

**Massachusetts Department of Correction
Review of Current Research - 1986**

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INTRODUCTION

During 1986, the Research Division of the Massachusetts Department of Correction (DOC) conducted several special research projects and produced a number of statistical reports describing the DOC inmate population. This report presents a review of the research that stemmed from these projects and from the annual statistical reports. The abstracts reproduced in this report summarize specific findings from each of the studies and statistical reports cited.

This report is divided into three major sections reflecting the different areas of research conducted by the Research Division in 1986. The first section covers a series of statistical descriptions of the state prison and county facility populations. The second section includes abstracts of findings from special evaluative and descriptive projects completed in 1986. The third section includes abstracts from research in progress in 1986.

The first section of this document consists of abstracts from reports which the Research Division produces annually. The reports in this section present updated information on the status and characteristics of the state and county prison population. The first in this series of reports is a statistical description of the 5,390 residents in DOC facilities as of January 1, 1986. The next report provides a statistical description of the 9,511 offenders committed by the courts to a Massachusetts county facility (jail or house of correction) during 1985 and

presents information on institution committed to, court committed from, month of commitment, offense, sentence length, sentence type, age, sex, race, marital status, education, place of birth and residence. The third report presents a statistical description of individuals committed by the court to a county correctional facility in Massachusetts for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol (O.U.I.) during 1985, trends in commitment for this offense, and some comparative information on the O.U.I. population and county offenders committed for other offenses. The fourth report contains a statistical description of the number, distribution and outcomes of furloughs for the year 1985 as well as a trend analysis of furloughs since the inception of the program in 1972.

The fifth report in this series presents a statistical description of the 2,331 offenders released to the street from a Massachusetts correctional facility during 1985 and presents some information on trends among releases over the last six years. The seventh statistical report is a description of the 2,409 individuals committed by the courts to a term of incarceration in the Massachusetts Department of Correction during 1985, including information on the nature of the present offense, personal background characteristics and criminal history of these individuals. The eighth report assesses population change and summarizes all movement of offenders in DOC custody during the calendar year of 1985 including information presented according to the institution of admission or release on : new court commitments, paroles, returns on parole violation, discharge, escapes, deaths, transfers to other correctional facilities both within and outside the state, and temporary releases to hospitals and courts. The ninth report presents a statistical description of offenders released to the street from Massachusetts correctional facilities during 1984 with corresponding recidivism rates. The tenth report presents a statistical description of offenders released to the street from

Massachusetts facilities with a pre-release component during 1984 with corresponding recidivism rates. The eleventh report is a statistical bulletin on escapes and returns from escape that occurred during 1985 and contains descriptive information on returns and escapes including: institution and security level from which the escape occurred, type of escape, current status of the escape, length of time at large, and characteristics of the individual escaping.

Studies summarized in the second section present findings from special evaluations and descriptions of DOC-sponsored programs and selected prison populations. The first report provides a profile of 165 inmates classified to and residing in the Departmental Segregation Unit (DSU) during 1983, including a description of the circumstances that resulted in their DSU classification and placement in segregation. The second study synthesizes descriptive trend data on recidivism for the years 1971 through 1983 and presents a summary statistical overview of the findings of DOC research on the effects of community reintegration on rates of recidivism.

The third section of the document covers research projects which were in progress in 1986 and scheduled for completion in 1987. The first of these is an evaluation of the MCI-Lancaster Visiting Cottage Program in which children can visit overnight with their incarcerated mothers in specially designated trailers. A second study of DSU inmates as well as an evaluation of DSU II at MCI-Norfolk will examine protective custody issues including the number of reported enemies, prior protective custody placements and attitudes/fears of inmates regarding protective custody and their resultant placement into segregation. A fourth study, an evaluation of MCI-Cedar Junction Substance Abuse Program Unit, will examine pre- and post-program institutional drug use of program completers, non-completers, non-admitted applicants, and a non-applicant comparison group. The

fifth project in progress is an evaluation of the Longwood Treatment Center, which examines the implementation of a correctional institution that provides alcohol treatment services to incarcerated repeat drunk driving offenders.

In 1986, the Research Division began five new studies. The first is a Systems Analysis and Outcome Evaluation of the Massachusetts Correctional Industries Program. The second project is a Survey of Research and Evaluation Priorities of DOC Central Office Administrators and Institutional Administrators. Third, the Division has undertaken an evaluation of the Classification and Program Agreements System at MCI-Concord. A fourth project is an outcome evaluation of the Western Massachusetts Correctional Alcohol Center. Fifth, the Research Division began an evaluation of the Norfolk Fellowship Program which brings inmates and members of the local community together to discuss a wide range of issues in a group setting.

Two statistical studies were in progress in 1986. The first is a statistical description of disciplinary reports issued in 1984 including information on: reporting institution, offense, finding, sanction and characteristics of the offenders incurring the reports. The second study is an examination of client movement between Massachusetts mental health and Massachusetts correctional institutions among a population of incarcerated adult women from 1970 to 1980.

Information in each of the annual reports is institution-specific; that is, the data are reported by the institution where the population is a resident, released from, or admitted to. Consequently, information on commitments, counts, and movements is available for the entire correctional system as well as individual institutions.

In addition to the annual report, the Research Division also produces quarterly reports on the status of prison overcrowding, and monthly statistical

reports on admissions to and releases from the Department of Correction which includes information on participation in some inmate programs (furloughs, state hospital, work release).

Copies of the full reports and studies may be obtained by writing to:

**Research Division - 21st Floor
Massachusetts Department of Correction
State Office Building
100 Cambridge Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02202**

I. ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORTS

A Statistical Description Of Residents Of The Massachusetts Correctional Institutions On January 1, 1986

294

April 1986

Linda K. Holt

This report is a statistical description of the 5,390 residents in Department of Correction (DOC) facilities on January 1, 1986. The report does not include information of certain categories of offenders: individuals at Bridgewater State Hospital Addiction Center or Treatment Center (N=1,083); individuals who were sentenced to the DOC and were confined in Houses of Correction on January 1, 1986 awaiting transfer to DOC facilities (N=2); DOC offenders who were in the custody of a federal prison, another state or a House of Correction on January 1, 1986 (N=183); individuals in the custody of the DOC on a detention status (such as women in the ATU (N=63), Charles Street inmates housed at MCI-Concord, and inmates on 15 days Parole Board detainers); or individuals received as civil commitments. This report does contain information on House of Correction, federal and out-of-state inmates in the custody of the Department of January 1, 1986. This report also contains information on inmates at Longwood Treatment Center, a specialized facility for offenders committed for operating under the influence of alcohol (OUI).

This point in time profile contains information on present offense, personal background, criminal history and furlough program participation. This report contains information on two maximum security facilities, MCI-Cedar Junction (formerly MCI-Walpole), and Lemuel Shattuck (a hospital facility); five medium security facilities, MCI-Concord, MCI-Framingham, MCI-Norfolk, NCCI, and SECC; three minimum security facilities, Bay State C.C., Medfield Prison Project, and NCC; six minimim/pre-release facilities, MCI-Plymouth, MCI-Warwick, MCI-Shirley, MCI-Lancaster, Longwood Treatment Center and Hodder House (part of MCI-Framingham); four state pre-release facilities, Park Drive PRC, Norfolk PRC, South Middlesex PRC, and Boston State PRC; and eight contract pre-release facilities, McGrath House (formerly 577 House), Brooke House, Coolidge House, Coolidge II, Temporary Housing Program, Charlotte House, Hillside PRC and Meridian House. The tables were derived from the Correctional and Parole Management Information System (CAPMIS) and were produced by the Research Division on the Regent's Computer Network (RCN).

**Court Commitments to
Massachusetts County Facilities
During 1985**

295

May 1986

Linda K. Holt

This report provides a statistical description of the 9,511 offenders committed by the courts to Massachusetts county facilities (jail or house of correction) during 1985. The report presents information on institution committed to, court committed from, month of commitment, offense, sentence length, sentence type, age, sex, race, marital status, education, place of birth and residence.

Some highlights of the statistics presented in this report are:

- In 1985 there were 9,511 commitments to county facilities. This represents an increase of 114 (one percent) over the number of commitments in 1984.
- The most common offense for which offenders were committed were Operating Under the Influence (O.U.I.) (22 percent), motor vehicle violations (13 percent), and burglary (10 percent).
- The median sentence length was two months. Eleven percent were committed in lieu of payment of a fine. Four percent were serving week-end sentences.
- The median age of offenders committed to county facilities was 26 years.
- Eighty percent of the offenders were white, 14 percent were black and 6 percent were hispanic or other races.
- The median educational level was eleventh grade.
- Seventy percent of the offenders were single, 18 percent were married and 12 percent were separated, divorced or widowed.
- Seventy-one percent were born in Massachusetts, 19 percent were born in other states, 6 percent were born in U.S. territories and 4 percent were foreign-born.

**1985 Court Commitments to
Massachusetts County Facilities
for Operating Under the Influence
of Alcohol**

296

May 1986

Linda K. Holt

This report presents a statistical description of individuals committed by the courts to a county correctional facility in Massachusetts for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol (O.U.I.) during 1985. This report also presents some information on trends in commitments for this offense and some comparative information on the O.U.I. population and county offenders committed for other offenses. Some highlights of the information contained in this report are:

- In 1985 there were 2,118 offenders committed to county facilities for O.U.I. This is an increase of 112 (6 percent) over the 2,006 commitments for O.U.I. in 1984.
- The median sentence length for O.U.I. commitments was 2 months. This is twice the median sentence length of 1984 commitments (1 month). This is more than six times the median sentence length of those committed in 1983 (10 days).
- The 2,118 commitments for O.U.I. represent 22 percent of all offenders committed to the counties in 1985. This is similar to 1984 when 21 percent of all commitments were for O.U.I.
- Commitments for O.U.I. varied by county. Commitments ranged from 9 in Dukes county to 517 in Middlesex county. Commitments ranged from 9 percent of all commitments in Suffolk county to 34 percent of all commitments in Norfolk county.
- The typical offender committed for O.U.I. in 1985 was white, 28 years old, male, single and a high school graduate.

1985 Annual Statistical Report of the Furlough Program

298

July 1986

Patricia Tobin, Ph.D.

The furlough program has been in operation in the Massachusetts Department of Correction since November 6, 1972. A total of 106,378 furloughs have been granted between the inception of the program and December 31, 1985. During that period, 634 of those furloughs resulted in escapes (a resident failing to return to his/her correctional facility within two hours and the appointed time of return), thus yielding an overall furlough escape rate of 0.6 percent or 6 escapes per 1,000 furloughs granted. The present report contains a statistical description of the number, distribution and outcomes of furloughs for the year 1985 as well as a trend analysis of furloughs since the inception of the program in 1972.

From January 1, 1985 to December 31, 1985, a total of 9,492 furloughs were granted. The number of individuals receiving furloughs in 1985 was 1,621. For every 1,000 furloughs granted in 1985 two ended in escape. Eighteen individuals -- about one percent of the inmates furloughed -- were declared on furlough escape during that period.

From the inception of the furlough program through 1982 there was a gradual decline in the number of furloughs granted, the number of offenders furloughed, and the percentage of the released population participating in the furlough program prior to release. The escape rate showed a parallel decline during this period. However, starting in 1983 and extending into 1985, the number of furloughs granted and the number of individuals furloughed increased, while the trends in the percentage of the released population furloughed and the escape rate continued to decline. The decline in the proportion participating in the furlough program prior to release was attributed to the increasing number of women and other offenders with short sentences in the released population. The decline in escapes was related to a relatively recent change in the type of furlough granted at secure institutions, (i.e., in recent years furloughs from secure institutions were less likely to be unescorted than in the past, thereby reducing the opportunity for escape).

**A Statistical Description of Releases From
Massachusetts Correctional Institutions
During 1985**

299

July 1986

Linda K. Holt

This report presents a statistical description of the 2,331 offenders released to the street from Massachusetts correctional institutions during 1985. This report also presents some information on trends among releases over the last six years. Some highlights of the information included in this report are:

- The 2,331 releases in 1985 represent an increase of 206 (10 percent) over 1984 releases and an increase of 1,316 (130 percent) over 1980 releases.
- Sixty-percent were released by parole, 24 percent were discharged and 15 percent were released by expiration of sentence.
- Fifty-nine percent were released from secure facilities and 41 percent were released from lower security facilities. Many of those released from secure facilities were females or parole violators.
- The average time served was 58.5 months for individuals serving Cedar Junction sentences, 23.0 months for individuals serving Concord sentences, and 4.4 months for individuals serving Framingham sentences.

**1985 Court Commitments to the
Massachusetts Department of Correction**

300

July 1986

Dallas H. Miller

This report is a statistical description of the 2,409 individuals committed by the courts to a term of incarceration in the Massachusetts Department of Correction during the year 1985. The tables in this report contain information on the nature of present offense, personal background characteristics and criminal history of these individuals. Some highlights of the statistics presented in this report are:

- There was an 9 percent increase in the number of commitments during the year, from 2,202 in 1984 to 2,409 in 1985. This is a similar increase to that which occurred in 1984 (8 percent) and continues a period of growth in court commitments. The 2,409 commitments in 1985 represents the highest level of commitments in DOC history.
- There were 993 commitments to Cedar Junction (20 percent higher than 1984), 617 commitments to Concord (a slight drop from 1984) and 799 commitments to Framingham (9 percent higher than 1984).
- Males are committed to Cedar Junction or Concord while females are committed to Framingham. Overall, there was a 10 percent increase in male commitments and a 9 percent increase in female commitments from 1984 to 1985.
- The median minimum sentence for Cedar Junction commitments was five years; the median maximum sentence for Concord commitments was ten years; and the median maximum sentence for Framingham commitments was less than 1 year. Sentence lengths for new court commitments were similar in 1984 and 1985 for Concord and Framingham commitments, but the median for Cedar Junction commitments declined from six to five years.
- Violent offenses (person and sex) accounted for 62 percent of all male commitments and 11 percent of all female commitments. Non-violent offenses (property, drug and "other") represented 89 percent of all female commitments and 38 percent of all male commitments. Armed robbery was the single most common offense. The largest increases in commitments from 1984 to 1985 were in categories of drug offenses (98 more in 1985 than 1984) and sex offenses (84 more in 1985 than 1984).
- The median age at commitment was 26.8 years, slightly higher than in 1984 (26.3 years).
- Sixty-one percent of the commitment population were whites; 65 percent were single; 11 percent had been in the military; 48 percent came from the Boston SMSA; most had limited work experience concentrated in the areas of manual labor and services; the median educational level was

eleventh grade; and 23 percent has a self-reported history of drug use.

- Fifty-six percent were serving their first adult incarceration. The median age at first court appearance was seventeen.

**Population Movements In The Massachusetts
Department of Correction During 1985**

301

August 1986

Lisa Lorant

The Department of Correction routinely monitors population movement in the state correctional system. This report assesses population change and summarizes all movement of offenders in DOC custody during the calendar year of 1985. The information is presented according to the institution of admission or release and includes the following: new court commitments, paroles, returns on parole violation, discharges, escapes, deaths, transfers to other correctional facilities both within the state and outside the state, and temporary releases to hospitals and courts.

During 1985 there were 14,590 admissions of all types and 14,143 releases. Overall, the state prison population increased by nine percent between 1984 and 1985.

Some of the largest increases in admissions occurred among DOC inmates returned from houses of correction (85%), county inmates transferred to the DOC from houses of correction (34%), returned on parole violations (28%), and new court commitments (9%). Among releases, there was a 49% increase during 1985 in inmates transferred to houses of correction, and a 46% increase in DOC inmates discharged to the street.

**Statistical Tables Describing The Background Characteristics And
Recidivism Rates For Releases From Massachusetts
Correctional Institutions
During 1984**

302

December 1986

Lisa Lorant

This report is the first of two reports on recidivism rates of offenders released from Department of Correction facilities during 1984. Some highlights from this report are:

- The recidivism rate in 1984 was 25%. This is higher than the rates for 1983 (21%) and 1982 (23%).
- The increase in recidivism rates occurred at the same time that the number of releases increased, from 1,221 in 1982; to 1,726 in 1983; and 1,888 in 1984.
- The recidivism rate varied by security level of the institution from which the offender was released: 37% for maximum, 31% for medium, 20% for minimum, 19% for minimum/pre-release, 16% for state pre-release and 14% for contract pre-release.
- The recidivism rate for males was 24%, an increase from the 1983 figure of 20% and the rate for females was 29% an increase from last year's figure of 26%.
- Among males, the recidivism rate was 24% for those serving a Walpole sentence (compared to 18% for 1983) and 24% for those serving a Concord sentence (compared to 21% for 1983).
- The recidivism rate for offenders with no furloughs prior to release was 31% and the recidivism rate for individuals with furloughs prior to release was 12%.
- The increase in the recidivism rate from 1983 to 1984 was greatest for releases from maximum security (28% vs. 37%) and medium security (27% vs. 31%).
- Recidivists were returned for a variety of reasons: 21% for technical parole violations, 47% for a parole violation involving a new arrest, and 32% for re-incarceration on a new offense.
- Offenders who were paroled had higher recidivism rates (27%) than those who were discharged (18%).

Appendix to Report 302:

Statistical Tables Describing The Background Characteristics And Recidivism Rates For Releases From Massachusetts Pre-Release Facilities During 1984

303

December 1986

Lisa Lorant

This report presents a statistical description of offenders released to the street from Massachusetts facilities with a pre-release component during 1984 with corresponding recidivism rates. The report presents statistics for state pre-release facilities (MCI-Shirley, MCI-Lancaster, Boston State PRC, South Middlesex PRC, Park Drive PRC, and Norfolk PRC), three drug rehabilitation programs (Meridian House, Spectrum House and Boston VA Hospital), and seven contract pre-release facilities (Brooke House, Coolidge House, Coolidge II, Temporary Housing Program, McGrath House, Charlotte House and Hillside). For purposes of this report, the Massachusetts Correctional Institutions are collapsed into the "non-pre-release" category. Statistics for the maximum security facility (MCI-Cedar Junction), medium security facilities (MCI-Concord, MCI-Norfolk, MCI-Framingham, SECC and NCCI), and minimum security facilities (MCI-Plymouth, MCI-Warwick, Bay State C.C. and N.C.C.) are presented in another report (# 302), along with a description of the recidivism data. Four institutions actually combine minimum and pre-release. In order to be consistent with past recidivism reports, MCI-Plymouth and MCI-Warwick are considered minimum, and MCI-Shirley and MCI-Lancaster are considered pre-release. A total of 1,888 offenders (1,445 males and 443 females) were released from the correctional facilities listed above. The follow-up period is one year from the date of the offender's release to the community. A recidivist is defined as any offender who returns to a state or federal correctional institution, or to a house of correction or jail during the follow-up period for 30 days or more. This includes parole violators as well as those offenders sentenced for new crimes.

Information contained in this report includes recidivism rates with regard to release variables, nature of present offense, personal background, criminal history, furlough participation, and release follow-up variables. Each table contains two types of information: 1) statistical data describing characteristics of offenders released from each institution during 1984; and 2) the rates of recidivism cross-tabulated with each of the categories of the statistical data for these offenders. This report consists solely of statistical tables.

**Statistical Bulletin on Escapes For 1985:
A Profile of Escapes and Returns From
Escape During 1985 and Individuals on
Escape Status on December 31, 1985**

304

December 1986

Linda K. Holt

This statistical bulletin presents information on escapes and returns from escape that occurred during 1985. The bulletin contains a description of the escapes and returns including: institution and security level from which the escape occurred, type of escape, current status of the escape, length of time at large, and characteristics of the individuals escaping. Some highlights of the information contained in this report are:

- During 1985 there were 284 escapes and 279 returns from escapes, an increase of 50 escapes and 3 returns from the previous year.
- The escape rate in 1985 was 3.4. The escape rate is lower than nine of the preceeding ten years.
- Almost all escapes occur from lower security facilities and are walk-aways from those facilities or failures to return from release programs such as furloughs or work release. In 1985 there were only 6 escapes from medium security and most secure facilities had no escapes at all.
- Most escapes occur in the summer months. In 1985, 32 percent of all escapes occurred in June, July or August.
- Most escapes are resolved quickly. Eighty-four percent of all 1985 escapees were returned to the DOC or known to be in the custody of another correctional agency at the end of the year. Sixty-two percent of those returned were returned within one week of escape.
- In contrast with other offenders in lower security institutions, escapees are younger and are more likely to be incarcerated for property offenses and to be serving Concord sentences.
- At the end of the year there were 94 individuals at large from the DOC.

II. EVALUATIVE AND DESCRIPTIVE STUDIES

Inmates In The Departmental Segregation Unit

293

March 1986

Ann Marie Rocheleau

This report is the first in a series of three that focuses on inmates classified to the Departmental Segregation Unit (DSU). This report deals specifically with the 165 inmates classified to and residing in DSU during 1983. The main purpose of this report is to outline the circumstances that resulted in their DSU classification and describe their placement in segregation. The report also provides a profile of these DSU inmates and describes where they were in terms of their incarceration in order to put their disciplinary problems into perspective.

Almost all of the inmates in this study encountered their disciplinary problems at MCI-Cedar Junction. The majority were referred for DSU classification as a result of being found guilty of a very serious disciplinary report. The two most frequent single offenses for which inmates ended up being classified DSU were staff assaults and participation in a riot. When broken into four categories, the frequency of DSU offenses were as follows: offenses against other inmates (35%), offenses against staff (30%), participation in a riot (23%) and all other offenses (12%).

Inmates with prior disciplinary reports (D-reports) for assault on staff were highly likely to have their DSU offense be an assault on staff. Similarly inmates with prior riot D-reports were most likely classified DSU for the same offense. This relationship did not hold true though for inmates with prior inmate assaults. There was also a statistical relationship between last housing unit and type of DSU offense. This is of particular interest since inmates are assigned to housing units based on their Quay scores.

One-hundred-ten of the 165 DSU inmates studied in this research had been released from DSU status by the end of the data collection. The average time spent in segregation was 8.6 months. These inmates were most often released to Cedar Junction's Essex units, DSU II at Norfolk or one of the other Cedar Junction units. Twelve inmates were released from DSU status to the street -- one by parole and one by court. Of the 55 inmates still classified DSU by the end of this study, twenty-one were relatively recent arrivals. The remaining inmates were either serving long DSU sentences for serious offenses or were being retained in DSU as a result of disruption and discipline problems in segregation.

**The Effect of Community Reintegration on Rates
of Recidivism: A Statistical Overview of
Data for the Years 1971 Through 1983**

297

March 1986

Daniel P. LeClair

This report attempts to draw together data generated from the recidivism studies of the past 13 years and to present a summary statistical overview of the findings. The annual statistical monitoring of recidivism data since the year 1971 has led to the detection of a number of significant trends occurring within the Massachusetts correctional system. Dominant among these trends was the occurrence of a systematic reduction in the recidivism rates from 1971 through to 1978. For example, in the year 1971, the recidivism rate for the combined population of state prison releases was 25%; in 1973 it had dropped to 19%; and in 1976 it had dropped to 16%. By 1977, the recidivism rate was 15%. Later data, however, revealed that a reversal had occurred in this historical trend. The 1979 and 1980 releasee populations represented the first statistically significant increase in recidivism rates in a nine year period. However, 1981 through 1983 data have shown a modest but consistent drop in recidivism rates.

A second major trend concerned the home furlough program in the Massachusetts correctional system, a program begun in and expanded subsequent to the year 1971. Recidivism studies demonstrated that inmate participation in the furlough program may be an important variable in accounting for the systematic reduction in recidivism rates occurring in Massachusetts. The data revealed that those individuals who had experienced a furlough prior to release from prison had significantly lower rates of recidivism than did individuals who had not experienced a furlough prior to release. When selection factors were controlled, the relationship remained positive. This trend continued in a consistent pattern for the eleven successive years for which data were available.

Recidivism studies have also revealed that participation in pre-release programs prior to community release leads to reduced rates of recidivism. Again, when selection factors were controlled the relationship remained constant.

A final documented trend that emerged from the recidivism studies focused on the process of graduated movement among institutions in descending level of security and size. Analyses revealed that individuals released to the street directly from medium or minimum security institutions (including pre-release centers and halfway houses) had significantly lower rates of recidivism than did individuals released directly from a maximum security institution. Again, this relationship held even when selection factors were controlled.

When follow-up periods were extended from one to two and then to five years, the above findings with respect to furloughs, pre-release centers, and security level of releasing institution remained constant.

The major findings of the research were collectively interpreted as tentative evidence of a positive effect of the reintegrative community-based correctional programming. That is, correctional programs operating in the Massachusetts system which are geared to maintain, to establish, or to reestablish general societal links such as family, economic, political, and social roles may be associated with a subsequent reduction in recidivism. Also associated with the reduction in recidivism is the graduated societal reintroduction of the offender. This is accomplished through a series of movements among institutions in descending levels of security and size along with the awarding of increased increments of community contacts through participation in furloughs, education release, and work release programs.

The above conclusions hold through the documented trend of increased recidivism and the more recent drop in the rates. Despite the fluctuations in overall recidivism, participation in reintegration programs remains associated with lower rates of recidivism.

III. RESEARCH IN PROGRESS IN 1986

Evaluation of the Lancaster Visiting Cottage Program

Ann Marie Rocheleau

The Lancaster Visiting Cottage Program is a program whereby children can visit overnight with their incarcerated mothers in three-bedroom trailers located on site at MCI-Lancaster, a minimum and pre-release facility. The objectives of the research are to: 1) provide feedback to program staff and the program's Advisory Board throughout the first year; 2) monitor participation; and, 3) gather data on the perceptions of program impact. These and other data were gathered through interviews with the inmate mothers, caretakers, and Lancaster staff, as well as through the implementation of several monitoring devices, including an intake visit sheet, and a visit log. The final report is expected to be ready for distribution in the Spring of 1987.

An Analysis of the Inmates in the Departmental Segregation Unit

Ann Marie Rocheleau

The Department of Correction (DOC) operates the Departmental Segregation Unit (DSU) which houses inmates who have been deemed to pose a substantial threat to the safety of others or to the institution itself. The current study is a further analysis of the data used in a companion report entitled, "Inmates in the Departmental Segregation Unit" (1986). The current report will compare the inmates classified to the DSU during 1983 with inmates residing at MCI-Cedar Junction and the total DOC population at that time. It will also include an analysis of the heterogeneity of the DSU population and its implications for programming. Finally, comparisons will be made between the 1983 and 1986 DSU populations in order to measure any shifts in the DSU population.

Evaluation of DSU II

Ann Marie Rocheleau

The Departmental Segregation Unit, Phase II at MCI-Norfolk (DSU II) is a program-oriented segregation unit designed to reintegrate segregation inmates into the general inmate population. This evaluation focuses on the first two years of the unit, monitoring the inmates who went into the unit and their subsequent release to either the general population or back to DSU I. A comparison of DSU II completers and non-completers will be made. This evaluation will also examine the effects of the unit on the total number of DSU inmates and on DSU recidivism.

Evaluation of Substance Abuse Programming at MCI-Cedar Junction

Ann Marie Rocheleau

The focus of this evaluation is two-fold. The first is to present a detailed description of all the substance abuse programming at MCI-Cedar Junction in Walpole. The description will include an examination of the target and actual populations, the program activities and the people and circumstances that affect the programs. The main focus, however, is on the Program Unit for Substance Abusers which opened in 1984. Inmates who apply and are screened to reside in this unit must agree to a classification contract which outlines program requirements and designates transfer to lower security after a specified period of time. In addition to the detailed description of this unit, an impact evaluation was conducted. This part of the evaluation will examine the impact of the Program Unit on the long-term abstinence of Program Unit completers. A before and after comparison was made among four groups: Program Unit completers, non-completers, applicants, and a control group of inmates who have been identified as substance abusers.

An Evaluation of the Longwood Treatment Center

Daniel P. LeClair and Lynn Felici

In March 1985, the Department of Correction embarked on a mission unique to corrections with the opening of the Longwood Treatment Center, the state's first minimum security prison designed exclusively for the treatment of multiple offenders of Massachusetts' Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUI) statutes.

Coterminous with the opening of Longwood, a process evaluation was begun by the Research Division with the intention of evaluating program implementation, gauging program effectiveness, and providing feedback to a variety of program planners within the particular social system.

The present evaluation comprehensively portrays the Longwood program from its inception to its present operation by examining its historical foundation, the philosophy and goals of the program, the demographic characteristics, social and criminal history of the OUI offenders served there, the treatment process from a resident's admission to release, and the aftercare component of the program. Further, the report will highlight the impact of the program on the post-release adjustment of Longwood graduates, looking at both arrests incurred by releases subsequent to discharge and the post-Longwood drinking behaviors of the program completers. Finally, the report will highlight some of the most salient observations made by researchers in reference to program strengths and limitations, as well as discuss the feasibility of a future formal long term follow up.

**Massachusetts Correctional Industries: Descriptive
Systems Analysis and Progress - Outcome Evaluation
With Organizational Development Recommendations**

Winifred Gayle Allen

A precursor of Prison Industries dated back to 1656 when the Massachusetts Bay Colony required inmates to perform manual labor. More recently, the 1972 Correction Reform Act (GL 777) directed the Commissioner of Correction to establish Industries vocational programs based on inmate training needs. The Act also repealed the 1898 State Use Law (GL 127), thus permitting the sale of prison produced goods & services to non-governmental markets.

A 1987 preliminary review of Department of Correction/Massachusetts Correctional Industries (DOC/MCI) program - related documents indicates that the Industries program has planned and is working toward the attainment of its inmate training, manufacturing productivity, and market objectives. A need has therefore emerged for a research study which evaluates the program's progress and outcomes.

The proposed research will have three objectives. Objective one is to conduct a social systems analysis of the relationship between the DOC and MCI. This will involve a small sample interview exploration of DOC organizational functions and MCI operations. The sample will be the DOC/MCI middle management strata, which are indirectly or directly involved in Industries program implementation. Objective two is to evaluate Industries progress and outcomes. This will involve a larger sample, perhaps including inmates. A check-off questionnaire, based on management concerns identified during the first exploratory stage, will be the data collection method. The third objective is to present executive report-formatted recommendations from an organizational development perspective and reflecting a range of concerns. Data analysis methods used during the study may be both qualitative or quantitative depending upon the nature of the data.

**Survey of Research and Evaluation
Priorities of DOC Central Office Administrators
and Institutional Administrators**

Michael W. Forcier

The Department of Correction's (DOC) Strategic Plan outlines DOC goals and corresponding strategic objectives including "results which are capable of being evaluated, measured, and monitored". In recognition of this, the DOC Research Division will undertake a Survey of DOC Central Office Administrators and Institutional Superintendents in order to obtain their perceptions of research needs and priorities. The need for this survey stems from an increased interest in research and evaluation, and recognition of the potential role of research to inform policy and program development, institutional operations and management, while also being of benefit to the outside community. The information obtained from this survey will be used to help the Research Division prioritize research projects, incorporate the necessary information into the Division's data-base, and plan for personnel. The survey is scheduled for completion by March 15, 1987.

The survey will be administered in person in a semi-structured interview format by the Deputy Director of Research. Two different types of respondents will be interviewed: 1) DOC Central Office Administrators; (Executive Staff and Division Directors) and, 2) Institutional Superintendents. Site visits will be made to each of the institutions for purposes of conducting interviews. Interviews with Central Office Administrators will be conducted at the DOC Central office.

Evaluation Of The Classification And Program Agreements System

Michael W. Forcier

This study will evaluate the Classification and Program Agreements (CAPA) system, the DOC classification program in which an inmate has the option to sign a written document, or CAPA, which indicates his/her program needs, the actions to be taken to address those needs, the institution where the sentence will be served, and the transfer schedule according to which the inmate will be moved through the system, from higher to lower levels of security, contingent upon their adherence to the conditions specified in the CAPA. Inmates who abide by the CAPA by participating in designated program areas and adhering to special conditions such as remaining free of disciplinary reports, are to be transferred to reduced security levels according to a standard movement chronology.

The objectives of this evaluation will be to: 1) determine if inmates signing the CAPA adhere to its conditions and are moved through the system according to the standard movement chronology; 2) compare the extent of program participation of inmates who sign the CAPA versus those who choose not to sign a CAPA; 3) compare the disciplinary histories of inmates who sign a CAPA versus those who do not sign a CAPA; 4) compare the movement patterns of CAPA versus non-CAPA inmates; and, 5) compare returns to higher custody of CAPA versus non-CAPA inmates.

The study will focus on MCI-Concord, the DOC reception and diagnostic center, where initial classification and reclassification is conducted. The study is scheduled to begin in July 1987.

Outcome Evaluation of the Western Massachusetts Correctional Alcohol Center

Michael W. Forcier

This outcome evaluation will consist of a follow-up of alcohol-involved offenders released from the Western Massachusetts Correctional Alcohol Center and a program cost analysis. The research will focus on what happens to clients once they leave the program and factors that impact post-release behavior.

The follow-up analysis will entail assessment of whether clients remain crime free over a certain period of time, their post-release drinking behavior, and community adjustment. Standard measures and data collection techniques will be used to collect recidivism data for the released population. The program cost analysis will be based upon a review of expenditure records, budgets and contracts.

The study is scheduled to begin in July 1987.

Norfolk Fellowship Impact Model and Program Evaluation

Winifred Gayle Allen

The Norfolk Fellowship, a voluntary non-profit inmate support program, was started in 1957 at MCI-Norfolk by Reverend Robert L. Dulton. Its major objectives are to foster inmate self worth via involvement with diverse community-member volunteers, and to reduce recidivism. The non-sectarian Norfolk Fellowship Foundation (NFF) was incorporated in 1963, and its program of discussion group meetings occurs at 6 prison locations - MCI-Norfolk, Bay State Correctional Center, Northeastern Correctional Center, MCI-Cedar Junction, MCI-Lancaster, and the Medfield Prison project. Although mostly privately funded, NFF now has a service contract with MCI-Cedar Junction.

Past studies of the NFF program have been conducted by the DOC Research Division - in 1968, 1969, and 1975, and the Fellowship administration recently requested an updated evaluation. Earlier investigations have emphasized program participant background and historical attributes, e.g., age or marital status, as they influenced recidivism. The objective of the presently proposed study is to expand previous investigations by specifying and then evaluating a more program-oriented impact model, consisting of the multiple variable influences of attributes, program experiences, and self and other perceptions on recidivism. Looking at the influence of multiple variables on recidivism outcomes in a single analysis model will perhaps allow NFF administration to better target its participants and fine tune its program activities.

Data collection methods, depending upon feasibility, will include questionnaires, self and other esteem inventories, and reviews of DOC/Fellowship inmate database information. Analysis methods will most likely involve the use of one or more multivariate statistical procedures, the selection of which will be determined by the data distribution.

**Disciplinary Reports Issued In The
Massachusetts Department Of Correction,
1984**

February 1987

Linda K. Holt

During 1984 there were 15,291 disciplinary reports written involving 3,949 different individuals. This bulletin contains a statistical description of these disciplinary reports including: reporting institution, offense, finding, sanction and characteristics of the offenders incurring the reports. Some highlights of the findings in this bulletin are:

- The number of disciplinary reports written in 1984 ranged from 26 at the Medfield Prison Project to 5,741 at Cedar Junction. Three facilities, (Cedar Junction, Norfolk and Framingham) accounted for 69 percent of all reports.
- Over half of the individuals in the DOC during 1984 incurred one or more disciplinary reports. The number of disciplinary reports incurred ranged from one to seventy-seven. The median number of reports incurred (for offenders with at least one disciplinary report) was two.
- Seventy-one percent of the disciplinary reports were classified as major and 29 percent as minor.
- Of the 31 offenses involved in disciplinary reports, the three most frequently cited were: number 2, violating rules; number 1, disobeying, lying or insolence; and number 8, disrupting order.
- Seventy percent of all disciplinary reports resulted in a guilty finding.
- The most common sanctions imposed were isolation time, extra work and room restriction.
- Eighty-four percent of all sanctions were invoked, 15 percent were suspended and 1 percent were handled in another way.
- Nine percent of all disciplinary report findings were appealed.

**Transinstitutionalization in the Human Service Sector:
An Examination of Female Population Movement
Between Mental Health and Correctional Institutions**

February 1987

**Linda K. Holt
Sara A. Mattes**

Correction officials in the United States have asserted that changes in the mental health system led to an increase in the number of mentally ill offenders being placed within the correctional system, a process that is referred to as transinstitutionalization. The purpose of the present study is to examine this assertion by considering client movement between Massachusetts mental health and Massachusetts correctional institutions among a population of incarcerated adult women from 1970 to 1980.

Results of the empirical analysis indicated that a substantial proportion of women entering the correctional system had prior in-patient placements in public mental health facilities. While there were significant differences in the proportion of women entering the correctional system with a history of placements in the mental health system in the three study years, these differences were not in the direction predicted by the original charge.

The empirical analysis also indicated that those women with prior placements in the mental health system were also likely to have prior placements in the correctional system, that women with a history of placement in the mental health system had criminal records that were very similar to offenders with no history of prior mental health placements, and that the patterns of prior placements in the mental health system was also lined to two charges in the criminal justice system that occurred during the study period (the decriminalization of the offenses of drunkenness and the centralization of the correctional system for female offenders in the state of Massachusetts).