



**PPIC**

PUBLIC POLICY  
INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

**25 YEARS**

# Recidivism of Felony Offenders in California

## Technical Appendix

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## Appendix A. Descriptive Characteristics and Regression Results

**TABLE A1**

Demographic and criminal history characteristics of California compared with those of the MCS counties

	California	MCS counties
<b>Demographic characteristics</b>		
Male	49.7%	49.4%
African American	6.5%	8.0%
Asian American/Pacific Islander	14.8%	16.2%
Latino/Hispanic	38.6%	40.6%
Native American/Alaskan Native	1.7%	1.5%
Two or more races/ethnicities	3.7%	3.6%
White	73.3%	70.8%
Under 20	26.4%	26.2%
Age 20–39	28.9%	29.5%
Age 40–59	26.5%	26.8%
Age 60+	18.2%	17.5%
<b>Economic characteristics</b>		
Unemployment rate	9.1%	9.2%
Poverty rate	16.5%	17.6%
<b>Population characteristics</b>		
Population density (people/square mile)	244.6	454.7
Total population	38,335,203	22,847,093

SOURCES: Demographic and population density characteristics are from the US Census. Poverty rates are from the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program within the Census Bureau. Unemployment rates are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTES: Comparisons were made at the start of the MCS project using 2013 data.

**TABLE A2**

Characteristics by cohort

Characteristic	Full Group	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Age	34.0	33.6	33.9	34.4	34.1
Male	83.9%	83.6%	83.2%	83.2%	85.8%
White	28.9%	28.2%	29.4%	30.1%	27.5%
African American	25.1%	26.4%	25.0%	24.0%	25.1%
Hispanic/Latino	40.5%	40.1%	40.2%	40.3%	41.4%
Asian American/Pacific Islander	2.1%	1.9%	2.0%	2.1%	2.2%
American Indian/Native Alaskan	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%
Other race	3.0%	3.0%	2.9%	2.9%	3.3%
Age at first conviction	24.1	24.2	24.2	24.0	23.8
Number of prior serious offenses	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Number of prior violent offenses	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total prior arrests	15.3	14.2	15.0	16.0	16.2
Total prior felony arrests	8.9	8.4	8.8	9.2	9.4
Total prior convictions	5.6	5.2	5.5	5.8	5.8
Total prior felony convictions	3.0	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.2
Offense type: person	19.6%	19.1%	18.8%	17.6%	23.6%
Offense type: property	27.0%	27.8%	27.2%	25.4%	27.8%
Offense type: drug	33.5%	35.8%	36.0%	37.7%	24.0%
Offense type: other	19.8%	17.3%	18.0%	19.3%	24.7%

SOURCE: Author calculations based on data from the BSCC–PPIC Multi-County Study (MCS).

NOTES: Annual cohorts are used here to show change over time in the characteristics of the study population.

**TABLE A3**

Regression results: relationship between sentence type and two-year recidivism outcomes

	Rearrest	Felony Rearrest	Reconviction	Felony Reconviction
Intercept	0.767***	0.611***	0.493***	0.348***
Jail sentence	-0.037***	0.004	-0.022***	-0.015***
Jail and probation sentence	0.009***	0.079***	-0.052***	-0.062***
Probation sentence	0.058***	0.133***	-0.011***	-0.033***
Age	-0.011***	-0.013***	-0.013***	-0.011***
Male	0.043***	0.043***	0.055***	0.058***
White	0.061***	0.049***	0.054***	0.031***
African American	0.037***	0.021***	-0.001	-0.012***
Latino/Hispanic	0.018***	0.016***	0.010**	0.001
Asian American	-0.003	-0.005	-0.008	-0.007
Age at first conviction	0.000*	0.003***	0.004***	0.004***
Number of prior serious offenses	0.006***	-0.003	-0.003	-0.012***
Number of prior violent offenses	0.024***	0.010***	0.011***	-0.001
Total prior arrests	0.010***	0.008***	0.009***	0.006***
Total prior felony arrests	-0.001***	0.004***	-0.002***	0.001**
Total prior convictions	-0.001	-0.002***	0.006***	0.001**
Total prior felony convictions	0.020***	0.024***	0.025***	0.031***
Length of stay in custody	0.000***	0.000***	-0.000***	0.000***
Offense type: homicide	-0.111***	-0.065***	-0.027**	0.000
Offense type: rape	-0.106***	-0.139***	-0.096***	-0.042***
Offense type: other sex offense	-0.078***	-0.088***	-0.051***	-0.008
Offense type: assault	-0.020***	-0.020***	-0.014***	-0.012***
Offense type: robbery	0.001	-0.001	-0.017***	-0.007
Offense type: burglary	0.067***	0.074***	0.079***	0.068***
Offense type: theft	0.020***	0.034***	0.050***	0.039***
Offense type: motor vehicle theft	0.135***	0.173***	0.172***	0.179***
Offense type: other property offense	0.046***	0.074***	0.068***	0.077***
Offense type: drug offense	0.047***	0.067***	0.060***	0.055***
Offense type: DUI	-0.116***	-0.133***	-0.102***	-0.055***
Offense type: weapon possession	0.060***	0.071***	0.054***	0.057***
Offense type: unknown	0.063***	0.029***	0.086***	0.110***
County fixed effects	Y	Y	Y	Y
Month fixed effects	Y	Y	Y	Y

SOURCE: Author calculations based on data from the BSCC–PPIC Multi-County Study (MCS).

NOTES: Significance levels are indicated as follows: \* reflects a 10 percent level of significance; \*\* reflect a 5 percent level of significance; and \*\*\* represents a 1 percent level of significance



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