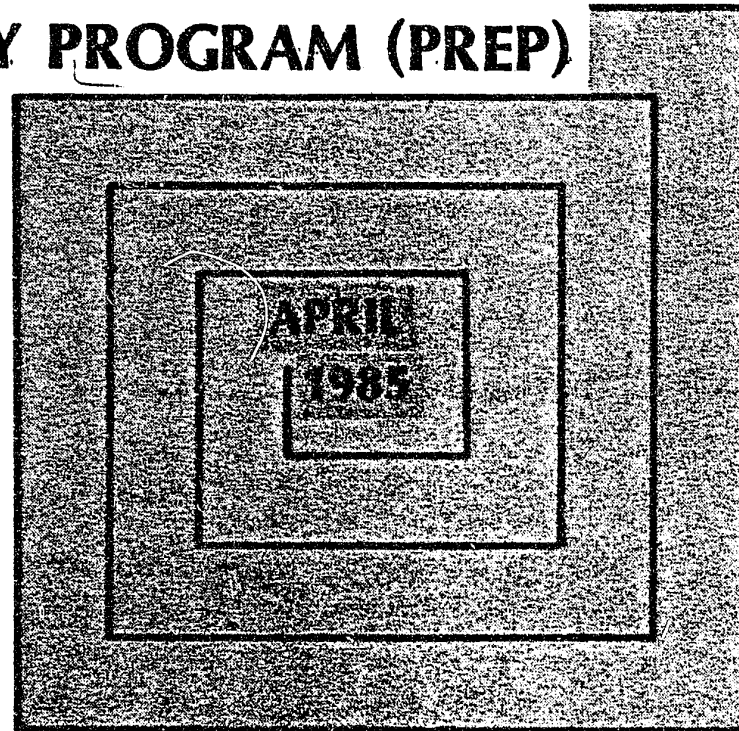


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**ASSESSMENT OF
PLANNED
RE-ENTRY PROGRAM (PREP)**



99300

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Program Research and Review Division

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SUMMARY

The aim of this study was to examine the effectiveness of the Planned Re-Entry Program (PREP), a short-term, accelerated treatment program for male wards established at the Karl Holton School in Northern California and the Ventura School in Southern California. The program was chiefly intended to alleviate potential overcrowding in Youth Authority institutions through bed savings resulting from a shorter length of stay. These savings, it was assumed, could be achieved without an increase in the recidivism rate of PREP wards following their release to parole.

PREP emphasizes counseling and casework services, life skills development, parole planning and community reentry. During four to five months in PREP, wards are expected to progress through several stages while demonstrating increased social skills and preparation for successful parole adjustment. The program is facilitated by enriched staffing, with the regular complement of living unit staff increased by one parole agent, two youth counselors and an office assistant (replaced by a group supervisor at Ventura PREP).

Statistics on the selection and assignment of wards to PREP indicate that Holton PREP was generally maintained at capacity, while Ventura PREP experienced a shortage of wards admitted. The average daily population during January to June 1983 was 58 wards at Holton PREP and 38 wards at Ventura PREP. This disparity appears to reflect differences in selection practices--the number of wards recommended for PREP by clinic staff and those approved by the Youthful Offender Parole Board--between the Northern and the Southern Reception Centers.

About 70 percent of the wards admitted to PREP during September 1979 through December 1982 completed the program. The completion rate was slightly higher at Holton PREP (72 percent) than at Ventura PREP (68 percent). Further analysis showed that PREP completion could not be predicted on the basis of major ward background characteristics.

Compared to the total male ward population in YA facilities, PREP wards included a disproportionately large number of White wards relative to minority group wards. This disparity appears to reflect the program's policy of admitting only wards with less serious commitment offenses, as defined by Board Hearing Categories VI and VII.

Based on PREP's reduced length of stay, the program showed benefits in terms of bed savings and cost avoidance. During 1980-82, PREP saved an estimated 76 beds annually, including 43 beds at Holton PREP and 33 beds at Ventura PREP. The resulting cost avoidance can be estimated based on either of two assumptions. On the one hand, PREP's bed savings may over the long term have postponed the need for adding living units to reduce overcrowding. On this basis, the program's cost avoidance was about \$874,000 per year, or approximately three times its budgeted cost in excess of regular living unit costs. On the other hand, PREP's bed savings were probably insufficient during the study period (September 1979 through June 1983) to affect the need for adding living units. Based on this assumption, the program's cost avoidance was about \$184,452 or about two thirds of its budgeted cost. The program's potential cost avoidance, however, was diminished by the fact that Ventura PREP could not be maintained at bed capacity.

Post-release outcome data disclose that 24 percent of the total PREP releases became parole violators within 12 months compared to 28 percent of the comparison group. For Holton PREP, 21 percent became violators relative to 29 percent for its comparison group, a statistically significant difference. For Ventura PREP, the violation rate was 28 percent as against 26 percent for its comparison group. An additional analysis examined the relationship between parole outcome and ward background characteristics. It was found that Holton PREP wards, in relation to the comparison group, generally had a significantly lower violation rate for White wards than for minority group wards.

Viewed overall, PREP has provided a short-term, accelerated treatment program for selected wards and produced appreciable savings in institutional beds and operational cost avoidance, although not a sufficient amount to offset the program's added cost on a short-term basis. Follow-up data suggest that PREP wards perform about as well on parole as similar wards not exposed to the program.

BACKGROUND

With public demand for protection from criminal activity mounting rapidly in 1979, legislation was enacted which resulted in lengthened periods of incarceration for all offenders. In compliance with this legislation and related court actions, the Youthful Offender Parole Board made policy changes that increased the average length of stay of wards. As a result, the institutional population increased from 3,993 in 1977 to 4,902 in 1979, or about 23 percent. With population projections indicating further substantial increases, the Department was faced with a shortage of institutional bed space. In anticipation of this problem, the Planned Re-Entry Program (PREP) providing 50 budgeted beds for short-term, accelerated treatment was established in August 1979 at each of two institutions--the Karl Holton School in Northern California and the Ventura School in Southern California. The program was primarily intended to alleviate overcrowding through beds saved from a reduced length of stay. These savings would be accomplished by providing accelerated services for selected wards, without increasing their subsequent risk of parole violation.

PREP was designed to be a four-to-five month program of accelerated counseling and casework services facilitated by enriched staffing, with focus upon life skills development, parole planning and community re-entry. A phase system is utilized--wards progress through the program upon successfully completing the requirements for each phase.

The aim of this report is to assess the PREP operation mainly in terms of potential savings in bed space, operational cost avoidance, and post-release outcome. Its scope is necessarily limited not only because a rigorous research design involving random assignment was not feasible, but because a long-term followup could not be done at this time for all study groups. Consequently, the findings concerning program effectiveness cannot be regarded as conclusive. In the opinion of the writer, however, the pattern of findings reveal enough consistency to support certain policy decisions affecting PREP, particularly those relating to the program's length of stay and bed savings.

OBJECTIVES

Of major interest in this evaluation are the following questions:

1. To what extent did PREP adhere to its plan for accelerated programming, in terms of the number of wards admitted to and paroled from the program, and their average length of stay?
2. What kinds of wards, in terms of background characteristics, are likely to successfully complete PREP? That is, what characteristics distinguish the wards who succeed and fail PREP?
3. What has been the impact of PREP with reference to reduced length of stay, bed savings, and institutional costs?
4. How effective is PREP as measured by post-release parole outcome?

METHOD

The initial research plan provided for the random assignment of PREP eligible wards to either experimental (PREP) or control groups, with the latter consisting of wards who were not involved in PREP during their institutional stay. This design would have ensured comparability between the two groups at the time of PREP assignment, so that any subsequent difference in length of stay or outcome measures could be evaluated. It became apparent by September 1980, however, that random assignment could not be sustained, primarily because an insufficient number of PREP-eligibles were referred from the Southern Reception Center to Ventura PREP to maintain that program at capacity. Moreover, the excess eligible wards identified at the Northern Reception Center were often assigned to Ventura PREP, leaving no surplus out of which to establish a randomly assigned control group.

Since it became impossible to develop a control group, research staff established a comparison group that would permit a quasi-evaluation which, while not allowing for a definitive evaluation, would furnish rough indications of PREP efficacy and effectiveness. A comparison group made up of wards judged eligible for PREP but admitted prior to the program's implementation was ruled out. Such a 1978-79 baseline group would have been limited in comparability because of administrative and policy changes affecting wards who were released to parole since that period. Instead, it was decided to constitute a comparison group made up of wards who were: 1) released to parole during the same period as the PREP study groups, 2) assigned to Holton and Ventura Schools (the two institutions housing PREP) but not placed in PREP, 3) aged 15 years or older, and 4) comparable to PREP wards with respect to offense categories, that is, were committed for Board Hearing Categories VI and VII, consisting of the less serious types of offenses. ^{1/} Further matching on other PREP selection criteria was not attempted, as these criteria involved considerable staff judgment or were adhered to with some degree of flexibility. ^{2/}

Three approaches are used in analyzing the parole outcome of Holton PREP and Ventura PREP. First, the overall parole violation rates of each of the two programs are examined relative to the rates obtained for their comparison groups for the total releases to parole during calendar years 1980-81. Included is a subanalysis of differences in violation rates between those wards paroled from PREP and those who failed to complete the program.

^{1/} See Appendix A for the offenses included in each Board Hearing Category.

^{2/} Selection criteria used for PREP admission pertained to wards who were regular Board cases in Hearing Categories VI and VII; 15 years or older; without serious assaultive or psychiatric histories; not assigned to another institutional program; with 9-12 months of time from commitment to Parole Consideration Date; and declared eligible for PREP by the Youthful Offender Parole Board.

Second, a more complex statistical technique, regression analysis, is used to evaluate differences in violation rates between the PREP and comparison groups while controlling for differences in selected ward background characteristics relevant to parole outcome. Also, differences in violation rates in relation to background characteristics are analyzed between the PREP graduates and wards who failed to complete the program.

The third approach deals with the question of whether any of the major ward background characteristics considered appear to differentiate between PREP wards who succeed or fail on parole; that is, do certain kinds of wards as defined by background characteristic seem to respond favorably or unfavorably to PREP in terms of parole outcome? The analysis is based on an interaction chi-square method, as elaborated in the Findings section.

The above analytic approaches should be regarded as exploratory rather than conclusive as they do not fully control for selection factors involved in the screening and assignment of PREP eligible wards. The observed difference in outcome between the PREP and comparison groups, therefore, is not necessarily a reflection of the program's effectiveness but may be biased by selection factors. Given this limitation, these approaches do, however, offer tentative indications of PREP impact on post-release outcome.

Compared to the foregoing analysis of PREP outcome, the evaluation of potential PREP benefits in terms of reduced length of stay (LOS), bed savings, and cost avoidance appears less troublesome. PREP bed savings are assessed relative to the average statewide LOS for wards in Board Hearing Offense Categories VI and VII who were released to parole in calendar years 1980-1982. The statewide LOS estimate used excludes wards committed for person offenses, since such wards generally receive a longer LOS than other types of offenders. The savings are calculated, essentially, by comparing the actual number of PREP beds required (given the program's length of stay and the number of wards who moved through it) with the expected number of beds required for the same number of similar wards in the regular institutional program. In addition, the actual bed savings were compared with the expected bed savings if PREP had been used at full bed capacity while allowing for a reasonable degree of attrition of wards who failed to complete the program. Using the estimate of PREP bed savings, the approximate cost avoidance is then derived. Finally, the extent to which the latter amount offset PREP's operating cost is determined. PREP's cost avoidance is also estimated on the assumption that if the program had not existed the PREP eligible wards could have been placed in camps rather than in regular institutional programs. Most of the calculations used are based on the procedure developed in an earlier PREP evaluation progress report (Haapanen, 1979).

While the two PREP operations consist of several major program components (mainly, counseling, survival education, and parole planning/re-entry) the relationship of these components to within-program and post-release outcome was not examined. This kind of analysis, while desirable, was beyond the scope of the present study.

Data for the evaluation were secured from several sources. PREP population movement statistics were obtained mainly from lists provided by PREP staff. Ward background characteristics and parole followup data were derived from computer files maintained by the YA Information Systems in the Division of Information Management. Information regarding the Holton PREP and Ventura PREP Program operations were based on 1) descriptive material furnished by the program staff, and 2) informal interviews with these staff.

NATURE OF PROGRAM

As mentioned earlier, PREP is a short-term, accelerated program implemented in living units budgeted for 50 beds at both Ventura and Holton Schools. The two individual programs were established to test the feasibility of increasing YA institutional capacity by reducing the length of stay to four to five months for selected, less dangerous YA wards. Wards admitted to these programs must meet the following criteria:

1. Regular Board male wards in Board Hearing Categories VI and VII; (See Appendix A);
2. Parole consideration date: between 9 to 12 months from the date of acceptance upon commitment;
3. Age range: 15 to 18 years for Holton PREP and 16 years or older for Ventura PREP;
4. No serious assaultive or psychiatric histories;
5. No wards transferred from other institutional programs; and
6. Declared as "PREP Eligible" by the Youthful Offender Parole Board.

To provide the accelerated treatment services, PREP was given an enriched staffing pattern. In addition to the regular complement of eight living unit staff, both programs were supplemented by one parole agent, two youth counselors, and an office assistant, with the latter position replaced by a group supervisor at Ventura PREP. The staff/ward ratio for each of the programs is approximately one-to-five, compared to a ratio of one-to-six for regular institutional living unit programs.

According to PREP administrators, the enriched staffing is required in order to deliver the level and variety of services offered by the accelerated program. PREP involves a greater amount of casework, for example, since over twice as many wards are processed during the short program than in regular institutional programs. Two additional youth counselors are needed to provide adequate supervision, thereby freeing up a third counselor to concentrate on individual or group counseling, casework duties, and to facilitate related program activities such as survival education, community service experiences and parole preparation. Also with the added staffing, counselors can more readily spot emerging behavior problems among wards and take prompt preventive actions.

Both programs are based on similar models of short-term treatment, emphasizing the strengthening of a ward's repertoire of social skills required for successful parole adjustment. Progressive learning experiences are provided by means of sequential/developmental phases. In order to successfully complete the program, wards must progress through these phases by demonstrating the skills and knowledge required at each level.

Holton PREP

The program is located at the Karl Holton School in a dormitory living unit. Although budgeted for 50 beds, the program has been accommodating an additional five to eight wards as a result of institutional overcrowding. The program's major components provide intensified services in several areas: counseling, survival education, community services, and pre-parole preparation/planning.

The counseling program focuses on behavior modification, assertiveness training, and rational self-counseling. This is accomplished through classroom instruction, twice-weekly small group counseling, and individual counseling sessions. Moreover, large group meetings are held weekly to resolve ward problems concerning living unit adjustment.

In addition, the counseling program provides outside volunteers from Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Alateen (for teenagers who are alcoholic or have alcoholic parents) who conduct regular sessions. The AA meetings are held weekly for 1½ hours and include about two thirds of PREP wards; Alateen meets semi-monthly for 1½ hours with a similar number of participants.

Survival education is integrated with the counseling component teaching techniques of self-counseling, and parole preparation and planning. Instruction is also given in everyday survival skills including basic reading and math, consumer education, problem solving, job getting and keeping, etc.

The community service experience, reserved for wards in the last six weeks of program, allows wards to enhance their interactional/social skills through involvement in community service agencies. At any given time, about 11 wards are involved in community services for six hours per day, two days a week. An additional four wards--usually those deemed to be escape risks--work within the institution as assistants to the janitor or storekeeper.

The parole preparation and planning commences as soon after the ward's arrival as possible. The ward participates in pre-parole classes dealing with family relations, neighborhood/community awareness, parole conditions, parole agent's role and responsibility, school/employment readiness, and ultimate honorable discharge from parole. In addition, the ward and his counselor complete appropriate parole office and community contacts.

The phase system enables wards to learn skills by progressing through three phases. In Phase I, a three-week period of orientation and goal formation, wards learn to accept responsibility for themselves and the program with the help of staff and a peer sponsor. Working with their assigned treatment members, each ward identifies and develops treatment goals, which are reviewed and established at his initial case conference.

Phase II, an eight-week skills development period, represents the major portion of each ward's PREP time. The focus is on helping wards identify problem areas by teaching self-counseling techniques, assertiveness training, and basic survival education skills. A ward's progress is monitored as he practices these skills in everyday living unit and classroom situations, as well as in his newly assumed role as a peer sponsor for Phase I wards.

Phase III, a 7-week community service/pre-parole period, concentrates on further development and practice of problem-solving and survival skills necessary for parole adjustment. During the last six weeks, wards are placed in social service agencies in the Stockton area where they perform needed community services. The wards generally work as volunteers six hours a day, twice per week for four to five weeks, at five agencies in the Stockton area. These include a center for the blind, where wards help with gardening and janitorial work; a county hospital, where they perform maintenance tasks; a senior citizens service agency, where wards assist in preparing hot meals; a half-way house and drop-in center where wards help with intake procedures and crisis counseling; and the Salvation Army where wards work on processing goods and loading/unloading trucks.

Phase III also includes intensive pre-parole placement services provided to facilitate re-entry, including ward meetings with field parole agents, parents, placement resources, etc.

Holton PREP differs from Ventura PREP in being a self-contained, autonomous program. The wards have their own teachers and education program; their recreation activities are separate, with the exception of weekly intra-mural sports events involving wards from other living units at Holton School. According to Holton PREP staff, program autonomy offers several advantages. First, it enables staff and wards to more effectively interface various program components, such as the education and living unit services. Second, it encourages closer interaction and cooperation among staff and wards, thereby enhancing their relationships. Third, a self-contained program allows wards to verbally confront each other more freely in order to deal with individual or group problems.

Ventura PREP

Wards in this program are housed at the Ventura School in a 52-bed living unit with individual rooms. They share an academic school, gymnasium and other facilities with wards from other institutional programs. Similar to its Holton counterpart, Ventura PREP has as its major components cottage living, counseling, education, and recreation activities. These components are applied in the program's phase system described below. The cottage living aspect dealing with daily adjustment on the living unit emphasizes time management, interpersonal relationships, personal responsibility and rule conformity. Behavior modification methods are used for behavior control and to maximize program involvement.

Counseling consists of a combination of individual counseling 3-4 times per week, small group counseling once a week, and weekly large group meetings focusing on living unit issues. The individual and small group counseling are designed to make wards more responsible and accountable for their behavior, with wards' past and present behavior providing the foundation for these sessions. In addition, wards are expected to participate in each of the 15-phase groups which coincide with their phase level in the program. Each phase group covers a specific topic. During the first two weeks of PREP, a ward attends a phase group on orientation. During the third to tenth week, phase groups emphasize topics of life skill development. In subsequent weeks,

the phase groups deal with topics of parole planning and re-entry. Included are special sessions conducted by qualified volunteers. For example, all wards attend four lecture/discussion sessions, each 1 to 1½ hours, focusing on 1) child abuse and neglect and 2) job survival skills.

Education, in terms of life skill development, is the primary theme during a ward's Ventura PREP involvement. Areas of consumer education, problem solving and job finding/maintenance are offered as part of the school curriculum. Basic reading, writing, and arithmetic skills are also taught.

A varied recreation program is designed to enhance wards' use of leisure time. In addition to normal indoor and outdoor recreation, off-ground trips are provided including trips to local businesses, employment offices, government offices, and leisure time activities to demonstrate constructive use of free time after wards are paroled.

The program's phase system parallels the one employed at Holton PREP. Phase I, a two-week orientation period, familiarizes newly arrived wards with rules and expectations and cottage procedures. Program goals are established and the initial case conference report is prepared, including a tentative parole plan for presentation at the initial case conference.

Phase II, lasting eight weeks, features life skill development to enable wards to learn ways to legitimately survive in the community and develop an awareness of resources available to him. Particular emphasis is placed on obtaining and maintaining employment and on having students prepare for G.E.D. or high school equivalency exams, if appropriate.

Phases III and IV emphasize parole planning (four weeks) and re-entry (four weeks), respectively. Aspects of parole planning are stressed in individual counseling, while survival skills topics such as securing a job and finding an apartment are taken up in small group sessions. Wards are encouraged to go on off-grounds trips with opportunities for touring places of potential employment and public service agencies. A few of the wards participate in volunteer work or are employed in part-time jobs during this stage of the program. Two or three wards perform volunteer work at a nearby State hospital as staff aids in the unit for autistic children, or doing maintenance tasks for 30 hours per week. In addition, two wards generally volunteer for maintenance tasks at local parks. Within Ventura School, two wards are usually employed as bus boys or assisting maintenance staff.

During the re-entry phase, more time is set aside for wards to prepare for parole by meeting with parole agents and exploring job prospects or school enrollment. When Phase IV is satisfactorily completed, generally by the end of the 18th week, wards appear before the Youthful Offender Parole Board with a recommendation of referral to parole.

FINDINGS

In keeping with the evaluation objectives, the study findings are addressed to several major aspects. Presented first are statistics on the selection and assignment of wards to PREP, including an analysis of differences in assignment practices between the Northern Reception Center-Clinic (NRCC) as compared to the Southern Reception Center-Clinic (SRCC) and the Youth Training School-Clinic (YTS-C). The same section also describes the background characteristics of PREP wards in relation to the composition of the total YA male ward population. In addition, trends are examined regarding the proportion of wards who successfully completed PREP as compared to those who failed to do so and were transferred to other programs.

The next section evaluates potential PREP benefits in terms of bed savings and cost avoidance resulting from the program's reduced length of stay.

The final section evaluates the parole outcome of PREP wards relative to that observed for comparison groups. Of additional concern is the parole performance of wards who completed PREP as compared to program failures. Parole outcome is also analyzed to determine whether wards with certain background characteristics are likely to show a more favorable performance.

PREP Population Selection and Assignment

Since the major reason for initiating PREP was to provide an accelerated program which would produce bed savings, an important question is the extent to which wards were actually admitted and processed through PREP to achieve such savings. In other words, were a sufficient number of wards admitted to PREP and released to parole within approximately 4½ months while maintaining the program at bed capacity? This question is of particular concern to administrators as they have indicated that problems have arisen in keeping Ventura PREP filled at budgeted capacity. Population statistics pertaining to this issue are examined in the following section.

The assignment of wards to PREP involves several stages of identification and selection based on the eligibility criteria specified for the two programs. In the first stage, PREP eligible wards are identified by caseworkers at the reception center clinics during their review of intake case files. The criteria used at this stage are: Board Hearing categories VI or VII, absence of psychiatric or assaultive histories, and ages 16 or older for Ventura PREP and 15 to 18 years old for Holton PREP. Next, the potentially eligible cases are reviewed at clinic staff conferences using the total criteria (specified on page 4), and if found eligible are recommended to the Youthful Offender Parole Board for PREP assignment. The Board then considers the staff recommendations and designates those wards judged suitable for PREP assignment. Generally, these wards are placed in PREP, although a waiting list or other contingencies sometimes prevent or delay their PREP transfer. Eligibles from NRCC are usually assigned to Holton PREP, while those from SRCC are assigned to Ventura PREP.

Tables 1-3 show data concerning clinic staff recommendation and Board approval of wards for PREP assignment covering Fiscal Year 1982-83. Several aspects are worth noting. At NRCC, 84 percent of the 219 wards recommended by clinic staff for were approved for PREP assignment by the Youthful Offender Parole Board. By contrast, 29 percent of 49 wards recommended by SRCC staff were approved by the Board, and 54 percent of 35 wards recommended by YTS-C staff were Board approved.

Tables 2 and 3 also show the number of wards who, during the initial review of intake case files, were found potentially eligible for PREP. About 5 percent of the potentially eligible wards at SRCC and YTS combined were subsequently recommended by clinic staff and approved by the Board for PREP assignment.

In short, about 2½ times as many wards were recommended for PREP at NRCC than at SRCC and YTS-C combined and a substantially higher percentage of those recommended were approved by the Board at NRCC. While the factors underlying these disparities between the northern and southern clinics have not been clearly determined, interviews with staffs at SRCC and Ventura suggest two major reasons. It appears that Board members or Board representatives at SRCC often regard the regular, long-term institutional program as more appropriate than PREP for wards who were initially identified as PREP eligibles by clinic caseworkers. Responding to the Board's highly selective policy, clinic staff also may have adopted a more cautious approach in recommending wards for PREP assignment. As a consequence, there has been a persistent shortage in the number of wards placed in Ventura PREP.

TABLE 1
NRCC SELECTION OF PREP WARDS,
FISCAL YEAR 1982-83

Status	June-Dec. '82		Jan.-June '83		Fiscal 1982-83	
	Total	Monthly Mean	Total	Monthly Mean	Total	Monthly Mean
Staff Recommended <u>a/</u>	108	18.0	111	18.5	219	18.2
Board Approved <u>b/</u>	86	14.3	98	16.3	184	15.3
Percent Approved <u>c/</u>	79.6		88.2		84.0	

a/ Data on the number of potentially eligible wards--who according to a review of case files met criteria of PREP eligibility--were not available for the wards screened for PREP at NRCC.

b/ Of the 184 wards approved for PREP by the Board in FY 1982-83, 156 were assigned to Holton PREP, 18 to Ventura PREP, and 10 to other institutional programs.

c/ Percent approved is based on the number recommended by staff.

TABLE 2
SRCC SELECTION OF PREP WARDS,
FISCAL YEAR 1982-83

Status	July-Dec. '82		Jan.-June '83		Fiscal 1982-83	
	Total	Monthly Mean	Total	Monthly Mean	Total	Monthly Mean
Potentially Eligible	336	56.0	282	47.0	618	51.5
Staff Recommended	31	5.2	18	3.0	49	4.1
Board Approved <u>a/</u>	9	1.5	5	.8	14	1.2
Percent Approved <u>b/</u>	29.0		27.8		28.6	

a/ All wards approved by the Youthful Offender Board for PREP were assigned to Ventura PREP.

b/ Percent approved is based on the number recommended by staff.

TABLE 3
YTS-CLINIC SELECTION OF PREP WARDS,
FISCAL YEAR 1982-83

Status	June-Dec. '82		Jan.-June '83		Fiscal 1982-83	
	Total	Monthly Mean	Total <u>c/</u>	Monthly Mean	Total <u>c/</u>	Monthly Mean
Potentially Eligible	20	3.3	20	4.0	40	3.6
Staff Recommended	18	3.0	17	3.4	35	3.2
Board Approved <u>a/</u>	10	1.7	9	1.8	19	1.7
Percent Approved <u>b/</u>	55.5		52.8		53.9	

a/ All wards approved by the Youthful Offender Board for PREP were assigned to Ventura PREP.

b/ Percent approved is based on the number recommended by staff.

c/ Totals exclude data for April of 1983 which were not reported.

PREP Admissions and Departures

Table 4 presents statistics on the number of admissions and departures for total PREP, as well as for Holton PREP and Ventura PREP, covering September 1979 through June 1983. Data concerning the average daily population in the two living units were available only for 1982 and the first half of 1983.

Since the start of PREP in September 1979 through June 1983, a total of 1,008 wards were admitted into and 898 departed from the combined two programs, including 644 releases to parole and 254 transfers to other institutional programs. Of chief interest in comparing the two programs is the fact that a consistently larger number of wards was admitted to Holton PREP than to Ventura PREP. Correspondingly, the average daily population was substantially higher at Holton PREP, particularly for the first half of 1983 (57.7 versus 37.7). This difference between the two programs reflects the substantially larger number of wards recommended by clinic staff and approved by the Board at NRCC than at SRCC and YTS-Clinic, as discussed above. The resulting bed vacancies at Ventura PREP were usually filled by Non-PREP wards who were assigned on an interim basis while awaiting assignment to other programs. 3/

3/ The Non-PREP wards were excluded from the statistics in this report. Unfortunately, records of the number of these wards were not maintained as part of the research data files. According to staff estimates, there were generally 11-14 Non-PREP wards assigned to the Ventura PREP living units, a majority of whom stayed less than one month in the program.

The impressions of Ventura PREP staff with reference to the Non-PREP wards are worth noting. According to staff, these wards tend to be more delinquently oriented than regular PREP wards. While they are encouraged to participate in PREP activities, they often exert a disruptive influence and require a disproportionate amount of staff time in terms of supervision and counseling. The Non-PREP wards generally do not remain long enough in the program to be appreciably influenced by staff counseling efforts or treatment activities.

Data on the length of stay (LOS) in PREP show a mean of 4.4 months during 1980 to 1982, varying from 4.3 months in 1980 to 4.6 months in 1982. During that year, the mean LOS was 4.7 months for Holton PREP compared to 4.4 months for Ventura PREP, as detailed in Appendix Table B-4.

TABLE 4
POPULATION MOVEMENT STATISTICS FOR HOLTON PREP AND VENTURA PREP,
SEPTEMBER 1979 THROUGH JUNE 1983

Program, and Movement Status	Total Period	Sept.- Dec. 1979	Jan.- Dec. 1980	Jan.- Dec. 1981	Jan.- Dec. 1982	Jan.- June 1983
TOTAL PREP						
Admissions	1,008	108	273	255	253	119
Departures	898	16	262	247	258	115
Paroles	644	2	202	174	186	80
Transfers	254	14	60	73	72	35
Average Daily Population		<u>a/</u>	<u>a/</u>	<u>a/</u>	48.7	47.7
HOLTON PREP						
Admissions	577	61	149	143	149	75
Departures	500	12	136	136	143	73
Paroles	380	2	110	97	119	52
Transfers	120	10	26	39	24	21
Average Daily Population		<u>a/</u>	<u>a/</u>	<u>a/</u>	56.1	57.7
VENTURA PREP						
Admissions	431	47	124	112	104	44
Departures	398	4	126	111	115	42
Paroles	264	-	92	77	67	28
Transfers	134	4	34	34	48	14
Average Daily Population		<u>a/</u>	<u>a/</u>	<u>a/</u>	41.4	37.7

a/ PREP data not available.

Table 5 focuses on the intra-program performance of PREP admissions, comparing the number of these wards who successfully completed the program followed by release to parole and those who failed to do so resulting in transfer to another program within the same institution or another facility. The proportion who completed the program varied somewhat over the periods shown, both within and between the two programs.

TABLE 5
PROGRAM COMPLETION STATUS FOR HOLTON PREP AND VENTURA PREP ADMISSIONS,
SEPTEMBER 1979 THROUGH DECEMBER 1982

Program, and Completion Status	Total Period	ADMISSION PERIODS			
		Sept.- Dec. 1979	Jan.- Dec. 1980	Jan.- Dec. 1981	Jan.- Dec. 1982
<u>TOTAL PREP</u>					
Admissions	889	108	273	255	253
Completed (Paroled)	626	86	184	184	172
Failed (Transferred)	263	42	88	71	81
% Completed	70.4	79.6	67.4	72.2	68.0
<u>HOLTON PREP</u>					
Admissions	502	61	149	143	149
Completed (Paroled)	364	48	96	103	117
Failed (Transferred)	138	13	53	40	32
% Completed	72.5	78.7	64.4	72.0	78.5
<u>VENTURA PREP</u>					
Admissions	387	47	124	112	104
Completed (Paroled)	262	38	88	81	55
Failed (Transferred)	125	9	36	31	49
% Completed	67.7	80.9	71.0	72.3	52.9

The overall completion rate for wards admitted to PREP during September 1979 to December 1982 was 70 percent. In other words, of the 889 wards who entered PREP 626 completed the program as parole releases while 263 were transferred elsewhere as program failures. The completion rate declined generally during the study period, from about 80 percent to 68 percent.

At Holton PREP, the completion rate was lowest in 1980 at 64 percent and increased over the next two years to 78 percent in 1982. At Ventura PREP, the completion rate dropped from 81 percent in 1979 to 72 percent in 1981 and 53 percent in 1982. The reason for Ventura PREP's sizable rate decline in 1982 is not clear. However, a clue is provided by the program staff's impression that a higher proportion of marginally qualified wards were assigned in 1982 as more departmental emphasis was placed on maintaining camp bed capacity, thereby drawing on the pool of PREP eligible wards. According to Ventura PREP staff, there were no significant changes in PREP policy or operational standards which could have contributed to the lower rate of program completion in 1982.

A further PREP statistic which deserves mention pertains to the number of escapes. During the 1980-82 period, a total of ten wards were involved in escapes, including seven at Holton PREP and three at Ventura PREP. Nine of the escapes occurred in the community setting - while wards were on voluntary work assignments (6), work furlough (1), and on day pass (2). Only one case involved an escape from within the institution. The ten PREP escapes represent a rate of one escape per 100 admissions. The same escape rate was reported for the total male wards admitted during this period to the combined Ventura and Karl Holton Schools. Considering the fact that PREP wards were often involved in field trips and community work during their pre-release phase, the ten escapes recorded for the two programs over three years represent a relatively low incidence.

Ward Background Characteristics

In conjunction with PREP population intake and movement statistics, the composition of PREP departures in comparison to the background characteristics of the total YA male ward population can now be examined. In addition, any appreciable differences in background characteristics will be noted between the Holton PREP and Ventura PREP populations. These data are detailed in Table 6.

In terms of age at admission to YA, PREP wards overall appear similar to the total YA ward population, although during 1981 Holton PREP wards were typically younger while Ventura PREP wards were often older. These differences could be anticipated in light of Ventura PREP's criterion of accepting wards 16 or older compared to Holton PREP's stated policy of accepting 15 to 18 year-olds.

Ethnic composition reveals that White wards tended to be overrepresented while minority wards (Hispanic and Black) were underrepresented in PREP relative to the total YA male population. A separate analysis not included in this report shows that the program's relatively low proportion of minority wards is related to PREP's selection policy of admitting only wards committed for the less serious types of offenses as defined by Board Hearing Categories VI and VII. These categories tend to include fewer minority wards than expected based on their proportion in the total institutional ward population.

TABLE 6
BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF HOLTON AND VENTURA PREP WARDS
COMPARED TO TOTAL MALE WARDS IN YOUTH AUTHORITY FACILITIES,
1980 THROUGH 1982
(In Percent)

Characteristics	1980				1981				1982			
	Total PREP	Holton PREP	Ventura PREP	YA Inst. Males a/	Total PREP	Holton PREP	Ventura PREP	YA Inst. Males a/	Total PREP	Holton PREP	Ventura PREP	YA Inst. Males a/
Total	100.0 (262)	100.0 (136)	100.0 (126)	100.0 (4,587)	100.0 (247)	100.0 (136)	100.0 (111)	100.0 (5,445)	100.0 (252)	100.0 (137) b/	100.0 (115)	100.0 (5,479)
Age at Admission												
Mean	17.5	17.2	17.7	17.7	17.5	17.3	18.4	17.7	17.6	17.2	18.0	17.6
Median	17.3	17.0	17.5	17.6	17.6	17.2	18.6	17.6	17.5	17.2	18.1	17.4
Ethnic Group												
White	41.2	51.5	46.8	33.9	57.9	60.3	55.0	30.4	54.8	56.9	52.2	26.8
Hispanic	11.7	17.6	19.8	31.3	14.6	16.2	12.6	29.2	19.8	16.1	24.3	30.7
Black	28.2	26.5	30.2	36.3	25.1	21.3	29.7	38.2	21.4	22.6	20.0	40.1
Other	3.8	4.4	3.2	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.7	2.2	4.0	4.4	3.5	2.4
Prior Record												
None	4.2	1.4	7.1	13.2	10.1	3.7	18.0	17.2	15.5	10.2	21.7	17.3
Prior Probation	14.5	9.6	19.8	22.3	19.4	15.4	24.3	23.2	26.7	18.2	36.5	22.9
Local Lockup	81.3	89.0	73.0	64.6	70.4	80.9	57.7	59.6	57.9	71.5	41.7	59.8
Court												
Juvenile	72.1	77.9	65.9	56.2	55.9	73.5	34.2	53.0	59.9	71.5	46.1	60.0
Adult	27.9	22.1	34.1	43.8	44.1	26.5	65.8	46.9	40.1	28.5	53.9	40.0
Admission Status												
First Admiss.	85.5	83.1	88.1	83.3	92.3	88.2	97.3	85.4	94.8	92.0	98.3	84.3
Readmission	14.5	16.9	11.9	16.7	7.7	11.8	2.7	14.6	5.2	8.0	1.7	15.7
Admission Offense												
Person	7.6	8.0	7.1	51.2	4.9	4.4	5.4	52.3	5.2	6.6	3.5	54.2
Property	85.9	83.8	88.1	37.0	92.3	92.6	91.9	35.4	91.7	91.2	92.2	32.9
Other	6.5	8.2	4.8	11.8	2.8	3.0	2.7	12.3	3.1	2.2	4.3	12.9

a/ Based on male ward population in Youth Authority facilities as of June 30, 1980, 1981, and 1982, respectively, with the following exceptions. Age at Admission and Prior Record is based on the total male ward population admitted during 1980 (N=4846), 1981 (N=4845), 1982 (N=4260).

b/ Excludes six wards who were transferred as program failures from Holton PREP but had not been released to parole as of the analysis cutoff date, March 20, 1983.

Analyzed by prior record (pre-YA commitment), the 1980 and 1981 PREP wards included a disproportionate number with histories of local lockups, (jail, juvenile hall, and county camps); the 1982 PREP wards, however, closely resembled the total YA male population in this regard.

The most obvious disparity, again reflecting PREP's selection policy, is seen in admission offense category: PREP wards included substantially higher proportions of property offenders and lower proportions of person offenders than the total male wards.

Comparisons of Holton PREP and Ventura PREP wards discloses several differences in social and personal characteristics. In keeping with the differences in admission criteria pertaining to age, Ventura PREP wards were generally older than Holton PREP wards. Consequently, Ventura PREP wards were also more likely to be committed by adult court rather than juvenile court.

The two programs differ notably with respect to prior record. For each of the three years, Ventura PREP wards were less likely to have histories of prior probation or records of local confinement. Moreover, smaller proportions of Ventura PREP than Holton PREP wards were readmissions rather than first admissions to YA--the difference being consistent although not statistically significant over the three-year period. Seen in perspective, however, there is no clear evidence that one of the two programs contained more hard-core, delinquent wards, as criminal orientation is a complex dimension involving more factors than extent of prior record and YA admission status.

A relevant question is whether or not successful program completion can be predicted based on a knowledge of the personal and social characteristics of PREP admissions. An analysis was conducted using six major ward background characteristics, namely, age at admission, prior record, prior probation or local confinement history, admission status (first admission versus readmission to YA), admission offense category, ethnic group, and court of commitment (juvenile court versus adult court) covering each of three years, 1980 to 1982. 4/ The results did not disclose consistent significant differences--greater than would be expected merely by chance--in the proportionate distributions of subcategories of background characteristics between the PREP parole releases and the transfers who failed to complete PREP (Appendix Tables B-6 and B-7).

4/ For each of the two programs, the proportions of wards who successfully completed PREP and those transferred as failures were compared with respect to background characteristics. To determine statistical significance, chi-square technique was employed. For both Holton PREP and Ventura PREP, the expected versus the observed number of program completions and failures (transfers) were compared for subcategories of each background characteristic. The data are shown in Appendix Tables B-6 and B-7. Statistically significant differences--greater than would occur by chance 95 times out of 100--were found between the Ventura PREP releases to parole and the transfers on three characteristics: Prior record, ethnic group, and court of commitment. However, none of these statistically significant differences were obtained consistently for more than one of the three years examined.

Evaluation of Savings

A major aim of PREP is to provide bed savings as a result of reduced length of stay, that is, to accommodate a larger number of wards at the institution by their participation in a program of accelerated services within a shorter period of stay. The intent was not only to alleviate institutional overcrowding through bed savings but also to assess related benefits in terms of cost avoidance. The evaluative results with regard to bed savings and operational cost avoidance are presented below.

Does PREP Save Beds?

To establish a framework for evaluating PREP's potential bed savings, it will be useful to review some of the program's assumptions. As originally proposed, wards placed in the program were to be released to parole six months from the date of acceptance by the Department. Since a ward's stay at the reception center was generally about 1½ months, his PREP stay could be assumed to be about 4.5 months ^{5/}. Given a budgeted capacity of 100 beds, PREP's LOS of 4.5 months would result in about 267 wards completing the program per year ($100 \times 12/4.5 = 266.7$). The number of beds which would have been required had these 267 wards been assigned, instead, to a regular (non-PREP) institutional program depends, of course, on their average LOS. For Board Hearing Categories VI and VII wards, who are roughly comparable to PREP admissions, the mean institutional LOS in 1980 - 1982 was 9.7 months. The number of beds required annually for 267 wards with a LOS of 9.7 months is 216 ($267 \times 9.7/12 = 216$).

The latter figure, however, needs to be adjusted to take into account the PREP attrition of wards who do not successfully complete the program. The attrition rate during 1980 to 1982 varied from 28% at Holton PREP to 32% at Ventura PREP. Applying the lower 28% rate, 192 of the 267 wards would be expected to complete the program and 75 transferred to other programs. For the sake of simplicity, it can be assumed that the PREP transfers have about the same average LOS as comparable category VI and VII wards. ^{6/} The number of beds, then, required by the 192 PREP graduates with a LOS of 4.5 months is 72 ($192 \times 4.5/12 = 72$). Had the same wards been assigned to a regular institutional program (LOS of 9.7), they would have required 155 beds ($192 \times 9.7/12 = 155$). This means that PREP offers savings of 155 - 72, or 83 beds, which can be used as a reference point for the ensuing analysis. ^{7/}

^{5/} Based on data in Appendix Table B-4, the actual mean LOS in PREP for departures (parole releases and transfers) during 1980 to 1982 was 4.4 months.

^{6/} Based on Appendix Table B-4, the mean institutional LOS during 1980 to 1982 was 9.3 months for PREP transfers and 9.7 months for Board Hearing Category VI and VII cases. Since PREP transfers do not have a longer LOS than roughly comparable Category VI and VII cases, they would not require additional beds during their total institutional stay than wards in the regular programs.

^{7/} Using the same calculations, but applying the 1982 PREP attrition rate of 47% instead of 28%, the resulting savings would have been 53 beds.

Tables 7 and 8 present the data on bed savings as calculated for Holton PREP and Ventura PREP for 1980 through 1982. Table 7 shows savings including all PREP departures (parole releases and transfers), while Table 8 adjusts for attrition by limiting the calculations to parole releases.

The 1980 Holton PREP savings of 36.3 beds, for example, were derived from the difference between the expected and actual number of beds required for the 136 PREP departures. With 5.8 months of LOS in PREP, these wards required 65.7 beds; had these 136 wards been assigned to the regular institutional program with LOS of 9.0 months, they would have required 102.0 beds--the bed savings are therefore estimated to be 102.0 - 65.7, or about 36 beds.

TABLE 7
ESTIMATED BED SAVINGS DURING
INSTITUTIONAL STAY OF HOLTON PREP AND VENTURA PREP
DEPARTURES, 1980 THROUGH 1982

Program and Departure Year	A Expected No. of Beds Required <u>a/</u>	B Actual No. of Beds Required <u>b/</u>	A-B Bed Savings
<u>HOLTON PREP</u>			
1980 Departures	$9.0 \times 136/12 = 102.0$	$5.8 \times 136/12 = 65.7$	36.3
1981 Departures	$9.7 \times 136/12 = 109.9$	$6.3 \times 136/12 = 71.4$	38.5
1982 Departures	$10.2 \times 137/12 = 116.4$	$5.4 \times 137/12 = 61.6$	54.8
Mean Beds	109.4	66.2	43.2
<u>VENTURA PREP</u>			
1980 Departures	$9.0 \times 126/12 = 94.5$	$5.9 \times 126/12 = 62.0$	32.5
1981 Departures	$9.7 \times 111/12 = 89.7$	$6.3 \times 111/12 = 58.3$	31.4
1982 Departures	$10.2 \times 93/12 = 79.0$	$5.7 \times 93/12 = 44.2$	34.8
Mean Beds	87.7	54.8	32.9
<u>TOTAL PREP</u>			
1980-1982 Mean Beds	197.1	121.0	76.1

a/ Represents the number of beds required for PREP departures (including parole releases and transfers to other institutional programs) if these wards had remained for a longer LOS in the regular institutional program. The formula used was:

$$\text{Expected No. of Beds Required} = \frac{\text{Mean LOS for Institution} \times \text{No. of PREP Departures}}{12}$$

b/ Represents the actual number of beds required for PREP departures (including parole releases and transfers). The formula used was:

$$\text{Actual no. of Beds Required} = \frac{\text{Mean LOS in Institution of PREP Departures} \times \text{No. of PREP Departures}}{12}$$

As seen in the table, the mean bed savings per year for the three-year period were approximately 43 beds for Holton PREP and 33 beds for Ventura PREP, amounting to 76 beds per year for the total PREP. The greatest savings were obtained in 1982, with 55 beds at Holton PREP and 35 beds at Ventura PREP, for a total of 90 beds.

When the calculations are based only on the number of wards who completed PREP (excluding PREP wards transferred as failures) as shown in Table 8, the bed savings were similar to the figures shown in Table 7--43 beds for Holton PREP, and 31 beds for Ventura PREP, or 74 beds for total PREP.

In short, PREP savings increased substantially during the three-year period, from 69 beds in 1980 to 90 beds in 1982 (Table 7). For the three-year period, however, PREP's savings of 76 beds still fell below the 83-bed savings, as estimated on page 17, which would have been realized had the PREP operation

TABLE 8
ESTIMATED BED SAVINGS DURING
INSTITUTIONAL STAY OF HOLTON PREP AND VENTURA PREP
RELEASES TO PAROLE, 1980 THROUGH 1982

Program and Departure Year	A Expected No. of Beds Required	B Actual No. of Beds Required	A-B Bed Savings
<u>HOLTON PREP</u>			
1980 Departures	$9.0 \times 110/12 = 82.5$	$4.9 \times 110/12 = 44.9$	37.6
1981 Departures	$9.7 \times 97/12 = 78.4$	$4.9 \times 97/12 = 39.6$	38.8
1982 Departures	$10.2 \times 119/12 = 101.2$	$4.9 \times 119/12 = 48.6$	52.6
Mean Beds	87.4	44.4	43.0
<u>VENTURA PREP</u>			
1980 Departures	$9.0 \times 92/12 = 69.0$	$4.6 \times 92/12 = 35.3$	33.7
1981 Departures	$9.7 \times 77/12 = 62.2$	$4.9 \times 77/12 = 31.4$	30.8
1982 Departures	$10.2 \times 67/12 = 57.0$	$5.0 \times 67/12 = 27.9$	29.1
Mean Beds	62.7	31.5	31.2
<u>TOTAL PREP</u>			
1980-1982 Mean Beds	150.1	75.9	74.2

been maintained at 100-bed capacity. As mentioned earlier, the problems encountered in keeping PREP beds filled centered around obtaining a sufficient number of wards eligible at SRCC and getting the hearing board's approval for assigning them to PREP.

Does PREP Produce Cost Avoidance?

To what extent did PREP's savings of 76 beds during 1980-1982 offset its operational cost based on the addition of PREP staff to the regular institutional living unit program? Estimates of cost avoidance for PREP are presented below. Cost data for these estimates were provided by the Departmental Budget Office and PREP administrators.

Two alternative cost analyses are employed, involving distinct assumptions regarding the impact of PREP bed savings upon relieving population pressures in YA institutions. Both assumptions pertain to the need for adding living units to alleviate overcrowding.

First, PREP's bed savings may over the long-term (at least three to four years) have been sufficient to postpone, if not prevent, the need for adding living units. ^{8/} Based on this assumption, the per capita cost of operating an additional living unit, \$11,500, applied to the 76 beds saved ($\$11,500 \times 76$) yields a cost avoidance of \$874,000 per year. This amount represents about three times PREP's budgeted cost of \$276,696 for added staffing (above regular living unit staffing) during Fiscal Year 1983-84.

Second, PREP's bed savings may over the short-term have been insufficient to delay the opening of additional living units. This is a plausible assumption because without PREP the 94 wards involved in the bed savings ^{9/} would probably have been absorbed by existing living units among several YA facilities. The only cost avoidance which could then be reliably attributed to PREP's bed savings would be based on the subsistence cost for each ward's personal care. ^{10/} Using PREP's budgeted cost and an estimated subsistence

^{8/} Except for the opening of Fenner Canyon, a 106-bed camp, in January 1980, no living units were reopened or constructed during the study period, September 1979 through June 1983. By 1984, however, an additional 80-bed dormitory was constructed at Oak Glen Camp, a 60-bed living unit was reopened at Preston School and double bunking was started at Youth Training School.

^{9/} With a mean institutional length of stay of 9.7 months during 1980 to 1982, the 76 beds saved would accommodate about 94 wards ($\frac{76 \times 12}{9.7}$).

^{10/} Subsistence cost pertains to personal care, including feeding, clothing, medical care, educational materials and related items.

cost of \$2,427 per ward per year, the 76 beds saved produced a cost avoidance of \$184,452 ($76 \times 2,427$). Based on these estimates, the program's cost avoidance offset about two thirds of its budgeted cost.

The preceding analysis assumes that if PREP had not existed, the wards placed there would otherwise have been assigned to regular institutional programs. It could be argued that a more likely assignment would have been to YA camps, since most PREP wards would have been camp eligible and the Department has had problems in keeping camps filled at capacity. Such camp assignments of PREP eligibles would probably have occurred largely during calendar years 1980-81 when camps were frequently below budgeted capacity. Since 1982, camps have been maintained at capacity as a result of a policy of assigning wards to camps during their last few months at the institution without appreciably changing their total LOS. During calendar years 1980-81, therefore, PREP's cost avoidance relative to the alternative of camp placement would have been somewhat less than for regular institutional placement since camps involved a shorter length of stay. ^{11/}

Parole Outcome

As explained earlier, several approaches were employed in lieu of a rigorous experimental design in order to evaluate PREP effectiveness in terms of parole outcome. The approaches used and the findings obtained are presented in this section. To begin with, the manner in which the comparison groups were developed is reviewed and the extent to which these groups show comparability to the respective PREP groups is examined. Second, the differences in parole outcome are analyzed 1) between the PREP and comparison groups and 2) between the PREP parole releases and PREP transfers (who failed to complete the program). Third, a more complex statistical technique (regression analysis) is used to examine the relative contributions of the PREP and comparison groups to parole outcome while allowing for differences between these groups in certain background characteristics related to parole violation rates. Fourth, differences in parole outcome are analyzed with regard to background characteristics to determine whether certain kinds of wards respond differently to PREP treatment.

^{11/} Wards assigned to camps were defined as PREP eligible if they were: 1) 15 years or older, 2) committed for Board Hearing Offense Categories VI or VII, and 3) paroled from camps in 1980 and 1981. PREP's cost avoidance relative to the alternative of camp placement in 1980 and 1981 is estimated to be \$54,607, or one fifth of PREP's cost of added staffing. This estimate was based on the method of calculation detailed above. Subsistence cost per ward was estimated to be the same for camps as for regular institutional programs.

Comparison Groups

As may be recalled, the comparison groups were developed by identifying wards who were not placed in PREP but were comparable in regard to 1) having been assigned to the same institution as PREP wards, 2) released to parole the same years (1980 and 1981) as the PREP wards for whom parole follow-up data were obtained, and 3) committed to YA for Board Hearing Categories VI and VII. The extent to which the PREP releases and comparison groups appear comparable on major background characteristics and parole risk (base expectancy) categories ^{12/} is detailed in Appendix Tables B-6 and B-7. Table 9 summarizes these data, displaying the distributions of the PREP and comparison groups on parole risk categories.

Viewed over the total 1980 and 1981 period, the Holton PREP and Ventura PREP groups appear similar to their comparison groups with regard to proportionate distributions on parole risk categories. The proportionate differences between the PREP and comparison groups are not statistically significant, or no greater than would ordinarily be expected to occur on a chance basis.

^{12/} Parole risk categories were calculated as probabilities of parole violation within 24 months of follow-up. The probabilities were derived by configuration analysis involving an optimal combination of three variables--commitment offense, court of commitment, and age at last Youth Authority admission.

TABLE 9
SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF HOLTON PREP,
VENTURA PREP, AND COMPARISON GROUPS,
FOR 1980 AND 1981 RELEASES TO PAROLE

Release Period, and Characteristics	Holton PREP		Comparison		Ventura PREP		Comparison	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total Releases	262	100.0	315	100.0	222	100.0	161	100.0
Age at Admission:								
15 & under	10	3.8	8	2.5	5	2.2	5	3.1
16	57	21.8	66	21.0	31	14.0	13	8.1
17	104	39.7	132	41.9	56	25.2	36	22.4
18	57	21.8	57	18.1	46	20.7	24	14.9
19	26	9.9	39	12.4	49	22.1	46	28.6
20	8	3.0	11	3.5	30	13.5	23	14.3
21 & over	-	-	2	.6	5	2.2	14	8.7
Mean	17.2		17.3		17.9		18.2	
Median	17.1		17.1		17.8		18.0	
Prior Record								
None	39	14.9	64	20.3	75	33.8*	38	23.6*
Prior commitments	223	85.1	251	79.7	147	66.2	123	76.4
Admission Status								
First admission	224	85.5	251	79.7	205	92.3**	129	80.1**
Readmission	38	14.5	64	20.3	17	7.7	32	19.9
Admission Offense								
Person	17	6.5**	52	16.5**	14	6.3**	29	18.0**
Property	230	87.8	239	75.9	199	89.6	123	76.4
Other	15	5.7	24	7.6	9	4.1	9	5.6
Ethnic Group								
White	146	55.7	167	53.0	112	50.4	92	57.1
Hispanic	44	16.8	56	17.8	36	16.2	32	19.9
Black	63	24.0	82	26.0	67	30.2	31	19.2
Other	9	3.4	10	3.2	7	3.1	6	3.7
Court								
Juvenile	197	75.2	241	76.5	112	50.4	74	46.0
Adult	65	24.8	74	23.5	110	49.5	87	54.0
Parole Risk Category								
Low	63	24.0	70	22.2	109	49.1	88	54.6
Medium	133	50.8	171	54.3	84	37.8	55	34.2
High	66	25.2	74	23.5	29	13.1	18	11.2

*, ** Statistically significant at .01 level (*) or .05 level of probability (**), based on chi-square test. This means that a difference as large as that observed in the proportionate distributions on parole risks between the Ventura PREP group and comparison group would be expected to occur merely on the basis of chance 5 times out of 100 or one time out of 100, respectively.

When parole risk is analyzed further in terms of six background characteristics, the Holton PREP and Ventura PREP groups, for the most part, look comparable to their comparison groups. ^{13/}

Overall Comparisons

Table 10 features parole outcome data in terms of parole violation rates and average months to violation. Parole violators, in this report, are defined as those wards who were removed from parole through either a parole revocation or a bad discharge from the Youth Authority within 12 months after release to parole. The principal findings seen in the table are as follows.

^{13/} Holton PREP included a significantly higher proportion of property rather than person offenders than its comparison group, suggesting that Holton PREP had a somewhat higher parole risk. A more complex set of differences emerged between Ventura PREP and its comparison group. On the one hand, Ventura PREP comprised of a significantly higher proportion of property offenders. However, Ventura PREP also had a significantly higher proportion of wards without prior records of probation or local lockup and a higher proportion of first admissions rather than readmissions to YA, both factors associated with lower parole risks.

TABLE 10
PAROLE VIOLATION STATISTICS FOR HOLTON PREP, VENTURA PREP, AND COMPARISON GROUPS,
FOR 1980 AND 1981 RELEASES TO PAROLE

Release Year, Length of Stay, and Parole Violation Status	Holton PREP				Ventura PREP			
	Total Departures	Parole Releases	Transfers a/	Comparison Group	Total Departures	Parole Releases	Transfers a/	Comparison Group
<u>1980 and 81 Releases</u>	262	207	55	315	222	169	53	161
No. Violated	56	41	15	91	62	45	17	41
% Violated	21.4 *	19.8	27.3	28.9 *	27.9	26.6	32.1	25.5
Months to Violation								
Mean	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.8	6.7	6.4	7.5	5.8
Median	5.0	4.6	5.3	5.7	6.5	6.5	8.5	6.2
<u>1980 Releases</u>	136	110	26	129	122	92	30	30
No. Violated	34	26	8	40	29	23	6	16
% Violated	25.0	23.6	30.8	31.0	23.8	25.0	20.0	20.0
Months to Violation								
Mean	5.0	5.2	4.5	5.4	7.2	7.0	7.9	5.6
Median	4.6	5.4	4.2	5.4	7.7	6.8	9.4	6.7
<u>1981 Releases</u>	126	97	29	186	100	77	23	81
No. Violated	22	15	7	51	33	22	11	25
% Violated	17.5 *	15.5	24.1	27.4 *	33.0	28.6	47.8	30.9
Months to Violation								
Mean	5.5	5.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.6	7.0	6.0
Median	5.6	4.1	6.0	5.8	6.0	5.8	6.5	5.7

a/ Transfers consist of wards who failed to complete PREP, departed from the program and were released to parole during 1980 and 1981, respectively.

* Statistically significant at .05 probability level based on chi-square test. In other words, the observed difference in violation rate between the Holton PREP Total Departures and the Comparison Group wards would be expected to occur by chance only 5 times out of 100.

For the combined Holton and Ventura PREP groups, 118 out of 484, or 24 percent, of the parole releases became violators within 12 months, while 132 out of 476, or 28 percent of the comparison group were reported as violators. The difference in percent violators between the PREP and comparison groups is not statistically significant, or no greater than chance expectation. ^{14/}

Of the Holton PREP releases, 21 percent became parole violators within 12 months relative to 29 percent for the comparison group. The proportionate difference between the two groups is statistically significant. For Ventura PREP, 28 percent of the releases became parole violators relative to 26 percent of the comparison group, a negligible or statistically nonsignificant difference.

Considered separately for each of the two years, the results remain fairly consistent. Holton PREP shows a smaller violation rate than its comparison group for 1980 (25 percent vs. 31 percent) and 1981 (18 percent vs. 27 percent), the latter difference being statistically significant. Ventura PREP reveals a slightly higher rate than its comparison group in 1980 (24 percent vs. 20 percent), as well as in 1981 (33 percent vs. 31 percent).

The second outcome criterion, months from date of parole release to parole violation, shows relatively minor differences between the PREP and comparison groups. The mean difference between the two groups for the overall 1980 and 1981 period is less than one month, reflecting, perhaps, variations in administrative practices among parole offices. The mean time to parole violation is about 0.6 month shorter for Holton PREP than its comparison group, and 0.9 month longer for Ventura PREP than its comparison group. Analyzed separately for the two years, the time to violation is slightly shorter for Holton PREP and longer for Ventura PREP relative to their comparison groups.

Table 10 also discloses that for the total 1980 and 1981 period, the PREP releases to parole as compared to the PREP transfers who failed to complete the program have somewhat lower parole violation rates (20 percent vs. 27 percent for Holton PREP, and 27 percent vs. 32 percent for Ventura PREP). These differences are generally consistent for the two years under consideration, with the exception of Ventura PREP rates in 1980. However, none of the difference in violation rates between the PREP parole releases and transfers is statistically significant, that is, the rates do not differ more than would be expected to occur by chance alone.

Controlling for Background Characteristics

As an alternative approach, the differences in violation rates between the PREP and comparison groups were analyzed while allowing for differences in background characteristics between the two groups. This was done by using a regression analysis model, which provides a way of assessing the relative contribution to parole outcome of the PREP and comparison groups while controlling for variations in selected ward background characteristics. The results,

^{14/} Chi-square test was used for exploratory purposes, recognizing that without random assignment of subjects to experimental and control groups, a test of statistical significance is not strictly applicable.

as detailed in Appendix Tables B-8 and B-9, are consistent with the foregoing findings. The regression data confirm that the Holton PREP releases have a significantly lower rate of violation than the comparison group after allowing for the contributions of seven background characteristics. On the other hand, no significant differences in violation rates appear between the Ventura PREP and comparison groups; similarly, no significant differences emerge between the PREP releases to parole and the PREP transfers (who failed to complete the program) for either Holton PREP or Ventura PREP after taking into account background characteristics.

An additional aspect of interest in assessing parole outcome is whether wards at either program responded differently to treatment depending on separate background characteristics. In other words, did wards with certain characteristics show a differential PREP impact in terms of parole performance? To shed light on this question, Appendix Tables B-12 and B-13 were constructed showing parole violation rates for the PREP and comparison groups for the two programs, tabulated by selected background characteristics and parole risk categories. Also, Appendix Tables B-14 and B-15 were developed to determine whether PREP wards released directly to parole differ significantly from those who failed to complete PREP (transfers to other programs) according to background characteristics.

Concerning the first question, the PREP and comparison groups generally did not reveal statistically significant differences in violation rates as a function of background characteristics ^{15/}. The only exception occurred for Holton PREP with regard to ethnic group. White wards had a significantly lower violation rate than minority group wards paroled from PREP relative to White and minority wards paroled from the comparison group. Significant differences in this regard were obtained for both the 1980 and 1981 releases to parole. The reason for the seemingly more favorable outcome of White wards is not clear. Further research involving a detailed study of program dynamics might shed light on factors underlying this finding.

Analysis of the PREP parole releases and PREP transfers, based on data in Appendix Table B-14 and B-15, also failed to disclose any differences other than chance fluctuations in parole violation rates as a function of background characteristics. Thus, except as indicated above, there is no clear evidence that certain kinds of PREP graduates, in terms of the background characteristics considered, perform better or worse on parole than PREP transfers.

^{15/} To analyze whether the parole violation rates found for the two groups differ significantly (more than would ordinarily be expected to occur merely by chance) by ward background characteristics, an interaction chi-square method was used. Statistical significance was established at the .05 probability level for treatment and interaction effects in an analysis of chi-square components. (Rao, 1970)

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

These findings suggest a number of general statements concerning PREP efficacy and effectiveness. These statements pertain mostly to 1) PREP's viability as an ongoing short-term institutional program for a selected population of wards; 2) the selection, assignment, and population movement of PREP wards, and problems that have become apparent during this process; 3) PREP's potential benefits in terms of bed savings and cost avoidance; and 4) PREP's possible impact upon parole outcome, including differences in effectiveness based on ward background characteristics.

Since initiated in August 1979, both Holton PREP and Ventura PREP have maintained a relatively stable operation providing accelerated treatment services within approximately 4½ months of stay for wards screened into the program. These services have, according to program administrators, been made feasible and practical as a result of the enriched staffing--primarily the addition of one parole agent and two youth counselors--enabling staff to spend more time on counseling/casework and less time on ward supervision or dealing with disciplinary infractions.

An assessment of whether the two programs develop more favorable social climates, deliver added casework services, and impact ward attitudes and institutional behavior was outside the scope of the present study. Based on the formal PREP descriptive statements of program operations, however, both programs have sought to provide a variety and level of services substantially beyond those found in standard living unit programs. According to PREP administrators, the additional staff are necessary to carry out the broad range of treatment, involving assertion training, behavior modification, rational self-counseling, social survival skills training, educational field trips, and pre-parole preparation in conjunction with reentry services in the community. Both programs clearly emphasize preparing wards for parole adjustment and bridging of casework services between the institution and parole.

An overview of the statistics on ward selection for PREP and population movement discloses several important factors. One of these is that Holton PREP was maintained at capacity while Ventura PREP experienced a persistent shortage of wards assigned to the program. As mentioned earlier, Ventura PREP's shortage not only appeared to reflect the decision-making of Board members at SRCC in reviewing wards recommended for PREP but also resulted from a relatively small number of wards recommended as PREP eligibles by clinic staff. According to program administrators, clinic staff hesitated recommending some wards identified as potentially eligible, believing these wards would be disapproved by the Board. Assuming this does, in fact, often happen, PREP administrators are faced with a serious problem. Unless PREP is maintained at capacity, its potential for saving beds--one of its principal objectives--is considerably diminished. Also, as noted by PREP staff, the assignment of a sizable number of non-PREP wards to the Ventura PREP living unit has been detrimental in that these wards tend to have longer or more serious records of delinquency and therefore exert a distinctly negative influence on the program.

Comparisons of the PREP admissions with the total YA male ward population reveal differences in background characteristics which reflect mainly the application of PREP selection criteria. PREP wards were likely to include a disproportionate number of White wards rather than minority group wards. While this disparity could be largely attributed to PREP's selection criterion of admitting only wards with less serious commitment offenses (Categories VI & VII), it calls attention to the need for reassessing or modifying PREP selection practices in order to achieve a better ethnic balance.

Based on PREP's reduced length of stay, the study showed that the program produced substantial bed savings during the 1980-82 period. On the other hand, the program was below the maximum savings possible had the operation been maintained at full capacity. As discussed above, keeping the program at or near capacity became a problem at Ventura PREP, as relatively few candidates were recommended by clinic staff and approved by the Board. Potential bed savings were also diminished by the higher rate of program failures (wards who did not successfully complete PREP) at Ventura PREP. Since there was no clear indication that either of the programs admitted more seriously delinquent wards, Ventura PREP can conceivably modify its policies or practices to minimize the number of program failures.

By saving beds, PREP may over a period of several years serve to delay the need for reopening of existing living units. There is no clear evidence that the program had this effect during the study period (September 1979 through June 1983), since YA population increases were generally absorbed in small increments by ongoing living units among several institutions and camps. It is very likely, however, that the program was beneficial in easing population pressures. PREP's bed savings probably had some impact on reducing overcrowding, the adverse effects of which have been well documented in numerous studies (McCain, Cox, & Paulus, 1980; Megaree, 1977; Nacci, Teitelbaum, & Prather, 1977).

Estimated conservatively, PREP's cost avoidance in terms of institutional operational costs is approximately \$184,452 per year (for the two programs combined). As stated earlier, this amount represents about two-thirds of the program's cost of added staffing. It should be added however, that the cost analysis used here includes only cost avoidance based on reduced length of stay. Other factors which may account for smaller but significant cost reduction include possible PREP contribution toward decreases in ward escapes, fewer disciplinary incidents leading to time adds (additional institutional stay), or incidents involving assaults on wards or staff. Such reductions, however, would need to be demonstrated by a detailed cost benefit analysis.

Additional cost avoidance would result from the fact that PREP releases tended to have a slightly lower violation rate than the comparison groups. However, a comprehensive cost analysis involving the costs of parole program, parole violation, and related aspects of law enforcement and court processing was not included in this study because the necessary cost estimates were not available. Also, for this purpose a more precise study would be desirable involving an experimental design with the random assignment of PREP eligible wards to PREP and a control group.

The parole violation rates were consistently more favorable at Holton PREP than its comparison group and slightly less favorable at Ventura PREP than its comparison group (statistically nonsignificant). These differential results could be due to a number of factors, including differences in the kinds of wards admitted into the two programs, in terms of their amenability to PREP treatment, or variations in the modes of treatment and services delivered.

Additional analysis probed the relationship between each of six background characteristics of PREP wards and their parole outcome. It was found that Holton PREP White wards tended to have a lower parole violation rate than minority group wards.

A not-too-surprising finding was that wards who failed to complete PREP and were paroled directly from other programs did not perform as well on parole as those who graduated from PREP, although the difference was statistically nonsignificant. None of the background characteristics examined was related to differences in parole outcome between the two groups. It appears, therefore, that other measures, probably at a social-psychological level, need to be included in any subsequent research in this area.

Summing up, this study indicates that PREP has been viable in providing a short-term, accelerated treatment program for selected wards, producing substantial bed savings and operational cost avoidance. Although not based on a rigorous research design, the study suggests that PREP wards perform at least as well on parole as roughly similar wards not involved in the program.

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APPENDIX A
SUMMARY OF BOARD HEARING CATEGORIES AND OFFENSES a/

Board Hearing Category	Offense
I	Murder - 1st Murder - 2nd Kidnapping
II	Rape Sodomy in Concert
III	Kidnap Robbery of Public Convenyance Assault Sex perversion in concert Voluntary manslaughter Mayhem
IV	Manslaughter Rape Robbery Assault Arson Burglary Others
V	Kidnap Assault/battery Narcotics offenses Others
VI	Robbery Grand Theft Burglary 1st Others
VII	Burglary 2nd Auto theft Receiving stolen property Grand theft Assault/attempt to rob Assault/battery Drug offenses Parole violator returns Others Recommitments

a/ Detailed definitions of offenses included in each category are given in Title 15, Division 4.5, Chapter 2, Article 3, California Administrative Code.

APPENDIX TABLE B-1
NRCC SELECTION OF PREP WARDS, FISCAL YEAR 1982-83

Status	June	July	Aug.	1982 Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	6/82-12/82 Total	Mthly Mean
Staff Recommended <u>a/</u>	22	10	25	18	13	9	11	108	18.0
Board Approved	14	5	21	16	11	8	11	86	14.3
Percent Approved <u>b/</u>								79.6	

Status	Jan.	Feb.	1983 Mar.	Apr.	May	June	1/83-6/83 Total	Mthly Mean	FY 82-83 Total	Mthly Mean
Staff Recommended <u>a/</u>	19	16	18	24	22	12	111	18.5	219	18.2
Board Approved	12	15	18	24	20	9	98	16.3	184	15.3
Percent Approved <u>b/</u>							88.2		84.0	

a/ Data on the number of potentially eligible wards--those who according to a review of case files met criteria of PREP eligibility--were not available for the wards screened for PREP at NRCC.

b/ Percent approved is based on the number recommended by staff.

APPENDIX TABLE B-2
SRCC SELECTION OF PREP WARDS, FISCAL YEAR 1982-83

Status	July	Aug.	1982				7/82-12/82	
			Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Mthly Mean
Potentially Eligible	82	45	71	35	70	33	336	56
Staff Recommended	12	2	5	3	6	3	31	52
Board Approved <u>a/</u>	3	1	-	1	4	-	9	1.5
Percent Approved <u>b/</u>							29.0	

Status	Jan.	Feb.	1983				1/83-6/83		FY 82-83	
			Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total	Mthly Mean	Total	Mthly Mean
Potentially Eligible	30	34	48	53	46	71	282	47.0	618	51.5
Staff Recommended	1	1	5	2	1	8	18	3.0	49	4.1
Board Approved <u>a/</u>	-	1	1	-	-	3	5	.8	14	1.2
Percent Approved <u>b/</u>							33.3		28.6	

a/ All wards approved by the Youthful Offender Parole Board for PREP were assigned to that program.

b/ Percent approved is based on the number recommended by staff.

APPENDIX TABLE B-3
YTS-CLINIC SELECTION OF PREP WARDS, FISCAL YEAR 1982-83

Status	July	Aug.	Sept.	1982			7/82-12/82	
				Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Mthly Mean
Potentially Eligible	6	4	1	2	5	2	20	3.3
Staff Recommended	6	4	1	1	4	2	18	3.0
Board Approved <u>b/</u>	2	3	1	1	3	0	10	1.7
Percent Approved <u>c/</u>							55.5	

Status	Jan.	Feb.	1983				1/83-6/83		FY 82-83	
			Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total	Mthly Mean	Total	Mthly Mean
Potentially Eligible	6	5	7	<u>a/</u>	2	-	20	4.0	40	3.6
Staff Recommended	6	5	6	<u>a/</u>	-	-	17	3.4	35	3.2
Board Approved <u>b/</u>	1	3	3	<u>a/</u>	2	-	9	1.8	19	1.7
Percent Approved <u>c/</u>										53.9

a/ Data for April 1983 were not reported.

b/ All wards approved by the Youthful Offender Parole Board for PREP were assigned to Ventura PREP.

c/ Percent approved is based on the number recommended by staff.

APPENDIX TABLE B-4
LENGTH OF INSTITUTIONAL STAY STATISTICS FOR HOLTON PREP,
VENTURA PREP, AND COMPARISON GROUP, FOR 1980 THROUGH 1982 RELEASES TO PAROLE

Release Group, by Period	Total PREP	Total Holton PREP	Parole Releases	Transfers	Total Ventura PREP	Parole Releases	Transfers	Holton Compari- son	Ventura Compari- son	Board Categories VI & VII c/
<u>1980 Releases a/</u>	(262)	(136)	(110)	(26)	(126)	(92)	(34)	(129)	(80)	(1,243)
Total Institutional Length of Stay (LOS)										
Mean	5.9	5.8	4.9	9.7	5.9	4.6	9.5	8.5	8.9	9.0
Median	4.9	5.0	4.9	8.2	4.8	4.6	8.2	8.2	8.4	
PREP LOS										
Mean	4.3	4.4	4.9	2.4	4.1	4.6	2.5	-	-	-
Median	4.6	4.8	4.9	2.3	4.5	4.6	2.2	-	-	-
<u>1981 Releases</u>	(247)	(136)	(97)	(39)	(111)	(77)	(34)	(186)	(81)	(1,660)
Total Inst'l. LOS										
Mean	6.3	6.3	4.9	9.7	6.3	4.9	9.6	10.1	9.7	9.7
Median	5.0	5.0	4.9	9.9	4.9	4.7	9.1	8.8	9.2	
PREP LOS										
Mean	4.4	4.4	4.9	3.3	4.3	4.9	3.0			
Median	4.7	4.8	4.9	3.5	4.6	4.7	3.0			
<u>1982 Releases</u>	(230)	(137)	(119)	(18)d/	(93)	(67)	(26)d/	b/	b/	(1,705)
Total Inst'l. LOS										
Mean	5.5	5.4	4.9	8.6	5.7	5.0	7.6	b/	b/	10.2
Median	5.0	4.9	4.7	8.2	5.2	4.8	7.8	b/	b/	
PREP LOS										
Mean	4.6	4.7	4.9	3.2	4.4	5.0	2.9	-	-	
Median	4.6	4.7	4.8	3.0	4.6	4.8	2.7	-	-	

a/ Number of cases in each release group are shown in parentheses.

b/ Since the primary purpose of comparison groups was to provide an assessment of parole follow-up, comparison groups were established only for the 1980 and 1981 release cohorts. Twelve-month follow-up data were not available for the 1982 release cohort at the time of the analysis.

c/ Mean LOS excludes wards committed for offenses against persons and wards returned as parole violators.

d/ Excludes six wards at Holton PREP and 22 wards at Ventura PREP who were transferred as program failures from Holton PREP but had not been released to parole as of the analysis cutoff date, March 20, 1983.

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APPENDIX TABLE B-5
BUDGET FOR HOLTON PREP AND VENTURA PREP,
FISCAL YEAR 1983-84

Budget Item	Total PREP		Holton PREP		Ventura PREP	
	Person Years	Amount	Person Years	Amount	Person Years	Amount
<u>Personal Services (Additional)</u>						
Parole Agent			1	\$ 29,328	1	\$ 29,328
Youth Counselor			2.5	60,840	2	48,672
Group Supervisor					1	14,100
Office Assistant II			.5	6,870	-	-
Total Salaries and Wages				\$ 97,038		\$ 92,190
Staff Benefits				29,946		30,422
Total Personal Services		\$249,596		\$126,984		\$122,612
<u>Operating Expenses & Equipment (Additional)</u>						
Training				\$ 5,100		\$ 6,500
Ward Pay				7,400		-
Education				4,200		-
Recreation						-
Extra Group Counseling						3,900
Total Operating Exp. & Equip.		\$ 27,100		\$ 16,700		\$ 10,400
Grand Total		<u>\$276,696</u>		<u>\$143,684</u>		<u>\$133,012</u>

APPENDIX TABLE B-6

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOLTON PREP AND COMPARISON GROUPS,
FOR 1980 THROUGH 1982 RELEASES TO PAROLE

Release Group, by Characteristics	Total PREP		Holton PREP Parole		Transfers		Holton Comparison	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1980 Releases	136	100.0	110	100.0	26	100.0	129	100.0
Age at Admission:								
15 & Under	4	2.9	3	2.7	1	3.8	4	3.1
16	32	23.5	25	22.7	7	26.9	31	24.0
17	52	38.2	41	37.3	11	42.3	46	35.7
18	33	24.3	27	24.6	6	23.1	28	21.7
19	11	8.1	10	9.1	1	3.8	14	10.8
20	4	2.9	4	3.6	-	-	6	4.6
21 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0
Mean	17.2		17.2		17.0		17.3	
Median	17.0		17.0		17.0		17.1	
Prior Record								
None		*					*	
Probation only	15	11.0	12	10.9	3	11.5	29	22.5
Local Lockup	121	89.0	98	89.1	23	88.5	100	77.5
Admission Status								
First admission	113	83.1	92	83.6	21	80.8	111	86.0
Readmission	23	16.9	18	16.4	5	19.2	18	14.0
Admission Offense								
Person	11	8.0	10	9.1	1	3.8	20	15.5
Property	114	83.8	91	82.7	23	88.5	98	76.0
Other	11	8.0	9	8.2	2	7.6	11	8.5
Ethnic Group								
White	70	51.5	54	49.1	16	61.5	64	49.6
Hispanic	24	17.6	21	19.1	3	11.5	25	19.4
Black	36	26.5	29	26.4	7	26.9	36	27.9
Other	6	4.4	6	5.4	-	-	4	3.1

* Statistically significant at .05 probability level based on chi-square test. In other words, the observed proportionate difference between the PREP and comparison groups subcategories of the background characteristic would be expected to occur on a chance basis no more than 5 times out of 100.

APPENDIX TABLE B-6
(Continued)

Release Group, by Characteristics	Total PREP		Holton PREP Parole		Transfers		Holton Comparison	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Court								
Juvenile	106	77.9	85	77.3	21	80.8	97	75.2
Adult	30	22.1	25	22.7	5	19.2	32	24.8
Parole Risk Category								
Low	28	20.6	23	20.9	5	19.2	30	23.3
Medium	72	52.9	59	53.6	13	50.0	64	49.6
High	36	26.5	28	25.4	8	30.8	35	27.1
1981 Releases	126	100.0	97	100.0	29	100.0	186	100.0
Age at Admission:								
15 & Under	6	4.8	4	4.1	2	6.9	4	2.2
16	25	19.8	16	16.5	9	31.0	35	18.8
17	52	41.3	42	43.3	10	34.5	86	46.2
18	24	19.0	19	19.6	5	17.2	29	15.6
19	15	11.9	13	13.4	2	6.9	25	13.4
20	4	3.2	3	3.1	1	3.4	5	2.7
21 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1.1
Mean	17.3		17.0		17.0		17.3	
Median	17.1		17.3		17.0		17.1	
Prior Record								
None								
Probation only	24	19.0	19	19.6	5	17.2	35	18.8
Local Lockup	102	81.0	78	80.4	24	82.8	151	81.2
Admission Status		**						**
First admission	111	88.1	88	90.7	23	79.3	140	75.3
Readmission	15	11.9	9	9.3	6	20.7	46	24.7
Admission Offense		**						**
Person	6	4.8	5	5.2	1	3.4	32	17.2
Property	116	92.0	89	91.7	27	93.2	141	75.8
Other	4	3.2	3	3.1	1	3.4	13	7.0

** Statistically significant at .01 probability level based on chi-square test.

APPENDIX TABLE B-6
(Continued)

Release Group, by Characteristics	Total PREP		Holton PREP				Holton	
	Departures		Parole		Transfers		Comparison	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Ethnic Group								
White	76	60.3	61	62.9	15	51.8	103	55.4
Hispanic	20	15.9	15	15.5	5	17.2	31	16.7
Black	27	21.4	20	20.6	7	24.1	46	24.7
Other	3	2.4	1	1.0	2	6.9	6	3.2
Court								
Juvenile	91	72.2	68	70.1	23	79.3	144	77.4
Adult	35	27.8	29	29.9	6	20.7	42	22.6
Parole Risk Category								
Low	35	27.8	29	29.9	6	15.4	40	21.5
Medium	61	48.4	48	49.5	13	56.4	107	57.5
High	30	23.8	20	20.6	10	28.2	39	21.0

APPENDIX TABLE B-6
(Continued)

Release Group, by Characteristics	Total PREP		Holton PREP			
	Departures		Parole		Transfers	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1982 Releases	137	a/ 100.0	119	100.0	18	100.0
Age at Admission:						
15 & Under	21	15.3	15	12.6	6	33.3
16	21	15.3	18	15.1	3	16.7
17	42	30.7	38	31.9	4	22.2
18	27	19.7	22	18.5	5	27.8
19	18	13.1	18	15.1	-	-
20	8	5.8	8	6.7	-	-
21 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mean	17.2		17.3		16.4	
Median	17.1		17.0		16.5	
Prior Record						
None	14	10.2	13	10.9	1	5.6
Probation only	25	18.2	23	19.3	2	11.1
Local Lockup	98	71.5	83	69.7	15	83.3
Admission Status						
First admission	126	92.0	110	92.4	16	98.9
Readmission	11	8.0	9	7.6	2	1.1
Admission Offense						
Person	9	6.6	7	5.9	2	11.1
Property	125	91.2	109	91.6	16	88.9
Other	3	2.2	3	2.5	-	-
Ethnic Group						
White	78	56.9	70	58.8	8	44.4
Hispanic	22	16.1	17	14.3	5	27.8
Black	31	22.6	26	21.8	5	27.8
Other	6	4.4	6	5.0	-	-
Court						
Juvenile	98	71.5	82	68.9	16	88.9
Adult	39	28.5	37	31.1	2	11.1

a/ Excludes six wards who were transferred as program failures from Holton PREP but had not been released to parole as of the analysis cutoff date, March 20, 1983.

APPENDIX TABLE B-7

CHARACTERISTICS OF VENTURA PREP AND COMPARISON GROUPS
FOR 1980 THROUGH 1982 RELEASES TO PAROLE

Release Group, by Characteristics	Total PREP		Ventura PREP				Ventura Comparison	
	Departures No.	%	Parole Releases No.	%	Transfers No.	%	No.	%
1980 Releases	122	100.0	92	100.0	30	100.0	80	100.0
Age at Admission:								
15 & Under	4	3.3	4	4.3	-	-	2	2.5
16	19	15.6	16	17.4	3	10.0	4	5.0
17	43	35.2	24	31.5	14	46.7	17	21.2
18	22	18.0	18	19.6	4	13.3	13	16.2
19	21	17.2	17	18.5	4	13.3	22	27.5
20	11	9.0	7	7.6	4	13.3	14	17.5
21 & over	2	1.6	1	1.1	1	3.3	8	10.0
Mean	17.7**		17.6		17.8		18.6**	
Median	17.4		17.3		17.4		18.7	
Prior Record								
None								
Probation only	33	27.1	21	22.8	12	40.0	17	21.2
Local Lockup	89	72.9	71	77.2	18	60.0	63	78.8
Admission Status								
First admission	107	87.7	81	88.0	26	86.7	64	80.0
Readmission	15	12.3	11	12.0	4	13.3	16	20.0
Admission Offense		*						*
Person	9	7.4	6	6.5	3	10.0	17	21.2
Property	107	87.7	83	90.2	24	80.0	58	72.5
Other	6	4.9	3	3.3	3	10.0	5	6.2
Ethnic Group								
White	57	46.7	38	41.3*	19	63.3*	44	55.0
Hispanic	23	18.8	21	22.8	2	6.7	20	25.0
Black	38	31.1	30	32.6	8	26.7	14	17.5
Other	4	3.3	3	3.2	1	3.3	2	2.5

* Statistically significant at .05 level based on chi-square test.

** Statistically significant at .01 level based on chi-square test.

APPENDIX TABLE B-7
(Continued)

Release Group, by Characteristics	Total PREP		Ventura PREP				Ventura Comparison	
	Departures No.	%	Parole Releases No.	%	Transfers No.	%	No.	%
1980 Releases (Cont'd.)								
Court		**						**
Juvenile	80	65.6	58	63.0	22	73.3	35	43.8
Adult	42	34.4	34	37.0	8	26.7	45	56.2
Parole Risk Category		**						**
Low	41	33.6	33	35.9	8	26.7	45	56.2
Medium	62	50.8	43	46.7	19	63.3	29	36.2
High	19	15.6	16	17.4	3	10.0	6	7.5
1981 Releases	100	100.0	77	100.0	23	100.0	81	
Age at Admission:								
15 & Under	1	1.0	1	1.3	-	-	3	3.7
16	12	12.0	9	11.7	3	13.0	9	11.1
17	13	13.0	12	15.6	1	4.4	19	23.5
18	24	24.0	17	22.1	7	30.4	11	13.6
19	28	28.0	22	28.6	6	26.1	24	29.6
20	19	19.0	13	16.9	6	26.1	9	11.1
21 & over	3	3.0	3	3.9	-	-	6	7.4
Mean	18.5		18.3		18.5		18.2	
Median	18.7		18.0		19.0		18.4	
Prior Record		*						*
None								
Probation only	42	42.0	35	45.3	7	30.4	21	25.9
Local lockup	58	58.0	42	54.6	16	69.6	60	74.1
Admission Status		**						**
First admission	98	98.0	75	97.4	23	100.0	65	80.2
Readmission	2	2.0	2	2.6	-	-	16	19.8
Admission Offense		*						*
Person	5	5.0	4	5.2	1	4.3	12	14.8
Property	92	92.0	71	92.2	21	91.3	65	80.2
Other	3	3.0	2	2.6	1	4.3	4	4.9

* Statistically significant at .05 level based on chi-square test.

** Statistically significant at .01 level based on chi-square test.

APPENDIX TABLE B-7
(Continued)

Release Group, by Characteristics	Ventura PREP						Ventura Comparison	
	Total PREP Departures		Parole Releases		Transfers			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<u>1981 Releases (Cont'd.)</u>								
Ethnic Group								
White	55	55.0	46	59.7	9	39.1	48	59.3
Hispanic	13	13.0	9	11.7	4	17.4	12	14.8
Black	29	29.0	20	26.0	9	39.1	17	21.0
Other	3	3.0	2	2.6	1	4.3	4	4.9
Court		*						*
Juvenile	32	32.0	28	36.4	4	17.4	39	48.2
Adult	68	68.0	49	63.6	19	82.6	42	51.8
Parole Risk Category		*						*
Low	68	68.0	49	63.6	19	82.6	43	53.1
Medium	22	22.0	21	27.3	1	4.3	26	32.1
High	10	10.0	7	9.1	3	13.0	12	14.8

* Statistically significant at .05 level based on chi-square test.

APPENDIX TABLE B-7
(Continued)

Release Group, by Characteristics	Ventura PREP					
	Total PREP Departures		Parole Releases		Transfers	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<u>1982 Releases</u>	115	100.0	67	100.0	48	100.0
Age at Admission:						
15 & Under	10		3	4.5	7	14.6
16	13		5	7.5	8	16.7
17	21		11	16.4	10	20.8
18	26		16	23.9	10	20.8
19	27		19	28.4	8	16.7
20	14		10	14.9	4	8.3
21 & over	4		3	4.5	1	2.1
Mean	17.9		18.3		17.3	
Median	18.0		18.0		17.0	
Prior Record				*		*
None	25	21.7	19	28.4	6	12.5
Probation only	42	36.5	26	38.8	16	33.3
Local Lockup	48	41.7	22	32.8	26	54.2
Admission Status						
First admission	113	98.3	66	98.5	47	97.9
Readmission	2	1.7	1	1.5	1	2.1
Admission Offense						
Person	4	3.5	2	3.0	2	4.2
Property	106	92.2	61	91.0	45	93.8
Other	5	4.3	4	6.0	1	2.1
Ethnic Group						
White	60	52.2	39	58.2	21	43.8
Hispanic	28	24.3	13	19.4	15	31.2
Black	23	20.0	12	17.9	11	22.9
Other	4	3.5	3	4.5	1	2.1
Court				**		**
Juvenile	53	46.1	23	34.3	30	62.5
Adult	62	53.9	44	65.7	18	37.5

* Statistically significant at .05 level based on chi-square test.

APPENDIX TABLE B-8

SUMMARY OF REGRESSION ANALYSIS FOR PAROLE VIOLATION STATUS d/
OF HOLTON PREP AND COMPARISON GROUPS,
FOR 1980 - 1981 RELEASES TO PAROLE

N = 577		Multiple R = .26 R-Square = .07		F-Value = 3.98 ***
Variable	R-Square From Simple Regres- sion on each Variable b/	F-Value	R-Square After Controlling for Other Variables Using Multiple Regression c/	F-Value
Ethnicity	.005	1.36	.003	1.02
Prior Record	.019	10.99***	.010	5.92**
Offense Category	.012	3.46*	.013	3.87*
Court	.004	2.16	.000	.04
Age at Admission	.003	1.56	.004	2.38
Admission at Admission	.014	7.95***	.013	7.47**
Year of PREP Departure	.002	1.58	.004	2.26
PREP Group Status	.010	5.93**	.010	5.93**

a/ Parole violation status, the dependent (outcome) variable, is defined by parole success or failure, as measured by removal from parole through revocation or bad discharge within 12 months after release to parole.

b/ Based on separate regression analysis using each variable as the only independent variable.

c/ Based on separate multiple regression analysis using each variable as the last variable entered, thus controlling for all preceding variables. Thus, the crucial variable for this analysis, PREP Group Status, was entered last, thereby controlling for the effects of the preceding seven variables with respect to parole violation status.

* p .05
 ** p .01
 *** p .001

APPENDIX TABLE B-9

SUMMARY OF REGRESSION ANALYSIS FOR PAROLE VIOLATION STATUS a/
OF VENTURA PREP AND COMPARISON GROUPS,
FOR 1980 - 1981 RELEASES TO PAROLE

N = 383		Multiple R = .22 R-Square = .05		F-Value = 1.89*
Variable	R-Square From Simple Regres- sion on each Variable b/	F-Value	R-Square After Controlling for Other Variables Using Multiple Regression c/	F-Value
Ethnicity	.003	.62	.004	.77
Prior Record	.006	2.10	.005	1.91
Offense Category	.002	.47	.001	.14
Court	.001	.39	.007	2.67
Age at Admission	.019	7.18**	.021	8.09**
Admission at Admission	.004	1.50	.005	1.95*
Year of PREP Departure	.014	5.40*	.015	5.52*
PREP Group Status	.000	.17	.000	.17

a/ Parole violation status, the dependent (outcome) variable, is defined by parole success or failure, as measured by removal from parole through revocation or bad discharge within 12 months after release to parole.

b/ Based on separate regression analysis using each variable as the only independent variable.

c/ Based on separate multiple regression analysis using each variable as the last variable entered, thus controlling for all preceding variables. Thus, the crucial variable for this analysis, PREP Group Status, was entered last, thereby controlling for the effects of the preceding seven variables with respect to parole violation status.

* p .05
 ** p .01

APPENDIX TABLE B-10

REGRESSION ANALYSIS FOR PAROLE VIOLATION STATUS a/
OF HOLTON PREP RELEASES TO PAROLE AND TRANSFERS,
FOR 1980 - 1981 RELEASES TO PAROLE

N = 262	Multiple R = .24 R-Square = .05	F-Value = 1.42
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NOTE: A summary of the R-square contributions of individual variables is not presented, since the F-value for the overall regression was not statistically significant (no greater than could have occurred merely by chance).

a/ Parole violation status, the dependent (outcome) variable, is defined by parole success or failure, as measured by removal from parole through revocation or bad discharge within 12 months after release to parole.

APPENDIX TABLE B-11

SUMMARY OF REGRESSION ANALYSIS FOR PAROLE VIOLATION STATUS a/
OF VENTURA PREP RELEASES TO PAROLE AND TRANSFERS,
FOR 1980 - 1981 PREP DEPARTURES

	N = 214	Multiple R = .34 R-Square = .11	F-Value = 2.60**

a/ Parole violation status, the dependent (outcome) variable, is defined by parole success or failure, as measured by removal from parole through revocation or bad discharge within 12 months after release to parole.

b/ Based on separate regression analysis using each variable as the only independent variable.

c/ Based on separate multiple regression analysis using each variable as the last variable entered, thus controlling for all preceding variables. Thus, the crucial variable for this analysis, PREP Group Status, was entered last, thereby controlling for the effects of the preceding seven variables with respect to parole violation status.

* p .05
** p .01
*** p .001

APPENDIX TABLE B-12

PAROLE VIOLATION RATES OF HOLTON PREP DEPARTURES AND COMPARISON GROUP,
BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS,
FOR 1980 AND 1981 RELEASES TO PAROLE

Characteristics	Holton PREP Parole Departures a/			Holton PREP Comparison		
	# of Releases	# of Violators	% of Violators	# of Releases	# of Violators	% of Violators
Total Releases	262	56	21.4*	315	91	28.9*
Age at Admission:						
15 & under	10	3	33.3	8	4	50.0
16	57	14	24.6	66	27	40.9
17	104	28	26.9	132	36	27.3
18	57	7	12.3	57	11	19.3
19	26	4	15.4	39	10	25.6
20	8	-	-	11	2	18.2
21 & over	-	-	-	2	1	50.0
Mean	17.2	16.9		17.3	17.1	
Median	17.1	16.9		17.1	16.9	
Prior Record						
None						
Probation only	39	8	20.5	64	11	17.2
Local lockup	223	48	21.5	251	80	31.9
Admission Status						
First admission	224	43	19.2	251	66	26.3
Readmission	38	13	34.2	64	25	39.1
Admission Offense						
Person	17	3	17.6	52	13	25.0
Property	230	51	22.2	239	77	32.2
Other	15	2	13.3	24	1	4.2
Ethnic Group			*			*
White	146	24	16.4	167	48	28.7
Hispanic	44	11	25.0	56	20	35.7
Black	63	17	27.0	82	19	23.2
Other	9	4	44.0	10	4	40.0
Court						
Juvenile	197	48	24.4	241	75	31.1
Adult	65	8	12.3	74	16	21.6
Parole Risk Category						
Low	63	7	11.1	70	15	21.4
Medium	133	33	24.8	171	45	26.3
High	66	16	24.2	74	31	41.9

* Statistically significant at .05 level based on interaction chi-square test.

a/ Consists of 1) wards released to parole and 2) those who failed to complete PREP and were transferred to other programs before being released to parole.

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APPENDIX TABLE B-13

PAROLE VIOLATION RATES OF VENTURA PREP DEPARTURES AND COMPARISON GROUP,
BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS AND PAROLE RISK CATEGORIES,
FOR 1980 AND 1981 RELEASES TO PAROLE

Characteristics	Ventura PREP Parole Departures a/			Ventura PREP Comparison		
	# of Releases	# of Violators	% of Violators	# of Releases	# of Violators	% of Violators
Total Releases	222	62	27.9	161	41	25.5
Age at Admission:						
15 & under	5	2	40.0	5	1	20.0
16	31	13	41.9	13	6	46.1
17	56	19	33.9	36	7	19.4
18	46	10	21.7	24	5	20.8
19	49	12	24.5	46	14	30.4
20	30	6	20.0	23	6	26.1
21 & over	5	-	-	14	2	22.2
Mean	18.0	17.6		18.3	18.2	
Median	17.9	17.3		18.6	18.6	
Prior Record						
None			*			*
Probation only	122	15	12.3	38	10	26.3
Local lockup	147	47	32.0	123	31	25.2
Admission Status						
First admission	205	59	28.8	129	31	24.8
Readmission	17	3	17.6	32	10	31.2
Admission Offense						
Person	14	1	7.1	29	8	27.6
Property	199	59	29.6	123	31	25.2
Other	9	2	22.2	9	2	22.2
Ethnic Group						
White	112	30	26.8	92	22	23.9
Hispanic	36	14	38.9	32	8	25.0
Black	67	17	25.4	31	10	32.2
Other	7	1	14.3	6	1	16.7
Court						
Juvenile	112	35	31.2	74	20	27.0
Adult	110	27	24.5	87	21	24.1
Parole Risk Category						
Low	109	17	15.6	88	22	25.0
Medium	84	23	27.4	55	12	21.8
High	29	13	44.8	18	7	38.9

* Statistically significant at .05 level based on interaction chi-square test.

a/ Consists of 1) wards released to parole and 2) those who failed to complete PREP and were transferred to other programs before being released to parole.

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APPENDIX TABLE B-14

PAROLE VIOLATION RATES OF HOLTON PREP PAROLE RELEASES AND TRANSFERS,
BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS,
FOR 1980 AND 1981 RELEASES TO PAROLE

Characteristics	Holton PREP Parole Releases			Holton PREP Transfers		
	# of Releases	# of Violators	% of Violators	# of Releases	# of Violators	% of Violator
Total Releases	207	41	19.8	55	15	27.3
Age at Admission:						
15 & under	7	3	42.9	3	-	-
16	41	8	19.5	16	6	37.5
17	83	24	28.9	21	4	19.1
18	46	4	8.7	11	3	27.3
19	23	2	8.7	3	2	66.6
20	7	-	-	1	-	-
21 & over	-	-	-	-	-	8
Mean	17.3	16.9		17.0	17.1	
Median	17.2	16.9		16.9	16.9	
Prior Record						
None						
Probation only	31	4	12.9	8	4	50.0
Local lockup	176	37	21.0	47	11	23.4
Admission Status						
First admission	180	32	17.8	44	11	25.0
Readmission	27	9	33.3	11	4	36.4
Admission Offense						
Person	15	3	20.1	2	-	-
Property	180	36	20.0	50	15	30.0
Other	12	2	16.7	3	-	-
Ethnic Group						
White	125	16	12.8	31	8	25.8
Hispanic	36	10	27.8	8	1	12.5
Black	49	12	24.5	14	5	35.7
Other	7	3	42.9	2	1	50.0
Court						
Juvenile	153	36	36.6	44	12	27.3
Adult	54	5	9.3	11	3	27.3
Parole Risk Category						
Low	52	4	7.7	11	3	27.3
Medium	107	26	24.3	26	7	26.9
High	48	11	22.9	18	5	27.8

APPENDIX TABLE B-15

PAROLE VIOLATION RATES OF VENTURA PREP PAROLE RELEASES AND TRANSFERS,
BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS,
FOR 1980 AND 1981 RELEASES TO PAROLE

Characteristics	Ventura PREP Parole Releases			Ventura PREP Transfers		
	# of Releases	# of Violators	% of Violators	# of Releases	# of Violators	% of Violator
Total Releases	169	45	26.6	53	17	32.1
Age at Admission:						
15 & under	5	2	40.0	-	-	-
16	25	12	47.0	6	1	16.7
17	41	14	34.2	15	5	33.3
18	35	6	17.1	11	4	36.4
19	39	8	20.5	10	4	40.0
20	20	3	15.0	10	3	30.0
21 & over	4	-	-	1	-	-
Mean	17.9	17.3	-	18.1	18.2	-
Median	18.0	17.1	-	18.0	18.1	-
Prior Record						
None						
Probation only	56	21	37.5	19	4	21.1
Local lockup	113	34	30.1	34	13	38.2
Admission Status						
First admission	156	42	26.9	49	15	30.6
Readmission	13	3	23.1	4	-	-
Admission Offense						
Person	10	1	10.0	4	-	-
Property	154	43	27.9	45	16	35.5
Other	5	1	20.0	4	1	25.0
Ethnic Group						
White	84	21	25.0	27	9	33.3
Hispanic	30	10	33.3	6	4	66.6
Black	50	13	26.0	18	4	22.2
Other	5	1	20.0	2	-	-
Court						
Juvenile	86	29	33.7	26	6	23.1
Adult	83	16	19.3	27	11	40.7
Parole Risk Category						
Low	82	15	18.3	27	11	40.7
Medium	64	18	28.1	20	5	25.0
High	23	12	52.2	6	1	16.7

END