



California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

# SPRING 2026

# POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Division of Correctional Policy, Research, and Internal Oversight

OFFICE OF RESEARCH | MAY 2026

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## Table of Contents

1	Introduction .....	1
1.1	Changes to Projections Related to Proposition 36 .....	1
2	Methodology and Data Sources .....	2
2.1	Statistical and Methodological Approaches .....	2
2.1.1	Data Sources.....	3
2.1.2	Limitations .....	3
3	Adult Institution Population .....	4
3.1	Adult Institution Population Projections: Comparisons and Historical Trends .....	5
3.1.1	Comparison of Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 Total Institution Population Projections .....	5
3.1.2	Historical Population Trends .....	5
3.2	Adult Institution Population Projections: Comparisons and Trends by Gender.....	6
3.2.1	Comparison of Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 Institution Population Projections by Gender .....	6
3.2.2	Male Historical Population Trends .....	7
3.2.3	Female Historical Population Trends .....	8
4	Felon Court Commitments.....	9
4.1	Total Felon Court Commitment Projections: Comparisons and Historical Trends .....	9
4.1.1	Comparison of Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 Felon Court Commitment Projections .....	9
4.1.2	Historical Felon Court Commitment Trends.....	10
4.2	Felon Court Commitment Projections by Gender .....	11
4.2.1	Comparison of Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 Court Commitment Projections by Gender.....	11
4.2.2	Historical Court Commitment Trends by Gender.....	11
4.3	Felon Court Commitment Projections by Sentence Type.....	12
4.3.1	Comparison of Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 Court Commitment Projections by Sentence Type .....	13
4.3.2	Historical Court Commitment Trends by Sentence Type .....	14
5	Male Incarcerated Individual Placement Needs Projections.....	16
5.1	Comparison of Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 Incarcerated Male Placement Needs.....	17
5.1.1	Reception Center Placement Needs.....	17
5.1.2	Level I Placement Needs .....	17
5.1.3	Level II Placement Needs .....	18
5.1.4	Level III Placement Needs .....	18
5.1.5	Level IV Placement Needs .....	18
5.1.6	Protective Housing Unit Placement (PHU) Needs.....	19
5.1.7	Restricted Housing General Population (RHG) Needs.....	19
5.1.8	Restricted Housing Correctional Clinical Case Management System (RHC) Needs .....	20
5.1.9	Restricted Housing Enhanced Outpatient Program (RHE) Needs .....	20
6	Active Parole Population .....	21
6.1	Active Parole Population Projections: Comparisons and Historical Trends .....	22
6.1.1	Comparison of Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 Active Parole Population Projections .....	22
6.1.2	Active Parole Population Historical Trends .....	22
7	Conclusion.....	23
	Appendix A – Chaptered Legislation, Initiatives, and Policy Changes .....	24
	Appendix B – Glossary of Terms .....	32
	Appendix C – Projections Tables 21 to 32.....	34

## List of Tables and Figures

### Tables

Table 1. Actual and Projected Adult Institution Population, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030.....	4
Table 2. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Total Institution Population Projections.....	5
Table 3. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Total Institution Population Projections, by Gender .....	7
Table 4. Actual and Projected Felon Court Commitments by Gender, FY 2015–16 through FY 2029–30 ...	9
Table 5. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Court Commitment Projections, by Gender .....	11
Table 6. Actual and Projected Court Commitments by Sentence Type, FY 2015–16 through FY 2029–30	13
Table 7. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Court Commitment Projections by Sentence Type .....	14
Table 8. Male Institution Population Projections by Housing Level, June 30, 2026, through June 30, 2030 .....	16
Table 9. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Reception Center Placement Needs Projections .....	17
Table 10. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Level I Placement Needs Projections.....	17
Table 11. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Level II Placement Needs Projections.....	18
Table 12. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Level III Placement Needs Projections.....	18
Table 13. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Level IV Placement Needs Projections.....	19
Table 14. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 PHU Placement Needs Projections.....	19
Table 15. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 RHG Placement Needs Projections.....	19
Table 16. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 RHC Placement Needs Projections .....	20
Table 17. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 RHE Placement Needs Projections .....	20
Table 18. Actual and Projected Active Parole Population, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030 .....	21
Table 19. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Active Parole Population Projections .....	22
Table 20. Actual Total Felon Court Commitments, FY 2015–16 through FY 2024–25 .....	34
Table 21. Actual Male Felon Court Commitments, FY 2015–16 through FY 2024–25 .....	35
Table 22. Actual Female Felon Court Commitments, FY 2015–16 through FY 2024–25.....	35
Table 23. Spring 2026 Projected Total Felon Court Commitments, FY 2025–26 through FY 2029–30.....	36
Table 24. Spring 2026 Projected Male Felon Court Commitments, FY 2025–26 through FY 2029–30.....	36
Table 25. Spring 2026 Projected Female Felon Court Commitments, FY 2025–26 through FY 2029–30 ..	36
Table 26. Actual and Projected Institution Population by Quarter and Gender, FY 2025–26 through FY 2026–27 .....	37
Table 27. Average Projected Daily Institution Population by Quarter and Gender, FY 2025–26 through FY 2026–27 .....	37
Table 28. Projected Institution Population by Quarter and Housing Level, FY 2025–26 through FY 2026–27 .....	38
Table 29. Actual and Projected Institution Population by Housing Level, June 30, 2025, through June 30, 2030 .....	38
Table 30. Actual and Projected Active Parole Population by Quarter, FY 2025–26 through FY 2026–27..	39
Table 31. Projected Average Daily Active Parole Population by Quarter, FY 2025–26 through FY 2026–27 .....	39

Figures

Figure 1. Total Institution Population Trends and Projections, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030..... 6

Figure 2. Male Population Trends and Projections, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030 ..... 7

Figure 3. Female Population Trends and Projections, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030..... 8

Figure 4. Felon Court Commitment Trends and Projections, FY 2015–16 through FY 2029–30 ..... 10

Figure 5. Felon Court Commitment Trends and Projections by Gender, FY 2015–16 through FY 2029–30 ..... 12

Figure 6. Actual and Projected Commitment Trends by Sentence Type, FY 2015–16 through FY 2029–30 ..... 15

Figure 7. Active Parole Population Trends and Projections, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030 ..... 23

## Executive Summary

This report presents the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation’s (CDCR) Spring 2026 adult institution and parole population projections through June 30, 2030. These projections reflect the estimated impact of legislation, policy, and operational changes through December 31, 2025, including continued impact of court-ordered population reduction measures<sup>1</sup>, as well as the more recent Proposition 36, which took effect on December 18, 2024. Proposition 36 reclassified certain drug possession and theft offenses as felonies and shifted sentencing for qualifying cases from county jail to state prisons. Projections are developed using time series forecasting and discrete event simulation modeling, allowing for estimation of trends and seasonality. This approach provides a flexible, data-driven structure for evaluating population impacts of operational and policy changes within CDCR institutions.

### Adult Institution Population Projections

Consistent with the ongoing impacts of population reduction policies, such as Proposition 47, Proposition 57, Senate Bill (SB) 73, SB 483, and others (see Appendix A), the overall Spring 2026 institution population projections continue to trend downward. Compared to the actual population on June 30, 2025, the Spring 2026 population projections predict a net five-year decrease of 5.9 percent (5,374 incarcerated individuals), reaching 85,210 incarcerated individuals by June 30, 2030. Moreover, the Spring 2026 population projections fluctuate from -0.4 to +1.7 percent higher than the Fall 2025 forecasts, reflecting an increase in the estimated impact of Proposition 36, based on 12 months of actual data collected through December 31, 2025.

### Court Commitment Projections

The Spring 2026 new court commitment projections assume admissions will increase slightly each year, reaching a 3.7 percent cumulative growth (980 commitments) in fiscal year (FY) 2029–30, compared to FY 2024–25 court commitment data. By FY 2029–30, the Spring 2026 population projections predict 27,331 court commitments will be admitted to CDCR Reception Centers, 532 more than forecasted in Fall 2025. The differences between the current and previous cycles largely reflect higher estimated admissions under Proposition 36, compared to admissions assumed under Fall 2025 projections.

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<sup>1</sup> See *Appendix A* for information regarding legislation, policy, and process changes through December 31, 2025.

## Adult Parole Projections

The Spring 2026 population projections continue to assume a gradual decline in the adult parole population, driven by the overall institution population reduction and ongoing effects of the earned discharge policy and parole term limits implemented in July 2020.<sup>2</sup> The current forecasts anticipate a net five-year reduction of 9.7 percent (3,337 supervised individuals), from 34,365 supervised individuals on June 30, 2025, to 31,028 supervised individuals by June 30, 2030. Overall, the Spring 2026 parole population projections fluctuate from -0.1 to +2.3 percent higher than the Fall 2025 forecasts.

## Conclusion

Although Spring 2026 population projections trend slightly above the Fall 2025 forecasts, in part due to higher estimated impact of Proposition 36, the current projections continue to show net five-year decreases in CDCR's adult institution and parole populations, shaped by the ongoing effects of prior population reduction measures. Importantly, the long-term impact of Proposition 36 on CDCR populations remains uncertain. CDCR will continue to monitor Proposition 36 implementation and will adjust estimates and projections as more data becomes available.

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<sup>2</sup> For more details about Changes to Lengths of Parole Terms and Earned Discharge Process, see *Appendix A – Policy Changes*.

# CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION

## SPRING 2026 POPULATION PROJECTIONS

### 1 Introduction

This report presents the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation’s (CDCR) Spring 2026 adult institution and parole population projections through June 30, 2030. The Spring 2026 population projections continue to consider the impacts of court-ordered population reduction measures<sup>1</sup>, such as Proposition 47 and Proposition 57. The projections also include the estimated impact of legislation, policy, and process changes implemented as of December 31, 2025, including Proposition 36 (December 2024).

Population projections are developed using time series forecasting and simulation modeling techniques. The current report provides five-year projections for the Spring 2026 reporting cycle, comparisons with the Fall 2025 reporting cycle, and historical trends for the following CDCR population groups:

- (a) Adult institution population, by gender
- (b) Court commitments, by gender, sentence type, and male placement needs
- (c) Active parole population

Though five-year projections are provided, it is noted that projections beyond two-to-three-year time horizons are difficult to model with precision.

#### 1.1 Changes to Projections Related to Proposition 36

Proposition 36 was passed by voters in November 2024 and took effect on December 18, 2024. It aimed to strengthen penalties for certain repeat offenses related to theft, property damage, and drug-related crimes. Among other changes, it increases felony charges for habitual offenders, enhances sentencing for organized retail theft, adds fentanyl to the list of hard drugs, and shifts sentencing from jail to state prison.

The anticipated impact of Proposition 36 was first reflected in the Spring 2025 population projections report and was refined in the Fall 2025 report, as additional implementation and early admissions data became available. The Spring 2026 projections continue that refinement and reflect updated admissions patterns observed during the first full year of implementation. In spite of this, the core methodology used to estimate Proposition 36 population impact remains consistent with the Fall 2025 approach. Total impact to the CDCR population is estimated as: (1) additional admissions to state prison attributable solely to statutes created or amended under Proposition 36; and (2) longer prison terms served for Proposition 36 offenses or enhancements in prison-eligible admissions already coming to CDCR.

The current report shows a higher degree of impact, compared to Fall 2025 estimates, based on preliminary implementation information and actual data collected through December 31, 2025. CDCR will continue to monitor Proposition 36 implementation and its ongoing impact on institutions and parole populations, adjusting assumptions as more data becomes available.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See *Appendix A* for information regarding legislation, policy, and process changes through December 31, 2025.

<sup>2</sup> For more details about Proposition 36, see *Appendix A - Initiatives*.

## 2 Methodology and Data Sources

Most corrections population experts agree that projections beyond two- to three-year time horizons are difficult to model with precision.<sup>3</sup> Due to the need to prepare longer-term projections for planning purposes, this report presents up to five years of projections for some CDCR populations.

### 2.1 Statistical and Methodological Approaches

Projections are developed using time series forecasting and discrete event simulation modeling, allowing for estimation of historical trends, seasonality, and policy impacts. A discrete-event simulation framework is used to model individual entities and their attributes. Attributes of incarcerated individuals, such as sentence type, sentence length, custody level, and other characteristics allow the model to forecast anticipated changes in housing levels over the incarceration period and releases from the institution to parole or county post-release community supervision (PRCS), capturing individual variability in the timing between key events. This approach provides a flexible, data-driven structure for evaluating the operational and policy impacts of population changes within CDCR institutions.

The population projection model uses CDCR data on active incarcerated and supervised individuals, projected admissions (court commitments) by month and sentence type, and actual released individuals over the last two to three years, to generate a detailed profile for each incarcerated or supervised person. Critical elements include the length of stay within the prison system and classification status changes.

Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) is used to perform time series forecasting for projected court commitments using CDCR historical admissions data (2015 to present). Multiple mathematical models are fit to the data to evaluate trends and seasonality. Statistical model fit measures such as Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE) are used to select the best fit models and the final court commitment projections are entered into the simulation model.

Beginning with the Fall 2015 projections, CDCR adopted a new court commitment forecasting procedure reliant on data observed after the implementation of the October 2011 Realignment legislation for determinately sentenced incarcerated individuals. This approach was employed because analyses revealed predictions using only data collected after the implementation period were more accurate than predictions using both pre- and post-Realignment commitment data. Similarly, beginning with the Fall 2025 projections, the court commitment forecasting procedure excludes court commitment data collected from February 2020 to February 2023, a period considerably impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This change was implemented as CDCR now has sufficient post-pandemic data to confirm that predictions developed with data excluding the pandemic period are more stable than those with data from that period. Furthermore, inclusion of the data from this isolated event introduced predictive patterns solely associated with the pandemic period that are not expected to re-occur.

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<sup>3</sup> See the *Limitations* (2.1.2) section in this report.

### 2.1.1 Data Sources

CDCR utilizes incarcerated individuals' demographics, classification, bed movements, sentence type, releases, and length of stay data collected in the Strategic Oversight Management System (SOMS). The SOMS data provides a complete and accurate account of current incarcerated individuals placement needs. However, ongoing system updates may cause some reported values to differ from previously reported values.

Electronic Records Management System (ERMS) case file information is used for manual verification of certain admissions under Proposition 36 statutes identified in SOMS. ERMS is a document management system operating alongside SOMS that provides a digitally scanned and uploaded central records repository.

In addition to SOMS data, CDCR's Office of Research uses demographic data for the California population obtained from the California Department of Finance (DOF)<sup>4</sup> to calculate court commitment rates to CDCR institutions.

Finally, the most up-to-date information on countywide implementation of Proposition 36 was obtained from the Judicial Council of California<sup>5</sup>, to inform revisions in the initial assumptions and validate our data.

### 2.1.2 Limitations

Although CDCR's population projections are designed to be as accurate as possible, it is difficult to model projections beyond a two- to three-year time horizon with precision. Nevertheless, this report provides up to five years of projections for some populations. The impacts of recent policy changes on CDCR's populations are still developing, and the authors of this report suggest using caution when interpreting these projection results.

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<sup>4</sup> California Department of Finance. Demographic Research Unit. Report P-3: Population projections, California, 2020–70 (Baseline 2024 Population projections; Vintage 2025 Release). Sacramento: California. September 2025.

<sup>5</sup> The Judicial Council of California. [Annual Proposition 36 Court Implementation Report](#). May 2026.

### 3 Adult Institution Population<sup>6</sup>

*A net five-year decrease of 5.9 percent is expected for the adult institution population.*

Consistent with the ongoing impacts of population reduction policies and other legislation, such as Proposition 47, Proposition 57, Senate Bill (SB) 73, and SB 483, among others (see Appendix A), the overall Spring 2026 institution population projections continue to trend downward. As shown in Table 1, CDCR expects a net five-year decrease of 5.9 percent (5,374 incarcerated individuals) for the adult institution population, from 90,584 incarcerated individuals as of June 30, 2025, to 85,210 incarcerated individuals by June 30, 2030.

*Table 1. Actual and Projected Adult Institution Population, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030*

<b>June 30</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
<b>Actual</b>				
<b>2016</b>	5,769	122,874	128,643	N/A
<b>2017</b>	5,971	125,289	131,260	2.0%
<b>2018</b>	5,906	123,511	129,417	-1.4%
<b>2019</b>	5,691	119,781	125,472	-3.0%
<b>2020</b>	4,721	108,682	113,403	-9.6%
<b>2021</b>	3,910	94,562	98,472	-13.2%
<b>2022</b>	3,669	93,510	97,179	-1.3%
<b>2023</b>	3,762	92,271	96,033	-1.2%
<b>2024</b>	3,763	88,819	92,582	-3.6%
<b>2025</b>	3,610	86,974	90,584	-2.2%
<b>Projected</b>				
<b>2026</b>	3,739	85,276	89,015	-1.7%
<b>2027</b>	3,816	83,439	87,255	-2.0%
<b>2028</b>	3,809	83,016	86,825	-0.5%
<b>2029</b>	3,847	82,299	86,146	-0.8%
<b>2030</b>	3,853	81,357	85,210	-1.1%

<sup>6</sup> Beginning with the *Spring 2016 Projections*, the adult institution population includes incarcerated individuals in alternative custody, community re-entry programs, and Community Rehabilitative Program Placements (CRPP) programs.

### 3.1 Adult Institution Population Projections: Comparisons and Historical Trends

#### 3.1.1 Comparison of Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 Total Institution Population Projections

*Spring 2026 population projections trend close to the Fall 2025 projections.*

The Spring 2026 total institution population projections trend close to the Fall 2025 forecasts for June 30, 2026, through June 30, 2030, fluctuating by -0.4 to +1.7 percent. The increase is largely reflective of higher Proposition 36 commitments observed from July to December 2025, relative to Fall 2025 projections, which were based on the initial six months of Proposition 36 admissions data through June 2025.

Additionally, Spring 2026 projections forecast a higher institution population for June 30, 2026, and a lower population for June 30, 2027, compared to the Fall 2025 projections. These differences reflect a change in projected releases between the two projections. The Fall 2025 projections expected a higher number of releases, resulting in a lower institution population during fiscal year (FY) 2025–26, followed by fewer releases during FY 2026–27, resulting in a higher institution population. In contrast, the Spring 2026 projections anticipate releases at a more stable rate during both fiscal years, which corresponds to a more gradual projected institution population decline.

*Table 2. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Total Institution Population Projections*

June 30	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference
2026	87,487	89,015	1,528	1.7%
2027	87,567	87,255	-312	-0.4%
2028	86,604	86,825	221	0.3%
2029	85,715	86,146	431	0.5%
2030	84,664	85,210	546	0.6%

#### 3.1.2 Historical Population Trends

*Over the past 10 years, the total adult institution population decreased by 29.6 percent.*

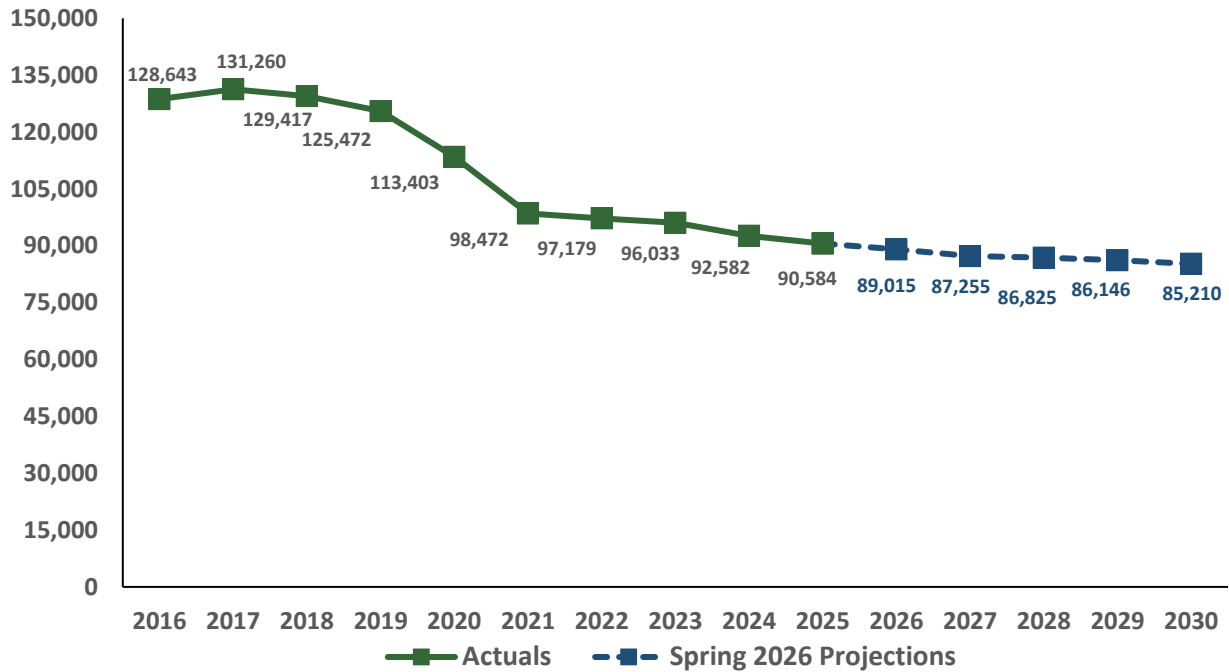
In the past decade, CDCR’s adult institution population declined by 29.6 percent, or 38,059 individuals, following the Public Safety Realignment of 2011, Proposition 47,<sup>7</sup> and other court-ordered and pandemic-related population reduction measures (see Table 1). Despite a small 2.0 percent increase in 2016–17, attributed to growth in the population convicted of violent offenses or sentenced to a life term in prison, the decline resumed in 2018, after 2017 enactment of Proposition 57. Population decline accelerated in 2020–21, with the COVID-19 pandemic-related policies<sup>8</sup>, including a temporary suspension of admissions. Figure 1 shows a more gradual post-pandemic decline in 2021–23, driven by legislation that removed enhancements and increased Good Conduct Credit (GCC) eligibility.<sup>9</sup> The downward trend continued through 2025, though at a slower pace, reflecting cumulative impact of population reduction measures.

<sup>7</sup> Proposition 47 was passed by voter initiative in November 2014 and reduced penalties for most non-serious, non-violent property and drug crimes by mandating a misdemeanor instead of a felony sentence for certain crimes.

<sup>8</sup> More information regarding actions to reduce the institution population and maximize space in response to COVID-19 is available in *Appendix A*.

<sup>9</sup> More information regarding SB 483 and increased GCC credit earning policies is available in *Appendix A*.

Figure 1. Total Institution Population Trends and Projections, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030



### 3.2 Adult Institution Population Projections: Comparisons and Trends by Gender

*A net five-year decrease of 6.5 percent is expected for the male institution population, whereas a net five-year increase of 6.7 percent is expected for the female institution population.*

Overall, the Spring 2026 male institution population projections anticipate a net five-year reduction of 6.5 percent (5,617 incarcerated males) from 86,974 individuals on June 30, 2025, to 81,357 individuals by June 30, 2030. In contrast, the female institution population is expected to net a five-year increase of 6.7 percent (243 incarcerated females) from 3,610 individuals on June 30, 2025, to 3,853 individuals by June 30, 2030 (see Table 3).

Quarterly projections of the institution population by gender for FY 2025–26 and FY 2026–27 are available in Appendix C, Tables 27 and 28.

#### 3.2.1 Comparison of Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 Institution Population Projections by Gender

*The male and female incarcerated population projections are up to 3.5 percent higher than the Fall 2025 forecasts.*

Compared to the Fall 2025 population projections, the Spring 2026 projections expect the institution population to be -0.5 to 1.7 percent higher for males and 1.9 to 3.5 percent higher for females, largely reflective of higher Proposition 36 commitments observed from July to December 2025.

Table 3. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Total Institution Population Projections, by Gender

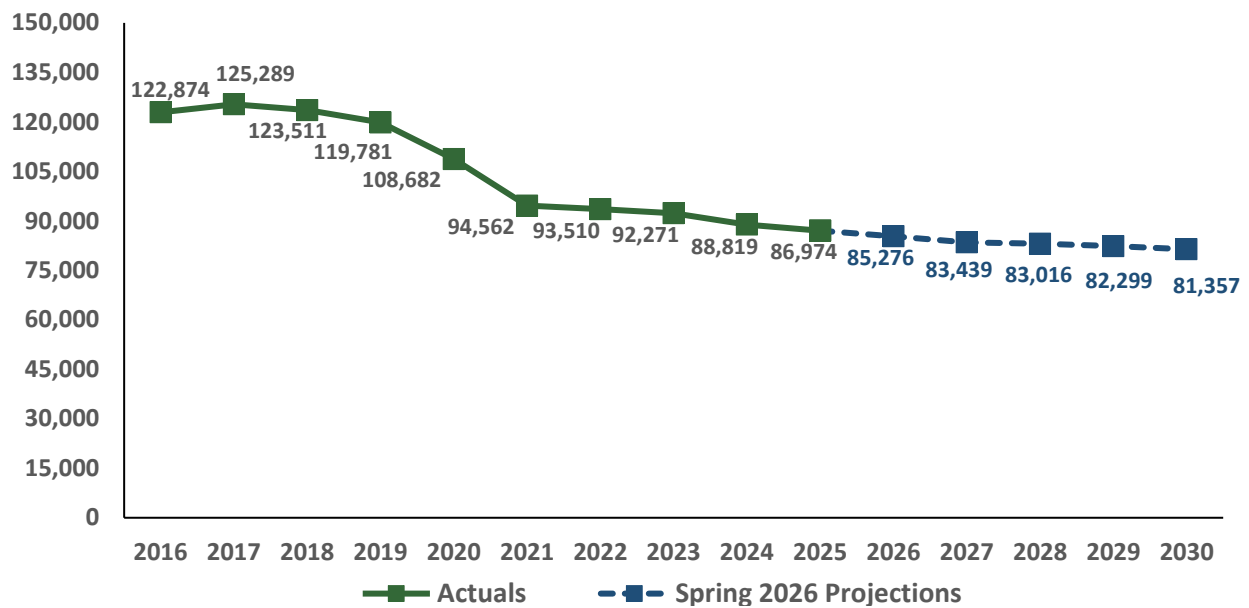
June 30	Male				Female			
	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference
2026	83,875	85,276	1,401	1.7%	3,612	3,739	127	3.5%
2027	83,821	83,439	-382	-0.5%	3,746	3,816	70	1.9%
2028	82,884	83,016	132	0.2%	3,720	3,809	89	2.4%
2029	81,966	82,299	333	0.4%	3,749	3,847	98	2.6%
2030	80,932	81,357	425	0.5%	3,732	3,853	121	3.2%

### 3.2.2 Male Historical Population Trends

Over the past 10 years, the adult male institution population decreased by 29.2 percent.

Historical trends for the male subgroup, comprising 95.8 percent of the current institution population, mirrored those of the total institution population (see Figure 2). There was a 2.0 percent increase (2,415 males) from 2016 to 2017, as more individuals were convicted of violent offenses or sentenced to a life in prison, followed by a steady decline of 4.4 percent (5,508 males) in 2017–19, due to Proposition 47, Proposition 57, and other population reduction measures described earlier in the report.<sup>10</sup> The COVID-19 response measures accelerated that trend, decreasing male institution population by 13.0 percent (14,120 males) between 2020 and 2021, when it reached 94,562 incarcerated males. In the post-pandemic period between 2021 and 2025, the male population declined another 8.0 percent (7,588 males), reaching 86,974 incarcerated males on June 30, 2025. This reduction reflects the ongoing effects of removing certain enhancements and increasing GCC earning rates that shorten incarceration for some individuals.

Figure 2. Male Population Trends and Projections, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030



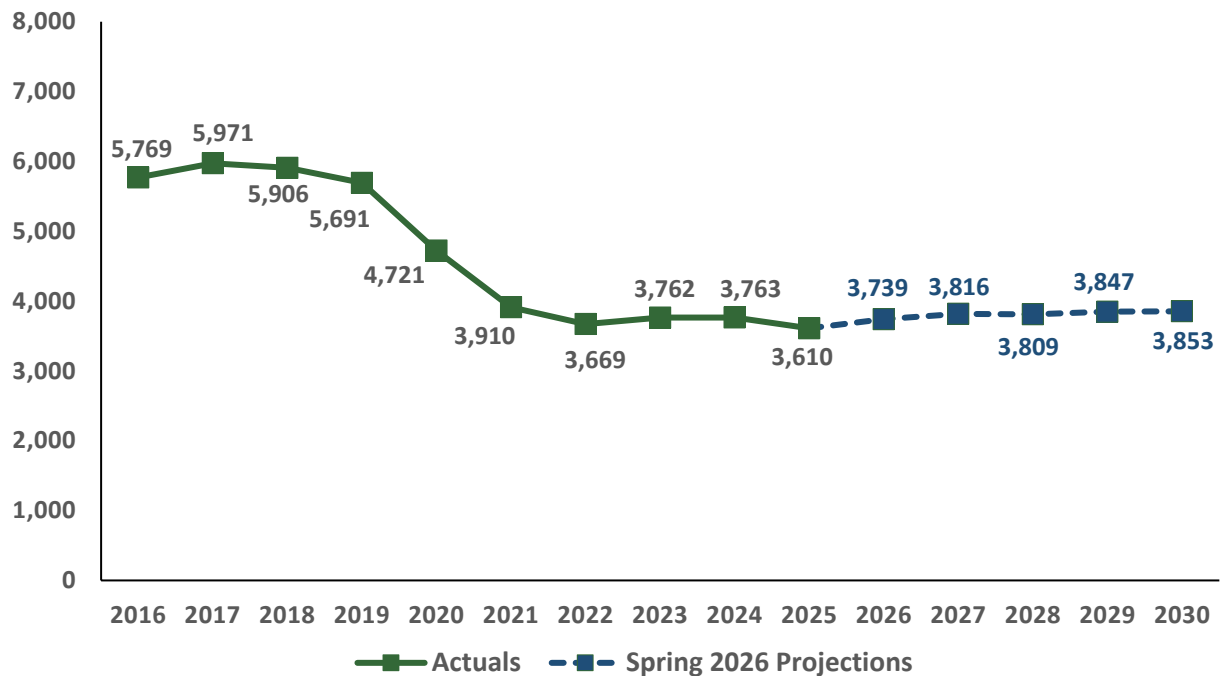
<sup>10</sup> Many court-ordered measures were subsequently enacted with the implementation of Proposition 57. Additional information is available at: [Three-Judge Court Monthly Update](#).

### 3.2.3 Female Historical Population Trends

*Over the past 10 years, the adult female institution population decreased by 37.4 percent.*

Similar to the male population, the female institution population increased by 3.5 percent (202 females) from June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2017, as the share of individuals with violent offenses or sentenced to life terms in prison increased (see Table 1 and Figure 3). This temporary growth was offset by the decrease of 4.7 percent (280 females) between 2017 and 2019, reaching 5,691 incarcerated females by June 30, 2019, in response to the passage of Proposition 47, Proposition 57, and other court-ordered population reduction measures.<sup>11</sup> The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a steeper decrease of 6.2 percent (3,669 females) by June 30, 2022, compared to males, also in part due to the suspension of admissions from county jail to Central California Women’s Facility (CCWF) as of January 20, 2022. Admissions resumed mid-February and increased through May 2022, accommodating the backlog of transfers from county jails to CDCR. Between 2022 and 2025, the female population declined at a slower rate of 1.6 percent (59 females), reaching 3,610 incarcerated females by June 30, 2025.

*Figure 3. Female Population Trends and Projections, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030*



<sup>11</sup> Many court-ordered measures were subsequently enacted with the implementation of Proposition 57. Additional information is available at: [Three-Judge Monthly Update](#).

## 4 Felon Court Commitments

*A cumulative increase of 3.7 percent is expected for total court commitments by FY 2029-30.*

Felon court commitments are a major factor in changes to institution population, as higher court commitments generally increase institution population, and vice versa. These general patterns may be counterbalanced by other factors, such as changes in length of stay.

The Spring 2026 projections assume that admissions will show a slight increase from year to year, largely reflective of higher admissions under Proposition 36. Cumulatively, admissions to CDCR Reception Centers (RC) are projected to increase by 3.7 percent (980 admissions), from 26,351 commitments in FY 2024–25, to 27,331 commitments in FY 2029–30 (see Table 4).

*Table 4. Actual and Projected Felon Court Commitments by Gender, FY 2015–16 through FY 2029–30*

Fiscal Year	Male	Percent of Total	Percent Change	Female	Percent of Total	Percent Change	Total	Percent Change
<b>Actual</b>								
2015–16	33,263	93.3%	N/A	2,374	6.7%	N/A	35,637	N/A
2016–17	33,958	92.9%	2.1%	2,598	7.1%	9.4%	36,556	2.6%
2017–18	33,526	92.6%	-1.3%	2,678	7.4%	3.1%	36,204	-1.0%
2018–19	32,293	92.4%	-3.7%	2,639	7.6%	-1.5%	34,932	-3.5%
2019–20	22,852	92.4%	-29.2%	1,890	7.6%	-28.4%	24,742	-29.2%
2020–21	15,694	91.9%	-31.3%	1,374	8.1%	-27.3%	17,068	-31.0%
2021–22	28,668	94.3%	82.7%	1,722	5.7%	25.3%	30,390	78.1%
2022–23	27,656	93.2%	-3.5%	2,028	6.8%	17.8%	29,684	-2.3%
2023–24	25,040	92.5%	-9.5%	2,034	7.5%	0.3%	27,074	-8.8%
2024–25	24,469	92.9%	-2.3%	1,882	7.1%	-7.5%	26,351	-2.7%
<b>Projected</b>								
2025–26	24,508	92.3%	0.2%	2,053	7.7%	9.1%	26,561	0.8%
2026–27	24,846	92.2%	1.4%	2,105	7.8%	2.5%	26,951	1.5%
2027–28	25,001	92.1%	0.6%	2,139	7.9%	1.6%	27,140	0.7%
2028–29	25,114	92.1%	0.5%	2,140	7.9%	0.0%	27,254	0.4%
2029–30	25,201	92.2%	0.3%	2,130	7.8%	-0.5%	27,331	0.3%

### 4.1 Total Felon Court Commitment Projections: Comparisons and Historical Trends

#### 4.1.1 Comparison of Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 Felon Court Commitment Projections

*The Spring 2026 court commitment projections trend up to 2.0 percent above the Fall 2025 forecast.*

The Spring 2026 court commitment projections trend 0.9 to 2.0 percent higher annually than estimated in the Fall 2025 report, at least in part due to higher projected admissions under Proposition 36 (Table 5).

Table 5. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Total Court Commitment Projections

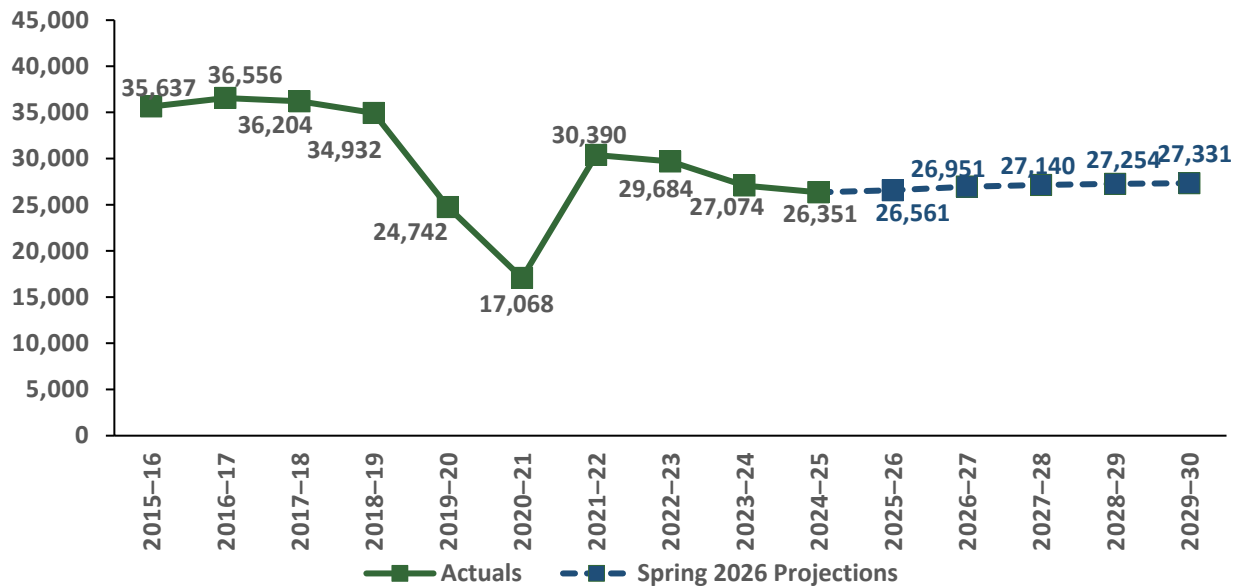
Fiscal Year	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference
2025–26	26,326	26,561	235	0.9%
2026–27	26,556	26,951	395	1.5%
2027–28	26,681	27,140	459	1.7%
2028–29	26,763	27,254	491	1.8%
2029–30	26,799	27,331	532	2.0%

4.1.2 Historical Felon Court Commitment Trends

Over the past 10 years, annual felon court commitments decreased by 26.1 percent.

Felon court commitments have declined over time<sup>12</sup>, reflecting the ongoing effects of sentencing reform legislation (see Appendix A). Consistent with the institution population trends, court commitments indicated a slight 2.6 percent increase over FY 2015–16 through FY 2016–17, followed by a gradual decline of 4.4 percent over the next two fiscal years, after the passage of Proposition 47 in November 2014<sup>13</sup> (see Figure 4). A further 51.1 percent decrease was observed over the pandemic period, from 34,932 commitments in FY 2018–19 to 17,068 commitments in FY 2020–21, as CDCR temporarily suspended intake into RCs. In FY 2021–22, CDCR experienced a sizeable (78.1 percent) increase to 30,390 commitments, as intake to RCs resumed, until the post-pandemic period of FY 2022–23, when commitments began to decline again.

Figure 4. Felon Court Commitment Trends and Projections, FY 2015–16 through FY 2029–30



<sup>12</sup> Detailed tables showing actual and projected rates of court commitment admissions into CDCR RCs are shown in Appendix C, Tables 21 through 26.

<sup>13</sup> For more information on Proposition 47 and other related legislation and regulation changes impacting admissions to CDCR refer to Appendix A.

#### 4.2 Felon Court Commitment Projections by Gender

*A cumulative increase of 3.0 percent is expected for male commitments, whereas a cumulative increase of 13.2 percent is expected for female commitments.*

The Spring 2026 population projections predict male felon court commitments to increase by 3.0 percent (732 commitments) over the projected cycle, from 24,469 commitments for FY 2024–25, to 25,201 commitments for FY 2029–30. For female felon court commitments, the projected increase is greater, at 13.2 percent (248 commitments), with an expected increase from 1,882 commitments for FY 2024–25, to 2,130 commitments for FY 2029–30 (see Table 6 and Figure 5).

##### 4.2.1 Comparison of Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 Court Commitment Projections by Gender

*The Spring 2026 felon court commitment projections are higher for males and females, compared to the Fall 2025 projections.*

For the Spring 2026 projections cycle, CDCR expects 0.5 to 1.7 percent higher male felon court commitments annually, reaching 25,201 by FY 2029–30, compared to 24,777 estimated in Fall 2025. Likewise, female felon court commitments are expected to trend 4.4 to 5.5 percent higher than the Fall 2025 projections (see Table 6). For FY 2029–30, the Spring 2026 projections anticipate 2,130 female court commitments, compared to 2,022 projected in Fall 2025.

*Table 5. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Court Commitment Projections, by Gender*

Fiscal Year	Male				Female			
	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference
2025–26	24,380	24,508	128	0.5%	1,946	2,053	107	5.5%
2026–27	24,539	24,846	307	1.3%	2,017	2,105	88	4.4%
2027–28	24,643	25,001	358	1.5%	2,038	2,139	101	5.0%
2028–29	24,725	25,114	389	1.6%	2,038	2,140	102	5.0%
2029–30	24,777	25,201	424	1.7%	2,022	2,130	108	5.3%

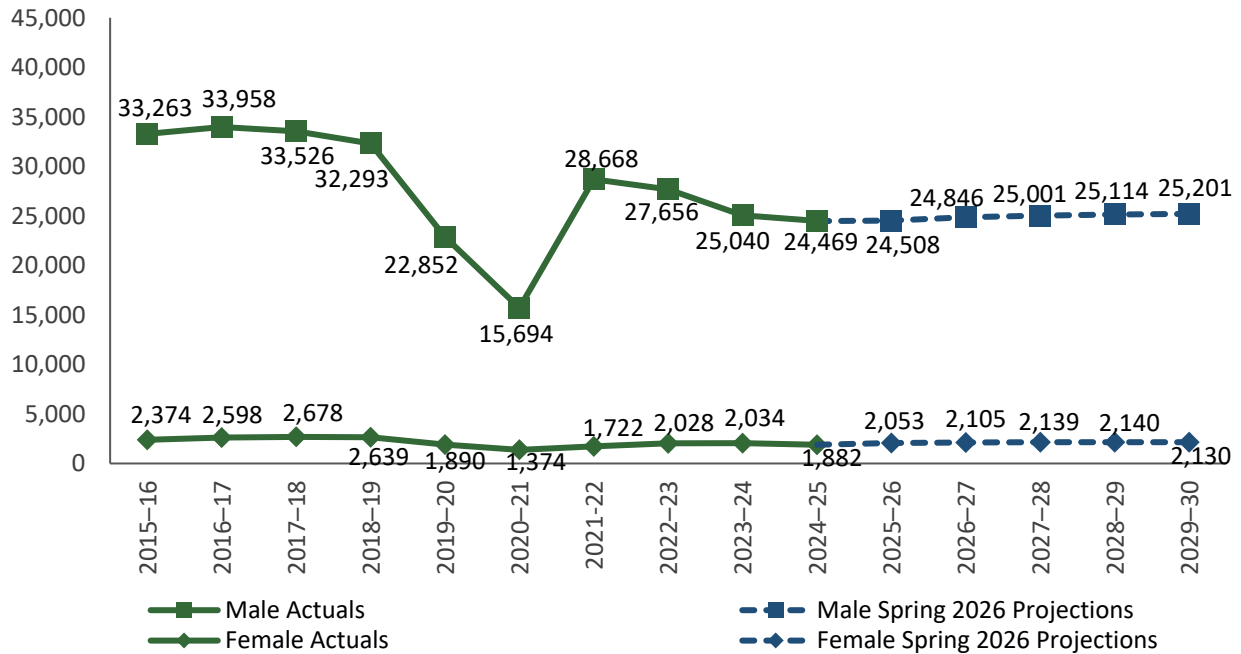
##### 4.2.2 Historical Court Commitment Trends by Gender

*Over the past 10 years, court commitments decreased at a higher rate for males than females.*

Between FY 2015–16 and FY 2024–25, annual male court commitments declined by 26.4 percent (8,794 commitments), while annual female commitments declined by 20.7 percent (492 commitments) over the same period (refer to Table 4). In general, female court commitments show more stability, compared to males. As Figure 5 shows, the male commitments substantially decreased by 31.3 percent over the pandemic period (FY 2019–20 to FY 2020–21), followed by an 82.7 percent increase by FY 2021–22. Although female court commitments followed a similar pattern, with a 27.3 percent decrease over the pandemic period, the post-pandemic rebound was less pronounced, with a 25.3 percent increase in FY 2021–22. The male and female court commitment trends diverge in more recent years.

Female court commitments increased by 17.8 percent in FY 2022–23, stabilized in FY 2023–24, and decreased by 7.5 percent in FY 2024–25, compared to the previous year. Alternatively, male commitments showed a continuous decrease of 3.5 percent, 9.5 percent, and 2.3 percent during FY 2022–23, FY 2023–24, and FY 2024–25, respectively.

Figure 5. Felon Court Commitment Trends and Projections by Gender, FY 2015–16 through FY 2029–30



### 4.3 Felon Court Commitment Projections by Sentence Type

*The projected growth in court commitments is driven by second strikers and, to a smaller degree, DSLs, whereas ISL commitments are expected to decrease.*

In addition to gender, CDCR projects felon court commitments by sentence type. Over two-thirds of all court commitments are characterized by determinate sentencing law (DSL) terms, over a quarter are second strikers, and just over five percent represent admissions under indeterminate sentencing law (ISL).<sup>14</sup> ISL commitments include third strikers, life sentences with and without the possibility of parole, and death sentences.

<sup>14</sup> While ISLs comprise only five percent of annual commitments to CDCR, persons in this group make up nearly 40.0 percent of CDCR’s in-custody population. See [CDCR’s Population Data Points dashboard](#) for more information.

As seen in Table 7, the expected increase in court commitments is driven by second strikers,<sup>15</sup> with a cumulative increase of 8.9 percent (600 admissions), reaching 7,311 commitments by FY 2029–30. An increase of 3.0 percent (547 admissions) is projected for DSL court commitments, which are expected to reach 18,854 commitments by FY 2029–30. Conversely, the projected ISL commitments are expected to decrease by 12.5 percent (167 admissions), reaching 1,166 commitments by FY 2029–30.

Table 6. Actual and Projected Court Commitments by Sentence Type, FY 2015–16 through FY 2029–30

Fiscal Year	DSL	Percent of Total	Percent Change	Second Striker	Percent of Total	Percent Change	ISL	Percent of Total	Percent Change	Total	Percent Change
<b>Actual</b>											
2015–16	25,367	71.2%	N/A	8,959	25.1%	N/A	1,311	3.7%	N/A	35,637	N/A
2016–17	25,615	70.1%	1.0%	9,738	26.6%	8.7%	1,203	3.3%	-8.2%	36,556	2.6%
2017–18	25,554	70.6%	-0.2%	9,396	26.0%	-3.5%	1,254	3.5%	4.2%	36,204	-1.0%
2018–19	24,938	71.4%	-2.4%	8,816	25.2%	-6.2%	1,178	3.4%	-6.1%	34,932	-3.5%
2019–20	17,570	71.0%	-29.5%	6,236	25.2%	-29.3%	936	3.8%	-20.5%	24,742	-29.2%
2020–21	12,103	70.9%	-31.1%	4,362	25.6%	-30.1%	603	3.5%	-35.6%	17,068	-31.0%
2021–22	22,498	74.0%	85.9%	6,985	23.0%	60.1%	907	3.0%	50.4%	30,390	78.1%
2022–23	21,255	71.6%	-5.5%	7,215	24.3%	3.3%	1,214	4.1%	33.8%	29,684	-2.3%
2023–24	19,332	71.4%	-9.0%	6,542	24.2%	-9.3%	1,200	4.4%	-1.2%	27,074	-8.8%
2024–25	18,307	69.5%	-5.3%	6,711	25.5%	2.6%	1,333	5.1%	11.1%	26,351	-2.7%
<b>Projected</b>											
2025–26	18,340	69.0%	0.2%	7,022	26.4%	4.6%	1,199	4.5%	-10.1%	26,561	0.8%
2026–27	18,615	69.1%	1.5%	7,159	26.6%	2.0%	1,177	4.4%	-1.8%	26,951	1.5%
2027–28	18,739	69.0%	0.7%	7,232	26.6%	1.0%	1,169	4.3%	-0.7%	27,140	0.7%
2028–29	18,811	69.0%	0.4%	7,278	26.7%	0.6%	1,165	4.3%	-0.3%	27,254	0.4%
2029–30	18,854	69.0%	0.2%	7,311	26.7%	0.5%	1,166	4.3%	0.1%	27,331	0.3%

4.3.1 Comparison of Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 Court Commitment Projections by Sentence Type

*Spring 2026 court commitment projections trend higher than Fall 2025 court commitments for DSLs and second strikers, but slightly lower for ISLs.*

For DSLs, Spring 2026 projections follow a similar pattern to the total court commitments, trending 0.6 to 1.8 percent higher annually than Fall 2025 projections. The differences for second strikers are similar, with 2.1 to 3.4 percent higher annual projections in the Spring 2026 report, compared to the Fall 2025 forecast. For ISLs, the Spring 2026 projections trend 1.6 to 3.4 percent lower than estimated in Fall 2025 (Table 8).

<sup>15</sup>Admissions data through December 31, 2025, indicate that Proposition 36 may be contributing to changes in the admissions composition, including growth in some determinately sentenced cohorts, such as second strikers.

Table 7. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Court Commitment Projections by Sentence Type

Fiscal Year	Determinate Sentence (DSL)			Second Strikers			Indeterminate Sentence (ISL)		
	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Percent Difference	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Percent Difference	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Percent Difference
2025–26	18,232	18,340	0.6%	6,875	7,022	2.1%	1,219	1,199	-1.6%
2026–27	18,394	18,615	1.2%	6,962	7,159	2.8%	1,200	1,177	-1.9%
2027–28	18,472	18,739	1.4%	7,010	7,232	3.2%	1,199	1,169	-2.5%
2028–29	18,512	18,811	1.6%	7,048	7,278	3.3%	1,203	1,165	-3.2%
2029–30	18,520	18,854	1.8%	7,072	7,311	3.4%	1,207	1,166	-3.4%

Notes: ISL counts include third strikers, life sentences with and without the possibility of parole, and death sentences, all characterized by low counts and high stability over time.

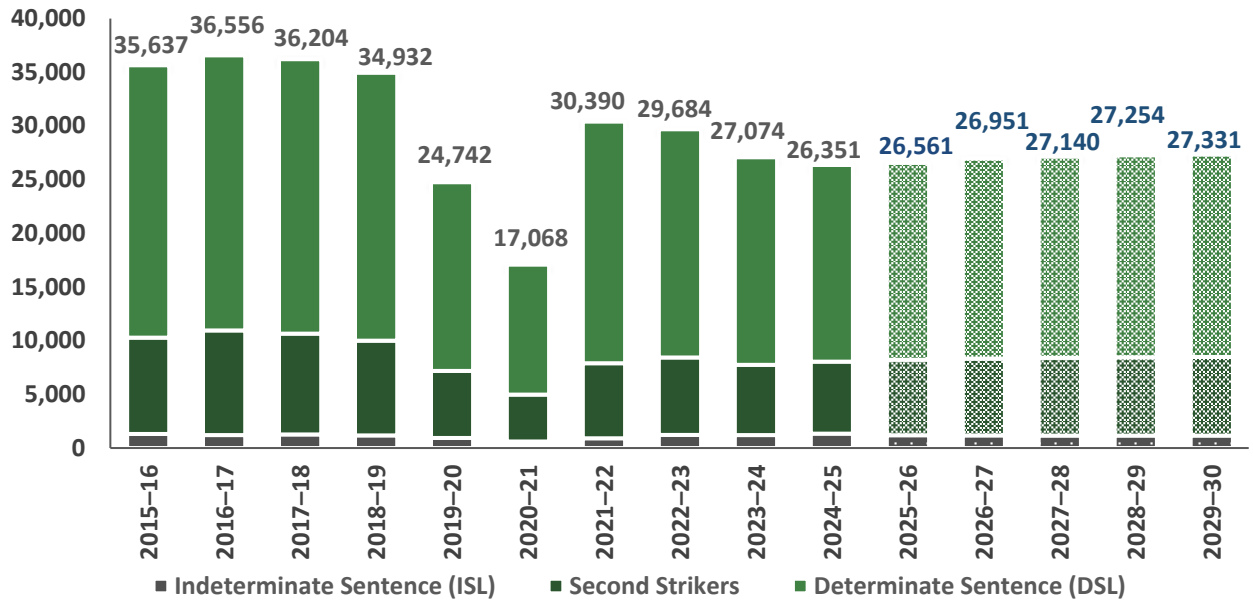
#### 4.3.2 Historical Court Commitment Trends by Sentence Type

*Over the past 10 years, the continued decline in court commitments was driven by DSLs and second strikers, each decreasing by over 25 percent, whereas ISL commitments remained relatively stable.*

The overall decline in total court commitments over the past 10 years was primarily driven by a decrease in DSL (27.8 percent) and second striker commitments (25.1 percent), which make up the largest portion of all court commitments. In comparison, the number of ISL commitments remained relatively stable, with an overall increase of 1.7 percent over the past decade (see Table 7 and Figure 6). Over the last 10 years, the proportion of DSL to total commitments decreased by 1.7 percent, whereas the proportion of ISL increased by 1.4 percent, reflecting a shift in the composition of CDCR's institution population. CDCR continues to monitor the interactions between court commitments by sentence type and the effects of recent legislation.

After the 2011 Realignment, second-strike court commitments increased to an all-time high, averaging 8.7 percent (779 commitments) between FY 2015–16 and FY 2016–17, and outpacing a 2.6 percent increase in total court commitments. Following the passage of Proposition 47, second-strike court commitments declined by 9.5 percent to 8,816 in FY 2018–19 and then decreased considerably by 50.5 percent to 4,362 commitments in FY 2020–21, due to COVID-19 policies and intermittent closures of RCs. Once RCs resumed intake, second-strike court commitments rebounded, increasing by 60.1 percent and reaching 6,985 commitments in FY 2021–22, followed by a trend reversal to 6,711 commitments by FY 2024–25.

Figure 6. Actual and Projected Commitment Trends by Sentence Type, FY 2015–16 through FY 2029–30



Notes: The textured bars show forecast data.

## 5 Male Incarcerated Individual Placement Needs Projections<sup>16</sup>

*Decreases across all placement needs except RHC and RHE are expected for the male population.*

CDCR projects the male incarcerated population by placement needs into RC, security levels I through IV, and Restricted Housing Units (RHU)<sup>17</sup>. As of June 30, 2025, Level II incarcerated individuals made up 46.4 percent of the total male institution population, followed by Level IV at 19.4 percent, and Level III at 15.3 percent. Level I individuals represent 9.4 percent of the population, while 5.3 percent are housed in RCs and 4.2 percent are housed in RHUs.

The Spring 2026 projections expect decreases across most placement needs for male incarcerated individuals, with a net five-year decline of 9.3 percent in Level II (3,740 placements), and a 6.9 percent decline (1,160 placements) in Level IV placement needs. Decreased need is also expected for RC placements (-3.8 percent or 177 placements), Level III placements (-2.6 percent or 347 placements); and Level I placements (-1.3 percent or 103 placements).

RHU placement need is expected to decrease by 4.2 percent over the next five years, driven by an anticipated 11.6 percent decline (180 placements) in RHG placement need, whereas RHE and RHC are expected to increase by 8.2 percent (67 placements), and 1.8 percent (24 placements), respectively. PHU placements are expected to remain stable, decreasing by one by June 30, 2030 (see Table 9).

*Table 8. Male Institution Population Projections by Housing Level, June 30, 2026, through June 30, 2030*

June 30	Security Level									Total Male
	Reception Center	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	PHU	RHG	RHC	RHE	
2025	4,611	8,168	40,327	13,281	16,898	7	1,558	1,309	815	86,974
2026	4,344	8,561	39,704	12,660	16,326	6	1,459	1,335	881	85,276
2027	4,361	8,014	38,709	12,572	16,116	6	1,446	1,333	882	83,439
2028	4,411	8,034	38,021	12,806	16,169	6	1,354	1,333	882	83,016
2029	4,457	7,985	37,356	12,943	15,988	6	1,349	1,333	882	82,299
2030	4,434	8,065	36,587	12,934	15,738	6	1,378	1,333	882	81,357

*Notes: Restricted Housing Units may include individuals with death sentences. June 30, 2025, denotes actual data.*

The following sections provide more details regarding projections specific to each placement type. Quarterly housing level projections through June 30, 2027, and annual housing level projections through June 30, 2030, are available in Appendix C, Tables 29 and 30.

<sup>16</sup> Populations in Levels I-IV reflect endorsements to these levels and take into account some of the override reasons.

<sup>17</sup> Effective November 1, 2023, male persons designated in the Specialized Housing Unit (SHU) were reclassified and moved into one of three new Restricted Housing Units: Restricted Housing GP (RHG), Restricted Housing CCCMS (RHC), and Restricted Housing EOP (RHE). For more information, see Appendix A.

5.1 Comparison of Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 Incarcerated Male Placement Needs

5.1.1 Reception Center Placement Needs

*A net five-year decrease of 3.8 percent (177 placements) is expected for RC placements.*

The Spring 2026 projections for RC placement needs trend 0.6 to 2.8 percent higher annually than the Fall 2025 projections. Although year-to-year projections stay below the population as of June 30, 2025, RC placement needs are predicted to increase over the projected cycle, reaching 4,434 on June 30, 2030 (see Table 10).

*Table 9. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Reception Center Placement Needs Projections*

June 30	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference
2026	4,319	4,344	25	0.6%
2027	4,283	4,361	78	1.8%
2028	4,292	4,411	119	2.8%
2029	4,356	4,457	101	2.3%
2030	4,339	4,434	95	2.2%

5.1.2 Level I Placement Needs

*A net five-year decrease of 1.3 percent (103 placements) is expected for Level I placements.*

The Spring 2026 projections for Level I placement needs are similar to Fall 2025, with differences in the range of -0.7 to 0.3 percent, except in the first projected year, with Spring 2026 expecting a 4.3 percent higher need than Fall 2025. Level I placement needs are predicted to increase in 2026, decrease in 2027, then slightly fluctuate, reaching 8,065 on June 30, 2030 (see Table 11).

*Table 10. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Level I Placement Needs Projections*

June 30	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference
2026	8,205	8,561	356	4.3%
2027	7,989	8,014	25	0.3%
2028	7,976	8,034	58	0.7%
2029	8,041	7,985	-56	-0.7%
2030	8,041	8,065	24	0.3%

5.1.3 Level II Placement Needs

*A net five-year decrease of 9.3 percent (3,740 placements) is expected for Level II placements.*

The Spring 2026 projections expect Level II placement needs to be similar to Fall 2025 forecast, with annual differences ranging from -0.6 to + 0.5 percent, except in the first projected year, which averages 1.3 percent higher projected needs than Fall 2025. Level II placement needs are predicted to decrease over the projection cycle, reaching 36,587 on June 30, 2030 (see Table 12).

*Table 11. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Level II Placement Needs Projections*

<b>June 30</b>	<b>Fall 2025</b>	<b>Spring 2026</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Percent Difference</b>
<b>2026</b>	39,188	39,704	516	1.3%
<b>2027</b>	38,951	38,709	-242	-0.6%
<b>2028</b>	38,053	38,021	-32	-0.1%
<b>2029</b>	37,176	37,356	180	0.5%
<b>2030</b>	36,409	36,587	178	0.5%

5.1.4 Level III Placement Needs

*A net five-year decrease of 2.6 percent (347 placements) is expected for Level III placements.*

The Spring 2026 population projections expect Level III placements to be lower than estimated in Fall 2025, with annual differences ranging from -2.1 to + 0.1 percent. Level III placement needs are predicted to decrease from June 30, 2025, but start to increase over the projection cycle, reaching 12,934 on June 30, 2030 (see Table 13).

*Table 12. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Level III Placement Needs Projections*

<b>June 30</b>	<b>Fall 2025</b>	<b>Spring 2026</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Percent Difference</b>
<b>2026</b>	12,644	12,660	16	0.1%
<b>2027</b>	12,843	12,572	-271	-2.1%
<b>2028</b>	12,965	12,806	-159	-1.2%
<b>2029</b>	13,023	12,943	-80	-0.6%
<b>2030</b>	13,006	12,934	-72	-0.6%

5.1.5 Level IV Placement Needs

*A net five-year decrease of 6.9 percent (1,160 placements) is expected for Level IV placements.*

The Spring 2026 population projections expect Level IV placements to be 0.2 to 3.0 percent higher annually than estimated in Fall 2025. Level IV placement needs are predicted to decrease over the projection cycle, reaching 15,738 on June 30, 2030 (see Table 14).

Table 13. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Level IV Placement Needs Projections

June 30	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference
2026	15,854	16,326	472	3.0%
2027	16,088	16,116	28	0.2%
2028	15,931	16,169	238	1.5%
2029	15,703	15,988	285	1.8%
2030	15,470	15,738	268	1.7%

5.1.6 Protective Housing Unit Placement (PHU) Needs

*PHU placements are expected to remain stable over the next five years.*

The Spring 2026 population projections predict PHU placement needs will remain similar to Fall 2025, at six incarcerated individuals each year throughout the projection cycle (see Table 15).

Table 14. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 PHU Placement Needs Projections

June 30	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference
2026	6	6	0	0.0%
2027	6	6	0	0.0%
2028	6	6	0	0.0%
2029	6	6	0	0.0%
2030	6	6	0	0.0%

5.1.7 Restricted Housing General Population (RHG) Needs

*A net five-year decrease of 11.6 percent (180 placements) is expected for RHG placements.*

The Spring 2026 report expects RHG placement needs to trend 6.1 to 13.2 percent lower annually than the Fall 2025 forecast, decreasing from 1,459 on June 30, 2026, to 1,378 on June 30, 2030 (Table 16).

Table 15. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 RHG Placement Needs Projections

June 30	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference
2026	1,553	1,459	-94	-6.1%
2027	1,554	1,446	-108	-6.9%
2028	1,554	1,354	-200	-12.9%
2029	1,554	1,349	-205	-13.2%
2030	1,554	1,378	-176	-11.3%

5.1.8 Restricted Housing Correctional Clinical Case Management System (RHC) Needs

*A net five-year increase of 1.8 percent (24 placements) is expected for RHC placements.*

The Spring 2026 population projections expect RHC placement needs to be 3.9 to 4.1 percent higher annually than Fall 2025 forecast, holding at 1,333 placements over the projection cycle (Table 17).

*Table 16. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 RHC Placement Needs Projections*

<b>June 30</b>	<b>Fall 2025</b>	<b>Spring 2026</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Percent Difference</b>
2026	1,282	1,335	53	4.1%
2027	1,283	1,333	50	3.9%
2028	1,283	1,333	50	3.9%
2029	1,283	1,333	50	3.9%
2030	1,283	1,333	50	3.9%

5.1.9 Restricted Housing Enhanced Outpatient Program (RHE) Needs

*A net five-year increase of 8.2 percent (67 placements) is expected for RHE placements.*

The Spring 2026 population projections expect RHE placements to be 6.9 to 7.0 percent higher than estimated in Fall 2025. RHE placement needs are predicted to reach 822 placements on June 30, 2027, and remain stable over the projection cycle (see Table 18).

*Table 17. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 RHE Placement Needs Projections*

<b>June 30</b>	<b>Fall 2025</b>	<b>Spring 2026</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Percent Difference</b>
2026	824	881	57	6.9%
2027	824	882	58	7.0%
2028	824	882	58	7.0%
2029	824	882	58	7.0%
2030	824	882	58	7.0%

## 6 Active Parole Population

*A net five-year decrease of 9.7 percent is expected for the active parole population.*

Spring 2026 projections expect the active parole population to decline from 34,365 supervised individuals on June 30, 2025, to 31,028 individuals by June 30, 2030, depicting a net five-year decrease of 9.7 percent. This difference translates to 3,337 individuals, which is 243 more than was projected in the Fall 2025 cycle (Table 19). The overall decreases are driven by the declining institution population and other population-related factors,<sup>18</sup> and the ongoing impact of July 2020 earned discharge policy and parole term limits.<sup>19</sup> Although certain Proposition 36-related offenses and enhancements may lengthen prison stays<sup>20</sup> and delay releases to parole, the expected near-term impact to parole population remains minimal. Quarterly projections are available through FY 2026–27 (Appendix C, Tables 31–32).

*Table 18. Actual and Projected Active Parole Population, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030*

<b>June 30</b>	<b>Active Parole</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
<b>Actual</b>		
<b>2016</b>	43,814	N/A
<b>2017</b>	45,261	3.3%
<b>2018</b>	47,370	4.7%
<b>2019</b>	50,822	7.3%
<b>2020</b>	53,427	5.1%
<b>2021</b>	50,322	-5.8%
<b>2022</b>	43,825	-12.9%
<b>2023</b>	36,195	-17.4%
<b>2024</b>	35,019	-3.2%
<b>2025</b>	34,365	-1.9%
<b>Projected</b>		
<b>2026</b>	33,460	-2.6%
<b>2027</b>	32,561	-2.7%
<b>2028</b>	31,990	-1.8%
<b>2029</b>	31,532	-1.4%
<b>2030</b>	31,028	-1.6%

<sup>18</sup> i.e., fluctuations in institution population with serious or violent prior offenses and certain enhancements.

<sup>19</sup> July 2020 changes capped most non-violent parole terms at 24 months and allowed most non-sex registrant offenders to be discharged after 12 months. More information is available in *Appendix A - Policy Changes*.

<sup>20</sup> On average, prison-eligible individuals with Proposition 36 offenses and enhancements will have an additional 900 days added to their sentence, delaying release to parole by approximately 12 months.

## 6.1 Active Parole Population Projections: Comparisons and Historical Trends

### 6.1.1 Comparison of Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 Active Parole Population Projections

*The Spring 2026 projections trend slightly higher than the Fall 2025 parole population projections.*

While both Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 projections show a downward trend in the active parole population, Spring 2026 projections trend 0.3 to 2.3 percent higher than the Fall 2025 forecast, except on June 30, 2028, when the Spring 2026 projections fall 0.1 percent below the Fall 2025 projections (Table 20). These differences stem from the slightly higher annual parole population projections and a more gradual decrease in releases to parole expected in the Spring 2026 report, compared to Fall 2025. Moreover, certain prison-eligible admissions with Proposition 36 offenses or enhancements may extend prison terms and delay releases to parole by an average of 12 months. While the estimated impact is expected to affect less than one percent of the parole population, it extends across the projection cycle.

*Table 19. Comparison of Spring 2026 to Fall 2025 Active Parole Population Projections*

June 30	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Difference	Percent Difference
2026	33,369	33,460	91	0.3%
2027	31,839	32,561	722	2.3%
2028	32,010	31,990	-20	-0.1%
2029	31,203	31,532	329	1.1%
2030	30,785	31,028	243	0.8%

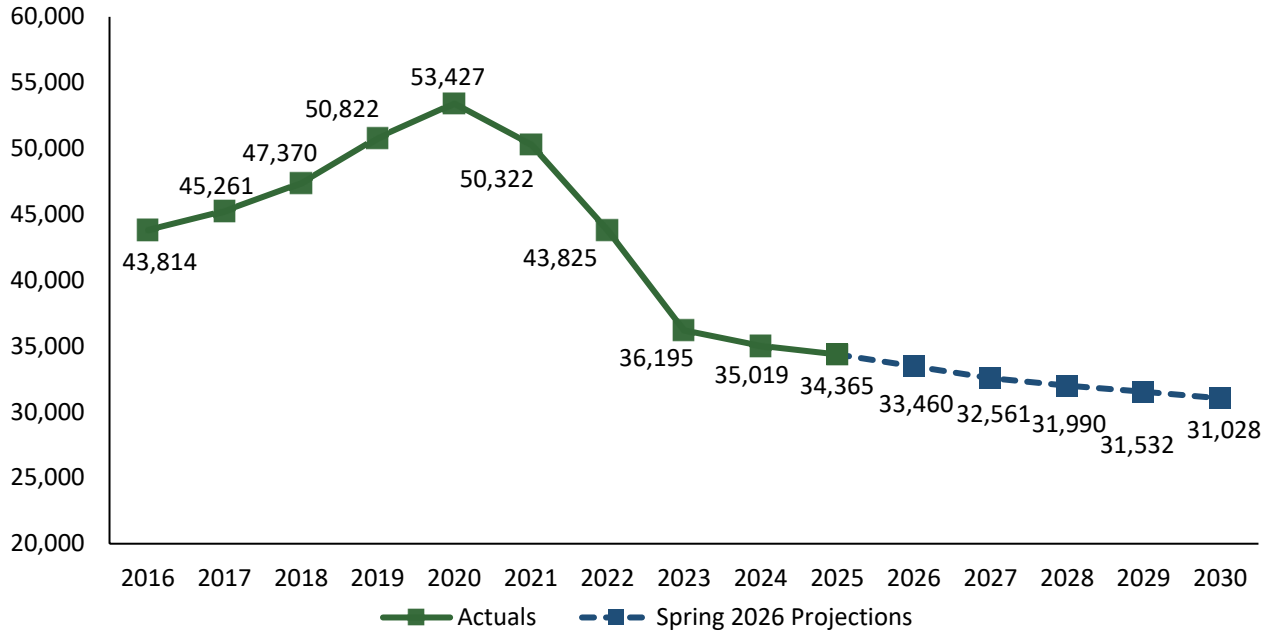
### 6.1.2 Active Parole Population Historical Trends

*Over the past 10 years, the active parole population decreased by 21.6 percent.*

Following the passage of Propositions 47 and 57, allowing for re-sentencing and/or earlier consideration for parole or PRCS eligibility for individuals with qualifying offenses,<sup>21</sup> the parole population increased by 21.9 percent (9,613 supervised individuals) between 2016 and 2020 (see Table 20 and Figure 7). A growing number of supervised individuals who served life terms, resulting in longer lengths of stay on parole, also contributed to increases in the parole population. Since then, the active parole population decreased by 35.7 percent (19,062 supervised individuals) between June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2025. The changes were linked to regulations that capped the length of stay on parole and revised earned discharge processes (see Appendix A), which in some cases expanded discharge eligibility to 12 months after release from prison.

<sup>21</sup> For more information on relevant policy, regulation, and legislation, refer to *Appendix A*.

Figure 7. Active Parole Population Trends and Projections, June 30, 2016, through June 30, 2030



## 7 Conclusion

The Spring 2026 population projections continue to forecast an overall downward trend in CDCR’s adult institution and active parole populations, projecting a net five-year decline of 5.9 percent and 9.7 percent, respectively. Total court commitments are expected to cumulatively increase by 3.7 percent, primarily reflecting an anticipated increase in Proposition 36 admissions. At the same time, the broader population decline is driven by continued reductions across most placement categories, particularly Level II, Level IV, and RHG, with smaller decreases projected for Level I, Level III, RC, and PHU placement needs. In contrast, modest growth is expected for RHC and RHE placement needs. Overall, the projections reflect a continued shift toward lower population levels, with targeted increases in specific housing needs that may require focused planning and resource allocation.

The projected population decreases continue to reflect the ongoing impacts of population reduction measures, including Propositions 47 and 57. The Spring 2026 projections are adjusted for the ramp up in Proposition 36 implementation, reflected in somewhat higher estimated impact throughout the projected cycle, compared to Fall 2025. The degree of impact in the long-term remains uncertain. CDCR will continue to monitor implementation and adjust future estimates as information becomes available.

## Appendix A – Chaptered Legislation, Initiatives, and Policy Changes<sup>22</sup>

### *Chaptered Legislation*

#### **Chapter 728, Statutes of 2021, [Senate Bill (SB) 483]**

Retroactively removed enhancements for incarcerated individuals with prior prison terms under Penal Code (PC) 667.5(b) imposed prior to January 1, 2020, and Health & Safety (HS) Code 11370.2 imposed prior to January 1, 2018. Eligible incarcerated individuals were to be resentenced by December 2023.

*The estimated impact of this legislation is factored into the population projections.*

#### **Chapter 537, Statutes of 2021, (SB 73)**

Signed into law on October 5, 2021, ends mandatory jail sentences and allows judges to order probation and community-based services for specified crimes related to sale of controlled substances.

*The estimated impact of this legislation is factored into the population projections.*

#### **Chapter 334, Statutes of 2020, [Assembly Bill (AB) 3234]**

Signed into law on September 30, 2020, modifies eligibility requirements for a parole hearing under the Elderly Parole Program, previously set under AB 1448, by lowering the minimum age of eligibility from 60 to 50 years and lowering the requirement for continuous incarceration from a minimum of 25 to 20 years.

*The estimated impact of this legislation is factored into the population projections, effective July 1, 2022.*

#### **Chapter 590, Statutes of 2019, (SB 136)**

Signed into law on October 8, 2019, removes one-year enhancement for prior non-violent terms.

*The impact of this legislation is factored into the population projections, effective January 1, 2020.*

#### **Chapter 577, Statutes of 2019, (AB 965)**

Signed into law on October 8, 2019, allows Educational Merit Credits (EMC) to be applied to Youth Eligibility Parole Date. Existing law requires the Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) to conduct hearings for incarcerated persons who committed specified crimes under the age of 25 and sentenced to state prison.

*The impact of this legislation is factored into the population projections, effective January 1, 2020.*

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<sup>22</sup> Information about Significant Legislation, Initiatives, and Policy Changes implemented prior to 2014 may be found in earlier population projections reports available at [CDCR Population Reports](#).

*Initiatives*

**Proposition 36** – The Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act (November 2024)

This proposition modifies existing law and adds substantive charges and enhancements to areas of the Penal Code (PC) and Health & Safety (HS) Code regarding theft, property damage, and drug-related crimes:

- Creates a new prison-eligible felony by permitting felony charges for petty theft/shoplifting for individuals with two or more prior convictions for theft-related crimes (PC §§ 666.1).
- Amends sentencing for certain offenses eligible for county jail under PC §§ 1170(h) by expanding prison eligibility in certain cases, e.g., under PC §§ 490.3 permitting aggregation of stolen property value across multiple thefts to meet the felony \$950 threshold (PC §§ 459.5, 484, 487, 488, 490.2).
- Requires courts to provide a written warning to convicted hard drug dealers and manufacturers to establish knowledge for potential homicide liability where trafficking of hard drugs results in serious injury or death (HS §§ 11369).
- Introduces *Treatment-Mandated Felony Act*, permitting a felony charge for hard drug possession for individuals with two or more prior drug-related convictions, while allowing eligible individuals addicted to hard drugs an option of drug and mental health treatment vs. prison (HS §§ 11395).
- Aligns sentencing for fentanyl-related offenses with that of other controlled substances by including fentanyl under statutes prohibiting possession while armed with a loaded, operable firearm, increasing prison eligibility and potential sentence severity (HS §§ 11370.1).
- Adds a new subdivision for trafficking fentanyl in specified quantities with punishment from three to 25 years (HS §§ 11370.4).
- Expands applicability of firearm-related enhancements in drug trafficking cases, which may result in prison sentences rather than county jail [PC §§ 12022(c)].
- Re-enacts excessive takings enhancement, permitting increased punishment for taking or damaging property worth more than \$50,000 (PC §§ 12022.6).
- Introduces a new enhancement that applies when an individual acts in concert with two or more persons to take, attempt to take, damage, or destroy property, in the commission or attempted commission of a felony (PC §§ 12022.65).
- Applies existing “great bodily injury” enhancements to drug suppliers where the use of the supplied drug leads to a serious injury or death (PC §§ 12022.7).

*This proposition is factored into the population projections with an operational date of December 18, 2024.*

**Proposition 57** – Public Safety and Rehabilitation Act of 2016

Proposition 57 introduced the following changes:

- Increased the number of non-violent incarcerated individuals eligible for parole consideration and allowed parole consideration after serving the full term of the sentence for their primary offense.
- Authorized CDCR to award sentence credits for rehabilitation, good behavior, and educational achievements.
- Provided juvenile court judges authority to decide whether juveniles aged 14 and older should be sentenced as adults for specified offenses.

*This proposition was signed into law on November 8, 2016, and is factored into the population projections.*

**Proposition 47** – Criminal Sentences, Misdemeanor Penalties, Initiative Statute (2014)

Signed into law on November 4, 2014, Proposition 47 reclassified specified nonserious, nonviolent property and drug offenses from felonies to misdemeanors when the loss does not exceed \$950 (petty theft, receiving stolen property, forgery, writing bad checks, and simple drug possession). Individuals with qualifying prior convictions (e.g., specified serious/violent offenses or sex offenses registrable under penal code §290) remain eligible for felony sentencing. The measure also authorized resentencing for eligible individuals serving felony sentences, subject to a court determination that release does not pose an unreasonable risk to public safety.

For projection purposes, Proposition 47 reduced state prison admissions and population through both decreased felony filings and resentencing-related releases.

*As of November 4, 2014, the impact of reduced commitments is factored into the population projections as an ongoing structural effect in the projection model.*

## *Policy Changes*

### ***Changes to Segregated Housing and Restricted Housing Units***

Effective June 2015, CDCR regulations removed eligibility for segregated housing for some offenses and allowed behavior-based reduction for segregated housing terms. Projections also incorporate the effects of the *Ashker* settlement, which outlined a process for ending indeterminate segregated housing terms.

Effective November 1, 2023, CDCR adopted regulations that updated terminology and consolidated five types of Security Housing Units (SHU) into three types of Restricted Housing Units (RHU). Previously, segregated housing consisted of Administrative Segregation Unit (ASU), Security Housing Unit (SHU), Psychiatric Services Unit (PSU), Long-Term Restricted Housing (LRH), and Short-Term Restricted Housing (SRH). Following new regulations, they were replaced with the following RHU types:

- Restricted Housing Unit—General Population (RHG): provides secure housing and care for people not included in the Mental Health Services Delivery System who require placement in restricted housing.
- Restricted Housing Unit—Correctional Clinical Case Management System CCCMS (RHC): provides secure housing and enhanced care for people with diagnosed psychiatric disorders who do not require enhanced outpatient program, crisis, or inpatient levels of mental health care and require placement in restricted housing.
- Restricted Housing Unit—Enhanced Outpatient Program (RHE): provides secure restricted housing and care for those with diagnosed psychiatric disorders who are not able to function in the General Population and not requiring inpatient mental health care, but who require placement in restricted housing.

New RHU regulations also aimed to reduce the use of segregated confinement. Key revisions included:

- Revised RHU-qualifying conduct and related RHU terms on the RHU Term Matrix by removing certain offenses, eliminating assessment of consecutive terms, and reducing time assessed for the remaining offenses, which primarily involved violent conduct and weapon possession.<sup>23</sup>
- To increase objectivity, discontinued evaluation of mitigating and aggravating factors in determining time to serve in restricted housing.
- Increased out-of-cell time for incarcerated individuals housed in RHU and Restricted Custody General Population.
- Discontinued the Step Down Program (SDP), which was mandated for certain incarcerated individuals associated with Security Threat Groups.

*The impact is factored into the population projections with an operational date of November 1, 2023.*

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<sup>23</sup> More information about Restricted Housing Unit can be found at: [Restricted Housing, Office of Research - Restricted Housing Profile Reports](#)

***Change in Milestone Completion Credit Schedule and Integrated Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program***

On August 31, 2022, CDCR adopted regulations that updated terminology, expanded rehabilitative programs and reentry services, and eliminated the Long-Term Offender Program by incorporating participants into the new Integrated Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program (ISUDT).

The Milestone Completion Credit (MCC) Schedule is updated via the regulatory process, as needed.

*The estimated impact of August 31, 2022, regulation changes, as well as the ongoing impact of MCC Schedule updates are factored into the population projections.*

***Change in Credit-Earning for Violent Incarcerated Individuals and All Non-Violent Second Strikers***

Effective May 2021, CDCR increased Good Conduct Credit (GCC) credit-earning rate from 20.0 to 33.3 percent for incarcerated individuals with violent offenses and from 33.3 to 50.0 percent for all non-violent second strikers. An emergency version of these regulations was readopted on December 28, 2021, under Penal Code section 5058.3. The permanent regulations were adopted and enacted in August 2022. These revisions were a part of a broader series of credit-earning regulation updates of 2021–22 (see below).

*The estimated impact of this change is factored into the population projections with an operational effective date of May 1, 2021.*

***Change in Credit-Earning for Incarcerated Individuals in Fire Camps and Minimum Support Facilities***

In December 2021, CDCR filed new regulations approved by the Office of Administrative Law, discontinuing Minimum Security Credits (MSC - a 30-day credit for every 30 days served) and enhancing GCC earning rates for individuals assigned to minimum support facilities and fire camps. Key changes:

- Two-for-one credits: Increased GCC earning rate from 50.0 to 66.6 percent for individuals with non-violent second-strike offenses assigned to fire camps/minimum custody facilities (Workgroup M). Credit earning under new rates for Workgroup M was suspended on December 30, 2021, due to a temporary restraining order (TRO) issued by the Sacramento County Superior Court in response to litigation filed by several District Attorneys. Following the court's decision to deny plaintiffs' request for a preliminary injunction on January 20, 2022, CDCR implemented new GCC credit-earning rates for Workgroup M, which was applied retroactively, effective December 28, 2021.
- Day-for-day credits: Increased GCC earning rate from 33.3 to 50.0 percent for individuals with violent offenses assigned to fire camps and firefighter training completers.
- Credit-earning status for individuals assigned to Work Groups C or D2 was reduced to zero.

*The estimated impact of this change is factored into the population projections with an operational effective date of January 1, 2022.*

***Changes to the Non-Violent Offense Parole Process (NVPP)***

Effective January 29, 2021, the California Supreme Court in the case of *In re Gadlin* held that under Proposition 57 incarcerated individuals both previously and currently convicted of a registerable sex offense under penal code §290 and a current term for a non-violent offense could no longer be categorically excluded from non-violent parole consideration. Consequently, these individuals were now eligible for NVPP after serving the full term of their primary offense.

*The estimated impact of this change is factored into the population projections with an operational effective date of July 1, 2021.*

***Reduced Time in Reception Center***

Effective September 2020, CDCR implemented changes to the Reception Center process intended to shorten the time in the Reception Center from historical levels of 90 to 120 days to 30 days. Shorter time in Reception Centers would result in population decreases in Reception Centers and would allow incarcerated individuals to begin earning enhanced GCCs sooner, as these credits are not earned while incarcerated individuals are pending classification in the Reception Center. As of the Fall 2025 projection cycle, the process was averaging 70 days.

*The estimated impact of this change is factored into the population projections with an operational effective date of September 1, 2020.*

***Changes to Lengths of Parole Terms and Earned Discharge Process***

FY 2020–21 budget process<sup>24</sup> introduced a two-year parole cap for non-sex registrant, determinately sentenced incarcerated individuals, and a three-year parole cap for indeterminately sentenced supervised individuals. These changes required the Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) to begin conducting discharge eligibility reviews no later than 12 months after release from prison for supervised individuals discharged to parole on or after July 1, 2020, as well as to apply the updated discharge review policy guidelines to individuals discharged to parole prior to July 1, 2020.

*The estimated impact of this change is factored into the population projections with an operational effective date of October 1, 2020.*

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<sup>24</sup> Reflected in statutory changes Chapter 29, Statutes of 2020, (SB 118).

### ***Actions to Reduce Population and Maximize Space in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic***

- In July 2020, CDCR expedited the release of non-violent and non-sex registrant incarcerated individuals with 180 days or less remaining on their sentences on a rolling basis, to reduce incarcerated population and to maximize space for physical distancing and isolation/quarantine efforts. The last list of potentially eligible individuals was created in July 2021, and releases were completed in December 2021.<sup>25</sup>
- As of July 9, 2020, CDCR implemented a one-time Positive Programming Credit (PPC) that provided 12 weeks of credit to eligible incarcerated individuals who did not have any serious rule violations between March 1 and July 5, 2020.<sup>26</sup>
- In April 2020, CDCR expedited the release of incarcerated persons serving a sentence for non-violent offenses who were not required to register for conviction of a sexual offense under penal code §290 and had 60 days or less left to serve.

*The impacts of these actions are factored into the population projections.*

### ***Supplemental Reforms to Credit-Earning***

Implemented to enhance the credits made available under Proposition 57, these policy changes became operationally effective in May 2019. Key provisions concerned:

- Prospectively increased Rehabilitative Achievement Credit (RAC) from 7 to 10 days per 52 hours of participation, up to a maximum of 40 days of credit earning per year.
- Increased Educational Merit Credit (EMC) from 90 to 180 days for General Equivalency Diplomas (GED), High School Diploma, or equivalent.
- Implemented changes to 60-day release restriction for certain incarcerated individuals, unless otherwise required by statute.

*The impacts of these changes are factored into the population projections.*

### ***Parole Determination Process for Indeterminately Sentenced Non-Violent Incarcerated Individuals***

Created a process for certain indeterminately sentenced non-violent incarcerated individuals to be reviewed for parole consideration by the Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) after serving the full term of their primary offense, effective January 2019.

*The impact of this change is factored into the population projections.*

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<sup>25</sup> More information about actions to reduce population and maximize space is available at [Actions to Reduce Population and Maximize Space](#).

<sup>26</sup> More information about Positive Programming Credits is available at [Memo: Positive Programing Credits](#).

### ***Automatic Restoration of Forfeited Credits***

As of April 3, 2019, California Code of Regulations, Title 15, section 3329.5 allows for GCCs forfeited by Rules Violation Reports (RVR) to be automatically restored. Previously, eligible incarcerated individuals were required to apply for credits restoration.

*This change was expected to decrease the length of stay for impacted incarcerated individuals, but the impact could not be quantified, and as such, is not incorporated in the population projections.*

### ***Penal Code Section 1170(d) Recall and Resentencing Changes***

As part of the FY 2018–19 budget, changes were made to the Penal Code section 1170(d), authorizing resentencing of certain incarcerated individuals to a lesser sentence.

*The impact of this change is factored into the population projections.*

### ***Court-Ordered Measures Subsequently Enacted with the Implementation of Proposition 57***

With the implementation of Proposition 57, CDCR enacted the following policies and programs:

- Prospectively increased credit earnings for all incarcerated individuals designated Minimum Custody eligible to earn day-for-day (50.0 percent) and two-for-one (66.6 percent) credits. *This policy became effective by court order on January 1, 2015.*
- Created a process for certain non-violent, non-sex registrant second-strike incarcerated individuals to be reviewed for parole consideration by BPH once 50.0 percent of their sentence was served. *This policy became effective by court order on January 1, 2015.*
- Prospectively increased credit earning from 20.0 percent to 33.3 percent for non-violent, non-sex registrant second-strike incarcerated individuals and allowed these individuals to earn MCCs for rehabilitative programs. *This policy became operationally effective in February 2014.*

*These policies impacts are assumed to continue indefinitely and are factored into the population projections.*

### ***Utilization of Administrative Determinants and Increased Access to Rehabilitative Programs***

The California Code of Regulations, Title 15, sections 3375 and 3375.2, allows for the placement of incarcerated individuals in facilities with higher or lower security levels than indicated by incarcerated individual placement scores. To expand access to rehabilitative programs for incarcerated individuals who have demonstrated positive programming, CDCR clarified its application of these regulations in July 2016.

*This policy change resulted in a decreased need for male Level IV housing and a corresponding increased need for male Level II and Level III housing. These changes are factored into the population projections.*

## Appendix B – Glossary of Terms

**ADP (Average Daily Population):** The average population per day for a stated population for a specified period, usually one year.

**BPH:** Board of Parole Hearings.

**DAPO:** Division of Adult Parole Operations.

**DOF:** Department of Finance.

**Discharge:** When an incarcerated individual is no longer under the jurisdiction of CDCR.

**DSL:** Cases that fall under the determinate sentencing law.

**EMC (Educational Merit Credits):** EMC is awarded for completion of high school diploma or equivalency programs, higher education degrees, or the Offender Mentor Certification Program (OMCP).

**ECC (Extraordinary Conduct Credits):** An award of up to 12 months of credit may be awarded to those who have performed a heroic act in a life-threatening situation or who have provided exceptional assistance in maintaining the safety and security of a prison.

**GCC (Good Conduct Credits):** GCC is awarded to eligible individuals who comply with all the rules within a prison and perform their duties as assigned on a regular basis. Increasing the amount of GCC provides a compelling reason for individuals to positively program, as GCC may be forfeited due to disciplinary action.

**ISL:** Cases that fall under the indeterminate sentencing law. ISL includes third strikers, life sentences with and without the possibility of parole, and death sentences.

**Level I, II, III, IV:** The security level, and therefore the facility level, assigned to incarcerated individuals based on their classification score ranges. The higher the score, the higher the security level.

**MCC (Milestone Completion Credits):** MCC is awarded for successful completion of rehabilitative or educational programs designed to prepare participants to find employment upon release.

**MSC (Minimum Security Credits):** a 30-day earned credit for every 30 days served.

**NVPP:** Non-Violent Offense Parole Process

**Parole:** After the institution term is served, incarcerated individuals are supervised in the community by CDCR for an established period up to the statutory maximum.

**PHU:** Protective Housing Unit.

**PPC (Positive Programming Credit):** a one-time 12 week-credit provided to eligible individuals who did not have any serious rule violations between March 1 and July 5, 2020, in response to COVID-19 pandemic.

**PRCS (Post Release Community Supervision):** Supervised individuals released from confinement in a state institution who do not meet the criteria for state parole supervision are released to PRCS for community supervision at the local level.

**Reception Center:** An institution designated as a center for the reception of incarcerated people newly committed to CDCR.

**RAC (Rehabilitation Achievement Credits):** RAC is awarded to those who complete specified hours of approved self-help and volunteer public service activities.

**RHC (Restrictive Housing–CCCMS):** Correctional Clinical Case Management System (CCCMS) Restricted Housing Unit (RHU).

**RHE (Restrictive Housing–EOP):** Enhanced Outpatient Program (EOP) Restricted Housing Unit (RHU).

**RHG (Restrictive Housing–GP):** General Population (GP) Restricted Housing Unit (RHU).

**RHU:** Restricted Housing Unit, including RHC, RHE, and RHG.

**Serious/Violent:** Serious, as defined in Penal Code (PC) sections 1192.7(c) and 1192.8, and Violent as defined in PC section 667.5(c).

**SOMS:** Strategic Oversight Management System - a data management system for CDCR populations.

**Supervised Individual:** An individual convicted of serious crime released from confinement in a state institution to supervision in the community by CDCR, as defined in Penal Code section 3000.08.

## Appendix C – Projections Tables 21 to 32

- Tables 21–26 display actual and projected court commitments as rates relative to the California state population ages 18 to 49, for the total population and by gender. Actual felon court commitments are provided for Fiscal Years (FY) 2015–16 through FY 2024–25 and projected felon court commitments are provided for FY 2025–26 through FY 2029–30. Commitment rates per 100,000 are provided for FY 2015–16 through FY 2024–25 and projected rates are provided for FY 2025–26 through FY 2029–30. The California population data used to calculate the commitment rates to an institution are based on demographic data obtained from the California Department of Finance.<sup>27</sup>
- Tables 27–30 display actual and projected institution population point in time and Average Daily Population (ADP) counts by gender and security level for each quarter of FY 2025–26 and FY 2026–27. Actual institution population counts are provided as of June 30, 2025. Projected population point in time counts are provided as of the last day of each projected quarter. ADP counts are also provided for each quarter.
- Tables 31–32 display actual and projected counts of active parole population for each quarter of FY 2025–26 and 2026–27. Actual active parole population counts are provided as of June 30, 2025. Projected active parole population point-in-time counts are provided as of the last day of each projected quarter. ADP counts are also provided for each quarter.

*Table 20. Actual Total Felon Court Commitments, FY 2015–16 through FY 2024–25*

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Felon Court Commitments</b>	<b>State Population Ages 18–49 (in Thousands)</b>	<b>Commitment Rate</b>
2015–16	35,637	17,230	206.8
2016–17	36,556	17,230	212.2
2017–18	36,204	17,226	210.2
2018–19	34,932	17,193	203.2
2019–20	24,742	17,104	144.7
2020–21	17,068	17,349	98.4
2021–22	30,390	17,188	176.8
2022–23	29,684	17,123	173.4
2023–24	27,074	17,109	158.2
2024–25	26,351	17,113	154.0

<sup>27</sup> California Department of Finance. Demographic Research Unit. Report P-3: Population projections, California, 2020–70 (Baseline 2024 Population projections; Vintage 2025 Release). Sacramento, California. September 2025.

Table 21. Actual Male Felon Court Commitments, FY 2015–16 through FY 2024–25

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Felon Court Commitments</b>	<b>State Population Ages 18–49 (in Thousands)</b>	<b>Commitment Rate</b>
2015–16	33,263	8,821	377.1
2016–17	33,958	8,832	384.5
2017–18	33,526	8,842	379.2
2018–19	32,293	8,833	365.6
2019–20	22,852	8,789	260.0
2020–21	15,694	8,701	180.4
2021–22	28,668	8,612	332.9
2022–23	27,656	8,580	322.3
2023–24	25,040	8,576	292.0
2024–25	24,469	8,578	285.3

Table 22. Actual Female Felon Court Commitments, FY 2015–16 through FY 2024–25

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Felon Court Commitments</b>	<b>State Population Ages 18–49 (in Thousands)</b>	<b>Commitment Rate</b>
2015–16	2,374	8,410	28.2
2016–17	2,598	8,398	30.9
2017–18	2,678	8,384	31.9
2018–19	2,639	8,361	31.6
2019–20	1,890	8,315	22.7
2020–21	1,374	8,648	15.9
2021–22	1,722	8,576	20.1
2022–23	2,028	8,543	23.7
2023–24	2,034	8,533	23.8
2024–25	1,882	8,536	22.0

Table 23. Spring 2026 Projected Total Felon Court Commitments, FY 2025–26 through FY 2029–30

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Felon Court Commitments</b>	<b>State Population Ages 18–49 (in Thousands)</b>	<b>Commitment Rate</b>
2025–26	26,561	17,157	154.8
2026–27	26,951	17,203	156.7
2027–28	27,140	17,226	157.6
2028–29	27,254	17,243	158.1
2029–30	27,331	17,248	158.5

Table 24. Spring 2026 Projected Male Felon Court Commitments, FY 2025–26 through FY 2029–30

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Felon Court Commitments</b>	<b>State Population Ages 18–49 (in Thousands)</b>	<b>Commitment Rate</b>
2025–26	24,508	8,588	285.4
2026–27	24,846	8,610	288.6
2027–28	25,001	8,623	289.9
2028–29	25,114	8,632	291.0
2029–30	25,201	8,633	291.9

Table 25. Spring 2026 Projected Female Felon Court Commitments, FY 2025–26 through FY 2029–30

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Felon Court Commitments</b>	<b>State Population Ages 18–49 (in Thousands)</b>	<b>Commitment Rate</b>
2025–26	2,053	8,570	24.0
2026–27	2,105	8,593	24.5
2027–28	2,139	8,603	24.9
2028–29	2,140	8,612	24.9
2029–30	2,130	8,615	24.7

Table 26. Actual and Projected Institution Population by Quarter and Gender, FY 2025–26 through FY 2026–27

Population	Actual	Fiscal Year 2025–26				Fiscal Year 2026–27			
	June 30, 2025	Sep 30	Dec 31	Mar 31	Jun 30	Sep 30	Dec 31	Mar 31	Jun 30
<b>Total Male</b>	86,974	87,102	86,950	85,692	85,276	84,540	83,378	83,165	83,439
<b>Total Female</b>	3,610	3,594	3,642	3,697	3,739	3,730	3,702	3,741	3,816
<b>Total Population</b>	90,584	90,696	90,592	89,389	89,015	88,270	87,080	86,906	87,255

Notes: 2025 data as of June 30, September 30, and December 31 denote actual population counts.

Table 27. Average Projected Daily Institution Population by Quarter and Gender, FY 2025–26 through FY 2026–27

Population	Fiscal Year 2025–26					Fiscal Year 2026–27				
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Fiscal Year Average	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Fiscal Year Average
<b>Total Male</b>	86,998	87,036	86,370	85,480	86,471	84,923	84,008	83,208	83,359	83,874
<b>Total Female</b>	3,594	3,623	3,675	3,727	3,655	3,735	3,712	3,722	3,778	3,737
<b>Total Population</b>	90,592	90,658	90,045	89,207	90,126	88,657	87,721	86,929	87,137	87,611

Notes: 2025 data for the first and second quarters denote actual population counts.

Table 28. Projected Institution Population by Quarter and Housing Level, FY 2025–26 through FY 2026–27

Fiscal Year	Quarter Ending	Reception	Security Level								Male	Female	Total Population
		Center	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	PHU	RHG	RHC	RHE			
2025–26	Sep 30	4,183	8,379	40,731	13,292	16,808	7	1,504	1,304	894	87,102	3,594	90,696
	Dec 31	4,223	8,362	40,587	13,079	16,953	7	1,488	1,369	882	86,950	3,642	90,592
	Mar 31	4,462	8,659	39,897	12,706	16,323	6	1,424	1,331	884	85,692	3,697	89,389
	Jun 30	4,344	8,561	39,704	12,660	16,326	6	1,459	1,335	881	85,276	3,739	89,015
2026–27	Sep 30	4,281	8,440	39,351	12,576	16,205	6	1,466	1,333	882	84,540	3,730	88,270
	Dec 31	4,082	8,205	38,883	12,488	16,049	6	1,450	1,333	882	83,378	3,702	87,080
	Mar 31	4,278	7,972	38,756	12,425	16,084	6	1,429	1,333	882	83,165	3,741	86,906
	Jun 30	4,361	8,014	38,709	12,572	16,116	6	1,446	1,333	882	83,439	3,816	87,255

Notes: 2025 data as of September 30 and December 31 denote actual population counts.

Table 29. Actual and Projected Institution Population by Housing Level, June 30, 2025, through June 30, 2030

June 30	Reception	Security Level								Male	Female	Total Population
	Center	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	PHU	RHG	RHC	RHE			
2025	4,611	8,168	40,327	13,281	16,898	7	1,558	1,309	815	86,974	3,610	90,584
2026	4,344	8,561	39,704	12,660	16,326	6	1,459	1,335	881	85,276	3,739	89,015
2027	4,361	8,014	38,709	12,572	16,116	6	1,446	1,333	882	83,439	3,816	87,255
2028	4,411	8,034	38,021	12,806	16,169	6	1,354	1,333	882	83,016	3,809	86,825
2029	4,457	7,985	37,356	12,943	15,988	6	1,349	1,333	882	82,299	3,847	86,146
2030	4,434	8,065	36,587	12,934	15,738	6	1,378	1,333	882	81,357	3,853	85,210

Notes: Data as of June 30, 2025, denotes actual population counts.

Table 30. Actual and Projected Active Parole Population by Quarter, FY 2025–26 through FY 2026–27

Parole Population	Actual	Fiscal Year 2025–26				Fiscal Year 2026–27			
	June 30, 2025	Sep 30	Dec 31	Mar 31	Jun 30	Sep 30	Dec 31	Mar 31	Jun 30
<b>Total Population</b>	34,365	34,016	33,502	33,653	33,460	33,299	33,360	32,873	32,561

Notes: 2025 data as of June 30, September 30, and December 31 denote actual population counts.

Table 31. Projected Average Daily Active Parole Population by Quarter, FY 2025–26 through FY 2026–27

Parole Population	Fiscal Year 2025–26					Fiscal Year 2026–27				
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Fiscal Year Average	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Fiscal Year Average
<b>Total Population</b>	34,228	33,846	33,458	33,610	33,785	33,397	33,328	33,070	32,704	33,125

Notes: 2025 data for the first and second quarters denote actual population counts.



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

Spring 2026