Adult Probation

Data Set Overview and History

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Criminal Justice Statistics Center (CJSC) collects information on adults who are convicted in California courts and are placed under the supervision of a correctional system operated by local government. The Adult Probation (AP) data are submitted monthly by county probation agencies, and the file is used to produce gross counts that provide a statistical profile of the probation function for superior and lower courts by county, type of placement, reasons for removal from probation and the number of persons on supervision caseloads.

Statutory Authority

DOJ has the statutory authority to collect AP data pursuant to Penal Code section 13020.

Data Characteristics and Known Limitations

1. The AP file includes information about adults placed on supervised probation as of December 31st of each year. Data regarding court probation, diversion, and summary probation are not included in this data set.

2. Beginning and ending caseloads are included for each month for both felonies and misdemeanors. However, to match caseload counts published by CJSC, use the ENDING_CASELOAD fields for the month of December only.

3. AP data are limited to original grants of probation and do not include subsequent grants of probation to those already under supervised probation in the same county. Probationers are counted for each jurisdiction in which they are on probation. However, probationers with cases in multiple jurisdictions are counted more than one time in statewide totals.

4. "Other" includes transfers of jurisdiction from one county to another, death, sentence vacated, successful appeal, and deportation.

5. Statewide probation removal data from 2003 through 2007 may not match previously reported data due to programmatic adjustments made at the county level.

6. Significant Agency Notes:

    - In October 2018, the San Joaquin County Probation Department discovered that probation caseload data had historically been inaccurately reported. An assessment of their records resulted in a decrease of both felony and misdemeanor caseloads by approximately 6,000.

(Revised June 2024)

- In 2016, the Sacramento County Probation Department discovered that revoked and reinstated counts were not accurately reported in the data submitted for the reporting periods 2013-2015. Correcting the reporting practice resulted in a reduced beginning felony caseload for 2016.

- In 2014, the San Bernardino County Probation Department discovered inaccurate probation statistics due to a flaw in their Case Management Records system. Correcting the flaw resulted in a probation caseload decrease of 10,000 from previous years. 2014 Probation statistics for the San Bernardino County Probation Department are accurate, but should not be used in trending data against previous years.

- For 2013, Lake County Probation Department statistics are inconsistent due to problems with a new database.

- For 2013, Plumas County Probation Department statistics are inconsistent due to problems with their case management system.

- The Imperial County Probation Department did not report data for May through June 2009. During these months there were problems encountered by the department in converting from a manual report to an automated report generated from their new case management system.

- Counts for adults on active probation for felony offenses may also include adults on probation for misdemeanor offenses for the following counties and years: Contra Costa (2000-2023), Kern (2010-2023), Lake (2001-2012), Merced (2003-2016), Sacramento (2003-2015), Shasta (2016-2023), Siskiyou (2002-2012), Tulare (2000-2009), and Yolo (2000-2009).

- In 2009, the Santa Barbara County Probation Department discovered that counts for offenders added to probation through reinstatement were being underreported. Adjustments were made to their December report to correct the 2009 total. Although the problem was identified as occurring in 2007 and 2008, no adjustments were made for the prior years.

- As a result of a caseload audit, the Yolo County Probation Department made adjustments to its January 2007 beginning caseload counts.

- The Ventura County Probation Department made adjustments to its 2003 through 2005 data. Therefore, data for Ventura County and statewide will not match previously reported data.

- The San Francisco County Probation Department was unable to report for 2001 through 2005 because of computer program issues and budget cuts.

(Revised June 2024)

Data Elements and Values Defined

Cell Location	Data Element	Description/Definition	Value
A	YEAR	The Year in which the data was reported.	YYYY
B	COUNTY	The County in which the data was reported.	Alpha; California County names
C	MONTH	The Month in which the data was reported.	Alpha; Month names
D	FEL_BEGINNING_CASELOAD	The number of individuals on the felony probation caseload at the beginning of the reporting period (month).	Numerical count
E	FEL_REC_COURT	The number of felony probationers received from Court following a conviction during the reporting period.	Numerical count
F	FEL_REC_REINSTATED	The number of felony probationers whose probation status was reinstated by the Court during the reporting period.	Numerical count
G	FEL_REC_OTHER	The number of any other felony probationer received onto the caseload, not included in previous definitions, during the reporting period.	Numerical count
H	FEL_RMVD_TERMINATED	The number of felony probationers discharged from the caseload during the reporting period.	Numerical count
I	FEL_RMVD_REVOKED	The number of felony probationers whose probation was revoked during the reporting period.	Numerical count

J	FEL_RMVD_OTHER	The number of felony probationers removed from the caseload during the reporting period for other reasons not previously defined such as transfers, death, loss of jurisdiction, etc.	Numerical count
K	FEL_ENDING_CASELOAD	The number of individuals on the felony probation caseload at the end of the reporting period (month).	Numerical count
L	MISD_BEGINNING_CASELOAD	The number of individuals on the misdemeanor probation caseload at the beginning of the reporting period (month).	Numerical count
M	MISD _REC_COURT	The number of misdemeanor probationers received from Court following a conviction during the reporting period.	Numerical count
N	MISD _REC_REINSTATED	The number of misdemeanor probationers whose probation status was reinstated by the Court during the reporting period.	Numerical count
O	MISD _REC_OTHER	The number of any other misdemeanor probationer received on the caseload, not included in previous definitions, during the reporting period.	Numerical count
P	MISD _RMVD_TERMINATED	The number of misdemeanor probationers discharged from the caseload during the reporting period.	Numerical count
Q	MISD _RMVD_REVOKED	The number of misdemeanor probationers whose probation was	Numerical count

		revoked during the reporting period.	
R	MISD _RMVD_OTHER	The number of misdemeanor probationers removed from the caseload during the reporting period for other reasons not previously defined such as transfers, death, loss of jurisdiction, etc.	Numerical count
S	MISD _ENDING_CASELOAD	The number of individuals on the misdemeanor probation caseload at the end of the reporting period (month).	Numerical count
T	FEL_REC_TOTAL	The total number of felony probationers received onto the caseload during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells E, F, and G)
U	FEL_RMVD_TOTAL	The total number of felony probationers removed from the caseload during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells H, I, and J)
V	MISD_REC_TOTAL	The total number of misdemeanor probationers received onto the caseload during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells M, N, and O)
W	MISD_RMVD_TOTAL	The total number of misdemeanor probationers removed from the caseload during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells P, Q, and R)
X	ALL_RMVD_OTHER	The total number of all probationers removed from the caseload during the reporting period for reasons such as transfers, deaths, loss of jurisdiction, etc.	Numerical count (Sum cells J and R)
Y	ALL_RMVD_REVOKED	The total number of all probationers whose probation was revoked during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells I and Q)

Z	ALL_RMVD_TERM	The total number of all probationers who were discharged during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells H and P)
AA	ALL_RMVD_TOTAL	The total number of all probationers who were removed from the caseload during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells X, Y, and Z)
AB	ALL_REC_OTHER	The total number of all probationers who were received onto the caseload for other reasons not previously defined during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells G and O)
AC	ALL_REC_REINST	The total number of all probationers who had their probation reinstated by the Court during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells F and N)
AD	ALL_REC_COURT	The total number of all probationers who were received onto the caseload from Court following a conviction during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells E and M)
AE	ALL_REC_TOTAL	The total number of all probationers received onto the caseload during the reporting period.	Numerical count (Sum cells AB, AC, and AD)

(Revised June 2024)