

Who Returns  
A Study of Recidivism  
Adult Offenders  
in the State of West Virginia

39293

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The assistance of those who improved this report through their critiques and those who aided in the development of the data retrieval programs is gratefully acknowledged. The clerical services of Ms. Betty Ford in the preparation of the tables and text of this report are sincerely appreciated.

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# WHO RETURNS?

## A STUDY OF RECIDIVISM FOR ADULT OFFENDERS IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

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### Introduction

The purpose of this publication is to bring together statistics related to recidivism in the State of Washington. In the following sections, return rates for those released from Washington State facilities will be examined in relation to several important variables. Recidivism, with its many definitions, has become the primary variable for evaluating the relative success of various correctional programs, and the need for recidivism statistics has long been felt by correctional administrators. The data presented here can be used in monitoring program changes in the Washington State system, as well as in providing comparative baseline data for county and state correctional programs.

A major difficulty in any use of recidivism statistics is that recidivism is seldom defined in the same way twice. In order that the figures presented in this publication have the most general applicability, the most objective and straightforward definition of recidivism was used. Recidivism throughout this publication is defined as: return to the custody of the State of Washington of any person paroled or discharged from a Washington State correctional facility. This definition includes all persons paroled or discharged with the exception of persons paroled to consecutive sentence (which means they began serving time on an additional conviction without ever actually leaving custody), and those paroled from emergency detention (which means they were waiting for

further action in the court, etc.). Of all persons released from Washington State custody, approximately 97% are released to parole supervision. The remaining 3% are discharged directly from the institution following completion of their sentences. A return to Washington State custody includes returns for parole violations as well as returns for conviction on a new offense. This definition includes any individual returned to a Washington State facility for any reason; but does not include a Washington State parolee who absconds from supervision and is not apprehended. Individuals who are committed to federal institutions or state institutions outside of Washington following their release from Washington facilities are also excluded due to lack of necessary data. This definition is kept sufficiently simple so that any state or county program maintaining the most rudimentary statistics on program participants, can in a general way compare their own failure rates with that of a statewide population. Any comparisons, of course, must recognize that population characteristics may not be comparable.

Recidivism: The Last 10 Years

Table 1 shows the number of persons released from adult correctional institutions in each year since 1965 and the percentage of those released who had returned to Washington State custody within various time periods. In 1965 there were 1,273 persons paroled or discharged from Washington State custody, and within six months 10.1% had been returned to a state facility. After following each person released during 1965 for five years, 39.3% had returned. The final follow-up category (labeled "To Date") shows the number of persons returned as of June 30, 1975. This allows for a minimum of nine and one-half years follow-up for every person released during 1965. For those released in January of 1965, the follow-up represented in the final category is ten and one-half years.

It is commonly believed that the most critical period for a person released from a correctional institution is the first few weeks, or at most, the first six months. If the individual is able to make a successful adjustment during this period, his likelihood of success is greatly increased. The data, however, do not tend to support this assumption. It can be seen, for example, that of those released in 1970, 6.4% had returned within six months; but in the following six months 8.7% returned for a total of 15.1% at the end of the first year. In 1971, 5% had returned in the first six months and 8.2% returned in the second six months. In 1972, 5.0% in the first six months and 8.7% in the following six months were returned for a total of 13.7% at the end of the first year. In every year the number of failures during the second six months following release was higher than the number of failures in the first six months.

Although the second six-month period appears to be even more critical than the first six months, it may be that programs aimed at helping the parolee adjust during the first few months in the community, such as the stipend program and other state and privately funded programs, are delaying failure that would otherwise occur earlier in the parolee's community experience. It is also possible that for a certain percentage of those who are returning, particularly those who are returning for commission of new offenses and have gone through court procedures, their offense may have been committed shortly after release but process time and conviction did not come until some months later. This will be further examined in a future study.

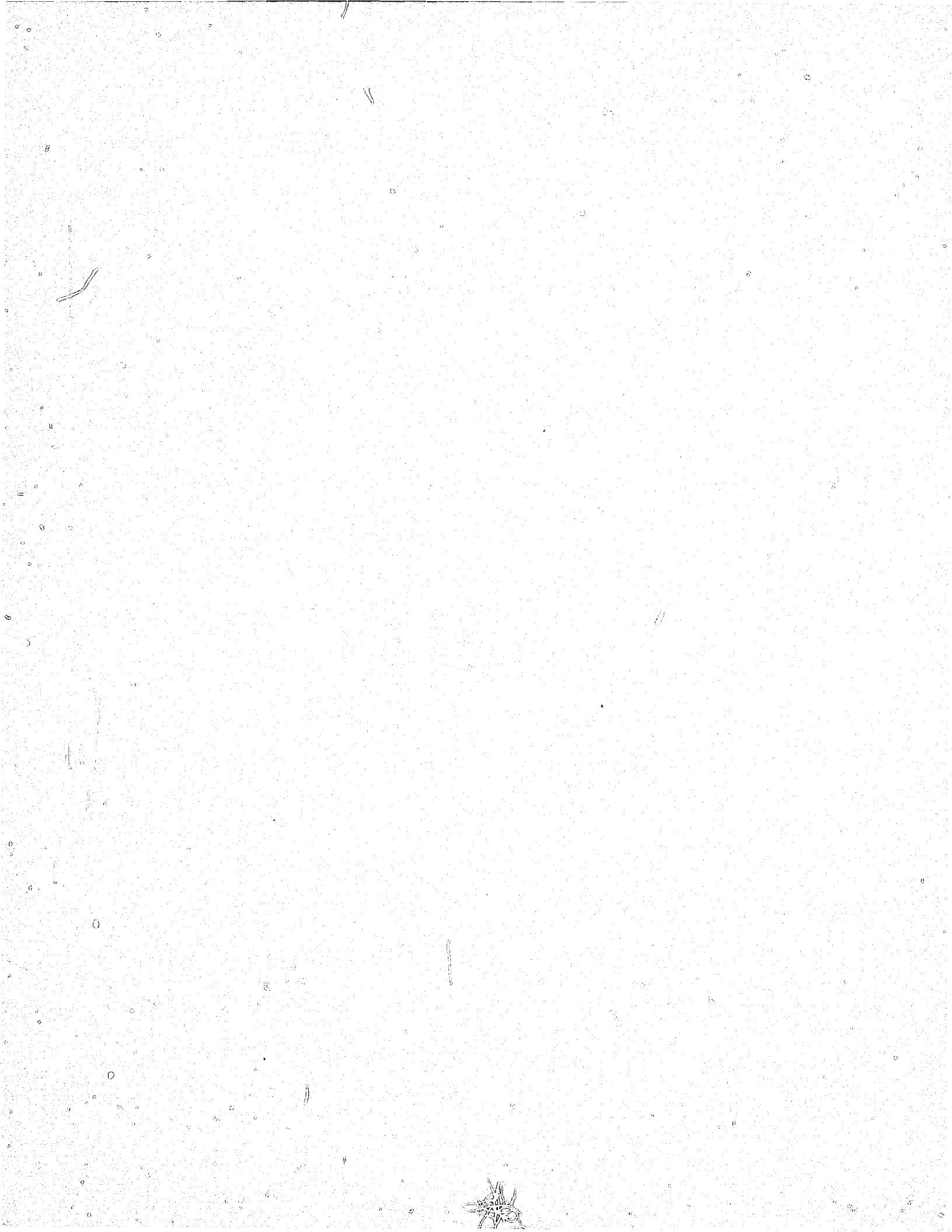
While the first few weeks or months do not appear to be the most critical period, it is clear that within one year after release almost one-half of all those who will return to the system have done so, and

TABLE 1  
NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
BY THE PERCENT WHO HAVE RETURNED TO STATE CUSTODY

Year of Release	Number Released	Percent Returned Within:						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
1965	1,273	10.1	21.3	30.3	35.0	37.8	39.3	42.7
1966	1,357	6.9	15.8	27.7	33.5	36.3	37.4	40.0
1967	1,673	7.3	16.5	27.7	31.4	32.9	34.1	36.5
1968	1,490	7.2	18.7	29.7	33.9	35.9	36.8	39.1
1969	1,503	8.8	18.4	29.2	33.7	36.1	37.3	38.2
1970	1,380	6.4	15.1	24.5	28.8	31.1	*	32.8
1971	1,593	5.0	13.2	23.0	27.9	*	*	30.8
1972	1,736	5.0	13.7	22.8	*	*	*	27.7
1973	1,490	6.0	12.7	*	*	*	*	21.9
1974	1,363	6.1	*	*	*	*	*	12.8
TOTAL	14,858	6.8	*	*	*	*	*	32.2

\*All populations were followed through June 30, 1975. The entire 1965 population was followed for 9½ years while those released at the end of 1974 could only be followed for six months. The June 30, 1975 follow-up allows for an "average" follow-up of one year for the 1974 population (some persons had been "at risk" 18 months while others had been released for only six months). The "To Date" column for 1974 shows the percent returned after an average of one year at risk, the 1973 "To Date" column shows the percent returned after two years, and so on.





by the end of the second year 75% of all those who will return to the system have done so.

It is apparent that the second year in the community is also critical. In 1971 for example, 13.2% failed during the first 12 months, and during the second 12 months another 9.8% returned to the institution. In 1972, 13.7% failed in the first 12 months and 9.1% failed in the second 12 months.

During the third and fourth years after release, the percentage of additional failures drops to approximately 5% and 3% respectively. For the next several years the overall failure rate increases at approximately 1% per year until topping out at approximately 40%. Persons who are not returned to Washington facilities but end up in other states or federal institutions are not specifically reported on here. It is interesting to note, however, that a study recently completed by the Washington State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles has indicated that after two years only about 2.5% of the total population released from Washington facilities had entered other institutions.

Possibly the most striking piece of information appearing in Table 1 is the apparent reduction in recidivism rates over the past 10 years. While the failure rate after one year for the 1965 population was 21.3%, the failure rate for the 1973 population after one year was only 12.7%. At first inspection it appears that there is a relatively consistent drop from year to year, but a more careful examination shows that there is only one major break; that occurring between 1969 and 1970. Other fluctuations appear to be spurious in nature. For example, while there appears to be a significant difference in failure rates for the 1965 and 1966 populations for six months and one year follow-up, the differences appear to even up in subsequent

follow-up periods. In fact, in all years from 1965 through 1969 there appears to be a very consistent rate of return. For the years 1970 through 1974, fluctuations between years are very minor. Between 1969 and 1970, however, there is a pronounced drop in failure rates for every follow-up period. A pronounced increase in caseloads for probation and parole officers might account for such a decrease in the number of persons being returned (i.e., with less time to supervise individual cases fewer technical violations would be reported). However, it was found that while average caseloads had increased from 74 in 1965 to 92 in 1974, the major portion of that increase occurred from 1972 to 1974 when it jumped from a caseload size of 76 to 92. In the two critical years of 1969 and 1970, average caseloads were identical at 71. Other possible explanations were also examined, but the one that appears to have the most explanatory power is the fact that the parole board instituted on-site hearings during the latter part of 1969. The procedure for handling parole violators prior to that time was that the individual would be reincarcerated and await a parole board hearing at the institution. This made reincarceration the most convenient course of action if there were any reason at all to keep the individual at the institution. By September of 1969, however, when on-site hearings had become operational, individuals accused of parole violation were detained in their home communities and parole board members held the hearings "on-site" of the violation. Holding the hearing "in the community" made the most reasonable course of action leaving the individual in the community unless there was strong evidence that parole had been violated and that the community was in some way endangered. This policy change had a pronounced effect on persons under parole supervision as evidenced by the data shown in Table 1.

Recidivism by Institution of Release

Each institution in the Washington State correctional system is in many ways unlike any of the others. They are generally different in the programs offered and in the populations they house. No attempt will be made here to analyze the population characteristics of those persons paroled from the various institutions. It is clear that some variables related to recidivism are also related to institutional placement and discussion of some of these variables will follow.

Table 2 shows the number of persons released from each correctional institution over the past 10 years and the percent who have returned within given time periods. The reader is cautioned that the data in Table 2 are distorted in that the table combines populations for 1965 through 1974, and while some persons have been at risk in the program for 10 years others have been at risk for only six months. The average time at risk for the total population is approximately five years. This Table is presented for the purpose of making general comparisons between institution; but the reader must review Table 3 for the actual percentage returned for each institution for each follow-up period. The figures shown in Table 2 (particularly for the longer follow-up periods) are understatements of what the actual failure rate for the follow-up period will be after the entire population has been at risk for that length of time. Table 2, does, however, provide a useful comparison since the same cutoff date of June 30, 1975, is used for populations released from all the institutions.

The highest failure rates (Table 2) are for the population released directly from the reception center with over 14% of those paroled having returned after only six months and after two years having 37% returned to the institution.

In the years from 1965 through part of 1970, approximately 120 persons were released from the reception center by way of "parole to reinstatement." These are those persons returned to custody (in the reception center) to await a hearing as parole violators and who then, due to lack of evidence on the violation or for some other reason, were reinstated on parole. These persons proved to be poor risks, and if and when they again returned to custody they showed up as failures for the population paroled from the reception center.

The figures for the reception center (Table 3) show a sharp decline in failure rates from 1970 to 1971. The use of parole to reinstatement is still used in certain cases but since 1970 has not been a major factor in recidivism rates.

Another problem to be considered is that the 100 plus persons released from the reception center as parolees to reinstatement had been previously paroled from one of the other institutions, and when they were returned to the reception center for a hearing they became failures in the statistics of the parent institution in spite of the fact that they were soon after reinstated on parole. This tracking problem existed for the six years from 1965 through 1970, but while it is a problem, the small numbers involved have no significant effect on annual recidivism rates.

The institution with the next highest failure rate is the Mental Health Unit of the Washington State Reformatory with 14.3% failing in the first six months and 19% failing by the end of the first year. Failure rates for the State Penitentiary and for the honor camps are almost identical, with the State Reformatory having a considerably higher rate of failure. At the two-year follow-up period (Table 2) the reformatory had a return rate of 28% while the State Penitentiary had a return rate of 24.8% and honor camps had a return rate of 24.1%. The Washington

Corrections Center had considerably lower failure rates with 21% having returned after two years. The Purdy Treatment Center for Women had by far the lowest return rate with only 2% having returned after six months and 8.8% having returned after 24 months. Again the reader is cautioned that these figures do not represent the total percentage of returns that will occur once the total population has been at risk for the total follow-up period.

Table 3 shows the number of persons paroled from each institution in each calendar year. This table shows the actual return rates for each follow-up period. For the population released in 1965, the "To Date" column shows the number of persons returned as of June 30, 1975. This means that the entire population was followed for at least nine and one-half years. The "To Date" column for 1966 shows the percent of those paroled and discharged who had returned by the end of eight and one-half years follow-up. The follow-up for each year was only possible through June, 1975, and therefore, for years beyond 1969 the number of follow-up periods shown decreases. For the total population released in 1974, only a six-month follow-up period was possible, but the June 30, 1975, follow-up allows for an "average" follow-up of the 1974 population of one year (some persons had been "at risk" 18 months while others had been released for only six months). The "To Date" column for 1974 shows the percent returned after an average of one year at risk. The 1973 "To Date" column shows the percent returned after an average of two years at risk and so on.

TABLE 2  
TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS FROM JANUARY 1, 1965 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1974  
BY INSTITUTION AND BY PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Institution	Number Released	Percent Returned After**					
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.
State Penitentiary	5,777	7.4	15.8	24.8	28.2	29.8	30.6
State Reformatory	4,219	6.9	17.6	28.0	32.2	34.2	35.0
Mental Health Unit	21	14.3	19.0	*			
WCC-Reception	262	14.1	27.9	37.0	41.6	43.5	43.5
WCC-Institution	2,418	4.7	12.2	21.0	24.8	26.1	27.0
Purdy	307	2.0	5.2	8.8	*		
Honor Camps	1,854	7.1	14.9	24.1	28.0	29.5	30.3
TOTAL	14,858	6.8	15.6	24.9	28.6	30.3	31.0

\*Mental Health Unit opened in 1972. Purdy Treatment Center for Women opened in 1971. Since these institutions do not include the 5 or 6 earlier years, we might expect their return rates to be comparatively lower. See note below.

\*\*NOTE: This table combines populations for 1965 through 1974 and follows them through June 30, 1975. While some persons have been on the street (at risk) for 10 years, others have been at risk for only 6 months. The average time at risk for the total population is approximately 5 years. This table is presented only for the purpose of making general comparisons between institutions. For determining the actual percent returned for each institution for each follow-up period, please see Table 3.

TABLE 3  
NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
BY INSTITUTION AND BY PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Year and Institution of Release	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1965 Total</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>10.1</u>	<u>21.3</u>	<u>30.3</u>	<u>35.0</u>	<u>37.8</u>	<u>39.3</u>	<u>42.7</u>
State Penitentiary	592	10.8	22.8	30.1	34.5	37.2	38.7	41.7
State Reformatory	428	10.0	20.8	32.7	38.3	40.9	42.8	47.2
WCC-Reception	1	0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
WCC-Institution	34	5.9	14.7	29.4	35.3	35.3	35.3	41.2
Honor Camps	218	9.2	18.8	26.1	29.8	33.5	34.4	36.7
<u>1966 Total</u>	<u>1,357</u>	<u>6.9</u>	<u>15.8</u>	<u>27.7</u>	<u>33.5</u>	<u>36.3</u>	<u>37.4</u>	<u>40.0</u>
State Penitentiary	626	6.1	14.9	25.9	33.1	36.1	36.6	39.6
State Reformatory	397	8.3	18.6	31.5	35.8	39.0	40.8	43.3
WCC-Reception	9	33.3	55.6	77.8	88.9	88.9	88.9	88.9
WCC-Institution	102	2.9	8.8	22.5	25.5	26.5	30.4	34.3
Honor Camps	223	7.6	14.8	26.5	32.3	34.1	35.0	35.9
<u>1967 Total</u>	<u>1,673</u>	<u>7.3</u>	<u>16.5</u>	<u>27.7</u>	<u>31.4</u>	<u>32.9</u>	<u>34.1</u>	<u>36.5</u>
State Penitentiary	706	6.9	15.4	25.9	28.2	29.6	31.0	33.6
State Reformatory	452	6.3	22.4	35.6	39.5	41.5	42.2	43.4
WCC-Reception	16	12.5	25.0	43.8	56.3	62.5	62.5	62.5
WCC-Institution	269	4.5	15.2	26.4	32.3	32.7	33.8	36.8
Honor Camps	230	6.5	13.5	25.2	28.7	29.6	30.9	33.0
<u>1968 Total</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>7.2</u>	<u>18.7</u>	<u>29.7</u>	<u>33.9</u>	<u>35.9</u>	<u>36.8</u>	<u>39.1</u>
State Penitentiary	621	8.1	17.6	27.7	31.6	33.0	34.0	37.0
State Reformatory	410	6.3	22.4	35.6	39.5	41.5	42.2	43.4
WCC-Reception	57	17.5	36.8	47.4	50.9	52.6	52.6	56.1
WCC-Institution	213	5.2	13.6	24.4	29.6	32.4	33.8	35.7
Honor Camps	189	5.8	14.8	23.8	29.1	32.3	32.8	35.4



TABLE 3 (Continued)  
 NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
 ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
 BY INSTITUTION AND BY PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Year and Institution of Release	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1969 Total</u>	<u>1,503</u>	<u>8.8</u>	<u>18.4</u>	<u>29.2</u>	<u>33.7</u>	<u>36.1</u>	<u>37.3</u>	<u>38.2</u>
State Penitentiary	593	8.9	17.2	27.5	31.5	33.6	34.7	35.4
State Reformatory	380	8.7	20.3	31.3	35.8	38.4	40.0	40.8
WCC-Reception	56	19.6	41.1	46.4	50.0	53.6	53.6	53.6
WCC-Institution	247	6.5	15.8	28.3	32.4	35.6	36.8	38.1
Honor Camps	227	8.4	15.9	26.9	33.0	34.8	36.1	37.4
<u>1970 Total</u>	<u>1,380</u>	<u>6.4</u>	<u>15.1</u>	<u>24.5</u>	<u>28.8</u>	<u>31.1</u>		<u>32.8</u>
State Penitentiary	501	7.6	16.0	26.3	28.9	31.9		33.3
State Reformatory	382	4.5	13.1	23.0	29.3	31.9		33.0
WCC-Reception	20	15.0	25.0	40.0	50.0	55.0		55.0
WCC-Institution	264	4.5	14.4	23.1	26.1	28.0		31.4
Honor Camps	213	8.5	16.9	25.4	29.1	29.1		31.0
<u>1971 Total</u>	<u>1,593</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.2</u>	<u>23.0</u>	<u>27.9</u>			<u>30.8</u>
State Penitentiary	600	6.0	13.8	23.3	26.3			28.5
State Reformatory	476	3.8	14.3	25.0	32.4			36.8
WCC-Reception	14	0	14.3	21.4	21.4			21.4
WCC-Institution	273	4.8	9.5	19.0	24.5			27.1
Purdy	47	2.1	4.3	10.6	14.9			17.0
Honor Camps	183	6.6	15.8	26.2	30.6			32.2
<u>1972 Total</u>	<u>1,736</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.7</u>	<u>22.8</u>				<u>27.7</u>
State Penitentiary	583	6.9	15.8	25.7				29.5
State Reformatory	487	4.3	15.2	25.1				29.8
Mental Health Unit	1	0	0	0				0
WCC-Reception	29	6.9	6.9	20.7				31.0
WCC-Institution	400	3.8	11.5	19.5				26.5
Purdy	74	2.7	5.4	10.8				17.6
Honor Camps	162	3.7	12.3	19.1				22.2

TABLE 3 (Continued)  
 NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
 ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
 BY INSTITUTION AND BY PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Year and Institution of Release	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1973 Total</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>6.0</u>	<u>12.7</u>					<u>21.9</u>
State Penitentiary	489	5.9	11.7					21.7
State Reformatory	447	7.2	16.1					26.6
Mental Health Unit	6	0	16.7					16.7
WCC-Reception	19	21.1	21.1					26.3
WCC-Institution	313	5.1	10.9					19.2
Purdy	99	2.0	7.1					10.1
Honor Camps	117	6.0	12.0					20.5
<u>1974 Total</u>	<u>1,363</u>	<u>6.1</u>						<u>12.8</u>
State Penitentiary	466	6.4						12.2
State Reformatory	360	7.2						16.9
Mental Health Unit	14	21.4						21.4
WCC-Reception	41	4.9						17.1
WCC-Institution	303	4.6						10.9
Purdy	87	1.1						4.6
Honor Camps	92	7.6						9.8

\* NOTE: All populations were followed through June 30, 1975. The entire 1965 population was followed for 9½ years while those released at the end of 1974 could only be followed for six months. The June 30, 1975 follow-up allows for an "average" follow-up of one year for the 1974 population (some persons had been "at risk" 18 months while others had been released for only six months). The "To Date" column for 1974 shows the percent returned after an average of one year at risk; the 1973 "To Date" column shows the percent returned after two years, and so on.

Recidivism by Type of Admission

Table 4 is subject to the same limitations as Table 2 and presents the data for return rates for all those released during the ten-year study period by their type of admission. Table 5 compares the type of admission and rates of return for each of the study years. The tables indicate that first admissions have the lowest rate of return. Return rates for "Other" admissions (including admissions from other states and admissions from juvenile institutions) were somewhat higher than that of first admissions. Failure rates for those who were admitted as parole violators or as re-admissions were higher than for the other two categories with parole violators generally having the highest rate of failure.



TABLE 4  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
 ADULT CORRECTIONS FROM JANUARY 1, 1965 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1974  
 BY TYPE OF ADMISSION AND BY PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Type of Admission	Number Released	Percent Returned After*					
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.
First Admission	8,800	5.5	12.8	21.3	24.9	26.4	27.1
Re-Admission	1,409	8.7	18.8	29.1	32.1	34.0	34.8
Parole Violators	3,738	9.5	20.8	31.9	36.4	38.4	39.2
Others	911	5.8	15.8	23.8	27.9	28.8	29.9
TOTAL	14,858	6.8	15.6	24.9	28.6	30.3	31.0

\* NOTE: This table combines populations for 1965 through 1974 and follows them through June 30, 1975. While some persons have been on the street (at risk) for 10 years, others have been at risk for only 6 months. The average time at risk for the total population is approximately 5 years. This table is presented only for the purpose of making general comparisons between types of admission. For determining the actual percent returned for each type of admission for each follow-up period, please see Table 5.

TABLE 5  
NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
BY TYPE OF ADMISSION AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Year and Type of Admission	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1965 Total</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>10.1</u>	<u>21.3</u>	<u>30.3</u>	<u>35.0</u>	<u>37.8</u>	<u>39.3</u>	<u>42.7</u>
First Admission	759	7.8	17.3	25.8	31.4	33.9	35.4	39.1
Re-Admission	165	16.4	27.3	37.0	39.4	43.0	43.6	49.1
Parole Violators	291	12.4	27.8	38.8	43.0	46.0	47.8	50.2
Other	58	12.1	24.1	27.6	31.0	32.8	34.5	34.5
<u>1966 Total</u>	<u>1,357</u>	<u>6.9</u>	<u>15.8</u>	<u>27.7</u>	<u>33.5</u>	<u>36.3</u>	<u>37.4</u>	<u>40.0</u>
First Admission	769	5.9	13.8	24.3	28.2	31.1	32.4	34.6
Re-Admission	165	7.9	13.9	29.1	34.5	38.2	38.8	41.2
Parole Violators	350	9.4	21.1	35.1	44.6	46.6	47.7	51.1
Other	73	4.1	15.1	24.7	34.2	37.0	38.4	41.1
<u>1967 Total</u>	<u>1,673</u>	<u>7.3</u>	<u>16.5</u>	<u>27.7</u>	<u>31.4</u>	<u>32.9</u>	<u>34.1</u>	<u>36.5</u>
First Admission	1,024	6.6	15.1	25.4	29.2	30.4	31.6	33.9
Re-Admission	155	7.1	15.5	28.4	32.9	34.8	36.1	38.7
Parole Violators	416	9.4	20.4	34.4	37.7	39.7	40.4	42.8
Other	78	5.1	15.4	21.8	24.4	25.6	29.5	33.3
<u>1968 Total</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>7.2</u>	<u>18.7</u>	<u>29.7</u>	<u>33.9</u>	<u>35.9</u>	<u>36.8</u>	<u>39.1</u>
First Admission	827	5.6	15.5	24.8	28.7	30.2	31.0	33.0
Re-Admission	172	10.5	23.8	36.6	41.3	44.2	45.3	47.1
Parole Violators	439	9.3	22.8	36.0	40.8	43.5	44.6	48.1
Other	52	5.8	19.2	30.8	34.6	34.6	34.6	34.6
<u>1969 Total</u>	<u>1,503</u>	<u>8.8</u>	<u>18.4</u>	<u>29.2</u>	<u>33.7</u>	<u>36.1</u>	<u>37.3</u>	<u>38.2</u>
First Admission	812	7.0	13.8	23.3	27.8	30.2	31.2	32.1
Re-Admission	148	9.5	23.0	37.8	41.2	41.9	44.6	45.9
Parole Violators	484	12.4	25.4	37.4	41.3	44.4	45.7	46.3
Other	59	1.7	13.6	22.0	32.2	33.9	35.6	35.6

TABLE 5 (Continued)  
 NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
 ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
 BY TYPE OF ADMISSION AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Year and Type of Admission	Number Released	Percent Returned After					
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.
<u>1970 Total</u>	<u>1,380</u>	<u>6.4</u>	<u>15.1</u>	<u>24.5</u>	<u>28.8</u>	<u>31.1</u>	<u>32.8</u>
First Admission	843	5.0	12.1	20.3	23.8	25.9	27.5
Re-Admission	109	8.3	20.2	30.3	34.9	37.6	39.4
Parole Violators	385	8.8	19.7	30.9	36.9	39.7	41.0
Other	43	7.0	20.9	34.9	39.5	39.5	46.5
<u>1971 Total</u>	<u>1,593</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.2</u>	<u>23.0</u>	<u>27.9</u>		<u>30.8</u>
First Admission	960	3.6	10.3	19.7	24.3		26.8
Re-Admission	134	9.0	22.4	31.3	32.8		35.1
Parole Violators	415	6.0	15.9	27.0	33.0		36.4
Other	84	9.5	17.9	28.6	36.9		41.7
<u>1972 Total</u>	<u>1,736</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.7</u>	<u>22.8</u>			<u>27.7</u>
First Admission	1,109	3.9	11.4	20.4			25.6
Re-Admission	99	6.1	14.1	21.2			23.2
Parole Violators	351	7.1	19.4	28.8			34.2
Other	177	6.8	16.9	26.6			30.5
<u>1973 Total</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>6.0</u>	<u>12.7</u>				<u>21.9</u>
First Admission	908	5.5	11.2				19.6
Re-Admission	110	4.5	8.2				17.3
Parole Violators	316	8.9	17.7				28.5
Other	156	4.5	14.1				25.1
<u>1974 Total</u>	<u>1,363</u>	<u>6.1</u>					<u>12.8</u>
First Admission	789	4.8					10.4
Re-Admission	152	4.6					15.1
Parole Violators	291	11.3					18.9
Other	131	3.8					10.7

\* All populations followed through June 30, 1975. See NOTE on Table 3.

Recidivism by Offense

Most studies of recidivism show differential failure rates between various offense categories. The following tables show 13 specific offense categories and their rates of return over the follow-up periods. Table 6 combines populations for 1965 through 1974. The average time at risk for this population is approximately five years. This table is presented for the purpose of making general comparisons between offense categories. The reader will need to review Table 7 for the actual percent returned for each offense category for each calendar year population.

The data in Table 6 are consistent with other studies on recidivism by offense. The offense categories with the lowest recidivism rate are manslaughter, murder, indecent liberties, and drug violations. The offense categories with the highest failure rate are burglary, forgery, and auto theft.

Convictions for drug violations sharply increased in the late 1960's. Persons convicted and sentenced to prison during this time period began to be released from correctional institutions during 1970 and 1971. The number of persons released from institutions on drug violations continued a dramatic increase through 1972 and 1973. It is interesting to note that prior to the dramatic increase in the number of drug violators, this offense category exhibited a relatively high rate of failure. Fifty percent of the 1968 drug violator category (Table 7) had failed after two years and 36.7% of the 1969 drug violator population had returned to an institution by the end of two years. In the following year, however, when the number of drug violators released from an institution tripled over the previous



year, the failure rate after two years for that population was only 16.9%. This indicates that, as expected, a different type of offender was being committed for drug violations. In subsequent years the number of persons being released for drug violations increased to almost seven times what it was in 1969. Data related to the changes in the type of offender being admitted to correctional institutions are available from the Washington State Research Office. The data presented here are related to release populations and cannot be used to describe changes in commitment population. However, the data provide some interesting comparisons from one year to the next. Burglary, larceny, auto theft, and forgery have long been the most populated offense categories (with robbery running a close fifth). But in recent years, at least for those being discharged and paroled from adult correctional institutions, the drug violator category has increased in size to become second only to the burglary category. In 1974 there were more drug violators being paroled and discharged than persons who had been committed for larceny, auto theft, forgery, or robbery.

An area of particular concern to the correctional administrator, as well as to the general public, is the matter of whether more persons are now being committed for person type offenses as opposed to crimes against property than was the case several years ago. In calendar year 1974, 21.4% of all those paroled or discharged had committed crimes against persons. A study of release rates over the past eight years shows that there has never been more than a 2% fluctuation in this figure. A chi-square analysis shows no statistically significant difference.

TABLE 6  
TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS FROM JANUARY 1, 1965 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1974  
BY OFFENSE AND BY PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Offense	Number Released	Percent Returned After*					
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.
Murder	196	5.6	8.7	12.2	14.3	15.8	16.8
Manslaughter	237	5.9	10.5	14.8	15.6	16.9	16.9
Robbery	1,216	5.4	13.3	21.0	24.3	25.7	26.8
Assault	669	4.2	10.2	18.8	21.5	22.3	22.6
Rape	73	2.7	6.8	17.8	21.9	21.9	21.9
Carn. Know.	249	5.6	14.1	20.5	23.7	25.7	26.5
Ind. Lib.	291	5.8	12.0	17.2	19.6	21.3	22.6
Burglary	3,572	7.3	16.9	27.2	31.4	33.7	34.5
Larceny	2,625	5.3	13.4	22.9	27.0	28.6	29.4
Auto Theft	1,506	11.9	24.6	35.3	39.8	41.6	42.8
Forgery	2,016	7.8	17.0	27.5	31.4	32.9	33.7
Drug Vio.	913	3.6	9.4	17.7	20.4	21.0	21.2
Non-Sup.	140	3.6	12.1	22.1	24.3	24.3	25.0
Other	565	5.8	13.3	18.4	22.1	23.2	23.9
Not Rep.	590	10.7	21.5	32.4	36.1	37.6	38.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,858</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>30.3</b>	<b>31.0</b>

\*NOTE: This table combines populations for 1965 through 1974 and follows them through June 30, 1975. While some persons have been on the street (at risk) for 10 years, others have been at risk for only 6 months. The average time at risk for the total population is approximately 5 years. This table is presented only for the purpose of making general comparisons between offenses. For determining the actual percent returned for each offense for each follow-up period, please see Table 7.

TABLE 7  
 NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
 ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
 BY OFFENSE AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Offense	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1965 Total</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>10.1</u>	<u>21.3</u>	<u>30.3</u>	<u>35.0</u>	<u>37.8</u>	<u>39.3</u>	<u>42.7</u>
Murder	7	28.6	28.6	28.6	28.6	28.6	28.6	28.6
Manslaughter	17	0	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	39.6
Robbery	96	7.3	15.6	27.1	32.3	37.5	39.6	40.2
Assault	30	6.7	20.0	30.0	33.3	36.7	40.0	40.0
Rape	6	33.3	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
Carn. Know.	29	10.3	20.7	20.7	31.0	31.0	31.0	31.0
Ind. Lib.	21	0	9.5	19.0	23.8	28.6	33.3	38.1
Burglary	343	8.5	20.4	28.9	33.8	37.0	39.1	43.4
Larceny	257	10.9	20.2	28.4	32.7	35.0	36.2	39.3
Auto Theft	123	13.8	30.9	44.7	49.6	51.2	51.2	55.3
Forgery	218	11.0	21.1	30.7	33.9	36.7	38.1	41.3
Drug Vio.	16	18.8	43.8	43.8	50.0	56.3	56.3	56.3
Non-Sup.	19	5.3	10.5	21.1	26.3	26.3	26.3	26.3
Other	27	0	7.4	11.1	14.8	14.8	18.5	29.6
Not Reported	64	17.2	29.7	42.2	51.6	54.7	56.3	62.5
<u>1966 Total</u>	<u>1,357</u>	<u>6.9</u>	<u>15.8</u>	<u>27.7</u>	<u>33.5</u>	<u>36.3</u>	<u>37.4</u>	<u>40.0</u>
Murder	13	15.4	15.4	15.4	30.8	30.8	30.8	30.8
Manslaughter	16	12.5	18.8	18.8	25.0	31.3	31.3	31.3
Robbery	84	2.4	13.1	21.4	25.0	27.4	28.6	33.3
Assault	36	2.8	16.7	25.0	33.3	36.1	36.1	38.9
Rape	9	0	11.1	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.2
Carn. Know.	33	6.1	15.2	24.2	30.3	36.4	39.4	39.4
Ind. Lib.	36	2.8	5.6	13.9	16.7	22.2	22.2	25.0
Burglary	364	4.7	11.0	23.4	29.4	33.0	34.3	37.1
Larceny	237	5.9	13.5	27.8	32.9	35.0	35.4	37.6
Auto Theft	154	11.0	22.7	35.7	40.9	43.5	47.4	48.7
Forgery	241	8.3	19.9	32.0	40.2	41.9	42.7	45.6
Drug Vio.	18	5.6	16.7	33.3	33.3	38.9	38.9	38.9
Non-Sup.	27	3.7	14.8	18.5	18.5	18.5	18.5	22.2
Other	38	2.6	7.9	21.1	31.6	31.6	31.6	39.5
Not Reported	51	25.5	37.3	52.9	54.9	58.8	58.8	60.8

TABLE 7 (Continued)  
 NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
 ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
 BY OFFENSE AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Offense	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1967 Total</u>	<u>1,673</u>	<u>7.3</u>	<u>16.5</u>	<u>27.7</u>	<u>31.4</u>	<u>32.9</u>	<u>34.1</u>	<u>36.5</u>
Murder	18	0	5.6	22.2	22.2	22.2	27.8	27.8
Manslaughter	25	12.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	20.0
Robbery	105	7.6	12.4	20.0	22.9	22.9	24.8	28.6
Assault	68	4.4	11.8	23.5	26.5	27.9	27.9	30.9
Rape	12	0	0	16.7	33.3	33.3	33.3	33.3
Carn. Know.	38	0	10.5	15.8	18.4	18.4	18.4	18.4
Ind. Lib.	35	11.4	17.1	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	22.9
Burglary	453	6.6	17.7	31.1	34.9	37.3	38.4	40.4
Larceny	307	6.2	14.3	25.7	30.9	32.6	33.9	37.1
Auto Theft	183	13.7	29.0	38.3	42.1	43.7	45.4	47.5
Forgery	285	7.0	13.7	26.3	29.1	29.8	30.9	32.3
Drug Vio.	20	5.0	5.0	40.0	40.0	45.0	45.0	50.0
Non-Sup.	21	0	19.0	23.8	28.6	28.6	33.3	33.3
Other	56	7.1	16.1	17.9	21.4	23.2	25.0	25.0
Not Reported	47	12.8	23.4	34.0	40.4	40.4	42.6	51.1
<u>1968 Total</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>7.2</u>	<u>18.7</u>	<u>29.7</u>	<u>33.9</u>	<u>35.9</u>	<u>36.8</u>	<u>39.1</u>
Murder	18	11.1	11.1	16.7	16.7	22.2	22.2	22.2
Manslaughter	34	8.8	8.8	23.5	23.5	26.5	26.5	26.5
Robbery	123	8.1	16.3	25.2	30.9	30.9	32.5	33.3
Assault	91	7.7	13.2	23.1	26.4	26.4	27.5	31.9
Rape	3	0	0	33.3	33.3	33.3	33.3	33.3
Carn. Know.	29	3.4	13.8	17.2	17.2	20.7	24.1	24.1
Ind. Lib.	42	9.5	19.0	26.2	26.2	26.2	26.2	31.0
Burglary	360	8.1	21.7	34.2	38.3	41.1	41.4	44.7
Larceny	254	4.3	13.4	23.2	28.3	31.1	31.9	34.6
Auto Theft	170	10.0	26.5	40.0	45.3	47.1	49.4	50.6
Forgery	235	6.0	18.7	28.5	33.2	35.3	35.7	37.4
Drug Vio.	20	0	25.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
Non-Support	16	0	0	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5
Other	60	8.3	18.3	23.3	30.0	30.0	31.7	33.3
Not Reported	35	14.3	37.1	54.3	57.1	62.9	62.9	68.6

TABLE 7 (Continued)  
NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
BY OFFENSE AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Offense	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1969 Total</u>	<u>1,503</u>	<u>8.8</u>	<u>18.4</u>	<u>29.2</u>	<u>33.7</u>	<u>36.1</u>	<u>37.3</u>	<u>38.2</u>
Murder	22	4.5	13.6	13.6	13.6	18.2	18.2	18.2
Manslaughter	23	4.3	8.7	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0
Robbery	121	6.6	17.4	23.1	27.3	31.4	34.7	36.4
Assault	61	3.3	14.8	23.0	27.9	29.5	29.5	29.5
Rape	4	0	11.1	33.3	33.3	33.3	33.3	33.3
Carn. Know.	25	0	8.0	16.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	24.0
Ind. Lib.	34	8.8	17.5	23.5	23.5	26.5	29.4	29.4
Burglary	404	7.9	16.6	28.7	32.9	36.9	38.1	38.1
Larceny	261	9.2	19.2	30.7	34.9	36.8	37.9	39.1
Auto Theft	165	16.4	28.5	39.4	43.0	44.2	45.5	46.7
Forgery	232	6.9	12.5	25.4	31.0	31.9	33.2	34.1
Drug Vio.	30	10.0	20.0	36.7	50.0	53.3	53.3	53.3
Non-Support	11	9.1	18.2	45.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5
Other	53	7.5	20.8	22.6	26.4	28.3	30.2	32.1
Not Reported	57	17.5	38.6	52.6	59.6	61.4	61.4	63.2
<u>1970 Total</u>	<u>1,380</u>	<u>6.4</u>	<u>15.1</u>	<u>24.5</u>	<u>28.8</u>	<u>31.1</u>		<u>32.8</u>
Murder	24	0	0	4.2	4.2	4.2		8.3
Manslaughter	28	7.1	10.7	14.3	14.3	14.3		17.9
Robbery	116	5.2	13.8	24.1	27.6	31.0		32.8
Assault	64	4.7	7.8	14.1	15.6	17.2		17.2
Rape	9	0	11.1	33.3	33.3	33.3		33.3
Carn. Know.	27	7.4	22.2	37.0	37.0	44.4		44.4
Ind. Lib.	18	5.6	5.6	16.7	27.8	33.3		33.3
Burglary	334	8.7	16.5	25.1	31.4	34.7		35.6
Larceny	243	3.3	12.3	21.8	28.0	29.2		32.5
Auto Theft	147	12.2	26.5	36.1	41.5	44.2		44.9
Forgery	184	7.1	17.9	26.1	27.2	29.3		31.5
Drug Vio.	89	2.2	5.6	16.9	21.3	22.5		24.7
Non-Support	9	0	0	11.1	11.1	11.1		11.1
Other	50	2.0	10.0	20.0	24.0	26.0		26.0
Not Reported	38	7.9	26.3	42.1	44.7	44.7		50.0

TABLE 7 (Continued)  
 NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
 ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
 BY OFFENSE AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Offense	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1971 Total</u>	<u>1,593</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.2</u>	<u>23.0</u>	<u>27.9</u>			<u>30.8</u>
Murder	19	10.5	15.8	15.8	15.8			15.8
Manslaughter	28	3.6	7.1	10.7	14.3			17.9
Robbery	146	4.8	14.4	22.6	24.7			25.3
Assault	86	1.2	5.8	18.6	22.1			22.1
Rape	7	0	0	0	0			0
Carn. Know.	18	16.7	22.2	27.8	27.8			27.8
Ind. Lib.	22	0	0	0	9.1			9.1
Burglary	377	5.3	14.9	23.6	29.7			32.9
Larceny	318	3.5	10.1	19.5	23.3			26.1
Auto Theft	185	7.6	18.9	31.4	38.4			44.3
Forgery	188	5.9	18.1	29.3	33.5			36.7
Drug Vio.	83	2.4	6.0	20.5	27.7			27.7
Non-Support	18	0	11.1	27.8	27.8			27.8
Other	51	7.8	11.8	23.5	31.4			37.3
Not Reported	47	8.5	10.6	19.1	25.5			29.8
<u>1972 Total</u>	<u>1,736</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.7</u>	<u>27.8</u>				<u>27.7</u>
Murder	26	0	3.8	7.9				19.2
Manslaughter	35	2.9	4	14.3				14.3
Robbery	168	3.6	16.7	25.0				31.0
Assault	75	4.0	9.3	24.0				26.7
Rape	5	0	0	0				0
Carn. Know.	21	9.5	14.3	19.0				19.0
Ind. Lib.	30	0	20.0	26.7				30.0
Burglary	368	6.5	16.6	26.6				31.3
Larceny	292	3.1	10.6	20.2				27.1
Auto Theft	161	8.7	19.3	28.6				36.0
Forgery	189	7.4	15.9	25.9				30.2
Drug Vio.	176	2.8	7.4	15.3				19.9
Non-Support	8	0	12.5	12.5				12.5
Other	80	2.5	7.5	10.0				12.5
Not Reported	102	5.9	15.7	27.5				30.4

TABLE 7 (Continued)  
NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
BY OFFENSE AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Offense	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1973 Total</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>6.0</u>	<u>12.7</u>					<u>21.9</u>
Murder	19	5.3	5.3					10.5
Manslaughter	13	7.7	15.4					23.1
Robbery	133	6.0	9.0					18.8
Assault	69	5.8	10.1					13.0
Rape	11	0	0					18.2
Carn. Know.	16	0	0					18.5
Ind. Lib.	33	6.1	6.1					6.1
Burglary	308	7.5	16.6					26.0
Larceny	254	2.4	9.1					18.8
Auto Theft	116	12.1	22.4					31.0
Forgery	147	8.2	17.0					31.3
Drug Vio.	227	4.0	9.3					18.1
Non-Support	5	40.0	40.0					60.0
Other	67	6.0	14.9					22.4
Not Reported	72	2.8	6.9					13.9
<u>1974 Total</u>	<u>1,363</u>	<u>6.1</u>						<u>12.8</u>
Murder	30	3.3						6.7
Manslaughter	18	0						5.6
Robbery	124	3.2						4.0
Assault	89	2.2						5.6
Rape	7	0						0
Carn. Know.	13	0						0
Ind. Lib.	20	10.0						10.0
Burglary	261	9.6						21.8
Larceny	202	5.0						12.4
Auto Theft	102	14.7						24.5
Forgery	97	7.2						10.3
Drug Vio.	234	3.0						9.4
Non-Support	6	0						0
Other	83	9.6						14.5
Not Reported	77	3.9						11.7

\* All populations followed through June 30, 1975. See NOTE on Table 3.

Recidivism by Age at Commitment

Table 8 shows no significant difference in failure rates for the three central age groups, including those aged 21 through 40. Persons less than 20 years of age show a significantly higher failure rate than the central groups and those 17 or less were very much higher than the 21 to 40 age group. Persons 41 years of age or over had significantly lower recidivism rates than the younger categories. The few persons who were 60 and over have far lower recidivism rates.

This trend, with the very young offenders having a high likelihood of return to an institution and the older offenders having a low likelihood of return seems to be generally consistent in Table 9 for all years. This suggests that the trend has remained fairly constant over the last 10 years. This finding is also consistent with other studies of recidivism conducted in the state.





TABLE 8  
TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS FROM JANUARY 1, 1965 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1974  
BY AGE AND BY PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Age	Number Released	Percent Returned After*					
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.
17 or Less	325	15.1	31.4	49.8	54.8	56.9	57.8
18 - 20	2,903	7.2	17.4	27.6	31.8	34.1	34.9
21 - 25	4,311	6.4	15.8	25.4	29.5	31.1	31.9
26 - 30	2,464	5.5	13.9	22.2	25.8	27.4	28.3
31 - 40	2,733	7.2	15.0	24.2	27.6	28.6	29.3
41 - 59	1,965	7.0	13.5	21.2	24.2	25.8	26.3
60 & Over	157	3.2	5.1	8.3	10.8	11.5	12.1
TOTAL	14,858	6.8	15.6	24.9	28.6	30.3	31.0

\* NOTE: This table combines populations for 1965 through 1974 and follows them through June 30, 1975. While some persons have been on the street (at risk) for 10 years, others have been at risk for only 6 months. The average time at risk for the total population is approximately 5 years. This table is presented only for the purpose of making general comparisons between ages. For determining the actual percent returned for each age group for each follow-up period, please see Table 9.

TABLE 9  
NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
BY AGE AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Age	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1965 Total</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>10.1</u>	<u>21.3</u>	<u>30.3</u>	<u>35.0</u>	<u>37.8</u>	<u>39.3</u>	<u>42.7</u>
17 or Less	51	19.6	31.4	43.1	47.1	51.0	52.9	62.7
18 - 20	244	7.4	18.0	30.3	37.3	40.6	42.6	45.9
21 - 25	317	9.5	21.1	30.3	36.0	38.8	39.4	43.5
26 - 30	183	9.3	24.0	31.1	36.6	39.9	41.5	43.7
31 - 40	274	12.0	20.8	28.8	32.1	33.9	35.4	39.1
41 - 59	194	10.8	21.6	29.4	30.9	33.5	35.6	37.6
60 & Over	10	0	10.0	10.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
<u>1966 Total</u>	<u>1,357</u>	<u>6.9</u>	<u>15.8</u>	<u>27.7</u>	<u>33.5</u>	<u>36.3</u>	<u>37.4</u>	<u>40.0</u>
17 or Less	43	18.6	30.2	60.5	60.5	60.5	60.5	65.1
18 - 20	224	10.7	21.9	33.0	37.1	40.6	43.8	46.4
21 - 25	353	4.0	12.5	25.5	32.3	35.4	36.5	38.5
26 - 30	210	6.2	13.8	24.8	32.4	36.7	37.6	40.5
31 - 40	302	6.6	15.2	25.5	31.1	32.1	32.8	36.1
41 - 59	205	7.3	15.6	27.3	32.7	35.6	36.1	38.0
60 & Over	20	0	5.0	5.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
<u>1967 Total</u>	<u>1,673</u>	<u>7.3</u>	<u>16.5</u>	<u>27.7</u>	<u>31.4</u>	<u>32.9</u>	<u>34.1</u>	<u>36.5</u>
17 or Less	63	20.6	38.1	57.1	58.7	58.7	60.3	66.7
18 - 20	284	9.5	20.1	31.7	37.7	40.1	41.5	44.4
21 - 25	436	4.8	17.0	28.4	32.6	33.3	34.4	36.2
26 - 30	282	6.0	15.2	24.8	27.3	29.1	31.6	35.5
31 - 40	331	8.5	15.4	27.2	30.5	31.4	32.0	33.5
41 - 59	248	6.0	10.1	19.8	23.0	25.4	26.2	27.8
60 & Over	29	3.4	6.9	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.2
<u>1968 Total</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>7.2</u>	<u>18.7</u>	<u>29.7</u>	<u>33.9</u>	<u>35.9</u>	<u>36.8</u>	<u>39.1</u>
17 or Less	37	10.8	43.2	51.4	62.2	64.9	64.9	64.9
18 - 20	249	7.2	21.7	36.1	40.6	43.8	44.6	47.4
21 - 25	424	7.1	18.6	30.2	34.9	36.6	38.2	39.9
26 - 30	237	7.6	18.1	29.1	32.5	34.2	34.6	37.1
31 - 40	282	5.7	16.3	26.2	29.8	31.6	32.6	36.5
41 - 59	241	7.9	15.8	24.5	28.6	30.7	30.7	32.4
60 & Over	20	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0

TABLE 9 (Continued)  
NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
BY AGE AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Age	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1969 Total</u>	<u>1,503</u>	<u>8.8</u>	<u>18.4</u>	<u>29.2</u>	<u>33.7</u>	<u>36.1</u>	<u>37.3</u>	<u>38.2</u>
17 or Less	40	12.5	37.5	67.5	72.5	80.0	82.5	82.5
18 - 20	262	9.2	17.9	28.6	35.1	37.4	38.2	39.3
21 - 25	420	9.8	19.0	29.5	34.5	37.1	38.6	39.8
26 - 30	247	4.9	14.6	25.9	30.0	32.8	35.2	36.4
31 - 40	289	9.3	20.4	31.1	34.9	37.0	38.1	38.8
41 - 59	227	10.1	17.6	26.0	28.6	30.0	30.4	30.4
60 & Over	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>1970 Total</u>	<u>1,380</u>	<u>6.4</u>	<u>15.1</u>	<u>24.5</u>	<u>28.8</u>	<u>31.1</u>		<u>32.8</u>
17 or Less	21	14.3	23.8	47.6	57.1	57.1		57.1
18 - 20	290	5.5	17.2	26.6	30.3	34.5		36.6
21 - 25	407	6.4	15.2	26.3	30.7	32.9		35.1
26 - 30	216	3.7	10.6	16.7	21.3	22.2		23.6
31 - 40	247	8.9	17.4	27.1	32.0	33.2		34.8
41 - 59	191	6.8	13.6	21.5	25.1	27.2		27.7
60 & Over	8	0	0	0	0	12.5		25.0
<u>1971 Total</u>	<u>1,593</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.2</u>	<u>23.0</u>	<u>27.9</u>			<u>30.8</u>
17 or Less	23	8.7	26.1	34.8	29.1			43.5
18 - 20	331	5.7	14.8	25.1	30.8			35.0
21 - 25	430	4.0	13.0	25.3	32.3			36.3
26 - 30	305	5.9	13.8	23.3	27.2			29.5
31 - 40	293	4.4	11.3	20.8	24.9			26.3
41 - 59	190	5.8	12.6	17.9	20.0			21.1
60 & Over	21	0	0	4.8	4.8			4.8

TABLE 9 (Continued)  
NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
BY AGE AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Age	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1972 Total</u>	<u>1,736</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.7</u>	<u>22.8</u>				<u>27.7</u>
17 or Less	24	8.3	16.7	29.2				45.8
18 - 20	418	5.3	14.8	27.5				33.0
21 - 25	555	5.0	15.3	24.0				28.6
26 - 30	263	4.6	14.8	21.7				26.6
31 - 40	280	5.7	11.8	20.4				23.9
41 - 59	187	3.2	8.0	13.9				18.7
60 & Over	9	0	0	0				11.1
<u>1973 Total</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>6.0</u>	<u>12.7</u>					<u>21.9</u>
17 or Less	14	7.1	7.1					28.6
18 - 20	344	7.6	18.0					25.9
21 - 25	475	7.4	15.2					24.8
26 - 30	273	3.7	7.7					17.2
31 - 40	224	4.5	8.9					19.2
41 - 59	150	4.7	8.0					16.0
60 & Over	10	10.0	10.0					10.0
<u>1974 Total</u>	<u>1,363</u>	<u>6.1</u>						<u>12.8</u>
17 or Less	9	11.1						33.3
18 - 20	257	6.2						13.6
21 - 25	494	7.1						14.4
26 - 30	248	4.0						10.9
31 - 40	211	6.2						11.4
41 - 59	132	6.1						9.8
60 & Over	12	0						8.3

\* All populations followed through June 30, 1975. See NOTE Table 3.



Recidivism by Ethnic Group

Table 10 compares the cumulative failure rates for all those released from 1965 through 1974 by ethnic group. It can be seen that the American Indian category consistently has the highest failure rate for every follow-up period for each year examined. Admission statistics by race for fiscal years 1971 and 1972 show that while approximately 25% of all non-Indian admissions were parole violators, the rate of admissions for parole violators for Indians was 55.6% for fiscal year 1971 and 41.3% for fiscal year 1972--approximately twice the rate of any other racial group. Further data analysis is necessary to determine if alcohol involvement or any other variable is related to this higher parole failure rate for American Indians.

Mexican-American and "Other" categories are considerably lower than the other categories in their rate of failure. As noted, the Mexican-American category has only been recorded separately since 1969. Prior to that Mexican-Americans were included in the "Other" category. Since the Mexican-American category does not include the four (4) earliest years, the return rates shown in Table 10 are expected to be lower than for the other categories. In turning to Table 11, where the actual failure rates for the Mexican-American category are shown, it can be seen that the Mexican-American category does in fact have a lower recidivism rate than the other major ethnic groups until about 1971, when the difference becomes minor. The category with consistently the lowest recidivism is the "Other" category. This category includes Japanese, Chinese, Filipino and all other ethnic groups, and has consistently had the lowest failure rate for all follow-up periods in each year.

In comparing the white and black racial categories it can be seen (Table 10) that while during the first six months to one year whites have a slightly higher failure rate, the failure rate for blacks equals and begins to pass that for the white category during the second year follow-up and appears to increase at a slightly higher rate over subsequent years. An examination of Table 11 shows that this trend appears to have been constant over the past 10 years, with whites having the highest failure rate during the early months after release but with blacks eventually having a higher rate of return with more than two years follow-up. The only real exception to this trend appears to be for those released during calendar year 1971. It can be seen in that year that even after three years' follow-up whites had a higher rate of return to the institutions. Whether or not the trend is beginning to diminish is difficult to say until further follow-up data are available, but the data for 1973 and 1974 tend to indicate that the overall trend described above is still occurring.



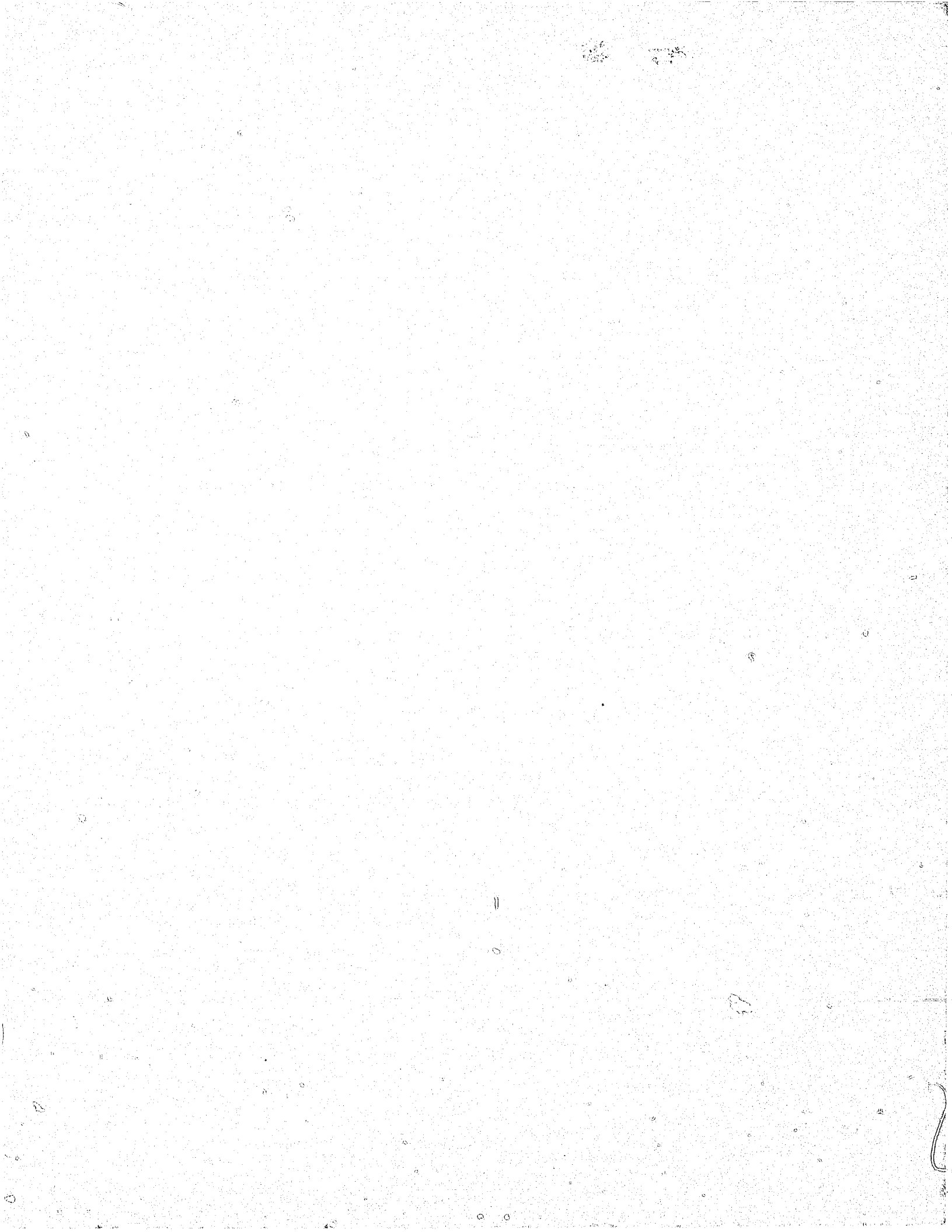


TABLE 10  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
 ADULT CORRECTIONS FROM JANUARY 1, 1965 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1974  
 BY ETHNIC GROUP AND BY PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Ethnic Group	Number Released	Percent Returned After**					
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.
White	11,638	6.9	15.5	24.5	28.0	29.5	30.1
Black	1,961	4.5	13.9	25.6	30.6	32.7	34.3
Amer. Indian	803	12.2	23.9	35.0	38.9	41.2	41.7
Mexican-Amer.	114	6.1	11.4	15.8	20.2	21.9	*
Other	342	3.2	9.4	14.0	17.5	19.6	20.2
TOTAL	14,858	6.8	15.6	24.9	28.6	30.3	31.0

\* Mexican-American has been recorded as a separate category since 1969. Before that they were included in the "Other" category. Since this category does not include the 4 earliest years, its return rates should be comparatively lower. See note below.

\*\* NOTE: This table combines populations for 1965 through 1974 and follows them through June 30, 1975. While some persons have been on the street (at risk) for 10 years, others have been at risk for only 6 months. The average time at risk for the total population is approximately 5 years. This table is presented only for the purpose of making general comparisons between ethnic groups. For determining the actual percent returned for each group for each follow-up period, please see Table 11.

TABLE 11  
NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
BY ETHNIC GROUP AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Ethnic Group	Number Released	Percent Returned After						
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	To Date*
<u>1965 Total</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>10.1</u>	<u>21.3</u>	<u>30.3</u>	<u>35.0</u>	<u>37.8</u>	<u>39.3</u>	<u>42.7</u>
White	1,026	9.8	20.8	29.7	33.7	36.3	37.4	40.9
Black	137	8.8	18.2	29.2	38.0	40.9	45.3	49.6
Amer. Indian	72	16.7	34.7	43.1	51.4	56.9	56.9	59.7
Other	38	10.5	21.1	26.3	28.9	31.6	34.2	34.2
<u>1966 Total</u>	<u>1,357</u>	<u>6.9</u>	<u>15.8</u>	<u>27.7</u>	<u>33.5</u>	<u>36.3</u>	<u>37.4</u>	<u>40.0</u>
White	1,085	7.4	15.9	27.5	33.1	35.6	36.8	39.4
Black	135	3.0	16.3	35.6	43.7	47.4	48.9	52.6
Amer. Indian	60	15.0	28.3	40.0	46.7	51.7	51.7	51.7
Other	77	1.3	3.9	7.8	11.7	14.3	15.6	16.9
<u>1967 Total</u>	<u>1,673</u>	<u>7.3</u>	<u>16.5</u>	<u>27.7</u>	<u>31.4</u>	<u>32.9</u>	<u>34.1</u>	<u>36.5</u>
White	1,309	7.3	16.0	27.0	30.3	31.8	32.8	35.1
Black	183	7.7	16.9	31.7	36.6	37.2	40.4	44.8
Amer. Indian	109	11.0	28.4	42.2	48.6	49.5	50.5	52.3
Other	72	1.4	6.9	9.7	13.9	16.7	16.7	18.1
<u>1968 Total</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>7.2</u>	<u>18.7</u>	<u>29.7</u>	<u>33.9</u>	<u>35.9</u>	<u>36.8</u>	<u>39.1</u>
White	1,186	6.8	18.5	28.9	32.9	34.7	35.6	37.8
Black	184	5.4	18.5	31.5	37.5	39.1	40.8	44.6
Amer. Indian	81	17.3	27.2	42.0	45.7	49.4	49.4	51.9
Other	39	7.7	10.3	17.9	23.1	28.2	28.2	28.2
<u>1969 Total</u>	<u>1,503</u>	<u>8.8</u>	<u>18.4</u>	<u>29.2</u>	<u>33.7</u>	<u>36.1</u>	<u>37.3</u>	<u>38.2</u>
White	1,192	8.6	17.3	27.5	31.6	33.7	34.7	35.7
Black	173	7.5	20.8	32.9	41.6	46.8	50.3	50.9
Amer. Indian	97	16.5	29.9	46.4	47.4	49.5	50.5	50.5
Mexican-Amer.	7	0	14.3	14.3	28.6	28.6	28.6	28.6
Other	34	2.9	14.7	23.5	26.5	26.5	26.5	26.5

TABLE 11 (Continued)  
NUMBER OF PERSONS PAROLED OR DISCHARGED FROM WASHINGTON STATE  
ADULT CORRECTIONS DURING CALENDAR YEARS 1965 THROUGH 1974  
BY ETHNIC GROUP AND BY THE PERCENT RETURNED TO CUSTODY

Ethnic Group	Number Released	Percent Returned After						To Date*
		6 mo.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	
<u>1970 Total</u>	<u>1,380</u>	<u>6.4</u>	<u>15.1</u>	<u>24.5</u>	<u>28.8</u>	<u>31.1</u>	<u>32.8</u>	
White	1,067	6.5	15.2	23.9	27.9	29.8	31.0	
Black	179	3.9	12.8	25.7	31.3	35.2	40.2	
Amer. Indian	96	10.4	20.8	31.3	36.5	40.6	42.7	
Mexican-Amer.	15	6.7	6.7	13.3	13.3	13.3	13.3	
Other	23	4.3	13.0	21.7	30.4	30.4	30.4	
<u>1971 Total</u>	<u>1,593</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.2</u>	<u>23.0</u>	<u>27.9</u>		<u>30.8</u>	
White	1,222	5.5	14.2	23.4	28.2		30.9	
Black	244	1.2	6.6	20.9	26.6		30.3	
Amer. Indian	84	8.3	16.7	27.4	31.0		33.3	
Mexican-Amer.	23	13.0	17.4	17.4	30.4		34.8	
Other	20	0	10.0	15.0	15.0		15.0	
<u>1972 Total</u>	<u>1,736</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>13.7</u>	<u>22.8</u>			<u>27.7</u>	
White	1,356	4.9	12.9	21.8			26.6	
Black	274	3.6	16.1	27.0			32.5	
Amer. Indian	68	13.2	22.1	29.4			33.8	
Mexican-Amer.	26	3.8	15.4	23.1			30.8	
Other	12	0	0	0			0	
<u>1973 Total</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>6.0</u>	<u>12.7</u>				<u>21.9</u>	
White	1,157	6.8	13.3				22.3	
Black	227	2.6	9.7				21.6	
Amer. Indian	73	6.8	16.4				23.3	
Mexican-Amer.	24	0	0				4.2	
Other	9	0	11.1				11.1	
<u>1974 Total</u>	<u>1,363</u>	<u>6.1</u>					<u>12.8</u>	
White	1,038	6.6					12.8	
Black	225	4.0					11.1	
Amer. Indian	63	6.3					17.5	
Mexican-Amer.	19	10.5					21.1	
Other	18	0					6.3	

\* All populations followed through June 30, 1975. See NOTE on Table 3.

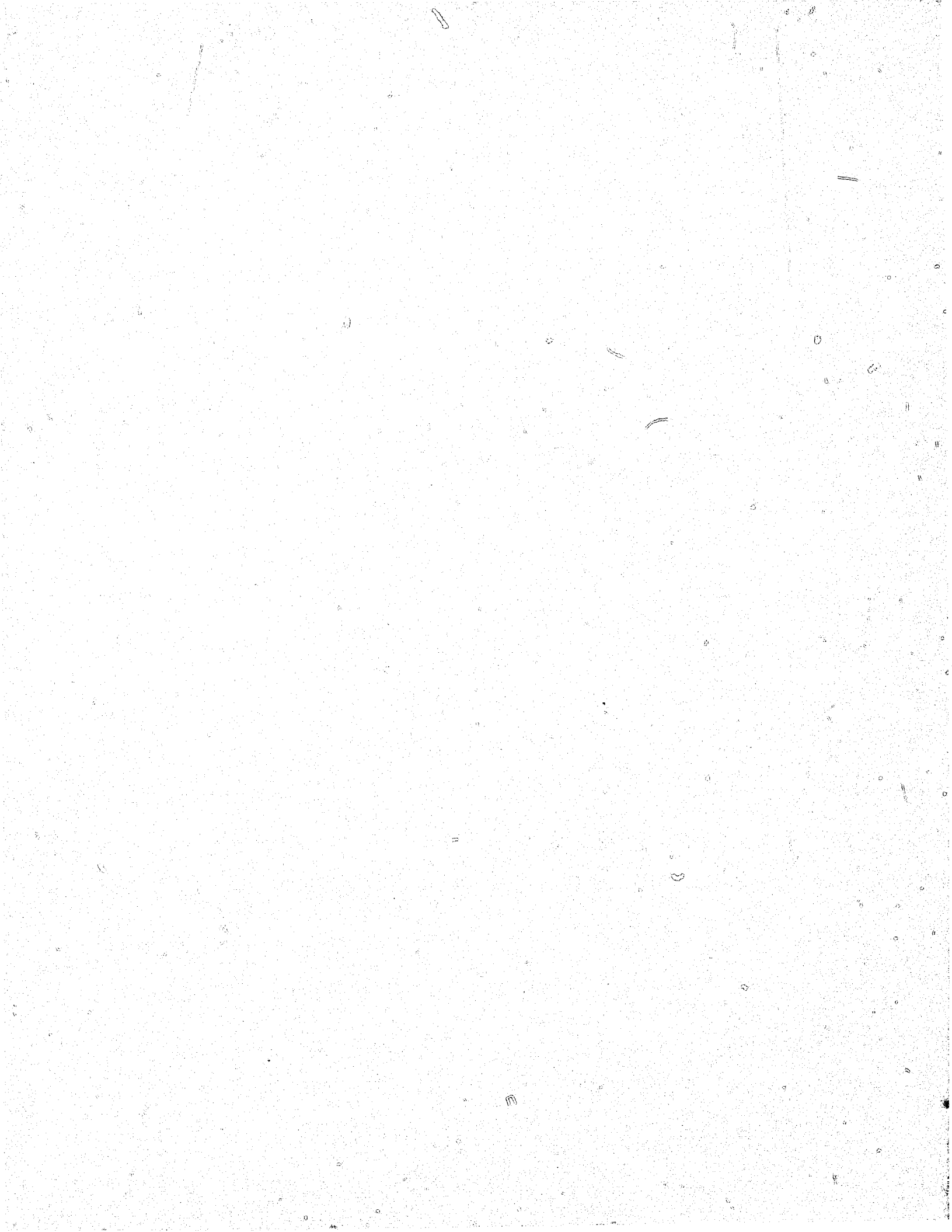


SUMMARY

This publication presents basic data related to recidivism rates for persons paroled or discharged from Washington State correctional facilities. The following conclusions are supported by the data presented:

1. Over the last 10 years return rates have been reduced. This apparently has been due to administrative changes (i.e. on-site hearings for parole violators) that now tend to keep more parolees in the community.
2. Overall return rates in recent years for persons released from Washington correctional facilities are approximately 6% after six months' follow-up, 13% to 14% after twelve months' follow-up and 23% to 24% after two years.
3. The return rate levels off after five years at just under 40%. Even after 10 years follow-up 60% of those released have not returned to a Washington State correctional facility.
4. Of those who returned during the follow-up period (up to 10 years) 75% returned in the first two years.
5. The Washington State Corrections Center at Shelton had the lowest return rate for all institutions housing male residents, while the Purdy Treatment Center for Women had a far lower return rate than any other correctional institution.
6. Persons entering the correctional system as first admissions have significantly lower return rates after release than those who enter the system as re-admissions or parole violators.
7. Return rates by offense show that the offense categories with the lowest recidivism rates are manslaughter, murder, indecent liberties, and drug violations. The offense categories with the highest failure rates are burglary, forgery, and auto theft. These are also among the largest (most populous) offense categories.
8. A large increase beginning in 1970 in the number of drug offenders released, accompanied by a decreasing rate of return for drug offenders, help in part, to explain the overall reduction in recidivism rates described above in conclusion number one.

9. There is a relatively high return rate for persons under the age of 21 and a lower return rate for those in the over 40 age groups. There appears to be no significant difference in the return rates of various age groupings of the population between the ages of 21 and 40.
  
10. Recidivism by ethnic group shows that the "Other" category (including Japanese, Chinese, and Filipino) has consistently lower return rates while American Indians have significantly higher return rates than any other ethnic group. Return rates for whites and blacks are very similar, although whites tend to return to the institution at a somewhat higher rate during early months after release while blacks tend to return at a higher rate than whites after two years of follow-up.





**END**