



# CALIFORNIA PRISONERS

1960

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## SUMMARY STATISTICS OF PRISONERS AND PAROLEES

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
RESEARCH DIVISION  
ADMINISTRATIVE STATISTICS SECTION

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

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# CALIFORNIA PRISONERS 1960

This publication of *California Prisoners 1960* presenting statistical data of persons under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections has been issued for 15 years. One issue contained five-year data, but most reports have compared a current year with the immediate past year.

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## FOREWORD

About one person for every 740 Californians was in a State correctional institution December 31, 1960.

In the 20 years ending December 31, 1960, there have been about 68,000 admissions to State prisons, a total approximately equal to the population of such California cities as Alameda, Bakersfield or Inglewood.

Twenty-one thousand six hundred and sixty inmates crowded these institutions at year's end—enough to populate cities nearly the size of Oceanside or San Lorenzo—and nine thousand three hundred and three men and women were on parole as of December 31, 1960.

Almost every California village, crossroads settlement and neighborhood has sent men or women to State prisons.

Not the products only of major cities nor exclusively from so-called poor environments, these inmates present a tremendous variety of background, educational level, job experience, criminal pattern, family origin.

And, most of these thousands, committed from widespread California areas, will return to their home communities sooner or later. Only a few die in prison.

How long men and women stay in State prisons depends on a number of factors—their crime, the minimum and maximum term limits, their general nature, their response to training and treatment.

But, the fact is, that the majority of inmates return to society, either by parole or discharge.

The objective of the State's correctional institutions, therefore, is to protect society in two ways:

First, by securely confining the men and women sentenced to correctional institutions.

Second, by so training, reorienting and developing them that upon eventual release they shall pose a lesser threat to society.

Some inmates, however, are considered so great a threat to society they never are released.

Designed to bridge the gap from the institution to complete freedom, parole enables the State to help, to supervise and to control the man for a period of time prior to discharge. If the parolee is unable to measure up to his new, partial freedom, he may be returned to an institution.

Within limits established by law, the Adult Authority establishes a man's term, decides when a man is ready for transfer to parole under the Department's Adult Parole Division. If the man violates his parole provisions, the Adult Authority considers the extent of the violation and determines whether he should be returned to an institution.

For women, the Board of Trustees of the California Institution for Women, determines length of sentence and time of transfer to parole. The Board also administers the women's parole program.

Without parole, the State would not have control over released men and women during the critical period. It is this time immediately after release when a man or woman is most prone to return to crime. Admittedly some men and women fail during parole.

There has been, through the years, a trend to improve parole methods and supervision. An example is naline testing for those parolees with a record of narcotics addiction.

Paroled addicts have been taken from the streets and returned to custody as a result of their return to drugs—detected by the State's close parole naline program. Such return to confinement prevents re-addiction and crimes to get drugs.

In conjunction with this program, too, there have been established short term treatment centers for addicts. This same reconfinement concept is being developed for use also with other parolees whose behavior indicates the need for short term reconfinement and treatment.

To cope with the rapid growth of institutional population, the Department in 1960 continued its expansion of the conservation camp program, proceeded with building of a 2,400-man medium security facility at Los Padres, started construction of a 1,200-man conservation center at Susanville, and expanded facilities in some existing institutions such as the California Institution for Women.

To provide more effective training for inmates, the Department, too, has enlisted hundreds of men and women representing labor and management in its Trade Advisory Committees—designed to study and recommend improvements in trade training programs.

To develop in inmates the kind of work habits that will enable them to secure and hold employment, the Department has worked with the Correctional Industries Commission in improving and expanding its industries program.

To measure the success of its various programs of treatment, both in institutions and on parole, the Department has developed an extensive research program. As one result of this, plans are under way to combine some features of many programs into a package plan aimed at Increased Correctional Effectiveness. This involves closer measurement of each inmate's basic problems and needs and immediate placement in appropriate correctional programs.

How does the Department process new inmates?

Men are received at Reception-Guidance Centers, women at the California Institution for Women. During this reception period, social, medical, and criminal case histories are compiled and examination given to identify each inmate's needs.

Is the offense and background and personality such that an inmate should be sent to a maximum security institution immediately? What

kinds of treatment are needed, academic or vocational education, industry, camp work, or special attention in a medical facility? These are some questions considered in the guidance center. The Department's several institutions provide varying programs to satisfy basic needs.

Also cared for by the Department is a group of young males committed to the Department of the Youth Authority but placed by the Youth Authority in adult correctional institutions.

The format in this report is similar to that in the 1958 and 1959 edition. Most of the statistical tables relate to the adult male and female felons while in prison and on parole.

Care must be taken in the interpretation of statistics which measure a time interval. The statistics do not taken into account cases in which the interval has not yet been concluded. For example, time served on parole can be measured only for those persons who have completed parole.

Where applicable in these statistics, the median is used rather than the arithmetic average since the median is less distorted by the extremes of the distribution. The median is the mid-point in a series of values at which 50 percent of the cases are above and 50 percent are below.

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Sacramento, California  
July 1, 1961

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# **CALIFORNIA PRISONERS**

## **1960**

### **SUMMARY**

#### **INSTITUTION POPULATION AND MOVEMENT**

The prison population increased 2,361 in 1960, the greatest amount of increase ever experienced in one calendar year. The prison population on December 31, 1960, was 21,660 inmates. There were 134.4 prison inmates for every 100,000 persons in the California population.

#### **PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT**

The 6,028 felons newly received from court during 1960, was the greatest number ever received in prison during one calendar year in the history of this State. Male felons were received from court at the rate of 35.9 men per 100,000 State population, a 1.2 percent increase over the 1959 rate. The rate for women was 2.1 per 100,000 State population, a 7.9 percent increase over the 1959 rate.

#### ***Offense***

The rate at which the male felons were committed to prison in 1960 was highest for burglary, and forgery and checks, 7.2 per 100,000 State population for both of these offenses. The rate of commitment was lowest for the offenses of homicide and assault, 1.4 and 1.2 respectively. More women were committed to prison for forgery and checks than for any other offense, yet the commitment rate for this offense group was less than one (0.8) per 100,000 State population.

#### ***County or Area of Commitment***

More men were received from Southern California, especially from Los Angeles County, than from any other region. However, other counties or areas had a higher rate of commitment per county or area population.

#### ***Age at Admission***

A greater percentage of the male felons received in 1960 was in the 20-24 age group than was in the same age group in 1959, but the median age of those received during the two years was about the same, 29.3 years in 1959 and 29.1 years in 1960. The median age for women was 30.6 years in 1959 and 30.8 years in 1960.

***Prior Commitment Record***

Most male felons had served one or more jail or juvenile sentences prior to prison admission in 1960, 53.4 percent. Of the women admitted in 1960, 41.6 percent had served no prior commitment of any kind, and 43.1 percent had served jail or juvenile sentences previously.

***Time in State Before Offense***

Over two-thirds of the male felons received in California prisons had resided in the State of California ten years or longer.

***Educational Achievement***

From 1950 through 1957, the median grade achievement score of male felons received from court was equivalent to the seventh grade. In 1958 through 1960 the median score has been at the eighth grade level.

***Offense and Narcotic Addiction***

Of the 5,701 male felons received in 1960, 18.6 percent were narcotic addicts. Less than 10 percent of the men admitted were marijuana users.

**CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION IN PRISON**

The prison population was 21,660 on December 31, 1960. Characteristics of inmates in prison differ from the characteristics of persons at time of admission.

***Offense***

Robbery was the offense group with the highest percentage (19.8%) of men in prison on December 31, 1960. Burglary ranked second, and narcotics third. One-third of all women felons in prison on December 31, 1960 were forgers or check writers. Narcotic offenders ranked second.

***Age***

The median age of men in prison decreased from 33.0 years as of December 31, 1960, to 31.9 years by 1960. The median age of women was 31.2 years on December 31, 1950, and 32.7 years in 1960.

***Prior Commitment Record***

Almost one-half of the men in prison had served one or more prison terms prior to the present incarceration. However, one-fourth of the women in prison had served one or more prison terms prior to the present incarceration. Men with no prior commitment record comprised about 12 percent of the male felon population. Women with no prior commitment record made up 32 percent of the women felon prison population.

***Status With Reference to Parole***

About 75 percent of male felons and of the women in prison on December 31, 1960, were persons who had not been paroled since commitment.

## PRISONERS RELEASED

About 98 percent of all male felons and 99 percent of all women felons released from prison were returned to free society. Of the 5,711 male prisoners released during 1960, 85.3 percent were paroled, 13.1 percent were discharged at expiration of sentence, and 1.6 percent died or were executed. Most women were paroled from prison. Only 16 women (3.7 percent) of the 429 women released during 1960 were discharged directly from prison at expiration of sentence. More women were placed under parole supervision in 1960 than ever before in the history of California.

### *Parole*

The median time served by male felons before first parole was relatively constant from 1950 through 1958 (30 months). The median time has decreased in the last two years to 24 months. Median time served by women felons prior to first parole has varied only three months during the 1950 decade (26 months to 23 months). In 1960 the median dropped to 20 months for women paroled for the first time.

Male parolees returned to prison with a new commitment served a median of 33 months before reparole in 1960. Male parolees returned without a new commitment served a median of 21 months before reparole in 1960. Women felons returned from parole with a new commitment served a median of 23 months before reparole in 1960, while those returned without a new commitment served 15 months before reparole.

### *Discharge at Expiration of Sentence*

The number of adult male felons discharged from prison at expiration of sentence decreased from 1,324 in 1959 to 750 in 1960. Men who served their entire sentence in prison without having been paroled spent a median of 24 months in prison before discharge in 1960. Male prisoners re-released from prison at expiration of sentence after return from parole with a new commitment served a median of 33 months in prison before discharge in 1960. Men discharged from prison in 1960 after having been returned from parole without a new commitment, served 17 months.

## PAROLE POPULATION AND MOVEMENT

Approximately 9,300 felons were on active parole from California prisons as of December 31, 1960. Of these, 8,505 were men and 798 were women. Comparing 1960 with 1959, fewer male felons were placed on parole, fewer men were discharged from parole, and fewer deaths occurred. At the same time more men were suspended from active parole and more men were reinstated to active parole after suspension. The number of women under parole supervision increased during 1960 from 689 on January 1, to 798 by December 31.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION ON PAROLE

As of December 31, 1960, the California male parole population was 8,505 men, an increase of 94 percent from the 4,407 men on parole in 1950. During the same period, the number of women on active parole increased 253 percent, from 226 women as of December 31, 1950, to 798 women on the same date in 1960.

### *Offense*

Men who committed robbery accounted for the largest percentage of men on parole in 1950 through 1960, except in 1954 and 1959. Those convicted of burglary were the second largest percentage group, except in 1954 and 1959 when they ranked first. Women convicted of forgery and check offenses comprised 37 percent of the women parole population in 1960. This offense group of women felons has ranked first in the percentage distribution of offenses since 1952.

### *Number of Times on Parole*

Most of the men (84 percent) on active parole in 1960 were serving their first parole under their present convictions. Slightly more than three-fourths of the women on parole in 1960 were serving first parole.

## DISCHARGE FROM PAROLE

The 1,878 men discharged from first parole during 1960 served a median of 24 months on parole. The 168 men discharged in 1960 from reparole after return to prison with a new commitment served a median of 24 months, and the 100 men discharged from reparole after return to prison without a new commitment served a median of 16.5 months on reparole before discharge. The 125 women parolees discharged from first parole during 1960 served a median of 37 months on parole before discharge.

### *Offense*

Of those discharged in 1960 from first parole, men convicted for murder second degree served a greater amount of time on parole before discharge, 48 months, than any other offense group. Manslaughter and robbery ranked second highest in time served, 33 months. Those convicted of lewd acts with children ranked third, 32.5 months.

### *Time Served in Prison and on Parole*

Men discharged in 1960 from first parole, served a median time of 27 months in prison before parole and a median of 24 months on parole before discharge. Men served three months more in prison than on parole. The 125 women discharged during 1960 from first parole served a median of 23 months in prison before parole and a median of 37 months on parole before discharge. Women served 14 months more time on parole than in prison.



## INSTITUTION POPULATION AND MOVEMENT

*Prison population increased 2,361 in 1960, the greatest amount ever in one year.* On the last day of 1960, the prison population in California had grown to 21,660 from 19,299 at the beginning of the year. This change by an additional 2,361 inmates represents a 12.2 percent increase in the period of one year. Comparisons show that prison population in 1960 has increased 86.8 percent since 1950, 164.9 percent since 1940, and 206.3 percent since 1930.

The growth of prison population is reflected not only in percentage change, but also in the rate per 100,000 State population. *For every 100,000 persons in California on December 31, 1960, there were 134.4 prison inmates.* This rate is more than double the lowest rate of 65.2 inmates per 100,000 State population during World War II, and is greater than the rate in any other year since 1935, when it was 146.3 per 100,000. These data are seen in Table 1. The relative change of prison population with respect to State population, is shown pictorially, year by year, in Chart I.

The total prison population was distributed among the eight major institutions, as shown in Table 2. Although all institutions were overcrowded in 1960, the brunt of the large increase during 1960 had to be absorbed primarily by California State Prison at Folsom and California State Prison at San Quentin. These two institutions accounted for 40.4 percent of all inmates under custody of the Department of Corrections, as of December 31, 1960.

*A total of 1,800 male felons were engaged in camp work in 30 locations on December 31, 1960.* The Department of Corrections in conjunction with the California Department of Natural Resources and the California Department of Public Works operates the conservation camp program. The men in these forestry camps and road camps located in remote areas of the State, are supervised by four California prisons, California Institution for Men, Correctional Training Facility, Folsom prison, and San Quentin prison. These institutions are responsible for the custody, and the training of the inmates engaged in conservation work. About 10 percent of the male felony prison population is employed in these healthful, and natural resource conservation occupations. The camp population is included in the institutional count shown in Table 2.

The prisoners in the Department of Corrections facilities consist of three main categories. These are, first, men and women felons, second, the Youth Authority wards, and third, other men and women. The other group is in prison for custody, treatment, or diagnosis, and is comprised of recalcitrant tuberculars, sex psychopaths, psychopathic delinquents, and county wards for diagnostic study or for safekeeping.

TABLE 1  
PRISON POPULATION, RATE PER CALIFORNIA POPULATION  
AND ANNUAL CHANGE  
December 31, 1930-1960

December 31	Prison population	Rate per 100,000 California population*	Annual change prison population	
			Number	Percent
1930	7,071	122.6	—	—
1931	7,118	121.5	47	0.7
1932	7,515	126.7	397	5.6
1933	8,333	138.6	818	10.9
1934	9,042	147.8	709	8.5
1935	9,156	146.3	114	1.3
1936	8,586	133.4	570	6.2
1937	8,108	123.0	478	5.6
1938	8,611	128.1	503	6.2
1939	8,715	126.9	104	1.2
1940	8,180	115.3	535	6.1
1941	7,203	96.2	977	12.0
1942	6,049	74.5	1,154	16.0
1943	5,729	65.7	320	5.3
1944	5,710	65.2	19	0.3
1945	6,628	71.7	918	16.1
1946	7,839	80.7	1,211	18.3
1947	9,036	89.8	1,197	15.3
1948	10,084	97.6	1,048	11.6
1949	10,899	103.1	815	8.1
1950	11,598	106.9	699	6.4
1951	11,939	104.7	341	2.9
1952	13,169	110.2	1,230	10.3
1953	14,149	114.3	980	7.4
1954	15,376	120.0	1,227	8.7
1955	15,230	114.9	146	1.0
1956	15,632	111.9	302	2.0
1957	16,918	117.2	1,386	8.9
1958	19,202	127.9	2,284	13.6
1959	19,299	124.1	97	0.5
1960	21,660	134.4	2,361	12.2

\* California population estimates based on State Department of Finance figures.

The Youth Authority wards are boys or girls committed to the Youth Authority and placed by that Authority in the Department of Corrections facilities. The Denel Vocational Institution, the Correctional Training Facility, and the California Medical Facility care for most of the Youth Authority boys. California Institution for Women had a few Youth Authority girls during the year.

The principal groups of the population in prison are the male felons and women felons committed by the California Superior Courts. In this study, the emphasis is on the felon population. The men and the women felony statistics are presented separately. As of December 31, 1960, there were 19,232 men and 817 women felons in prison. At the same time there was a total of 1,540 Youth Authority boys, 9 Youth

TABLE 2  
POPULATION OF CALIFORNIA PRISONS  
December 31, 1956 through 1960

Institution	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Total.....	15,532	16,918	19,202	19,299	21,660
California Institution for Men	2,576	2,690	2,908	3,129	3,320
California Medical Facility.....	1,352	1,959	2,114	2,097	2,062
California Mens Colony.....	1,128	1,186	1,306	1,392	1,371
Correctional Training Facility*	2,221	2,145	2,468	3,623	3,640
Deuel Vocational Institution.....	1,251	1,237	1,241	1,585	1,679
Folsom Prison.....	2,292	2,633	3,264	2,701	3,335
San Quentin Prison.....	4,102	4,399	5,171	3,963	5,424
California Institution for Women	610	669	730	809	829

\* Correctional Training Facility prior to September 18, 1959 was named Soledad Prison.

Authority girls, 18 male recalcitrant tuberculars, 16 male sex psychopaths, 9 male psychopathic delinquents, 6 male felons from other states, 1 male federal prisoner, 6 men and 1 woman county cases for diagnostic study, 2 men from Mental Hygiene, and 1 man for county safekeeping.

The population in prison at any one time is dependent upon the movement of men and women into and out of penal institutions, Table 3. The amount of movement in the prison population was greater during 1960 than in the previous year. The two principal kinds of intake are prisoners newly received from court and prisoners returned from parole. The principal methods of release are by parole and by direct discharge from prison at expiration of sentence.

*The 6,028 felons newly received from court during 1960 was the greatest number ever received in prison during one calendar year in the history of this State.* This total was 310 more felons than the 5,718 received during 1959. The number of parolees returned to prison (2,283) during 1960 was over 29.9 percent higher than the number (1,757) returned during 1959. While these two intake figures were greater in 1960 than in 1959, the number released from prison in 1960 was less than the 1959 figure. In 1960, 766 felons were discharged at expiration of sentence, while 1,345 were discharged in 1959. There were 5,283 persons placed under parole supervision in 1960, as compared with 6,110 in 1959. The number of felons released from prison by discharge or parole in 1959 was much higher than in any of the preceding years. The 1960 release figures are more in keeping with the trends in years prior to 1959. When the men and women felons are studied independently, the release patterns differ. The number of men paroled in 1960 was 4,871 as compared with 5,751 in 1959. The number of women paroled increased from 359 in 1959, to 412 in 1960.

The total population in prison increased 2,361 inmates from December 31, 1959 to December 31, 1960. This increase consisted of 2,139 adult male felons, 189 Youth Authority boys, 20 women inmates, and 13 other males.

CHART I  
CALIFORNIA AND PRISON POPULATION  
1930 - 1970

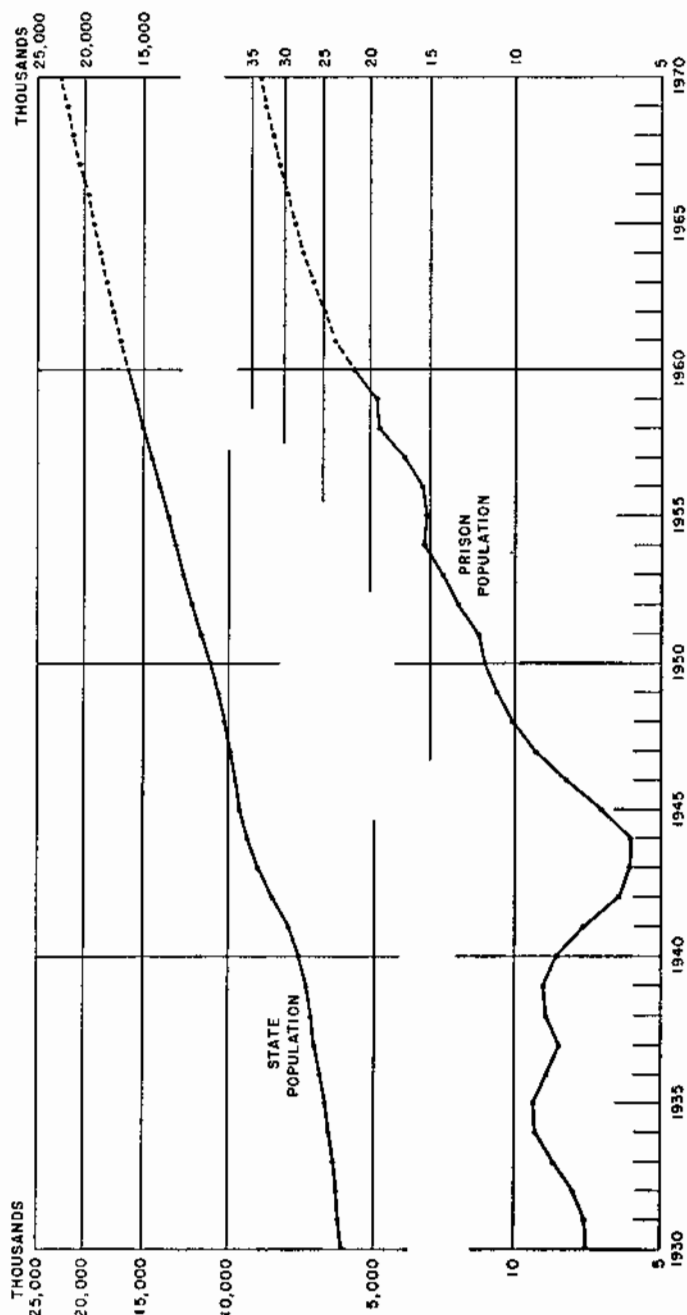


TABLE 3  
MOVEMENT OF PRISON POPULATION, 1959 and 1960

Movement	1959				1960			
	Total	Men			Total	Men		
		Felons	Youth Authority	Other		Felons	Youth Authority	Other
Population, January 1.....	10,202	17,337	1,161	74	19,299	17,093	1,351	46
Total received.....	10,438	7,925	1,932	66	12,054	9,159	2,277	94
First commitments.....	5,718	5,426	—	—	6,028	5,701	—	—
Parolees returned.....	1,757	1,596	—	—	2,283	2,155	—	—
With new commitments.....	828	786	—	—	1,101	1,068	—	—
Without new commitments.....	929	810	—	—	1,182	1,087	—	—
Escapes returned.....	87	84	2	—	140	137	—	—
Returned from court.....	850	788	19	—	991	957	9	1
Returned from State hospitals.....	11	2	—	—	33	4	—	—
Youth Authority commitments.....	1,918	—	1,911	—	2,282	—	2,268*	—
Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic**.....	23	23	—	—	206	202	—	—
All other.....	74	6	—	66	101	3	—	93
Total released.....	10,341	8,069	1,742	94	9,693	7,020	2,088	81
Discharged at expiration of sentence.....	1,345	1,324	—	—	766	750	—	—
Pardoned.....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paroled.....	6,110	5,751	—	—	5,283	4,871	—	—
Died.....	73	64	3	2	86	81	2	2
Executed.....	6	6	—	—	9	9	—	—
Escaped.....	90	86	2	—	160	158	1	—
To court.....	848	787	23	—	1,004	965	9	1
To State hospitals.....	13	2	—	—	24	—	—	—
To Youth Authority.....	1,714	—	1,714	—	2,088	—	2,076	—
Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic**.....	10	10	—	—	104	162	—	—
All other.....	131	38	—	92	109	24	—	78
Population, December 31.....	19,299	17,093	1,351	46	21,680	19,232	1,540	59
Population change.....	97	—144	190	—28	2,301	2,139	189	13

\* 2 Y.A. wards to Narcotic Clinic.

\*\* Activated: 10-1-59 at California Institution for Men, 8-17-60 at San Quentin, and 9-22-60 at California Institution for Women.

## PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT

*Male felons were newly received from court in 1960 at the rate of 35.9 men per 100,000 State population, a 1.2 percent increase over the 1959 rate. The rate for the women was 2.1 per 100,000 State population, a 7.9 percent increase over the 1959 rate. During 1960, 5,701 men and 327 women felons were received in prison from superior court.*

A person is sentenced to the Director of Corrections after he has been found guilty of a crime by the superior court. The man sentenced under an indeterminate or a life sentence is received by the Department of Corrections at the Northern Reception-Guidance Center, at the California Medical Facility, or the Southern Reception-Guidance Center, at the California Institution for Men. A man with a death sentence is received at San Quentin prison.

The reception-guidance center staff studies each prisoner's sociological, psychological, medical, criminal, and work background, and prepares a case history which is continuously kept up to date while the man is in prison or on parole. The case history is a guide for helping correctional officials meet the individual inmate's training and treatment needs, and is a record of adjustment problems of the inmate while in the institution or while under parole supervision. The women felons are received at California Institution for Women where a similar history is prepared. Case histories are the statistical source documents.

The presentation of data in this chapter is in three sub-divisions. The first is a comparison of the number received from court with the number of persons in the State of California. The second sub-division is a comparison between the percentage distribution of the characteristics of persons received in 1959 with those received in 1960. The last sub-division is a comparison of the offense group and other important characteristics for the male felons.

### OFFENSE

*The rate at which male felons were committed to prison in 1960 was highest for burglary, and for forgery and checks, 7.2 per 100,000 State population for both of these offenses. The rate of commitment was lowest for the offenses of homicide and assault, 1.4 and 1.2 respectively. The offense for which a person is committed to prison is one of the most important factors available for differentiating between types of offenders. The standard general offense groupings are used in this report. For statistical purposes, each person committed to prison is*

classified by only one offense. If a person is committed to prison for more than one type of offense, only the most serious, as indicated by the maximum punishment prescribed by law, is counted.

#### **Rate Per 100,000 State Population**

The number of men newly committed to prison, the rate of commitments per 100,000 State population for each of the major offense groups, and the percentage change between the 1960 rate and the 1959 rate are given in Table 4A. While the actual number of male felons received from court increased by 275 men in 1960 as compared with 1959, the actual number of men admitted for sex offenses or for theft except auto decreased in 1960. These two offenses showed a percentage drop in rate per 100,000 State population in 1960 over 1959 of 17 percent for sex offenders and 11 percent for the theft group. Chart II graphically depicts the rate of commitment of each offense group for male felons newly received from court during 1959 and during 1960. The offense groups are ordered from the highest to the lowest rate.

*More women were committed to prison in 1960 for forgery and checks than for any other offense, yet the commitment rate was less than one (0.8) per 100,000 State population.* The number of women felons, the rate of commitment, and the percentage change in rates of 1960 over 1959 are shown in Table 4B. The rates of commitment for women felons are markedly lower than for the men; only about two women for every 100,000 population in California were admitted to prison in 1960.

#### **Percentage Distribution**

*Two clusters of offense groups result when the offenses of male felons are expressed as a percentage of the total number of new commitments, Table 5A.* Those committed for robbery, burglary, forgery and checks, and narcotics are in the first cluster, each being between 13-20 percent of the number of men received from court. The offenses in the second cluster vary between 3 and 8 percent of the male felons received. Male felons received during 1960, for the offenses of robbery, burglary, forgery and checks, and narcotics accounted for 70.3 percent of the men newly admitted. Chart III-A shows how the proportions of these four offenses have formed one cluster, separated from the cluster of the remaining offenses over the years from 1950 through 1960. Narcotic offenses changed from one cluster to another, from a lesser percent to a much greater percent, but this offense group has not shown much increase in percentage since 1954.

The four proportionately largest offense groups of women felons newly received from court in 1960 were homicide, theft, forgery and checks, and narcotics, which comprised 82.2 percent of the women newly received. Forgers and check writers alone made up 40 percent of the women admitted to prison in 1960, Table 5B. The offense groups of women expressed in percentages are shown in Chart III-B for the years 1950 through 1960. Unlike the percentage distribution for the

TABLE 4A  
**OFFENSE GROUPS AND COMMITMENT RATE  
 PER 100,000 CALIFORNIA POPULATION**  
**MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT**  
**1959 and 1960**

Offense	1959		1960		Percent change in rate 1960 over 1959
	Number	Rate per 100,000 popula- tion*	Number	Rate per 100,000 popula- tion*	
Total.....	5,426	35.5	5,701	35.9	1.2
Homicide.....	197	1.3	218	1.4	6.2
Murder 1st.....	48	—	51	—	—
Murder 2nd.....	68	—	67	—	—
Manslaughter.....	67	—	86	—	—
Manslaughter by vehicle.....	14	—	14	—	—
Robbery.....	747	4.9	781	4.9	0.6
Robbery 1st.....	456	—	527	—	—
Robbery 2nd.....	248	—	212	—	—
Other.....	43	—	42	—	—
Assault.....	183	1.2	187	1.2	-1.7
Assault with deadly weapon.....	144	—	159	—	—
Other.....	39	—	28	—	—
Burglary.....	1,070	7.0	1,143	7.2	3.0
Burglary 1st.....	110	—	121	—	—
Burglary 2nd.....	925	—	982	—	—
Other.....	35	—	40	—	—
Theft except auto.....	339	2.2	313	2.0	-10.9
Grand theft.....	177	—	190	—	—
Petty theft with prior.....	115	—	67	—	—
Receiving stolen property.....	42	—	52	—	—
Other.....	5	—	4	—	—
Auto theft.....	226	1.5	280	1.8	19.6
Forgery and checks.....	1,022	6.7	1,147	7.2	8.2
Sex offenses.....	344	2.3	296	1.9	-16.9
Rape.....	129	—	109	—	—
Lewd acts with children.....	142	—	120	—	—
Other.....	73	—	67	—	—
Narcotics.....	920	6.0	940	5.9	-1.5
Opiate derivative.....	516	—	543	—	—
Marijuana.....	404	—	397	—	—
Other offenses.....	378	2.5	396	2.5	0.4
Deadly weapon.....	32	—	37	—	—
Drunk driving.....	26	—	43	—	—
Failure to render aid.....	5	—	14	—	—
Abortion.....	5	—	10	—	—
Arson.....	21	—	18	—	—
Escape from jail or county camp.....	205	—	188	—	—
Kidnapping.....	37	—	39	—	—
Habitual criminal.....	5	—	—	—	—
Other.....	42	—	47	—	—

\* California population estimates from State Department of Finance publication, "California's Population," August 1959, and special report December 16, 1960.  
 Rate computed to two decimal places.



CHART II  
 RATE OF COMMITMENT BY OFFENSE GROUPS  
 MEN PRISONERS RECEIVED FROM COURT  
 1959 AND 1960

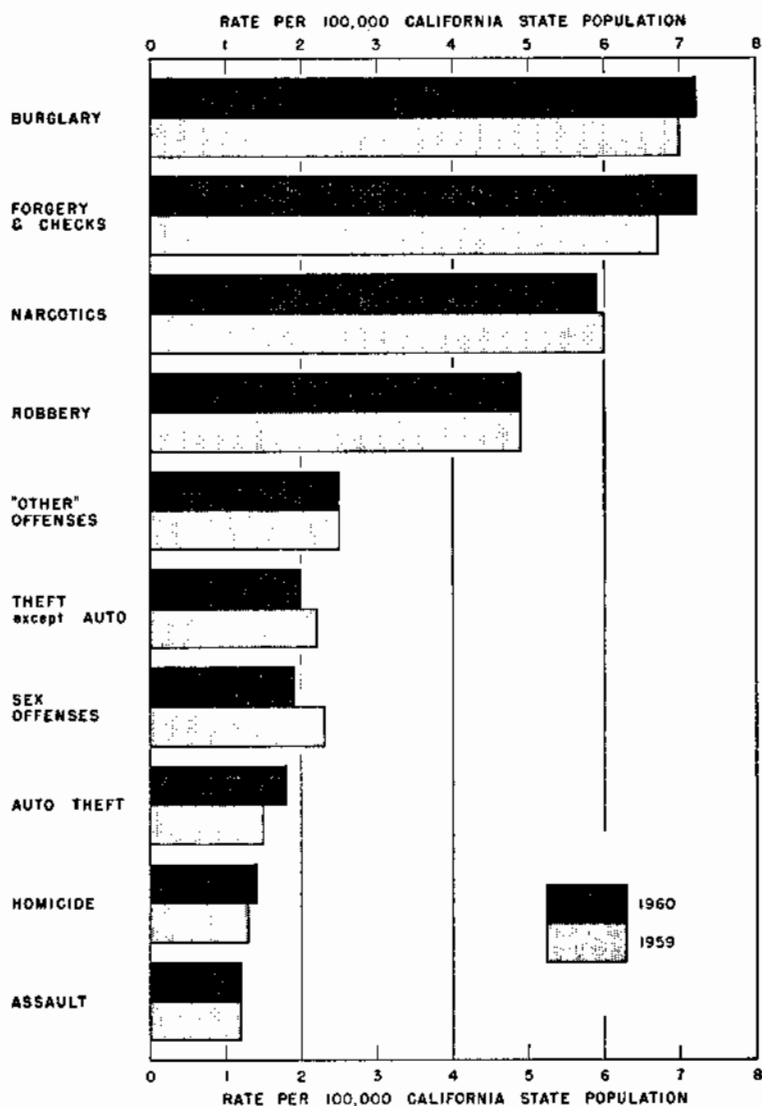


TABLE 4B  
OFFENSE GROUPS AND COMMITMENT RATE  
PER 100,000 CALIFORNIA POPULATION  
WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1959 and 1960

Offense	1959		1960		Percent change in rate 1960 over 1959
	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*	
Total.....	292	1.9	327	2.1	7.9
Homicide.....	24	0.2	32	0.2	25.0
Murder 1st.....	4	—	3	—	—
Murder 2nd.....	2	—	7	—	—
Manslaughter.....	18	—	22	—	—
Robbery.....	15	—	22	—	—
Assault.....	19	—	10	—	—
Burglary.....	18	—	16	—	—
Theft.....	36	0.2	45	0.3	21.7
Forgery and checks.....	101	0.7	131	0.8	25.8
Sex offenses.....	2	—	—	—	—
Narcotics.....	65	0.4	61	0.4	-9.3
Opiate derivative.....	51	—	44	—	—
Marijuana.....	14	—	17	—	—
Other offenses.....	12	—	10	—	—

\* California population estimates from State Department of Finance publication, "California's Population," August 1959 and special report December 16, 1960.  
Rate computed to two decimal places.

TABLE 5A  
OFFENSE GROUPS EXPRESSED IN PERCENTAGES  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1956 through 1960

Offense	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Number of men.....	4,179	4,570	5,146	5,426	5,701
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Homicide.....	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.6	3.8
Robbery.....	15.4	14.1	15.5	13.8	13.7
Assault.....	3.9	3.6	4.0	3.4	3.3
Burglary.....	17.7	19.6	19.2	19.7	20.0
Theft except auto.....	8.2	6.5	6.5	6.2	5.5
Auto theft.....	3.5	4.6	4.7	4.2	4.9
Forgery and checks.....	18.5	18.9	19.8	18.8	20.1
Sex offenses.....	6.7	6.1	6.3	6.3	5.2
Narcotics.....	17.0	16.3	14.5	16.9	16.5
Other offenses.....	5.1	6.4	5.6	7.1	7.0

CHART III A  
 OFFENSE GROUPS EXPRESSED IN PERCENTAGES  
 MEN PRISONERS RECEIVED FROM COURT  
 1950 through 1960

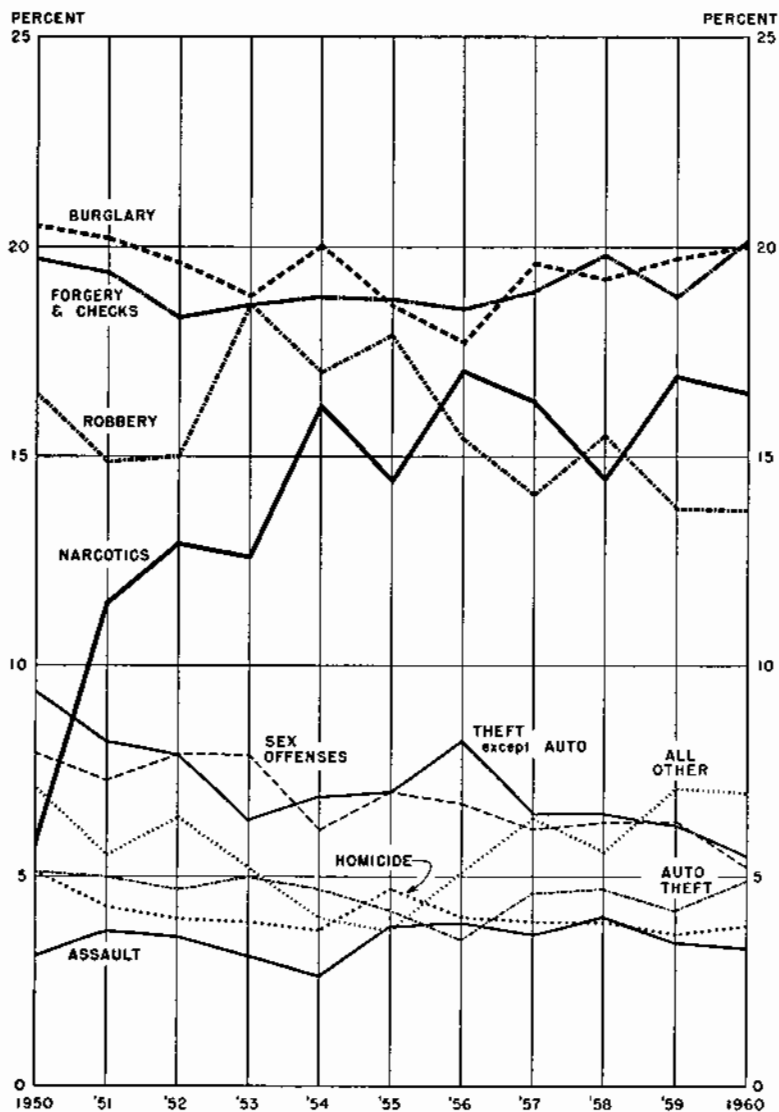


TABLE 5B  
OFFENSE GROUPS EXPRESSED IN PERCENTAGES  
WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1956 through 1960

Offense	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Number of women.....	253	233	265	292	327
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Homicide.....	9.8	8.2	9.8	8.3	9.8
Robbery.....	2.8	6.8	8.3	5.1	6.7
Assault.....	4.7	3.9	1.9	6.5	3.1
Burglary.....	5.5	3.0	4.9	6.2	4.9
Theft.....	11.5	12.4	10.6	12.3	13.7
Forgery and checks.....	32.4	29.6	35.5	34.6	40.1
Sex offenses.....	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.6	—
Narcotics.....	28.9	31.3	24.5	22.3	18.6
Other offenses.....	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.1	3.1

men, the proportions are not as stable from year to year, nor is any clustering of offense groups readily apparent.

#### COUNTY OR AREA OF COMMITMENT

*More men were received into prison from Southern California, especially from Los Angeles County, than from any other region. However, other counties or areas had a higher rate of commitment per county or area population.* California has been considered as divided into geographical sub-areas for the purpose of studying the location from which the prisoners are committed to prison.

The region composed of the seven San Joaquin Valley counties had the highest commitment rate for male felons in 1960, 49.0 men per 100,000 population. The San Francisco Bay area counties, excluding Alameda County and San Francisco County, had the lowest rate of commitment, 23.3 per 100,000 population. These data are compared with the 1959 data in Table 6A. The percentage increase in commitment rate for 1960 over 1959 was greatest for the area of the 22 other counties, 24.2 percent. The ten Sacramento Valley counties had the largest percentage decrease in commitment rates from 1959 to 1960, 7.8 percent. The number of men and women felons received from each county during 1959 and 1960 is shown in the Appendix.

*Although the Los Angeles Superior Court committed 40 percent of all the women felons received in 1960, the rate of commitment per 100,000 county population was greater for the seven San Joaquin Valley counties and for the 22 other counties than for the Los Angeles County.* The commitment rate and the percentage change in rates of the women felons received in 1959 and 1960 are given by county or area of commitment in Table 6B.

The Appendix shows the number of men and women newly received from court during 1959 and 1960 by the county of commitment.

CHART III B  
 OFFENSE GROUPS EXPRESSED IN PERCENTAGES  
 WOMEN PRISONERS RECEIVED FROM COURT  
 1950 through 1960

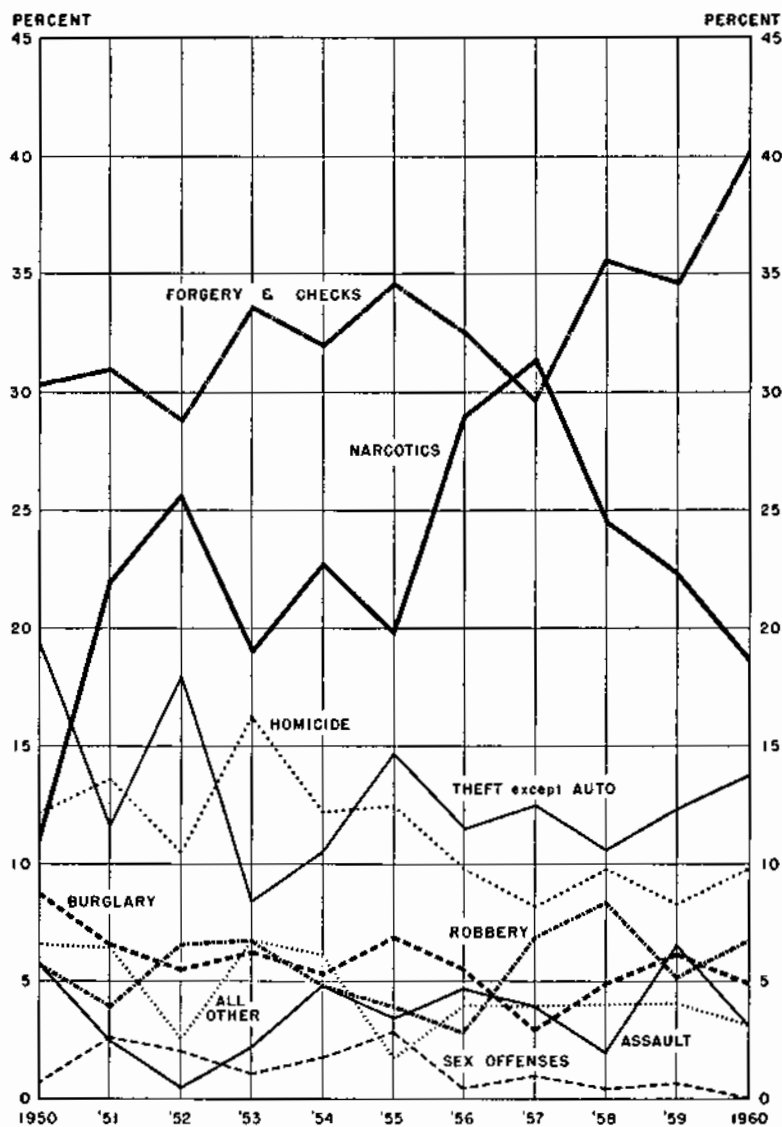


TABLE 6A  
 COMMITMENT RATE BY COUNTY OR AREA  
 MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
 1959 and 1960

County or area of commitment	1959		1960		Percent change in rate 1960 over 1959
	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*	
Total .....	5,426	35.5	5,701	35.9	1.2
Southern California .....	3,442	37.7	3,560	37.5	-0.6
Los Angeles County .....	2,112	35.6	2,191	36.6	1.1
9 other counties .....	1,330	41.7	1,369	40.2	-3.5
San Francisco Bay Area .....	878	24.3	960	26.4	8.6
Alameda County .....	273	30.4	279	30.6	0.9
San Francisco County .....	220	27.8	222	29.9	7.4
7 other counties .....	385	20.1	468	23.3	15.8
Balance of State .....	1,106	43.4	1,172	43.4	0.0
10 Sacramento Valley counties .....	336	40.4	334	37.2	-7.8
7 San Joaquin Valley counties .....	553	51.3	553	49.0	-4.4
22 other counties .....	217	34.1	285	42.4	24.2

\* California population estimates from State Department of Finance publication, "California's Population," August 1959 and special report December 16, 1960.  
 Rate computed to two decimal places.

TABLE 6B  
 COMMITMENT RATE BY COUNTY OR AREA  
 WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
 1959 and 1960

County or area of commitment	1959		1960		Percent change in rate 1960 over 1959
	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*	Number	Rate per 100,000 population*	
Total .....	293	1.9	327	2.1	7.9
Southern California .....	192	2.1	204	2.1	1.9
Los Angeles County .....	124	2.1	132	2.2	3.3
9 other counties .....	68	2.1	72	2.1	-0.9
San Francisco Bay Area .....	46	1.3	62	1.7	32.0
Alameda County .....	17	1.9	14	1.9	-0.5
San Francisco County .....	14	1.8	15	1.6	-7.3
7 other counties .....	15	0.8	33	1.6	109.0
Balance of State .....	54	2.1	61	2.3	6.1
10 Sacramento Valley counties .....	15	1.8	15	1.7	-7.2
7 San Joaquin Valley counties .....	28	2.6	28	2.5	-4.6
22 other counties .....	11	1.7	18	2.7	54.3

\* California population estimates from State Department of Finance publication, "California's Population," August 1959 and special report December 16, 1960.  
 Rate computed to two decimal places.

## AGE AT ADMISSION

A greater percent of the male felons received in 1960 was in the 20-24 age group than those received in 1959, but the median age of those received during the two years was about the same. The median represents that point in the distribution of age below which one-half the cases are younger and above which the other half are older. The median age of men newly received from court during 1960 was 29.1 years as compared with 29.3 years for those received in 1959.

Of the men received in 1960, 28.8 percent were in the 20-24 age group, while 27.0 percent of the 1959 admissions had been in the same age group. The percentage of male felons under 21 years at time of admission to prison was 8.5 percent in 1960 admissions and 9.3 percent in 1959 admissions. The number of men and the percentage distribution of age at commitment are given in Table 7A.

The median age of women admitted to prison was 30.6 years in 1959 and 30.8 years in 1960. The women under 25 years of age comprised 25.7 percent of those newly received from court in 1959, and 26.9 percent of those received in 1960, Table 7B.

TABLE 7A  
AGE AT ADMISSION  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1959 and 1960

Age at admission in years	1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	5,426	100.0	5,701	100.0
Under 20	264	4.9	233	4.1
15-17	17	—	9	—
18	83	—	60	—
19	164	—	164	—
20-24	1,466	27.0	1,641	28.8
20	240	—	254	—
21	313	—	380	—
22	322	—	365	—
23	321	—	336	—
24	270	—	306	—
25-29	1,155	21.3	1,190	20.9
30-34	946	17.4	965	16.9
35-39	607	11.2	681	11.9
40-44	303	7.2	421	7.4
45-49	251	4.7	278	4.9
50 and over	341	6.3	292	5.1
Median age	29.3		29.1	
Percent under 21		9.3		8.5
Percent under 25		31.9		32.9

TABLE 7B  
AGE AT ADMISSION  
WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1959 and 1960

Age at admission in years	1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	292	100.0	327	100.0
Under 20.....	19	6.5	9	2.7
15-17.....	—	—	—	—
18.....	9	—	1	—
19.....	10	—	8	—
20-24.....	56	19.2	79	24.2
20.....	12	—	17	—
21.....	12	—	14	—
22.....	12	—	16	—
23.....	11	—	16	—
24.....	9	—	16	—
25-29.....	64	21.9	65	19.9
30-34.....	60	20.5	70	21.4
35-39.....	39	13.4	39	11.9
40-44.....	32	11.0	31	9.5
45-49.....	7	2.4	14	4.3
50 and over.....	15	5.1	20	6.1
Median age.....	30.6		30.8	
Percent under 21.....		10.6		8.0
Percent under 25.....		25.7		26.9

### ETHNIC GROUPS

Of the male felons newly received from court during 1960, 60.6 percent, were of the white ethnic group. About one-fifth were classified as Negro, and 16.7 percent were of Mexican descent, Table 8A. The percentage of men of Mexican descent was slightly more in 1960 than the percentage in 1959, 16.7 percent and 15.9 percent respectively.

Proportionately more women of the white ethnic group were received in 1960 than in 1959, 67.6 percent as compared with 65.8 percent. Only 16 (4.9 percent) of the 327 women newly received from court in 1960 were of Mexican descent, Table 8B.

### PRIOR COMMITMENT RECORD

*Most male felon prisoners newly received from court had served one or more jail or juvenile sentences prior to admission to prison in 1960.* When each prisoner is received in the Department of Corrections his prior commitment record is studied and classified as to the number and type of sentence which had been served previous to the present admission. Information on prior commitments is obtained in the reports from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, and also from the inmate



while in the reception-guidance center. A prior commitment history may affect the length of time served in prison and on parole. In this report, the prior commitment histories are grouped in three principal classes: (1) no prior criminal commitment served, (2) time served previously in one or more jail or juvenile institutions, and (3) time served previously in a prison.

Most men admitted to prison in 1960 had had only a prior jail or juvenile commitment, 53.4 percent. Almost one-third had served one or more prison commitments. The men newly admitted who had not

TABLE 8A  
ETHNIC GROUPS  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1959 and 1960

Ethnic groups	1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	5,426	100.0	5,701	100.0
White.....	3,295	60.7	3,457	60.6
Mexican descent.....	864	15.9	951	16.7
Negro.....	1,150	21.2	1,183	20.8
Other.....	117	2.2	110	1.9
American Indian.....	60	1.1	68	1.2
Chinese.....	6	0.1	8	0.1
Japanese.....	10	0.2	6	0.1
Filipino.....	29	0.6	12	0.2
Hawaiian.....	10	0.2	15	0.3
Other*.....	2	0.0	1	0.0

\* Includes 1 Guamanian and 1 Malayan in 1959, and 1 Samoan in 1960.

TABLE 8B  
ETHNIC GROUPS  
WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1959 and 1960

Ethnic groups	1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	292	100.0	327	100.0
White.....	192	65.8	221	67.6
Mexican descent.....	10	3.4	16	4.9
Negro.....	77	26.4	84	25.7
Other.....	13	4.4	6	1.8
American Indian.....	10	3.4	5	1.5
Filipino.....	2	0.7	—	—
Hawaiian.....	1	0.3	—	—
Other*.....	—	—	1	0.3

\* Includes 1 Guamanian in 1960.

served any previous commitments accounted for 13.5 percent. The percentage distributions of prior criminal record for men newly received from court in 1959 and in 1960 are given in Table 9A. Of the men newly received from court in 1959, 51 percent had been in a jail or juvenile institution. Those with a prior prison record comprised 34.9 percent of the men admitted. Those who had never served a sentence in confinement before being received in prison was 14 percent in 1959.

TABLE 9A  
PRIOR COMMITMENT RECORD  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1959 and 1960

Type of prior commitment	1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	5,426	100.0	5,701	100.0
No prior commitment	758	14.0	768	13.5
Prior jail or juvenile only	2,773	51.1	3,043	53.4
Prior prison commitment	1,895	34.9	1,890	33.1
One prison	1,004	18.5	977	17.1
Two prison	428	7.9	481	8.4
Three or more prison	463	8.5	432	7.6

Only 882 men, or 15.5 percent, of the 5,701 men newly received from court in 1960 had been committed to a California prison previously, and 19.3 percent had been committed to the Department of the Youth Authority before. Of the 5,426 male felons received in 1959, 15.8 percent had served California sentences previously, and 18.5 percent had served time in a Youth Authority institution. Included in the 1959 and 1960 percentages are approximately 3 percent who had been in both the California Youth Authority and the California prison system previously.

*Of the women newly admitted to prison in 1960, 41.6 percent had served no prior commitment of any kind, and 43.1 percent had served jail or juvenile sentences previously, Table 9B. Of the 292 women newly admitted in 1959, 31 women, or 10.6 percent, had served prison commitments previously. Of the 327 women admitted in 1960, 50 women, or 15.3 percent, had prior prison commitments. Only 7.3 percent (24) of those admitted in 1960 had had a prior California prison experience.*

#### TIME IN STATE BEFORE OFFENSE

*Over two-thirds of the male felons received in 1960 had been in California ten years or longer. Fewer than 10 percent had been in this State less than one year, Table 10. These percentages have been near the same levels for many years. Data on time in State before offense are not available for women felons admitted during 1959 and 1960.*

TABLE 9B  
PRIOR COMMITMENT RECORD  
WOMEN PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1959 and 1960

Type of prior commitment	1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	292	100.0	327	100.0
No prior commitment.....	108	37.0	136	41.6
Prior jail or juvenile only.....	153	52.4	141	43.1
Prior prison commitment.....	31	10.6	50	15.3
One prison.....	23	7.9	39	11.9
Two prison.....	6	2.1	8	2.5
Three or more prison.....	2	0.6	3	0.9

TABLE 10  
TIME IN STATE BEFORE OFFENSE  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1959 and 1960

Time in state before offense	1959			1960		
	Number	Percent	Cumulative percent	Number	Percent	Cumulative percent
Total.....	5,126	100.0		5,701	100.0	
Less than one month.....	84	1.6	1.6	62	1.1	1.1
One to five months.....	283	5.2	6.8	294	5.2	6.3
Six to eleven months.....	167	3.1	9.9	181	3.2	9.5
One year but less than two years.....	206	3.8	13.7	219	3.8	13.3
Two years but less than three years.....	208	3.8	17.5	178	3.1	16.4
Three years but less than five years.....	372	6.8	24.3	299	5.2	21.6
Five years but less than ten years.....	677	12.5	36.8	610	10.7	32.3
Ten years or more.....	3,429	63.2	100.0	3,858	67.7	100.0

### EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

From 1953 through 1957 the median grade achievement scores of men newly received from court had been equivalent to the seventh grade. In 1958 and subsequent years, the median grade achievement score has been at the eighth grade level. Educational achievement scores are obtained from standard tests administered in the reception-guidance

**TABLE 11**  
**EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT**  
**MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT**  
**1959 and 1960**

Grade achievement score*	1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total . . . . .	5,426	—	5,701	—
Not tested . . . . .	234	—	305	—
Total tested . . . . .	5,192	100.0	5,396	100.0
Illiterate . . . . .	163	3.1	117	2.2
Grade 3 . . . . .	39	0.8	61	1.2
Grade 4 . . . . .	273	5.3	271	5.0
Grade 5 . . . . .	464	8.9	481	8.9
Grade 6 . . . . .	593	11.4	679	12.6
Grade 7 . . . . .	767	14.8	774	14.3
Grade 8 . . . . .	917	17.7	965	17.9
Grade 9 . . . . .	849	16.3	971	18.0
Grade 10-11 . . . . .	1,011	19.5	957	17.7
Grade 12 and over . . . . .	116	2.2	120	2.2
Median grade . . . . .	8th		8th	

\* Grade achievement score obtained during admission at Reception-Guidance Centers.

centers. Although the median of the achievement scores has remained the same in 1960 as in 1959, the percentage of those testing illiterate decreased from 3.1 percent in 1959 to 2.2 percent in 1960, Table 11.

### RELATIONSHIP OF OFFENSE TO SELECTED FACTORS

The following sections in this chapter present offense groups of men newly received from court in 1960, classified by five selected demographic characteristics. The five characteristics are age at admission, ethnic group, prior commitment record, educational achievement, and narcotic addiction. A better understanding of the type of men received in prison is obtained when two characteristics are studied jointly. The relationship between offense and the selected factors is presented for male felons only. The number of women received from court during any one year is so small that a discussion of offense in combination with another characteristic would not be very meaningful for yearly data.

### OFFENSE AND AGE AT ADMISSION

*The median age of men at time of admission to prison in 1960, has a range of 15 years, from a low of 24.8 years for robbery to a high of 39.7 years for other sex offenses. The offenses other than robbery which have low median ages were auto theft, burglary, marijuana, and rape. The median ages of these last four mentioned offenses were in the 26th year ranging from 26.2 to 26.9 years. The second oldest group of men*

was that group convicted for lewd acts with children. The median age for this offense was 38.9 years, Table 12. The difference between the overall median age of men newly admitted to prison and the median age of selected offense groups is graphically portrayed in Chart IV.

### OFFENSE AND ETHNIC GROUPS

Three-fifths of the men committed to prison in 1960 were of the white group. Approximately one-fifth were Negro. These proportions changed when classified by offense groups, as seen in Table 13. The forgery and check offender group was comprised principally of white persons; 84.2 percent of the forgers received in 1960 were white. The white group made up 82.1 percent of the other sex offenders, 77.5 percent of those convicted of lewd acts with children, and 72.9 percent of the men committed for escape from jail or county camp.

A disproportionate number of Negroes were received in prison, in comparison to the overall proportion of Negroes, for the offenses of petty theft with prior, other burglary, and manslaughter. The male felons of Mexican descent received in 1960, made up 46.2 percent of the opiate derivative offenders and 31.5 percent of the marijuana offenders, in contrast to 16.7 percent of the total distribution by ethnic groups.

### OFFENSE AND PRIOR COMMITMENT RECORD

The percentage of men received with no prior commitment record changes considerably among the offense groups. *Although 13.5 percent of the men received in 1960 had no prior commitment record, almost 50 percent (46.8) of the men convicted for homicide had no prior commitment record before the present conviction.* About one-third of the men received in 1960 for lewd acts with children had never served a sentence previous to this offense, Table 14. In the combined theft groups a higher proportion of men had served prior prison commitments than in the other offense groups, 43.7 percent of the theft except auto, 41.0 percent of forgers and check writers, and 40.3 percent of the auto thieves had served prior prison terms before being received in prison in 1960.

Of the male felons newly received from court in 1960, 882 men, 15.5 percent of the total, had a prior California prison commitment history. Studying these men who had a prior California prison record by each offense group showed 26.5 percent were admitted for forgery, 22 percent for burglary and 18 percent for narcotic offenses.

### OFFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

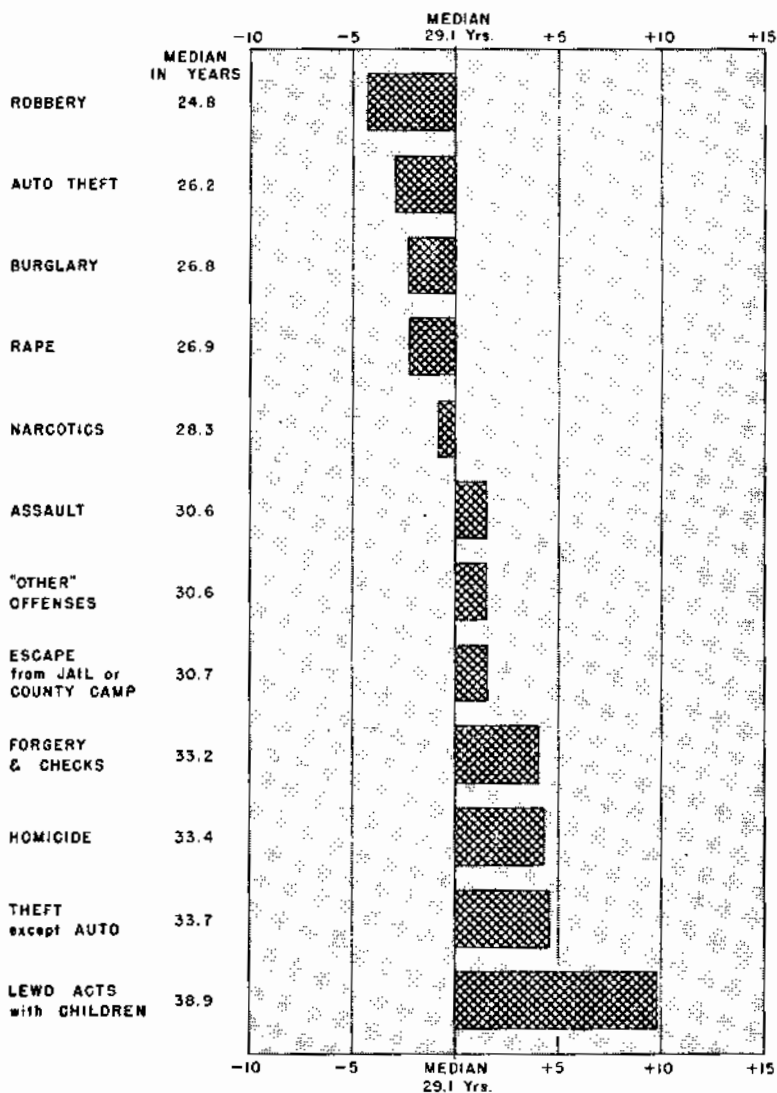
*The highest grade achievement scores were obtained by men convicted of forgery and checks; 53.8 percent of the forgers measured in the ninth grade or above.* Approximately 95 percent of the men received in 1960 were tested for educational achievement at time of admission. Grade achievement scores vary markedly and consistently among the offense groups.

TABLE 12  
OFFENSE AND AGE AT ADMISSION  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1960

Offense	Total	Age at admission							Median age in years at admission*		Percent under		
		Age at admission							Median age in years at admission*		Percent under		
		Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50 and over	1959	1960	21 years	25 years
Total	5,701	233	1,641	1,190	965	681	421	278	292	29.3	29.1	8.5	32.9
Homicide	218	17	34	34	35	27	18	17	26	35.1	33.4	11.9	23.4
Robbery	781	65	339	171	112	41	23	15	15	25.4	24.8	16.0	51.7
Assault	187	15	42	33	31	25	17	7	17	31.4	30.6	12.3	30.5
Burglary	1,143	65	423	237	185	113	54	31	35	27.3	26.8	11.9	42.7
Theft except auto	313	7	56	56	51	52	30	28	33	33.5	33.7	4.8	20.1
Auto theft	280	15	110	63	31	32	11	12	6	26.3	26.2	15.7	44.6
Forgery and checks	1,147	4	187	244	219	187	150	87	69	33.2	33.2	2.2	16.7
Sex offenses	296	10	47	49	31	59	31	35	34	34.0	35.9	6.1	19.3
Rape	109	7	36	30	8	13	6	4	5	25.0	26.9	13.8	39.4
Lewd acts with children	120	3	8	9	11	37	15	16	21	40.8	38.9	2.5	9.2
Other	67	—	3	10	12	9	10	15	8	36.4	39.7	—	4.5
Narcotic offenses	940	18	269	234	209	90	49	21	20	27.7	28.3	5.7	33.7
Opiate derivative	543	10	141	146	136	51	34	11	14	28.7	29.1	4.4	27.8
Marijuana	397	8	158	88	73	39	15	10	6	25.7	26.8	7.6	41.8
Escape from jail or county camp	188	6	56	27	34	31	15	11	8	30.2	30.7	5.3	33.0
Habitual criminal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offenses	208	11	48	42	27	24	23	14	19	31.1	30.6	6.7	28.4

\* Medians computed from grouped data.

CHART IV  
OFFENSE AND AGE AT ADMISSION  
MEN PRISONERS RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1960



DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEDIAN OF EACH OFFENSE AND  
MEDIAN OF ALL OFFENSES IN YEARS

TABLE 13  
OFFENSE AND ETHNIC GROUPS  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1960

Percent Not Computed for Offenses With a Total of Less Than 30 Cases

Offense	Total	White		Mexican descent		Negro		Other	
		Num-ber	Per-cent	Num-ber	Per-cent	Num-ber	Per-cent	Num-ber	Per-cent
Total.....	5,701	3,457	60.6	951	16.7	1,183	20.8	110	1.9
Homicide.....	218	105	48.2	36	16.5	67	30.7	10	4.6
Murder 1st.....	51	35	68.6	2	3.9	14	27.5	—	—
Murder 2nd.....	67	37	55.2	11	16.4	17	25.4	2	3.0
Manslaughter.....	86	25	29.1	22	25.6	32	37.2	7	8.1
Manslaughter by vehicle.....	14	8	—	1	—	4	—	1	—
Robbery.....	781	481	61.6	91	11.6	195	25.0	14	1.8
Robbery 1st.....	527	339	64.3	50	9.5	130	24.7	8	1.5
Robbery 2nd.....	212	116	54.7	36	17.0	55	25.9	5	2.4
Other.....	42	26	61.9	5	11.9	10	23.8	1	2.4
Assault.....	187	92	49.2	36	19.2	51	27.3	8	4.3
Assault with deadly weapon.....	159	75	42.2	29	18.2	48	30.2	7	4.4
Other.....	28	17	—	7	—	3	—	1	—
Burglary.....	1,143	699	61.1	154	13.5	264	23.1	26	2.3
Burglary 1st.....	121	68	56.2	16	13.2	29	24.0	8	6.6
Burglary 2nd.....	982	612	62.3	133	13.6	219	22.3	18	1.8
Other.....	40	19	47.5	5	12.5	16	40.0	—	—
Theft except auto.....	313	182	58.1	45	14.4	83	26.5	3	1.0
Grand theft.....	190	122	64.2	24	12.6	44	23.2	—	—
Petty theft with prior.....	67	29	43.3	11	16.4	27	40.3	—	—
Receiving stolen property.....	52	30	57.7	10	19.2	10	19.2	2	3.9
Other.....	4	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
Auto theft.....	280	176	62.8	45	16.1	52	18.6	7	2.5
Forgery and checks.....	1,147	966	84.2	61	5.3	103	9.0	17	1.5
Sex offenses.....	296	206	69.6	38	12.8	47	15.9	5	1.7
Rape.....	109	58	53.2	22	20.2	27	24.8	2	1.8
Lewd acts with children.....	120	93	77.5	12	10.0	15	12.5	—	—
Other.....	67	55	82.1	4	6.0	5	7.4	3	4.5
Narcotic offenses.....	940	294	31.3	376	40.0	259	27.5	11	1.2
Opiate derivative.....	543	156	28.7	251	46.2	127	23.4	9	1.7
Marijuana.....	397	138	34.8	125	31.5	132	33.2	2	0.5
Escape from jail or county camp.....	188	137	72.9	32	17.0	17	9.0	2	1.1
Habitual criminal.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offenses.....	208	119	57.2	37	17.8	45	21.6	7	3.4



TABLE 14  
OFFENSE AND PRIOR COMMITMENT RECORD  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1960

Offense	Total	Type of prior commitment							
		No prior		Prior jail or juvenile		One prison		Two or more prison	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	5,701	768	13.5	3,043	53.4	977	17.1	913	16.0
Homicide.....	218	102	46.8	90	41.3	16	7.3	10	4.6
Robbery.....	781	131	16.8	467	59.8	103	13.2	80	10.2
Assault.....	187	43	23.0	100	53.5	24	12.8	20	10.7
Burglary.....	1,143	94	8.2	601	52.6	216	18.9	232	20.3
Theft except auto.....	313	29	9.3	147	47.0	54	17.2	83	26.5
Auto theft.....	280	15	5.4	152	54.3	50	17.8	63	22.5
Forgery and checks.....	1,147	119	10.4	557	48.6	226	19.7	245	21.3
Sex offenses.....	296	89	30.1	140	47.3	49	16.5	18	6.1
Rape.....	109	29	26.6	66	60.6	13	11.9	1	0.9
Lewd acts with children.....	120	39	32.5	45	37.5	25	20.8	11	9.2
Other.....	67	21	31.3	29	43.3	11	16.4	6	9.0
Narcotic offenses.....	940	108	11.5	562	59.8	163	17.3	107	11.4
Opiate derivative.....	543	65	10.1	309	56.9	100	18.4	79	14.6
Marijuana.....	397	53	13.3	253	63.7	63	15.9	28	7.1
Escape from jail or county camp.....	188	2	1.1	118	62.8	35	18.6	33	17.5
Habitual criminal.....	208	36	17.3	109	52.4	41	19.7	22	10.6
Other offenses.....									

Ranking next to the forgers and check writers group in the percentage of men with high school educational level or better were those convicted for other sex offenses (46.7 percent), robbery (39.4 percent), and lewd acts with children (37.5 percent), Table 15. Although only 2.2 percent of the men received in 1960 were illiterate, yet 8.2 percent of those convicted of homicide were illiterate. Between 4 percent and 5 percent of those convicted of sex offenses or escape from jail or county camp were illiterate.

#### OFFENSE AND NARCOTIC ADDICTION

Of the 5,701 male prisoners newly received from court in 1960, 18.6 percent were narcotic addicts. Less than 10 percent (9.3) of the men admitted were marijuana users, Table 16. The percentage of narcotics and marijuana users differs among the offenses. Of the male felons received in 1960, 87.8 percent of the opiate derivative offenders were addicts and 67.2 percent of the marijuana offenders were marijuana

TABLE 15  
OFFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1960

Offense	Total tested	Grade achievement score							
		Illiterate		Grade 3-8		Grade 9-11		Grade 12 and over	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	5,396	117	2.2	3,231	59.9	1,928	35.7	120	2.2
Homicide.....	184	15	8.2	111	60.3	56	30.4	2	1.1
Robbery.....	754	13	1.7	444	58.9	276	36.6	21	2.8
Assault.....	171	6	3.5	119	69.6	45	26.3	1	0.6
Burglary.....	1,100	25	2.3	690	62.7	365	33.2	20	1.8
Theft except auto.....	289	11	3.8	174	60.2	94	32.5	10	3.5
Auto theft.....	270	3	1.1	172	63.7	93	34.4	2	0.8
Forgery and checks.....	1,104	4	0.4	506	45.8	556	50.4	38	3.4
Sex offenses.....	276	12	4.3	169	61.2	89	32.3	6	2.2
Rape.....	104	5	4.8	74	71.2	23	22.1	2	1.9
Lewd acts with children.....	112	5	4.5	65	58.0	40	35.7	2	1.8
Other.....	60	2	3.3	30	50.0	26	43.4	2	3.3
Narcotic offenses.....	892	18	2.0	615	68.9	246	27.6	13	1.5
Opiate derivative.....	513	6	1.2	363	70.7	136	26.5	8	1.6
Marijuana.....	379	12	3.2	252	66.5	110	29.0	5	1.3
Escape from jail or county camp.....	162	7	4.3	110	67.9	44	27.2	1	0.6
Habitual criminal.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offenses.....	194	3	1.5	121	62.4	64	33.0	6	3.1

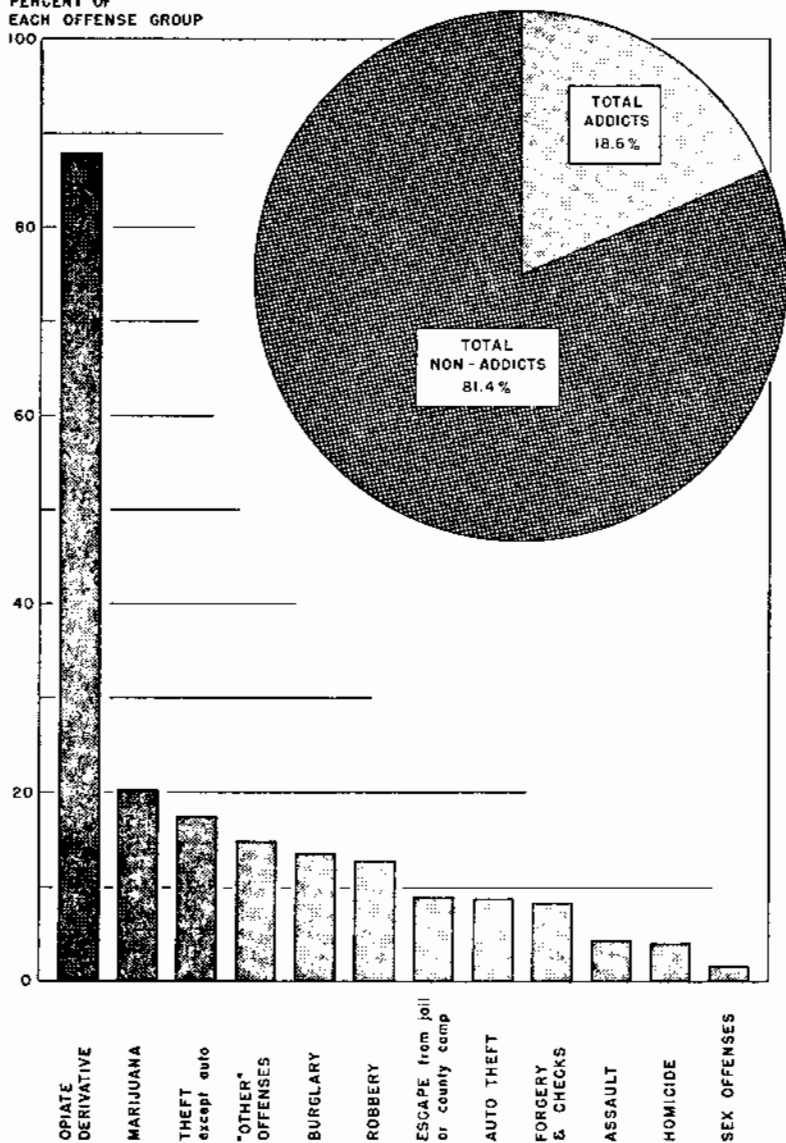
users. The offense groups other than opiate derivatives with a relatively high percent of narcotic addicts were, 20.2 percent of the marijuana offenders, 17.6 percent of the theft except auto group, 13.6 percent of the burglary group, and 12.8 percent of the robbery group. In Chart V, the relative heights of the bars shows the proportion of narcotic addicts in each offense group. The percent of male felons newly received from court with histories of addiction was 18.6 in 1960, 18.3 in 1959, and 18.7 in 1957, thus *the percentage of men with narcotic addiction history has not changed drastically during the past few years.*

TABLE 16  
OFFENSE AND NARCOTIC ADDICTION  
MALE PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1960

Offense	Total	Narcotic history						Heroin addicts	Other opiate
		Non-addicts		Narcotic addicts					
		No narcotics		Marijuana only		Total			
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Total	5,701	4,113	72.1	530	9.3	1,058	18.6	998	60
Homicide	218	204	93.6	5	2.3	9	4.1	8	1
Robbery	781	617	79.0	64	8.2	100	12.8	95	5
Assault	187	167	89.3	12	6.4	8	4.3	7	1
Burglary	1,143	924	80.8	64	5.6	155	13.6	144	11
Theft except auto.	313	244	77.9	14	4.5	55	17.6	53	2
Auto theft	280	237	84.7	18	6.4	25	8.9	19	6
Forgery and checks	1,147	1,015	88.5	36	3.1	96	8.4	80	10
Sex offenses	275	239	90.6	5	1.7	5	1.7	4	1
Narcotic offenses	940	88	9.4	295	31.4	557	59.2	538	19
Opiate derivative	513	38	7.0	28	5.2	477	87.8	466	11
Marijuana	397	59	12.6	267	67.2	80	20.2	72	8
Escape from jail or county camp	168	105	87.8	6	3.2	17	9.0	16	1
Habitual criminal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offenses	208	169	79.8	11	5.3	31	14.9	28	3

CHART V  
OFFENSE AND NARCOTIC ADDICTION  
MEN PRISONERS RECEIVED FROM COURT  
1960

PERCENT OF  
EACH OFFENSE GROUP  
100



## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION IN PRISON

*The prison population was 21,660 on December 31, 1960. The characteristics of inmates in prison differ from the characteristics of persons at time of admission. The longer sentences served by those convicted of more serious felonies affects the percentage distribution of virtually every characteristic: offense, age, ethnic groups, prior commitment record. These characteristics of men and women felons in prison and their status with reference to parole are discussed in this chapter. A brief reference is made to the group of Youth Authority male wards in the facilities in the Department of Corrections. The preceding chapter presented summarized calendar year data of persons newly received from court; this chapter presents the selected characteristics of the resident population as of December 31, the last day of the calendar year.*

The percentage distribution of the selected characteristics of the resident inmates on December 31, 1960, has been compared with the percentage distribution of 1950 and 1955. The three periods selected provide a base for showing changes or trends which may have occurred over the past ten years. Although the percentage distribution of certain characteristics may change gradually year by year, these changes are more obvious over a longer period. Since percentage distributions always add to 100, an increase in one factor is accompanied by a decrease in some other factor or combination of factors.

The data of the characteristics of the population in the reception-guidance centers are not available until after the diagnostic studies are completed; therefore, men under study in the reception-guidance centers, as well as the parolees in the Narcotic Treatment-Control Project units are excluded from the following tables.

### OFFENSE

*More male felons in prison on December 31, 1960 had been convicted of robbery than any other offense, 19.8 percent of the prison population. Offenders sentenced to prison, after due process of the law, served under either an indeterminate sentence or definite sentence of life or death. Of the men received in prison each year, men committed for the less serious crimes usually outnumber those convicted of the more serious crimes. The offender convicted of the more serious crime stays in prison longer; therefore, over a period of years the resident population accumulates men committed for more serious offenses. The percentage distribution of offenses in the resident population reflects this accumulation.*

*Robbery was the offense group with the highest percentage of men in prison on December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960, as shown in Table 17A.*

TABLE 17A  
OFFENSE GROUPS  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MALE FELONS IN PRISON  
December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960

Offense	1950	1955	1960
Number of men*	10,101	13,077	17,840
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Homicide	9.4	7.0	7.0
Robbery	21.3	21.3	19.8
Assault	3.5	2.8	3.7
Burglary	18.8	19.2	18.0
Theft except auto	6.1	4.5	3.6
Auto theft	3.9	3.3	3.0
Forgery and checks	15.4	15.4	14.1
Rape	3.4	2.9	3.1
Other sex	7.1	6.4	5.0
Narcotics	3.0	12.0	16.8
Escape	3.2	1.5	2.2
Habitual criminal	1.7	1.0	0.7
All other	3.2	2.7	3.0

\* Excludes those in Reception-Guidance Centers. Total number of men in prison on December 31, was 10,746 in 1950, 14,673 in 1955 and 20,831 in 1960. Also excludes 53 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

The offense group with the second highest percentage of men in prison was burglary. Forgers and check writers ranked third in 1950 and 1955, but had dropped to fourth position in 1960. The third position in 1960 was replaced with narcotic offenders.

*The greatest change in the percentage distribution of offenses from 1950 through 1960 has occurred in the narcotic offense group. Of the male felony population in prison on December 31, the narcotic offenders comprised 3.0 percent in 1950, 12.0 percent in 1955, and 16.8 percent in 1960. Chart VI-A depicts the changes in the percentage distribution over the period of 1950 through 1960.*

*Of the women in prison, three offense groups accounted for 63.0 percent in 1950, 67.1 percent in 1955, and 70.3 percent in 1960. Forgery and checks was the top ranking offense group in each of the three years. Homicide ranked second in 1950, but dropped to third place in 1955 and in 1960, to be replaced by narcotics in the latter two years, Table 17B. As with the male felons, the offense group of narcotics showed a steady proportionate increase in the past years; it comprised only 6.8 percent of the women in prison on December 31, 1950, and 25.0 percent, or one-fourth of the population in 1960. The pictorial description of the offense group percentage distributions from 1950 through 1960 is given in Chart VI-B.*

CHART VI A  
OFFENSE GROUPS

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MEN FELONS IN PRISON  
DECEMBER 31, 1950 through 1960

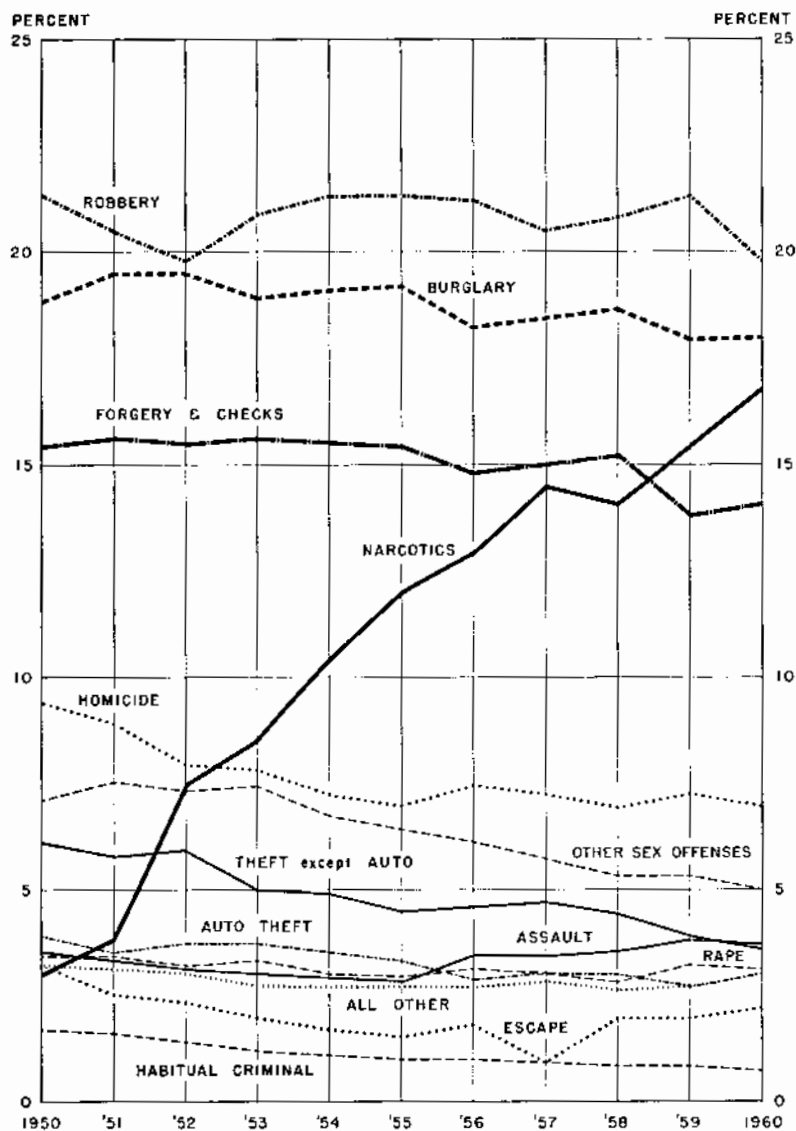


TABLE 17B  
OFFENSE GROUPS  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN FELONS IN PRISON  
December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960

Offense	1950	1955	1960
Number of women	325	556	817*
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Homicide	16.6	14.0	12.0
Robbery	5.8	4.5	6.4
Assault	6.5	3.2	3.4
Burglary	7.4	7.4	5.9
Theft except auto	16.6	11.0	10.1
Auto theft	2.2	0.5	0.6
Forgery and checks	29.8	33.8	33.3
Rape		0.4	0.1
Other sex	0.9	1.4	0.1
Narcotics	6.8	19.3	25.0
Escape	3.4	2.0	0.9
Habitual criminal			
All other	4.0	2.5	2.2

\* Excludes 2 parolers in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

### AGE

The median age of men in prison decreased from 33.0 years as of December 31, 1950, to 32.1 years in 1955, and to 31.9 years by 1960. Consistent with the decreasing median age, the percent under 21 years old increased from 1.4 percent to 1.9 percent to 2.5 percent, Table 18A. The percentage distribution changes by age groups are visually emphasized in Chart VII-A. A comparison of the median age of men at time of admission to prison (Table 7A) with the median age of the prison population (Table 18A) indicates that the men in prison are older than the men newly admitted. This difference is attributed to the prison population tending to be a residuum of those with longer sentences. Furthermore, even a man with a relatively short sentence will be about two years older when released to parole than when he was received.

The trend among women prisoners was opposite to that of the men, the median age has increased during past years. The median age of women in prison was 31.2 years on December 31, 1950, 32.6 years in 1955, and 32.7 years in 1960. The percentage of women under 21 years, however, showed no consistent change, as it varied from 3.4 percent in 1950 to 2.2 percent in 1955 to 3.1 percent on the last day of 1960. These data are shown in Table 18B and are represented by Chart VII-B.



CHART XI B  
OFFENSE GROUPS

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN FELONS IN PRISON  
DECEMBER 31, 1950 through 1960

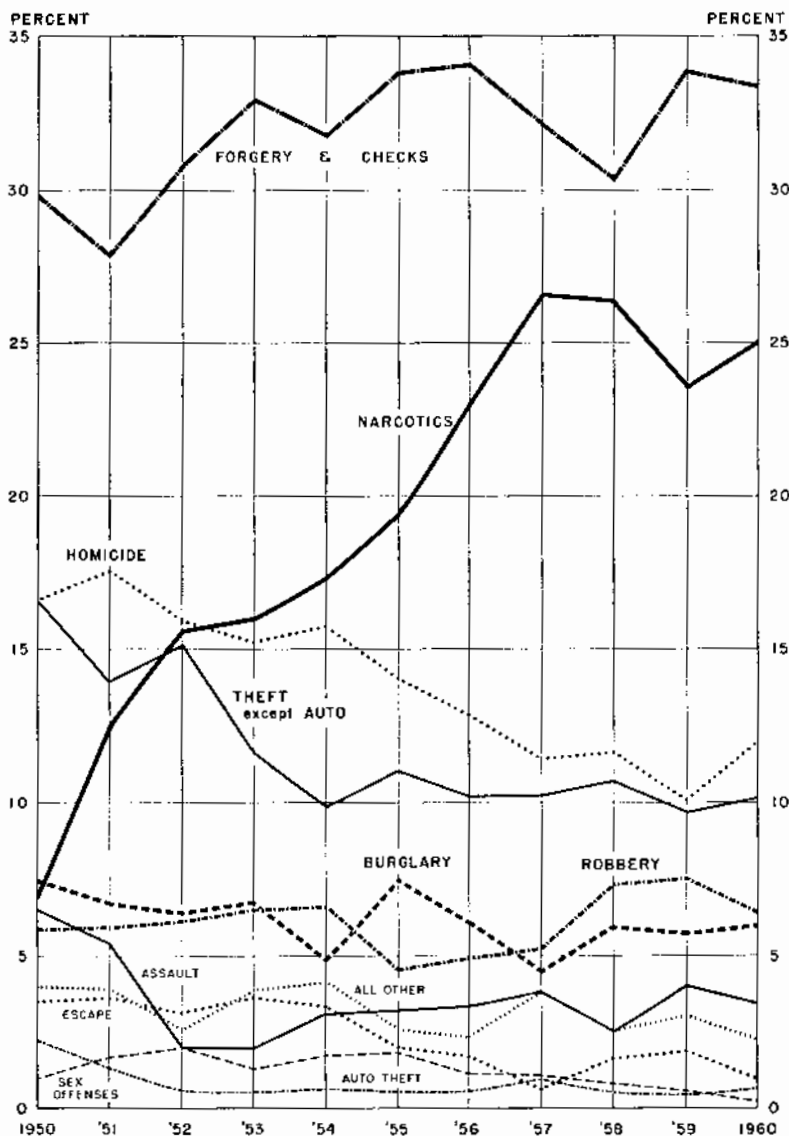


TABLE 18A  
AGE  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MALE FELONS IN PRISON  
December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960

Age	1950	1955	1960
Number of men*	10,101	13,077	17,840
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 20	0.5	0.7	0.9
20-24	13.8	15.6	17.6
25-29	23.0	25.7	23.8
30-34	17.6	19.0	20.5
35-39	14.0	12.3	14.4
40-44	10.7	9.3	8.6
45-49	8.2	6.8	5.8
50-54	5.5	5.3	3.8
55-59	3.1	2.3	2.2
60 and over	3.6	3.0	2.4
Median age in years	33.0	32.1	31.9
Percent under 21	1.4	1.9	2.5

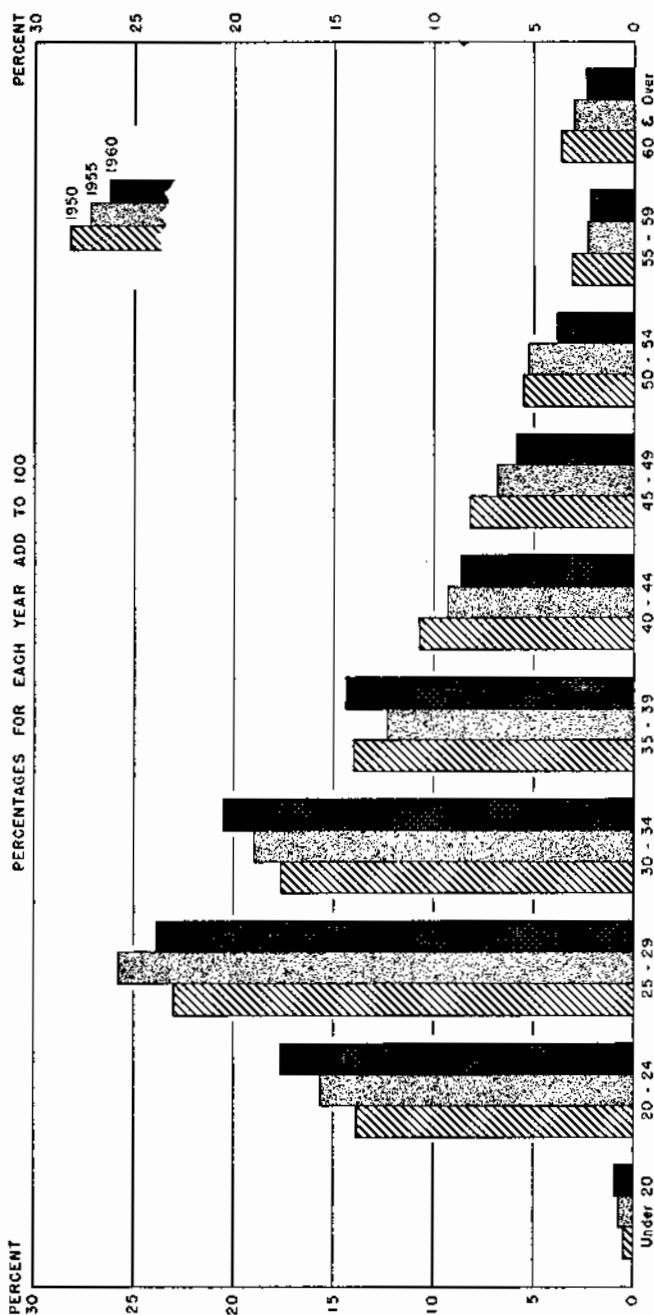
\* Excludes those in Reception-Guidance Centers. Total number of men in prison on December 31, was 10,746 in 1950, 13,673 in 1955, and 20,831 in 1960. Also excludes 53 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

TABLE 18B  
AGE  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN FELONS IN PRISON  
December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960

Age	1950	1955	1960
Number of women	325	556	817*
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 20	1.8	—	0.6
20-24	16.9	16.7	16.4
25-29	24.0	22.7	21.3
30-34	18.5	20.5	21.8
35-39	13.5	13.9	16.3
40-44	10.5	10.6	10.1
45-49	5.2	5.0	5.1
50-54	4.0	5.4	3.3
55-59	2.8	2.3	3.1
60 and over	2.8	2.9	2.0
Median age in years	31.2	32.6	32.7
Percent under 21	3.4	2.2	3.1

\* Excludes 2 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

CHART VII A  
AGE  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MEN FELONS IN PRISON  
DECEMBER 31, 1950, 1955, AND 1960  
PERCENTAGES FOR EACH YEAR ADD TO 100



## ETHNIC GROUPS

Men of the white group comprised a smaller proportion of the prison population on December 31, 1960 than in 1955, 57.5 percent and 60.6 percent respectively, Table 19A. The proportion of white in 1955 was smaller than in 1950 when it was 65.0 percent. Those men of either Mexican descent or of the Negro group comprised a larger proportion of the prison population in 1960 than in the previous two period-endings. Those of Mexican descent increased from 13.1 percent of the population in 1950 to 17.1 percent in 1960, while the Negro group increased from 19.6 percent in 1950 to 23.1 percent in 1960.

Although the percentage of women in prison of the white ethnic group also decreased from 1950 to 1960, the decrease was not as great as that for the men. In 1950 the percentage of white women in prison was 67.4 percent and in 1960 it was 62.6 percent. Only those women of the Negro group showed a consistent compensatory increase, 25.8 percent in 1950 and 30.0 percent in 1960. The percentage distribution of ethnic groups for the women in prison as of December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960 are shown in Table 19B.

TABLE 19A  
ETHNIC GROUPS  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MALE FELONS IN PRISON  
December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960

Ethnic Groups	1950	1955	1960
Number of men*	10,161	13,077	17,840
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	65.0	60.6	57.5
Mexican descent	13.1	16.5	17.1
Negro	19.6	20.6	23.1
Other	2.3	2.3	2.3

\* Excludes those in Reception-Guidance Centers. Total number of men in prison on December 31, was 10,746 in 1950, 14,673 in 1955 and 20,851 in 1960. Also excludes 53 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

TABLE 19B  
ETHNIC GROUPS  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN FELONS IN PRISON  
December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960

Ethnic Groups	1950	1955	1960
Number of women	325	556	817*
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	67.4	64.6	62.6
Mexican descent	4.0	7.0	4.0
Negro	25.8	26.1	30.0
Other	2.8	2.3	3.4

\* Excludes 2 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

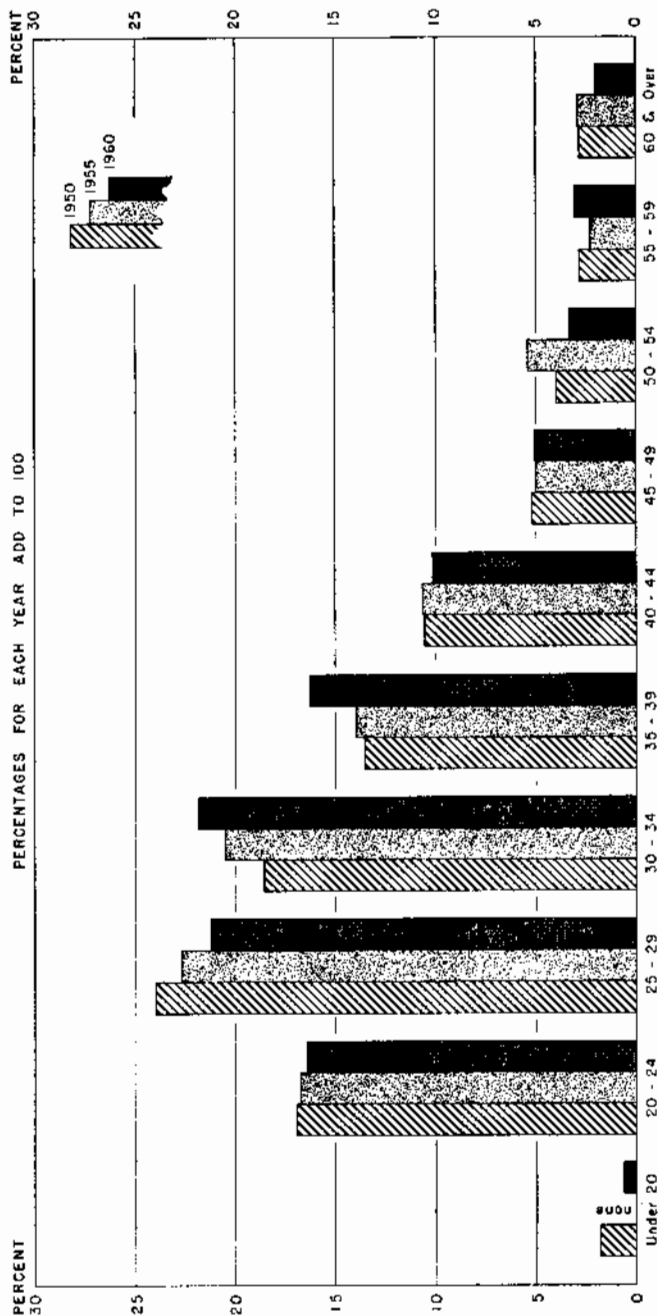
CHART VII 8

AGE

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN FELONS IN PRISON

DECEMBER 31, 1950, 1955, AND 1960

PERCENTAGES FOR EACH YEAR ADD TO 100



## PRIOR COMMITMENT RECORD

Almost one-half of the men in prison had served one or more prison terms prior to the present incarceration. This was true in 1950 as well as in 1960. The proportion of men with no prior commitment record decreased from 19.0 percent in 1950 to 13.2 percent in 1955 and to 11.6 percent in 1960, Table 20A. At the same time those with one or more jail or juvenile commitments increased from 30.3 percent in 1950 to

TABLE 20A  
PRIOR COMMITMENT RECORD  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MALE FELONS IN PRISON  
December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960

Type of prior commitment	1950	1955	1960
Number of men*	10,101	13,077	17,840
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
No prior commitment	19.0	13.2	11.6
Prior jail or juvenile only	30.3	32.8	40.7
Prior prison commitment	50.7	54.0	47.7
One prison	26.2	28.8	24.9
Two prison	13.4	13.3	11.9
Three prison	6.3	6.6	5.8
Four or more prison	4.8	5.3	5.1

\* Excludes those in Reception-Guidance Centers. Total number of men in prison on December 31, was 10,746 in 1950, 11,674 in 1955, and 20,831 in 1960. Also excludes 53 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

40.7 percent in 1960. The change in proportion of those with no prior commitments and those with a prior jail or juvenile record is not entirely due to receiving men with more jail or juvenile experience, but is partially due to an increasingly more efficient reporting system developed in this State during the past decade. The changes during the three periods shown are very evident in Chart VIII-A.

The recidivist history of women in prison differs from that of the men. The proportion of the women in prison with one or more prior prison commitments has varied from 21.8 percent in 1950 to 32.4 percent in 1955, and dropped to 25.5 percent in 1960, as can be seen in Table 20B. Similar to the men, the percentage of women in prison with no prior commitment history has decreased, 39.1 percent in 1950 to 31.7 percent by 1960. Chart VIII-B portrays the prior commitment record for the women felons in prison.

## STATUS WITH REFERENCE TO PAROLE

About 75 percent of both the population of men and the population of women in prison on December 31, 1960 were persons who had not been paroled since commitment. For the men the percentage decreased

CHART VIII A  
PRIOR COMMITMENT RECORD  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MEN FELONS IN PRISON  
DECEMBER 31, 1950, 1955, AND 1960

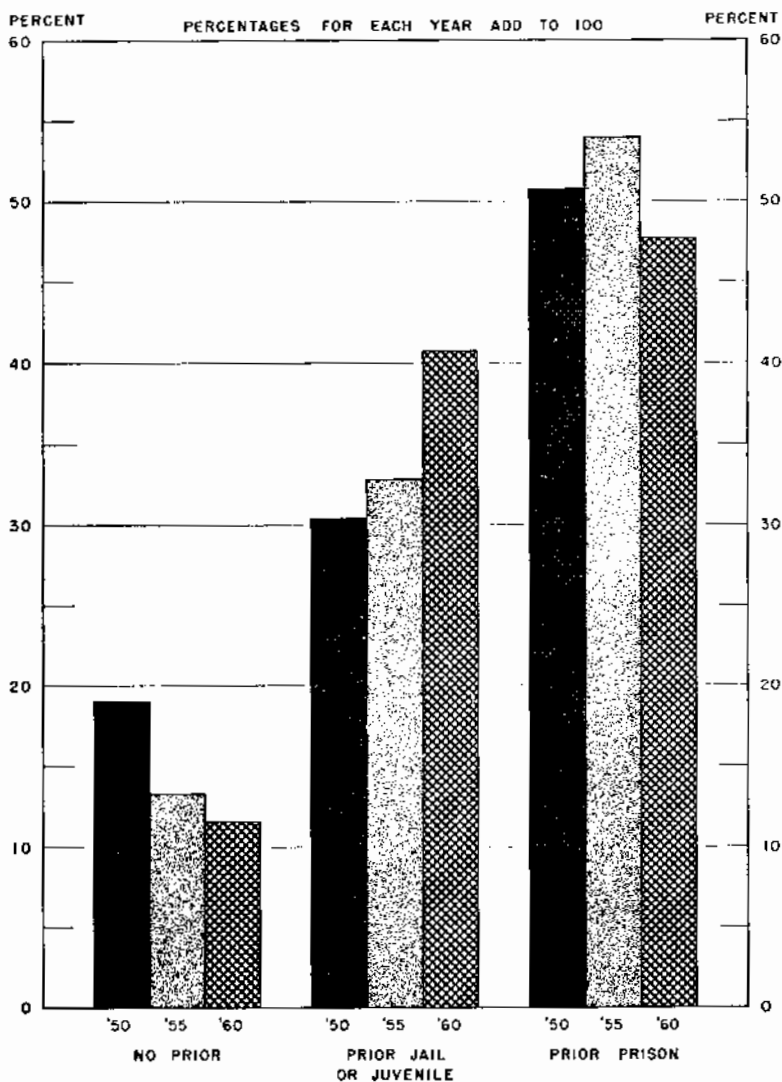


TABLE 20B

**PRIOR COMMITMENT RECORD**  
**PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN FELONS IN PRISON**  
**December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960**

Type of prior commitment	1950	1955	1960
Number of women.....	325	556	817*
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
No prior commitment.....	39.1	32.5	31.7
Prior jail or juvenile only.....	39.1	35.1	42.8
Prior prison commitment.....	21.8	32.4	25.5
One prison.....	15.7	24.1	18.8
Two prison.....	5.2	5.2	4.7
Three prison.....	0.6	2.0	0.9
Four or more prison.....	0.3	1.1	1.1

\* Excludes 2 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

from 77.3 percent in 1950 to 74.2 percent in 1960. Men who had been been paroled and returned once as violator comprised 17.2 percent of the 1950 population and 19.9 percent of the 1960 population, a slight increase, as shown in Table 21A.

For the women the percentage who had never been paroled since commitment decreased from 84.9 percent in 1950 to 75.5 percent in 1960, Table 21B. Correspondingly, the percentage of those who had been paroled and returned to prison once or more increased in this same period. The proportional change between those who had never been paroled since commitment was noticeably greater for the women than for the men from 1950 through 1960.

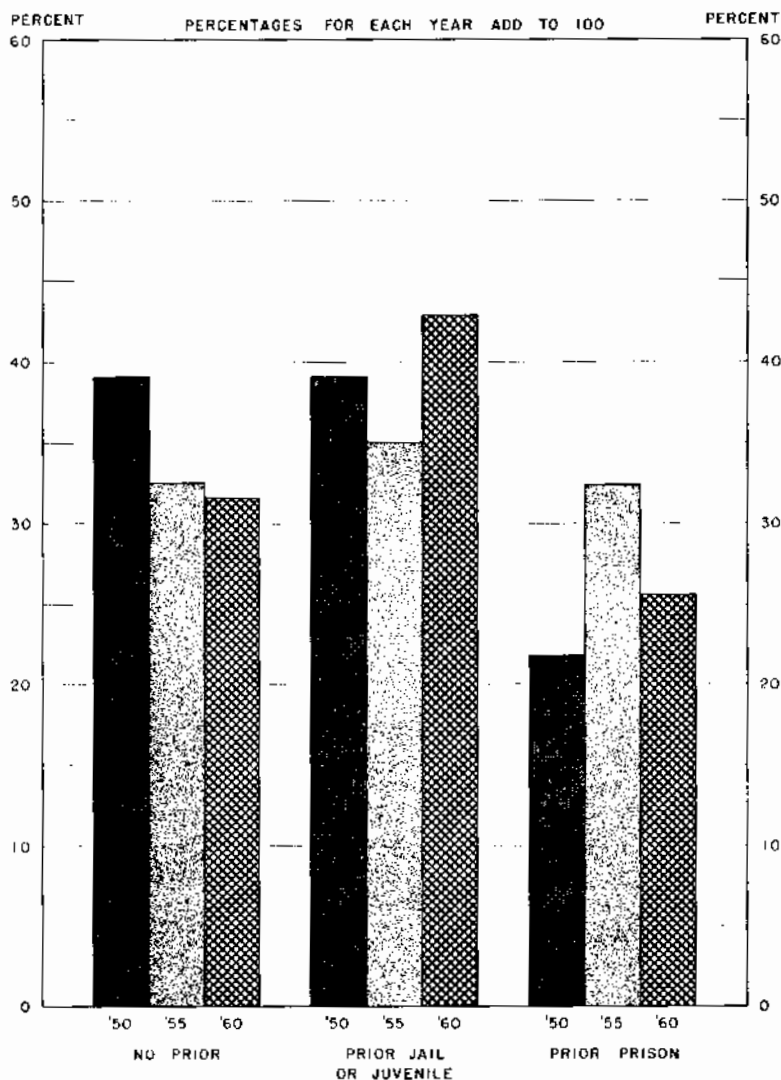
### YOUTH AUTHORITY WARDS

The Department of the Youth Authority is authorized to use other facilities within this State for the care and treatment of persons under its jurisdiction. By mutual agreement the Department of Corrections provides custodial supervision for some of the older Youth Authority wards. Most of the Youth Authority wards housed in the Department of Corrections are 18 years or older and are similar to a young group of men who have been committed to the Department of Corrections by the Superior Court.

The California Department of Corrections was caring for 1,549 Youth Authority wards on December 31, 1960. Of these, nine were girls. These girls were in the California Institution for Women at Corona. The Youth Authority boys were housed, 1,014 in Deuel Vocational Institution, 505 in Correctional Training Facility, 14 at California Medical Facility, five at San Quentin, and two in the Narcotic Treatment-Control clinic at Chino. Of the 1,540 male wards, 231 boys had been sent to the Youth Authority by the juvenile court.



CHART VIII B  
PRIOR COMMITMENT RECORD  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN FELONS IN PRISON  
DECEMBER 31, 1950, 1955, AND 1960



**TABLE 21A**  
**STATUS WITH REFERENCE TO PAROLE**  
**PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MALE FELONS IN PRISON**  
**December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960**

Status with reference to parole	1950	1955	1960
Number of men*.....	10,101	13,077	17,840
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not paroled since commitment.....	77.3	78.0	74.2
Paroled and returned once as violator.....	17.2	17.8	19.9
Paroled and returned twice as violator.....	4.7	3.6	4.9
Paroled and returned three times or more as violator.....	0.8	0.6	1.0

\* Excludes those in Reception-Guidance Centers. Total number of men in prison on December 31, was 10,746 in 1950, 14,673 in 1955, and 20,831 in 1960. Also excludes 53 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

**TABLE 21B**  
**STATUS WITH REFERENCE TO PAROLE**  
**PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN FELONS IN PRISON**  
**December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960**

Status with reference to parole	1950	1955	1960
Number of women.....	325	556	817*
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Not paroled since commitment.....	84.9	77.2	75.5
Paroled and returned once as violator.....	12.0	15.5	15.9
Paroled and returned twice as violator.....	2.2	5.0	6.1
Paroled and returned three times or more as violator.....	0.9	2.3	2.5

\* Excludes 2 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

The characteristics as presented in Table 22 were not known for the boys under clinical study in the reception-guidance centers. Slightly less than one-fourth of the 1,269 boys in the Department of Corrections on December 31, 1960, and for whom the reception-guidance center case history had been completed were in custody because of burglary. Burglary ranked highest in the offense groups. Robbery was second highest, with auto theft and narcotics following third and fourth. Approximately 58 percent of the Youth Authority male wards in the Department of Corrections were of the white ethnic group, 20.7 percent were of Mexican descent, and 19.5 percent were Negro. The median age of the Youth Authority male wards was 19.8 years. This is the same as in 1959.

TABLE 22  
 CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTH AUTHORITY BOYS IN  
 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS INSTITUTIONS  
 December 31, 1959 and 1960

Characteristics	1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Offense.....	1,140 <sup>a</sup>	100.0	1,269 <sup>a</sup>	100.0
Homicide.....	12	1.1	22	1.7
Robbery.....	209	18.3	246	19.4
Assault.....	65	5.7	87	6.9
Burglary.....	291	25.5	307	24.2
Theft except auto.....	68	6.0	78	6.1
Auto theft.....	181	15.9	176	13.9
Forgery and checks.....	62	5.4	63	5.0
Rape.....	52	4.6	40	3.1
Other sex.....	21	1.8	18	1.4
Narcotics.....	97	8.5	127	10.0
All other.....	82	7.2	105	8.3
Ethnic Groups.....	1,009 <sup>a, b</sup>	100.0	1,236 <sup>a, d</sup>	100.0
White.....	590	58.5	720	58.3
Mexican descent.....	202	20.0	256	20.7
Negro.....	202	20.0	241	19.5
Other.....	15	1.5	19	1.5
Age in years.....	1,140 <sup>a</sup>	100.0	1,269 <sup>a</sup>	100.0
16.....	3	0.3	1	0.1
17.....	33	2.9	47	3.7
18.....	233	20.4	235	18.5
19.....	393	34.5	417	32.9
20.....	313	27.5	352	27.7
21.....	142	12.4	187	14.7
22.....	15	1.3	21	1.7
23.....	3	0.3	5	0.4
24.....	5	0.4	4	0.3
Median age in years.....	19.8		19.8	

(<sup>a</sup>) Excludes boys in Reception-Guidance Centers at Deuel Vocational Institution and California Institution for Men. Of the 1,140 boys, 139 were juvenile court cases and 1,001 were criminal court cases.

(<sup>b</sup>) Excludes 131 boys for whom there was no information on ethnic groups.

(<sup>c</sup>) Excludes boys in the Reception-Guidance Center at Deuel Vocational Institution. Of the 1,269 boys, 202 were juvenile court cases and 1,067 were criminal court cases.

(<sup>d</sup>) Excludes 33 boys for whom there was no information on ethnic groups.

## PRISONERS RELEASED

*About 98 percent of all males and 99 percent of all women felons released from prison are returned to free society. Very few die in prison. When a prisoner is found guilty of a felony and committed to prison by the court he is under either an indeterminate term, or a definite term of life or death. Under the indeterminate sentence law in this State, the maximum and minimum length of term is specified by State code. Other statutory provisions may cause an aggravation or lengthening of the minimum term. The court findings which may cause an aggravation increasing the length of stay in prison are a prior conviction, use or possession of a deadly weapon, or one or more consecutive sentences. The time in prison may be shortened. The Penal Code provides that "any prisoners . . . whose minimum term of imprisonment is more than one year, may be paroled at any time after the expiration of one-third of the minimum term." (P.C. 3049)*

The Adult Authority for the male felons and the Board of Trustees for the women felons determine the exact length of time an inmate must serve for each offense. The length of time served in prison and on parole before discharge is fixed by the sentencing boards after a personal interview with each prisoner, and after study of the case history and the prison adjustment record. These two sentencing boards also have the authority to return to prison a person who violates his parole, and to re-release him again within his maximum statutory term.

In studying the time served in prison before release by offense, the time served by those in prison on their first incarceration must be separated from the time of those who have been returned to prison from parole. The measurement of time served by a person after return to prison from parole cannot be specified as to the proportion of servitude attributable to the original offense, and the additional portion allotted to the criminal behavior while on parole.

### METHOD OF RELEASE

The principal method of release from prison is by parole. The other three statistically important methods of release from prison are discharge, death and execution. Although some information on methods of release was given in Table 3, further classifications are given in Table 23A for the men and Table 23B for the women who were released from prison.

*Of the 5,711 male prisoners released during 1960, 85.3 percent were paroled, 13.1 percent were discharged at expiration of sentence, and 1.6 percent died or were executed. Of the 4,417 men released from prison for the first time, 88.4 percent were first paroles and 10.0 per-*

TABLE 23A  
METHOD OF RELEASE  
MALE PRISONERS RELEASED FROM PRISON  
1959 and 1960

Method of release	1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	7,145	100.0	5,711	100.0
Parole.....	5,751	80.5	4,871	85.3
Expiration of sentence.....	1,324	18.5	750	13.1
Death or execution.....	70	1.0	90	1.6
First release.....	5,417	100.0	4,417	100.0
Parole.....	4,637	85.6	3,907	88.4
Expiration of sentence.....	722	13.3	441	10.0
Death or execution.....	58	1.1	69	1.6
Re-release.....	1,728	—	1,294	—
After return with new commitment.....	836	100.0	661	100.0
Parole.....	685	81.9	561	84.9
Expiration of sentence.....	147	17.6	84	12.7
Death or execution.....	4	0.5	16	2.4
After return without new commitment.....	892	100.0	633	100.0
Parole.....	429	48.1	403	63.7
Expiration of sentence.....	455	51.0	225	35.6
Death or execution.....	8	0.9	5	0.8

TABLE 23B  
METHOD OF RELEASE  
WOMEN PRISONERS RELEASED FROM PRISON  
1959 and 1960

Method of release	1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	384	100.0	429	100.0
Parole.....	359	93.5	412	96.1
Expiration of sentence.....	21	5.5	16	3.7
Death or execution.....	4	1.0	1	0.2
First release.....	260	100.0	280	100.0
Parole.....	253	97.3	278	99.2
Expiration of sentence.....	4	1.5	1	0.4
Death or execution.....	3	1.2	1	0.4
Re-release.....	124	—	149	—
After return with new commitment.....	21	100.0	29	100.0
Parole.....	20	95.2	29	100.0
Expiration of sentence.....	—	—	—	—
Death or execution.....	1	4.8	—	—
After return without new commitment.....	103	100.0	120	100.0
Parole.....	86	83.5	105	87.5
Expiration of sentence.....	17	16.5	15	12.5
Death or execution.....	—	—	—	—

cent were discharged at expiration of sentence having never been paroled, Table 23A.

The method of release for the 633 men re-released after return without a new commitment differs markedly from those released for the first time, 66.7 percent were paroled and 35.5 percent were discharged.

On the other hand, the method of release for men re-released after return to prison from parole with a new commitment is similar to those released for the first time. Of the 661 men re-released in 1960 after return with a new commitment, 84.9 percent were placed under parole supervision, and 12.7 percent were discharged directly from prison.

The method of release for women as given in Table 23B indicates that *most women are paroled from prison; only 16 women (3.7 percent) of the 129 released during 1960 were discharged directly from prison at expiration of sentence.* Of the 16 women discharged directly from prison at expiration of sentence, 15 were discharged after return without a new commitment.

### PAROLE

*Fewer male felons were paroled in 1960 than in 1959. More women felons were paroled in 1960 than in 1959. More women were placed under parole supervision in 1960 than ever before in the history of California.* In 1960, 4,871 men were paroled as compared with 5,751 in 1959, while 412 women felons were paroled in 1960 and 359 were released from prison for parole supervision in 1959.

The types of parole must be studied individually when considering time served before parole. When a person is paroled for the first time, the length of time served in prison can be considered as related to the offense or offenses for which the person was committed. Those re-paroled after return to prison from parole are classified into two groups, re-parole after return to prison with a new commitment, and re-parole after return to prison without a new commitment. The amount of time served in prison before release by a person returned to prison from parole with a new commitment, may be related to the new commitment or may be related to the original offense. When an individual is paroled after return to prison one or more times for parole violation, the time served upon his return involves not only the original offense but the subsequent violating acts which may have been of a technical nature or may have resulted in a new conviction. The amount of time served by those re-paroled is not classified by offense group, for there is no method of determining the amount of servitude attributable to the original offense and amount to the subsequent violations.

The median time served in prison by male offenders prior to parole is given in Table 24A by the three types of parole for men paroled each year since 1950. *The median time served by male felons before first parole has been relatively constant from 1950 through 1958. For six of the past 11 years (1950-1960) the median time served was 30 months; for 1950 and 1958 the median was 27 months. The median has shown a*

TABLE 24A  
 TYPE OF PAROLE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
 BEFORE LAST PAROLE BY YEAR  
 MALE PRISONERS PAROLED  
 1950 through 1960

Year	First parole		Reparoled after return to prison			
			With new commitment		Without new commitment	
	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months
1950	1,987	27	149	39	194	16
1951	2,282	30	178	42	186	13
1952	2,185	30	187	45	123	16
1953	2,717	30	299	42	165	18
1954	2,874	30	251	44	147	20
1955	2,975	30	295	45	149	17
1956	3,557	29	416	39	144	17
1957	3,253	30	448	39	148	19
1958	3,086	27	457	38	194	18
1959	4,637	24	685	33	429	17
1960	3,907	24	561	33	403	21

definite decrease in the last two years, being 24 months in both 1959 and in 1960.

The median time served by men before reparole after return to prison with a new commitment has varied during the last 11 years, from a high of 45 months in 1952 and 1955, to a low of 33 months in 1959 and 1960.

Male parolees return to prison without a new commitment served less time in prison before reparole than did the other types of parolees. The median time served before reparole by the parolees returned without a new commitment was lowest in 1951 (13 months) and highest in 1960 (21 months). Although the median of 21 months served in prison before re-release in 1960 by the parolees who had returned without a new commitment was the highest in the past 11 years and was four months higher than the median in 1959, it is only one month more than the median for those re-released in 1954 (20 months). The relationship of time served by men in the three categories of release to parole are portrayed graphically in Chart IX.

*The median time served by women offenders in prison before parole is less than the median of the male felons.* The type of parole and the median time served in prison before parole are given in Table 24B for the women paroled each calendar year 1950 through 1960. The median time served by women felons prior to release to first parole has varied only three months during the 1950 decade (26 months to

CHART IX  
TYPE OF PAROLE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
BEFORE LAST PAROLE  
MEN PRISONERS PAROLED  
1950 - 1960

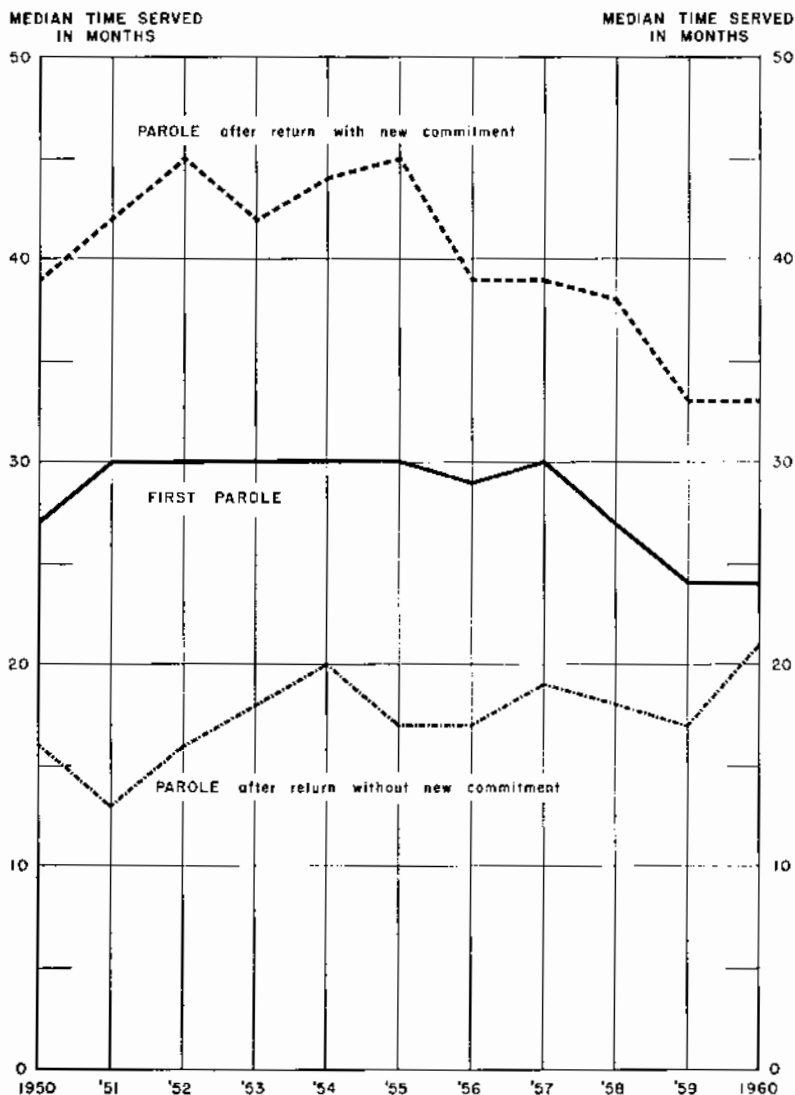




TABLE 24B  
 TYPE OF PAROLE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
 BEFORE LAST PAROLE BY YEAR  
 WOMEN PRISONERS PAROLED  
 1950 through 1960

Year	First parole		Reparoled after return to prison			
			With new commitment		Without new commitment	
	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months
1950	128	26	4	—	31	14
1951	82	26	3	—	30	14
1952	155	26	4	—	18	—
1953	163	24	13	—	24	—
1954	148	23	9	—	33	13
1955	187	24	9	—	34	14
1956	195	25	18	—	62	13
1957	182	24	15	—	47	17
1958	251	24	25	29	44	14
1959	253	24	20	—	86	13.5
1960	278	20	29	23	105	15

23 months). In five of these ten years the median was 24 months. The median dropped to 20 months for those released in 1960.

The number of women returned to prison with a new commitment has been so small that the number reparaoled each year has only been as high as 25 cases twice in 11 years (1958 and 1960); therefore, the median time served is not shown each year for this reparaoled group. The median time served in prison by women reparaoled after return without a new commitment has ranged from a low of 13 months in 1954 and 1956, to a high of 17 months in 1957. The median was 15 months for the women reparaoled in 1960.

#### FIRST PAROLE

Male prisoners paroled for the first time during 1960 numbered 3,907. The median time served by these men before first release was 24 months. A more meaningful description of the amount of time served by men before parole is obtained when related to type of offense. The median time served by offense groups with more than 25 men is given in Table 25A for the male felons first paroled in 1959 and 1960.

*Men convicted of crimes against person served more time in prison than those convicted for other crimes such as crimes against property. The median time served by men first paroled in 1960 was 139 months*

**TABLE 25A**  
**OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED IN PRISON**  
**MALE PRISONERS PAROLED FOR THE FIRST TIME**  
**1959 and 1960**

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown \*

Selected offenses	1959		1960	
	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months
All offenses**	4,637	24	3,907	24
Murder 1st	32	136.5	16	139
Murder 2nd	48	72	43	63
Manslaughter	57	36	52	36
Robbery 1st	450	40	416	37
Robbery 2nd	170	24	185	27
Attempted robbery	26	30	38	27
Assault with deadly weapon	117	29	96	30
Burglary 1st	80	36	68	35.5
Burglary 2nd	852	23	694	24
Attempted burglary 2nd	27	18	24	—
Grand theft except auto	185	23	170	21.5
Petty theft with prior	71	15	55	21
Auto theft	101	18	145	13
Receiving stolen property	31	17	27	15
Forgery and checks	1,006	18	817	18
Rape	69	35	67	36
Lewd acts with children	139	37	106	36
Opiate derivative offenses	428	32	372	33
Marijuana offenses	308	24	216	24
Escape from jail	74	9	69	12

\* Murder 1st shown for 1960, because in prior years the number of cases has been greater than 25.

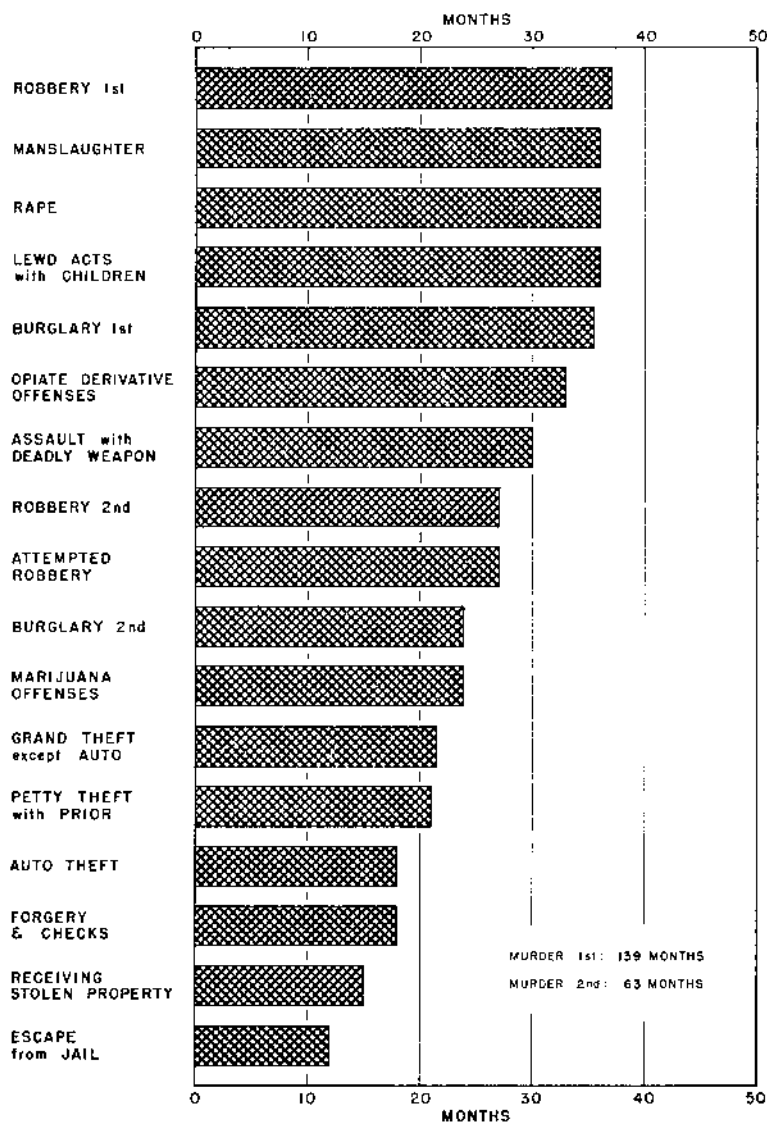
\*\* Includes offenses not shown.

for murder first degree offenders, 63 months for murder second degree offenders, and 37 months for robbery first degree offenders. The decreasing amount of time served as related to type of offense is portrayed in Chart X, depicting the offense and median time served in prison before first parole in 1960.

When compared with the amount of time served before release in 1959, the men released in 1960 served slightly more time for the offenses of murder first, robbery second, assault with a deadly weapon, burglary second, rape, opiate derivative offenses, and escape from jail. But the increase was only from one to three months, except petty theft with prior in which the median was 15 months for those released in 1959 and 21 months for those paroled in 1960.

*The median time served in prison before first parole was 20 months for the 278 women paroled in 1960. The women in two offense cate-*

CHART X  
 OFFENSE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED  
 IN PRISON BEFORE PAROLE  
 MEN PRISONERS PAROLED FOR THE FIRST TIME  
 1960



geries, forgery and checks, and narcotics, comprised 58 percent of the women first paroled, and are the only two offense groups in which there were more than 25 women first parole in 1960. The median time served by forgers and check writers was less for those released in 1960 than in 1959, being 18 months before release in 1960 as compared with 20 months in 1959, Table 25B. The time served by narcotic offenders increased one month for those released in 1960 as compared with 1959, the median time served being 26 months before release in 1960 and 25 months in 1959.

TABLE 25B

**OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
WOMEN PRISONERS PAROLED FOR THE FIRST TIME  
1959 and 1960**

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown

Selected offenses	1959		1960	
	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months
All offenses*	253	24	278	20
Forgery and checks	81	20	104	18
Narcotics	79	25	57	26

\* Includes offenses not shown.

### DISCHARGE FROM PRISON AT EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE

The number of adult male felons discharged from prison at expiration of sentence decreased from 1,324 in 1959 to 750 in 1960. This drop in the number discharged from prison in 1960 occurred in all three types of release: those first released, those re-released after return from parole with a new commitment and those re-released after return from parole without a new commitment. The amount of time served by men in prison before discharge at expiration of sentence is considered separately for those who had never been on parole and for those who had had parole experience and had been returned to prison either with a new commitment or without a new commitment.

Men who served their entire sentence in prison without having been paroled, spent a median of 24 months in prison before discharge in 1960. Although this was the same median as the time spent by men discharged in 1959, the medians differ between the two years when the time served is studied by offense group. Offense and time served in prison are given in Table 26 for those groups in which more than 25 men were released. A pictorial description by offense group comparing 1959 and 1960 is given in Chart XI.

**TABLE 26**  
**OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED IN PRISON**  
**MALE PRISONERS FIRST RELEASED FROM PRISON BY DISCHARGE**  
**AT EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE**  
**1959 and 1960**

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown

Selected offenses	1959		1960	
	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months
All offenses*	722	24	441	24
Burglary 2nd.....	128	32.5	87	30
Grand theft except auto.....	34	29.5	20	30
Auto theft.....	69	24	42	24
Petty theft with prior.....	66	17.5	35	12
Forgery and checks.....	167	24	80	24
Narcotics.....	29	45	15	36
Escape from jail or county camp.....	101	9	89	9

\* Includes offenses not shown.

Only 15 male narcotic offenders were first released by discharge from prison in 1960. This small number of narcotic offender discharges must be remembered when considering the decrease in the median time served by those released in 1960 as compared with 1959, 36 months and 45 months respectively. This offense category had the greatest reduction in time served between the median of 1960 and the median of 1959. The median time served by those convicted for petty theft with prior was 5.5 months less for the men discharged in 1960 than the median for the men discharged in 1959. Male prisoners re-released from prison at expiration of sentence after return from parole with a new commitment served approximately 33 months in prison before discharge in 1959 and in 1960. Prisoners discharged from prison in 1960 served 17 months after having been returned from parole without a new commitment. This was one month more time than the median for those discharged in 1959 (16 months), Table 27.

## DEATH

During 1959, 68 adult felons died while in prison, Table 3. Of this total, 64 were men and four were women. The median time served by the 64 men was 21 months before death, the total range was 0 to 211 months. Fifty-three men, or 83 percent, had never been on parole since their original commitment and 8 men, or 13 percent, had been returned from parole without a new commitment. The median age at the time of death was 48 years for the 64 male felons, the youngest was 23 years and the oldest 91 years.

CHART XI  
OFFENSE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
BEFORE DISCHARGE

MEN PRISONERS FIRST RELEASED BY DISCHARGE  
1959 AND 1960

MEDIAN TIME SERVED  
IN MONTHS

MEDIAN TIME SERVED  
IN MONTHS

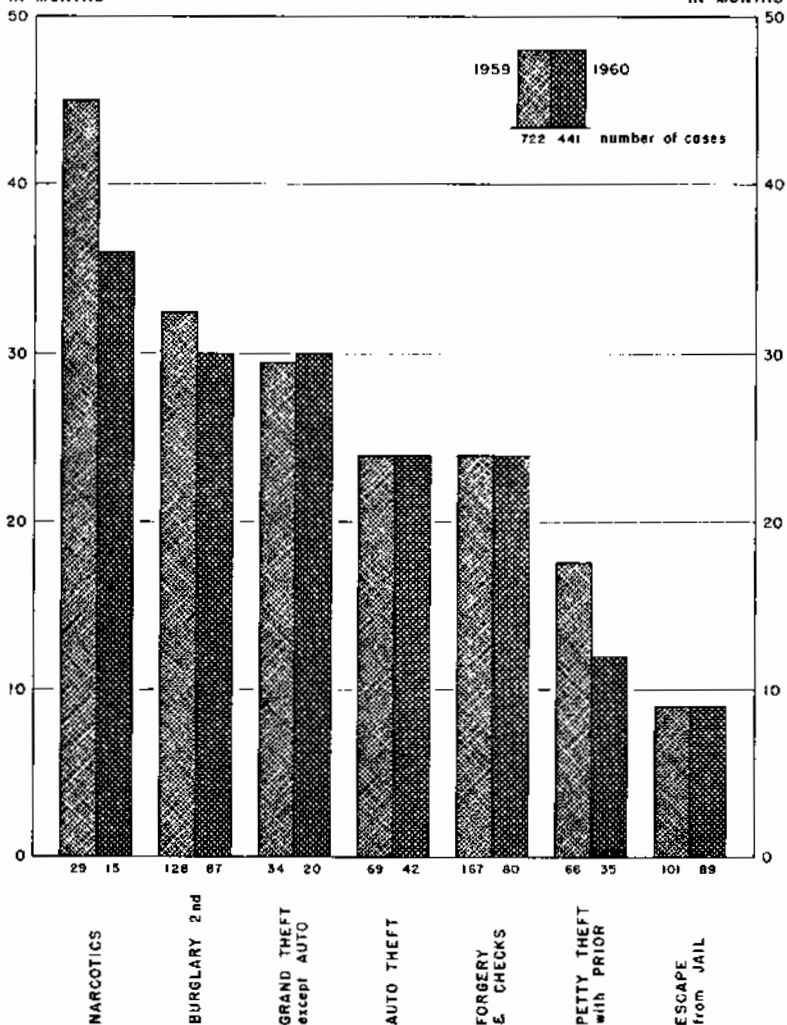


TABLE 27  
 STATUS AT RETURN AND TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
 MALE PRISONERS RE-RELEASED FROM PRISON BY DISCHARGE  
 AT EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE  
 1959 and 1960

Status at return	1959		1960	
	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months
Total.....	602	—	309	—
With new commitment.....	147	33	84	33.5
Without new commitment.....	455	16	225	17

In 1960, 82 adult felons died while in prison, of which one was a woman. The median time served by the 81 male felons was 30 months and the complete range was 0 to 339. About 77 percent or 62 men had never been on parole since their original commitment, and 4 men, or 5 percent, had been returned without a new commitment. The median age at death was 53 years for the 81 male felons, the youngest was 20 years and the oldest was 90 years.

### EXECUTION

During the past 11 years, 144 persons had been received in prison with death sentences; 66 were received in 1950-54, 60 in 1955-59, and 18 in 1960. During these same periods, 83 persons have been executed, 39 in the first five years, 35 in 1955-59, and 9 in 1960. The death sentence has been removed for 35 cases during the 11-year period of 1950-60, Table 28.

The number of months between admission with the death sentence and execution has gradually changed in the past 11 years. Of the persons executed in the 1950-54 period, 56.4 percent were executed within 12 months after admission, and 79.5 percent within 18 months after admission with the death sentence. In the 1955-59 period, only 25.7 percent had been executed within the first 12 months, and 40.0 percent within the first 18 months. Of the persons executed in 1960, 22.2 percent were executed within the first 12 months, and 77.8 percent within the first 18 months after admission. Although the percentage executed within 18 months was fairly similar for those executed in 1960, when compared with the 1950-54 period there is a noticeable shift in the percentage executed within the first 12 months, 56.4 percent in the 1950-54 period and only 22.2 percent in 1960.

Of the nine men executed in 1960, one had had no prior commitment record, four had been in only a jail or a juvenile correctional institu-

tion, and four had had at least one previous prior commitment. Five of the men executed were of the white race and four were Negro. The youngest man at the time of execution in 1960, was 23 years old, the oldest was 39 years old.

**TABLE 28**  
**DEATH PENALTIES**  
**NUMBER RECEIVED AND DISPOSITION**  
**1950-1954, 1955-1959, and 1960**

Item	1950-1954	1955-1959	1960
Number received with death sentence.....	66*	60*	18
Number of executions.....	39	35*	9
Number with death sentence removed.....	10	20	5

\* One woman.

**MONTHS BETWEEN ADMISSION WITH DEATH PENALTY AND EXECUTION**  
**1950-1954, 1955-1959, and 1960**

Months	1950-1954		1955-1959		1960	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	39	100.0	35	100.0	9	100.0
8-12.....	22	56.4	9	25.7	2	22.2
13-18.....	9	23.1	5	14.3	5	55.6
19-24.....	2	5.1	10*	28.6	1	11.1
25 and over.....	6	15.4	11	31.4	1	11.1

\* One woman.



## PAROLE POPULATION AND MOVEMENT

*Approximately 9,300 felons were on active parole from the California prisons on December 31, 1960. Of these, 8,505 were men and 798 were women.*

The placing of a felon under parole supervision at the time of release from prison allows the parole agent to assist and guide the offender during the transitory period of readjusting from prison life to the community. Approximately 85 percent of the men and 96 percent of the women released in 1960 were placed under parole supervision. The remaining chapters in this report present some factors regarding parolees and the movement of the parole population.

The 8,505 men under parole supervision on December 31, 1960, were not all located in California; 7,392 were in California, but 735 were being supervised in other states and 378 were on deport or in custody status. The number of California parolees being supervised in other states increased slightly during 1960, from 694 on January 1, to 735 on December 31. The number of California parolees being supervised in California increased by 24 during the calendar year.

The population on parole at any one time is the resultant of the parolee movement over a period of time. Persons are added to the active parole population count by parole from prison and by reinstatement after suspension. Persons are removed from parole by discharge at expiration of sentence, by pardon or commutation, by death, and by suspension. The movement of the male parole population is given in Table 29A.

*Comparing 1960 with 1959, fewer male felons were placed on parole, fewer men were discharged from parole, and fewer deaths occurred, but at the same time more men were suspended from active parole and more men were reinstated to active parole after suspension. In 1959 the number of male felons placed under parole supervision was higher than ever previously recorded. This high number of men released from prison to parole in 1959 has resulted in the number of suspensions being higher during 1960 than ever experienced before in California.*

The transfer items in Table 29A show the amount of movement of parolees among the parole district offices within the State and between California and other states or jurisdictions. The amount of transfers is an accounting figure necessary for balancing the movement table and to express the location of the parole population clearly.

Approximately 91 percent of the male felons paroled in 1960 remained in California for supervision. California parole agents supervise not only those released from California prisons who remain in this State, but also supervise parolees from other state prison systems. This

TABLE 29A  
MOVEMENT OF MALE PAROLE POPULATION AND  
LOCATION OF SUPERVISION  
1959 and 1960

Movement	1959				1960			
	Total	Supervised in		Deport or custody	Total	Supervised in		Deport or custody
		Calif- ornia	Other states			Calif- ornia	Other states	
Population, January 1 .....	6,765	5,090	598	477	8,511	7,368	694	449
Total received on parole .....	7,987	7,258	465	264	7,270	6,593	478	199
Paroled from prison .....	5,751	5,198	313	240	4,871	4,409	295	167
Reinstated after suspension .....	315	288	16	11	379	330	37	12
By transfer .....	1,921	1,772	136	13	2,020	1,854	146	20
Total removed from parole .....	6,241	5,580	369	292	7,276	6,569	437	270
Discharged* .....	2,183	1,795	232	156	2,156	1,719	258	179
Suspended .....	2,041	1,968	65	8	3,013	2,908	92	13
Died** .....	96	57	7	32	87	74	13	—
By transfer .....	1,921	1,760	65	96	2,020	1,868	74	78
Population, December 31 .....	8,511	7,368	694	449	8,505	7,392	735	378
Population change .....	1,746	1,678	96	-28	-6	24	41	-71

\* Includes pardons and commutations of which there were 1 in 1959, and 10 in 1960.

\*\* Includes presumptive deaths, 32 in 1959 and none in 1960.

interchange of supervision among states has been accomplished through an agreement under the provisions of the Interstate Compact. The California agents were supervising 950 men from other state systems on December 31, 1960. Other state jurisdictions were supervising 735 California male felons on the same date.

The movement of women parole population and the location of supervision is given in Table 29B for 1959 and 1960. The number of women under parole supervision increased during 1960 from 689 on January 1, to 798 on December 31. Of the 798 women on parole on December 31, 720 women, or 90 percent, were in California.

During 1960, 412 women were released from prison to parole supervision. This was the greatest number of women ever released to parole supervision during one calendar year in the history of this State. In each category of movement, parole from prison, discharge from parole, suspended from active parole, and reinstated to active parole after suspension, the movements in 1960 numbered greater than the respective movements in 1959. The California women parole agents were supervising 46 women on parole in California from other states on December 31, 1960.

TABLE 29B  
MOVEMENT OF WOMEN PAROLE POPULATION AND  
LOCATION OF SUPERVISION  
1959 and 1960

Movement	1959			1960		
	Total	Supervised in		Total	Supervised in	
		California	Other states*		California	Other states*
Population, January 1 .....	645	576	69	689	621	68
Total received on parole.....	435	403	32	525	463	57
Paroled from prison.....	359	341	18	412	380	32
Reinstated after suspension...	39	37	2	67	59	8
By transfer.....	37	25	12	46	29	17
Total removed from parole.....	391	358	33	416	369	47
Discharged**.....	136	122	14	150	124	26
Suspended.....	211	201	10	218	208	10
Died.....	7	5	2	2	2	—
By transfer.....	37	30	7	46	35	11
Population, December 31.....	689	621	68	798	720	78
Population change.....	44	45	-1	109	99	10

\* Includes deport and custody cases, which were 12 on December 31, 1959, and 11 on December 31, 1960. The movement was 3 paroled, 1 transferred in, 1 discharged, 2 suspended and 2 transferred out during 1959, and was 7 paroled, 1 transferred in, 3 discharged, and 6 transferred out during 1960.

\*\* There were no women parolees pardoned or commuted in 1959; there was 1 pardoned in 1960.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION ON PAROLE

Was the parole population in 1960 similar to the parole population in 1950? In order to study relative changes in the demographic characteristics of parolees during the past decade, the type of offense, number of times on parole, and length of time on present parole, are expressed in percentage distributions in the tables and charts.

*As of December 31, 1960, the California male parole population was 8,505 men, an increase of 94 percent from the 4,407 men on parole in 1950. During the same period, the number of women on active parole increased 253 percent, from 226 women as of December 31, 1950, to 798 women on the same date of 1960.*

### OFFENSE

A comparison of the percentage distributions of the number of men in the offense groups during the past 11 years indicates some very significant changes, Table 30A. *Men who committed robbery accounted*

TABLE 30A  
OFFENSE GROUPS  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MALE PAROLE POPULATION  
December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960

Offense	1950	1955	1960
Number of men .....	4,407	6,719	8,505*
Total percent .....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Homicide.....	16.5	12.5	8.8
Murder 1st.....	11.0	8.2	5.6
Murder 2nd.....	3.1	2.6	1.6
Manslaughter.....	2.4	1.7	1.6
Robbery .....	19.8	18.7	18.7
Assault.....	3.7	3.0	2.7
Burglary.....	17.4	17.2	18.0
Theft except auto.....	6.1	4.9	5.3
Auto theft.....	3.3	2.9	2.1
Forgery and checks.....	13.6	16.0	16.5
Rape.....	4.3	3.9	2.4
Lewd acts with children.....	2.2	4.1	3.7
Other sex.....	2.4	1.6	1.4
Narcotics.....	1.9	9.6	14.9
Escape .....	2.3	1.2	1.4
Habitual criminal.....	2.3	1.6	1.2
All other.....	4.4	2.8	2.9

\* Includes 53 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

for the largest percentage of men on parole as of December 31, 1950 through 1960, except in 1954 and 1959. Those committed for burglary were the second largest percentage group, except in 1954 and 1959 when they ranked first. These two percentage groups accounted for 36.7 percent of the men on parole as of December 31, 1960. Forgers and check writers have ranked third since 1953, when they displaced the homicide offense group.

The greatest change in the proportionate frequency of the men in the offense groups has occurred in the homicide and the narcotic offender categories. The homicide group has shown a decrease from 16.5 percent of the 1950 parole population to 8.8 percent of the 1960 parole population as of December 31. The narcotic offender group comprised 1.9 percent of the male parole population in 1950, and has increased to 14.9 percent of the population as of December 31, 1960. Of 12 major offense groups, narcotics has moved in rank from twelfth position in 1950 to fourth position in 1960. The trends in the percentage distribution of the offense groups of men on parole in 1950 through 1960 are shown in Chart XII-A.

Women convicted for forgery and check offenses comprised 37 percent of the women parole population as of December 31, 1960, as given in Table 30B. *This offense group has ranged first in the percentage distribution of offenses since 1952.* Although data on the offense distribution of women parolees are not available for 1951, the 1950 figures were related directly to the 1952 figures in Chart XII-B. This chart graphically portrays the percentage distribution of the offense groups of women on parole as of December 31, 1950 through 1960.

During this 11 year span there has been a gradual increase in the percentage of women on parole for forgery and check offenses. This offense group ranked second in 1950 with 20.8 percent of the women so classified, but has ranked first ever since 1952, and has continued to increase, so that by December 31, 1960, 37.1 percent of women on parole had been convicted of forgery and checks. *The increase between the 1950 percent and the 1960 percent is greater for the forgery and check writers than for any other offense group.*

The narcotic offender group changed rank from eighth position in 1950, to second position in 1958 and thereafter; the change in the percentage of total number of women on active parole was from 5.3 percent in 1950 to 20.9 percent in 1960.

#### NUMBER OF TIMES ON PAROLE

*Most men are serving their first parole under present convictions.* The percentage distribution has changed slightly during the past 11 years, Table 31A. The percentage of men serving first parole was about 89 percent of those on parole in 1950 and 1955, and has decreased to approximately 84 percent in 1960. The percentage of men serving their second parole has increased from 8.9 percent in 1950 to 13.7 percent in 1960.

CHART XII A  
OFFENSE GROUPS  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MEN ON PAROLE  
DECEMBER 31, 1950 through 1960

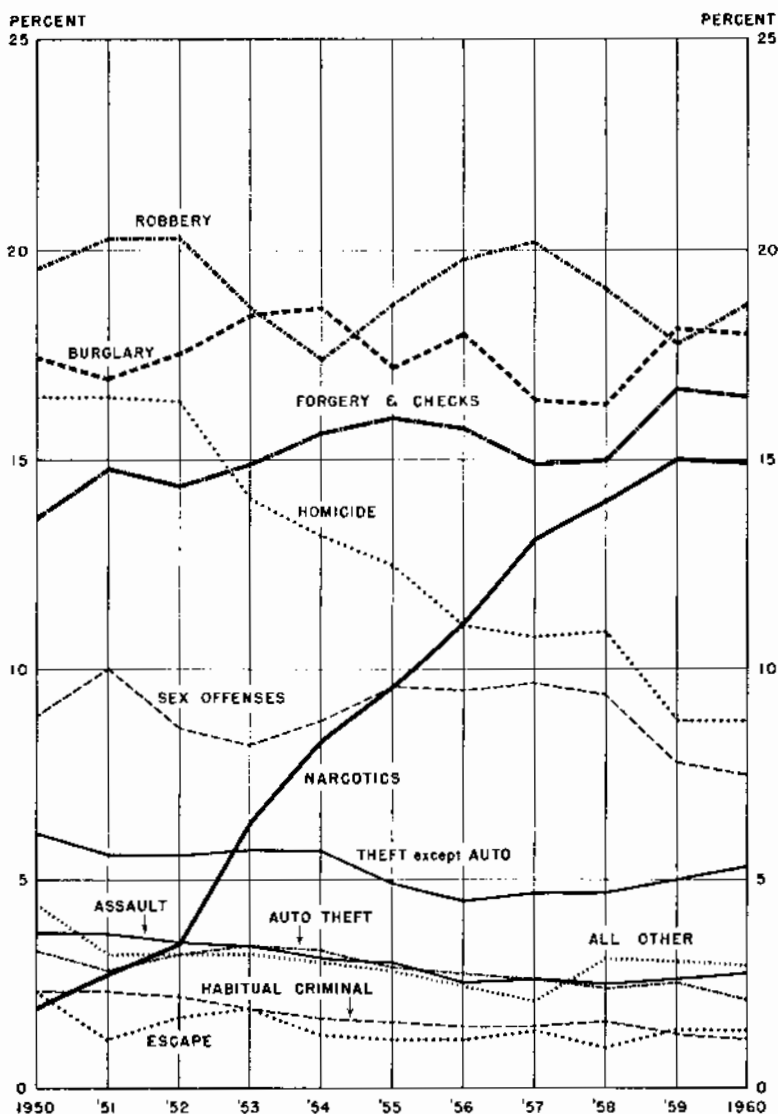
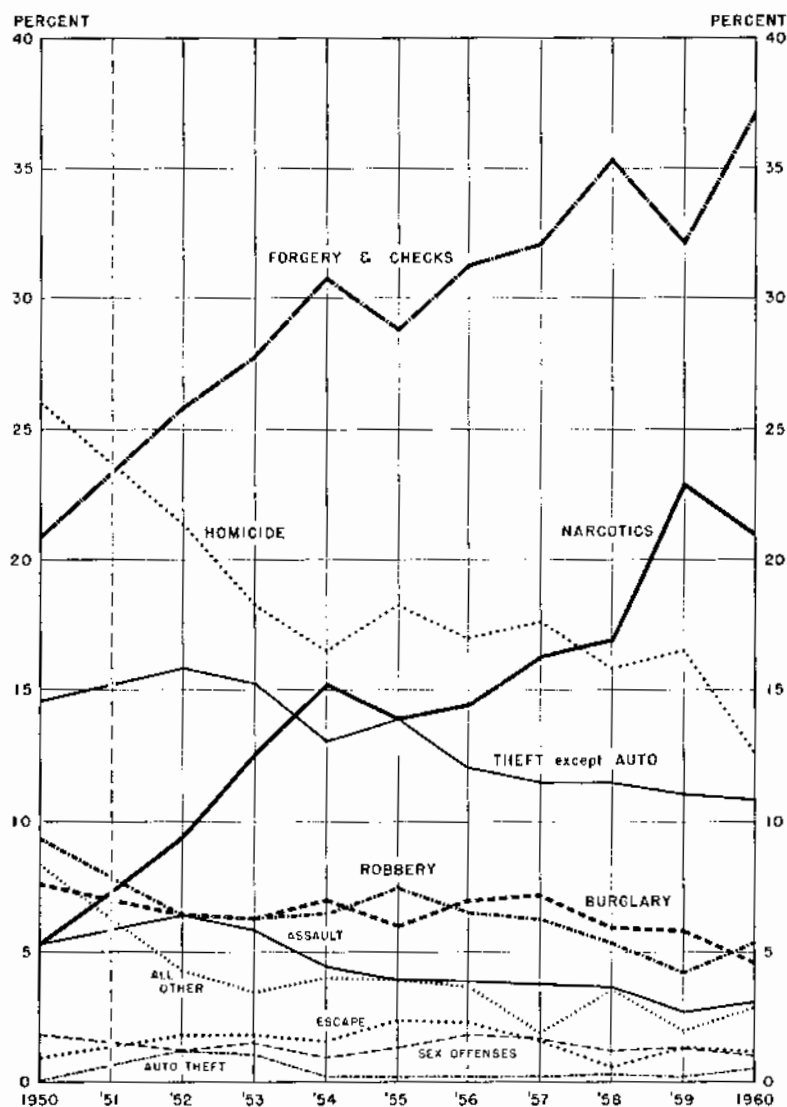


CHART XII B  
OFFENSE GROUPS  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ON PAROLE  
DECEMBER 31, 1950 through 1960



**TABLE 30B**  
**OFFENSE GROUPS**  
**PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN PAROLE POPULATION**  
**December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960**

Offense	1950	1955	1960
Number of women .....	226	466	798*
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Homicide.....	26.0	18.2	12.6
Murder 1st.....	6.0	2.8	1.9
Murder 2nd.....	4.8	4.7	5.1
Manslaughter.....	14.6	10.7	5.6
Robbery.....	9.3	7.5	5.3
Assault.....	5.3	3.9	3.1
Burglary.....	7.6	6.0	4.6
Theft except auto.....	14.6	13.9	10.8
Auto theft.....	—	0.2	0.5
Forgery and checks.....	20.8	28.8	37.1
Sex.....	1.8	1.3	1.0
Narcotics.....	5.3	13.9	20.9
Escape.....	0.9	2.4	1.2
All other.....	8.4	3.9	2.9

\* Includes 2 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

**TABLE 31A**  
**NUMBER OF TIMES ON PAROLE**  
**PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MALE PAROLE POPULATION**  
**December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960**

Times on parole	1950	1955	1960
Number of men.....	4,407	6,719	8,505*
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
First parole.....	89.2	89.3	83.7
Second parole.....	9.5	8.9	13.7
Third or more parole.....	1.3	1.8	2.6

\* Includes 53 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

*Slightly more than three-fourths of the total women parole population was serving first parole in 1960, Table 31B. This percentage has dropped since 1955. Most of the increase occurred in those serving second parole.*



TABLE 31B  
NUMBER OF TIMES ON PAROLE  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN PAROLE POPULATION  
December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960

Times on parole	1950	1955	1960
Number of women.....	226	466	798*
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
First parole.....	85.9	85.0	76.6
Second parole.....	11.5	12.2	17.8
Third or more parole.....	2.6	2.8	5.0

\* Includes 2 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

TABLE 32A  
LENGTH OF TIME ON PRESENT PAROLE  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MALE PAROLE POPULATION  
December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960

Length of time on present parole	1950	1955	1960
Number of men.....	4,407	6,719	8,505*
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 1 year.....	44.2	45.8	46.9
1 year but less than 2 years.....	28.3	28.9	35.1
2 years but less than 3 years.....	8.2	13.1	8.8
3 years but less than 4 years.....	3.1	3.2	2.2
4 years but less than 5 years.....	2.5	1.4	1.1
5 years or longer.....	13.7	7.8	5.9

\* Includes 53 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

#### LENGTH OF TIME ON PRESENT PAROLE

Of the 8,505 male parolees as of December 31, 1960, about 47 percent had been on parole less than one year, and 35 percent one year but less than two years. These percentages were 44.2 and 28.3 respectively for the 4,407 men on parole as of December 31, 1950. Therefore, *there has been a gradual increase in the percentage of those who have been on parole less than two years*, Table 32A.

The length of time on present parole for women parolees has shifted during 1950-1960. The percentage distributions of women on parole indicates that 61.5 percent had been on parole less than one year as of December 31, 1950, and 44.6 percent had been on parole less than one year on December 31, 1960, Table 32B. The changes in the percentage distribution of the length of time on present parole as of 1950 compared with 1960, occurred principally in the less than one year, two but less than three years, and three but less than four year categories.

TABLE 32B

**LENGTH OF TIME ON PRESENT PAROLE**  
**PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN PAROLE POPULATION**  
**December 31, 1950, 1955, and 1960**

Length of time on present parole	1950	1955	1960
Number of women.....	226	466	798*
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 1 year.....	61.5	41.4	44.6
1 year but less than 2 years.....	23.5	22.1	23.3
2 years but less than 3 years.....	8.0	18.9	15.7
3 years but less than 4 years.....	1.8	8.8	8.0
4 years but less than 5 years.....	0.4	3.9	3.6
5 years or longer.....	4.8	4.9	4.8

\* Includes 2 parolees in Narcotic Treatment-Control Project Clinic in 1960.

## SUSPENSION

*The sentencing boards' actions suspended 3,013 men and 218 women during 1960. A parolee who becomes involved in additional criminal conduct, or who violates other conditions of the parole agreement, may have his parole suspended by the Adult Authority if a male parolee, or by the Board of Trustees of the California Institution for Women if a woman parolee. An order to suspend a parolee results in the stopping of time accredited on the sentence. The offender is ordered returned to prison. However, not all suspended parolees are returned to prison. The sentencing board may review the case at some later date and the parolee may be reinstated to active parole status. The next chapter is on reinstatement.*

The cumulative percentages of men suspended for the first time after parole to California supervision, are shown in Table 33A, grouped by year of parole for 1956 through 1960. During 1960, 18.8 percent of the 4,409 men paroled to California supervision in the same year were suspended. *When considering the percentage of men suspended during the first year of parole, the percentage was higher in 1960 than in any of the preceding four years.* By the end of the first year after parole, slightly over 40 percent of the men paroled in 1957, 1958, or 1959 had experienced one suspension from active parole.

The cumulative percentages of women parolees suspended for the first time, by year of parole for 1956 through 1960, is given in Table 33B. *During 1960, 16.5 percent of the 412 women placed under parole supervision in 1960 had been suspended from parole.* This percentage

TABLE 33A  
CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE OF PAROLEES SUSPENDED  
EACH YEAR AFTER PAROLE

MALE PAROLEES SUSPENDED FOR THE FIRST TIME FROM  
SUPERVISION IN CALIFORNIA  
1956 through 1960

Year during which suspended	Year of parole				
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Number paroled . . . . .	3,629	3,441	3,368	5,198	4,409
Year of parole . . . . .	11.5	13.4	17.4	13.9	18.8
1st year after parole . . . . .	33.1	40.5	41.4	42.7	
2nd year after parole . . . . .	43.7	46.5	50.4		
3rd year after parole . . . . .	45.2	48.0			
4th year after parole . . . . .	45.5				

was lower than the 1958 and the 1959 percentages of those suspended during the year of parole. By the end of the first year after parole the percentage of women suspended has been increasing, such that 46 percent of the women placed on parole in 1959 had been suspended, while at the end of a similar period, the percentage for the 1956 paroles was 35.3 percent.

TABLE 33B  
CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE OF PAROLEES SUSPENDED  
EACH YEAR AFTER PAROLE  
WOMEN PAROLEES SUSPENDED FOR THE FIRST TIME  
1956 through 1960

Year during which suspended	Year of parole				
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Number paroled .....	275	244	320	359	412
Year of parole .....	15.3	13.9	17.2	22.0	16.5
1st year after parole .....	35.3	36.4	40.3	46.0	
2nd year after parole .....	45.8	44.6	47.8		
3rd year after parole .....	49.4	47.5			
4th year after parole .....	50.9				

## REINSTATEMENT

*The Adult Authority reinstated 379 men to active parole supervision in 1960. The Board of Trustees of the California Institution for Women reinstated 67 women to active parole supervision in 1960.* The authority which suspends parole may also reinstate the person to active parole status. The more common situations in which a reinstatement may be ordered are, first, when a suspended parolee whose whereabouts was unknown is located and found to be law-abiding while at large, or second, reinstatement may follow after a parolee convicted of a new offense, and having served a sentence in other than a California prison, may be reinstated if in the opinion of the sentencing board no useful purpose would be served to the public or to the parolee by his return to a California prison.

The number of male felons reinstated to active parole supervision during each of the 11 years, 1950 through 1960, is presented by reason for suspension in Table 34A. About three-fourths of the reinstatements

**TABLE 34A**  
**NUMBER OF REINSTATEMENTS**  
**RATIO OF REINSTATEMENTS PER 100 AVERAGE SUSPENSIONS**  
**REASON FOR SUSPENSION BY YEAR**  
**MALE PAROLEES REINSTATED ON PAROLE**  
**1950 through 1960**

Year	Total		Reason for suspension					
			Technical		Whereabouts unknown		Criminal charge	
	Number	Ratio* per 100 average sus- pensions	Number	Ratio* per 100 average sus- pensions	Number	Ratio* per 100 average sus- pensions	Number	Ratio* per 100 average sus- pensions
1950.....	195	17	3	5	84	21	108	16
1951.....	195	17	3	4	86	21	105	15
1952.....	249	21	6	6	126	32	117	17
1953.....	249	20	5	4	121	28	123	17
1954.....	253	18	2	1	123	37	128	15
1955.....	284	20	1	1	142	34	141	16
1956.....	311	22	—	—	177	43	134	15
1957.....	241	15	3	2	133	29	105	10
1958.....	346	17	7	3	143	28	196	16
1959.....	315	15	6	3	121	22	188	14
1960.....	379	15	3	2	184	25	192	13

\* Ratio based on the two-year average number of cases suspended during the year indicated and the previous year.

occurred within the first two years following suspension; therefore, the ratio of the number reinstated per 100 average number suspended is based on a two year period, the year of reinstatement and the previous year. During 1960, 379 men were reinstated to active parole supervision after suspension. Of these men, 192 had been suspended because of new criminal charges against them, 184 were men whose whereabouts was unknown, and three were for technical reasons.

For the total number of men reinstated, the ratio of reinstatements to 100 average suspensions varied from 15 in 1957, 1959, and 1960, to a high of 22 in 1956. *The ratios of reinstatements varied markedly depending upon the reason for suspension.* For suspensions due to parolees' whereabouts being unknown, the ratio of reinstatement has varied from a low in 1950 and 1951 to a high in 1956, from 21 to 43 per 100 average suspensions respectively. For the men reinstated after suspension because of a criminal charge, the ratio has varied from a low of 13 in 1960 to a high of 17 in 1952 and 1953, in relation to 100 average suspensions.

The number of women parolees reinstated and the ratio of reinstatements for each 100 average suspensions during a two-year period, are given for 1950 through 1960 in Table 34B. In 1960, with 67 women being reinstated to parole supervision, the ratio was 31 reinstatements per 100 average suspensions. In 1955 this ratio had been 56 reinstatements for each 100 average suspensions. The reinstatement ratio has ranged from 30 in 1950 to 56 in 1955, and decreased to 19 in 1959, and again rising to 31 in 1960.

TABLE 34B  
NUMBER OF REINSTATEMENTS  
RATIO OF REINSTATEMENTS PER 100 AVERAGE SUSPENSIONS  
BY YEAR  
WOMEN PAROLEES REINSTATED ON PAROLE  
1950 through 1960

Year	Number	Rate per 100 average suspensions*
1950-----	17	30
1951-----	23	38
1952-----	39	53
1953-----	32	34
1954-----	66	52
1955-----	99	56
1956-----	63	38
1957-----	60	41
1958-----	57	32
1959-----	39	19
1960-----	67	31

\* Ratio based on the two-year average number of cases suspended during the year indicated and the previous year.

## DISCHARGE FROM PAROLE

Parole supervision has provided guidance and assistance from parole agents for many parolees, and has enabled the parolees to complete their sentences. Most (87 percent) of the men discharged from parole during 1960, were serving their first parole, and approximately 83 percent of the women were of the same status.

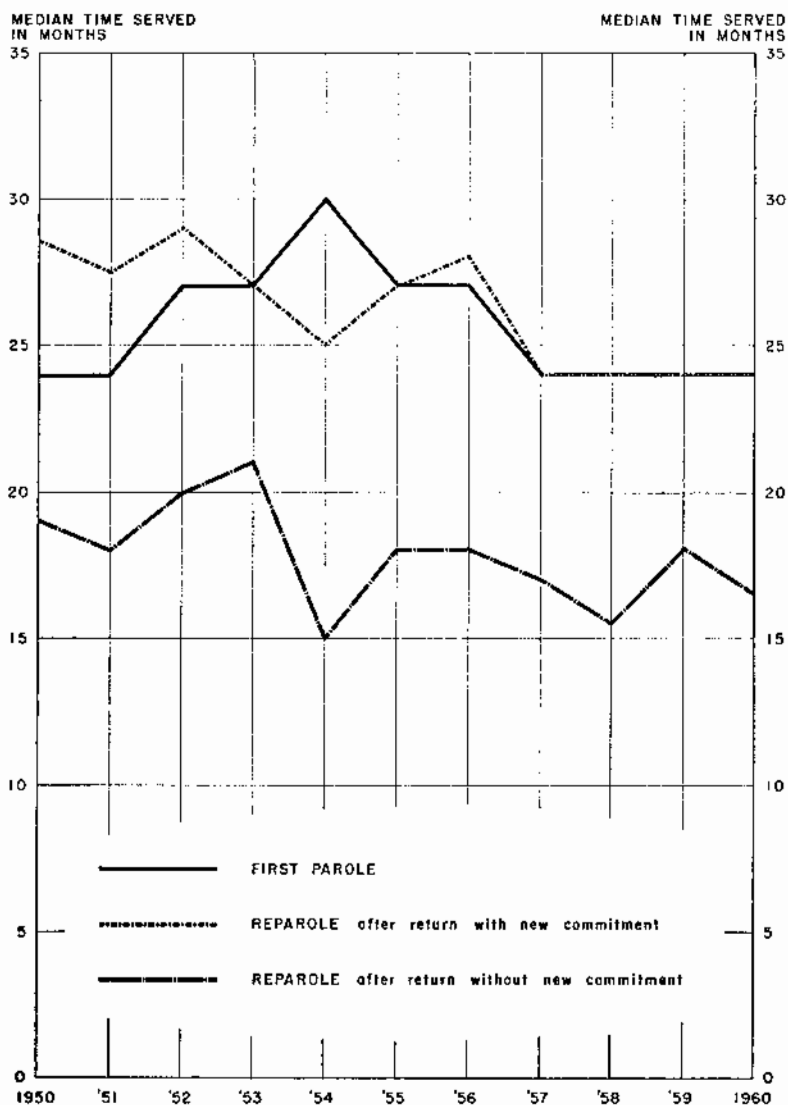
In studying the length of time served on parole it is necessary to separate types of parole into first parole, reparole after return to prison with a new commitment, and reparole after return to prison without a new commitment. The 1,878 male felons discharged from first parole in 1960, served a median of 24 months on parole before discharge. This was exactly the same as the median time served by the 168 men discharged from reparole after having been returned to prison with a new commitment. The 100 men who were discharged in 1960 from reparole after return to prison without a new commitment served a median of 16.5 months before discharge, Table 35A. The type of parole and the median time served on parole before discharge is shown in Chart XIII for the years 1950 through 1960.

**TABLE 35A**  
**TYPE OF PAROLE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED ON PAROLE BY YEAR**  
**MALE PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE**  
**1950 through 1960**

Year	First parole		Reparole after return to prison			
			With new commitment		Without new commitment	
	Number	Median time served on parole in months	Number	Median time served on parole in months	Number	Median time served on parole in months
1950.....	1,073	24	48	28.5	97	19
1951.....	1,168	24	56	27.5	82	18
1952.....	1,042	27	39	20	84	20
1953.....	1,191	27	71	27	73	21
1954.....	1,283	30	75	25	66	15
1955.....	1,529	27	89	27	73	18
1956.....	1,766	27	121	28	84	18
1957.....	2,161	24	181	24	77	17
1958.....	2,046	24	193	24	66	15.5
1959.....	1,921	24	182	24	79	18
1960.....	1,878	24	168	24	100	16.5

CHART XIII  
TYPE OF PAROLE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED  
ON PAROLE

MEN DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE  
1950 - 1960





The amount of time served on parole before discharge has decreased during the 11-year period for men reparaoled after return with a new commitment. The median time served by male first parolees before discharge was 24 months in 1950 and in 1951, increased to 30 months in 1954, and has returned to and stayed at 24 months in 1957 and the years thereafter. The median time served on reparole before discharge by male felons reparaoled after return to prison without a new commitment has always been less than the other two types of parole. It has ranged from a high of 21 months in 1953 to a low of 15 months in 1954, and was 16.5 months for those discharged in 1960.

Women discharged from first parole served a median of 37 months before discharge in 1960. This was a higher median time served for women discharged from parole than in any year in the 1950 decade. The median time served by women parolees before discharge from first parole has gradually increased from 21 months before discharge in 1950, to 36 months before discharge in 1956, 1957, and 1958, and again increased to 37 months in 1960, Table 35B.

## OFFENSE

The length of time served by first parolees before discharge should be analyzed by offense groups to be more meaningful. The offense and time served on first parole before discharge by male parolees are given

TABLE 35B

TYPE OF PAROLE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED ON PAROLE BY YEAR  
WOMEN PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE  
1950 through 1960

Median Time Served Computed Only for 25 or More Cases

Year	First parole		Reparole after return to prison			
			With new commitment		Without new commitment	
	Number	Median time served on parole in months	Number	Median time served on parole in months	Number	Median time served on parole in months
1950.....	54	21	—	—	3	—
1951.....	53	26	—	—	5	—
1952.....	37	26	—	—	5	—
1953.....	45	28	1	—	7	—
1954.....	60	33	—	—	6	—
1955.....	80	34	1	—	7	—
1956.....	82	36	3	—	10	—
1957.....	97	36	5	—	22	—
1958.....	85	36	5	—	18	—
1959.....	106	35	4	—	26	20.5
1960.....	125	37	4	—	20	—

in Table 36 for 1956 through 1960. For those discharged in 1960, men convicted of murder second degree served the greatest amount of time on parole before discharge, 48 months. Manslaughter and robbery first ranked second highest in time served with a median of 33 months. Those convicted of lewd acts with children ranked third, 32.5 months. The median time served on parole by those in the offense group of auto theft was lowest, 18 months.

### TIME SERVED IN PRISON AND ON PAROLE

The median time served in prison and the median time served on parole before discharge for the male first parolees discharged during the last two years are compared by selected offense groups in Table 37A. The men discharged in 1959 and in 1960 from first parole served a median time of 27 months in prison before parole and 24 months on parole before discharge. Men had served three months more in prison than on parole.

TABLE 36  
OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED ON PAROLE  
MALE FIRST PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE  
1956 through 1960

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown

Selected offenses	1956		1957		1958		1959		1960	
	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months	Number	Median time served in months
All offenses*	1,766	27	2,161	24	2,046	24	1,921	24	1,878	24
Murder 2nd .....	32	42	29	42	44	46	34	42	38	48
Manslaughter .....	25	30	33	30	38	31	37	30	30	33
Robbery 1st .....	172	33	209	30	248	30	257	30	233	33
Robbery 2nd .....	82	27	133	24	131	24	92	22.5	79	24
Assault with deadly weapon .....	66	27	89	24	64	24	59	24	57	24
Burglary 1st .....	43	32	47	29	44	30	37	30	38	30
Burglary 2nd .....	298	26	367	24	327	24	286	21	287	21
Grand theft except auto .....	94	24.5	117	24	93	24	90	21.5	75	24
Auto theft .....	68	24	77	21	68	19	80	18.5	68	18
Forgery and checks .....	336	24	409	24	356	21.5	340	21	352	20
Rape .....	60	36	69	36	64	30	72	30	43	30
Lewd acts with children .....	50	34.5	86	36	101	33	87	36	108	32.5
Narcotics .....	231	24	293	24	274	24	267	24	250	27

\* Includes offenses not shown.

TABLE 37A

OFFENSE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED IN PRISON BEFORE PAROLE  
AND ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE

MALE FIRST PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE

1959 and 1960

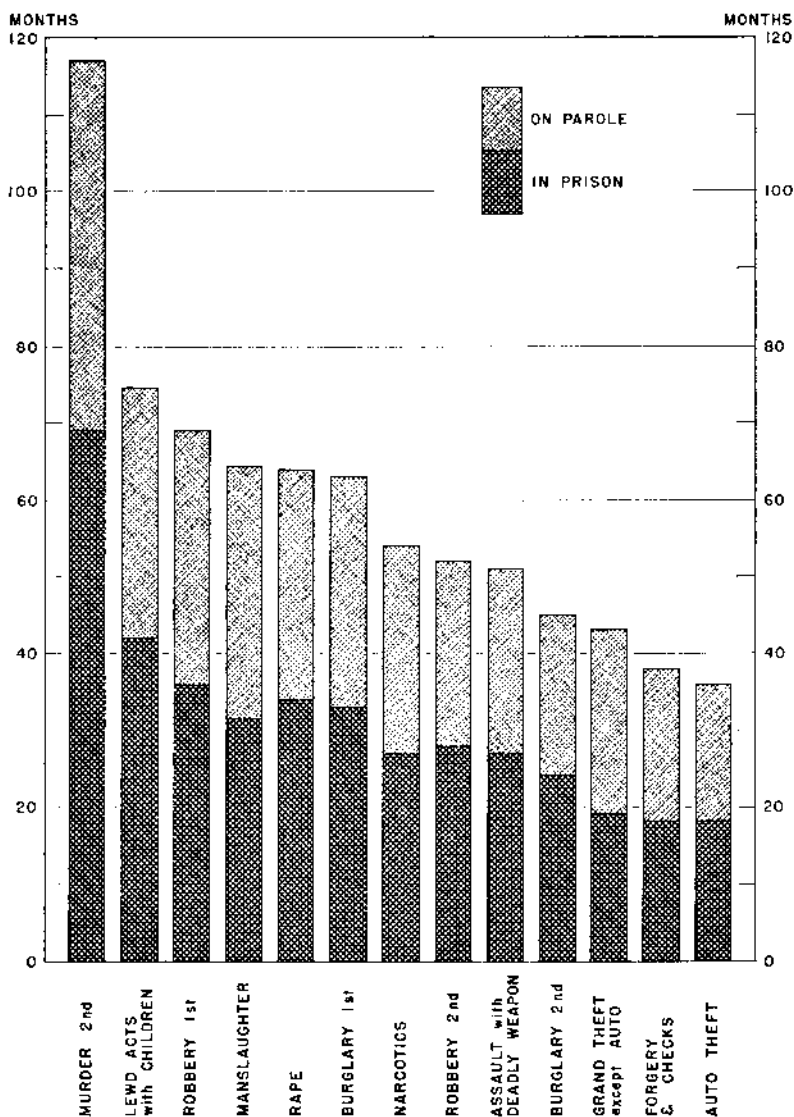
Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown

Selected offenses	1959				1960			
	Number	Median time served in months			Number	Median time served in months		
		In prison before parole	On parole before discharge	Total of medians		In prison before parole	On parole before discharge	Total of medians
All offenses* . . . . .	1,921	27	24	51	1,878	27	24	51
Murder 2nd . . . . .	34	48	42	90	38	69	48	117
Manslaughter . . . . .	37	36	30	66	30	31.5	33	64.5
Robbery 1st . . . . .	257	35	30	65	233	36	33	69
Robbery 2nd . . . . .	92	24	22.5	46.5	79	28	24	52
Assault with deadly weapon . . . . .	59	24	24	48	57	27	24	51
Burglary 1st . . . . .	37	36	30	66	38	33	30	63
Burglary 2nd . . . . .	286	24	21	45	287	24	21	45
Grand theft except auto . .	90	21	21.5	42.5	75	19	24	43
Auto theft . . . . .	80	24	18.5	42.5	68	18	18	36
Forgery and checks . . . .	340	22	21	43	352	18	20	38
Rape . . . . .	72	36	30	66	43	34	30	64
Lewd acts with children . .	87	45	36	81	108	42	32.5	74.5
Narcotics . . . . .	267	27	24	51	250	27	27	54

\* Includes offense groups not shown.

When considering the total of the median time served in prison and the median time served on parole by male parolees, the offense groups indicate some differences between those discharged in 1960 and those discharged in 1959. The total of the medians indicates that those convicted of murder second served 117 months before discharge in 1960, as compared with 90 months before discharge in 1959. Most of this difference in medians was in the time served in prison. *There had been an increase in the total of time served by men discharged in 1960 over those discharged in 1959 for murder second, robbery first, robbery second, assault with a deadly weapon, theft except auto, and narcotics.* These increases were not predominantly in prison time nor in parole time, but differ in the offense groups and in the location of servitude. The total of the median time served by 13 offense groups is portrayed in Chart XIV for men discharged in 1960 from first parole.

CHART XIV  
 OFFENSE AND TOTAL MEDIAN TIME SERVED  
 IN PRISON AND ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE  
 MEN DISCHARGED FROM FIRST PAROLE  
 1960



The women first parolees discharged from parole in the five-year period 1956-1960, are compared with those discharged in the period 1951-1955 for four offense groups, in Table 37B. *Women discharged from first parole during the 1956-1960 period served longer total time than did those discharged during the prior five years. This is true for all offenses and for each of the four offenses specified.* The increase in the total of the two medians was caused principally by an increase in the median time served on parole before discharge during 1956-1960.

A look at the 11 years' experience indicates some trend changes in the amount of time served. Studying the series of median time served in prison before parole and on parole before discharge of male first parolees, by year of discharge, from 1950 through 1960, indicates some

TABLE 37B

### OFFENSE AND MEDIAN TIME SERVED IN PRISON BEFORE PAROLE AND ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE

#### WOMEN FIRST PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE

1951-55 and 1956-60

Only Offense Groups With More Than 25 Cases Are Shown

Selected offenses	1951-55				1956-60			
	Number	Median time served in months			Number	Median time served in months		
		In prison before parole	On parole before discharge	Total of medians		In prison before parole	On parole before discharge	Total of medians
All offenses*.....	283	24	28	52	495	23	36	59
Manslaughter.....	39	25	31	56	54	23	43.5	66.5
Grand theft except auto...	33	24	31	55	57	23	37	60
Forgery and checks.....	62	24	30.5	54.5	132	24	38	62
Narcotics.....	41	20	22	42	87	21	28	49

\* Includes offenses not shown.

noticeable trends in the amount of time served, Table 38A. During these 11 years the total of the median time served was 49 months for those discharged in 1950 and 1951, and increased to 60 months for those discharged in 1954, and then decreased to 51 months for the 1957, 1959, and 1960 discharges. The fluctuation is very evident in Chart XV-A. *According to the median time served by male first parolees, more time has been required in prison than on parole for each year of parole discharges except 1954, when the median time in prison equalled the median time on parole before discharge.*

This is not true for women first parolees discharged from parole during the past 11 years. *The total of the median time served by women first parolees before discharge has ranged from 49.5 months in 1950, to*

**TABLE 38A**  
**MEDIAN TIME SERVED IN PRISON BEFORE PAROLE**  
**AND ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE**  
**BY YEAR**  
**MALE FIRST PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE**  
**1950 through 1960**

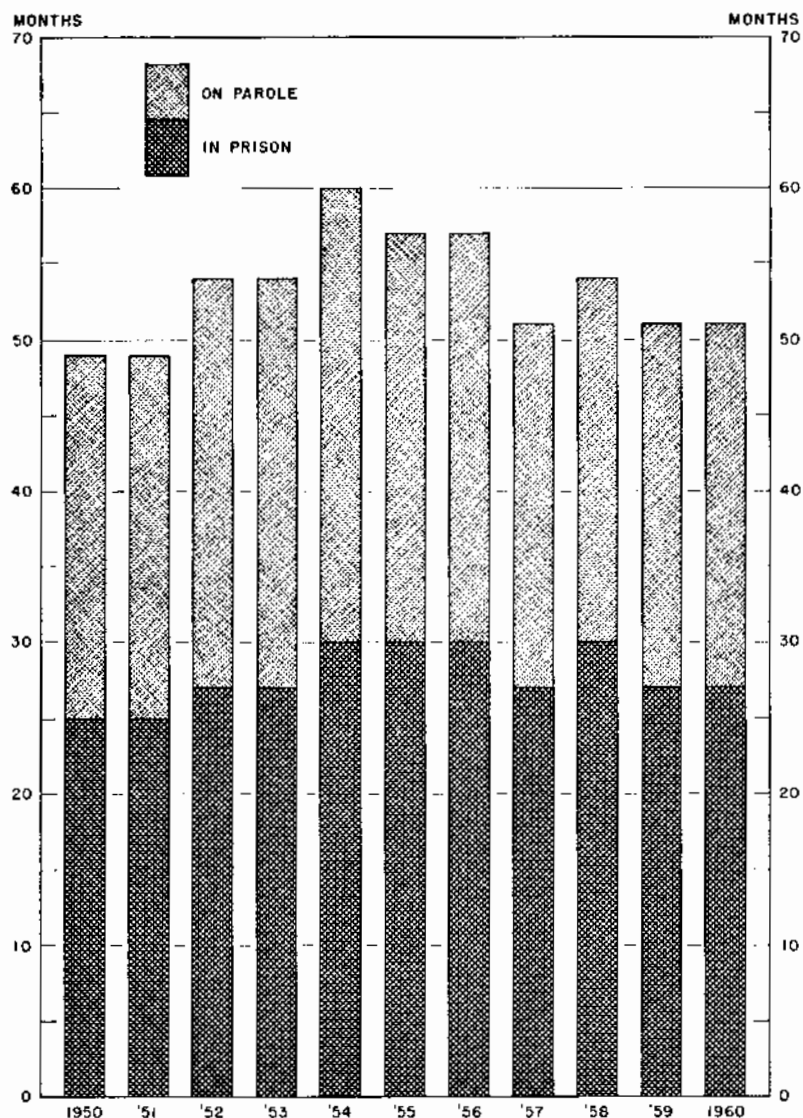
Year	Number	Median time served in months		
		In prison before parole	On parole before discharge	Total of medians
1950 .....	1,073	25	24	49
1951 .....	1,168	25	24	49
1952 .....	1,042	27	27	54
1953 .....	1,191	27	27	54
1954 .....	1,283	30	30	60
1955 .....	1,529	30	27	57
1956 .....	1,766	30	27	57
1957 .....	2,161	27	24	51
1958 .....	2,046	30	24	54
1959 .....	1,921	27	24	51
1960 .....	1,878	27	24	51

*a high of 60 months in 1956 and in 1960, Table 38B. The median time served in prison before parole has decreased from 28.5 months for those discharged from parole in 1950, to 21 months in 1954, and increased to 24 months in 1956 and in 1959, returning to 23 months in 1960. In the*

**TABLE 38B**  
**MEDIAN TIME SERVED IN PRISON BEFORE PAROLE**  
**AND ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE**  
**BY YEAR**  
**WOMEN FIRST PAROLEES DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE**  
**1950 through 1960**

Year	Number	Median time served in months		
		In prison before parole	On parole before discharge	Total of medians
1950 .....	54	28.5	21	49.5
1951 .....	53	25	26	51
1952 .....	37	25	26	51
1953 .....	45	20	28	48
1954 .....	60	21	33	54
1955 .....	80	22.5	34	56.5
1956 .....	82	24	36	60
1957 .....	97	23	36	59
1958 .....	85	23	36	59
1959 .....	106	24	35	59
1960 .....	125	23	37	60

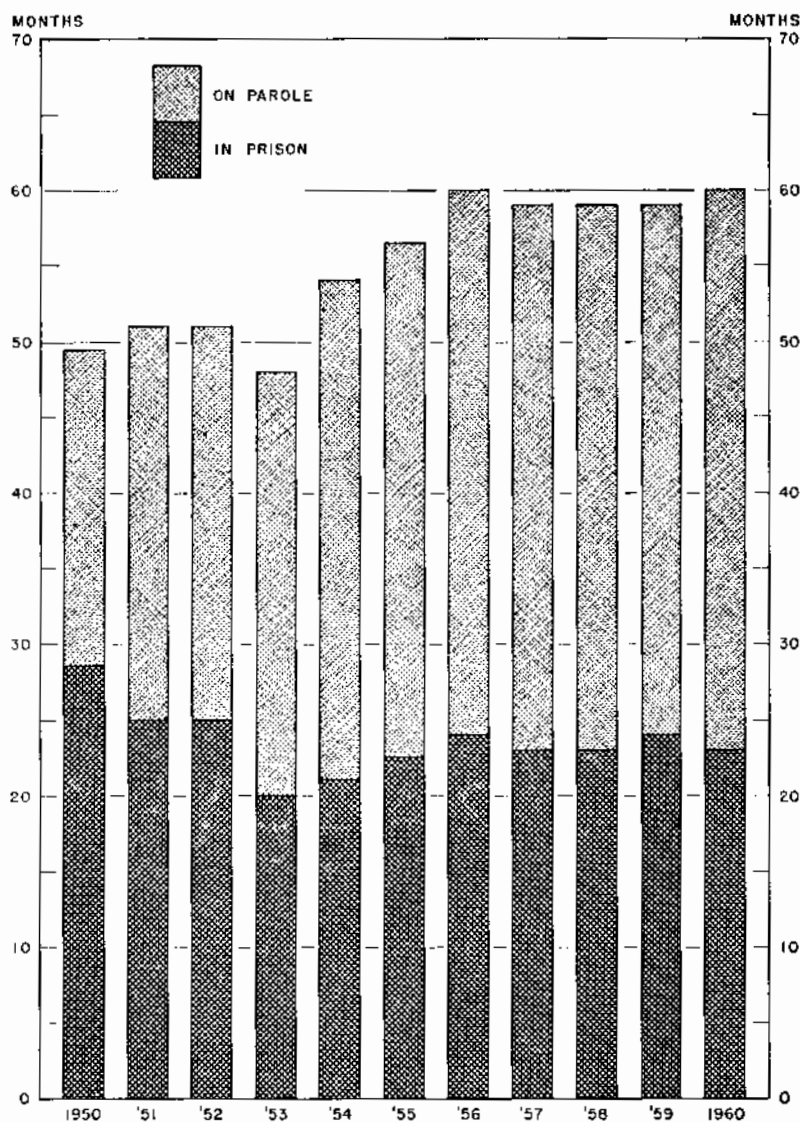
CHART XV A  
YEAR DISCHARGED AND TOTAL MEDIAN TIME SERVED  
IN PRISON AND ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE  
MEN DISCHARGED FROM FIRST PAROLE  
1950 - 1960



same period, the median time served on parole before discharge has changed from a low of 21 months before discharge in 1950 but gradually increased to 37 months before discharge from parole in 1960, Chart XV-B. *The median time served by women first parolees discharged from parole has decreased during the past 11 years with respect to the amount of time required in prison before parole, but has increased in the amount of time required on parole before discharge.*



CHART XV B  
YEAR DISCHARGED AND TOTAL MEDIAN TIME SERVED  
IN PRISON AND ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE  
WOMEN DISCHARGED FROM FIRST PAROLE  
1950 - 1960



# APPENDIX

## COUNTY OR AREA OF COMMITMENT

### PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT

1959 and 1960

County or area of commitment	1959		1960	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Total.....	5,426	292	5,701	327
Southern California.....	3,442	192	3,560	204
Los Angeles County.....	2,112	124	2,191	132
9 other counties.....	1,330	68	1,369	72
Imperial.....	57	4	57	-
Kern.....	187	4	200	7
Orange.....	202	9	194	7
Riverside.....	143	6	174	5
San Bernardino.....	241	5	237	14
San Diego.....	300	28	391	32
San Luis Obispo.....	25	4	21	1
Santa Barbara.....	65	5	63	5
Ventura.....	50	3	42	1
San Francisco Bay Area.....	878	46	969	62
Alameda County.....	273	17	222	14
San Francisco County.....	220	14	279	15
7 other counties.....	385	15	468	33
Contra Costa.....	77	2	109	14
Marin.....	20	-	18	3
Napa.....	20	1	11	2
San Mateo.....	62	1	58	5
Santa Clara.....	129	7	207	8
Solano.....	38	2	38	1
Sonoma.....	39	2	27	-
Balance of State.....	1,106	54	1,172	61
10 Sacramento Valley counties.....	336	15	334	15
Butte.....	53	-	33	3
Colusa.....	10	-	9	-
Glenn.....	4	-	5	-
Placer.....	14	2	3	-
Sacramento.....	151	7	155	8
Shasta.....	19	-	35	3
Sutter.....	10	-	13	-
Tehama.....	10	1	19	-
Yolo.....	52	4	33	-
Yuba.....	13	1	29	1
7 San Joaquin Valley counties.....	553	28	553	28
Fresno.....	157	14	141	7
Kings.....	27	2	18	1
Madera.....	26	2	31	3
Merced.....	34	1	39	2
San Joaquin.....	141	5	138	4
Stanislaus.....	126	2	111	7
Tulare.....	42	2	75	4

## COUNTY OR AREA OF COMMITMENT—Continued

## PRISONERS NEWLY RECEIVED FROM COURT

1959 and 1960

County or area of commitment	1959		1960	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
22 other counties.....	217	11	285	18
Alpine.....	—	—	1	—
Amador.....	—	—	2	1
Calaveras.....	—	—	2	—
Del Norte.....	13	1	25	1
El Dorado.....	9	—	17	—
Humboldt.....	28	1	46	3
Inyo.....	10	—	9	—
Lake.....	4	—	7	1
Lassen.....	6	—	6	—
Mariposa.....	—	—	1	—
Mendocino.....	23	1	29	1
Modoc.....	5	—	2	—
Mono.....	1	—	—	—
Monterey.....	51	6	36	7
Novada.....	9	—	11	—
Plumas.....	5	—	—	—
San Benito.....	4	1	17	1
Santa Cruz.....	33	1	45	3
Sierra.....	—	—	1	—
Siskiyou.....	5	—	17	—
Trinity.....	5	—	7	—
Tuolumne.....	6	—	4	—

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