,888	53,911	56.8%	66,399	70.0%	71,284	75.1%
2011-12	74,875	44,236	59.1%	52,829	70.6%	56,371	75.3%
2012-13	35,790	18,165	50.8%	22,184	62.0%	23,885	66.7%
2013-14	33,113	17,153	51.8%	20,893	63.1%	22,700	68.6%
2014-15	39,205	20,142	51.4%	25,047	63.9%	27,239	69.5%
2015-16	33,756	17,034	50.5%	21,061	62.4%	23,094	68.4%
2016-17	31,844	16,220	50.9%	20,035	62.9%	N/A	N/A
2017-18	35,610	18,246	51.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 7. Conviction Rates for the Fiscal Year 2002-03 through Fiscal Year 2017-18 Release Cohorts

Fiscal Year	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
2002-03	99,482	19,643	19.7%	36,087	36.3%	47,443	47.7%
2003-04	99,635	21,509	21.6%	37,881	38.0%	48,350	48.5%
2004-05	103,647	23,464	22.6%	40,022	38.6%	51,026	49.2%
2005-06	105,974	23,428	22.1%	40,635	38.3%	51,650	48.7%
2006-07	112,665	26,657	23.7%	46,106	40.9%	57,980	51.5%
2007-08	113,888	25,233	22.2%	44,164	38.8%	56,525	49.6%
2008-09	110,356	23,831	21.6%	42,181	38.2%	54,175	49.1%
2009-10	103,867	22,410	21.6%	39,908	38.4%	51,456	49.5%
2010-11	94,888	20,403	21.5%	37,710	39.7%	48,689	51.3%
2011-12	74,875	18,894	25.2%	32,746	43.7%	40,644	54.3%
2012-13	35,790	7,363	20.6%	13,423	37.5%	16,496	46.1%
2013-14	33,113	6,990	21.1%	12,295	37.1%	15,264	46.1%
2014-15	39,205	8,003	20.4%	14,355	36.6%	18,235	46.5%
2015-16	33,756	6,312	18.7%	11,743	34.8%	15,059	44.6%
2016-17	31,844	6,335	19.9%	11,435	35.9%	N/A	N/A
2017-18	35,610	6,880	19.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



Table 8. Return-to-Prison Rates for the Fiscal Year 2002-03 through Fiscal Year 2017-18 Release Cohorts

Fiscal Year	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Returned	Return Rate	Number Returned	Return Rate	Number Returned	Return Rate
2002-03	103,934	49,924	48.0%	63,415	61.0%	68,810	66.2%
2003-04	103,296	47,423	45.9%	61,788	59.8%	67,734	65.6%
2004-05	106,920	49,761	46.5%	65,559	61.3%	71,444	66.8%
2005-06	108,662	53,330	49.1%	67,958	62.5%	73,350	67.5%
2006-07	115,254	55,167	47.9%	69,691	60.5%	75,018	65.1%
2007-08	116,015	55,049	47.4%	68,643	59.2%	73,885	63.7%
2008-09	112,877	51,010	45.2%	64,244	56.9%	68,803	61.0%
2009-10	104,981	44,104	42.0%	54,713	52.1%	57,022	54.3%
2010-11	95,690	34,810	36.4%	39,331	41.1%	42,661	44.6%
2011-12	75,733	7,456	9.8%	13,843	18.3%	18,908	25.0%
2012-13	36,527	2,435	6.7%	5,937	16.3%	8,110	22.2%
2013-14	33,449	2,348	7.0%	5,334	15.9%	7,726	23.1%
2014-15	39,399	2,447	6.2%	6,336	16.1%	9,505	24.1%
2015-16	33,861	2,091	6.2%	5,512	16.3%	7,976	23.6%
2016-17	32,038	2,259	7.1%	5,329	16.6%	N/A	N/A
2017-18	36,017	2,282	6.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### 4.2 Type of Arrest for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohort

Table 9 shows the type of arrest for the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts. Data represent the most serious offense in the first arrest cycle. At the time of this report, the type of arrest for some offenders was unknown.

Table 9. Type of Arrest for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and Fiscal Year 2015-16

Type of Arrest	FY 2014-15		FY 2015-16	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>No Arrest</b>	<b>11,966</b>	<b>30.5%</b>	<b>10,662</b>	<b>31.6%</b>
<b>All Felonies</b>	<b>9,066</b>	<b>23.1%</b>	<b>7,618</b>	<b>22.6%</b>
Felony Crimes Against Persons	3,077	7.8%	2,756	8.2%
Felony Property Crimes	2,368	6.0%	1,933	5.7%
Felony Other Crimes	1,816	4.6%	1,689	5.0%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	1,805	4.6%	1,240	3.7%
<b>All Misdemeanors</b>	<b>7,816</b>	<b>19.9%</b>	<b>6,392</b>	<b>18.9%</b>
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	4,204	10.7%	3,441	10.2%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	1,567	4.0%	1,456	4.3%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	1,526	3.9%	1,122	3.3%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	519	1.3%	373	1.1%
<b>Supervision Violations</b>	<b>8,187</b>	<b>20.9%</b>	<b>7,753</b>	<b>23.0%</b>
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>2,170</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>1,331</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,205</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

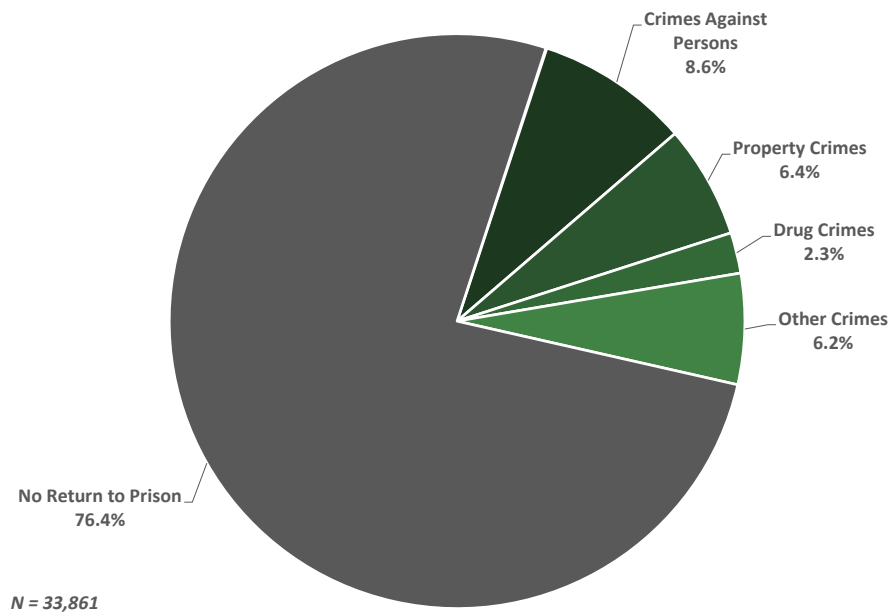
Approximately 30 percent (31.6 percent or 10,662 offenders) of the FY 2015-16 release cohort completed the three-year follow-up period without an arrest. The percentage of offenders with no arrests increased slightly (1.1 percentage points) among the FY 2015-16 release cohort compared to the FY 2014-15 release cohort (30.5 percent or 11,966 offenders). Nearly 23 percent of the FY 2015-16 release cohort (22.6 percent or 7,618 offenders) were arrested for felony crimes and 18.9 percent (6,392 offenders) were arrested for misdemeanors. The percentage of felony arrests decreased (from 23.1 percent to 22.6 percent) when comparing the FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16 release cohorts. Similarly, misdemeanor arrests decreased slightly (from 19.9 percent to 18.9 percent).

The percentage of arrests for supervision violations increased between the two release cohorts with 20.9 percent of the FY 2014-15 release cohort and 23.0 percent of the FY 2015-16 release cohort arrested for supervision violations. Over five percent (5.5 percent) of arrests were unknown for the FY 2014-15 release cohort and 3.9 percent were unknown for the FY 2015-16 release cohort, a decrease of 1.5 percentage points. When comparing the type of arrests for the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts, the percentages are similar. For each type of arrest (both felony and misdemeanor), the difference between the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts was subtle and increased or decreased by less than a percentage point.

### 4.3 Type of Return for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohort

The type of return to prison section includes all of the 33,861 offenders released from CDCR during FY 2015-16, while arrests and conviction sections only include the 33,756 offenders with an automated DOJ rap sheet. Commencing with the 2016 Recidivism Report, CDCR transitioned its primary measure of recidivism from the three-year return-to-prison rate to the three-year conviction rate. Type of return data are provided for the FY 2008-09 through 2015-16 release cohorts for comparative purposes (Table 10).

Figure 11. Type of Return for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohort



Post-Realignment, only offenders previously sentenced to a life term and some sex offenders are returned to CDCR for parole violations, resulting in substantial decreases in the percentage of offenders returned to prison for parole violations. Approximately 42 percent (42.3 percent or 47,793 offenders) were returned to prison for parole violations, while only 17 offenders belonging to the FY 2015-16 release cohort were returned to prison for parole violations. The decrease in returns to prison for parole violations largely drove the decline in the three-year return-to-prison rate, which started experiencing large decreases with the FY 2008-09 release cohort. In addition to drastic decreases in parole violations, Realignment also impacted the percentage of offenders returning to prison for crimes against persons. Crimes against persons comprised only 3.5 percent of all returns to prison among FY 2008-09 releases and 8.6 percent of FY 2015-16 releases. The percentage of offenders returned to prison for crimes against persons has slowly increased since Realignment. Crimes against persons tend to be more serious and violent than other commitment offense categories and are more likely to require a prison sentence.

Table 10. Type of Return for the Fiscal Year 2008-09 through Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohorts

Type of Return	FY 2008-09		FY 2009-10		FY 2010-11		FY 2011-12		FY 2012-13		FY 2013-14		FY 2014-15		FY 2015-16	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Parole Violations	47,793	42.3%	39,747	37.9%	29,028	30.3%	3,126	4.1%	8	0.0%	16	0.0%	16	0.0%	17	0.1%
Crimes Against Persons	3,925	3.5%	3,771	3.6%	3,834	4.0%	5,247	6.9%	2,527	6.9%	2,570	7.7%	3,304	8.4%	2,921	8.6%
Property Crimes	8,055	7.1%	6,541	6.2%	4,520	4.7%	4,238	5.6%	2,249	6.2%	2,125	6.4%	2,766	7.0%	2,151	6.4%
Drug Crimes	6,299	5.6%	4,730	4.5%	3,279	3.4%	3,278	4.3%	1,815	5.0%	1,271	3.8%	1,113	2.8%	776	2.3%
Other Crimes	2,731	2.4%	2,233	2.1%	2,000	2.1%	3,019	4.0%	1,511	4.1%	1,744	5.2%	2,306	5.9%	2,111	6.2%
No Return to Prison	44,074	39.0%	47,959	45.7%	53,029	55.4%	56,825	75.0%	28,417	77.8%	25,723	76.9%	29,894	75.9%	25,885	76.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>112,877</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>104,981</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>95,690</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>75,733</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>36,527</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>33,449</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>39,399</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>33,861</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## 5 Correctional Policies, Recidivism Rates and Type of Recidivism

Over the last ten years, several significant correctional and public safety policies and initiatives have been implemented, impacting CDCR's population and post-release outcomes. The influence of two major correctional policies, Realignment and Proposition 47, is reflected in the composition of the FY 2015-16 release, their recidivism rates, as well as their post-release convictions. During the FY 2015-16 release cohort's three-year follow-up period, Proposition 57 passed and allowed for increased credit earnings for eligible offenders.<sup>8</sup> CDCR also expanded some rehabilitative programs and changed its classification system to allow for increased program access. At the time of this report's development, California's local facilities and State prisons have also accelerated the release of some offenders due to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>9</sup> The following sections describe recent correctional policies and their influence on post-release outcomes. Although it takes time to examine both the temporary and lasting impacts of correctional policies on CDCR's population, CDCR will continue to provide this information as it becomes available.

### 5.1 Public Safety Realignment

The FY 2015-16 release cohort represents the fourth cohort of CDCR offenders whose period of release (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) and three-year follow-up period (ending no later than June 30, 2019) occurred after the implementation of Realignment. Realignment had some pronounced effects on CDCR's population, including a large drop in the number of offenders admitted to and released from prison each fiscal year, the composition (e.g., demographics and characteristics) of those offenders, and substantial decreases in one of CDCR's supplemental measures of recidivism: the three-year return-to-prison rate.

Consistent with decreases to CDCR's overall offender population, the size of each release cohort has decreased considerably as a result of Realignment (Section 2.4 Number of Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16).<sup>10</sup> In FY 2007-08 (the last cohort in which the release and follow-up period occurred before Realignment), the number of CDCR releases peaked at 116,015 releases, compared to the 33,756 offenders included in the current FY 2015-16 release cohort. The demographics and characteristics of each release cohort have also changed as intended under Realignment, with larger percentages of serious and violent offenders and those committed to prison for crimes against persons (Figure 12).

Under Realignment, most non-serious, non-violent, and non-sex registrants were eligible to serve felony sentences in local facilities, which led to a decrease in the number of offenders committed to prison for property and drug crimes and an increase in offenders committed to prison for crimes against persons. Property and drug offenders are traditionally associated with higher rates of recidivism, while offenders committed for crimes against persons are associated with lower rates of recidivism. A high

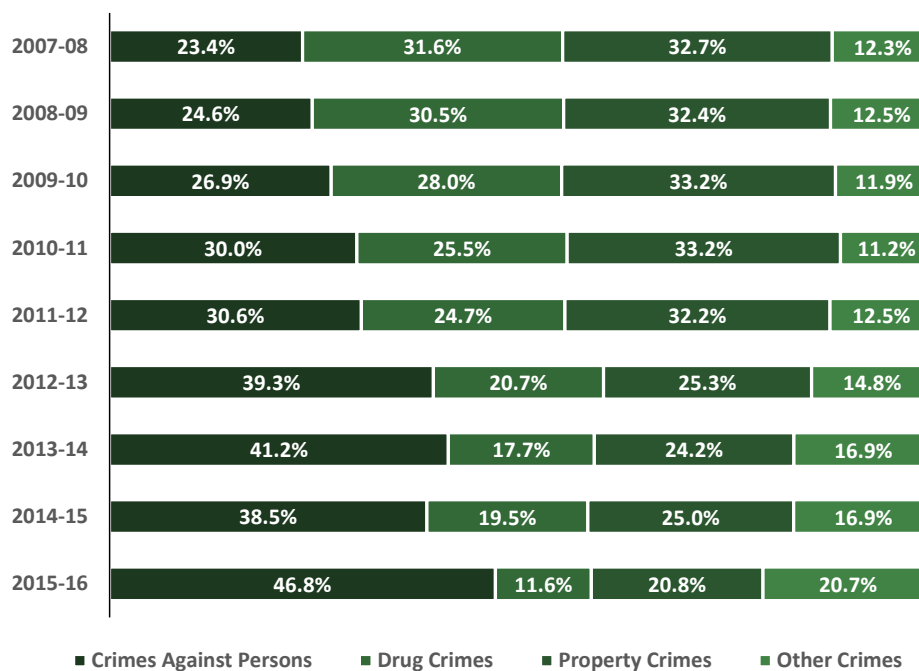
<sup>8</sup> More information regarding Proposition 57 and changes to credit earnings may be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/proposition57/>

<sup>9</sup> For more information regarding COVID-19, releases, and departmental updates may be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/covid19/>

<sup>10</sup> More information regarding CDCR's population may be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/research/population-reports-2/>

concentration of offenders associated with either a high or low rate of recidivism may influence recidivism rates upward or downward. The increase in offenders released from prison who were committed for crimes against persons was one factor that influenced the three-year conviction rate downward (from 54.3 percent to 46.1 percent) between the FY 2011-12 and 2012-13 release cohorts. Similarly, a contributing factor to the decrease in the three-year conviction rate observed between the FY 2014-15 and current FY 2015-16 release cohorts could be a higher percentage of offenders originally committed to CDCR for crimes against persons (38.5 percent of all commitments versus 46.8 percent of all commitments when comparing the two fiscal years), as shown in Figure 12.

Figure 12. Percentage of Releases by Commitment Offense Category for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 through Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohorts



After Realignment, the arrest and conviction rates for CDCR releases remained fairly stable with minor fluctuations. In contrast, the return-to-prison rate saw a series of substantial decreases, attributed to a decrease in parole violations.<sup>11</sup> Under Realignment, most parole revocations are served in county facilities rather than State prisons. Returns to prison for parole violations accounted for over 40 percent (42.3 percent or 47,793) of all returns to prison for the 112,877 offenders released in FY 2008-09. Conversely, only 17 of the 33,861 offenders released in FY 2015-16 were returned to CDCR for parole violations.<sup>12</sup> A decline in returns for parole violations led to a series of drastic decreases in the return-to-

<sup>11</sup> With the exception of offenders previously sentenced to a life term (lifers) and some sex offenders. Penal Code section 3000.08 remands persons on parole pursuant to section 3000.0, subdivision (b), paragraph (4) to the custody of CDCR. For more information regarding specific sex offenses, please see Penal Code 3000.0(b)(4). For more information regarding decreases to returns to prison for parole violations, please see Section 4.3 Type of Return to Prison.

<sup>12</sup> Return-to-prison rates include all 33,861 offenders released from CDCR in FY 2015-16, while arrest and conviction rates include only the 33,756 offenders with a DOJ rap sheet.

prison rate, beginning with the FY 2009-10 release cohort's rate of 54.3 percent and eventually falling to a low of 22.2 percent with the FY 2012-13 release cohort. From this point, the return-to-prison rate experienced small increases, reaching a rate of 24.1 percent with the FY 2014-15 cohort. The small fluctuations observed over the last four release cohorts and the recent decrease observed among the current FY 2015-16 release cohort indicate stability in the return-to-prison rate.

## 5.2 Proposition 47

Proposition 47 was passed by California voters in November 2014 and reduced penalties for certain non-serious, non-violent property and drug crimes by mandating a misdemeanor sentence instead of a felony. It also allowed offenders serving sentences in prison for felony offenses to petition the courts for resentencing under new sentencing provisions.<sup>13</sup> Proposition 47 was implemented in November 2014 prior to the FY 2015-16 release cohort's period of release (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) and was active during all of the cohort's three-year follow-up period.

Most offenders eligible under Proposition 47 provisions were resentenced and released during FY 2014-15, shortly after the measure was passed. Slightly over 10 percent of the FY 2014-15 release cohort or 4,111 offenders, were resentenced and released under Proposition 47 provisions, while only 364 of the current FY 2015-16 release cohort were Proposition 47 releases. The three-year conviction rates for Proposition 47 offenders released in FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 (59.8 percent and 52.7 percent, respectively) are higher than the rates of other offenders. Offenders who were committed to CDCR for property and drug crimes historically have higher recidivism rates than offenders committed to CDCR for serious/violent offenses (e.g., crimes against persons). Offenders committed to CDCR for property and drug crimes, such as those released under Proposition 47, historically have higher recidivism rates than offenders committed for serious/violent offenses (e.g., crimes against persons). Higher conviction rates were observed among Proposition 47 releases. The FY 2014-15 release cohort had a large number of these releases (over 4,000), which influenced the three-year conviction rate upward (46.5 percent). The upward influence in the three-year conviction rate was expected to be temporary as most eligible offenders were resentenced and released during this time. The small number of Proposition 47 releases in FY 2015-16 likely had little influence on the overall conviction rate.

In addition to resentencing for some offenders, the sentencing provisions of Proposition 47 affected the types of post-release convictions (i.e., felony or misdemeanor). Specifically, the percentage of post-release convictions for felony drug/alcohol crimes decreased and the percentage of misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes increased. The most substantial decreases in post-release convictions for felony drug/alcohol crimes occurred between the FY 2012-13 and 2013-14 release cohorts (7.6 percentage points) and FY 2013-14 and 2014-15 release cohorts (6.7 percentage points). Similar and subsequent increases were observed in post-release convictions for misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes, which increased 5.2 percentage points between the FY 2012-13 and 2013-14 release cohorts and 2.8 percentage points between the FY 2013-14 and 2014-15 release cohorts. A similar pattern, though less

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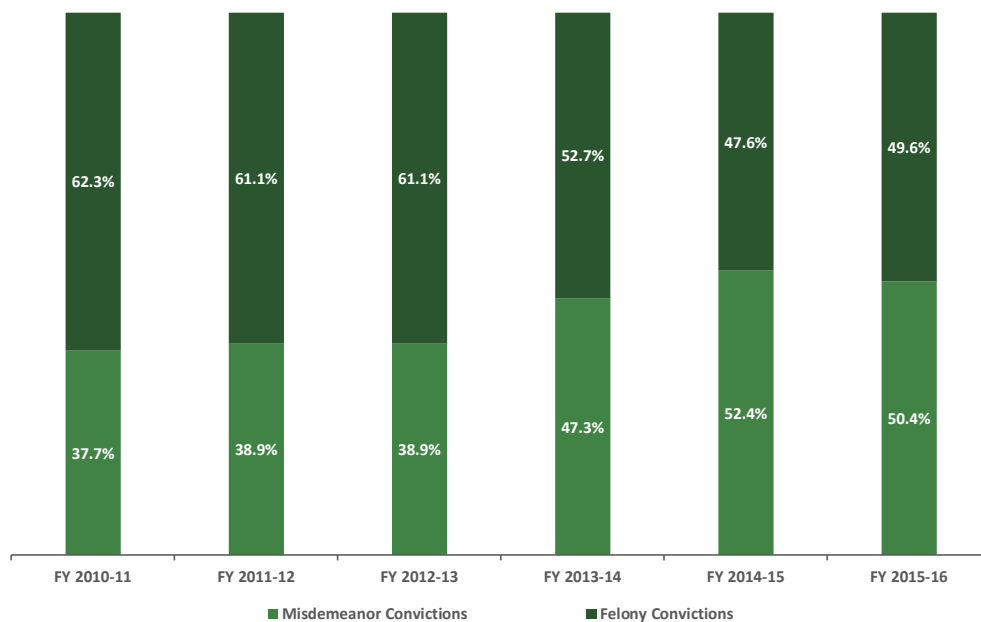
<sup>13</sup> More information regarding Proposition 47 may be found at: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/prop47.htm>

pronounced, was observed among felony and misdemeanor property crimes that fell under Proposition 47 guidelines.

Figure 13 shows the percentage of offenders convicted for felonies and misdemeanors in the last six cohorts (FY 2010-11 through FY 2015-16). The percentage of felony and misdemeanor convictions was relatively consistent for the first three years of releases (FY 2010-11 through 2012-13), with felony convictions comprising larger percentages of all post-release convictions than misdemeanors. Consistent with the implementation of Proposition 47, the percentage of felony convictions began to decrease while the percentage of misdemeanor convictions increased. These changes were driven by decreases in post-release convictions for felony drug/alcohol and property crimes and subsequent increases in misdemeanor drug/alcohol and property crimes.

The current FY 2015-16 release cohort saw a much smaller decrease in post-release felony convictions for drug/alcohol crimes than the two preceding cohorts. Felony drug/alcohol crimes decreased less than a percentage point and comprised 7.1 percent of all convictions among FY 2014-15 releases and 6.6 percent among FY 2015-16 releases. Post-release misdemeanor convictions for drug/alcohol crimes decreased slightly to 20.2 percent of all convictions, though they still comprise the largest percentage of all post-release convictions (Section 3.2). Felony and misdemeanor property crimes followed a similar pattern and indicate the immediate effects of Proposition 47 on post-release convictions has stabilized. Future cohorts may see stability with small fluctuations in terms of the percentage of felony and misdemeanor convictions.

Figure 13. Percentage of Felony and Misdemeanor Convictions for Offenders Convicted in the Fiscal Year 2010-11 through Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohorts





### 5.3 Proposition 57 and Other Correctional Policies and Initiatives

The FY 2015-16 release cohort was released before the expansion and implementation of several rehabilitative programs. During the three-year follow-up period, CDCR made changes to its classification system, allowing for increased program access and expanded vocational, academic, and rehabilitative programs. Additionally, CDCR was in the process of developing the Integrated Substance Use Disorder Treatment (ISUDT) program, which will include comprehensive enhancements to treat substance use disorders among California's prison population.

Although the data are limited, Section 7 and 8 of this report provides limited recidivism data for participants of some of these programs. Participation in SUDT has been reported for a number of years; however, data regarding the Alternative Custody Program and the Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program are being reported for the first time. As participation in these programs increases and data become available, CDCR will continue to report recidivism rates and other offender outcomes.

Proposition 57 was passed in November 2016 and allows eligible CDCR offenders to earn credits for good behavior and approved rehabilitative educational achievements.<sup>14</sup> Proposition 57 increased the amount of credits that may be earned through the Good Conduct Credit (GCC), and Milestone Completion Credit (MCC) Programs, and also added two new types of credits: Rehabilitative Achievement Credit (RAC) and Educational Merit Credits (EMC). Proposition 57 also established a parole consideration process for determinately sentenced and indeterminately sentenced non-violent offenders, who serve the full term for their primary criminal offense and demonstrate no current or unreasonable risk to the public. While the FY 2015-16 cohort was released before enhancements to rehabilitative programming and Proposition 57, CDCR will monitor any early impacts Proposition 57 may have on the composition of CDCR's release cohorts, as well as the three-year return-to-prison rate and type of post-release convictions.

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<sup>14</sup> More information regarding Proposition 57 and changes to credit earnings may be found at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/proposition57/>

## 6 Description of the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohort

In FY 2015-16, 33,756 offenders were released from CDCR adult institutions. This section presents information regarding the composition of CDCR's FY 2015-16 release cohort in terms of their demographics (e.g., gender, age) and characteristics (e.g., commitment offense category, length of stay).

### 6.1 Offender Demographics

#### Gender

As shown in Table 11, 93.1 percent (31,414 offenders) of the 33,756 offenders released in FY 2015-16 were male and 6.9 percent (2,342 offenders) were female.

#### Age at Release

Offenders ages 25 to 29 represented the largest number of releases (18.7 percent or 6,307 offenders) in the release cohort, followed by offenders ages 30 to 34. Offenders ages 18 and 19 represented the smallest number of releases (0.8 percent or 278 offenders), followed by offenders 60 and over. In general, younger offenders comprise larger percentages of the release cohort and older offenders comprise smaller percentages, with 84.8 percent (28,621 offenders) under the age of 50 at the time of their release.

#### Race/Ethnicity

Over 40 percent of the release cohort (42.7 percent or 14,421 offenders) were Hispanic/Latino, followed by White (26.1 percent or 8,804 offenders), and Black/African American (24.6 percent or 8,319 offenders). The population also includes race/ethnicity categories that represented much smaller proportions of the release cohort: Asian/Pacific Islander offenders represented 1.5 percent of the release cohort (493 offenders) and American Indian/Alaskan Native offenders represented 1.2 percent of the release cohort (391 offenders). Offenders not categorized in the aforementioned race/ethnicity categories were categorically included as "Other" (3.9 percent or 1,328 offenders).

#### County of Release

Nearly 80 percent of the release cohort (79.7 percent or 26,916 offenders) were released to 12 California counties, as shown in Table 11. Almost 29 percent of the release cohort (28.9 percent or 9,744 offenders) were released to Los Angeles County, followed by San Bernardino County (9.3 percent or 3,145 offenders), and Riverside County (7.5 percent or 2,526 offenders). About 20 percent of the release cohort (20.1 percent or 6,773 offenders) were released to all other California counties. Less than one percent of the release cohort (67 offenders) were directly discharged from prison.

Table 11. Demographics of Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16

Demographics		Number	Percent
Total		33,756	100.0%
Gender			
	Male	31,414	93.1%
	Female	2,342	6.9%
Age at Release			
	18 - 19	278	0.8%
	20 - 24	4,769	14.1%
	25 - 29	6,307	18.7%
	30 - 34	5,955	17.6%
	35 - 39	4,898	14.5%
	40 - 44	3,419	10.1%
	45 - 49	2,995	8.9%
	50 - 54	2,531	7.5%
	55 - 59	1,529	4.5%
	60 and over	1,075	3.2%
Race/Ethnicity			
	Hispanic/Latino	14,421	42.7%
	White	8,804	26.1%
	Black/African American	8,319	24.6%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	493	1.5%
	American Indian/Alaskan Native	391	1.2%
	Other	1,328	3.9%
County of Release			
	Los Angeles County	9,744	28.9%
	San Bernardino County	3,145	9.3%
	Riverside County	2,526	7.5%
	San Diego County	2,392	7.1%
	Sacramento County	1,687	5.0%
	Orange County	1,584	4.7%
	Fresno County	1,549	4.6%
	Kern County	1,293	3.8%
	San Joaquin County	843	2.5%
	Santa Clara County	826	2.4%
	Stanislaus County	776	2.3%
	Alameda County	551	1.6%
	All Other Counties	6,773	20.1%
	Directly Discharged	67	0.2%

## 6.2 Offender Characteristics

### Commitment Offense Category

As shown in Table 12, over 45 percent of the FY 2015-16 release cohort (46.8 percent or 15,814 offenders) were committed to prison for crimes against persons, followed by property crimes (20.8 percent or 7,035 offenders), and drug crimes (20.7 percent or 6,975 offenders). Almost 12 percent of the release cohort (11.6 percent or 3,932 offenders) were committed to prison for other crimes.

### Sentence Type

Most offenders in the release cohort served a determinate sentence (70.4 percent or 23,761 offenders). Over 25 percent of the release cohort (26.4 percent or 8,908 offenders) were second strikers sentenced to a determinate term, and 2.1 percent (723 offenders) were sentenced to an indeterminate term (lifers). A total of 364 offenders (1.1 percent) in the release cohort were released under Proposition 47.

### Sex Registration Requirement

Most offenders in the FY 2015-16 release cohort (90.1 percent or 30,429 offenders) did not have a sex registration requirement. Less than 10 percent (9.9 percent or 3,327 offenders) were required to register as sex offenders.

### Serious/Violent Offense

A majority (55.1 percent or 18,600 offenders) of the FY 2015-16 release cohort served a term for a non-serious and non-violent offense. Approximately 23 percent (23.8 percent or 8,031 offenders) served a term for a serious offense and 21.1 percent (7,125 offenders) served a term for a violent offense.

### Mental Health Designation

Over three-quarters of the release cohort (76.8 percent or 25,936 offenders) did not have a mental health assignment through CDCR's mental health delivery system at the time of their release. The largest percentage of offenders assigned to the mental health delivery system at the time of their release were assigned to the Correctional Clinical Case Management System (19.0 percent or 6,416 offenders), followed by the Enhanced Outpatient Program (3.9 percent or 1,308 offenders). At the time of their release, less than one percent were assigned to a Mental Health Crisis Bed (66 offenders) or Inpatient Care (30 offenders).

### Risk Score

Almost one-half of the FY 2015-16 release cohort (43.1 percent or 14,560 offenders) had a California Static Risk Assessment (CSRA) score of high, followed by a score of moderate (28.9 percent or 9,745 offenders), and a score of low (28.0 percent or 9,451 offenders).

### Length of Stay

Approximately 64 percent (63.9 percent or 21,577 offenders) had a length of stay less than two years at a CDCR prison. Offenders with shorter lengths of stay (e.g., three years or less) comprise larger portions of the release cohorts when compared to those with longer stays. When comparing the length of stay groups, offenders with a stay of 7 to 12 months comprised the largest percentage of releases (24.0 percent or 8,095 offenders) and offenders with a stay of 10 to 15 years comprised a smaller percentage of releases (2.9 percent or 964 offenders).

### Number of CDCR Stays

Almost half of the FY 2015-16 release cohort (46.2 percent or 15,608 offenders) were released after their first CDCR stay, followed by 13.8 percent of offenders with two stays (4,660 offenders), and 7.6 percent (2,556 offenders) with three stays. As the number of CDCR stays increases, the number of offenders in each category decreases, with the exception of 15 or more stays (3.2 percent or 1,092 offenders).

### Proposition 47 Releases

Slightly over one percent of the FY 2015-16 release cohort (1.1 percent or 364 offenders) were resentenced and released under Proposition 47. Most offenders released in FY 2015-16 (98.9 percent or 33,392 offenders) were not released under Proposition 47.

Table 12. Characteristics of Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16

Characteristics	Number	Percent
Total	33,756	100.0%
Commitment Offense Category		
Crimes Against Persons	15,814	46.8%
Property Crimes	7,035	20.8%
Drug Crimes	6,975	20.7%
Other Crimes	3,932	11.6%
Sentence Type		
Determinate Sentencing Law	23,761	70.4%
Second Strikers (Determinate Sentencing Law)	8,908	26.4%
Lifers (Indeterminate Sentencing Law)	723	2.1%
Proposition 47 Releases	364	1.1%
Sex Registration Requirement		
No	30,429	90.1%
Yes	3,327	9.9%
Serious and/or Violent Offenders		
Non-Serious/Non-Violent	18,600	55.1%
Serious	8,031	23.8%
Violent	7,125	21.1%
Mental Health Designation		
Correctional Clinical Case Management System	6,416	19.0%
Enhanced Outpatient Program	1,308	3.9%
Mental Health Crisis Bed	66	0.2%
Inpatient	30	0.1%
No Mental Health Designation	25,936	76.8%
CSRA Risk Score		
High	14,560	43.1%
Moderate	9,745	28.9%
Low	9,451	28.0%

Table 12. Characteristics of Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16 (continued)

Characteristics	Number	Percent
Length of Stay		
0 - 6 Months	4,698	13.9%
7 - 12 months	8,095	24.0%
13 - 18 months	5,237	15.5%
19 - 24 months	3,547	10.5%
2 - 3 years	3,797	11.2%
3 - 4 years	2,056	6.1%
4 - 5 years	1,472	4.4%
5 - 10 years	2,780	8.2%
10 - 15 years	964	2.9%
15 + years	1,110	3.3%
Number of CDCR Stays		
1	15,608	46.2%
2	4,660	13.8%
3	2,556	7.6%
4	1,935	5.7%
5	1,587	4.7%
6	1,274	3.8%
7	1,048	3.1%
8	946	2.8%
9	785	2.3%
10	648	1.9%
11	524	1.6%
12	464	1.4%
13	337	1.0%
14	292	0.9%
15 +	1,092	3.2%
Proposition 47 Release		
No	33,392	98.9%
Yes	364	1.1%

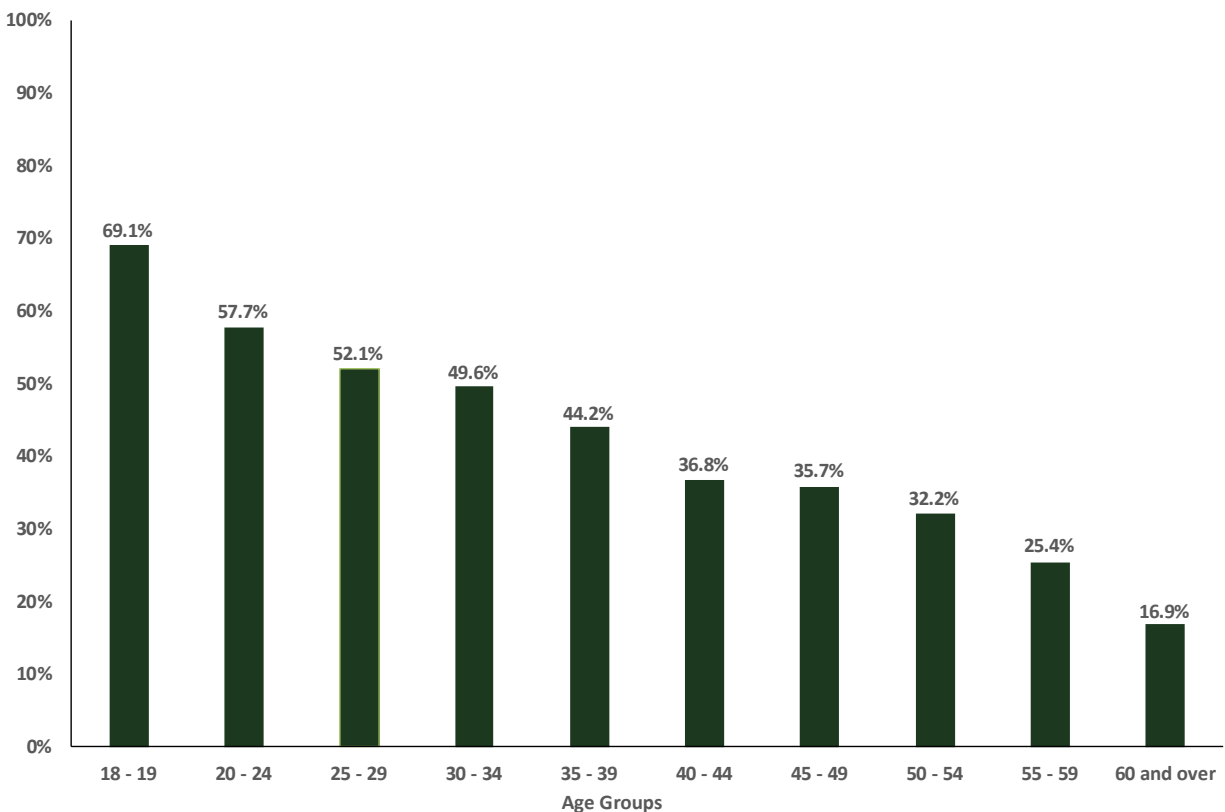
## 7 Conviction Rates by Offender Demographics and Characteristics

This section presents one-, two-, and three-year conviction rates for the 33,756 offenders released from CDCR and comprising the FY 2015-16 release cohort. Conviction rates are provided by offender demographics (e.g., gender, age, race/ethnicity) and offender characteristics (e.g., release type, commitment offense category). Section 7.3 provides the three-year conviction rates for the FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16 release cohorts by offender demographics and characteristics for comparative purposes.

### 7.1 Conviction Rate by Offender Demographics

#### 7.1.1 Age at Release

Figure 14. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Age at Release



As shown in Figure 14 and Table 13, as the age of an offender increases, the three-year conviction rate decreases. Although offenders ages 18 and 19 comprise less than one percent of the release cohort (278 offenders), their three-year conviction rate of 69.1 percent (192 offenders) is the highest among all age groups. Offenders ages 20 to 24 and 25 to 29 follow with three-year conviction rates of 57.7 percent (2,751 offenders) and 52.1 percent (3,286 offenders), respectively. Offenders ages 60 and over have the lowest three-year conviction rate (16.9 percent or 182 offenders) of all age groups. The difference in the three-year conviction rate between offenders 18 and 19 (69.1 percent) and 60 and over (16.9 percent),



is over 50 percentage points. To learn more about the relationship between age and recidivism, please see Section 7.5 of this report.

The three-year conviction rate for all age group categories decreased when comparing the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts (Section 7.3). Offenders ages 40 and 44 saw the largest decrease (from 42.2 percent to 36.8 percent) between the two fiscal years, with a decrease of 5.4 percentage points.

Offenders 45 to 49, 55 to 59, and 60 and over also saw the larger decreases in the three-year conviction rate, with differences ranging from 3.6 to 4.0 percentage points.

Table 13. Conviction Rates by Age at Release

Age Groups	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
18 - 19	278	115	41.4%	170	61.2%	192	69.1%
20 - 24	4,769	1,312	27.5%	2,251	47.2%	2,751	57.7%
25 - 29	6,307	1,390	22.0%	2,587	41.0%	3,286	52.1%
30 - 34	5,955	1,248	21.0%	2,317	38.9%	2,953	49.6%
35 - 39	4,898	841	17.2%	1,648	33.6%	2,163	44.2%
40 - 44	3,419	478	14.0%	958	28.0%	1,259	36.8%
45 - 49	2,995	398	13.3%	803	26.8%	1,070	35.7%
50 - 54	2,531	314	12.4%	587	23.2%	814	32.2%
55 - 59	1,529	141	9.2%	287	18.8%	389	25.4%
60 and over	1,075	75	7.0%	135	12.6%	182	16.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

7.1.2 County of Release

Figure 15. Three-Year Conviction Rates by County of Release

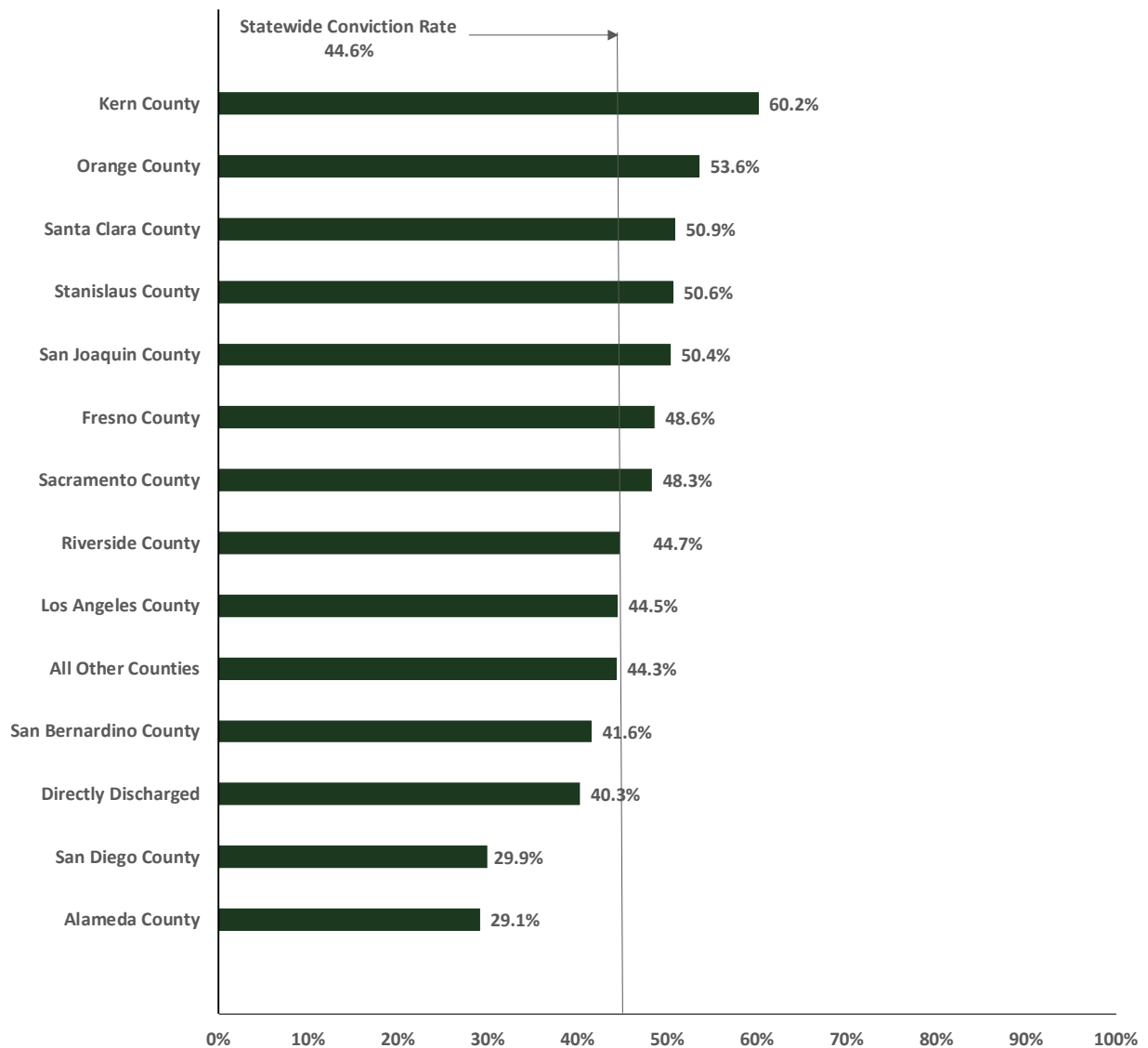


Figure 15 and Table 14 present the three-year conviction rate for the 12 California counties with the largest number of releases from CDCR during FY 2015-16. Almost 80 percent of the FY 2015-16 release cohort (26,916 offenders) were released to twelve counties. Los Angeles County accounted for nearly a third (9,744 offenders) of CDCR releases. Less than 20 percent (6,773 offenders) were released to the remaining 46 California counties (All Other Counties) and 67 offenders were directly discharged from prison. The number of releases and the three-year conviction rates for each of California’s counties are presented in Section 7.4.

Conviction rates by the county of release should be interpreted with caution for a number of reasons. Offenders may leave the county to which they are released or offenders may be convicted after their release from prison in a county other than their county of release. When an offender is convicted in a county other than their county of release, the conviction is still associated with the county to which they were originally released (e.g., if an offender is released in Sacramento County and is subsequently convicted in Riverside County, for the purposes of this report, the new conviction is associated with Sacramento County, not Riverside County).

With regard to the 12 counties with the largest number of releases, Kern County had the highest three-year conviction rate (60.2 percent or 778 offenders), followed by Orange County (53.6 percent or 849 offenders), and Santa Clara County (50.9 percent or 429 offenders). Alameda County has the lowest three-year conviction rate (29.1 percent or 226 offenders), followed by San Diego County (29.9 percent or 715 offenders), and San Bernardino County (41.6 percent or 1,308 offenders). The three-year conviction rate for the remaining 46 California counties was 44.3 percent (3,002 offenders). The three-year conviction rate for offenders directly discharged from prison was 40.3 percent (27 offenders).

The three-year conviction rate increased for three of the top 12 counties and decreased for eight counties when comparing the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts (Section 7.3., Table 31). The largest increase in the three-year conviction rate was observed in Stanislaus County (14.8 percentage points) from 36.0 percent to 50.6 percent, followed by Kern County with a 12.4 percentage point increase from 47.8 percent to 60.2 percent. The other increases in the three-year conviction rate (observed in Orange and San Joaquin Counties) were less than two percentage points (Section 7.3). Among the eight counties with decreases, Alameda County saw the largest decrease (23.0 percentage points) with a three-year conviction rate of 52.1 percent among FY 2014-15 releases and 29.1 percent with FY 2015-16 releases.

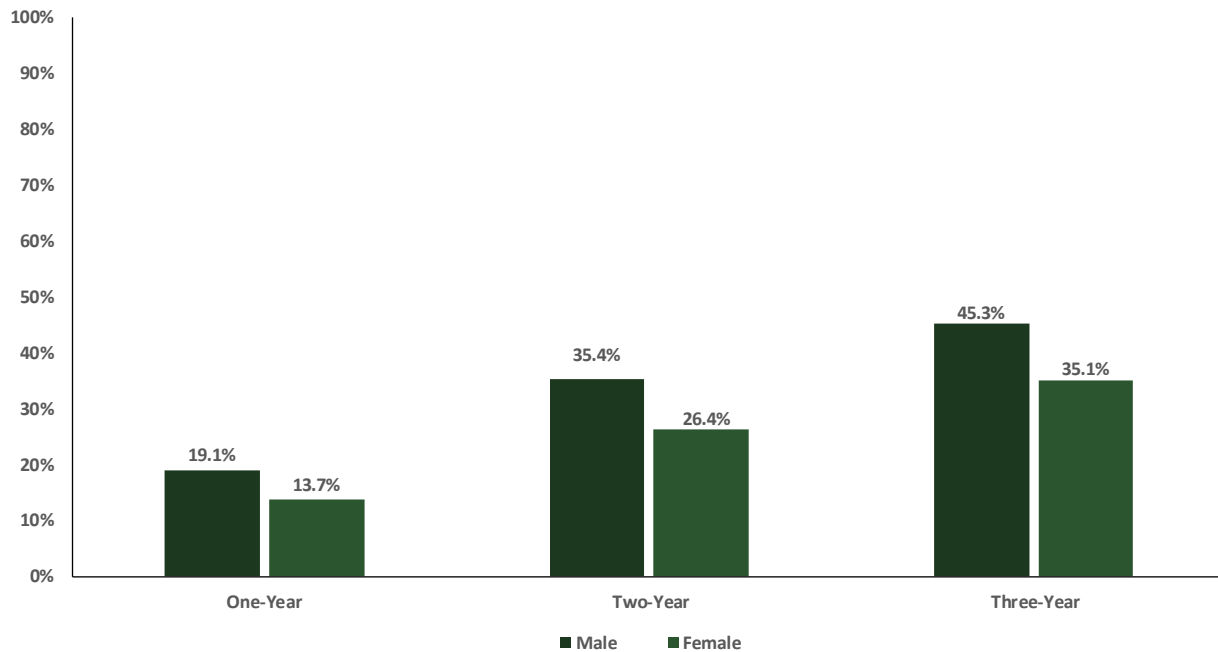
A decrease in the three-year conviction rate was observed among offenders directly discharged from prison. The three-year conviction rate for direct discharges in the FY 2014-15 release cohort was 52.7 percent, which decreased 12.4 percentage points to 40.3 percent with the FY 2015-16 release cohort. Most of this decrease is related to the decrease in Proposition 47 releases among those directly discharged and is discussed further in Section 5.2.

Table 14. Conviction Rates by County of Release

County of Release	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Kern County	1,293	449	34.7%	668	51.7%	778	60.2%
Orange County	1,584	454	28.7%	714	45.1%	849	53.6%
Santa Clara County	843	191	22.7%	345	40.9%	429	50.9%
Stanislaus County	551	144	26.1%	227	41.2%	279	50.6%
San Joaquin County	826	190	23.0%	341	41.3%	416	50.4%
Fresno County	1,549	288	18.6%	573	37.0%	753	48.6%
Sacramento County	1,687	366	21.7%	654	38.8%	815	48.3%
Riverside County	2,526	454	18.0%	851	33.7%	1,128	44.7%
Los Angeles County	9,744	1,795	18.4%	3,399	34.9%	4,334	44.5%
All Other Counties	6,773	1,257	18.6%	2,368	35.0%	3,002	44.3%
San Bernardino County	3,145	351	11.2%	865	27.5%	1,308	41.6%
Directly Discharged	67	11	16.4%	23	34.3%	27	40.3%
San Diego County	2,392	269	11.2%	563	23.5%	715	29.9%
Alameda County	776	93	12.0%	152	19.6%	226	29.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

7.1.3 Gender

Figure 16. Conviction Rates by Gender



Male offenders comprise a much larger proportion of the FY 2015-16 release cohort (93.1 percent or 31,414 offenders) than female offenders (6.9 percent or 2,342 offenders). The three-year conviction rate for the 31,414 male offenders released in FY 2015-16 was 45.3 percent (14,238 offenders), which was 10.2 percentage points higher than the rate of the 821 female offenders (35.1 percent). To learn more about recidivism among female offenders, please see Section 8 of this report.

Table 15. Conviction Rates by Gender

Gender	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Male	31,414	5,991	19.1%	11,124	35.4%	14,238	45.3%
Female	2,342	321	13.7%	619	26.4%	821	35.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

Section 7.3 provides the three-year conviction rate by gender for the FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16 release cohorts. Between the two cohorts of releases, the three-year conviction rate decreased by 2.1 percentage points for males (from 47.4 percent to 45.3 percent) and increased by 0.7 of a percentage point for females (from 34.4 percent to 35.1 percent). To learn more about recidivism among female offenders, please see Section 8 of this report.

7.1.4 Race/Ethnicity

Figure 17. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Race/Ethnicity

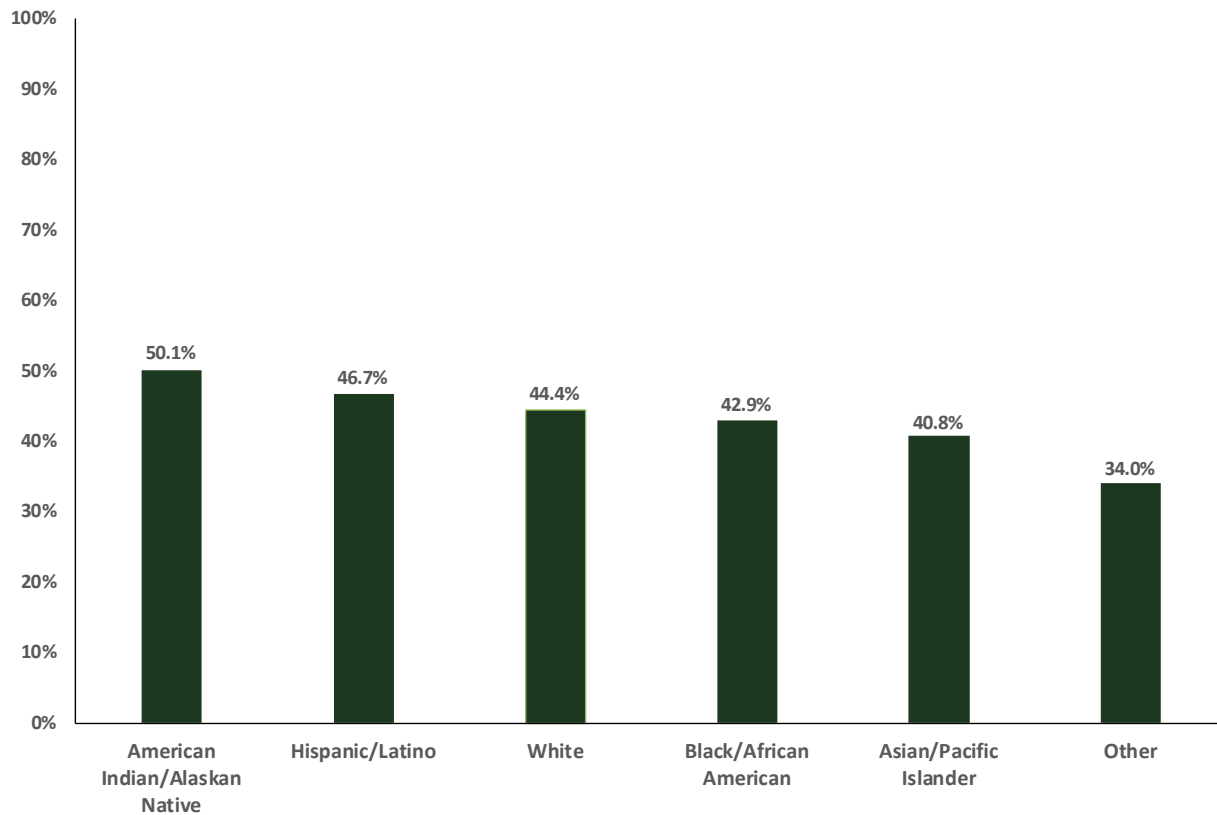


Figure 17 and Table 16 show the three-year conviction rate by race/ethnicity category. Although American Indian/Alaskan Native offenders comprise only 1.2 percent (391 offenders), their three-year conviction rate was the highest (50.1 percent or 196 offenders) among all race/ethnicity categories. Hispanic/Latino, White, and Black/African American offenders, which comprise much larger portions of the FY 2015-16 release cohorts followed with rates of 46.7 percent (6,739 offenders), 44.4 percent (3,905 offenders), and 42.9 percent (3,567 offenders), respectively. Asian/Pacific Islander and offenders included as “Other” had the lowest rates among all race/ethnicity categories at 40.8 percent (201 offenders) and 34.0 percent (451 offenders), respectively.

The three-year conviction rate for each race/ethnicity category decreased between the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts, as shown in Section 7.3. Between FY 2014-15 and 2015-16, the three-year conviction rate among Black/African American offenders decreased 4.0 percentage points (from 46.9 percent to 42.9 percent), which was the largest decrease in any race/ethnicity category. The rate for Asian/Pacific Islander offenders decreased by 1.9 percentage points (from 42.7 percent to 40.8 percent) between the two release cohorts.

Table 16. Conviction Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
American Indian/Alaskan Native	391	74	18.9%	160	40.9%	196	50.1%
Hispanic/Latino	14,421	2,910	20.2%	5,299	36.7%	6,739	46.7%
White	8,804	1,729	19.6%	3,085	35.0%	3,905	44.4%
Black/African American	8,319	1,350	16.2%	2,686	32.3%	3,567	42.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	493	89	18.1%	165	33.5%	201	40.8%
Other	1,328	160	12.0%	348	26.2%	451	34.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

## 7.2 Conviction Rates by Offender Characteristics

### 7.2.1 Commitment Offense Category

Figure 18. Conviction Rates by Commitment Offense Category

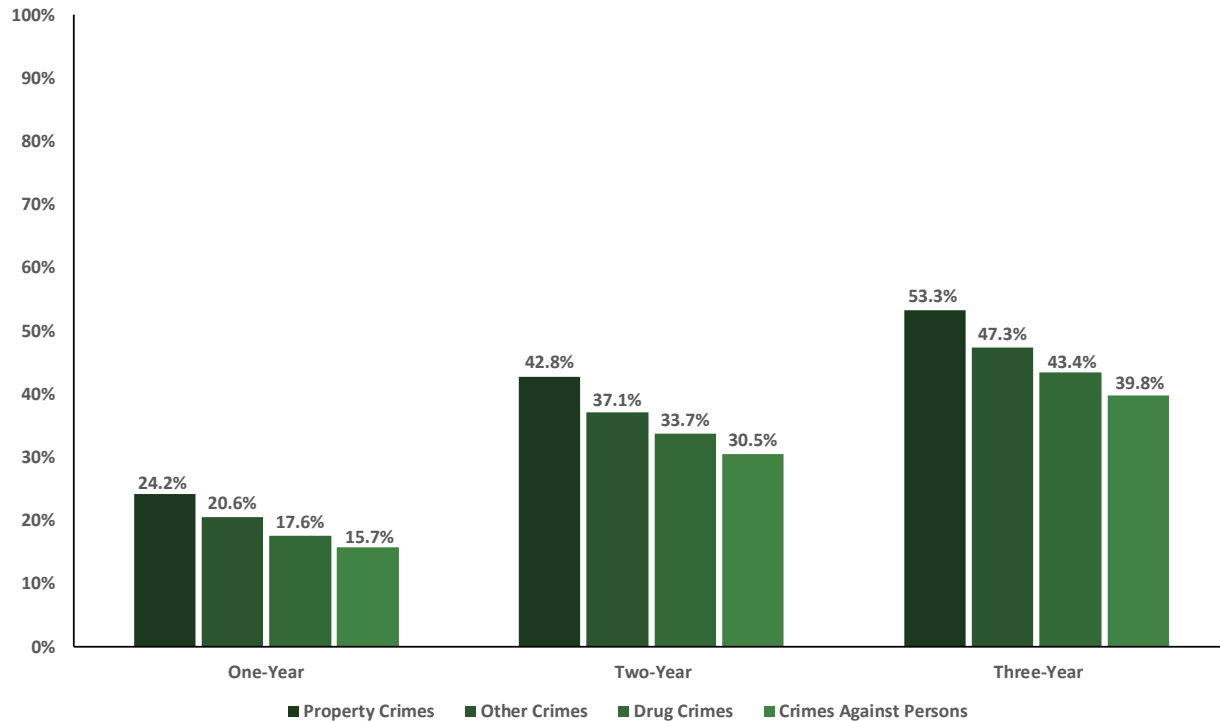


Figure 18 and Table 17 present conviction rates by commitment offense category. Each category (property crimes, drug crimes, other crimes, and crimes against persons) represents the category of offense an offender was committed to prison for prior to their release in FY 2015-16.

Offenders committed for crimes against persons comprised the largest percentage (46.8 percent or 15,814 offenders) of the release cohort and had the lowest three-year conviction rate among all commitment offense categories at 39.8 percent (6,300 offenders). Offenders committed to prison for property crimes comprised 20.8 percent (7,035 offenders) of the FY 2015-16 release cohort and had the highest three-year conviction rate (53.3 percent or 3,751 offenders) among all commitment offense categories. The rate for offenders committing property crimes was followed by offenders committed to prison for other crimes (47.3 percent or 3,301 offenders), and drug crimes (43.4 percent or 1,707 offenders).<sup>15</sup>

When comparing conviction rates by commitment offense category for offenders released in FY 2014-15 and 2015-16, the rate increased for one category (crimes against persons), and decreased for three categories (property crimes, drug crimes, and other crimes). The three-year conviction rate for crimes against persons increased by 0.8 of a percentage point (from 39.0 percent to 39.8 percent) between the

<sup>15</sup> Other crimes include arson, DUI, escape, possession of a weapon and other offenses (e.g., false imprisonment, stalking, street gang act).



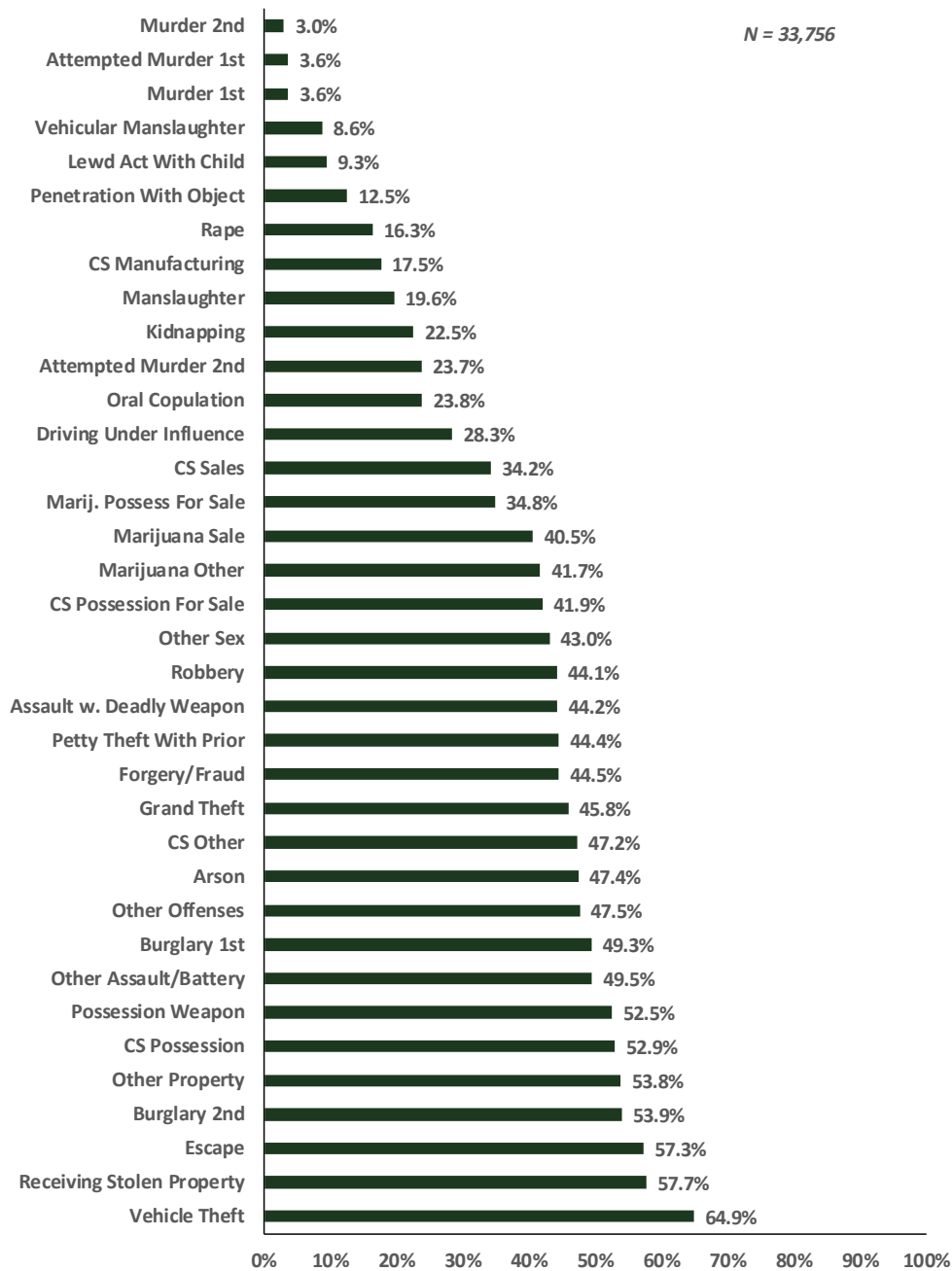
FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts (Section 7.3). Property crimes decreased by 0.7 of a percentage point (from 54.0 percent to 53.3 percent). Drug crimes and other crimes decreased by 3.8 percentage points, from 51.1 percent to 47.3 percent and from 47.2 percent to 43.4 percent, respectively.

Table 17. Conviction Rates by Commitment Offense Category

Commitment Offense Category	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Property Crimes	7,035	1,701	24.2%	3,010	42.8%	3,751	53.3%
Other Crimes	6,975	1,436	20.6%	2,586	37.1%	3,301	47.3%
Drug Crimes	3,932	691	17.6%	1,324	33.7%	1,707	43.4%
Crimes Against Persons	15,814	2,484	15.7%	4,823	30.5%	6,300	39.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

7.2.2 Commitment Offense

Figure 19. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Commitment Offense<sup>16</sup>



<sup>16</sup> CS stands for “Controlled Substance”. “Marijuana Other” offenses include planting, cultivating, or processing marijuana; furnishing/giving marijuana to a minor, or employing a minor to transport marijuana. “CS Other” offenses include possession of a controlled substance in prison/jail; maintaining place for the use/sale of a controlled substance; or employment of minor to furnish/sell a controlled substance. “Other Offenses” include threatening to commit a crime resulting in death or great bodily injury, participation in a street gang, and stalking. “Other Sex Offenses” include failure to register as a sex offender, indecent exposure, and pimping.

As shown in Figure 19 and Table 18, the three-year conviction rates by commitment offense varied greatly, ranging from 64.9 percent to 3.0 percent. Each commitment offense represents the controlling offense an offender was committed to prison for prior to their release in FY 2015-16. Conviction rates are only calculated for the 36 offenses in which 30 or more releases are associated. Data associated with commitment offenses should be interpreted with caution, as many of the categories are associated with very few releases (e.g., only two offenders were committed for hashish possession). Offenders committed for vehicle theft, receiving stolen property, and escape had the highest three-year conviction rates among each commitment offense (64.9 percent, 57.7 percent, and 57.3 percent, respectively). Offenders with a commitment offense of first-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, and second-degree murder had the lowest three-year conviction rates among each commitment offense category (3.6 percent, 3.6 percent, and 3.0 percent, respectively).

Of the 36 commitment offenses for which a three-year conviction rate was calculated for both the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts, 22 offenses saw increases, 14 saw decreases, and the rates for two offense categories (sodomy and hashish possession) were not calculated (Section 7.3).

Table 18. Conviction Rates by Commitment Offense<sup>17</sup>

Commitment Offense	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Vehicle Theft	1,440	509	35.3%	791	54.9%	934	64.9%
Receiving Stolen Property	470	134	28.5%	226	48.1%	271	57.7%
Escape	131	49	37.4%	69	52.7%	75	57.3%
Burglary 2nd	1,051	244	23.2%	459	43.7%	567	53.9%
Other Property	303	71	23.4%	128	42.2%	163	53.8%
CS Possession	882	205	23.2%	371	42.1%	467	52.9%
Possession Weapon	3,768	894	23.7%	1,581	42.0%	1,978	52.5%
Other Assault/Battery	4,968	1,023	20.6%	1,900	38.2%	2,458	49.5%
Burglary 1st	2,726	539	19.8%	1,044	38.3%	1,345	49.3%
Other Offenses	1,771	363	20.5%	652	36.8%	842	47.5%
Arson	190	41	21.6%	71	37.4%	90	47.4%
CS Other	307	66	21.5%	111	36.2%	145	47.2%
Grand Theft	467	90	19.3%	175	37.5%	214	45.8%
Forgery/Fraud	479	93	19.4%	154	32.2%	213	44.5%
Petty Theft With Prior	99	21	21.2%	33	33.3%	44	44.4%
Assault w. Deadly Weapon	3,714	679	18.3%	1,268	34.1%	1,643	44.2%
Robbery	3,176	510	16.1%	1,062	33.4%	1,401	44.1%
Other Sex	1,044	188	18.0%	357	34.2%	449	43.0%
CS Possession For Sale	1,931	309	16.0%	618	32.0%	810	41.9%
Marijuana Other	156	22	14.1%	50	32.1%	65	41.7%
Marijuana Sale	74	12	16.2%	24	32.4%	30	40.5%
Marij. Possess For Sale	46	7	15.2%	13	28.3%	16	34.8%
CS Sales	477	67	14.0%	129	27.0%	163	34.2%
Driving Under Influence	1,115	89	8.0%	213	19.1%	316	28.3%
Oral Copulation	63	3	4.8%	9	14.3%	15	23.8%
Attempted Murder 2nd	249	7	2.8%	40	16.1%	59	23.7%
Kidnapping	182	12	6.6%	34	18.7%	41	22.5%
Manslaughter	317	14	4.4%	44	13.9%	62	19.6%
CS Manufacturing	57	3	5.3%	7	12.3%	10	17.5%
Rape	202	14	6.9%	26	12.9%	33	16.3%
Penetration With Object	64	4	6.3%	5	7.8%	8	12.5%
Lewd Act With Child	998	26	2.6%	56	5.6%	93	9.3%
Vehicular Manslaughter	162	2	1.2%	9	5.6%	14	8.6%
Murder 1st	222	0	0.0%	4	1.8%	8	3.6%
Attempted Murder 1st	56	0	0.0%	1	1.8%	2	3.6%
Murder 2nd	372	1	0.3%	6	1.6%	11	3.0%
Sodomy	25	1	N/A	2	N/A	3	N/A
Hashish Possession	2	0	N/A	1	N/A	1	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

<sup>17</sup> CS stands for “Controlled Substance”. “Marijuana Other” offenses include planting, cultivating, or processing marijuana; furnishing/giving marijuana to a minor, or employing a minor to transport marijuana. “CS Other” offenses include possession of a controlled substance in prison/jail; maintaining place for the use/sale of a controlled substance; or employment of minor to furnish/sell a controlled substance. “Other Offenses” include threatening to commit a crime resulting in death or great bodily injury, participation in a street gang, and stalking. “Other Sex Offenses” include failure to register as a sex offender, indecent exposure, and pimping.

### 7.2.3 Sentence Type

Figure 20. Conviction Rates by Sentence Type

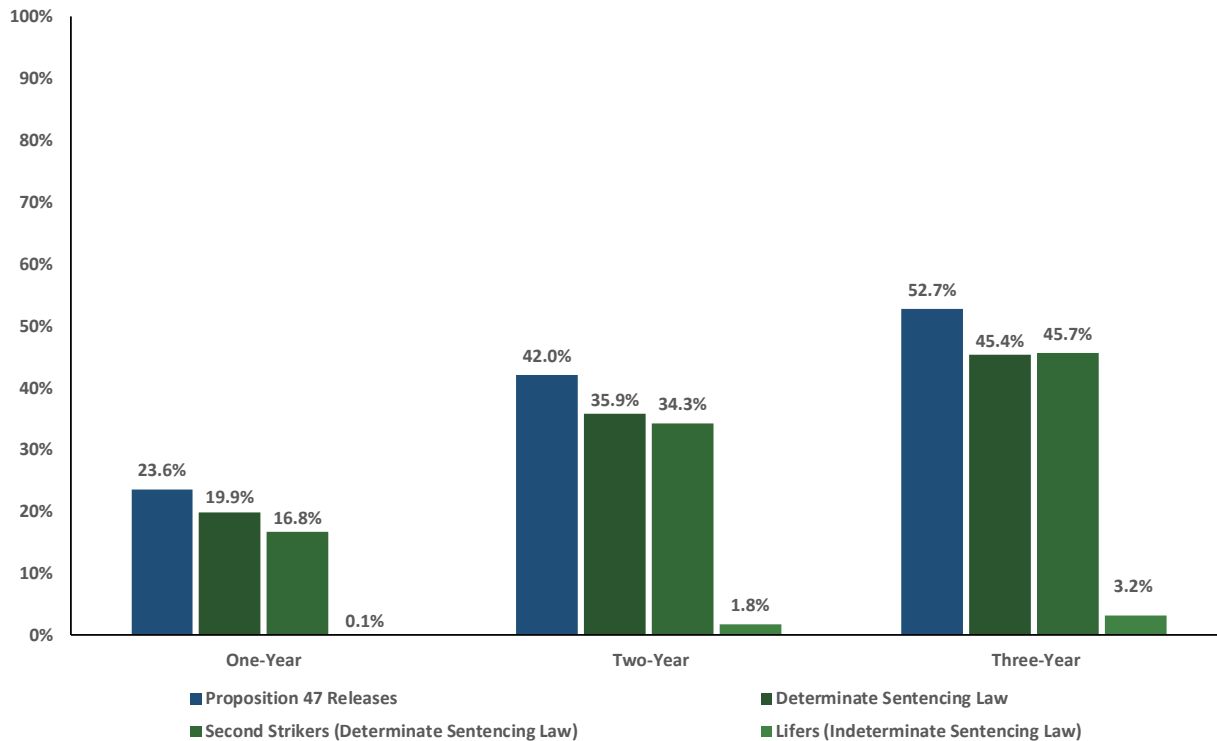


Figure 20 and Table 19 present conviction rates for offenders released under Proposition 47, as well as conviction rates by sentence type, including offenders sentenced under Determinate Sentencing Law (DSL), offenders sentenced under DSL as second strikers, and offenders sentenced under Indeterminate Sentencing Law (ISL). Most offenders sentenced in California serve a determinate term (a specified length) and are released once their sentence is complete. Generally, offenders sentenced to an indeterminate term (lifers) are released once the Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) has found them suitable for release or a court orders their release. Offenders released under Proposition 47 were sentenced to serve a CDCR felony sentence in one of the three sentence type categories (determinate, second striker, or indeterminate) prior to its passage.

Most offenders in the FY 2015-16 release cohort served a determinate term (70.4 percent or 23,761 offenders), followed by second strikers who served a determinate term (26.4 percent or 8,908 offenders), and offenders who served an indeterminate term (2.1 percent or 723 offenders). Second strikers who served a determinate term had the highest three-year conviction rate among each sentence type (45.7 percent or 4,067 offenders), followed by offenders who served a determinate term (45.4 percent or 10,777 offenders), and the 723 lifers released in FY 2015-16 (3.2 percent or 23 offenders).

Between the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts, the three-year conviction rate for lifers who served an indeterminate term increased 0.9 percentage points (from 2.3 percent to 3.2 percent), while the rate for offenders who served a determinate term decreased 0.3 percentage points (from 45.7 percent to 45.4 percent). The rate for second strikers who served determinate sentences also decreased when comparing the two release cohorts: the rate was 46.2 percent for offenders released in FY 2014-15 and 45.7 percent for offenders released in FY 2015-16 (Section 7.3).

There were fewer Proposition 47 releases in FY 2015-16 when compared to FY 2014-15. Only 1.1 percent of the FY 2015-16 release cohort (364 offenders) were released under Proposition 47 compared to 10.5 percent (4,111 offenders) of the FY 2014-15 release cohort (Section 3). The three-year conviction rate for FY 2015-16 Proposition 47 releases was 52.7 percent (192 offenders), 7.1 percentage points lower than the FY 2014-15 release cohort with a three-year conviction rate of 59.8 percent (2,458 offenders).

Table 19. Conviction Rates by Sentence Type

Sentence Type	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Second Strikers (Determinate Sentencing Law)	8,908	1,493	16.8%	3,056	34.3%	4,067	45.7%
Determinate Sentencing Law	23,761	4,732	19.9%	8,521	35.9%	10,777	45.4%
Lifers (Indeterminate Sentencing Law)	723	1	0.1%	13	1.8%	23	3.2%
Proposition 47 Releases	364	86	23.6%	153	42.0%	192	52.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

7.2.4 Serious and Violent Offenses

Figure 21. Conviction Rates for Offenders with a Serious or Violent Offense

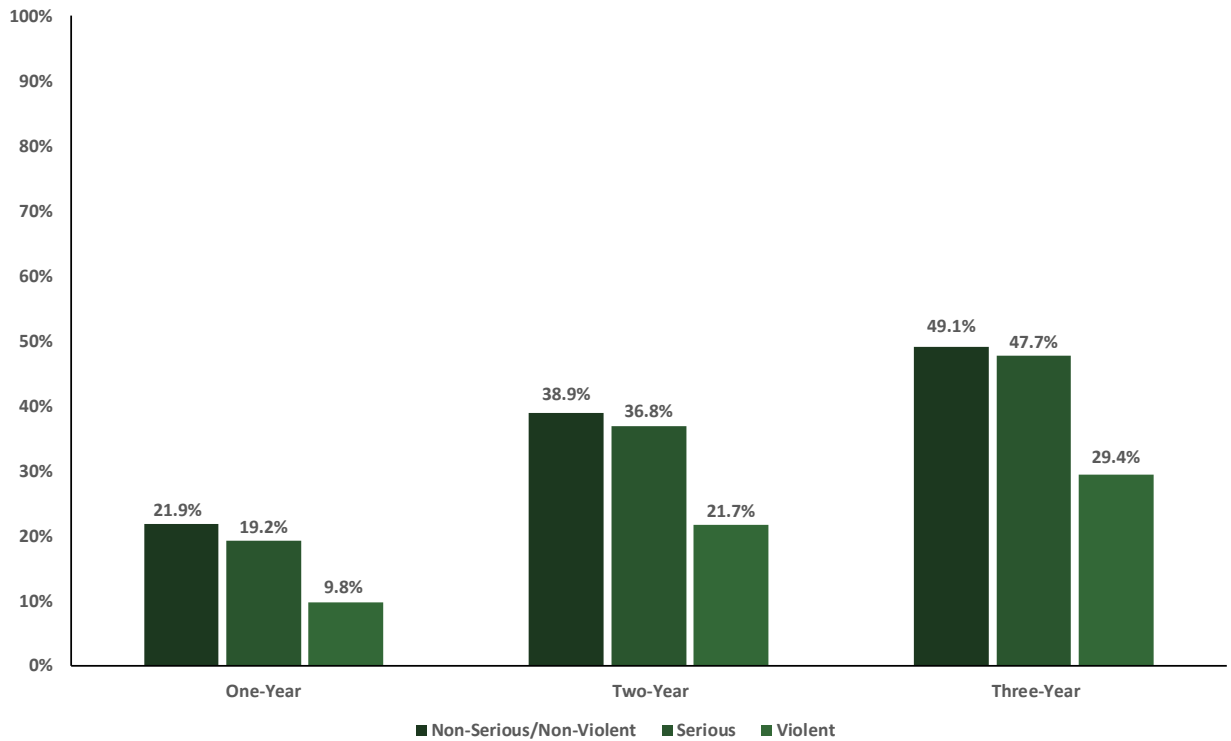


Figure 21 and Table 20 present conviction rates for offenders in the FY 2015-16 release cohort who were committed to prison for a serious offense, a violent offense, or a non-serious/non-violent offense.<sup>18</sup> Most offenders in the release cohort did not have a serious or violent offense (55.1 percent or 18,600 offenders). About a quarter of the release cohort (23.8 percent or 8,031 offenders) had a serious offense and 21.1 percent (7,125 offenders) had a violent offense. All violent offenses are categorized as serious, but not all serious offenses are categorized as violent.

Offenders without a serious or violent offense had the highest three-year conviction rate among the three categories at 49.1 percent (9,131 offenders). Offenders with a serious offense had a rate of 47.7 percent (3,832 offenders) and offenders with a violent offense had a rate of 29.4 percent (2,096 offenders).

The three-year conviction rate for offenders with a serious or violent offense increased between the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts. The rate for offenders without a serious or violent offense decreased (Section 7.3). The three-year conviction rate for offenders with a serious offense increased 0.3 percentage points (from 47.4 percent to 47.7 percent) between the two release cohorts. The rate for

<sup>18</sup> More information regarding serious offenses can be found here: [The definition of a serious felony offense can be found here: https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/parole/serious-offenses-defined/](https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/parole/serious-offenses-defined/) and more information regarding violent offenses can be found here: [The definition of a violent felony offense can be found here: https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/parole/violent-offenses-defined/](https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/parole/violent-offenses-defined/)

offenders with a violent offense also increased by 0.3 percentage points (from 29.1 percent to 29.4 percent). The three-year conviction rate for offenders without a serious or violent offense decreased 2.0 percentage points between the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts (from 51.1 percent to 49.1 percent).

Table 20. Conviction Rates for Offenders with a Serious or Violent Offense

Serious/Violent Offense	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Non-Serious/Non-Violent	18,600	4,071	21.9%	7,238	38.9%	9,131	49.1%
Serious	8,031	1,544	19.2%	2,957	36.8%	3,832	47.7%
Violent	7,125	697	9.8%	1,548	21.7%	2,096	29.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>



7.2.5 Risk of Conviction

Figure 22. Conviction Rates by Risk of Conviction

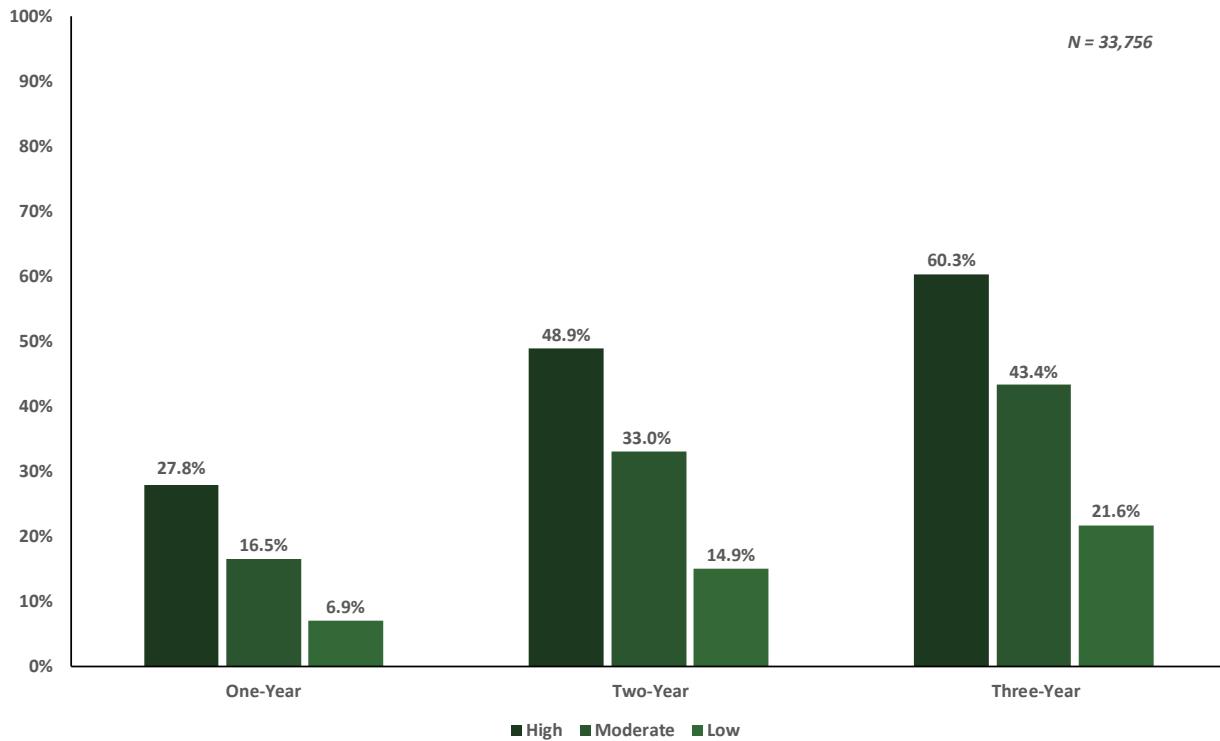


Figure 22 and Table 21 show conviction rates by California Static Risk Assessment (CSRA) score. The CSRA is a tool used to calculate an offender’s risk of conviction for a new offense after release from prison.<sup>19</sup> Based on criminal history and demographics (including age), offenders are designated as having a low-, moderate-, or high-risk of being convicted of a new offense. Slightly under half of the release cohort (43.1 percent or 14,560 offenders) had a score of high-risk, followed by moderate-risk (28.9 percent or 9,745 offenders), and low-risk (28.0 percent or 9,451 offenders).

The three-year conviction rates are consistent with CSRA scoring (high, moderate, and low): offenders with a score of high-risk had a three-year conviction rate of 60.3 percent (8,785 offenders), followed by moderate-risk offenders (43.4 percent or 4,228 offenders), and low-risk (21.6 percent or 2,046 offenders).

When comparing the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts, the three-year conviction rates by risk of conviction were relatively stable for the category of low, and decreased for the categories of high and moderate. The three-year conviction rate for offenders with a score of high-risk decreased from 61.7 percent to 60.3 percent and the rate for offenders with a score of moderate-risk decreased from 44.5

<sup>19</sup> More information regarding the CSRA and its development may be found at: <https://cpb-us-e2.wpmucdn.com/sites.uci.edu/dist/0/1149/files/2013/12/Development-of-the-CSRA-Recidivism-Risk-Prediction-in-the-CDCR.pdf>

percent to 43.4 percent. The three-year conviction rate for offenders with a score of low-risk had a slight increase between the two release cohorts: from 21.4 percent to 21.6 percent, as shown in Section 7.3.

Table 21. Conviction Rates by Risk of Conviction

CSRA Score	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
High	14,560	4,048	27.8%	7,115	48.9%	8,785	60.3%
Moderate	9,745	1,609	16.5%	3,216	33.0%	4,228	43.4%
Low	9,451	655	6.9%	1,412	14.9%	2,046	21.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

7.2.6 Mental Health Designation

Figure 23. Conviction Rates by Mental Health Designation at Release

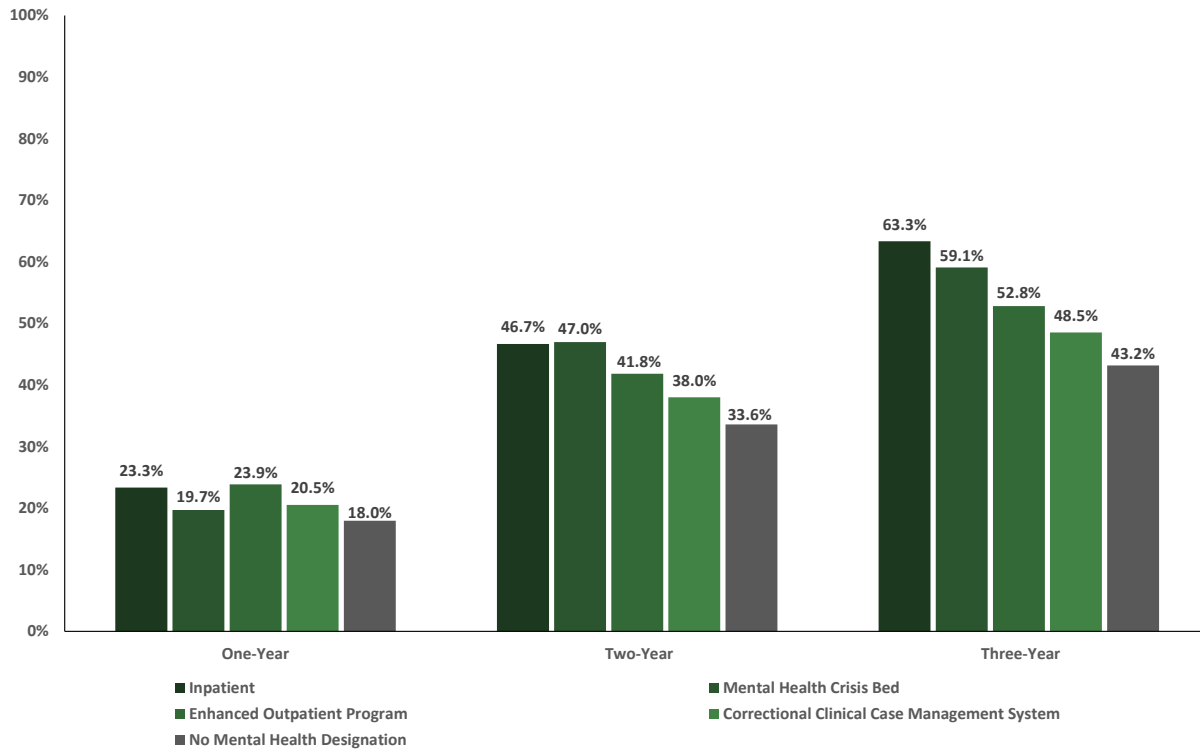


Figure 23 and Table 22 present conviction rates by mental health designation and for offenders without an assignment to CDCR’s mental health delivery system at the time of their release. Over three-quarters (76.8 percent or 25,936 offenders) of the FY 2015-16 release cohort were not assigned to the Mental Health Delivery System (MHDS) at the time of their release, while 23.2 percent (7,820 offenders) were receiving services at the time of their release. Nineteen percent of the release cohort (6,416 offenders) were assigned to the Correctional Clinical Case Management System (CCCMS), 3.9 percent (1,308 offenders) were assigned to the Enhanced Outpatient Program (EOP), and less than one percent each were assigned to Mental Health Crisis Beds (66 offenders) or Inpatient Care (30 offenders).

Of the four mental health categories for which rates were calculated, offenders assigned to Inpatient Mental Health Services had the highest three-year conviction rate at 63.3 percent (19 offenders), followed by offenders assigned to a Mental Health Crisis Bed (59.1 percent or 39 offenders). The Enhanced Outpatient Program’s three-year conviction rate was at 52.8 percent (691 offenders), followed by the CCCMS category at 48.5 percent (3,113 offenders). Offenders released without an assignment to CDCR’s mental health delivery system at the time of their release had a three-year conviction rate of 43.2 percent (11,197 offenders).

Between the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts, the three-year conviction rate for each mental health category decreased. The rate for offenders assigned to a Mental Health Crisis Bed decreased by

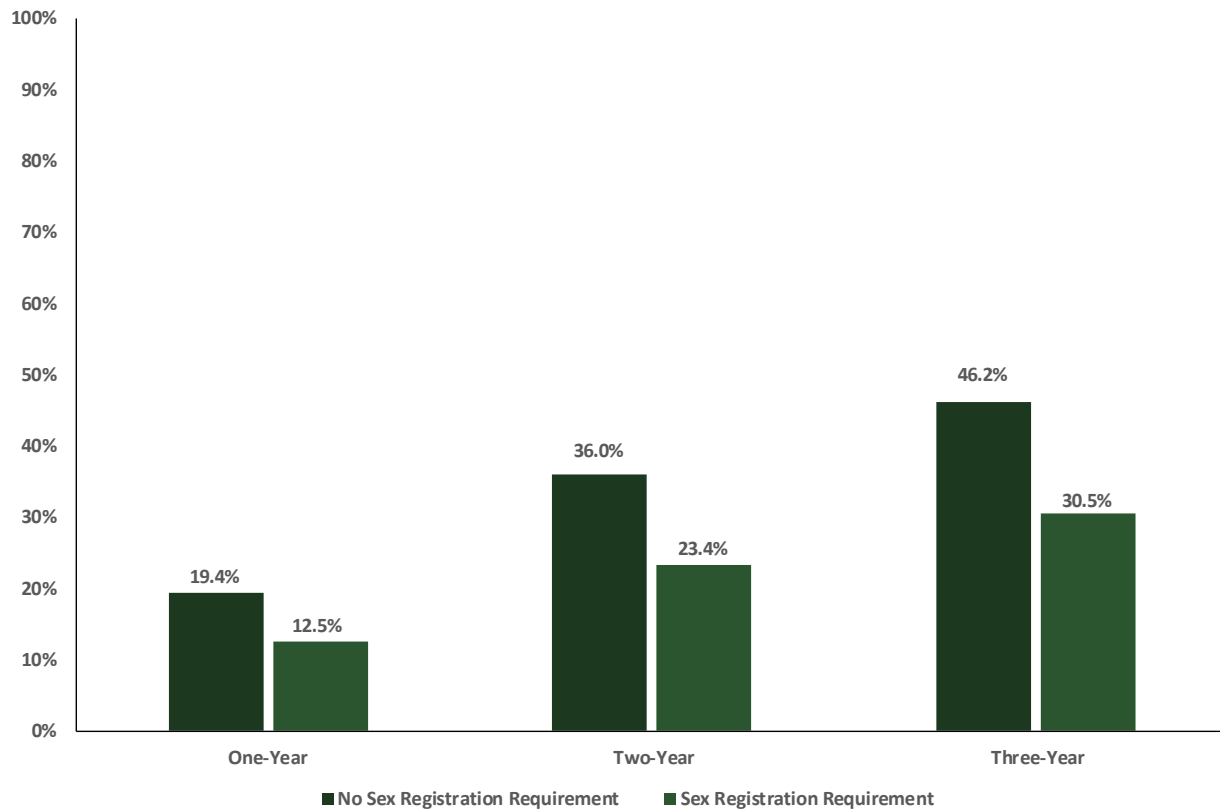
3.1 percentage points (from 62.2 percent to 59.1 percent). The rate also decreased for EOP offenders by 2.4 percentage points (from 55.2 percent to 52.8 percent). The rate for offenders with no mental health designation at the time of their release decreased from 45.4 percent to 43.2 percent between the two release cohorts. The three-year conviction rate for offenders assigned to CCCMS had the lowest decrease with 0.8 percentage points (from 49.3 percent to 48.5 percent) for offenders, as shown in Section 7.3.

*Table 22. Conviction Rates by Mental Health Designation at Release*

Mental Health Designation	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Inpatient	30	7	23.3%	14	46.7%	19	63.3%
Mental Health Crisis Bed	66	13	19.7%	31	47.0%	39	59.1%
Enhanced Outpatient Program	1,308	312	23.9%	547	41.8%	691	52.8%
Correctional Clinical Case Management System	6,416	1,318	20.5%	2,438	38.0%	3,113	48.5%
No Mental Health Designation	25,936	4,662	18.0%	8,713	33.6%	11,197	43.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

7.2.7 Sex Registrants

Figure 24. Conviction Rates by Sex Registration Status



Approximately one-tenth of the release cohort (3,327 offenders) were required to register as sex offenders pursuant to California Penal Code 290 (sex registrants), and the remaining 30,429 offenders did not have a sex registration requirement (non-sex registrants). The three-year conviction rate for the 3,327 sex registrants was 30.5 percent (1,016 offenders) and the rate for non-sex registrants was 46.2 percent (14,043 offenders).

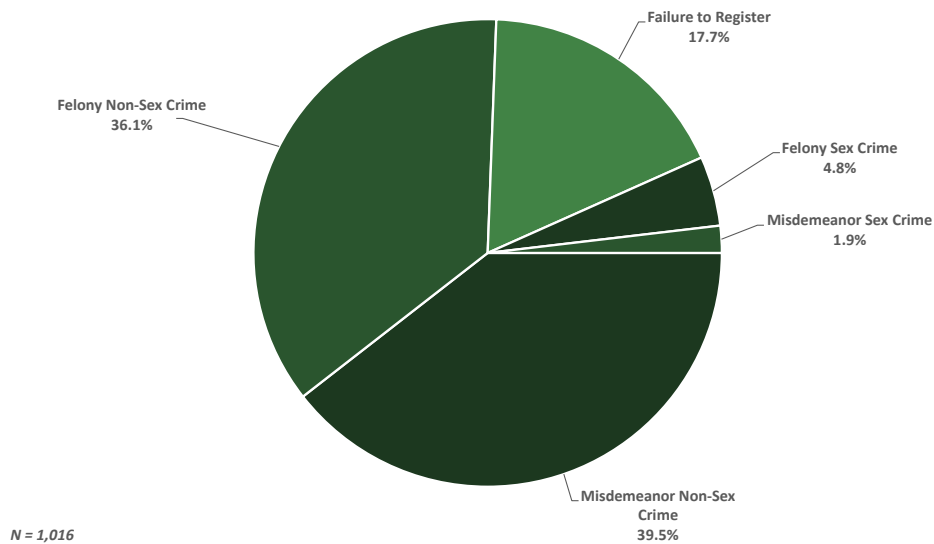
As shown in Section 7.3, the three-year conviction rate for sex registrants decreased by one percentage point between the FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16 release cohorts (from 31.5 percent to 30.5 percent). The three-year conviction rate for non-sex registrants also saw a decrease, from 47.9 percent with the FY 2014-15 release cohort to 46.2 percent with the FY 2015-16 release cohort. The following section describes the type of conviction for the 1,016 sex registrants convicted during the three-year follow-up period.

Table 23. Conviction Rates by Sex Registration Status

Sex Registration Requirement	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
No	30,429	5,895	19.4%	10,966	36.0%	14,043	46.2%
Yes	3,327	417	12.5%	777	23.4%	1,016	30.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

7.2.8 Type of Conviction for Sex Registrants

Figure 25. Type of Conviction for the 1,016 Sex Registrants Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period



This section presents the type of conviction data for the 1,016 sex registrants convicted during the three-year follow-up period. Overall, few sex registrants were convicted of new sex crimes during the three-year follow-up period: 4.8 percent (49 offenders) were convicted of a felony sex crime and 1.9 percent (19 offenders) were convicted of misdemeanor sex crimes. The largest percentage of reconvicted sex registrants, were convicted of a misdemeanor non-sex crime (39.5 percent or 401 offenders), followed by felony non-sex crimes (36.1 percent or 367 offenders). Of the convicted sex registrants, 180 offenders (17.7 percent) were convicted for failure to register as a sex offender.

Table 24. Type of Conviction for the 1,016 Sex Registrants Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period

Reason for Conviction	Convicted	
	Number	Percent
Misdemeanor Non-Sex Crime	401	39.5%
Felony Non-Sex Crime	367	36.1%
Failure to Register	180	17.7%
Felony Sex Crime	49	4.8%
Misdemeanor Sex Crime	19	1.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,016</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

7.2.9 In-Prison and Community-Based Substance Use Disorder Treatment

Figure 26. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Substance Use Disorder Treatment Participation

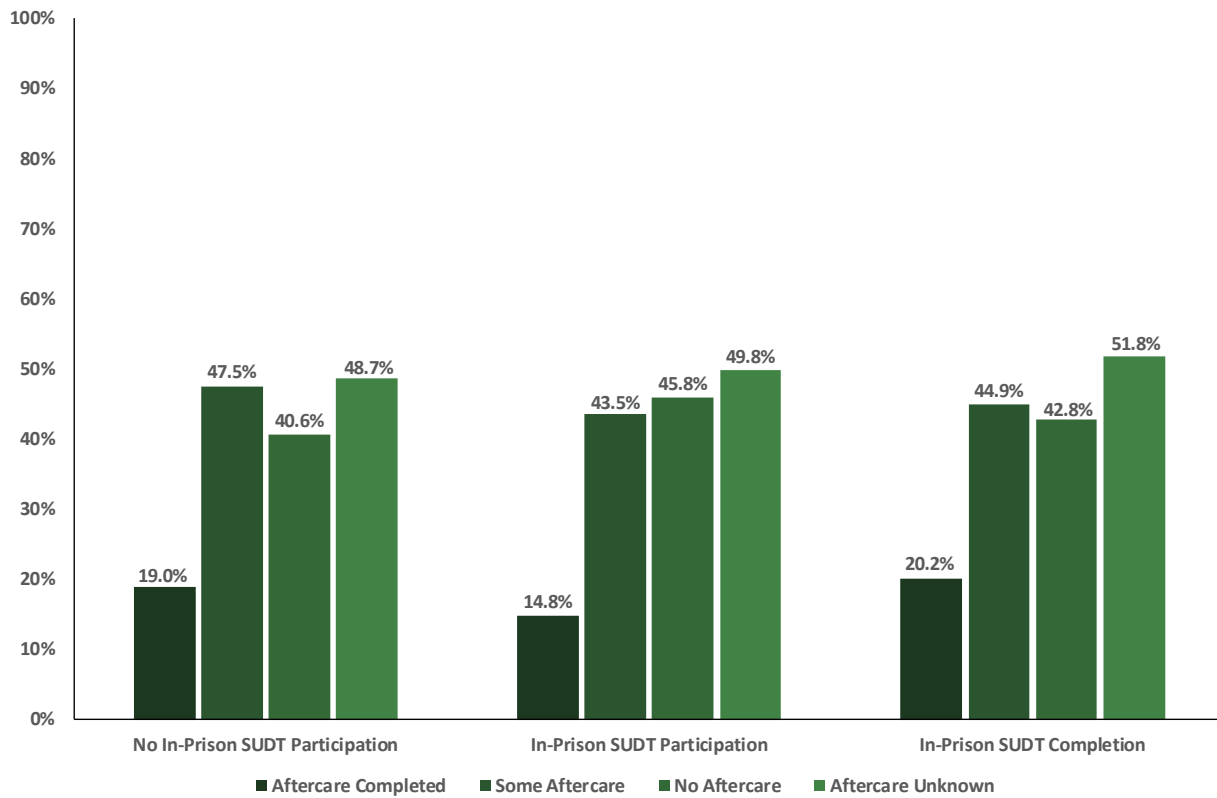


Figure 26 and Table 25 present conviction rates by in-prison Substance Use Disorder Treatment (SUDT) and/or aftercare community SUDT programs. It is important to note that aftercare information is only available for offenders released to parole, who represent 48.1 percent of the release cohort.

Although offenders released to PRCS or directly discharged from CDCR may receive aftercare services, those services are not captured by CDCR’s data system and are not reflected in the data presented in this report. Offenders in the FY 2015-16 release cohort were released prior to implementation of the Integrated Substance Use Disorder Treatment, which was implemented in January 2020 and includes comprehensive enhancements to CDCR’s SUDT programs.

As shown in Table 25, offenders are categorized into three categories: no in-prison SUDT, some in-prison SUDT participation, and in-prison SUDT completion. Depending on the type of release (parole or PRCS), offenders are further categorized as receiving no aftercare, some aftercare, completing aftercare (offenders released to parole), or the status of aftercare is unknown (offenders released to PRCS). Offenders who completed aftercare had the lowest three-year conviction rates of each in-prison category. The three-year conviction rate varies among the three categories of in-prison SUDT (no SUDT, participation, or completion) depending on whether the offender received aftercare. In all instances, offenders whose aftercare status is unknown (offenders released to PRCS and direct discharges) had the



highest three-year conviction rate among each in-prison SUDT category. Offenders who completed aftercare had the lowest three-year conviction rates of each in-prison category.

As shown in Table 25, the 162 offenders with some in-prison SUDT and who completed aftercare had the lowest three-year conviction rate of all three categories (14.8 percent or 24 offenders). Their rate was followed by the 1,242 offenders without in-prison SUDT who completed aftercare (19.0 percent or 236 offenders) and the 223 offenders who completed in-prison SUDT and completed aftercare (20.2 percent or 45 offenders).

Conviction rates for parolees who received no aftercare or some aftercare are fairly consistent across the three categories of in-prison SUDT participation (no SUDT, participation, and completion). Rates range from a high of 47.5 percent among offenders who did not receive in-prison SUDT and some aftercare and a low of 40.6 percent among offenders without in-prison SUDT or aftercare. Overall, recidivism rates are lower for parolees who either complete in-prison SUDT or aftercare.

Rates for PRCS offenders and direct discharges, whose aftercare status is unknown, follow a similar pattern to those released to parole in terms of in-prison SUDT. The 1,347 offenders who completed in-prison SUDT had the highest three-year conviction rate among PRCS offenders at 51.8 percent (698 offenders), followed by the 1,095 offenders with in-prison SUDT participation (49.8 percent or 545 offenders), and the 15,090 offenders without in-prison SUDT (48.7 percent or 7,343 offenders).

Table 25. Conviction Rates by Substance Use Disorder Treatment Participation

Substance Use Disorder Treatment Participation	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
<b>No In-Prison SUDT Participation</b>							
No Aftercare (Parole)	10,116	1,803	17.8%	3,274	32.4%	4,108	40.6%
Some Aftercare (Parole)	2,438	315	12.9%	822	33.7%	1,158	47.5%
Completed Aftercare (Parole)	1,242	27	2.2%	132	10.6%	236	19.0%
Aftercare Unknown (PRCS/Discharged)	15,090	3,294	21.8%	5,835	38.7%	7,343	48.7%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>28,886</b>	<b>5,439</b>	<b>18.8%</b>	<b>10,063</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>12,845</b>	<b>44.5%</b>
<b>In-Prison SUDT Participation</b>							
No Aftercare (Parole)	637	130	20.4%	233	36.6%	292	45.8%
Some Aftercare (Parole)	246	23	9.3%	72	29.3%	107	43.5%
Completed Aftercare (Parole)	162	2	1.2%	11	6.8%	24	14.8%
Aftercare Unknown (PRCS/Discharged)	1,095	244	22.3%	427	39.0%	545	49.8%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,140</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>18.6%</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>34.7%</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>45.2%</b>
<b>In-Prison SUDT Completion</b>							
No Aftercare (Parole)	837	139	16.6%	274	32.7%	358	42.8%
Some Aftercare (Parole)	323	36	11.1%	96	29.7%	145	44.9%
Completed Aftercare (Parole)	223	5	2.2%	19	8.5%	45	20.2%
Aftercare Unknown (PRCS/Discharged)	1,347	294	21.8%	548	40.7%	698	51.8%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,730</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>17.4%</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>34.3%</b>	<b>1,246</b>	<b>45.6%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

### 7.2.10 Conviction Rates by Substance Use Disorder Treatment Participation and Substance Use Treatment Need

Table 26 presents conviction rates for offenders released to parole and PRCS by in-prison SUDT participation and treatment need, based on the Correctional Offender Management for Profiling Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS) tool. COMPAS is used to inform decisions regarding placement, supervision, and case management. The needs assessment categorizes offenders as having no need, a probable need, or a highly probable need for services and treatment in areas such as substance use, criminal thinking, and education. It should be noted that rates provided in Table 26 are not provided by participation in aftercare and that the status of aftercare treatment for offenders released to PRCS or directly discharged from prison is unknown. Please note that offenders in the FY 2015-16 release cohort were released prior to implementation of Integrated Substance Use Disorder Treatment, which includes comprehensive enhancements to CDCR's SUDT programs.

Of the 19,052 offenders assessed with the COMPAS identified as having a treatment need, 2,005 offenders completed in-prison SUDT, and an additional 1,488 offenders participated in SUDT. The 914 offenders who completed treatment and were released to parole had a lower three-year conviction rate (40.9 percent or 374 offenders) than the 623 offenders who only participated in treatment (43.2 percent or 269 offenders) and the 6,530 offenders who did not receive in-prison SUDT treatment (44.8 percent or 2,924 offenders). Offenders with a treatment need who were released to PRCS or were directly discharged had higher three-year conviction rates. The 1,091 offenders who were released to PRCS or directly discharged and completed in-prison SUDT had a three-year conviction rate of 50.2 percent (or 548 offenders), followed by the 865 offenders who only participated in treatment (47.4 percent or 410 offenders), and the 9,029 offenders without in-prison SUDT (47.7 percent or 4,306 offenders).

Of the 14,704 offenders without a SUDT treatment need or a COMPAS assessment, 2,240 offenders did not have a COMPAS assessment, and 12,464 offenders had a COMPAS assessment and did not show a need for SUDT treatment. Offenders released to parole across the three in-prison categories (no in-prison SUDT, in-prison SUDT participation, and in-prison SUDT completion) had lower three-year conviction rates than offenders released to PRCS, or directly discharged in the same three categories. The 7,266 offenders without in-prison SUDT and released to parole had a three-year conviction rate of 35.5 percent (2,578 offenders), followed by the 422 offenders with in-prison SUDT participation (36.5 percent or 154 offenders). The 469 offenders that completed in-prison SUDT and were released to parole had a three-year conviction rate of 37.1 percent (174 offenders).

Table 26. Conviction Rates by Substance Use Disorder Treatment Participation and Substance Use Treatment Need

Substance Use Disorder Treatment Participation and Need	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
<b>Had SUDT Need (as indicated by the COMPAS)</b>							
<b>No In-Prison SUDT</b>							
Released to Parole	6,530	1,181	18.1%	2,300	35.2%	2,924	44.8%
Released to PRCS/Discharged	9,029	1,729	19.1%	3,362	37.2%	4,306	47.7%
<b>In-Prison SUDT Participation</b>							
Released to Parole	623	99	15.9%	197	31.6%	269	43.2%
Released to PRCS/Discharged	865	160	18.5%	308	35.6%	410	47.4%
<b>In-Prison SUDT Completion</b>							
Released to Parole	914	128	14.0%	261	28.6%	374	40.9%
Released to PRCS/Discharged	1,091	200	18.3%	418	38.3%	548	50.2%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>19,052</b>	<b>3,497</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>6,846</b>	<b>35.9%</b>	<b>8,831</b>	<b>46.4%</b>
<b>No SUDT Need/No Assessment</b>							
<b>No In-Prison SUDT</b>							
Released to Parole	7,266	964	13.3%	1,928	26.5%	2,578	35.5%
Released to PRCS/Discharged	6,061	1,565	25.8%	2,473	40.8%	3,037	50.1%
<b>In-Prison SUDT Participation</b>							
Released to Parole	422	56	13.3%	119	28.2%	154	36.5%
Released to PRCS/Discharged	230	84	36.5%	119	51.7%	135	58.7%
<b>In-Prison SUDT Completion</b>							
Released to Parole	469	52	11.1%	128	27.3%	174	37.1%
Released to PRCS/Discharged	256	94	36.7%	130	50.8%	150	58.6%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>14,704</b>	<b>2,815</b>	<b>19.1%</b>	<b>4,897</b>	<b>33.3%</b>	<b>6,228</b>	<b>42.4%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

### 7.2.11 Conviction Rates by Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Treatment Need (Offenders Released to Parole Only)

Table 27 shows conviction rates for the 8,067 offenders released to parole with a SUDT treatment need, as identified by the COMPAS. Rates are provided by in-prison SUDT and aftercare participation. Data does not include offenders released to PRCS (whose aftercare status is unknown), offenders released to parole that did not receive a COMPAS assessment, or offenders released to parole without a treatment need, as indicated by the COMPAS.

Offenders released to parole with an identified treatment need that completed aftercare had the lowest three-year conviction rates within the three in-prison categories (no in-prison SUDT participation, in-prison SUDT participation, and in-prison SUDT completion). The three-year conviction rate for the 103 offenders released to parole with in-prison SUDT participation and aftercare completed was 14.6 percent (15 offenders), followed by the 167 offenders released to parole who completed in-prison SUDT and aftercare at 22.8 percent (38 offenders). The 692 offenders released to parole with no in-prison SUDT participation, but completed aftercare had a three-year conviction rate of 23.1 percent (160 offenders).

For offenders released to parole with an identified treatment need, offenders without aftercare or some aftercare had higher rates than offenders who completed aftercare, regardless of in-prison SUDT. The highest rates were observed among the 1,330 offenders who did not receive in-prison SUDT and received only some aftercare (51.8 percent or 689 offenders) and the 359 offenders who received some in-prison SUDT and no aftercare (50.1 percent or 180 offenders), as shown in Table 27.

Overall, the 914 offenders released to parole with an identified treatment need who completed in-prison SUDT (regardless of aftercare) had the lowest three-year conviction rate (40.9 percent or 374 offenders), followed by offenders with in-prison SUDT participation, regardless of aftercare (43.2 percent or 269 offenders). The highest three-year conviction rate (44.8 percent or 2,924 offenders) was observed for offenders released to parole with an identified treatment need and had no in-prison SUDT (regardless of aftercare).

Table 27. Conviction Rates for Offenders Released to Parole with a Substance Abuse Treatment Need by Substance Use Disorder Treatment Participation

Substance Use Disorder Treatment Participation and Need (Parole Only)	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
<b>No In-Prison SUDT Participation</b>							
No Aftercare	4,508	979	21.7%	1,708	37.9%	2,075	46.0%
Some Aftercare	1,330	182	13.7%	504	37.9%	689	51.8%
Completed Aftercare	692	20	2.9%	88	12.7%	160	23.1%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6,530</b>	<b>1,181</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>35.2%</b>	<b>2,924</b>	<b>44.8%</b>
<b>In-Prison SUDT Participation</b>							
No Aftercare	359	81	22.6%	141	39.3%	180	50.1%
Some Aftercare	161	17	10.6%	50	31.1%	74	46.0%
Completed Aftercare	103	1	1.0%	6	5.8%	15	14.6%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>15.9%</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>31.6%</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>43.2%</b>
<b>In-Prison SUDT Completion</b>							
No Aftercare	521	98	18.8%	181	34.7%	235	45.1%
Some Aftercare	226	26	11.5%	63	27.9%	101	44.7%
Completed Aftercare	167	4	2.4%	17	10.2%	38	22.8%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>28.6%</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>40.9%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,067</b>	<b>1,408</b>	<b>17.5%</b>	<b>2,758</b>	<b>34.2%</b>	<b>3,567</b>	<b>44.2%</b>

7.2.12 Total Length of Stay at CDCR

Figure 27. Conviction Rates by Length of Stay

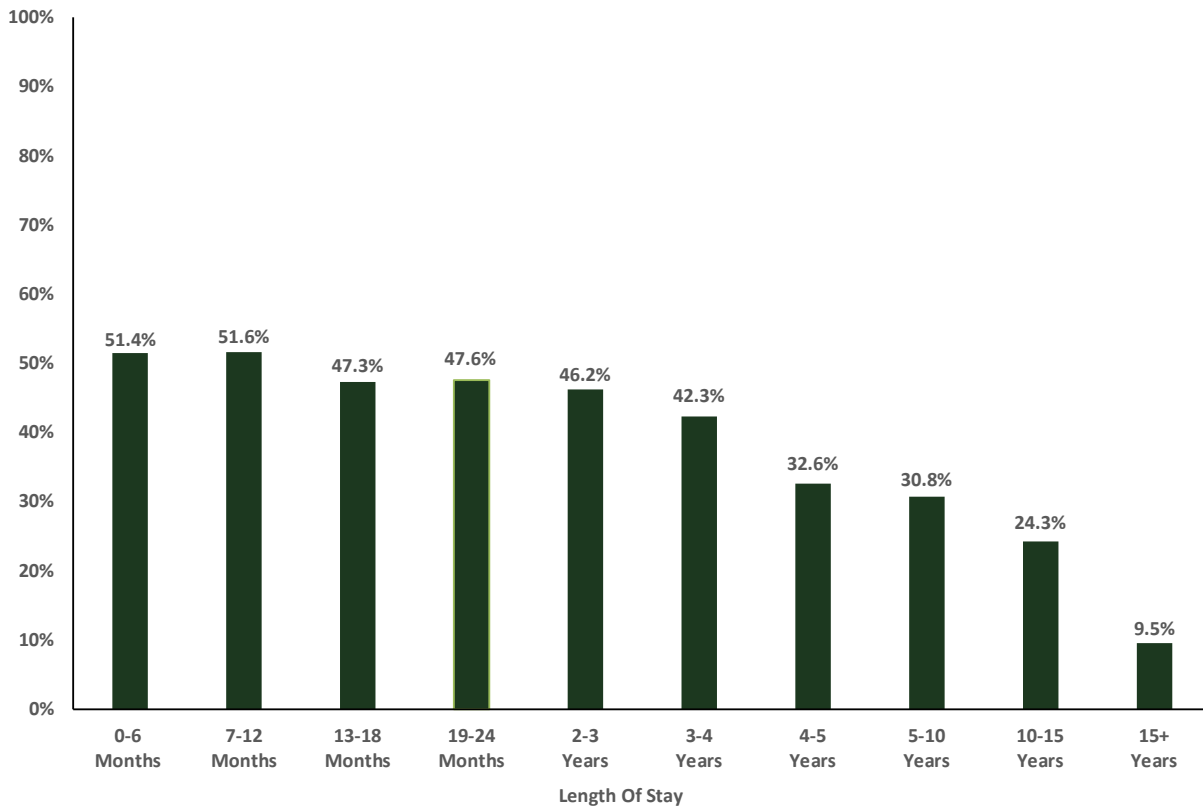


Figure 27 and Table 28 present conviction rates by an offender’s length of stay in prison on their current term. In general, offenders with shorter lengths of stay have higher conviction rates than those with longer stays. Offenders with a stay of less than six months or seven to 12 months had the highest three-year conviction rates at 51.4 percent and 51.6 percent, respectively. Overall, the three-year conviction rate decreases as the length of stay in prison increases. Offenders with a length of stay 15 years or more had the lowest three-year conviction rate (9.5 percent or 106 offenders) among all length of stay categories.

When comparing the three-year conviction rate by length of stay for offenders released in FY 2014-15 and 2015-16, the rate decreased for six categories and increased for four categories (Section 7.3). Offenders with a length of stay of 13 to 18 months saw the largest decrease (4.9 percentage points) between the two release cohorts when the rate decreased from 52.2 percent to 47.3 percent. Offenders with a length of stay of 10 to 15 years saw the largest increase (2.3 percentage points) when the rate increased from 22.0 percent with the FY 2014-15 release cohort to 24.3 percent with the FY 2015-16 release cohort. Three-year conviction rates for the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 release cohorts for each length of stay category may be found in Section 7.3.

Table 28. Conviction Rates by Length of Stay

Length of Stay	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
0 - 6 Months	4,698	1,181	25.1%	1,936	41.2%	2,416	51.4%
7 - 12 Months	8,095	1,902	23.5%	3,337	41.2%	4,176	51.6%
13 - 18 Months	5,237	1,048	20.0%	1,943	37.1%	2,478	47.3%
19 - 24 Months	3,547	677	19.1%	1,309	36.9%	1,689	47.6%
2 - 3 Years	3,797	699	18.4%	1,366	36.0%	1,755	46.2%
3 - 4 Years	2,056	311	15.1%	668	32.5%	870	42.3%
4 - 5 Years	1,472	153	10.4%	344	23.4%	480	32.6%
5 - 10 Years	2,780	259	9.3%	613	22.1%	855	30.8%
10 - 15 Years	964	63	6.5%	156	16.2%	234	24.3%
15+ Years	1,110	19	1.7%	71	6.4%	106	9.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>



7.2.13 Total Number of CDCR Stays

Figure 28. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Total Number of CDCR Stays

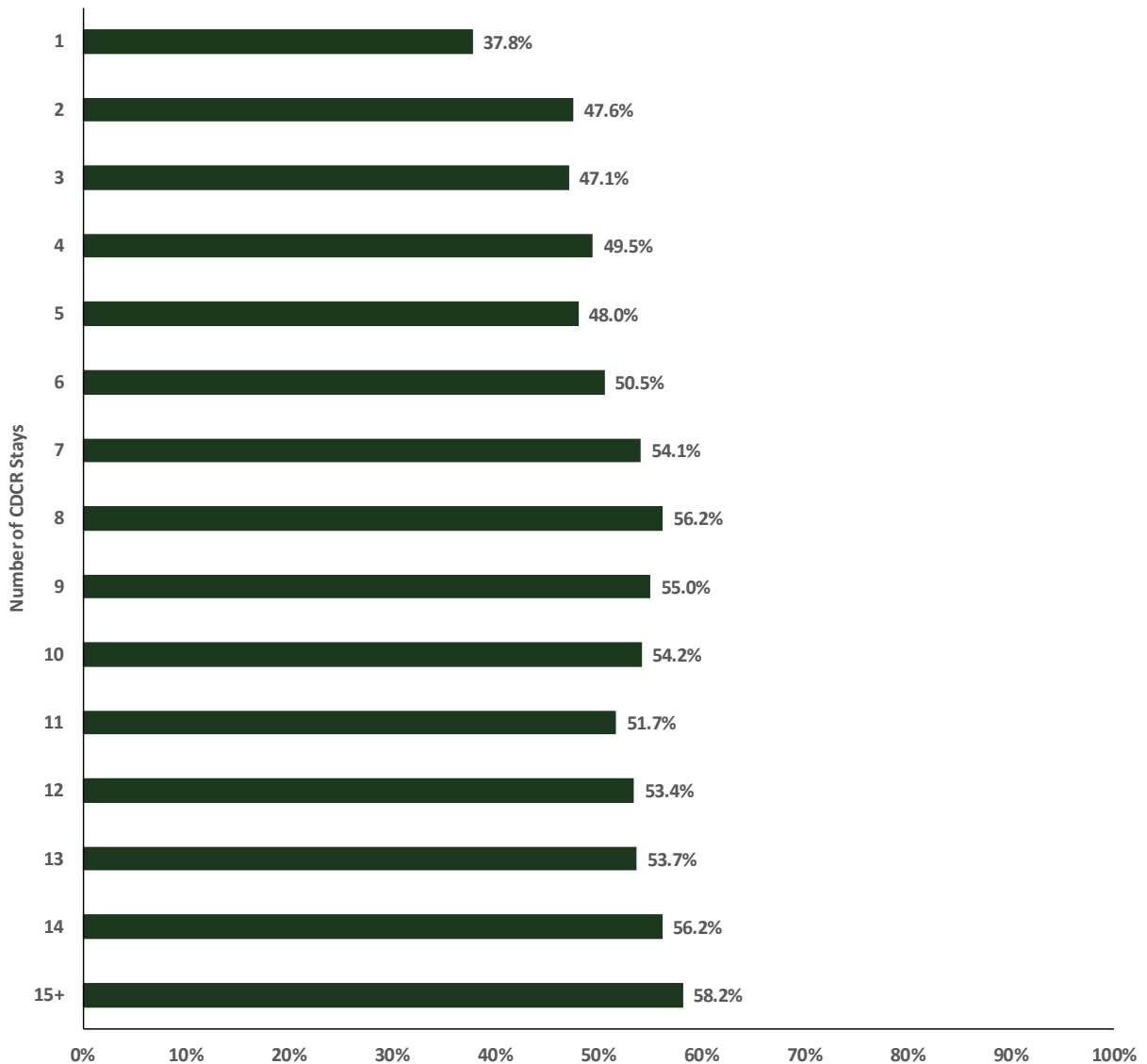


Figure 28 and Table 29 present conviction rates by an offender’s total number of stays at a CDCR adult institution. A stay is defined as any period of time an offender is housed in an adult institution.<sup>20</sup> The number of stays is cumulative over any number of convictions or terms in an offender’s criminal history.

<sup>20</sup> The total number of stays could include past stays for parole violations. Please note that since the passage of Realignment in 2011, only offenders previously sentenced to a life term (lifers) and some sex offenders serve parole violations in state prison. Penal Code section 3000.08 remands persons on parole pursuant to section 3000.0, subdivision (b), paragraph (4) to the custody of CDCR. For more information regarding specific sex offenses, please see Penal Code 3000.0(b)(4). For more information regarding decreases to returns to prison for parole violations, please see Section 4.3 Type of Return to Prison.

Offenders with one CDCR stay had the lowest three-year conviction rate at 37.8 percent (5,895 offenders). The three-year conviction rate gradually increases as the number of stays increases, with the exception of a few categories where small decreases are observed (11 stays). The three-year conviction rate is highest for offenders with 15 or more stays at CDCR (58.2 percent or 635 offenders).

Table 29. Conviction Rates by Total Number of CDCR Stays

Number of Stays	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
1	15,608	2,445	15.7%	4,586	29.4%	5,895	37.8%
2	4,660	917	19.7%	1,709	36.7%	2,216	47.6%
3	2,556	501	19.6%	950	37.2%	1,204	47.1%
4	1,935	385	19.9%	731	37.8%	957	49.5%
5	1,587	321	20.2%	601	37.9%	762	48.0%
6	1,274	280	22.0%	504	39.6%	644	50.5%
7	1,048	230	21.9%	447	42.7%	567	54.1%
8	946	245	25.9%	407	43.0%	532	56.2%
9	785	178	22.7%	332	42.3%	432	55.0%
10	648	148	22.8%	288	44.4%	351	54.2%
11	524	119	22.7%	215	41.0%	271	51.7%
12	464	87	18.8%	191	41.2%	248	53.4%
13	337	85	25.2%	149	44.2%	181	53.7%
14	292	69	23.6%	127	43.5%	164	56.2%
15 +	1,092	302	27.7%	506	46.3%	635	58.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

7.3 Conviction Rates by Fiscal Year and Offender Demographics and Characteristics

Table 30. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Offender Demographics and Characteristics for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and Fiscal Year 2015-16

	FY 2014-15 Number Released	FY 2015-16 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2014-15 Number Convicted	FY 2015-16 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2014-15 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2015-16 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
<b>Total</b>	39,205	33,756	(5,449)	18,235	15,059	(3,176)	46.5%	44.6%	(1.9)
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	36,434	31,414	(5,020)	17,281	14,238	(3,043)	47.4%	45.3%	(2.1)
Female	2,771	2,342	(429)	954	821	(133)	34.4%	35.1%	0.7
<b>Age at Release</b>									
18 - 19	290	278	(12)	203	192	(11)	70.0%	69.1%	(0.9)
20 - 24	5,244	4,769	(475)	3,095	2,751	(344)	59.0%	57.7%	(1.3)
25 - 29	6,906	6,307	(599)	3,702	3,286	(416)	53.6%	52.1%	(1.5)
30 - 34	6,721	5,955	(766)	3,408	2,953	(455)	50.7%	49.6%	(1.1)
35 - 39	5,416	4,898	(518)	2,497	2,163	(334)	46.1%	44.2%	(1.9)
40 - 44	4,290	3,419	(871)	1,811	1,259	(552)	42.2%	36.8%	(5.4)
45 - 49	3,977	2,995	(982)	1,579	1,070	(509)	39.7%	35.7%	(4.0)
50 - 54	3,338	2,531	(807)	1,153	814	(339)	34.5%	32.2%	(2.3)
55 - 59	1,810	1,529	(281)	538	389	(149)	29.7%	25.4%	(4.3)
60 and over	1,213	1,075	(138)	249	182	(67)	20.5%	16.9%	(3.6)
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>									
American Indian/Alaskan Native	454	391	(63)	231	196	(35)	50.9%	50.1%	(0.8)
Hispanic/Latino	16,272	14,421	(1,851)	7,808	6,739	(1,069)	48.0%	46.7%	(1.3)
White	10,462	8,804	(1,658)	4,904	3,905	(999)	46.9%	44.4%	(2.5)
Black/African American	10,022	8,319	(1,703)	4,553	3,567	(986)	45.4%	42.9%	(2.5)
Asian/Pacific Islander	483	493	10	206	201	(5)	42.7%	40.8%	(1.9)
Other	1,512	1,328	(184)	533	451	(82)	35.3%	34.0%	(1.3)

Table 30. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Offender Demographics and Characteristics for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and Fiscal Year 2015-16 (continued)

	FY 2014-15 Number Released	FY 2015-16 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2014-15 Number Convicted	FY 2015-16 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2014-15 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2015-16 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
<b>County of Release</b>									
Kern County	1,608	1,293	(315)	769	778	9	47.8%	60.2%	12.4
Orange County	1,710	1,584	(126)	885	849	(36)	51.8%	53.6%	1.8
San Joaquin County	909	826	(83)	455	416	(39)	50.1%	50.4%	0.3
Alameda County	815	776	(39)	425	226	(199)	52.1%	29.1%	(23.0)
Santa Clara County	998	843	(155)	518	429	(89)	51.9%	50.9%	(1.0)
Fresno County	1,553	1,549	(4)	913	753	(160)	58.8%	48.6%	(10.2)
Sacramento County	1,743	1,687	(56)	892	815	(77)	51.2%	48.3%	(2.9)
Riverside County	2,950	2,526	(424)	1,364	1,128	(236)	46.2%	44.7%	(1.5)
Los Angeles County	12,063	9,744	(2,319)	5,599	4,334	(1,265)	46.4%	44.5%	(1.9)
All Other Counties	7,192	6,773	(419)	3,330	3,002	(328)	46.3%	44.3%	(2.0)
San Bernardino County	3,498	3,145	(353)	1,480	1,308	(172)	42.3%	41.6%	(0.7)
Directly Discharged	804	67	(737)	424	27	(397)	52.7%	40.3%	(12.4)
San Diego County	2,565	2,392	(173)	894	715	(179)	34.9%	29.9%	(5.0)
Stanislaus County	797	551	(246)	287	279	(8)	36.0%	50.6%	14.6
<b>Type of Post-Release Supervision</b>									
Post-Release Community Supervision	19,571	17,465	(2,106)	9,653	8,559	(1,094)	49.3%	49.0%	(0.3)
Directly Discharged	804	67	(737)	424	27	(397)	52.7%	40.3%	(12.4)
Parole	18,830	16,224	(2,606)	8,158	6,473	(1,685)	43.3%	39.9%	(3.4)
<b>Commitment Offense Category</b>									
Property Crimes	9,801	7,035	(2,766)	5,296	3,751	(1,545)	54.0%	53.3%	(0.7)
Drug Crimes	7,661	3,932	(3,729)	3,918	1,707	(2,211)	51.1%	43.4%	(7.7)
Other Crimes	6,637	6,975	338	3,133	3,301	168	47.2%	47.3%	0.1
Crimes Against Persons	15,106	15,814	708	5,888	6,300	412	39.0%	39.8%	0.8

Table 30. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Offender Demographics and Characteristics for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and Fiscal Year 2015-16 (continued)

	FY 2014-15 Number Released	FY 2015-16 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2014-15 Number Convicted	FY 2015-16 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2014-15 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2015-16 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
<b>Sentence Type</b>									
Determinate Sentencing Law	24,888	23,761	(1,127)	11,366	10,777	(589)	45.7%	45.4%	(0.3)
Second Strikers (Determinate Sentencing Law)	9,518	8,908	(610)	4,395	4,067	(328)	46.2%	45.7%	(0.5)
Lifers (Indeterminate Sentencing Law)	688	723	35	16	23	7	2.3%	3.2%	0.9
Proposition 47	4,111	364	(3,747)	2,458	192	(2,266)	59.8%	52.7%	(7.1)
<b>Sex Registration Requirement</b>									
No	35,907	30,429	(5,478)	17,195	14,043	(3,152)	47.9%	46.2%	(1.7)
Yes	3,298	3,327	29	1,040	1,016	(24)	31.5%	30.5%	(1.0)
<b>In-Prison SUDT Participation*</b>									
Completed Aftercare	137	162	25	28	24	(4)	20.4%	14.8%	(5.6)
Some Aftercare	246	246	0	125	107	(18)	50.8%	43.5%	(7.3)
No Aftercare	841	637	(204)	445	292	(153)	52.9%	45.8%	(7.1)
<b>No In-Prison SUDT Participation*</b>									
Completed Aftercare	1,313	1,242	(71)	237	236	(1)	18.1%	19.0%	0.9
Some Aftercare	2,611	2,438	(173)	1,223	1,158	(65)	46.8%	47.5%	0.7
No Aftercare	12,655	10,116	(2,539)	5,688	4,108	(1,580)	44.9%	40.6%	(4.3)

\*These values were corrected in August 2022 for data consistency with Section 7.2.9 of this report.

Table 30. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Offender Demographics and Characteristics for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and Fiscal Year 2015-16 (continued)

	FY 2014-15 Number Released	FY 2015-16 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2014-15 Number Convicted	FY 2015-16 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2014-15 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2015-16 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
<b>Commitment Offense</b>									
Vehicle Theft	1,278	1,440	162	847	934	87	66.3%	64.9%	(1.4)
Receiving Stolen Property	876	470	(406)	495	271	(224)	56.5%	57.7%	1.2
Escape	122	131	9	69	75	6	56.6%	57.3%	0.7
Burglary 2nd	2,154	1,051	(1,103)	1,157	567	(590)	53.7%	53.9%	0.2
Other Property	422	303	(119)	222	163	(59)	52.6%	53.8%	1.2
CS Possession	4,559	882	(3,677)	2,670	467	(2,203)	58.6%	52.9%	(5.7)
Possession Weapon	3,588	3,768	180	1,914	1,978	64	53.3%	52.5%	(0.8)
Other Assault/Battery	4,677	4,968	291	2,253	2,458	205	48.2%	49.5%	1.3
Burglary 1st	2,685	2,726	41	1,336	1,345	9	49.8%	49.3%	(0.5)
Other Offenses	1,664	1,771	107	778	842	64	46.8%	47.5%	0.7
Arson	171	190	19	69	90	21	40.4%	47.4%	7.0
CS Other	257	307	50	136	145	9	52.9%	47.2%	(5.7)
Grand Theft	698	467	(231)	325	214	(111)	46.6%	45.8%	(0.8)
Forgery/Fraud	566	479	(87)	231	213	(18)	40.8%	44.5%	3.7
Petty Theft With Prior	1,122	99	(1,023)	683	44	(639)	60.9%	44.4%	(16.5)
Assault w. Deadly Weapon	3,459	3,714	255	1,499	1,643	144	43.3%	44.2%	0.9
Robbery	3,103	3,176	73	1,412	1,401	(11)	45.5%	44.1%	(1.4)
Other Sex	1,033	1,044	11	419	449	30	40.6%	43.0%	2.4
CS Possession For Sale	1,984	1,931	(53)	800	810	10	40.3%	41.9%	1.6

Table 30. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Offender Demographics and Characteristics for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and Fiscal Year 2015-16 (continued)

	FY 2014-15 Number Released	FY 2015-16 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2014-15 Number Convicted	FY 2015-16 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2014-15 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2015-16 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
<b>Commitment Offense (continued)</b>									
Marij. Possess For Sale	161	156	(5)	62	65	3	38.5%	41.7%	3.2
Marijuana Sale	78	74	(4)	32	30	(2)	41.0%	40.5%	(0.5)
Marijuana Other	35	46	11	9	16	7	25.7%	34.8%	9.1
CS Sales	520	477	(43)	188	163	(25)	36.2%	34.2%	(2.0)
Driving Under Influence	1,092	1,115	23	303	316	13	27.7%	28.3%	0.6
Oral Copulation	79	63	(16)	10	15	5	12.7%	23.8%	11.1
Attempted Murder 2nd	234	249	15	43	59	16	18.4%	23.7%	5.3
Kidnapping	167	182	15	27	41	14	16.2%	22.5%	6.3
Manslaughter	324	317	(7)	61	62	1	18.8%	19.6%	0.8
CS Manufacturing	47	57	10	12	10	(2)	25.5%	17.5%	(8.0)
Rape	207	202	(5)	36	33	(3)	17.4%	16.3%	(1.1)
Penetration With Object	44	64	20	6	8	2	13.6%	12.5%	(1.1)
Lewd Act With Child	979	998	19	79	93	14	8.1%	9.3%	1.2
Vehicular Manslaughter	143	162	19	22	14	(8)	15.4%	8.6%	(6.8)
Murder 1st	234	222	(12)	8	8	0	3.4%	3.6%	0.2
Attempted Murder 1st	63	56	(7)	1	2	1	1.6%	3.6%	2.0
Murder 2nd	334	372	38	6	11	5	1.8%	3.0%	1.2
Sodomy	26	25	(1)	6	3	(3)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hashish Possession	20	2	(18)	9	1	(8)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 30. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Offender Demographics and Characteristics for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and Fiscal Year 2015-16 (continued)

	FY 2014-15 Number Released	FY 2015-16 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2014-15 Number Convicted	FY 2015-16 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2014-15 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2015-16 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
<b>Serious/Violent Offense</b>									
Serious	8,076	8,031	(45)	3,832	3,832	0	47.4%	47.7%	0.3
Violent	6,816	7,125	309	1,982	2,096	114	29.1%	29.4%	0.3
Non-Serious/Non-Violent	24,313	18,600	(5,713)	12,421	9,131	(3,290)	51.1%	49.1%	(2.0)
<b>Mental Health Designation*</b>									
Inpatient	19	30	11	12	19	7	N/A	63.3%	N/A
Mental Health Crisis Bed	74	66	(8)	46	39	(7)	62.2%	59.1%	(3.1)
Enhanced Outpatient Program	1,359	1,308	(51)	750	691	(59)	55.2%	52.8%	(2.4)
Correctional Clinical Case Management System	7,447	6,416	(1,031)	3,669	3,113	(556)	49.3%	48.5%	(0.8)
No Mental Health Designation	30,306	25,936	(4,370)	13,758	11,197	(2,561)	45.4%	43.2%	(2.2)
<b>CSRA Risk Score</b>									
High	17,619	14,560	(3,059)	10,868	8,785	(2,083)	61.7%	60.3%	(1.4)
Moderate	11,882	9,745	(2,137)	5,288	4,228	(1,060)	44.5%	43.4%	(1.1)
Low	9,702	9,451	(251)	2,079	2,046	(33)	21.4%	21.6%	0.2
N/A	2	0	(2)	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Length of Stay</b>									
0 - 6 Months	5,092	4,698	(394)	2,732	2,416	(316)	53.7%	51.4%	(2.3)
7 - 12 Months	9,773	8,095	(1,678)	5,030	4,176	(854)	51.5%	51.6%	0.1
13 - 18 Months	6,303	5,237	(1,066)	3,289	2,478	(811)	52.2%	47.3%	(4.9)
19 - 24 Months	4,888	3,547	(1,341)	2,438	1,689	(749)	49.9%	47.6%	(2.3)
2 - 3 Years	4,291	3,797	(494)	2,050	1,755	(295)	47.8%	46.2%	(1.6)
3 - 4 Years	2,165	2,056	(109)	887	870	(17)	41.0%	42.3%	1.3
4 - 5 Years	1,607	1,472	(135)	582	480	(102)	36.2%	32.6%	(3.6)
5 - 10 Years	2,922	2,780	(142)	864	855	(9)	29.6%	30.8%	1.2
10 - 15 Years	978	964	(14)	215	234	19	22.0%	24.3%	2.3
15+ Years	1,186	1,110	(76)	148	106	(42)	12.5%	9.5%	(3.0)

\*These values were corrected in August 2022 for data accuracy.



Table 30. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Offender Demographics and Characteristics for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2014-15 and Fiscal Year 2015-16 (continued)

	FY 2014-15 Number Released	FY 2015-16 Number Released	Number Released Difference	FY 2014-15 Number Convicted	FY 2015-16 Number Convicted	Number Convicted Difference	FY 2014-15 Three-Year Conviction Rate	FY 2015-16 Three-Year Conviction Rate	Three-Year Rate Difference
<b>Number of CDCR Stays</b>									
1	15,598	15,608	10	5,783	5,895	112	37.1%	37.8%	0.7
2	5,280	4,660	(620)	2,568	2,216	(352)	48.6%	47.6%	(1.0)
3	3,109	2,556	(553)	1,569	1,204	(365)	50.5%	47.1%	(3.4)
4	2,422	1,935	(487)	1,237	957	(280)	51.1%	49.5%	(1.6)
5	2,105	1,587	(518)	1,086	762	(324)	51.6%	48.0%	(3.6)
6	1,820	1,274	(546)	971	644	(327)	53.4%	50.5%	(2.9)
7	1,510	1,048	(462)	827	567	(260)	54.8%	54.1%	(0.7)
8	1,290	946	(344)	729	532	(197)	56.5%	56.2%	(0.3)
9	1,104	785	(319)	610	432	(178)	55.3%	55.0%	(0.3)
10	919	648	(271)	516	351	(165)	56.1%	54.2%	(1.9)
11	744	524	(220)	420	271	(149)	56.5%	51.7%	(4.8)
12	631	464	(167)	368	248	(120)	58.3%	53.4%	(4.9)
13	495	337	(158)	287	181	(106)	58.0%	53.7%	(4.3)
14	387	292	(95)	214	164	(50)	55.3%	56.2%	0.9
15 +	1,791	1,092	(699)	1,050	635	(415)	58.6%	58.2%	(0.4)

7.4 Conviction Rates by County of Release

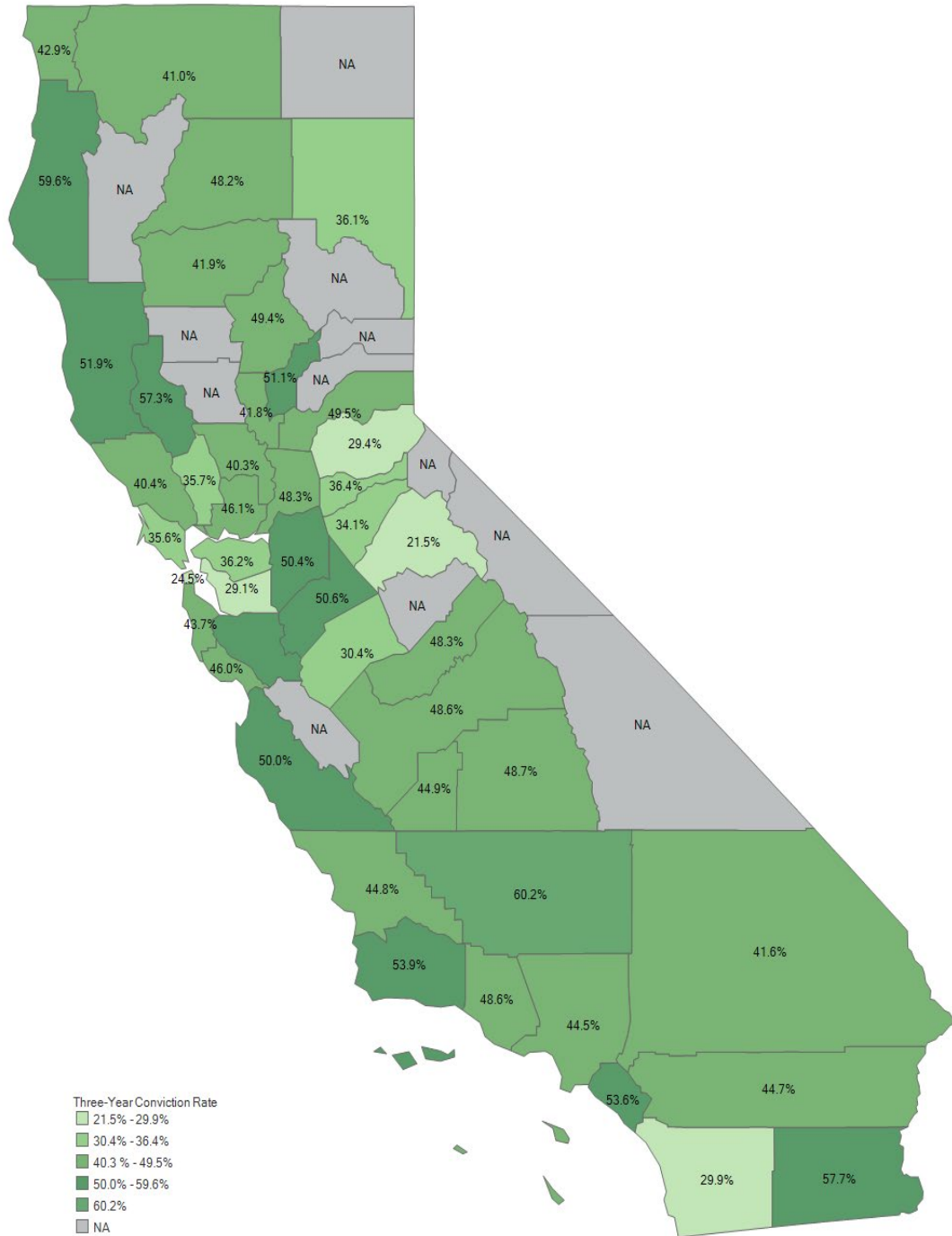
Table 31. Conviction Rates by County of Release

County of Release	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Alameda County	776	93	12.0%	152	19.6%	226	29.1%
Alpine County	2	0	N/A	0	N/A	1	N/A
Amador County	33	3	9.1%	8	24.2%	12	36.4%
Butte County	318	73	23.0%	131	41.2%	157	49.4%
Calaveras County	41	8	19.5%	12	29.3%	14	34.1%
Colusa County	20	2	N/A	5	N/A	6	N/A
Contra Costa County	387	43	11.1%	103	26.6%	140	36.2%
Del Norte County	42	5	11.9%	13	31.0%	18	42.9%
El Dorado County	102	7	6.9%	19	18.6%	30	29.4%
Fresno County	1,549	288	18.6%	573	37.0%	753	48.6%
Glenn County	25	3	N/A	8	N/A	12	N/A
Humboldt County	99	26	26.3%	50	50.5%	59	59.6%
Imperial County	123	42	34.1%	65	52.8%	71	57.7%
Inyo County	16	4	N/A	12	N/A	12	N/A
Kern County	1,293	449	34.7%	668	51.7%	778	60.2%
Kings County	312	33	10.6%	92	29.5%	140	44.9%
Lake County	117	33	28.2%	55	47.0%	67	57.3%
Lassen County	36	5	13.9%	11	30.6%	13	36.1%
Los Angeles County	9,744	1,795	18.4%	3,399	34.9%	4,334	44.5%
Madera County	172	33	19.2%	65	37.8%	83	48.3%
Marin County	45	2	4.4%	8	17.8%	16	35.6%
Mariposa County	17	3	N/A	6	N/A	9	N/A
Mendocino County	108	22	20.4%	48	44.4%	56	51.9%
Merced County	326	30	9.2%	72	22.1%	99	30.4%
Modoc County	4	1	N/A	2	N/A	2	N/A
Mono County	4	1	N/A	1	N/A	2	N/A
Monterey County	428	99	23.1%	175	40.9%	214	50.0%
Napa County	56	10	17.9%	16	28.6%	20	35.7%
Nevada County	29	5	N/A	10	N/A	14	N/A
Orange County	1,584	454	28.7%	714	45.1%	849	53.6%
Placer County	200	36	18.0%	76	38.0%	99	49.5%
Plumas County	16	1	N/A	2	N/A	4	N/A
Riverside County	2,526	454	18.0%	851	33.7%	1,128	44.7%
Sacramento County	1,687	366	21.7%	654	38.8%	815	48.3%

Table 31. Conviction Rates by County of Release (continued)

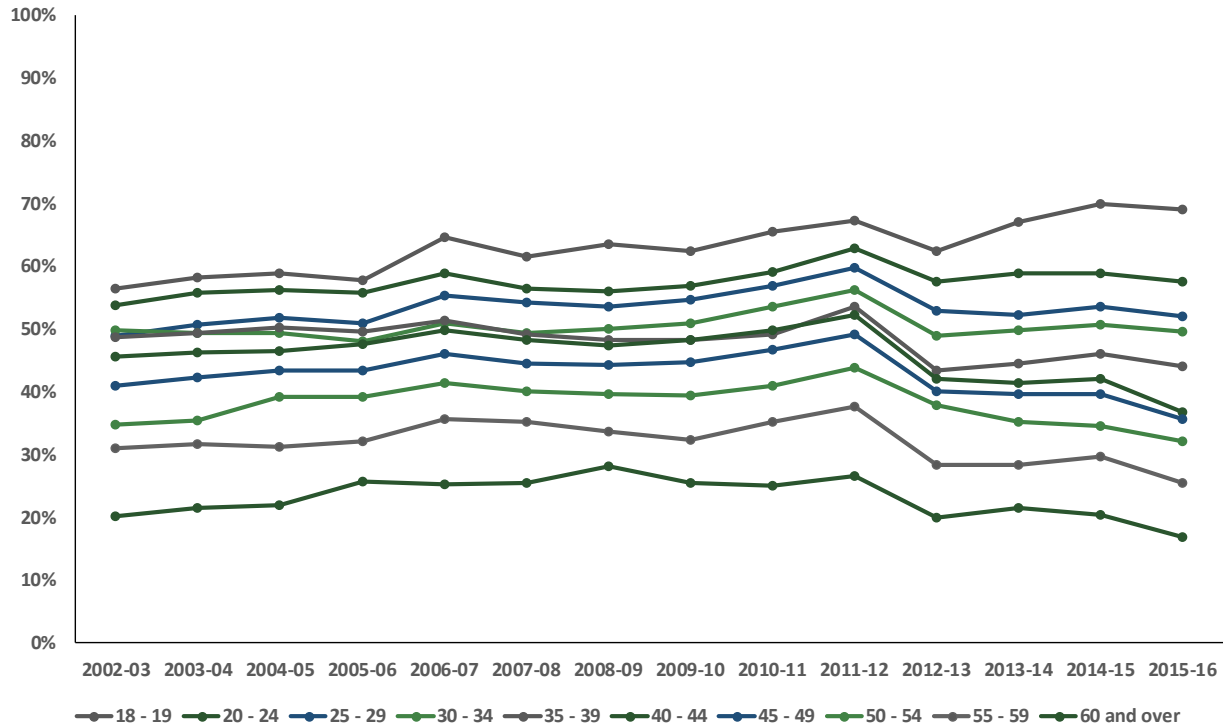
County of Release	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
San Benito County	25	4	N/A	11	N/A	14	N/A
San Bernardino County	3,145	351	11.2%	865	27.5%	1,308	41.6%
San Diego County	2,392	269	11.2%	563	23.5%	715	29.9%
San Francisco County	335	25	7.5%	63	18.8%	82	24.5%
San Joaquin County	826	190	23.0%	341	41.3%	416	50.4%
San Luis Obispo County	212	50	23.6%	79	37.3%	95	44.8%
San Mateo County	252	40	15.9%	81	32.1%	110	43.7%
Santa Barbara County	280	77	27.5%	125	44.6%	151	53.9%
Santa Clara County	843	191	22.7%	345	40.9%	429	50.9%
Santa Cruz County	137	26	19.0%	47	34.3%	63	46.0%
Shasta County	369	83	22.5%	152	41.2%	178	48.2%
Sierra County	2	1	N/A	1	N/A	1	N/A
Siskiyou County	39	7	17.9%	14	35.9%	16	41.0%
Solano County	271	62	22.9%	105	38.7%	125	46.1%
Sonoma County	245	44	18.0%	77	31.4%	99	40.4%
Stanislaus County	551	144	26.1%	227	41.2%	279	50.6%
Sutter County	110	13	11.8%	33	30.0%	46	41.8%
Tehama County	117	21	17.9%	37	31.6%	49	41.9%
Trinity County	7	2	N/A	2	N/A	3	N/A
Tulare County	503	114	22.7%	200	39.8%	245	48.7%
Tuolumne County	65	2	3.1%	11	16.9%	14	21.5%
Ventura County	414	101	24.4%	160	38.6%	201	48.6%
Yolo County	181	29	16.0%	55	30.4%	73	40.3%
Yuba County	131	26	19.8%	50	38.2%	67	51.1%
Directly Discharged	67	11	16.4%	23	34.3%	27	40.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>11,743</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

Map of Three-Year Conviction Rates by County of Release



### 7.5 Age and Recidivism

Figure 29. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Age Group for Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2002-03 through Fiscal Year 2015-16



Changes in recidivism rates are often attributed to a combination of complex factors, including crime rates, changes to correctional policies, and the demographics and characteristics of the offender population. No one factor is responsible for the fluctuations regularly observed. Among the various demographics and characteristics known to contribute to offender recidivism, age is consistently shown to be a strong predictor. Age is heavily weighted when assessing an offender’s risk to reoffend, with younger offenders more likely to recidivate than older offenders. This section more closely analyzes each age group’s characteristics to better understand which offenders are at the highest risk of reoffending and the types of crimes committed by each age group post-release.

Figure 29 presents three-year conviction rates by age group for the FY 2002-03 through 2015-16 release cohorts. While the three-year conviction rate fluctuates within most age groups over time, Figure 28 illustrates a longstanding trend: younger offenders recidivate at higher rates than older offenders, and at a higher rate than the overall conviction rate. Recidivism rates within age groups can increase or decrease for various reasons, such as changes in the overall rate, crime rates, and the implementation of new correctional policies.

Small groups of offenders are more prone to large fluctuations in the recidivism rate than large groups of offenders. It is important to note that offenders ages 18 to 19 and 60 and over comprised very small

portions of the overall release cohort: 278 offenders of the 33,756 offenders who were released were ages 18 to 19 and 1,075 offenders were ages 60 and over (Figure 30).

Figure 31 presents the three-year conviction rate for each age group released in FY 2015-16. Offenders who were 18 years of age at the time of their release had the highest three-year conviction rate at 77.8 percent, while offenders age 68 had the lowest recidivism rate, at 4.8 percent. The difference in the rates of offenders ages 18 and 68 years of age was 73.0 percentage points, by far the largest difference observed when comparing other categories of offender demographics and characteristics.

The number of offenders associated with each rate is important, alongside the overall recidivism rates because a cohort with a high concentration of offenders with a high recidivism rate may influence the overall rate upward, while a cohort with a high concentration of offenders with a low rate may influence the overall rate downward. For this reason, each of the following sections provides the three-year conviction rates, and the percentage of the release cohort belonging to each category (e.g., the percentage of the release cohorts that was age 30 to 34 and committed to prison for crimes against persons).

Figure 30. Percentage of Offenders Belonging to Each Age Group in the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohort

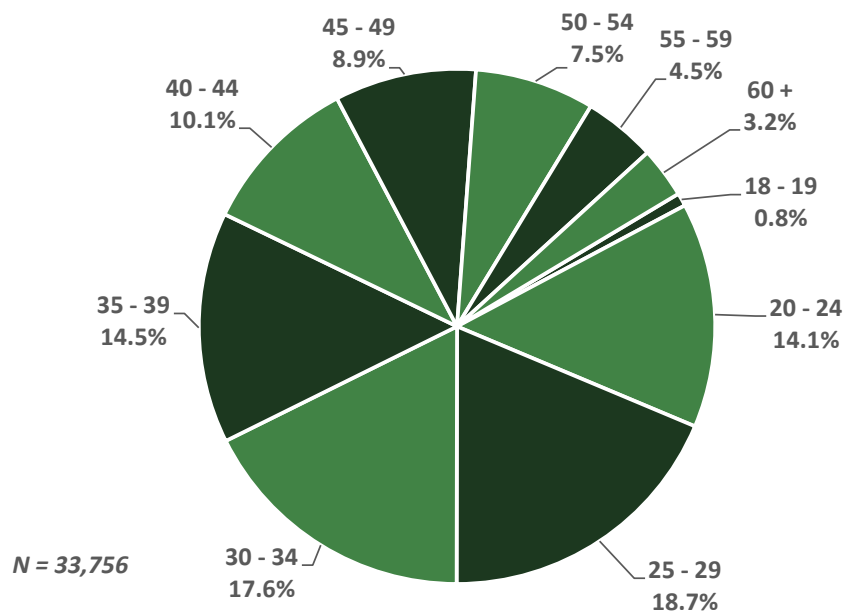
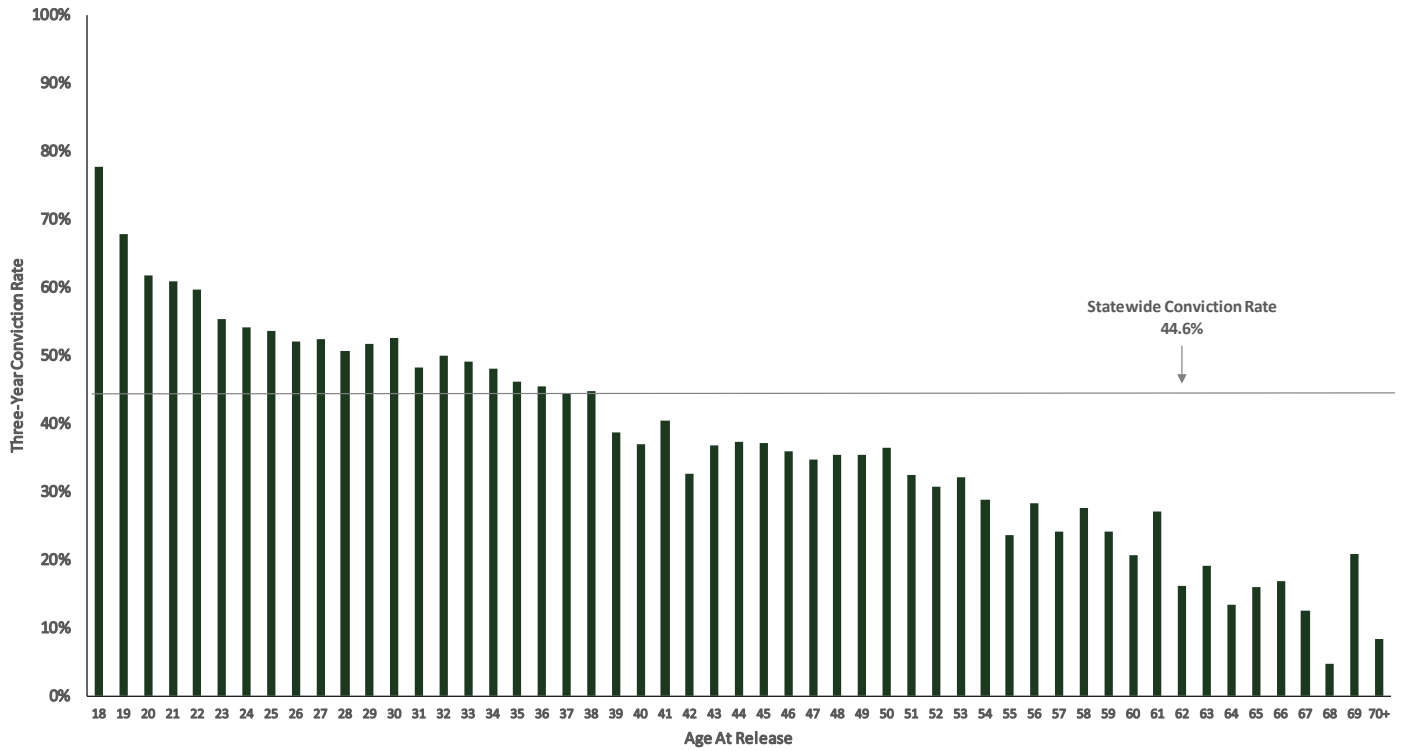


Figure 31. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Age at Release for Offenders in the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohort



7.5.1 Three-Year Conviction Rate by Age at Release and Serious and Violent Offenses

Figure 32. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Age at Release and Serious and Violent Offenses

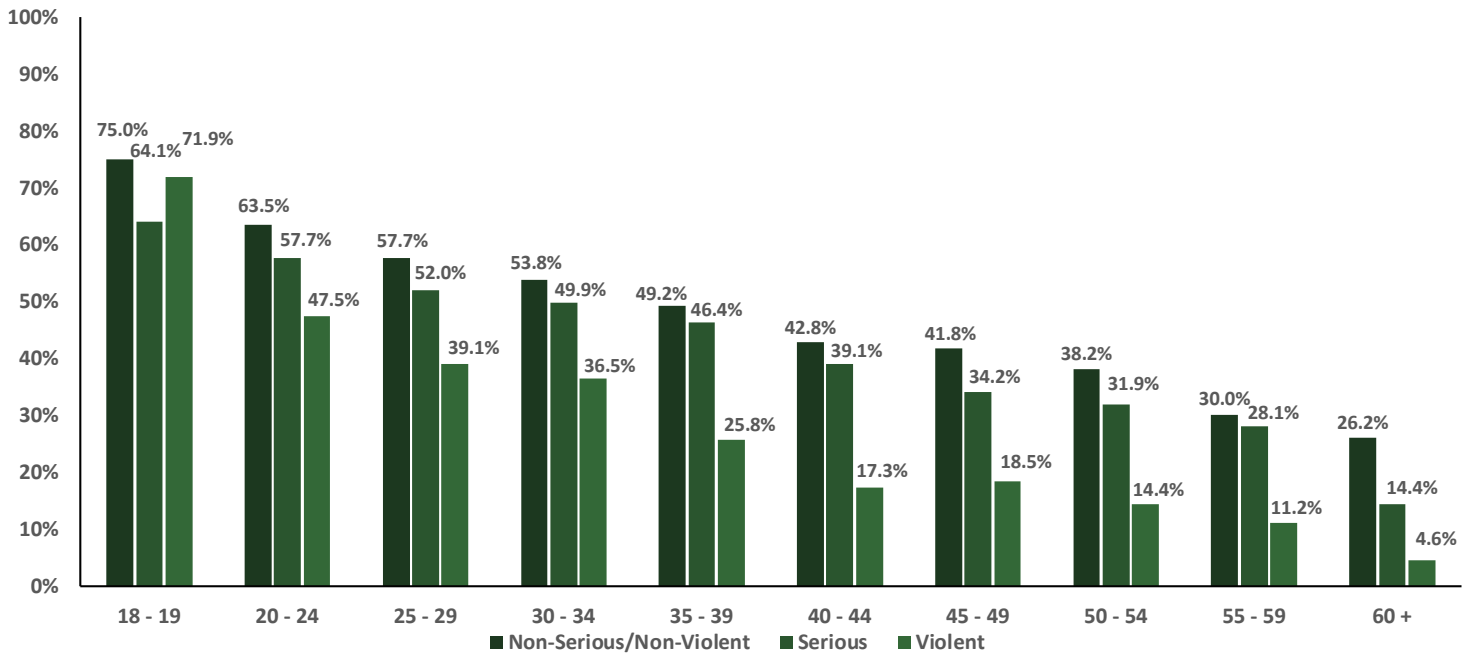


Figure 32 and Table 32 show the three-year conviction rate for the FY 2015-16 release cohort by age at release and whether an offender was committed to prison for a non-serious/non-violent offense, a serious offense, or a violent offense. Figure 33 shows the percentage of each age group that was committed to prison for a non-serious/non-violent offense, a serious offense, or a violent offense.

Generally, non-serious/non-violent offenders had the highest three-year conviction rate across age groups when compared to the rates of offenders with serious or violent offenses. The three-year conviction rate of offenders ages 18 and 19 without a serious or violent offense, who comprised less than one percent of the release cohort, was 75.0 percent. Offenders ages 20 to 24 and 25 to 29 without a serious or violent offense comprised much larger portions of the release cohort (38.6 and 51.9 percent, respectively) and had three-year conviction rates of 63.5 percent and 57.7 percent, respectively. The three-year conviction rates for older offenders without a serious or violent offense were lower (30.0 percent for offenders ages 55 to 59 and 26.2 percent for offenders ages 60 and over), although still higher than the rates for serious and violent offenders in the same age groups, as shown in Figure 32.

Conviction rates decline when an offender is committed to prison for a serious or violent offense, even among the highest recidivating age groups (Figure 32). Within this category, offenders ages 18 and 19 with a serious offense or a violent offense had some of the highest recidivism rates (64.1 percent and 71.9 percent, respectively), followed by offenders ages 20 to 24 with a rate of 57.7 percent for offenders with a serious offense and 47.5 percent for offenders with a violent offense. Offenders ages 55 to 59

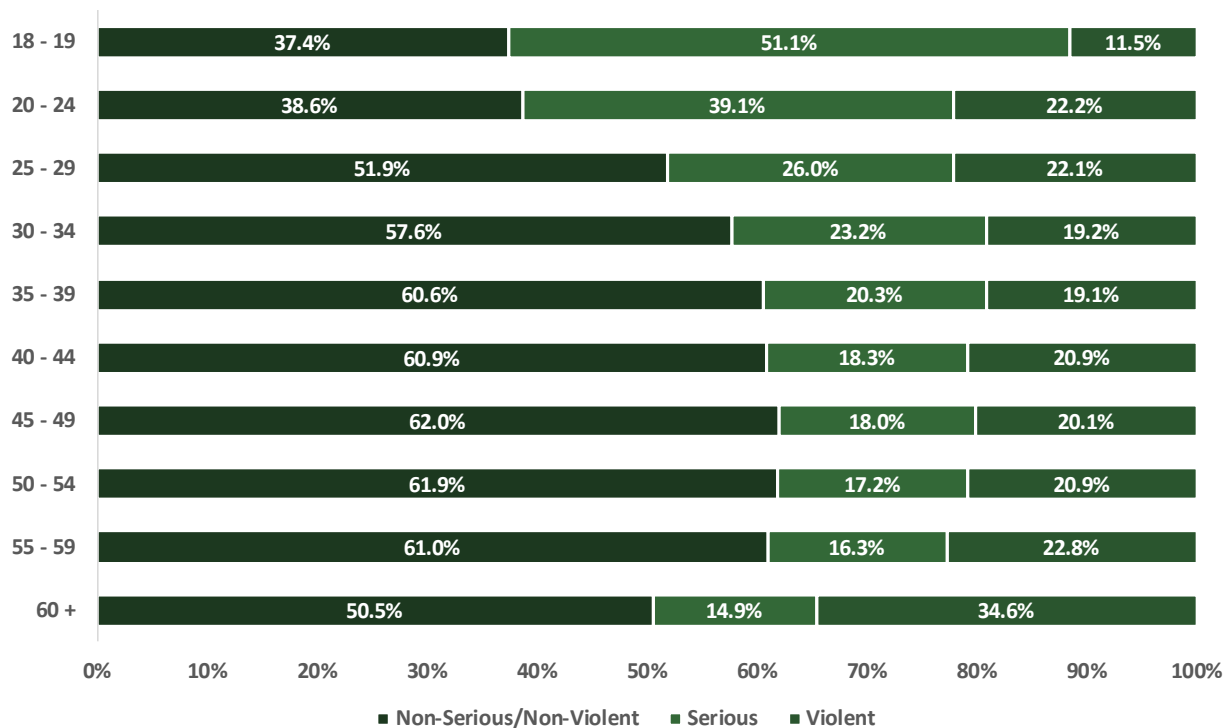


with a serious offense had a three-year conviction rate of 28.1 percent and ages 60 and over had a rate of 14.4 percent, which were far lower than the rates for younger offenders. Of the 372 offenders ages 60 and over who were committed to prison for a violent offense, only 17 offenders were convicted within three years of their release for a three-year conviction rate of 4.6 percent. The rates presented in Figure 32 support the notion that offenders committing serious or violent offenses, who complete longer sentences and are older at the time of their release, are much less likely to reoffend than younger offenders serving short sentences for less serious or violent offenses.

Table 32. Three-Year Conviction Rate by Age at Release and Serious and Violent Offenses

Age Groups	Total			Non-Serious/Non-Violent			Serious			Violent		
	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
18 - 19	278	192	69.1%	104	78	75.0%	142	91	64.1%	32	23	71.9%
20 - 24	4,769	2,751	57.7%	1,843	1,170	63.5%	1,867	1,078	57.7%	1,059	503	47.5%
25 - 29	6,307	3,286	52.1%	3,273	1,888	57.7%	1,640	853	52.0%	1,394	545	39.1%
30 - 34	5,955	2,953	49.6%	3,433	1,847	53.8%	1,381	689	49.9%	1,141	417	36.5%
35 - 39	4,898	2,163	44.2%	2,967	1,460	49.2%	994	461	46.4%	937	242	25.8%
40 - 44	3,419	1,259	36.8%	2,082	892	42.8%	624	244	39.1%	713	123	17.3%
45 - 49	2,995	1,070	35.7%	1,856	775	41.8%	538	184	34.2%	601	111	18.5%
50 - 54	2,531	814	32.2%	1,567	599	38.2%	436	139	31.9%	528	76	14.4%
55 - 59	1,529	389	25.4%	932	280	30.0%	249	70	28.1%	348	39	11.2%
60 +	1,075	182	16.9%	543	142	26.2%	160	23	14.4%	372	17	4.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>	<b>18,600</b>	<b>9,131</b>	<b>49.1%</b>	<b>8,031</b>	<b>3,832</b>	<b>47.7%</b>	<b>7,125</b>	<b>2,096</b>	<b>29.4%</b>

Figure 33. Percentage of Offenders with Serious and Violent Offenses by Age at Release



7.5.2 Three-Year Conviction Rate by Age at Release and Commitment Offense Category

Figure 34. Conviction Rates by Age at Release and Commitment Offense Category

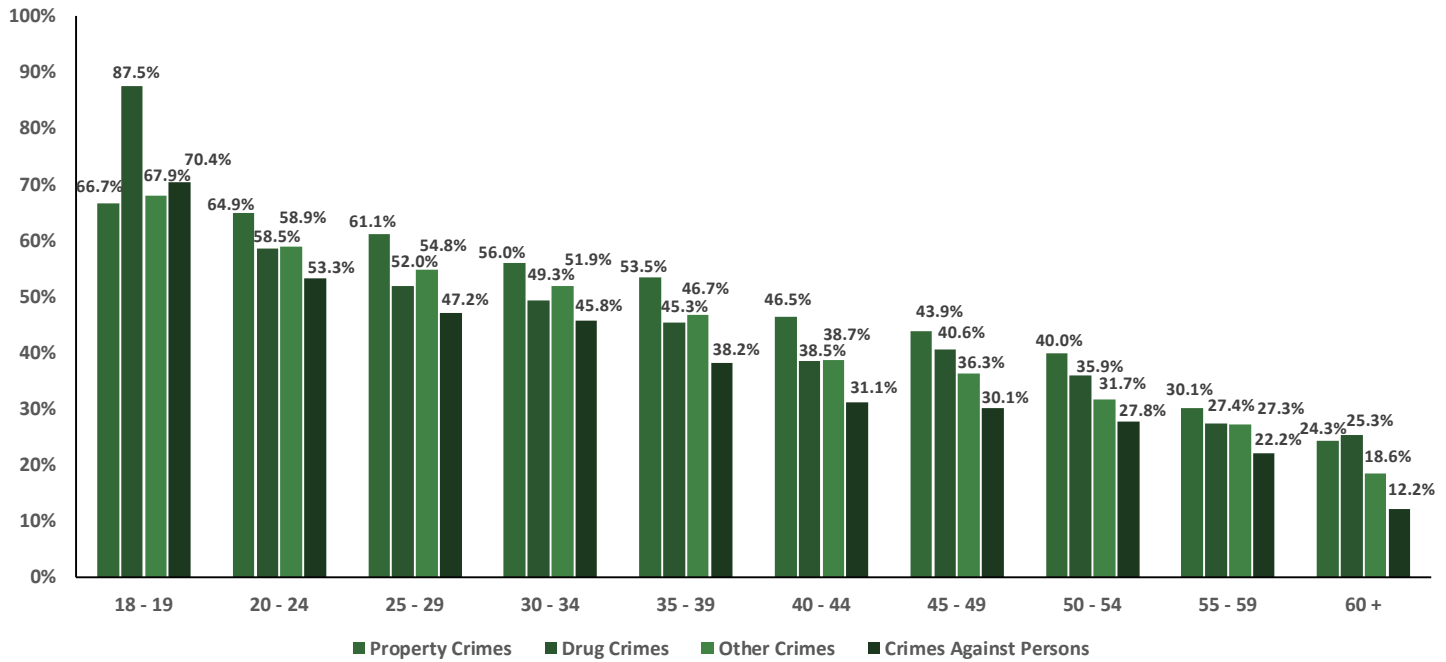


Figure 34 and Table 33 present the three-year conviction rate by age at release and the offense category for which an offender was committed to prison (property crimes, drug crimes, other crimes, or crimes against persons). Figure 35 shows the percentage of offenders in each age group committed to prison for the various offense categories. Regardless of age, offenders who were committed for property or drug crimes generally had the highest conviction rates, followed by other crimes and crimes against persons, however, some exceptions exist among younger age groups. Offenders ages 18 and 19 committed to prison for drug crimes had the highest three-year conviction rate (87.5 percent), followed by crimes against persons (70.4 percent).

CDCR has observed an increase in the number of offenders committed to prison for crimes against persons as a result of Realignment, as these crimes tend to be more serious and violent than property and drug crimes. Of the offenders released in FY 2015-16, 46.8 percent (or 15,814 offenders) were committed to prison for crimes against persons. Among offenders released in FY 2007-08, only 23.4 percent of the release cohort was committed for crimes against persons. The percentage of offenders committed to prison for crimes against persons has increased more than any other category. Conversely, property crimes and drug crimes have slowly decreased, comprising 20.8 percent and 20.7 percent of all commitment offenses in FY 2015-16, respectively.

Offenders committed to CDCR for crimes against persons had the lowest conviction rate within each age group, as shown in Figure 34 and Table 33, with the exception of offenders age 18 and 19. Similar to an

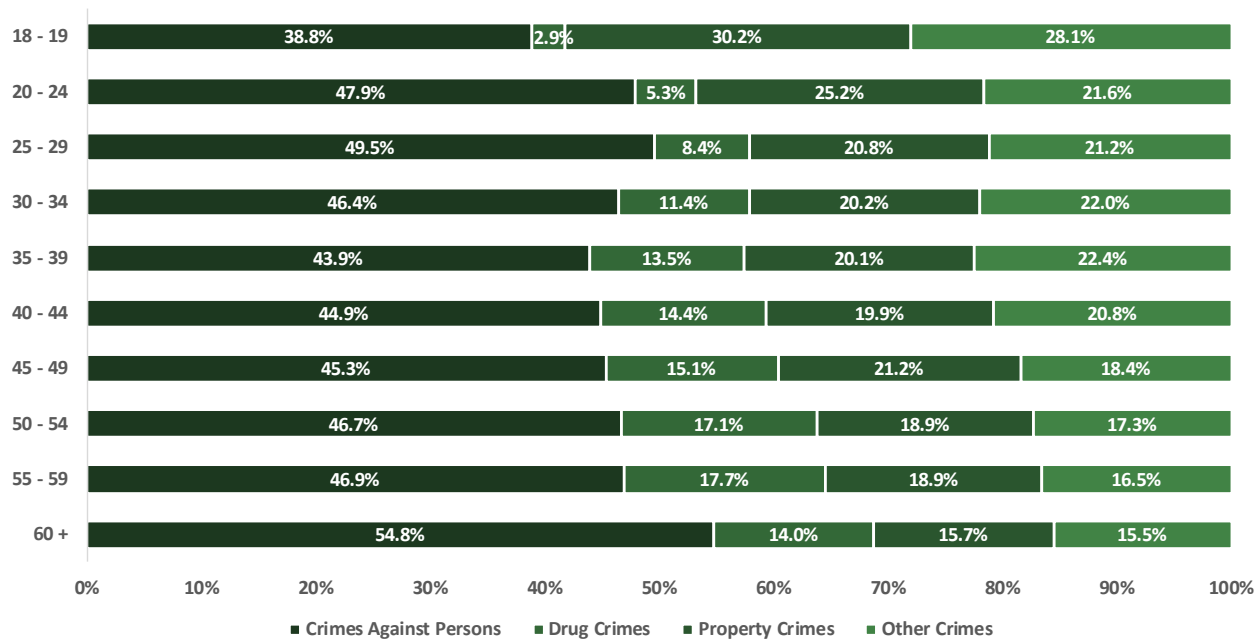
increase in offenders with serious and violent offenses, one might assume the three-year conviction rate would continue to decrease, as a larger concentration of offenders with low recidivism rates would influence the overall rate downward. However, the recidivism rates for younger offenders committed for crimes against persons are still relatively high: the rates for the three youngest groups of offenders were 70.4 percent, 53.3 percent, and 47.2 percent, as shown in Table 33. Because younger offenders committed for crimes against persons now comprise larger portions of the release cohort, their influence on the three-year conviction rate is more pronounced. The rates for offenders committing crimes against persons decline substantially as the age of the offender increases. The three-year conviction rates for the three oldest age groups of offenders committed for crimes against persons were 27.8 percent, 22.2 percent, and 12.2 percent. Again, rather than commitment offense, age is the overriding factor that influences conviction rates either upward or downward within different subgroups of offenders.

Generally, offenders committed to prison for property crimes and other crimes had the highest three-year conviction rates across age groups. The three-year conviction rates for the three youngest age groups committed for property crimes were 66.7 percent, 64.9 percent, and 61.1 percent. The three-year conviction rate for the three oldest age groups of offenders was 40.0 percent, 30.1 percent, and 24.3 percent. Although the rates for older offenders were below the statewide recidivism rate of 44.6 percent, they were relatively high compared to other categories, particularly crimes against persons. Offenders committed for other crimes also have relatively high recidivism rates. The three-year conviction rates for the three youngest groups of offenders committed for other crimes were 67.9 percent, 58.9 percent, and 54.8 percent, which were well above the statewide recidivism rate. The rates for the three oldest groups of offenders committed for other crimes were also relatively high, with rates of 31.7 percent, 27.3 percent, and 18.6 percent. The other crimes category includes arson, DUI, escape, possession of a weapon, and other offenses such as false imprisonment, stalking, and a street gang act.

Table 33. Conviction Rates by Age at Release and Commitment Offense Category

Age Groups	Total			Crimes Against Persons			Drug Crimes			Property Crimes			Other Crimes		
	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
18 - 19	278	192	69.1%	108	76	70.4%	8	7	87.5%	84	56	66.7%	78	53	67.9%
20 - 24	4,769	2,751	57.7%	2,285	1,217	53.3%	253	148	58.5%	1,200	779	64.9%	1,031	607	58.9%
25 - 29	6,307	3,286	52.1%	3,123	1,473	47.2%	531	276	52.0%	1,314	803	61.1%	1,339	734	54.8%
30 - 34	5,955	2,953	49.6%	2,766	1,266	45.8%	680	335	49.3%	1,200	672	56.0%	1,309	680	51.9%
35 - 39	4,898	2,163	44.2%	2,152	823	38.2%	662	300	45.3%	985	527	53.5%	1,099	513	46.7%
40 - 44	3,419	1,259	36.8%	1,536	478	31.1%	493	190	38.5%	680	316	46.5%	710	275	38.7%
45 - 49	2,995	1,070	35.7%	1,357	408	30.1%	451	183	40.6%	636	279	43.9%	551	200	36.3%
50 - 54	2,531	814	32.2%	1,181	328	27.8%	434	156	35.9%	478	191	40.0%	438	139	31.7%
55 - 59	1,529	389	25.4%	717	159	22.2%	270	74	27.4%	289	87	30.1%	253	69	27.3%
60 +	1,075	182	16.9%	589	72	12.2%	150	38	25.3%	169	41	24.3%	167	31	18.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>	<b>15,814</b>	<b>6,300</b>	<b>39.8%</b>	<b>3,932</b>	<b>1,707</b>	<b>43.4%</b>	<b>7,035</b>	<b>3,751</b>	<b>53.3%</b>	<b>6,975</b>	<b>3,301</b>	<b>47.3%</b>

Figure 35. Percentage of Offenders by Commitment Offense Category and Age at Release



7.5.3 Three-Year Conviction Rate by Age at Release and Mental Health Designation

Figure 36. Conviction Rates by Age at Release and Mental Health Designation

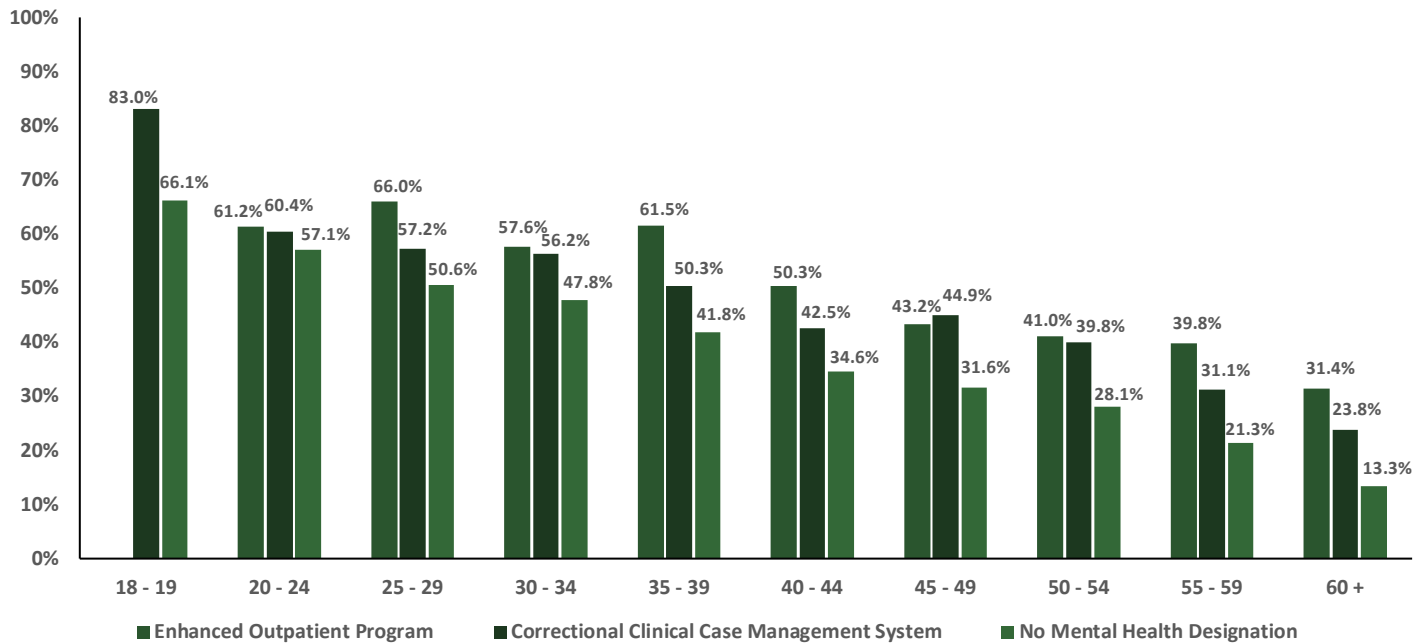


Figure 36 and Table 34 show the three-year conviction rate by age at release and mental health designation for the two mental health categories with the largest number of releases (EOP and CCCMS), as well as offenders without an assignment to CDCR’s mental health delivery system at the time of their release.<sup>21</sup> Figure 37 shows the percentage of each age group assigned to the EOP, CCCMS, or without a mental health designation. Offenders released to Inpatient Care or a Mental Health Crisis Bed are not included in this analysis due to a small number of releases.

Across all age groups, most offenders were not participating in the mental health delivery system at the time of their release. In general, offenders without a mental health assignment had the lowest three-year conviction rates across mental health designations. Of the two mental health categories (CCCMS and EOP) presented in Figure 37, a larger percentage of offenders were assigned to the CCCMS across each age group when compared to the EOP. In general, the percentage of offenders assigned to the CCCMS increased with age. Fourteen percent of offenders ages 20 to 24 and 15.6 percent of offenders ages 25 to 29 were assigned to the CCCMS, while 26.4 percent of offenders ages 50 to 54 and 31.5 percent of offenders ages 55 to 59 were assigned to the CCCMS at the time of their release. Older age groups also had larger percentages of offenders assigned to the EOP at the time of their release. Over six

<sup>21</sup> The 3,678 offenders assigned to Inpatient Care at the time of their release are not included in this analysis. The three-year conviction rate was not calculated for the four offenders aged 18 or 19 who were assigned to the EOP at the time of their release.

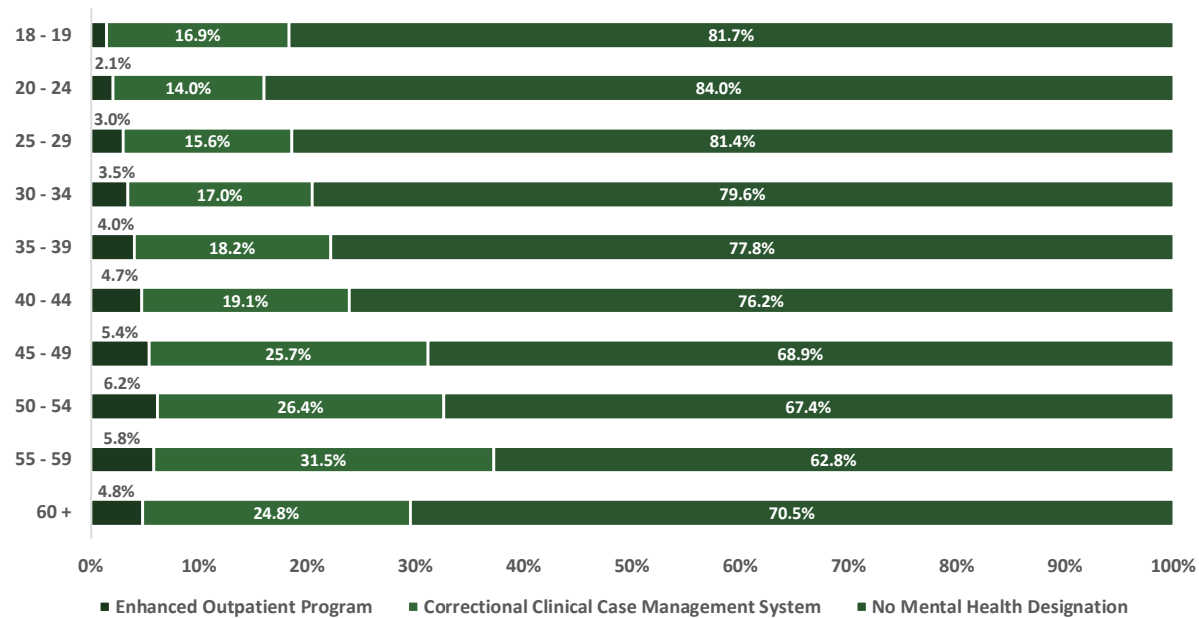
percent (6.2 percent) of offenders ages 50 to 54 were assigned to the EOP at the time of their release, and only 2.1 percent of offenders ages 20 to 24 were assigned to the EOP.

Across age groups, offenders belonging to the EOP or CCCMS at the time of their release had higher three-year conviction rates than offenders in the same age group without a mental health designation. With the exception of offenders ages 40 to 44, offenders assigned to the EOP had higher three-year conviction rates than offenders in the same age group belonging to the CCCMS. Offenders ages 18 and 19 assigned to the CCCMS had a three-year conviction rate of 83.0 percent and offenders ages 20 to 24 had a three-year conviction rate of 60.4 percent. The rate begins to decline from this point as the age of the offender increases. Offenders ages 55 to 59 and assigned to the CCCMS had a rate of 31.1 percent and offenders ages 60 and over had a rate of 23.8 percent. The highest three-year conviction rate for offenders assigned to the EOP (66.0 percent) was observed among offenders ages 25 to 29 and the lowest rate was observed among offenders ages 60 and over (31.4 percent).

Table 34. Conviction Rates by Age at Release and Mental Health Designation

Age Groups	Total			Enhanced Outpatient Program			Correctional Clinical Case Management System			No Mental Health Designation		
	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
18 - 19	278	192	69.1%	4	3	N/A	47	39	83.0%	227	150	66.1%
20 - 24	4,759	2,743	57.6%	98	60	61.2%	664	401	60.4%	3,997	2,282	57.1%
25 - 29	6,288	3,273	52.1%	188	124	66.0%	981	561	57.2%	5,119	2,588	50.6%
30 - 34	5,938	2,942	49.5%	205	118	57.6%	1,007	566	56.2%	4,726	2,258	47.8%
35 - 39	4,886	2,157	44.1%	195	120	61.5%	888	447	50.3%	3,803	1,590	41.8%
40 - 44	3,409	1,256	36.8%	161	81	50.3%	652	277	42.5%	2,596	898	34.6%
45 - 49	2,989	1,065	35.6%	162	70	43.2%	768	345	44.9%	2,059	650	31.6%
50 - 54	2,520	806	32.0%	156	64	41.0%	665	265	39.8%	1,699	477	28.1%
55 - 59	1,523	388	25.5%	88	35	39.8%	479	149	31.1%	956	204	21.3%
60 +	1,070	179	16.7%	51	16	31.4%	265	63	23.8%	754	100	13.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,660</b>	<b>15,001</b>	<b>44.6%</b>	<b>1,308</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>52.8%</b>	<b>6,416</b>	<b>3,113</b>	<b>48.5%</b>	<b>25,936</b>	<b>11,197</b>	<b>43.2%</b>

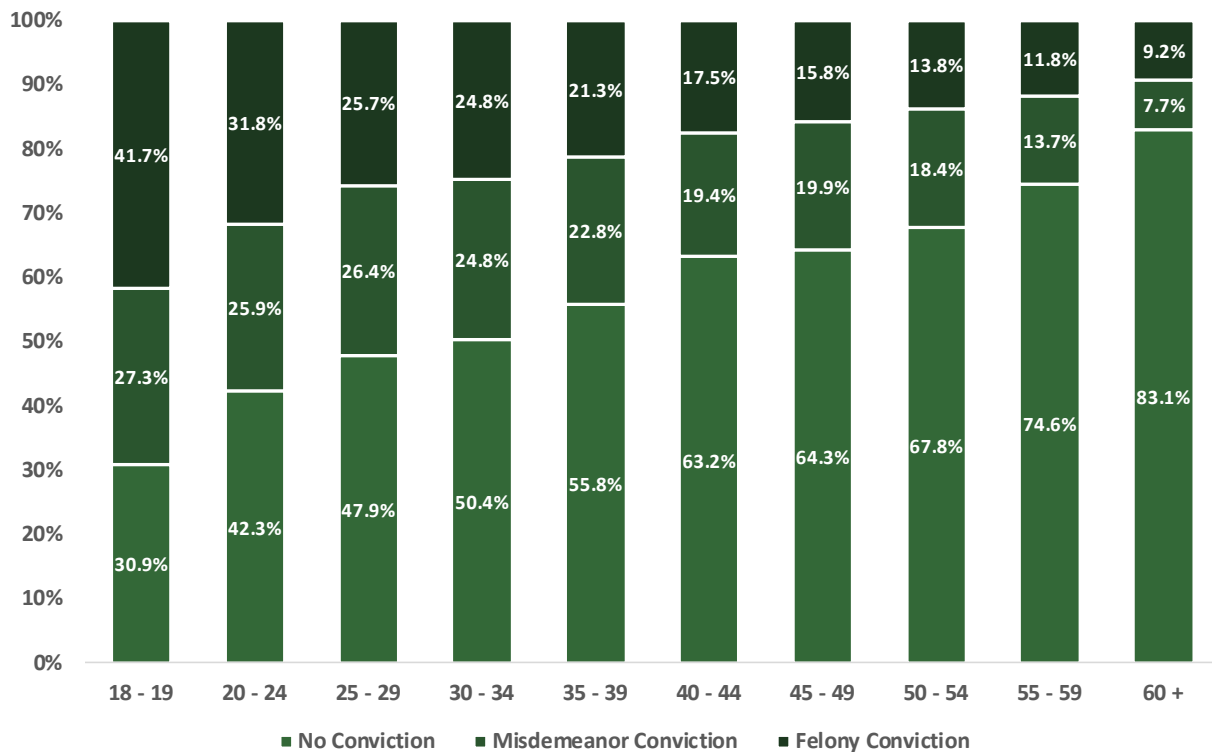
Figure 37. Percentage of Offenders by Age at Release and Mental Health Designation



7.5.4 Type of Conviction by Age at Release

This section presents the type of offense for which an offender was convicted following their release from prison in FY 2015-16 by age at release. Type of conviction data (i.e., misdemeanor or felony convictions) only include the most serious conviction in the first conviction episode, meaning if an offender was convicted of a misdemeanor and subsequently convicted of a felony, only the misdemeanor conviction is included.

Figure 38. Type of Conviction by Age at Release for Offenders in the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohort



As shown in Figure 38, younger offenders were more likely to be convicted of a felony or misdemeanor within three years of their release from CDCR than older offenders. Over 40 percent (41.7 percent or 116 offenders) of offenders ages 18 and 19 were convicted of a felony offense and 27.3 percent (76 offenders) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense. From these two points, the percentage of offenders convicted of either a misdemeanor or felony offense decreases as the age of the offender increases. About nine percent (9.2 percent or 99 offenders) ages 60 and over were convicted of a felony post-release and 7.7 percent (83 offenders) were convicted of a misdemeanor offense. The percentage of offenders completing the three-year follow-up period without a conviction increases as the age of the offender increases. Under one-third of offenders ages 18 and 19 (30.9 percent or 86 offenders) completed the three-year follow-up period without a conviction and 83.1 percent (893 offenders) ages 60 and over had a successful three-year follow-up period.



Table 35 provides detailed information regarding the type of conviction (e.g., felony property crime, misdemeanor drug/alcohol crime) for each age group. Overall, younger offenders were more likely to commit felonies following their release from prison than older offenders. Over 40 percent of offenders ages 18 and 19 (41.7 percent or 116 offenders) were convicted of felonies and 31.8 percent (1,516 offenders) of offenders ages 20 to 24 were convicted of felonies. Further, younger offenders were also more likely to commit felony crimes against persons following their release from prison. Over 14 percent (14.4 percent or 40 offenders) of offenders ages 18 and 19 and 11.5 percent (547 offenders) ages 20 to 24 were convicted of felony crimes against persons. These percentages are much higher than offenders who committed crimes against persons and were ages 55 to 59 (3.1 percent or 47 offenders) or ages 60 and over (2.3 percent or 25 offenders). Other felony crimes represented the largest category of post-release convictions for offenders ages 18 and 19 (15.8 percent or 44 offenders) and may include offenses such as stalking, accessory to a felony, or hit and run.

Older offenders were most likely to be convicted of either felony or misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes than any other offense category. Of all commitment offense categories, misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes comprised the largest percentage (5.4 percent of post-release convictions for offenders ages 55 to 59 and 2.6 percent for offenders ages 60 and over) of all categories, as shown in Table 35. Closely following were misdemeanor property crimes at 2.9 percent (44 offenders) of all post-release convictions for offenders ages 55 to 59 and 2.3 percent (25 offenders) for offenders ages 60 and over.

Table 35. Type of Conviction by Age at Release for Offenders in the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Release Cohort

Type of Conviction	18 - 19		20 - 24		25 - 29		30 - 34		35 - 39		40 - 44		45 - 49		50 - 54		55 - 59		60 +	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
No Conviction	86	30.9%	2,018	42.3%	3,021	47.9%	3,002	50.4%	2,735	55.8%	2,160	63.2%	1,925	64.3%	1,717	67.8%	1,140	74.6%	893	83.1%
All Felonies	116	41.7%	1,516	31.8%	1,618	25.7%	1,477	24.8%	1,045	21.3%	597	17.5%	474	15.8%	349	13.8%	180	11.8%	99	9.2%
Felony Crimes Against Persons	40	14.4%	547	11.5%	552	8.8%	437	7.3%	300	6.1%	178	5.2%	142	4.7%	100	4.0%	47	3.1%	25	2.3%
Felony Property Crimes	29	10.4%	391	8.2%	419	6.6%	401	6.7%	287	5.9%	146	4.3%	116	3.9%	87	3.4%	27	1.8%	11	1.0%
Felony Other Crimes	44	15.8%	475	10.0%	476	7.5%	441	7.4%	298	6.1%	168	4.9%	118	3.9%	93	3.7%	53	3.5%	30	2.8%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	3	1.1%	103	2.2%	171	2.7%	198	3.3%	160	3.3%	105	3.1%	98	3.3%	69	2.7%	53	3.5%	33	3.1%
All Misdemeanors	76	27.3%	1,235	25.9%	1,668	26.4%	1,476	24.8%	1,118	22.8%	662	19.4%	596	19.9%	465	18.4%	209	13.7%	83	7.7%
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	17	6.1%	419	8.8%	667	10.6%	577	9.7%	488	10.0%	286	8.4%	276	9.2%	204	8.1%	83	5.4%	28	2.6%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	18	6.5%	272	5.7%	319	5.1%	300	5.0%	229	4.7%	133	3.9%	120	4.0%	100	4.0%	44	2.9%	25	2.3%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	27	9.7%	302	6.3%	429	6.8%	383	6.4%	266	5.4%	164	4.8%	119	4.0%	94	3.7%	43	2.8%	15	1.4%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	14	5.0%	242	5.1%	253	4.0%	216	3.6%	135	2.8%	79	2.3%	81	2.7%	67	2.6%	39	2.6%	15	1.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4,769</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6,307</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5,955</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4,898</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3,419</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,995</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,531</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,529</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## 8 Female Recidivism Outcomes

In 2005, the California correctional system reorganized to directly address the rehabilitative and re-entry needs of all inmates and paroles. This reorganization led to establishing the Female Offender Programs and Services (FOPS) office, which oversees the adult female programs in CDCR institutions. FOPS developed a gender-responsive and culturally sensitive approach to female programs. The FOPS mission is to improve recidivism outcomes for the incarcerated and paroled female offenders under CDCR supervision.<sup>22</sup>

CDCR's approach to female offenders is guided by legal requirements of the California Penal Code section 3430, national best practices, and the experiences of staff working with women offenders.<sup>23</sup> One of the FOPS goals was to design and oversee a community-based services delivery system for low-risk female offenders. The female rehabilitative programs were designed to recognize the distinct needs of women compared to men. The program specifically recognizes the differences in how they come to prison, how they behave while in custody, and the necessary skills to allow for successful rehabilitative programs. Staff working in the female-specific facilities have the necessary skills and training to understand the female offenders' demographic and background characteristics. The Department has supported the FOPS mission by implementing gender-responsive approaches and strategies that have shown to be effective in improving facility safety, staff/inmate interaction, and reduction of recidivism.

This section takes a closer look at the female offender population in CDCR's institutions and their three-year recidivism rates by sentence type, serious and violent offense, commitment offense category, age group at release, and type of conviction.

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<sup>22</sup> For more information on FOPS, please refer to the CDCR websites: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/adult-operations/> and <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/adult-operations/fops/>.

<sup>23</sup> Penal Code section § 3430 (a) CDCR shall create a female offender reform master plan. For more information on Female Offender Reform, please see Penal Code section 3430 at <https://codes.findlaw.com/ca/penal-code/pen-sect-3430.html>

### 8.1 Female and Male Conviction Rates Over Time

Figure 39. Three-Year Conviction Rates for Female and Male Offenders Released from CDCR in Fiscal Year 2011-12 through Fiscal Year 2015-16

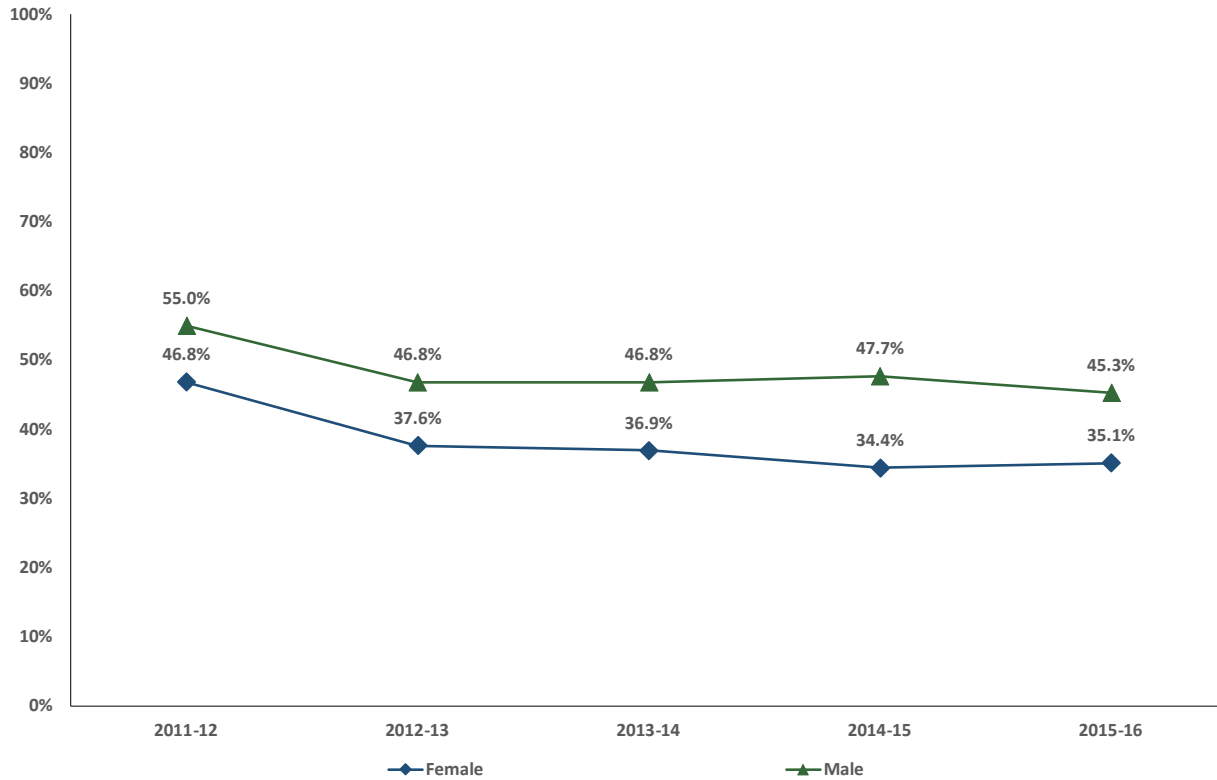


Figure 39 presents three-year female and male conviction rates over time. Conviction rate data for the female and male populations are available from FY 2011-12 to FY 2015-16. As the male population represents a large portion of CDCR offenders, the rate of male offenders is often very close to the overall conviction rate for offenders released from CDCR. For example, the three-year conviction rate for all offenders released from CDCR in FY 2015-16 was 44.6 percent and the rate for males was 45.3 percent (slightly higher than the overall rate). Females released during FY 2015-16 had a rate of 35.1 percent and in general, have much lower conviction rates over time than males.

Like with the male rate, the three-year conviction rate for females began to decline from a rate of 46.8 percent observed among females released in FY 2011-12. The lowest female conviction rate was observed for female offenders released in FY 2014-15 (34.4 percent) when the rate decreased from 36.9 percent. The rate for male offenders released in FY 2014-15 was 47.7 percent and the overall rate for both males and females was 46.5 percent. The increase in the three-year conviction rate for male offenders was likely due to the release of a large group of Proposition 47 offenders who were characterized by high recidivism rates (Section 2.2.3 and Section 5.2). Conversely, fewer female offenders were released under Proposition 47, and the influence on the three-year conviction rate was minimal.

## 8.2 Recidivism Rates for Female Offenders Released During Fiscal Year 2015-16

Table 36 provides one-, two-, and three-year conviction rates, CDCR’s primary measure of recidivism, as well as arrest and return-to-prison rates, which are supplemental measures of recidivism for females released in FY 2015-16. During the first year of follow-up, 321 of the 2,342 female offenders released from prison were convicted for a one-year conviction rate of 13.7 percent. In year two, 619 offenders were convicted for a two-year conviction rate of 26.4 percent, and in year three, 821 offenders were convicted for a three-year conviction rate of 35.1 percent.

The one-year arrest rate for female offenders released in FY 2015-16 was 42.6 percent (998 offenders), the two-year rate was 54.4 percent (1,275 offenders), and the three-year rate was 61.4 percent (1,437 offenders). The one-year return-to-prison rate was 3.0 percent (71 offenders), the two-year rate was 8.4 percent (198 offenders), and the three-year rate was 11.9 percent (278 offenders).

*Table 36. Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates for Female Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16*

Recidivism Type	Total	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Arrest	2,342	998	42.6%	1,275	0.0%	1,437	61.4%
Conviction	2,342	321	13.7%	619	26.4%	821	35.1%
Return	2,344	71	3.0%	198	8.4%	278	11.9%

Table 37 provides the three-year arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates for female and male offenders, as well as the total FY 2015-16 release cohort. The three-year female recidivism rates were lower than the male rates for each recidivism type. The female arrest rate (61.4 percent) was 7.5 percentage points lower than males (68.9 percent). The female conviction rate (35.1 percent) was 10.2 percentage points lower than males (45.3 percent). The three-year return-to-prison rate for females was 12.5 percentage points lower than the three-year male rate (11.9 percent for females and 24.4 percent for males).

*Table 37. Three-Year Arrest, Conviction, and Return-to-Prison Rates for Female and Male Offenders Released from CDCR in Fiscal Year 2015-16*

Recidivism Type	Female			Male			Total		
	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Arrest	2,342	1,437	61.4%	31,414	21,657	68.9%	33,756	23,094	68.4%
Conviction	2,342	821	35.1%	31,414	14,238	45.3%	33,756	15,059	44.6%
Return	2,344	278	11.9%	31,517	7,698	24.4%	33,861	7,976	23.6%

### 8.3 Conviction Rates for Female Offenders by Sentence Type

Figure 40. Conviction Rates for Female Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Sentence Type

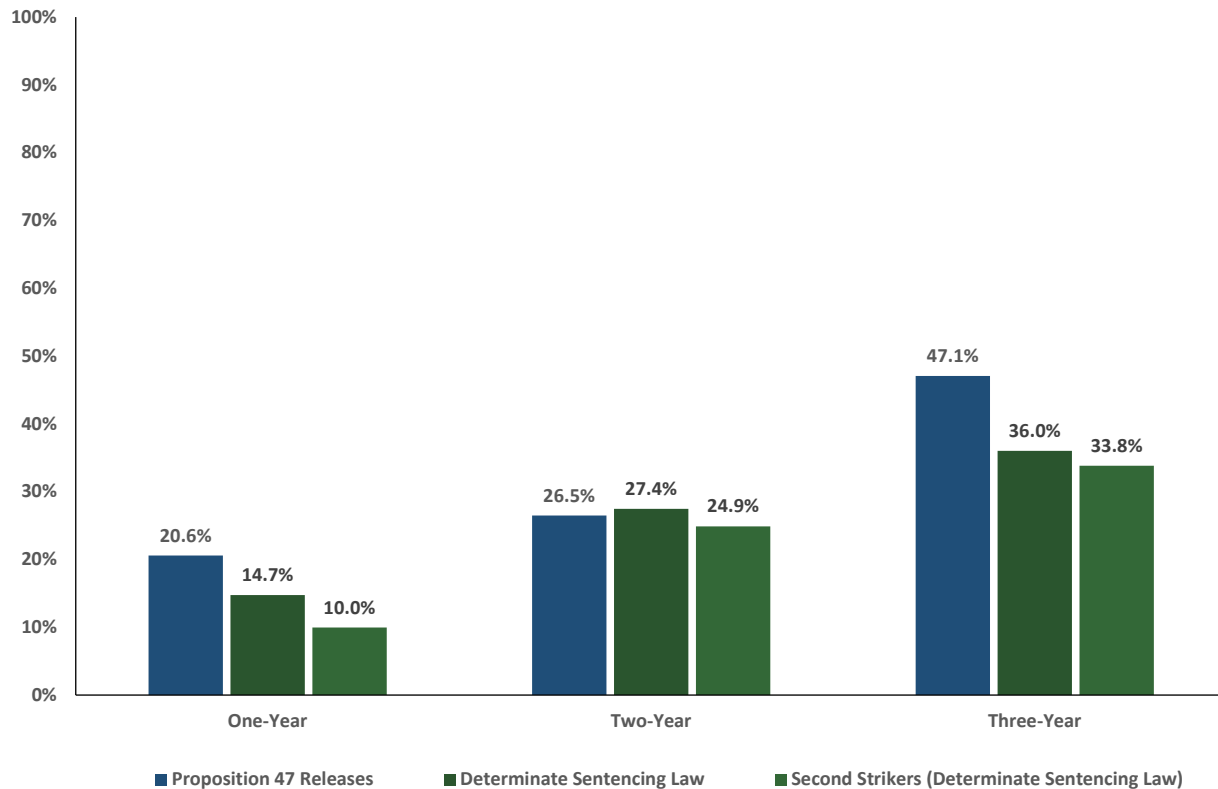


Figure 40 and Table 38 present the three-year conviction rate for females released in the FY 2015-16 cohort by sentence type. Proposition 47 female releases had the highest three-year conviction rate at 47.1 percent, with 16 of the 34 female offenders convicted during the follow-up period. Approximately one-third of female second strikers and female offenders with a determinate were convicted, for a three-year conviction rate of 33.8 percent and 36.0 percent, respectively. Females with an indeterminate sentence (lifers), who were released during FY 2015-16 (48 offenders), and followed for three years, did not have any convictions.

Table 38. Conviction Rates for Females Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Sentence Type

Sentence Type	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Proposition 47 Releases	34	7	20.6%	9	26.5%	16	47.1%
Determinate Sentencing Law	1,858	274	14.7%	510	27.4%	669	36.0%
Second Strikers (Determinate Sentencing Law)	402	40	10.0%	100	24.9%	136	33.8%
Lifers (Indeterminate Sentencing Law)	48	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>26.4%</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>35.1%</b>

Table 39 presents three-year conviction rates by sentence type for females and males. The female rates are lower overall than the male rates for each type of sentence. A notable difference exists when comparing the rates of female and male lifers. Although the three-year conviction rate for male lifers was low (3.4 percent), 23 male offenders were convicted during the three-year follow-up period, and none of the 48 female lifers were convicted.

Both female and male offenders released under Proposition 47 had high three-year conviction rates. The three-year conviction rate was 47.1 percent for females and 53.3 percent for males, with a rate of 52.7 percent for all Proposition 47 releases. The rate for these releases is traditionally high, as the group is comprised of offenders convicted of drug and property crimes, which are historically associated with higher rates of recidivism than other groups of offenders (e.g., those committing crimes against persons), as discussed in Section 5.2.

*Table 39. Three-Year Conviction Rates for Female and Male Offenders Released During Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Sentence Type*

Sentence Type	Female			Male			Total		
	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Determinate Sentencing Law	1,858	669	36.0%	21,903	10,108	46.1%	23,761	10,777	45.4%
Second Strikers (Determinate Sentencing Law)	402	136	33.8%	8,506	3,931	46.2%	8,908	4,067	45.7%
Proposition 47 Releases	34	16	47.1%	330	176	53.3%	364	192	52.7%
Lifers (Indeterminate Sentencing Law)	48	0	0.0%	675	23	3.4%	723	23	3.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>35.1%</b>	<b>31,414</b>	<b>14,238</b>	<b>45.3%</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

8.4 Conviction Rates for Female Offenders by Serious or Violent Offense

Figure 41. Conviction Rate for Female Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Serious or Violent Offense

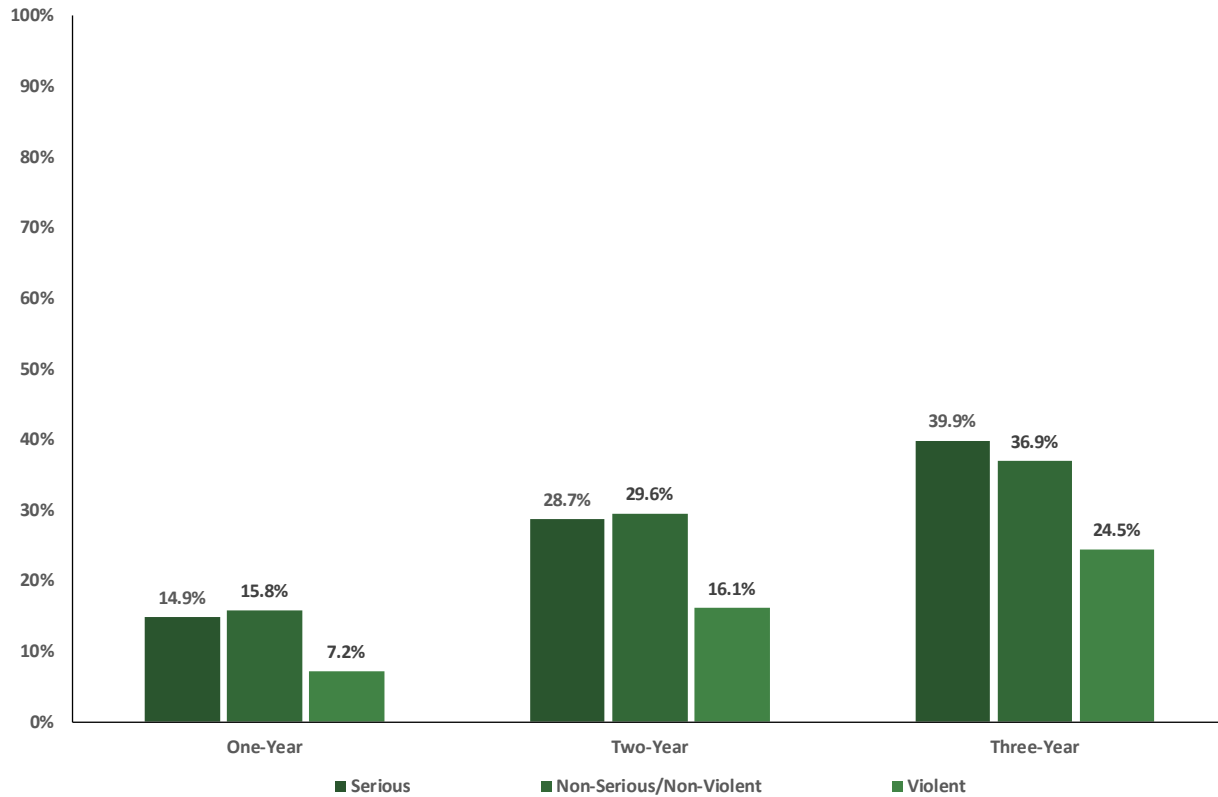


Figure 41 and Table 40 present the three-year conviction rates for females released during FY 2015-16 who were committed to prison for a serious offense, a violent offense, or a non-serious/non-violent offense. The 652 female offenders with a serious offense had the highest three-year conviction rate of the females released during FY 2015-16 at 39.9 percent (260 offenders). Approximately half of the female offenders released had a non-serious/non-violent offense (1,187 offenders), with a three-year conviction rate of 36.9 percent (438 offenders). The 503 female offenders with a violent offense had the lowest conviction rate of the three categories (24.5 percent or 123 offenders).

Table 40. Conviction Rates for Female Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Serious or Violent Offenses

Serious/Violent Offense	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Serious	652	97	14.9%	187	28.7%	260	39.9%
Non-Serious/Non-Violent	1,187	188	15.8%	351	29.6%	438	36.9%
Violent	503	36	7.2%	81	16.1%	123	24.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>26.4%</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>35.1%</b>



Table 41 presents conviction rates by serious or violent offenses for females, males, and the total FY 2015-16 release cohort. Compared to female conviction rates, males had higher rates across all three categories. The rate for females with a non-serious/non-violent offense (36.9 percent) was 13.0 percentage points lower than the male rate (49.9 percent). Offenders with a violent offense had the smallest difference between females and males (5.3 percentage points). However, the rate was lower for both females and males when compared to the rates of offenders with a serious offense or a non-serious/non-violent offense. The three-year conviction rate for violent female offenders was 24.5 percent, and the male three-year conviction rate for violent offenders was 29.8 percent.

One notable difference between female and male offenders is that females with a serious offense had higher three-year conviction rates than either of the other categories (non-serious/non-violent and violent). Male offenders with a non-serious/non-violent offense had a higher three-year conviction rate than male offenders with a serious or violent offense.

*Table 41. Three-Year Conviction Rates for Female and Male Offenders Released During Fiscal Year 2015-16 with a Serious or Violent Offense*

Serious/Violent Offense	Female			Male			Total		
	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Non-Serious/Non-Violent	1,187	438	36.9%	17,413	8,693	49.9%	18,600	9,131	49.1%
Serious	652	260	39.9%	7,379	3,572	48.4%	8,031	3,832	47.7%
Violent	503	123	24.5%	6,622	1,973	29.8%	7,125	2,096	29.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>35.1%</b>	<b>31,414</b>	<b>14,238</b>	<b>45.3%</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

### 8.5 Conviction Rates for Female Offenders by Commitment Offense Category

Figure 42. Conviction Rates for Female Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Commitment Offense Category

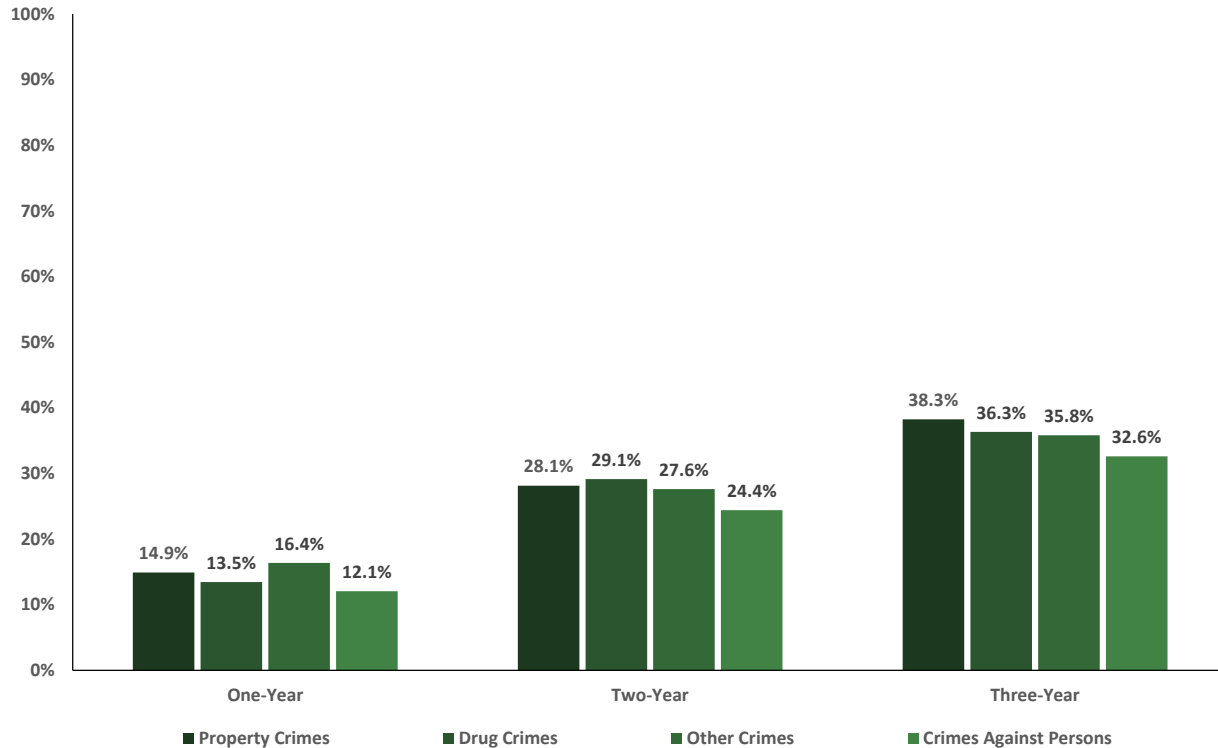


Figure 42 and Table 42 present the three-year conviction rates for the female offenders released in FY 2015-16 by commitment offense category. The 643 females committed to CDCR for property crimes had the highest three-year conviction rate at 38.3 percent (246 offenders). The three-year conviction rates for 223 females committed for drug crimes and 391 females committed for other crimes were 36.3 percent (81 offenders) and 35.8 percent (140 offenders), respectively. Female offenders committed for crimes against persons (1,085 offenders) had the lowest three-year conviction rate at 32.6 percent (354 offenders).

Table 42. Conviction Rates for Female Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Commitment Offense Category

Commitment Offense Category	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Property Crimes	643	96	14.9%	181	28.1%	246	38.3%
Drug Crimes	223	30	13.5%	65	29.1%	81	36.3%
Other Crimes	391	64	16.4%	108	27.6%	140	35.8%
Crimes Against Persons	1,085	131	12.1%	265	24.4%	354	32.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>26.4%</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>35.1%</b>

Table 43 provides three-year conviction rates by commitment offense category for female and male offenders, as well as the rate for all offenders released in FY 2015-16. As observed with females, males committed for property crimes had the highest three-year conviction rate at 54.8 percent. The rates for both females and males committed to CDCR for property crimes were followed by drug crimes and other crimes. Offenders committed to CDCR for crimes against persons have the lowest three-year conviction rate for females and males at 32.6 percent and 40.4 percent, respectively. The largest number of offenders (both female and male) were committed to prison for crimes against persons. Approximately 46 percent of females and 47 percent of males were originally committed to CDCR for crimes against persons.

*Table 43. Three-Year Conviction Rate for Female and Male Offenders Released During Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Commitment Offense Category*

Commitment Offense Category	Female			Male			Total		
	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Property Crimes	643	246	38.3%	6,392	3,505	54.8%	7,035	3,751	53.3%
Drug Crimes	223	81	36.3%	6,752	3,220	47.7%	6,975	3,301	47.3%
Other Crimes	391	140	35.8%	3,541	1,567	44.3%	3,932	1,707	43.4%
Crimes Against Persons	1,085	354	32.6%	14,729	5,946	40.4%	15,814	6,300	39.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>35.1%</b>	<b>31,414</b>	<b>14,238</b>	<b>45.3%</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

### 8.6 Conviction Rates for Female Offenders by Age at Release

Figure 43. Three-Year Conviction Rate for Female Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Age at Release

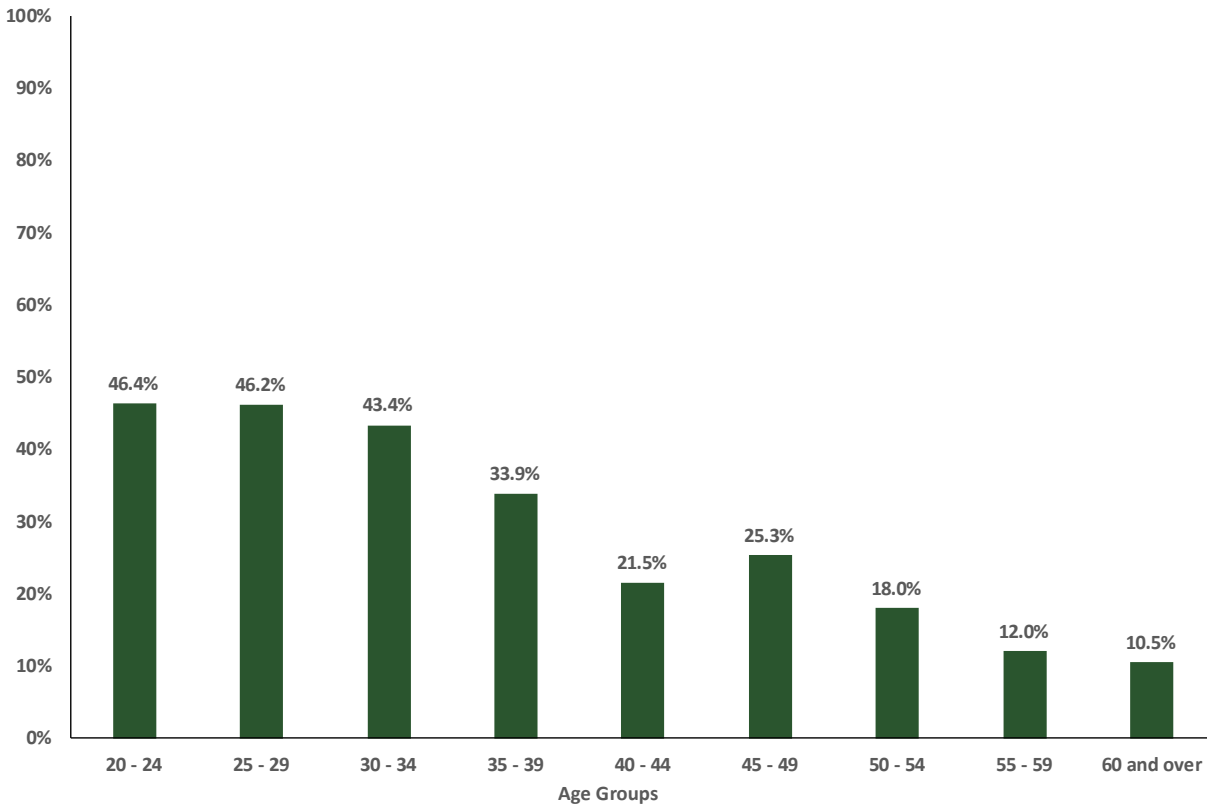


Figure 43 and Table 44 categorize the three-year conviction rates for females released in FY 2015-16 by age group at the time of their release. As noted earlier, in general, as the age of an offender increases, the three-year conviction rate decreases. The same trend is observed for the female offenders released in FY 2015-16 except for females age 40 to 44 with a slightly lower rate (21.5 percent) than females in the 45 to 49 age group (25.3 percent). The 20 to 24 age group had the highest three-year conviction rate at 46.4 percent (116 offenders), followed by the 25 to 29 age group with a rate of 46.2 percent (210 offenders). The lowest conviction rate was for female offenders 60 and over with a conviction rate of 10.5 percent (six offenders).

Table 44. Conviction Rates for Female Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Age at Release

Age Groups	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
18 - 19	5	4	N/A	5	N/A	5	N/A
20 - 24	250	59	23.6%	94	37.6%	116	46.4%
25 - 29	455	84	18.5%	162	35.6%	210	46.2%
30 - 34	468	80	17.1%	153	32.7%	203	43.4%
35 - 39	384	39	10.2%	88	22.9%	130	33.9%
40 - 44	246	20	8.1%	42	17.1%	53	21.5%
45 - 49	233	23	9.9%	47	20.2%	59	25.3%
50 - 54	161	7	4.3%	20	12.4%	29	18.0%
55 - 59	83	5	6.0%	7	8.4%	10	12.0%
60 and over	57	0	0.0%	1	1.8%	6	10.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>26.4%</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>35.1%</b>

Table 45 presents the three-year conviction rates by age group for females and males released during FY 2015-16. As observed with the overall rate for the release cohort, younger females and males recidivate at higher rates than offenders belonging to older age groups. In general, the three-year conviction rate for all offenders, declined as the age group increased, with offenders ages 60 and over with the lowest three-year conviction rates (10.5 percent for females and 17.3 percent for males). The male three-year conviction rates were closer to the overall conviction rates for the cohort, as males make up 93.1 percent of the release cohort.

Table 45. Three-Year Conviction Rate for Female and Male Offenders Released During Fiscal Year 2015-16 by Age at Release

Age Groups	Female			Male			Total		
	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Released	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
18 - 19	5	5	N/A	273	187	68.5%	278	192	69.1%
20 - 24	250	116	46.4%	4,519	2,635	58.3%	4,769	2,751	57.7%
25 - 29	455	210	46.2%	5,852	3,076	52.6%	6,307	3,286	52.1%
30 - 34	468	203	43.4%	5,487	2,750	50.1%	5,955	2,953	49.6%
35 - 39	384	130	33.9%	4,514	2,033	45.0%	4,898	2,163	44.2%
40 - 44	246	53	21.5%	3,173	1,206	38.0%	3,419	1,259	36.8%
45 - 49	233	59	25.3%	2,762	1,011	36.6%	2,995	1,070	35.7%
50 - 54	161	29	18.0%	2,370	785	33.1%	2,531	814	32.2%
55 - 59	83	10	12.0%	1,446	379	26.2%	1,529	389	25.4%
60 and over	57	6	10.5%	1,018	176	17.3%	1,075	182	16.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>35.1%</b>	<b>31,414</b>	<b>14,238</b>	<b>45.3%</b>	<b>33,756</b>	<b>15,059</b>	<b>44.6%</b>

### 8.7 Type of Conviction for Female Offenders

This section presents the type of offense for which female offenders were convicted following their release from prison in FY 2015-16. Type of conviction data (i.e., misdemeanor or felony convictions) only include the most serious conviction in the first conviction episode, meaning if an offender was convicted of a misdemeanor and subsequently convicted of a felony, only the misdemeanor conviction is included.

Table 46 presents the type of conviction by felony and misdemeanor for the 821 females released during FY 2015-16 and convicted during the three-year follow-up period. This section does not include the 1,521 female offenders released in FY 2015-16 without a conviction. About 40 percent (40.2 percent or 330 offenders) of the females convicted during the three-year period had a felony conviction, and 59.8 percent (491 offenders) had a misdemeanor conviction. The highest percentage of females convicted for felonies were convicted for felony property crimes (14.9 percent or 122 offenders), followed by felony crimes against persons (11.9 percent or 98 offenders), and felony drug/alcohol crimes (7.4 percent or 61 offenders). The felony other crimes category had the lowest percentage of females convicted (6.0 percent of convictions or 49 offenders) with regards to felony convictions, respectively.

Misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes comprised the largest percentage of all conviction types (21.9 percent or 180 offenders) when observing misdemeanor and felony convictions. Misdemeanor property crimes followed with 19.1 percent (157 offenders) of all convictions. Misdemeanor crimes against persons and misdemeanor other crimes comprised 10.8 percent (89 offenders) and 7.9 percent (65 offenders) of all convictions, respectively.

*Table 46. Type of Conviction for the 821 Female Offenders Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period*

Type of Conviction	FY 2015-16	
	Number	Percent
<b>All Felonies</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>40.2%</b>
Felony Property Crimes	122	14.9%
Felony Crimes Against Persons	98	11.9%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	61	7.4%
Felony Other Crimes	49	6.0%
<b>All Misdemeanors</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>59.8%</b>
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	180	21.9%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	157	19.1%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	89	10.8%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	65	7.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 47 presents the type of conviction for females and males released during FY 2015-16. A much larger portion of males (50.2 percent) was convicted for felony offenses after their release from CDCR than females (40.2 percent). For both males and females, the largest percentage of convictions were for misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes (20.1 percent and 21.9 percent, respectively). For females, misdemeanor property crimes followed misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes with 19.1 percent of all post-release convictions. For males, felony crimes against persons and other felonies followed misdemeanor drug/alcohol crimes with 15.9 and 15.1 percent of all convictions, respectively.

*Table 47. Type of Conviction for the Female and Male Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16 and Convicted During the Three-Year Follow-Up Period*

Type of Conviction	Female		Male	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>All Felonies</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>40.2%</b>	<b>7,141</b>	<b>50.2%</b>
Felony Property Crimes	122	14.9%	1,792	12.6%
Felony Crimes Against Persons	98	11.9%	2,270	15.9%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	61	7.4%	932	6.5%
Felony Other Crimes	49	6.0%	2,147	15.1%
<b>All Misdemeanors</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>59.8%</b>	<b>7,097</b>	<b>49.8%</b>
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	180	21.9%	2,865	20.1%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	157	19.1%	1,403	9.9%
Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons	89	10.8%	1,753	12.3%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	65	7.9%	1,076	7.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>14,238</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## 8.8 Conviction Rates for Female Offenders Participating in CDCR Programs

Investigating the recidivism rate for alternative intervention and rehabilitative programs is one way of exploring the relationship between participation in rehabilitative programs and the reduction of recidivism. This section explores alternative rehabilitative programs for females released from a CDCR institution during FY 2015-16 and placed in alternative programs, including the Alternative Custody Program (ACP) and the Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program (CCTRP).<sup>24</sup>

The ACP is a voluntary program developed for eligible offenders that allows them to serve up to the last 12 months of their sentence in the community in lieu of confinement in state prison. Eligible participants may be housed in a private residence, a transitional care facility, a residential drug, or another treatment program. ACP participants remain under the jurisdiction of CDCR and are supervised by parole agents while in the community.

The CCTRP allows eligible offenders with serious and violent crimes committed to a CDCR institution to serve their sentence in the community at a CCTRP as designated by the Department, in lieu of confinement in prison. The CCTRP provides a range of rehabilitative services that assist with alcohol and drug recovery, employment, education, housing, family reunification, and social support. The following tables provide early conviction data for each of these three programs.

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<sup>24</sup> For more information on ACP and CCTRP, please refer to the CDCR website: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/adult-operations/>



8.8.1 Conviction Rates for Alternative Custody Program Participants

Table 48 presents the three-year conviction rate for the female offenders who participated in the ACP and were released during FY 2015-16. Only a quarter (24 offenders) of the total offenders released from ACP (100 offenders) were convicted during the follow-up period for a three-year conviction rate of 24.0 percent.

*Table 48. Conviction Rates for Alternative Custody Program Participants Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16*

Program Type	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Alternative Custody Program	100	10	10.0%	17	17.0%	24	24.0%

8.8.2 Conviction Rates for Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program Participants

Table 49 presents the three-year conviction rate for the female offenders who participated in the CCTRP. The CCTRP had 207 participants who were released in FY 2015-16. The three-year conviction rate for the females who participated in the CCTRP was 20.3 percent, with only a fifth of the releases (42 offenders) convicted by the third year of follow-up.

*Table 49. Conviction Rates for Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program Participants Released in Fiscal Year 2015-16*

Program Type	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program	207	8	3.9%	27	13.0%	42	20.3%

## 9 Conviction Rates for Offenders Released by the Board of Parole Hearings

CDCR’s Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) conducts parole suitability hearings for offenders sentenced to life with the possibility of parole (lifers), elderly offenders, youth offenders, and non-violent second strike offenders.<sup>25</sup> While the type of hearings and criteria have changed over time, the following sections discuss the conviction rates for offenders found suitable for release by BPH (under the criteria required at the time of the hearing) and released during FY 2015-16.<sup>26</sup>

### 9.1 Indeterminate Term (Lifer) Parole Process

BPH conducts parole suitability hearings for inmates sentenced to life with the possibility of parole, commonly referred to as “lifers”, once a certain amount of time based on the sentence imposed by the court has been served. Generally, offenders sentenced to an indeterminate term (lifers) are released once the Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) has found them suitable for release or a court orders their release. In addition, some lifers, categorized as “Other Releases” are offenders who were granted parole when BPH was restricted from considering all parole suitability factors by the court, or the court ordered their release. The conviction rates, along with the types of conviction for both groups of offenders, are provided below.

Table 50. Conviction Rates for Offenders Sentenced to an Indeterminate Term (Lifers)

Sentence Type	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Lifers (Indeterminate Sentencing Law)	723	1	0.1%	13	1.8%	23	3.2%

In FY 2015-16, 723 lifers were released from CDCR. Of the 723 lifers released in FY 2015-16, 720 offenders were found suitable for release by BPH, and three offenders were considered “Other” releases. Since FY 2007-08, the number of lifer releases has consistently increased each year. The three-year conviction rate for this group of offenders remains low, ranging from a low of 2.3 percent with the FY 2014-15 cohort and a high of 5.3 percent with the FY 2009-10 release cohort. Only 23 of the 723 lifers were convicted within three years of their release for a three-year conviction rate of 3.2 percent. As shown in Table 51, 13 of the convictions were for felony offenses and 10 were misdemeanor convictions.

<sup>25</sup> To learn more about the types of inmates eligible for parole suitability hearings and how the criteria have changed over time, please visit the Board of Parole Hearings website available at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/bph/parole-suitability-hearings-overview/>

<sup>26</sup> Please note that offenders represented in this section were released from CDCR during FY 2015-16, although the hearing during which the offender was found suitable for release may have occurred during a prior fiscal year and under the criteria required at the time of the hearing.

Table 51. Type of Conviction for Offenders Sentenced to an Indeterminate Term (Lifers)

	Board of Parole Hearings (BPH)		Other Releases		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Total Released</b>	720	100.0%	3	100.0%	723	100.0%
<b>Type of Conviction</b>						
Felony Other Crimes	6	0.8%	0	0.0%	6	0.8%
Felony Crimes Against Persons	5	0.7%	0	0.0%	5	0.7%
Felony Drug/Alcohol Crimes	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Felony Property Crimes	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Misdemeanor Drug/Alcohol Crimes	5	0.7%	0	0.0%	5	0.7%
Misdemeanor Other Crimes	4	0.6%	0	0.0%	4	0.6%
Misdemeanor Property Crimes	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
<b>Total Convicted</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3.2%</b>

## 9.2 Elderly Parole Process

Effective January 21<sup>st</sup> 2021, eligible offenders may receive a parole suitability hearing through the Elderly Parole Program once they are age 50 and have served 20 years of continuous incarceration.<sup>27</sup> The criteria for parole suitability hearings has changed over time. The offenders who received a hearing and were released in FY 2015-16 were required to reach age 60 and serve 25 years of continuous incarceration. Offenders sentenced to a determinate or indeterminate term are eligible, although the below data only includes those sentenced to an indeterminate term. In FY 2015-16, 110 offenders were released from CDCR through the Elderly Parole Process. Of the 110 offenders, one was convicted during the three-year follow-up period for a three-year conviction rate of 0.9 percent.

*Table 52. Conviction Rates for Offenders Released through the Elderly Parole Process*

Parole Grant Type	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Elderly Parole (Indeterminate Sentence)	110	0	0.0%	1	0.9%	1	0.9%

<sup>27</sup> Penal Code section 3055 was amended by AB 3234 in 2020. Effective January 1, 2021, offenders are eligible for a parole suitability hearing when they reach age 50 and have served a minimum of 20 years of incarceration. For more information on changes to eligibility criteria, please visit: [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=PEN&sectionNum=3055](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=PEN&sectionNum=3055). To learn more about the Elderly Parole Process, please visit BPH's website available at: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/bph/elderly-parole-hearings-overview/>.

### 9.3 Youth Offender Parole Process

BPH conducts youth offender parole hearings for youth offenders under a certain age when they committed their controlling offense (the single crime or enhancement for which the sentencing court imposed the longest term of imprisonment).<sup>28</sup> The age at which the youth offender committed their controlling offense and is eligible for a youth offender hearing has changed over time: Senate Bill (SB) 260 took effect on January 1, 2014, and created the youth offender parole hearing process for youth offenders who committed their offense before reaching age 18, SB 261 took effect on January 1, 2016, and expanded hearings to youth offenders who were under the age of 23 when they committed their controlling offense, and Assembly Bill 1308 took effect on January 1, 2018, and expanded hearings to youth offenders who were under the age of 26 when they committed their controlling offense.

Youth offenders sentenced to an indeterminate term of less than 25 years to life are eligible for a hearing during their twentieth year of incarceration, youth offenders sentenced to an indeterminate term of 25 years to life or longer are eligible after their twenty-fifth year of incarceration, and offenders sentenced to a determinate term are eligible for a parole hearing during their fifteenth year of incarceration.

A total of 111 youth offenders were found suitable for release by BPH and released in FY 2015-16. Of those youth offenders, 96 were sentenced to an indeterminate term and 15 were sentenced to a determinate term. Five of the 96 youth offenders sentenced to an indeterminate (life) term were convicted during the three-year follow-up period for a three-year conviction rate of 5.2 percent. Although a three-year conviction rate was not calculated for the 15 youth offenders sentenced to a determinate term (due to 30 or fewer total releases), none of the 15 youth offenders reviewed and found suitable for release by BPH were convicted during the three-year follow-up period.

*Table 53. Conviction Rates for Youth Offenders Released through the Youth Offender Parole Process*

Parole Grant Type	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
Youth Parole (Indeterminate Sentence)	96	0	0.0%	4	4.2%	5	5.2%
Youth Parole (Determinate Sentence)	15	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4.5%</b>

<sup>28</sup> To learn more about youth offender parole hearings, criteria and disqualifications, please visit BPH's website: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/bph/youth-offender-hearings-overview/>

### 9.4 Non-Violent Second Strike Parole Process

In 2014, CDCR was required by a court order to create and implement a new parole determination process for nonviolent, second strike inmates, commonly referred to as NVSS offenders, once they had served 50 percent of their sentence as a result of a court order.<sup>29</sup> BPH began receiving referrals in January 2015.<sup>30</sup>

Table 54 provides conviction rates for the 7,314 non-violent second strike offenders released from CDCR during FY 2015-16. Of the 7,314 non-violent second strikers, 1,886 offenders were reviewed and approved by BPH for release. The three-year conviction rate for those reviewed and approved was 41.9 percent (790 offenders), which is 6.8 percentage points lower than the rate for the other 5,428 non-violent second strikers (48.7 percent or 2,644 offenders) released during FY 2015-16. Overall, the three-year conviction rate for the 7,314 non-violent second strikers released during FY 2015-16 was 47.0 percent (3,434 offenders).

*Table 54. Conviction Rates for Non-Violent Second Strike Offenders*

Non-Violent Second Striker	Number Released	One-Year		Two-Year		Three-Year	
		Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate	Number Convicted	Conviction Rate
NVSS Offenders with BPH Review and Approval	1,886	281	14.9%	593	31.4%	790	41.9%
All Other NVSS Offenders	5,428	1,016	18.7%	2,025	37.3%	2,644	48.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,314</b>	<b>1,297</b>	<b>17.7%</b>	<b>2,618</b>	<b>35.8%</b>	<b>3,434</b>	<b>47.0%</b>

<sup>29</sup> To learn more about the parole process for non-violent second strikers and changes to parole processes implemented after the passage of Proposition 57, please see the BPH website, as well as the Three-Judge Court Report dated December 30, 2014: <https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/bph/nvopr-overview/>

<sup>30</sup> In 2017, CDCR modified the process as a result of Proposition 57. The offenders presented in this report were not released through the parole process implemented after the passage of Proposition 57, although the conviction rates of offenders released through that process will be provided when the data are available.

## 10 Evaluation Design

### 10.1 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.”<sup>31</sup> The definition also allows for supplemental measures of recidivism including: new arrests, returns to custody, criminal filings, or supervision violations. In prior reports, CDCR used a supplemental measure, the three-year return-to-prison rate, as the primary measure of recidivism. Commencing with the 2016 Outcome Evaluation Report, CDCR implemented the State of California’s definition of recidivism and used the three-year conviction rate as the primary measure of recidivism.<sup>32</sup>

The three-year conviction rate is defined as follows:

“An individual convicted of a felony and incarcerated in a CDCR adult institution who was released to parole, discharged after being paroled, or directly discharged during Fiscal Year 2015-16 and subsequently convicted of a felony or misdemeanor offense within three years of their release date.”

The conviction rate is calculated using the ratio of the number of offenders in the release cohort who were convicted during the follow-up period to the total number of offenders in the release cohort, multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Conviction Rate} = \frac{\text{Number Convicted}}{\text{Release Cohort}} \times 100$$

Section 4 of this report provides supplemental recidivism rates using arrest and return-to-prison data for year-to-year comparisons. Three-year rates for each of the supplemental measures are available from FY 2002-03 through 2015-16. One-year and two-year rates are available for the FY 2016-17 release cohort and one-year rates are available for the FY 2017-18 release cohort.

### 10.2 Methods

This report provides conviction rates at one-, two-, and three-year intervals for offenders released from CDCR’s Division of Adult Institutions (DAI) between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 (FY 2015-16). The release cohort includes: 1) offenders who were directly discharged from CDCR; 2) offenders who were released to parole or PRCS for the first time on their current term; and 3) offenders who were released

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<sup>31</sup> Section 3027 of California Penal Code required the Board of State and Community Corrections to develop a state-wide definition of recidivism.

<sup>32</sup> CDCR’s Recidivism Report series was previously titled the “Outcome Evaluation” report series. The 2018 Recidivism Report followed the 2017 Outcome Evaluation Report. Previous reports were referenced by the calendar year in which they were published (i.e., 2017, 2018). Commencing with the Recidivism Report for Offenders Released from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in Fiscal Year 2014-15, the report title references the fiscal year in which offenders were released from CDCR. All of these reports provide recidivism rates (arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison rates) for offenders released in a given fiscal year, with this current report providing rates for offenders released in FY 2015-16.

to parole on their current term prior to FY 2015-16, returned to prison on this term and were then re-released during FY 2015-16. Convictions are further examined according to offender demographics (e.g., gender and age) and offender characteristics (e.g., commitment offense and sentence type).

### 10.3 Data Sources

Data were extracted from CDCR's Strategic Offender Management System (SOMS), CDCR's system of record, to identify offenders released between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 and to determine which released offenders returned to state prison during the three-year follow-up period. Arrest and conviction data were obtained from DOJ's Criminal Justice Information System and the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System.

### 10.4 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. As such, conviction rates are only presented for offender releases (i.e., denominators) equal to or greater than 30.

Conviction rates are fixed at three years, meaning the follow-up period is considered complete and no further analyses are performed. Arrest, conviction, and return-to-prison data presented in Section 4 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.



## 11 Definition of Terms

### **Arrest**

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

### **California Static Risk Assessment (CSRA)**

The CSRA is an actuarial tool that utilizes demographic and criminal history data to predict an offender's risk of conviction at the time they are released from CDCR. Offenders are categorized as low, moderate, or high risk of incurring a new criminal conviction.

### **Cohort**

A group of individuals who share a common characteristic, such as all offenders who were released during a given fiscal year.

### **Controlling Crime or Commitment Offense**

The most serious offense on the conviction for which the offender was sentenced to prison on that term.

### **Conviction**

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

### **Correctional Clinical Case Management System (CCCMS)**

The CCCMS facilitates mental health care by linking offenders/patients to needed services and providing sustained support while accessing such services. CCCMS services are provided as outpatient services within the general population setting at all institutions.

### **Determinate Sentencing Law (DSL)**

Established by Penal Code section 1170 in 1977, Determinate Sentencing Law identifies a specified sentence length for convicted felons who are remanded to state prison. Essentially, three specific terms of imprisonment (low, middle, and high) are assigned for crimes, as well as enhancements (specific case factors that allow judges to add time to a sentence). Opportunities to earn "credits" can reduce the length of incarceration.

### **Enhanced Outpatient Program (EOP)**

A mental health services designation applied to a severely mentally ill offender receiving treatment at a level similar to day treatment services.

### **First Release**

The first release on the current term for felons with new admissions and parole violators returning with a new term (PV-WNT).

### **Indeterminate Sentencing Law (ISL)**

Established by Penal Code section 1168 in 1917, the Indeterminate Sentencing Law allowed judges to determine a range of time (minimum and maximum) a convicted felon would serve. Different felons convicted for the same crimes could spend varying lengths of time in prison; release depended on many factors, including each prisoner's individual conduct in prison. After the minimum sentence passed, felons were brought to a parole board to identify the actual release date. Indeterminate Sentencing was replaced by Determinate Sentencing (Penal Code section 1170) in 1977. After the implementation of Determinate Sentencing, only individuals with life sentences and third strikers are considered "indeterminately" sentenced since the parole board determines their release.

### **Manual California Static Risk Assessment (CSRA)**

Offenders who do not have automated criminal history data from the Department of Justice (DOJ) must have their CSRA score calculated manually. Calculations are completed with a review of a paper copy of the offender's rap sheet. Manual scores calculated in FY 2008-09 are not readily available for some offenders included in this report.

### **Parole**

A period of conditional supervised release following a prison term. Prior to Public Safety Realignment, almost all offenders released from CDCR were placed on state parole supervision after their release. After Public Safety Realignment, most serious or violent offenders, high-risk sex offenders, and offenders released after serving a life term are released to CDCR parole supervision, and most non-serious, non-violent, non-sex registrant offenders are released to county supervision.

### **Parole Violation (Law)**

A law violation occurs when a parolee commits a crime while on parole and returns to CDCR custody (RTC) by action of the Board of Parole Hearings rather than by prosecution in the courts.

### **Parole Violation (Technical)**

A technical violation occurs when a parolee violates a condition of his/her parole that is not considered a new crime and returns to CDCR custody (RTC).

### **Parole Violator Returning with a New Term (PV-WNT)**

A parolee who receives a court sentence for a new crime committed while under parole supervision and returned to prison.

### **Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS)**

Post Release Community Supervision is a form of supervision provided to an offender who has been released from a CDCR institution to the jurisdiction of a county agency, pursuant to the Post Release Community Supervision Act of 2011. Prior to Public Safety Realignment, almost all offenders released from CDCR were placed on state parole supervision after their release. After Public Safety Realignment, most non-serious, non-violent, and non-sex registrant offenders are released to PRCS.

### **Recidivism**

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.

### **Registered Sex Offender**

An offender is designated as a registered sex offender if CDCR records show that the offender has at some point been convicted of an offense that requires registration as a sex offender under Penal Code section 290. This designation is permanent in CDCR records.

### **Return-to-Prison**

An individual convicted of a felony and incarcerated in a CDCR adult institution who was released to parole, discharged after being paroled, or directly discharged during FY 2015-16 and subsequently returned to prison within three years of their release date.

### **Serious Felony Offenses**

Serious felony offenses are specified in Penal Code section 1192.7(c) and Penal Code section 1192.8

### **Stay**

A stay is any period of time an offender is housed in a CDCR institution. Each time an offender returns to prison, it is considered a new stay, regardless of the reason for returning.

**Term**

A term is a sentence an offender receives from a court to be committed to CDCR for a length-of-time. If an offender is released after serving a term and is later returned-to-prison for a parole violation, the offender returns and continues serving the original (current) term. If that offender returns for committing a new crime, the offender begins serving a new term.

**Violent Felony Offense**

Violent felony offenses are specified in Penal Code section 667.5(c).



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