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To protect the public and
reduce crime by holding
youth offenders accountable
and providing opportunities
for reformation in safe
environments.*

Recidivism Findings For Oregon Youth Authority Parole Releases FY01–FY05 Cohorts

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Information Systems
Oregon Youth Authority



RECIDIVISM FINDINGS FOR OREGON YOUTH AUTHORITY PAROLE RELEASES, FY01–FY05 COHORTS

Executive Summary

The Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) Research and Evaluation Unit has compiled and analyzed data on the recidivism rates for individuals released to parole from OYA close custody between the start of fiscal year 2001 (FY01) and the end of fiscal year 2005 (FY05). Tracking recidivism supports the OYA's mission by measuring the extent to which agency services have been able to protect the public. In addition, reporting the recidivism measure reflects the agency's values of excellence in public service, openness, and accountability to the public.

Recidivism is defined by four variables: a group of people to track, a date to track from, an event that indicates *recidivism*, and a length of time to track. In this analysis, the recidivism event is any felony adjudication (juvenile court) or felony conviction (adult court) from the date the youth was paroled from OYA. Furthermore, the recidivism indicator is triggered only by the first felony adjudication or conviction. Recidivism rates are calculated at 12, 24, and 36 months; however, most of the analysis in this report is based on 36-month rates, which were available only for the cohorts released in FY01, FY02, and FY03.

For the parole release cohorts between FY01 and FY03, we found no clear trend in overall 36-month recidivism rates: the FY01 and FY02 cohorts showed little change, and the FY03 cohort followed with a modest decline to 34.2% (a drop of 1.6 percentage points from FY02). Age at parole release had a positive association with recidivism through age 17 but a negative association for those 18 and older.

In brief, those who recidivated were most likely to have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Male
- African American
- Paroled at age 17
- Had been committed to OYA for either a property or a substance/alcohol crime
- Had Discretionary Bed Allocation (DBA) status while in OYA close custody

Conversely, those who did not recidivate were most likely to be characterized by one or more of the following:

- Female, especially a female in the FY03 cohort
- Native American
- In the Age 14–15 group at parole release
- Paroled at age 20 (due to the negative relationship between age and recidivism after age 17)
- Had been committed to OYA for a sex offense
- Had Public Safety Reserve (PSR) status while in OYA close custody (most of these were sex offenders)



RECIDIVISM FINDINGS FOR OREGON YOUTH AUTHORITY PAROLE RELEASES, FY01–FY05 COHORTS

The Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) Research and Evaluation Unit has compiled and analyzed data on the recidivism rates for youth paroled from OYA between fiscal year 2001 (FY01) and fiscal year 2005 (FY05). Tracking recidivism supports the OYA’s mission by measuring the extent to which agency services have been able to protect the public. In addition, reporting the recidivism measure reflects the agency’s values of excellence in public service, openness, and accountability to the public.

What is recidivism?

Recidivism is defined by four variables: a group of people to track, a date to track from, an event that indicates *recidivism*, and a length of time to track. In this analysis, the recidivism event is any felony adjudication (juvenile court) or felony conviction (adult court) from the date the youth was paroled from OYA. Furthermore, the recidivism indicator is triggered only by the first felony adjudication or conviction. Recidivism rates are calculated at 12, 24, and 36 months and are cumulative (meaning that the longer tracking periods include all cases of recidivism up to that point). By defining recidivism in this way, the OYA recidivism rates are computed in a manner comparable to those of the Oregon Department of Corrections, thereby meeting the criteria suggested by HB 5058 from the 2003 Oregon Legislative Session.¹

¹ During the Oregon Legislative Session 2003, the Joint (House/Senate) Committee on Ways and Means, Public Safety Subcommittee (HB 5058 – OYA June 5, 2003 Budget Work Session) expressed a desire for an “additional measure related to recidivism similar to the Department of Corrections measure that tracks felony convictions within three years of release from prison.”

Participants and data

For comparison purposes, this report groups the parolees into cohorts using the State of Oregon fiscal year calendar (Table 1). Each cohort includes all youth released on parole from OYA during that particular fiscal year. Because they receive no parole supervision, youth terminated from OYA upon reaching their maximum commitment are not included in this report.

Table 1

State of Oregon Fiscal Year Calendar Dates

Fiscal Year	From	To
2001 (FY01)	July 1, 2000	June 30, 2001
2002 (FY02)	July 1, 2001	June 30, 2002
2003 (FY03)	July 1, 2002	June 30, 2003
2004 (FY04)	July 1, 2003	June 30, 2004
2005 (FY05)	July 1, 2004	June 30, 2005

Data for the recidivism measure is captured in the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS). Offender data in JJIS has been augmented with commitment data from the Department of Corrections information system, thus enabling the OYA to track the recidivism status of parolees into adulthood.

Analysis

Descriptive statistics were used to examine the recidivism rates. Frequencies and percentages were tabled by groups and cohort years across demographic and other selected variables to explore trends across time and identify the variables that appeared to influence recidivism. As mentioned previously, recidivism rates are cumulative. For example, the numerator for the recidivism rate calculated for a group at the 36-month tracking period is a sum of everyone who recidivated within 36 months of parole release, which includes those individuals who were



reported in the numerator of the recidivism rate at 12 months and 24 months.

Key relationships are included in the text of this report as graphs and tables. A complete report of all data is found in the Appendix.

In general, the 36-month tracking period, rather than the 12- or 24-month tracking period, was selected for analysis. The preference for the longer tracking period is that it can capture more of those who actually recidivated in the statistic. This occurs not only because more re-offenders have been apprehended but also because more of them will have been sentenced or adjudicated. Recall that the recidivism event is not tabulated until an individual has received a felony adjudication or conviction. The actual crime and arrest may have occurred in either the current or a previous tracking period. Because it takes varying amounts of time for the juvenile or adult system to fully process a case, analysis based on longer tracking periods is less affected by this processing time and provides a better picture of whether one particular cohort is performing differently than the others.

Furthermore, while we have made the raw numbers available, recidivism rates were not reported in the tables for any cohort with fewer than 30 base cases because the rates become too unstable and have little practical meaning. For example, if there are 20 individuals in a particular group, one additional or one fewer instance of recidivism will cause the rate to increase or decrease by 5.0%. A threshold of 30 base cases means that each case of recidivism can impact the rate by no more than 3.3%.

No clear trend in overall recidivism

Figure 1 illustrates the lack of a clear overall trend in 36-month recidivism among successive OYA parolee cohorts. The FY01 and FY02 cohorts were essentially unchanged at 35.7% and 35.8% respectively. Then the FY03 cohort followed with a modest dip to 34.2%. All in all,

recidivism rates of the FY01 through FY03 cohorts varied by less than two percentage points. Insufficient time has elapsed to analyze 36-month recidivism for the FY04 cohorts and beyond, so whether the rates for later cohorts will remain in the current range is yet unknown.

Figure 1

Cumulative Percent of Felony Adjudications or Convictions after Parole

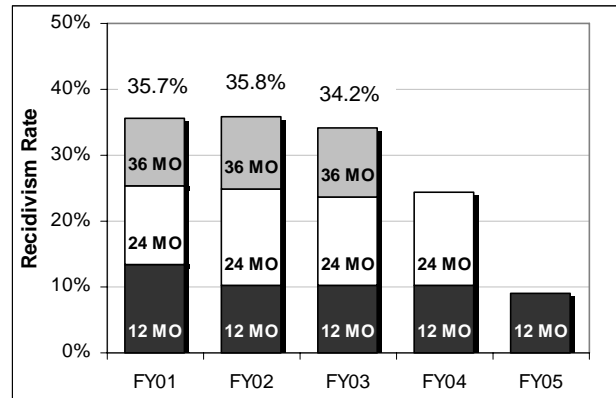


Table 2 summarizes recidivism of the FY01 through FY05 cohorts at 12, 24, and 36 months, where the data was available. This table and Figure 1 demonstrate why using the 12-month rates to predict the trend in recidivism at the longer time periods could mislead. Notice that at 12 months, the FY01 cohort had a recidivism rate nearly three percentage points higher than the FY02 cohort had; yet at 24 months, less than one percentage point separated the two cohorts; and at 36 months, the difference was negligible.

Table 2

Recidivism of All OYA Parolees (rates are cumulative)*

Cohort	# in Cohort	12-mo. Rate	24-mo. Rate	36-mo. Rate
FY01	412	13.3%	25.5%	35.7%
FY02	388	10.3%	25.0%	35.8%
FY03	497	10.3%	23.7%	34.2%
FY04	280	10.4%	24.3%	—
FY05	313	8.9%	—	—

Note: Dash (—) indicates lack of available data.

Recidivism among males held steady, while female recidivism trended downward

Figure 2 depicts recidivism rates at 36 months for OYA parolees by sex. It shows that female parole cohorts achieved sizable decreases from FY01 to FY03, while recidivism among males was essentially flat across those same cohorts. The male recidivism rate closely tracked the overall rate for each cohort, which is not surprising since males represented 86% of the parole population over the FY01–FY03 period. The 36-month recidivism rate of females dropped over 11 percentage points between the FY01 and the FY03 cohorts.

Figure 2

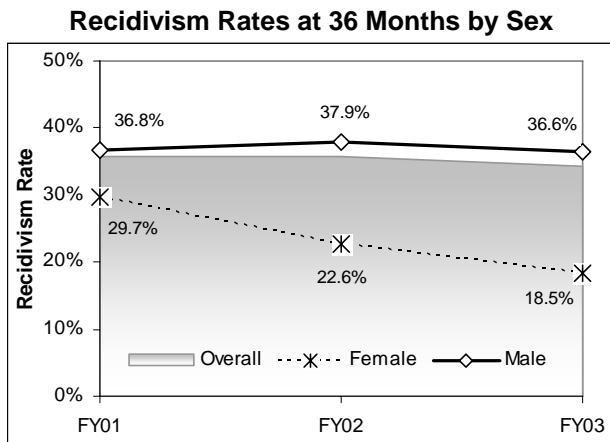


Figure 2 and Table 3 clearly convey that males recidivated at a higher rate than females. In the FY01 cohort, the difference in 36-month recidivism rates between the males (36.8%) and females (29.7%) was about 7 percentage points. That difference grew to 18 percentage points between the sexes for members of the FY03 cohort due to the drop in recidivism among females to 18.5%.

We computed relative risk to assess on average how much more likely the males were to recidivate than the females within 36 months of parole release. This was accomplished by first calculating recidivism rates for each sex based

Table 3

Recidivism of OYA Parolees by Sex (rates are cumulative)*

Cohort	Sex	# in Cohort	12-mo. Rate	24-mo. Rate	36-mo. Rate
FY01	Female	64	9.4%	20.3%	29.7%
	Male	348	14.1%	26.4%	36.8%
FY02	Female	53	5.7%	15.1%	22.6%
	Male	335	11.0%	26.6%	37.9%
FY03	Female	65	9.2%	13.8%	18.5%
	Male	432	10.4%	25.2%	36.6%
FY04	Female	36	5.6%	8.3%	—
	Male	244	11.1%	26.6%	—
FY05	Female	42	0.0%	—	—
	Male	271	10.3%	—	—

Note: Dash (—) indicates lack of available data.

on the FY01–FY03 pooled data and then dividing the recidivism rate of males by that of females. Table 4 shows that males were 1.6 times as likely to recidivate as females.

Table 4

36-Month Recidivism of OYA Parolees by Sex (FY01–FY03, Pooled)

Sex	# in Cohort	# at 36 Months	36-mo. Rate
Female	182	43	23.6%
Male	1115	413	37.0%
Relative Risk of Males to Females			37.0%/23.6% = 1.6

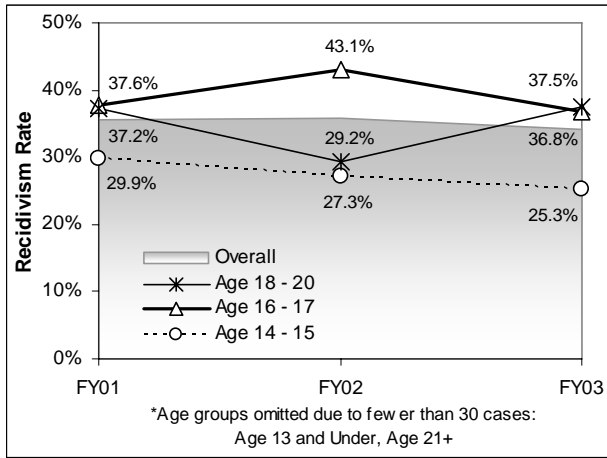
Age 14–15 group experienced lowest recidivism

For this portion of the analysis, we grouped youth by their age when released to parole². As shown in Figure 3, the Age 14–15 group demonstrated a steady decline in 36-month recidivism, decreasing from 29.9% (FY01) to

² This comparison is limited to the Age 14–15, Age 16–17, and Age 18–20 groups. The Age 13 and Under and the Age 21+ groups each had fewer than 30 cases, so recidivism rates were not calculated for individual cohort years for those two age breakouts.

Figure 3

Recidivism Rates at 36 Months by Age Group*



25.3% (FY03). Furthermore, the Age 14–15 group experienced the lowest recidivism in each of those cohort years.

Recidivism rates of the two older groups, Age 16–17 and Age 18–20, were erratic from one cohort to the next. Table 5 shows that starting with the FY01 cohort, less than one percentage point separated the 36-month recidivism rates of the Age 16–17 and the Age 18–20 groups. After this, recidivism of the two groups diverged, placing their rates nearly 14 percentage points

Table 5

Difference in 36-Month Recidivism of Parolees in the Age 16–17 and Age 18–20 Groups

Cohort	Age at Parole Release	# in Cohort	36-mo. Rate	Difference (high - low)
FY01	Age 16–17	194	37.6%	37.6 - 37.2 = 0.4 percentage points
	Age 18–20	137	37.2%	
FY02	Age 16–17	197	43.1%	43.1 - 29.2 = 13.9 percentage points
	Age 18–20	106	29.2%	
FY03	Age 16–17	239	36.8%	37.5 - 36.8 = 0.7 percentage points
	Age 18–20	160	37.5%	

apart for members of the FY02 cohort. Then the rates for the Age 16–17 and Age 18–20 groups re-converged: In FY03, both age groups were not only within one percentage point of each other but were also within one percentage point of their respective FY01 rates.

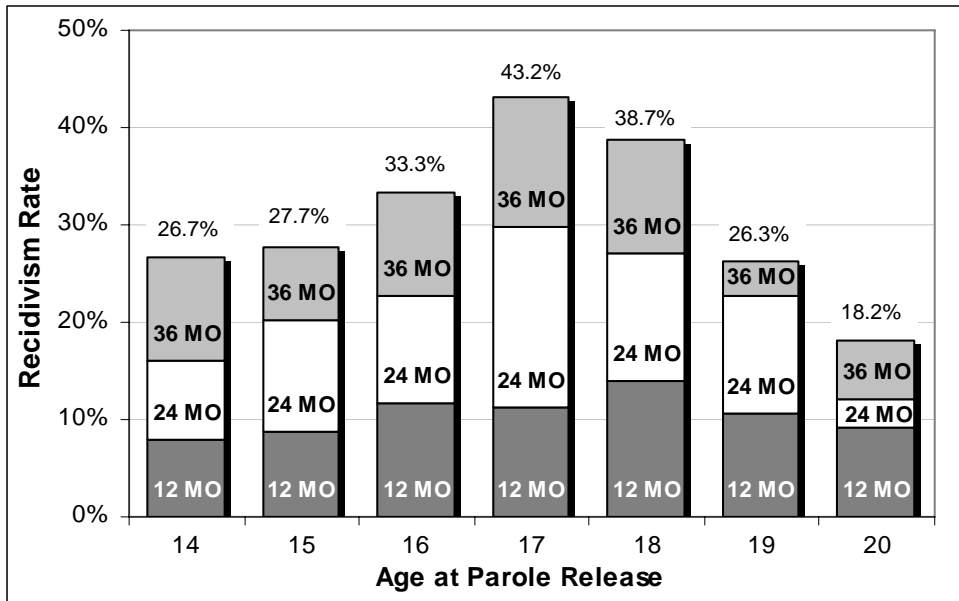
Recidivism peaked for parolees released at age 17 and then declined

Analysis of the pooled recidivism data from the FY01–FY03 cohorts found an association between age at release and recidivism. As illustrated in Figure 4, recidivism and age were positively associated for youth paroled between the ages of 14 and 17. That is to say, as age at parole release increased from 14 through 17 so did recidivism. From age 18 through 20, the relationship was negative: Recidivism decreased as age at parole increased for those 18 and older. Keep in mind that the youth’s age at parole release is not the same as the age at which the youth was convicted of a subsequent felony. Some examples will help clarify:

- The 36-month recidivism rate for youth paroled at age 14 was 26.7%. In other words, by the time these youth had turned 17 years old (14 years plus 36 months), 26.7% had been adjudicated or convicted of a felony.
- Among youth paroled at age 17, the recidivism rate was 43.2% after 36 months (age 20).
- Youth paroled at age 20 experienced a recidivism rate of 18.2% by the time they were 23.

Another takeaway from Figure 4 is the picture of recidivism it presents at each of the three tracking periods. At 12 months, there is no clear pattern in recidivism rates among parolees released at the different ages. At 24 months, the relationship between age and recidivism is becoming evident as the graph takes on the

Figure 4
Cumulative Recidivism Rates by Age at Parole Release
FY01–FY03, Pooled



Recidivism at 36 months was positively associated with the age at release for youth paroled between the ages of 14 and 17. The relationship turned negative for individuals released at age 18 and beyond.

classic bell shape. The curve persists at 36 months, reinforcing the nature of the association between recidivism and age at parole release. This further underscores the rationale for favoring the 36-month tracking period, as explained in the Analysis section of this report.

No trends were evident in recidivism by race or ethnicity

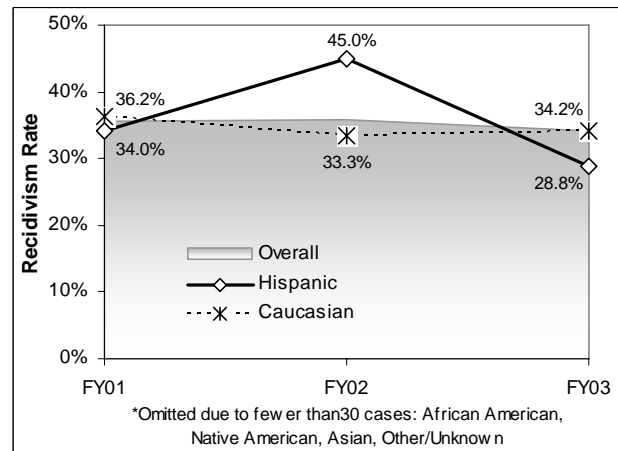
Figure 5 compares the 36-month recidivism rates of Caucasians and Hispanics with the overall recidivism rates for the FY01–FY03 cohorts. The comparison is limited to these two groups because none of the other race/ethnicity classifications met the minimum of 30 cases in each of the three cohort years.

In general, Caucasians followed the overall recidivism rate, a predictable outcome, as Caucasians represented 76% of the parole releases over those cohort years. The recidivism rates of Caucasians varied within a range of three percentage points, with parolees in the

FY02 and FY03 cohorts recidivating somewhat less than those in the FY01 cohort.

Among Hispanics, those in the FY02 cohort experienced a sharp upward spike in recidivism to 45.0%, an 11-percentage point increase over the FY01 cohort. Hispanics in the FY03 cohort followed with a substantial dip in recidivism to

Figure 5
Recidivism Rates at 36 Months
by Race/Ethnicity*



28.8%, a drop of 16.2 percentage points from the FY02 cohort. The high recidivism among Hispanic parolees in the FY02 cohort is all the more unusual because Hispanic members of both the FY01 and FY03 cohorts experienced lower recidivism than Caucasians.

In addition to the analysis of individual race/ethnicities, we examined the recidivism rates of an aggregated group comprising over-represented minorities. There are three over-represented minorities identified within OYA: African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Americans. These minorities are considered over-represented because each composes a disproportionately large share of the OYA parole population in comparison to its estimated share of youth aged 10–17 in Oregon. For example, in 2003, Native Americans were an estimated 2% of youth throughout Oregon but represented 5% of the OYA parole population over the years covered by this analysis. Table 6 summarizes the distribution of these minorities.

Table 6

Race/Ethnicity Representation of Oregon Risk Population and OYA Parole Releases

Race/Ethnicity	Risk Population ^a	OYA Parolees ^b	Over-Rep'd?
Hispanic	10%	12%	YES
Caucasian	79%	75%	NO
African American	3%	7%	YES
Asian	4%	1%	NO
Native American	2%	5%	YES
Other/Unknown	2%	1%	NO

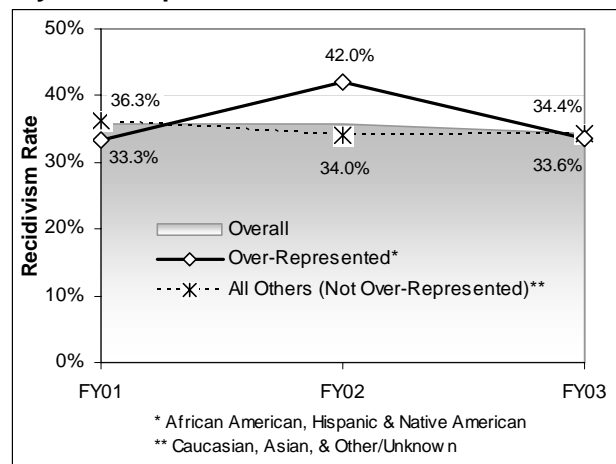
^a Percentage of estimated youth age 10–17 in Oregon. Source: OYA Quick Facts (May 2003). ^b Percentage of FY01–FY05 OYA parolees. Source: JJIS.

We combined the data for the three over-represented race/ethnicity groups to arrive at a recidivism rate that included all over-represented minorities. Although pooling data masks differences between the individual groups, it can also provide useful information. In this case, because some minorities do not meet the minimum of 30 cases for analysis for

individual cohorts, pooling their data gives some weight to these smaller groups in examining the trends.

Figure 6 displays the 36-month recidivism rates of the Over-Represented Minorities group and the All-Others group, which is composed of the remaining race/ethnicities. Inasmuch as Hispanics made up half of the Over-Represented Minorities group during the FY01–FY03 period, the patterns of recidivism for both were very

Figure 6
Recidivism Rates at 36 Months by Over-Represented Minorities and All Others



similar (compare Figure 5 and Figure 6). That said, fluctuations in recidivism rates of the Over-Represented Minorities group were less extreme when compared with the Hispanic-only group. Caucasians were nearly 98% of the All-Others group, so the recidivism rates were nearly identical for these two groups.

To determine whether there were any pronounced associations between race/ethnicity and 36-month recidivism for particular minorities, we aggregated data from the FY01–FY03 cohorts. While there were too few cases to look at individual race/ethnicities beyond Caucasian and Hispanic when considering the cohorts separately, pooling the data increased the cases of African Americans and Native Americans sufficiently to include them in this

analysis. Asians, one of OYA’s *under-*represented minorities, still had fewer than 30 cases after pooling the data.

Table 7 presents the recidivism rates at the 36-month tracking period by race/ethnicity. We also calculated the relative risk of recidivism for the minority groups by comparing each of their rates with that of Caucasians. With a relative risk of 1.2, only African Americans were at a greater risk of recidivating than Caucasians. A

Table 7

36-Month Recidivism and Relative Risk of OYA Parolees by Race/Ethnicity (FY01–FY03, Pooled)

Race/Ethnicity	# in Cohort	# at 36 Months	36-mo. Rate
Caucasian	969	335	34.6%
African American	94	38	40.4%
Hispanic	153	53	34.6%
Native American	59	19	32.2%
Relative Risk of African Americans to Caucasians (40.4%/34.6%): 1.2			
Relative Risk of Hispanics to Caucasians (34.6%/34.6%): 1.0			
Relative Risk of Native Americans to Caucasians (32.2%/34.6%): 0.9			

relative risk of 1.0 for Hispanics meant they were equally as likely to recidivate as Caucasians. Native Americans, with a relative risk of 0.9, were slightly less likely to recidivate than Caucasians.

Sex offenders were least likely to recidivate

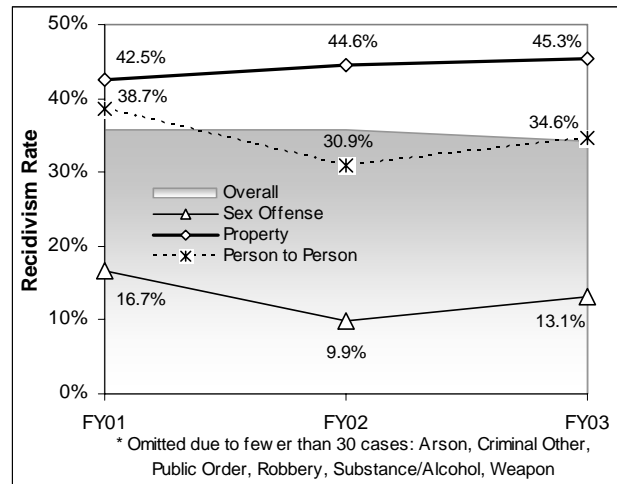
As we sliced the data into finer categories, the counts in many of the cells failed to meet the 30-case minimum threshold. So, with nine OYA crime categories, only three—sex offense, property, and person-to-person—had ample cases to examine 36-month recidivism on a cohort-by-cohort basis from FY01 to FY03. Furthermore, it is important to recognize that each parolee was assigned to only one crime

category, which represented the most serious offense leading to the close custody commitment.

Figure 7 depicts the recidivism rates by cohort for the sex offense, property, and person-to-person crime types. The only consistent trend was a slight increase in recidivism among property offenders in successive fiscal-year cohorts. The graph shows that sex offense and person-to-person groups in the FY02 cohort recidivated at considerably lower rates than the same groups in the FY01 cohort. The sex offense and person-to-person groups in the FY03 cohort bounced back with rates somewhere between the performance of their FY01 and FY02 counterparts.

Figure 7

Recidivism Rates at 36 Months by Crime Type*



When we aggregated data from the FY01–FY03 cohorts, the counts in several additional cells crested the 30-case minimum. The pooled recidivism rates for all crime types are summarized in Table 8 in descending order by rate. The recidivism rate calculations for public order and arson are suppressed due to fewer than 30 base cases each.

Table 8

36-Month Recidivism of OYA Parolees by Crime Type (FY01–FY03, Pooled)

Crime Type	# in Cohort	# at 36 Months	36-mo. Rate
Property	586	259	44.2%
Substance/Alcohol	93	41	44.1%
Robbery	47	17	36.2%
Person-to-Person	211	74	35.1%
Criminal Other	51	16	31.4%
Weapon	31	8	25.8%
Sex Offense	250	33	13.2%
Public Order	3	1	—
Arson	25	7	—

Note: Dash (—) indicates fewer than 30 base cases.

Notable from both Figure 7 and Table 8 is the low recidivism rate of sex offenders relative to non-sex offenders. Table 9 reveals how we examined this further by pooling data from the FY01–FY03 cohorts and calculating the relative risk of recidivism. In doing so, we found that non-sex offenders were 3.1 times as likely to recidivate as sex offenders at the 36-month tracking period.

Table 9

36-Month Recidivism and Relative Risk of OYA Parolees by Sex Offense Status (FY01–FY03, Pooled)

Crime Type	# in Cohort	# at 36 Months	36-mo. Rate
Sex Offense	250	33	13.2%
Non-Sex Offense	1047	423	40.4%

Relative Risk of Non-Sex Offense to Sex Offense (40.4%/13.2%): 3.1

Yet another distinction we can draw is by the type of commitment the parolee had upon entering the OYA youth correctional facility. Offenders held in OYA close custody occupy one of three bed categories: Public Safety Reserve (PSR), Discretionary Bed Allocation (DBA), or Department of Corrections (DOC). PSR beds are set aside to ensure that close-custody capacity is available for offenders

committing the most serious crimes (murder, attempted murder, rape in the first degree, arson in the first degree, etc.). DOC beds are designated for youth committed to OYA after being convicted in adult courts, but these offenders remain under the jurisdiction of Department of Corrections. The remaining youth in close custody are committed to DBA beds. This report examines only those offenders whose parole supervision is managed by OYA. This includes only individuals released from PSR and DBA beds but excludes DOC commitments, all of whom receive their post-release supervision from Department of Corrections.

Parolees with a PSR designation while incarcerated with OYA represented 10.7% of the parole releases in the FY01–FY03 period. Figure 8 shows the recidivism rate of PSR parolees was well below that of DBA parolees in each cohort. Additionally, the PSR parolees in the FY02 and FY03 cohorts experienced lower recidivism rates than the FY01 cohort. While PSR parolees in the FY03 cohort had slightly lower recidivism than those in the FY02 cohort, the downtrend was weak: Just one more case of recidivism among the PSR group from the FY03 cohort would have pushed their rate above that of FY02’s PSR group.

Figure 8

Recidivism Rates at 36 Months by Bed Status

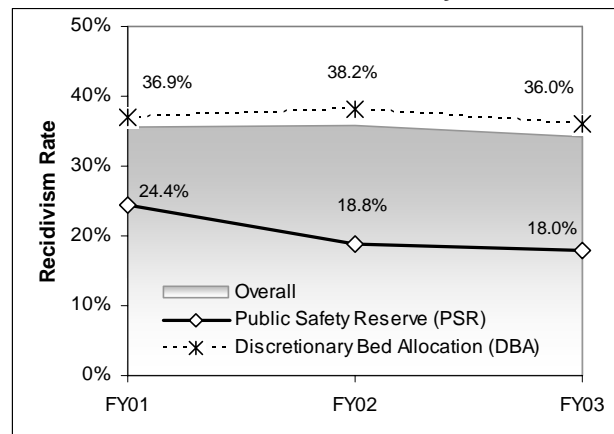


Table 10 aggregates the FY01–FY03 data by PSR and DBA status. The 36-month recidivism rate for parolees with PSR status was markedly below that of DBA parolees. In fact, we found that DBA offenders were 1.8 times as likely to recidivate as PSR offenders.

Table 10

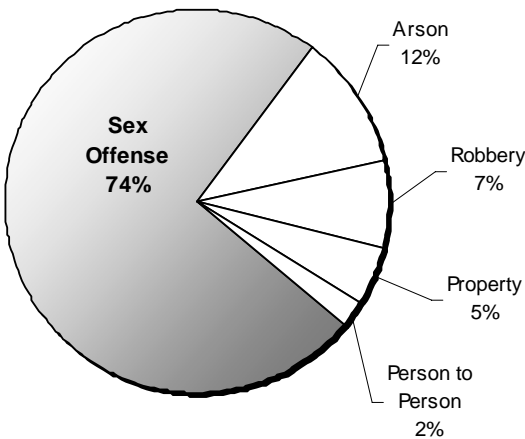
36-Month Recidivism and Relative Risk of OYA Parolees by Bed Status (FY01–FY03, Pooled)

Bed Status	# in Cohort	# at 36 Months	36-mo. Rate
PSR	139	28	20.1%
DBA	1158	428	37.0%
Relative Risk of DBA to PSR (37.0%/20.1%): 1.8			

It may seem counterintuitive that delinquents deemed more dangerous experienced lower recidivism, but the reason is due to the low recidivism among sex offenders, who constituted roughly three quarters of the PSR parole population from FY01 to FY03. Figure 9 provides an overall picture of the PSR parole population by crime type. Table 11 shows that the 36-month recidivism rates of PSR sex offenders and DBA sex offenders were indeed

Figure 9

Paroled PSR Offenders by Crime Type FY01–FY03, Pooled



very close. Further comparisons were not practical because no other crime category within the PSR group met the minimum of 30 cases, even after pooling the cohorts.

Table 11

36-Month Recidivism of OYA Sex Offender Parolees by Bed Status (FY01–FY03, Pooled)

Bed Status	# in Cohort	# at 36 Months	36-mo. Rate
PSR Sex Offender	103	13	12.6%
DBA Sex Offender	147	20	13.6%

Summary of Key Findings

We analyzed recidivism data for individuals released to parole from OYA close custody from FY01 to FY05. Most of the analysis was limited to the cohorts released in FY01, FY02, and FY03 due to a preference for using the 36-month tracking period when calculating recidivism rates.

Overall. For the parole release cohorts from FY01 through FY03, we found no clear trend in 36-month recidivism rates. Rates from the FY01 and FY02 cohorts were little changed. Then the FY03 cohort followed with a modest drop in recidivism to 34.2% (down 1.6 percentage points).

Sex. An analysis by gender found that females were less likely to recidivate than males. Additionally, females experienced a steady and substantial decline in recidivism from one cohort to the next. Male parolees demonstrated little change in recidivism across the FY01–FY03 cohorts.

Age. In examining 36-month recidivism trends by groups based on age at parole release, we found that the Age 14–15 group experienced a downtrend in recidivism from the FY01 to the FY03 cohort. Furthermore, the Age 14–15 group consistently experienced lower recidivism than both the Age 16–17 and Age 18–20 groups.

We pooled the FY01–FY03 cohorts and looked at recidivism by discrete ages. In doing so, we noted a pattern in recidivism by the age at parole release, with the rate steadily increasing through age 17 and then declining for those paroled at age 18 and over. The 36-month recidivism rate peaked at 43.2% for those paroled at age 17, meaning that the adjudication or conviction for the subsequent felony act occurred by the time the parolee had reached age 20 (17 years plus 36 months).

Race/ethnicity. Analysis showed no upward or downward recidivism trends by race/ethnicity. Among Caucasians, recidivism at 36 months was steady across the FY01 to FY03 cohorts, while the recidivism rate of Hispanics was erratic from one cohort to the next. After pooling the FY01–FY03 data, we compared the recidivism rates of each of the over-represented minorities (African American, Hispanic, and Native American) to that of Caucasians. From this, we found that African Americans were 1.2 times as likely to recidivate, Hispanics were

equally likely to recidivate, and Native Americans were slightly less likely to recidivate relative to Caucasians.

Crime category. In examining the data by crime type, we found that those who had been in close custody for a sex offense were the least likely to recidivate after parole release. Property offenders had the highest recidivism at 36 months, followed closely by those who had been incarcerated for a substance/alcohol crime. Overall, *non-sex* offender parolees were 3.1 times as likely to recidivate as sex offender parolees.

Tying into the crime-type analysis was a review of recidivism by whether or not the parolee had occupied a PSR bed or a DBA bed while in OYA close custody. We discovered that parolees who had occupied DBA beds were 1.8 times as likely to recidivate as those who had occupied PSR beds. This was due to the very high proportion of sex offenders among PSR commitments.



APPENDIX

Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism of Parole Releases: All Offenders Data through June 30, 2006							
Cohort	# in Cohort	12 Months		24 Months		36 Months	
		#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate
FY01	412	55	13.3%	105	25.5%	147	35.7%
FY02	388	40	10.3%	97	25.0%	139	35.8%
FY03	497	51	10.3%	118	23.7%	170	34.2%
FY04	280	29	10.4%	68	24.3%	—	—
FY05	313	28	8.9%	—	—	—	—

Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism of Parole Releases by Sex Data through June 30, 2006								
Cohort	Sex	# in Cohort	12 Months		24 Months		36 Months	
			#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate
FY01	Female	64	6	9.4%	13	20.3%	19	29.7%
	Male	348	49	14.1%	92	26.4%	128	36.8%
FY02	Female	53	3	5.7%	8	15.1%	12	22.6%
	Male	335	37	11.0%	89	26.6%	127	37.9%
FY03	Female	65	6	9.2%	9	13.8%	12	18.5%
	Male	432	45	10.4%	109	25.2%	158	36.6%
FY04	Female	36	2	5.6%	3	8.3%	—	—
	Male	244	27	11.1%	65	26.6%	—	—
FY05	Female	42	0	0.0%	—	0.0%	—	—
	Male	271	28	10.3%	—	—	—	—

Dash (—) indicates data not available (affects FY04 and FY05 only) or fewer than 30 base cases.



Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism of Parole Releases by Age Group and Age Data through June 30, 2006									
Cohort	Age Group at Release	Age at Release	# in Cohort	12 Months		24 Months		36 Months	
				#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate
FY01	Age 13 and Under	13	4	0	—	1	—	1	—
	Age 13 and Under Summary		4	0	—	1	—	1	—
	Age 14 – 15	14	22	4	—	5	—	7	—
		15	45	5	11.1%	11	24.4%	13	28.9%
	Age 14 – 15 Summary		67	9	13.4%	16	23.9%	20	29.9%
	Age 16 – 17	16	80	11	13.8%	15	18.8%	23	28.8%
		17	114	15	13.2%	35	30.7%	50	43.9%
	Age 16 – 17 Summary		194	26	13.4%	50	25.8%	73	37.6%
	Age 18 – 20	18	116	15	12.9%	30	25.9%	44	37.9%
		19	14	3	—	4	—	4	—
		20	7	1	—	2	—	3	—
Age 18 – 20 Summary		137	19	13.9%	36	26.3%	51	37.2%	
Age 21+	21	8	1	—	2	—	2	—	
	22	2	0	—	0	—	0	—	
Age 21+ Summary		10	1	—	2	—	2	—	
FY02	Age 13 and Under	13	4	0	—	2	—	2	—
	Age 13 and Under Summary		4	0	—	2	—	2	—
	Age 14 - 15	14	27	1	—	5	—	7	—
		15	50	4	8.0%	10	20.0%	14	28.0%
	Age 14 - 15 Summary		77	5	6.5%	15	19.5%	21	27.3%
	Age 16 - 17	16	78	9	11.5%	20	25.6%	29	37.2%
		17	119	15	12.6%	38	31.9%	56	47.1%
	Age 16 - 17 Summary		197	24	12.2%	58	29.4%	85	43.1%
	Age 18 - 20	18	74	9	12.2%	19	25.7%	27	36.5%
		19	18	2	—	3	—	4	—
		20	14	0	—	0	—	0	—
Age 18 - 20 Summary		106	11	10.4%	22	20.8%	31	29.2%	
Age 21+	21	3	0	—	0	—	0	—	
	23	1	0	—	0	—	0	—	
Age 21+ Summary		4	0	—	0	—	0	—	

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Dash (—) indicates data not available (affects FY04 and FY05 only) or fewer than 30 base cases.



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Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism of Parole Releases by Age Group and Age Data through June 30, 2006									
Cohort	Age Group at Release	Age at Release	# in Cohort	12 Months		24 Months		36 Months	
				#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate
FY03	Age 13 and Under	12	4	0	—	0	—	0	—
		13	4	0	—	0	—	0	—
	Age 13 and Under Summary		8	0	—	0	—	0	—
	Age 14 - 15	14	26	1	—	2	—	6	—
		15	53	4	7.5%	9	17.0%	14	26.4%
	Age 14 - 15 Summary		79	5	6.3%	11	13.9%	20	25.3%
	Age 16 - 17	16	106	11	10.4%	25	23.6%	36	34.0%
		17	133	11	8.3%	36	27.1%	52	39.1%
	Age 16 - 17 Summary		239	22	9.2%	61	25.5%	88	36.8%
	Age 18 - 20	18	123	20	16.3%	36	29.3%	50	40.7%
		19	25	1	—	6	—	7	—
	20	12	2	—	2	—	3	—	
Age 18 - 20 Summary		160	23	14.4%	44	27.5%	60	37.5%	
Age 21+	21	5	0	—	0	—	0	—	
	22	4	1	—	1	—	1	—	
	23	2	0	—	1	—	1	—	
Age 21+ Summary		11	1	—	2	—	2	—	
FY04	Age 13 and Under	12	1	0	—	0	—	—	—
		13	11	0	—	1	—	—	—
	Age 13 and Under Summary		12	0	—	1	—	—	—
	Age 14 - 15	14	14	1	—	1	—	—	—
		15	35	2	5.7%	4	11.4%	—	—
	Age 14 - 15 Summary		49	3	6.1%	5	10.2%	—	—
	Age 16 - 17	16	65	6	9.2%	13	20.0%	—	—
		17	65	11	16.9%	27	41.5%	—	—
	Age 16 - 17 Summary		130	17	13.1%	40	30.8%	—	—
	Age 18 - 20	18	49	8	16.3%	16	32.7%	—	—
		19	25	1	—	6	—	—	—
	20	7	0	—	0	—	—	—	
Age 18 - 20 Summary		81	9	11.1%	22	27.2%	—	—	
Age 21+	21	3	0	—	0	—	—	—	
	22	4	0	—	0	—	—	—	
	23	1	0	—	0	—	—	—	
Age 21+ Summary		8	0	—	0	—	—	—	

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Dash (—) indicates data not available (affects FY04 and FY05 only) or fewer than 30 base cases.

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Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism of Parole Releases by Age Group and Age Data through June 30, 2006									
Cohort	Age Group at Release	Age at Release	# in Cohort	12 Months		24 Months		36 Months	
				#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate
FY05	Age 13 and Under	12	1	0	—	—	—	—	—
		13	3	0	—	—	—	—	—
	Age 13 and Under Summary		4	0	—	—	—	—	—
	Age 14 - 15	14	16	0	—	—	—	—	—
		15	39	2	5.1%	—	—	—	—
	Age 14 - 15 Summary		55	2	3.6%	—	—	—	—
	Age 16 - 17	16	66	3	4.5%	—	—	—	—
		17	86	12	14.0%	—	—	—	—
	Age 16 - 17 Summary		152	15	9.9%	—	—	—	—
	Age 18 - 20	18	58	6	10.3%	—	—	—	—
		19	19	2	—	—	—	—	—
	Age 18 - 20 Summary	20	9	1	—	—	—	—	—
		Age 18 - 20 Summary		86	9	10.5%	—	—	—
	Age 21+	21	5	0	—	—	—	—	—
22		8	2	—	—	—	—	—	
23		2	0	—	—	—	—	—	
24		1	0	—	—	—	—	—	
Age 21+ Summary		16	2	—	—	—	—	—	

Dash (—) indicates data not available (affects FY04 and FY05 only) or fewer than 30 base cases.



Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism of Parole Releases by Race/Ethnicity Data through June 30, 2006								
Cohort	Race/Ethnicity	# in Cohort	12 Months		24 Months		36 Months	
			#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate
FY01	African American	29	4	—	8	—	10	—
	Asian	4	1	—	1	—	1	—
	Caucasian	312	43	13.8%	79	25.3%	113	36.2%
	Hispanic	47	5	10.6%	12	25.5%	16	34.0%
	Native American	14	1	—	3	—	4	—
	Other/Unknown	6	1	—	2	—	3	—
FY02	African American	25	3	—	9	—	13	—
	Asian	4	0	—	1	—	2	—
	Caucasian	294	31	10.5%	71	24.1%	98	33.3%
	Hispanic	40	5	12.5%	13	32.5%	18	45.0%
	Native American	23	0	—	2	—	6	—
	Other/Unknown	2	1	—	1	—	2	—
FY03	African American	40	7	17.5%	11	27.5%	15	37.5%
	Asian	3	1	—	2	—	2	—
	Caucasian	363	35	9.6%	88	24.2%	124	34.2%
	Hispanic	66	3	4.5%	10	15.2%	19	28.8%
	Native American	22	5	—	7	—	9	—
	Other/Unknown	3	0	—	0	—	1	—
FY04	African American	9	1	—	3	—	—	—
	Asian	3	2	—	2	—	—	—
	Caucasian	222	22	9.9%	54	24.3%	—	—
	Hispanic	26	3	—	5	—	—	—
	Native American	16	1	—	4	—	—	—
	Other/Unknown	4	0	—	0	—	—	—
FY05	African American	27	6	—	—	—	—	—
	Asian	4	0	—	—	—	—	—
	Caucasian	224	14	6.3%	—	—	—	—
	Hispanic	41	6	14.6%	—	—	—	—
	Native American	14	2	—	—	—	—	—
	Other/Unknown	3	0	—	—	—	—	—

Dash (—) indicates data not available (affects FY04 and FY05 only) or fewer than 30 base cases.



Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism of Parole Releases by Crime Type Data through June 30, 2006								
Cohort	OYA Crime Category	# in Cohort	12 Months		24 Months		36 Months	
			#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate
FY01	Arson	7	0	—	0	—	2	—
	Criminal Other	15	3	—	5	—	7	—
	Person to Person	75	7	9.3%	21	28.0%	29	38.7%
	Property	179	31	17.3%	51	28.5%	76	42.5%
	Public Order	1	0	—	0	—	0	—
	Robbery	14	1	—	3	—	4	—
	Sex Offense	72	4	5.6%	10	13.9%	12	16.7%
	Substance/Alcohol Weapon	36 13	9 0	25.0% —	13 2	36.1% —	14 3	38.9% —
FY02	Arson	7	0	—	0	—	1	—
	Criminal Other	18	1	—	3	—	5	—
	Person to Person	55	2	3.6%	9	16.4%	17	30.9%
	Property	184	29	15.8%	63	34.2%	82	44.6%
	Robbery	17	2	—	5	—	9	—
	Sex Offense	71	1	1.4%	4	5.6%	7	9.9%
	Substance/Alcohol Weapon	28 8	5 0	— —	13 0	— —	16 2	— —
	FY03	Arson	11	0	—	0	—	4
Criminal Other		18	1	—	3	—	4	—
Person to Person		81	7	8.6%	18	22.2%	28	34.6%
Property		223	32	14.3%	71	31.8%	101	45.3%
Public Order		2	0	—	1	—	1	—
Robbery		16	2	—	3	—	4	—
Sex Offense		107	3	2.8%	10	9.3%	14	13.1%
Substance/Alcohol Weapon		29 10	6 0	— —	10 2	— —	11 3	— —
FY04	Arson	10	0	—	1	—	—	—
	Criminal Other	8	3	—	4	—	—	—
	Person to Person	35	3	8.6%	10	28.6%	—	—
	Property	115	15	13.0%	38	33.0%	—	—
	Robbery	6	0	—	1	—	—	—
	Sex Offense	88	3	3.4%	9	10.2%	—	—
	Substance/Alcohol Weapon	12 6	3 2	— —	3 2	— —	— —	— —
	FY05	Arson	5	1	—	—	—	—
Criminal Other		7	1	—	—	—	—	—
Person to Person		38	2	5.3%	—	—	—	—
Property		127	16	12.6%	—	—	—	—
Public Order		2	0	—	—	—	—	—
Robbery		5	0	—	—	—	—	—
Sex Offense		101	5	5.0%	—	—	—	—
Substance/Alcohol Weapon		18 10	2 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —

Dash (—) indicates data not available (affects FY04 and FY05 only) or fewer than 30 base cases.



Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism of Parole Releases by Bed Status and Sex Offense/Non-Sex Offense Data through June 30, 2006									
Bed Status: Public Safety Reserve (PSR) or Discretionary Bed Allocation (DBA)									
Cohort	Bed Status	Crime Type	# in Cohort	12 Months		24 Months		36 Months	
				#	Rate	#	Rate	#	Rate
FY01	DBA	Non-Sex Offense	329	50	15.2%	94	28.6%	130	39.5%
		Sex Offense	42	3	7.1%	6	14.3%	7	16.7%
	DBA Summary		371	53	14.3%	100	27.0%	137	36.9%
	PSR	Non-Sex Offense	11	1	—	1	—	5	—
		Sex Offense	30	1	3.3%	4	13.3%	5	16.7%
PSR Summary		41	2	4.9%	5	12.2%	10	24.4%	
FY02	DBA	Non-Sex Offense	306	39	12.7%	91	29.7%	127	41.5%
		Sex Offense	34	1	2.9%	2	5.9%	3	8.8%
	DBA Summary		340	40	11.8%	93	27.4%	130	38.2%
	PSR	Non-Sex Offense	11	0	—	2	—	5	—
		Sex Offense	37	0	0.0%	2	5.4%	4	10.8%
PSR Summary		48	0	0.0%	4	8.3%	9	18.8%	
FY03	DBA	Non-Sex Offense	376	47	12.5%	107	28.5%	151	40.2%
		Sex Offense	71	2	2.8%	8	11.3%	10	14.1%
	DBA Summary		447	49	11.0%	115	25.7%	161	36.0%
	PSR	Non-Sex Offense	14	1	—	1	—	5	—
		Sex Offense	36	1	2.8%	2	5.6%	4	11.1%
PSR Summary		50	2	4.0%	3	6.0%	9	18.0%	
FY04	DBA	Non-Sex Offense	179	26	14.5%	58	32.4%	—	—
		Sex Offense	48	2	4.2%	5	10.4%	—	—
	DBA Summary		227	28	12.3%	63	27.8%	—	—
	PSR	Non-Sex Offense	13	0	—	1	—	—	—
		Sex Offense	40	1	2.5%	4	10.0%	—	—
PSR Summary		53	1	1.9%	5	9.4%	—	—	
FY05	DBA	Non-Sex Offense	205	22	10.7%	—	—	—	—
		Sex Offense	51	4	7.8%	—	—	—	—
	DBA Summary		256	26	10.2%	—	—	—	—
	PSR	Non-Sex Offense	7	1	—	—	—	—	—
		Sex Offense	50	1	2.0%	—	—	—	—
PSR Summary		57	2	3.5%	—	—	—	—	

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