## California’s High Recidivism Rates

### Table 2: 3-Year Recidivism for Offenders Released from California Prisons vs. Other States (in percent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Rearrested</th>
<th>Reconvicted</th>
<th>Returned to Jail or Prison</th>
<th>Returned to Prison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>New Crime</td>
<td>Technical Violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Fischer 2005

- Technical Violators
- Mandatory Parole
- Seriousness of Underlying Population
Sex Offender Violation and Revocation Pattern

- Criminal Violations
- PAL Violations
- Non-PAL Technical Violations
- Returned Through Courts
- Board Returned-Criminal
- Board Returned-PAL
- Board Returned-Non-PAL Tech

-30% 20% 70% 120% 170% 220%
Second Strikers Violation and Revocation Pattern

Criminal Violations
PAL Violations
Non-PAL Technical Violations
Returned Through Courts
Board Returned-Criminal
Board Returned-PAL
Board Returned Non-PAL Tech

-30%   -10%   10%   30%   50%   70%   90%
Inflow into California Prisons

YEAR | RTCs | WNTs | NFAs
--- | --- | --- | ---
1981 | 10000 | 20000 | 30000
1983 | 40000 | 60000 | 50000
1985 | 70000 | 80000 | 60000
1987 | 100000 | 120000 | 110000
1989 | 150000 | 180000 | 160000
1991 | 200000 | 240000 | 220000
1993 | 250000 | 280000 | 260000
1995 | 300000 | 330000 | 310000
1997 | 350000 | 380000 | 360000
1999 | 400000 | 430000 | 410000
2001 | 450000 | 480000 | 460000
2003 | 500000 | 530000 | 510000
2005 | 550000 | 580000 | 560000
Parolees Make a Large Portion of Inflow of Persons into Prison

Figure 7: Parolees as Percent of Admits

Note: Data from NCRP. See Appendix. For Kentucky, percent in 1991 was 58% and percent in 1992 was 75%. These appear to be errors.

Source: Pfaff 2009
Many Serious Offenses go through the Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Courts</th>
<th>Board</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault and Battery</td>
<td>1,259</td>
<td>5,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Offenses</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>1,676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>1,439</td>
<td>851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft/Forgery</td>
<td>3,522</td>
<td>3,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Possession</td>
<td>6,536</td>
<td>6,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Sales/Manufacturing/Trafficking</td>
<td>741</td>
<td>1,826</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Robin Reagan” Rules

Examples:

- Sale, transportation or distribution of any narcotic or other controlled substances as defined in division 10 of the California Health and Safety Code.
- A parolee whose whereabouts are unknown and has been unavailable for contact for thirty days.
- Any other conduct or pattern of conduct in violation of the conditions of parole deemed sufficiently serious by the P&CSD staff, including repetitive parole violations and escalating criminal conduct.
- The failure to provide two blood specimens, a saliva sample, right thumb print impressions, and full palm print impressions of each hand the DNA Database.
- The failure to register as a Sex Offender. Violation of the residency restrictions set forth in Penal Code section 3003.5 for parolees required to register as provided in Penal Code section 290.
- Violation of the special condition prohibiting any association with any member of a prison gang or the wearing or displaying of any gang colors, signs, symbols, or paraphernalia associated with gang activity, if such condition was imposed.
- Conduct indicating that the parolee's mental condition has deteriorated such that the parolee is likely to engage in future criminal behavior.

Source: 15 CCR 2616