Mississippi Department of Corrections

Systems Development

RECIDIVISM RATES

COHORT A

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PRIMARY RECIDIVISM RATES

COHORT A
RELEASEES OF THE FOURTH QUARTER
CY 1978

N = 457

Three Month:	N = 11	Rate = 2.4%
Six Month:	N = 21	Rate = 4.6%
One Year:	N = 37	Rate = 8.1%

RECIDIVISM RATES

Definition

Attention has been given to the growing need to establish a concise definition of recidivism rate within the Mississippi Department of Corrections. By our definition, a recidivist is anyone who is released from incarceration in the Mississippi prison system and returns to the Mississippi prison system because he or she has committed a new offense or is guilty of a technical violation of release supervision (No attempt has been made to track Mississippi releasees who subsequently enter an out-of-state system).

All types of release are included: parole, work release, supervised earned release, suspension, discharge upon expiration of sentence or discharge with probation to follow. Persons who are returned to the prison system to await hearing on a release violation are not considered recidivists until such hearings determine that they will be retained in prison instead of being returned to community supervision.

Of a sample of 2,227 prisoners in the state system, 574 (26%) are recidivists. But 26% represents a ratio, not a rate. Rate implies time and recidivism rate implies the tracking of specific individuals through time. Therefore, in determining recidivism rate, a base cohort can be tracked at three month, six month, one year, two year, and three year intervals to determine how many of the cohort have returned to incarceration at the different time intervals - and thus produce a recidivism rate for each of these intervals.

Methodology

The recidivism rate for any one of these time spans (expressed as a percentage) is determined by dividing the total number of persons returning to incarceration by the number in the base cohort. For example, of the 457 inmates released during the fourth quarter of 1978, 11 returned within three months of that release quarter. Thus, the three month recidivism rate is determined as follows:

$$11 \div 457 = 2.4 \text{ percent}$$

The recidivism rate for each successive time span will be cumulative. In other words the number of persons who recidivated within three months will be included in determining the six month rate, and so on.

The six month and one year rates have been determined and are reflected in this report. Two and three year rates will be published when those time periods have elapsed.

Cohort A

The 457 individuals released from the system during the fourth quarter of Calendar Year 1978 constitute the target population of the on-going study. This specific population is labeled Cohort "A" because later cohorts (B, C, etc.) will be tracked in a similar fashion for comparative purposes.

Subordinate Rates

Three Month Rate

Of the 11 inmates (2.4% of the 457) who re-entered the system within three months after their release quarter:

8 (73% of the 11 and 1.7% of the 457) were revoked parolees.

Of the 8:

4 (50% of the 8 and .9% of the 457) were revoked for technical violation.

4 (50% of the 8 and .9% of the 457) were revoked because of new sentence.

1 (9% of the 11 and .2% of the 457) was revoked from supervised earned release because of new sentence (0 for technical violation).

1 (9% of the 11 and .2% of the 457) was revoked from work release because of new sentence (0 for technical violations).

1 (9% of the 11 and .2% of the 457) was discharged with probation to follow and revoked because of new sentence. (0 for technical violation).

0 were returned after discharge upon expiration of sentence.

Six Month Rate

Of the 21 inmates (4.6% of the 457) who re-entered the system within six months after their release quarter:

15 (71% of the 21 and 3.3% of the 457) were revoked parolees.

Of the 15:

6 (40% of the 15 and 1.3% of the 457) were revoked for technical violation.

9 (60% of the 15 and 2.0% of the 457) were revoked because of new sentence.

2 (10% of the 21 and .4% of the 457) were revoked from supervised earned release because of new sentence (0 for technical violation).

3 (14% of the 21 and .6% of the 457) were revoked from work

release because of new sentence (0 for technical violation).

1 (5% of the 21 and .2% of the 457) was discharged with probation to follow and revoked because of new sentence (0 for technical violation).

0 were returned after discharge upon expiration of sentence.

One Year Rate

Of the 37 inmates (8.1% of the 457) who re-entered the system within one year after their release quarter:

29 (78% of the 37 and 6.3% of the 457) were revoked parolees.

Of the 29:

18 (62% of the 29 and 3.9% of the 457) were revoked for technical violation.

11 (38% of the 29 and 2.4% of the 457) were revoked because of new sentence.

2 (5% of the 37 and .4% of the 457) were revoked from supervised earned release because of new sentence (0 for technical violation).

3 (8% of the 37 and .7% of the 457) were revoked from work release because of new sentence (0 for technical violation).

3 (8% of the 37 and .7% of the 457) were discharged with probation to follow and revoked because of new sentence (0 for technical violation).

3 (8% of the 37 and .7% of the 457) were returned after discharge upon expiration of sentence, obviously because of new sentence.

Summary of Revocations

Of the 37 inmates who recidivated within one year, 34 (92%) were revoked from release supervision.

Of the 34:

18 were revoked for technical violation. This number constitutes:

53% of the revocations

49% of the total number of recidivists

4% of all releasees (Cohort A)

16 were revoked because of new sentence. This number constitutes:

47% of the revocations

43% of the total number of recidivists

3% of all releasees (Cohort A)

Recidivism by Release Type

Of the total of 457 releasees (Cohort A):

223 (49% of the 457) were paroled.

8 (4% of the 223) recidivated within three months.

15 (7% of the 223) recidivated within six months.

29 (13% of the 223) recidivated within one year.

31 (7% of the 457) were put on supervised earned release.

1 (3% of the 31) recidivated within three months.

2 (6% of the 31) recidivated within six months.

2 (6% of the 31) recidivated within one year.

85 (19% of the 457) were put on work release.

1 (1% of the 85) recidivated within three months.

3 (4% of the 85) recidivated within six months.

3 (4% of the 85) recidivated within one year.

88 (19% of the 457) were discharged upon expiration of sentence. 0 recidivated during the entire one-year period.

30 (7% of the 457) were discharged with probation to follow.

1 (3% of the 30) recidivated within three months.

1 (3% of the 30) recidivated within six months.

3 (10% of the 30) recidivated within one year.

Much of the data presented above are repeated in the following tables.

COHORT A: 457 INMATES RELEASED THE 4TH QUARTER OF 1978

RETURNED WITHIN 3 MONTHS
N = 11
RECIDIVISM RATE = 2.4%

PAROLE REVOKED		SUPERVISED EARNED RELEASE REVOKED		WORK RELEASE REVOKED		DISCHARGED ON EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE	DISCHARGED ON EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE WITH PROBATION TO FOLLOW	
TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE	TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE	TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE	NEW SENTENCE	TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE
4 (50%)	4 (50%)	0 (0%)	1 (100%)	0 (0%)	1 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (100%)

RETURNED WITHIN 6 MONTHS
N = 21
RECIDIVISM RATE = 4.6%

PAROLE REVOKED		SUPERVISED EARNED RELEASE REVOKED		WORK RELEASE REVOKED		DISCHARGED ON EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE	DISCHARGED ON EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE WITH PROBATION TO FOLLOW	
TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE	TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE	TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE	NEW SENTENCE	TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE
6 (40%)	9 (60%)	0 (0%)	2 (100%)	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (100%)

RETURNED WITHIN 1 YEAR
N = 37
RECIDIVISM RATE = 8.1%

PAROLE REVOKED		SUPERVISED EARNED RELEASE REVOKED		WORK RELEASE REVOKED		DISCHARGED ON EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE	DISCHARGED ON EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE WITH PROBATION TO FOLLOW	
TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE	TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE	TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE	NEW SENTENCE	TECHNICAL VIOLATION	NEW SENTENCE
18 (62%)	11 (38%)	0 (0%)	2 (100%)	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (100%)

RECIDIVISM BY RELEASE TYPE

NUMBER RELEASED BY TYPE	RELEASE BY TYPE AS PERCENT OF TOTAL RELEASE POPULATION (457)	PERCENT OF RELEASED TYPE RETURNED TO INCARCERATION (3 Mo)	(6 Mo)	(1 Yr)
223 Parole	223/457 = 49%	8/223 = 4%	15/223 = 7%	29/223 = 13%
31 Supervised Earned Release	31/457 = 7%	1/31 = 3%	2/31 = 6%	2/31 = 6%
85 Work Release	85/457 = 19%	1/85 = 1%	3/85 = 4%	3/85 = 4%
88 Discharged on Expiration of Sentence	88/457 = 19%	0/88 = 0%	0/0 = 0%	0/0 = 0%
30 Discharged on Expiration of Sentence W/Probation to Follow	30/457 = 7%	1/30 = 3%	1/30 = 3%	3/30 = 10%

END