

INMATE STUDY  
IDAHO STATE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION  
JANUARY, 1976

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ACQUISITIONS

Prepared by:

Idaho Law Enforcement Planning Commission  
Research Unit  
April 1, 1976

LS105

INMATE STUDY  
IDAHO STATE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION  
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PURPOSE:

During the two-week period, January 5-16, 1976, the Law Enforcement Planning Commission research staff conducted a survey of the records of all inmates at the Idaho Correctional Institution who had prior adult institutional incarcerations. The survey was initiated at the request of correctional administrative personnel to provide the following basic information on repeat offenders currently incarcerated at the Institution: 1) inmate's last parole date; 2) if parole was successfully completed; 3) length of time between parole completion and present incarceration; and 4) whether or not each inmate had previously been on probation. Staff also collected collateral information that could be used by LEPC for planning purposes. This information included: 1) prior incarcerations; 2) present and previous offenses; and 3) time served prior to last release.

Inmates' records researched totaled 262, which represented 45.6% of the total inmate population (575). Of these, 216 (37.6% of the prison population) were analyzed. Forty-six repeat offender cases were ultimately not included in the analysis, either because prior offenses were unavailable or unknown (38), the prisoners were escapees (6), or exceptions were involved (2), (refer to Table I, page 2).

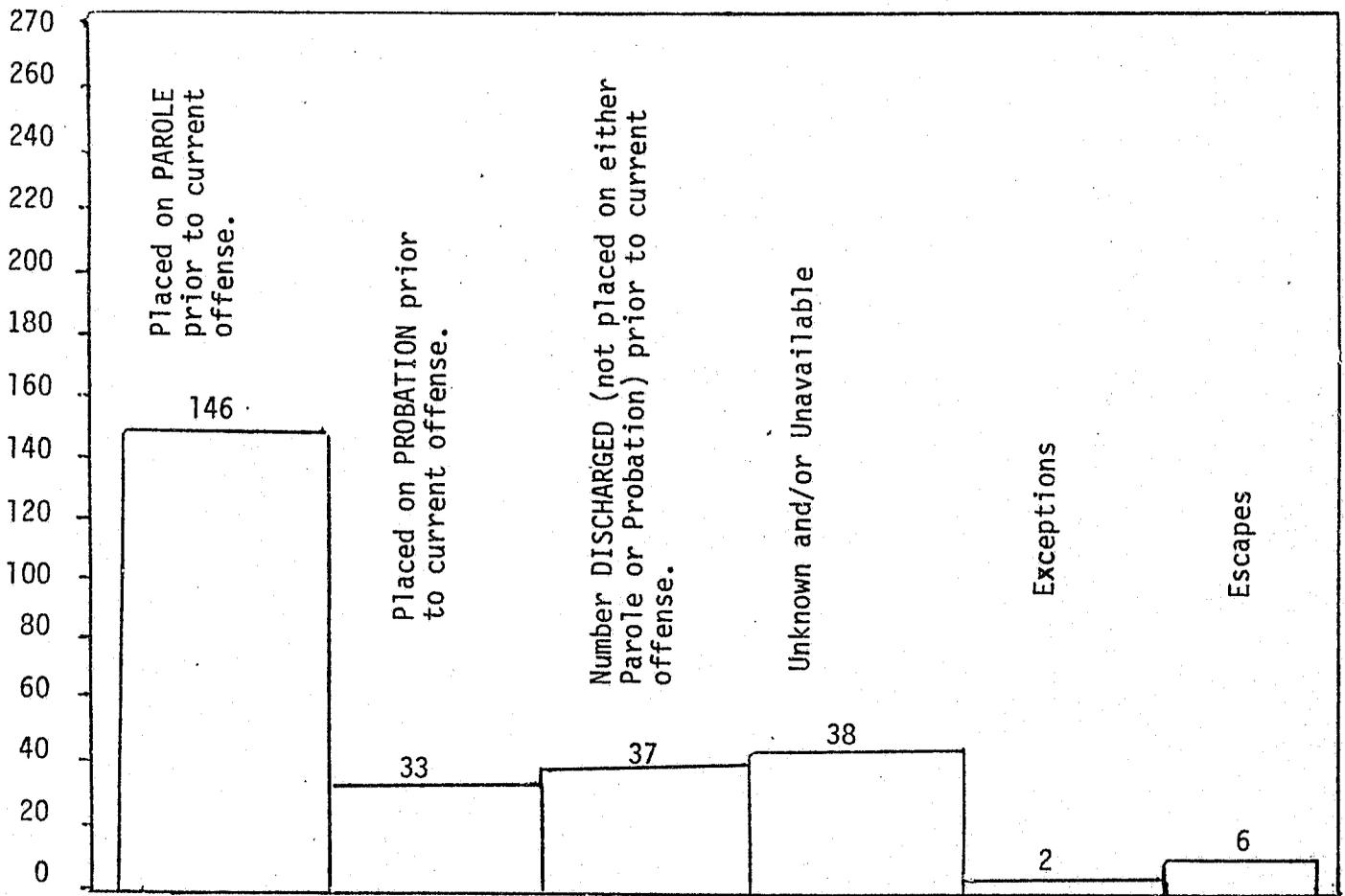
FINDINGS:

As shown in Table I, the records reviewed were coded into six categories, three of which were utilized for further analysis: 1) "Placed on parole prior to current offense" (18), 2) "Placed on probation prior to current offense" (33), and 3) "Number discharged prior to current offense"<sup>1</sup> (37). The three remaining categories, "Unknown or unavailable prior offense data" (38), "Exceptions" (2),

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<sup>1</sup>"Discharged" means that the inmate was not placed on parole or probation for his immediate prior incarceration. Subject served his sentence and was released.

TABLE I  
 INMATES (262) AT IDAHO CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION  
 WITH PRIOR INCARCERATIONS, AS OF  
 January 14, 1976



or "Escapes" (6), were eliminated for purposes of this study because of the following reasons: prior incarceration information was not readily available from the inmates' records; two exceptions portrayed extremes and would have biased the data; and those categorized as escapees had committed criminal acts while on escape, so there were no measurable time frames (i.e., parole to arrest, discharge to arrest, etc.). As a result, the 262 inmates' surveys were reduced to 216 for further analytical study.

The three categories on Table II, Page 4, show prior dispositions of the 216 cases analyzed. Of these, thirty-seven (17%) were discharged without parole from their immediate prior incarcerations before being institutionalized for their current offenses. Those inmates who were placed on parole prior to the offenses for which they were incarcerated at the time of the survey totaled 146, and represented 68% of the 216 cases analyzed. Of the 146 placed on parole, sixty-five successfully completed parole while eighty-one failed<sup>2</sup> parole.

There were thirty-three inmates placed on probation (120 days retained jurisdiction) prior to the offense for which they were incarcerated at the time of the survey (15%). Of that total, twenty-five failed probation and eight successfully completed their probation before becoming reinvolved with the System which resulted in their current incarceration.

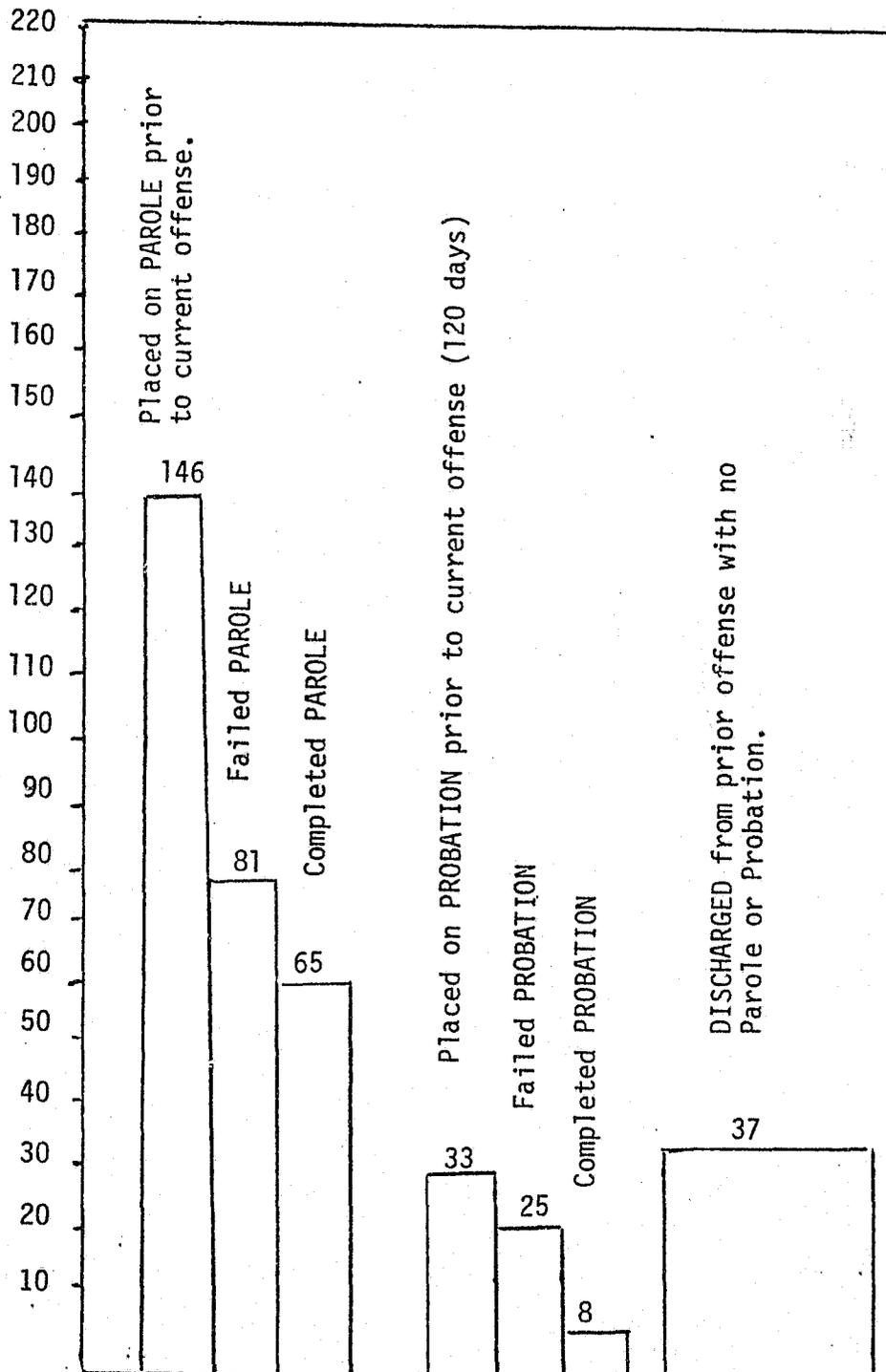
Of those inmates placed on either parole or probation for their prior offense, failures were proportionately higher than successes in both instances. There were 146 placed on parole; however, eighty-one, or 55%, failed. Of these thirty-three repeat offenders placed on probation for their prior offense, twenty-five, or 58%, of these failed while on probation.

Time frames for each of the three disposition placements and current offense(s) for which the individuals were incarcerated at the time of the study are presented on Table III, Page 5. It should be noted that in calculating these time frames the arrest date for the offense resulting in the individual's current incarceration was used in order to show when the individual became reinvolved with the System. Also, the median number of days was more representative than was the average number of days, as the median was not affected by extremes.

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<sup>2</sup>As used in this study, "failure" refers to the arrest for a charge serious enough to lead to another institutional commitment while still under supervision.

TABLE II  
 INMATES' (216) DISPOSITIONS FROM PRIOR INCARCERATIONS:  
 PAROLE, PROBATION OR DISCHARGE\*



\*37.6% of the prison population (575)

TABLE III

## I. PLACED ON PAROLE PRIOR TO CURRENT OFFENSE - 146

<u># Cases</u>		<u>AVERAGE</u>	<u>MINIMUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>	<u>MEDIAN</u>
65	Days between prison PAROLE release and arrest leading to present incarceration (SUCCESSFUL)	4 yrs. 7 mos. 22 da. (1,692 days)	1 yr. 1 da. (366 days)	20 yrs. 7 mo. 1 da. (7,511 days)	3 yr. 1 mo. 13 da. (1,138)
65	Days between PAROLE discharge and arrest leading to present incarceration (SUCCESSFUL)	2 yrs. 6 mo. 24 da. (934 days)	4 days	13 yrs. 1 mo. 5 da. (4,780 days)	1 yr. 3 mo. 17 da. (472 days)
81	Days from PAROLE placement to arrest date. (FAILED)	1 yr. 1 mo. 27 da. (422 days)	4 days	13 yrs. 22 days (4,767 days)	8 mo. 7 da. (247 days)

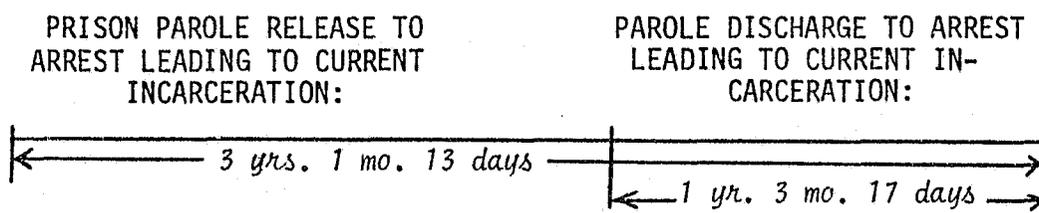
## II. PLACED ON PROBATION PRIOR TO CURRENT OFFENSE - 33

8	Days between probation discharge and arrest leading to current incarceration: (SUCCESSFUL)	2 yrs. 19 da. (749 days)	1 mo. 21 da. (51 days)	5 yrs. 9 mo. 24 da. (2,119 days)	1 yr. 10 mo. 27 da. (692 days)
25	Days between PROBATION placement and arrest leading to present incarceration. (FAILED)	8 mo. 11 da. (251 days)	35 days	1 yr. 10 mo. 16 da. (681 days)	6 mo. 9 da. (189 days)

## III. DISCHARGED FROM PRIOR OFFENSE WITH NO PAROLE OR PROBATION - 37

37	Days between discharge and arrest leading to current offense.	3 yrs. 7 mo. 15 da. (1,320 days)	57 days	16 yrs. 2 mo. 3 da. (5,903 days)	2 yrs. 5 mo. 10 da. (890 days)
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Of the 146 placed on parole prior to their current offenses, sixty-five successfully completed parole. This was further categorized into "Days between prison parole release and arrest leading to present incarceration", and "Days between parole discharge and arrest leading to present incarceration". The median of the two categories is illustrated below:



There were eighty-one cases where individuals were placed on parole but were unsuccessful or failed before parole was terminated. The median between being placed on parole and arrest leading to current incarceration was eight months, seven days.

Of the thirty-three inmates placed on probation, eight were successful and resulted in a median of one year, ten months, twenty-seven days between discharge from probation and arrest for current incarceration. There were twenty-five inmates placed on probation who ultimately failed, were arrested and incarcerated. The median for those failures was six months and nine days.

Of the thirty-seven inmates who were discharged from their prior incarcerations, the median portrayed was two years, five months, and ten days before they were arrested on the charge leading to their current incarcerations.

Of the sixty-five inmates successfully completing parole, the study revealed several instances where an individual was placed on parole prior to his current incarceration, violated, was reinstated on parole or reinstitutionalized for a time and then again paroled. Parole time for these inmates was measured from date of first release from prison.

Forty-six inmates completed parole with no violations recorded. Of this number, the average time spent on parole was one year, seven months and six days (581.26 days). Maximum time spent on parole was six years, five months and twelve days (2,352 days), with a minimum of eighty-six days. Here again, the median of one year, one month and twenty-five days portrays a more representative picture.

COLLATERAL INFORMATION:

Prior Incarcerations:

The number of incarcerations prior to current incarceration is depicted in Table IV, below. Of the 216 cases reviewed, 130 were recorded as having one prior adult incarceration (60%). There were seventy-one (33%) with two to four priors, and twelve (6%) with five to seven priors. One inmate had nine priors and two inmates had ten prior adult incarcerations. In addition, eighty-eight (41%) of the 216 inmates had previous juvenile institutional records. Of the total, eighty-six (39.8%) had their immediate prior incarcerations in a state other than Idaho, while 130 (60.2%) had an immediate prior in Idaho.

TABLE IV  
PRIOR INCARCERATIONS OF INMATES PLACED ON PAROLE,  
PROBATION, OR DISCHARGED, (N-216)\*

Number of Previous Adult Incarcerations:

One prior:	130
Two prior:	44
Three prior:	15
Four prior:	12
Five prior:	6
Six prior:	2
Seven prior:	4
Eight prior:	0
Nine prior:	1
Ten prior:	2
TOTAL	216

\*37.6% of the total prison population.

Current Offenses - Part I Related:

Of the 216 inmates surveyed, 132 (61%) were serving time for Part I-related offenses at the time of the study, as shown in Table V, page 8. The average number of days from arrest to commitment ranged from 84.8 days for larceny to 123.9 days for murder. Of the total, fifty-eight were serving sentences resulting from burglary offenses at the time of the study.

TABLE V  
CURRENT OFFENSE PART I CRIMES\*

Offense	Number	Average Days from Arrest to Commitment
Murder	15	123.9
Rape	12	101.75
Robbery	25	108.36
Aggravated Assault	12	122.41
Burglary	58	89.08
Larceny	10	84.80
TOTAL	132	100.5

\*Total Part I crimes (auto theft included in larceny) 132 out of 216 or 61.1%.

Table VI, page 9, illustrates the length of time served on the inmate's prior incarceration. The grand average of all categories was one year, eleven months, twenty-two days. Of the thirty-seven discharged without parole, the average time served was one year, eleven months, twenty-six days. Actual sentences ranged from three months, three years on an assault charge, to ten to twenty-five years for robbery. Fifteen, or 41%, were committed for Part I offenses. Thirty-one, or 84%, were from states other than Idaho.

The sixty-five inmates successfully completing parole were divided into two categories: 1) completing parole without violation, and 2) completing parole with either single or multiple violations. In determining actual time served for the latter category, the time measured was from commitment date to date of first release for the reasons previously stated. Forty-six completed parole with no violations, averaging one year, eleven months and four days time served. Of these, twenty-five, or 54%, were committed for Part I offenses. Thirty-three (72%) had previously served time in the Idaho State Correctional Institution (ISCI) as opposed to some other institution. Actual sentences varied from thirty months for illegal possession of narcotics, to two life sentences -- one for murder and one for sex-related offenses.

Those completing parole with either single or multiple violations (14) averaged one year, five months, twenty-two days actual time served. Nine of the fourteen, or 64%, were committed for Part I offenses. Twelve (86%) had been paroled from ISCI. The range in sentencing was from five years (four years suspended) for obtaining money under false pretenses, to fifteen years for burglary. The remaining five files had missing information and were not

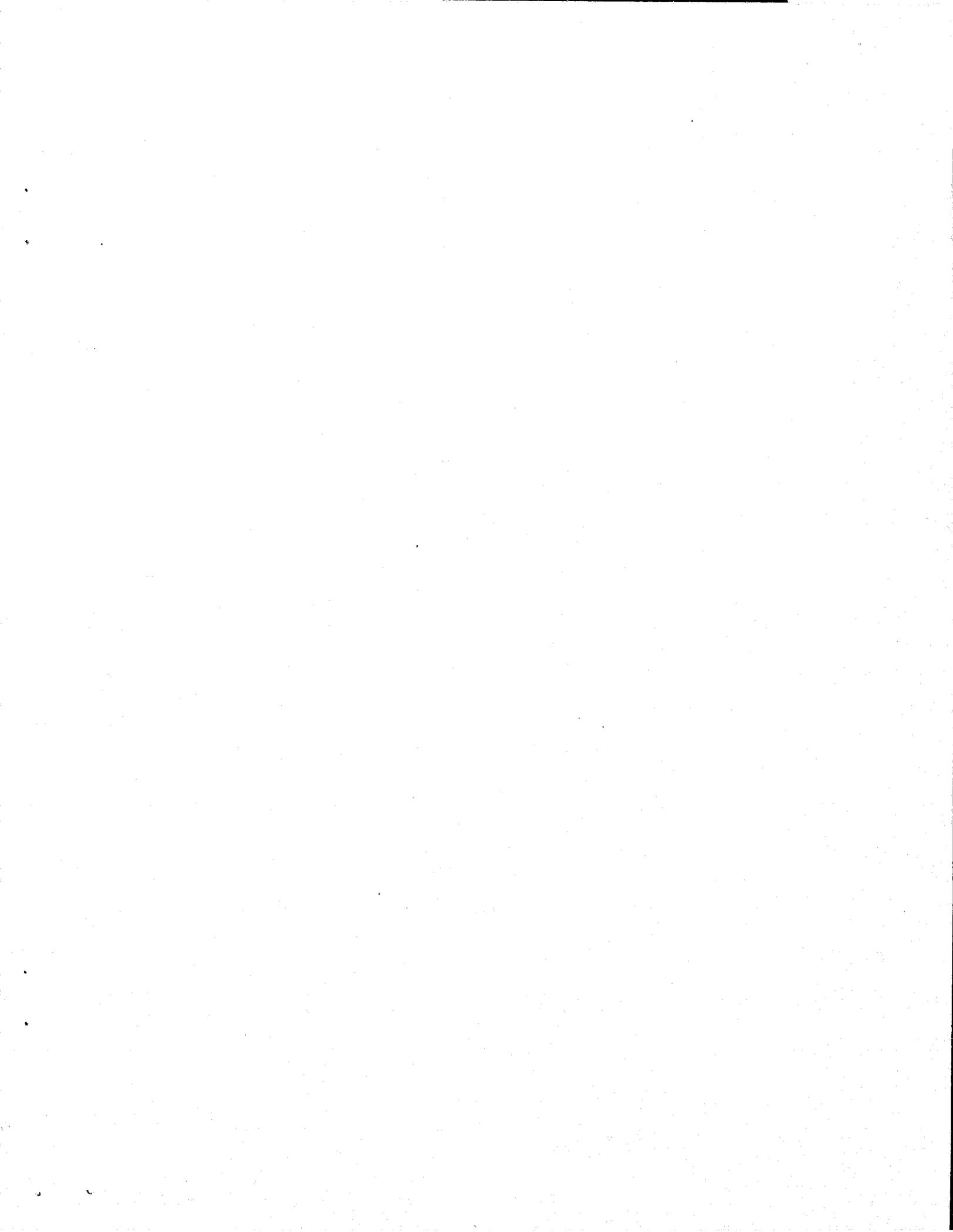


TABLE VI  
LENGTH OF TIME SERVED

<u>NO. CASES</u>		<u>AVERAGE</u>	<u>MINIMUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>	<u>MEDIAN</u>
37	DISCHARGED from prior offense with no parole or probation.	1 yr. 11 mos. 26 da. (721 days)	4 mo. 17 da. (137 days)	7 yrs. 5 mo. 1 da. (2,706 days)	1 yr. 6 mo. 6 da. (551 days)
46	Completed PAROLE without violations.	1 yr. 11 mos. 4 da. (699 days)	2 mo. 25 da. (85 days)	10 yrs. 5 da. (3,655 days)	1 yr. 5 mo. 6 da. (521 days)
14	Completed PAROLE with single or multiple violations.	1 yr. 5 mo. 22 da. (537 days)	10 mo. 15 da. (315 days)	2 yr. 6 mo. 3 da. (913 days)	1 yr. 7 mo. 1 da. (576 days)
77	Failed PAROLE	2 yr. 1 mo. (760 days)	1 mo. 26 da. (56 days)	7 yr. 2 mo. 24 da. (2,639 days)	1 yr. 5 mo. 23 da. (538 days)

GRAND AVERAGE OF ALL CATEGORIES - 1 YEAR, 11 MONTHS, 22 DAYS  
(717 DAYS)

included. The grand average of the sixty completing parole successfully was one year, nine months, twenty-six days of actual incarceration.

Seventy-seven of the eighty-one failing parole had measurable information and served an average time of two years and one month. Part I offenses numbered fifty-five, (71% of the total failures). Fifty-eight percent (45) of the failures were previously institutionalized at ICSI. Sentences ranged from zero to fifteen years for burglary, to eight life sentences. (Five had multiple violations and actual time served was measured as before, i.e., to date of first release).

An effort was made to determine whether or not there was any correlation between length of time served and the time span between release and re-entry. It is interesting to note that there was no significant correlation\* between these times for either those paroled or those discharged without parole (159 cases). Probation cases were not included in the analysis because probationers were placed in the institution for 120 days and therefore their time served did not vary.

#### SUMMARY:

This research project has focused on 216 inmates at the State Correctional Institution during January, 1976, who had been institutionalized prior to their current prison sentence. This number comprised 37.6% of the total prison population at the time the study was conducted.

The 216 inmates having prior incarcerations were grouped, for further analytical study, into three categories:

- 1) Placed on Parole prior to current incarceration - 146
- 2) Placed on Probation (120 day retained jurisdiction) prior to current incarceration - 33
- 3) Discharged from prior sentence to current incarceration - 37

Each category was sub-categorized into success or failure.

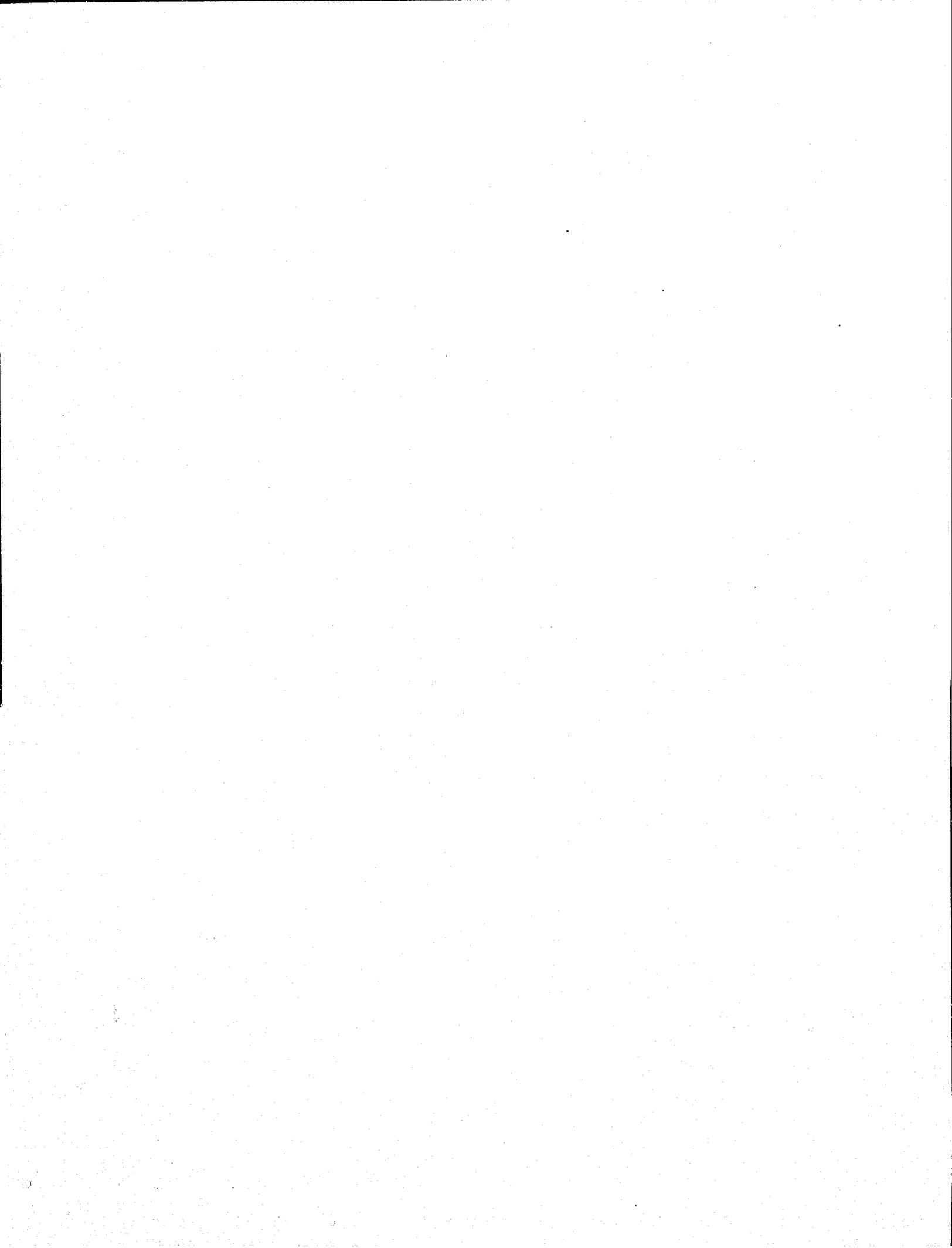
Those successes previously placed on parole prior to re-entry totaled sixty-five, and had two measurable time frames: 1) prison parole release to arrest leading to current incarceration and 2) parole discharge to arrest leading to current incarceration. The median time for the former was three years, one month, thirteen days, and the latter was one year, three months, seventeen days. Of the sixty-five parole successes, forty-six had no violations during their parole period. The median was one year, one month and twenty-five

\* ( $r=0.12723$ )

days. Parole failures totaled eighty-one with a median of eight months, seven days from placement to arrest leading to current incarceration.

Probation placements totaled thirty-three, and had a median of one year ten months and twenty-seven days for successes and six months, nine days for failures. Outright discharge cases from prior incarceration had a median of two years, five months and ten days before becoming reinvolved with the System which led to their current incarceration.

Collateral information was also compiled from the 216 cases analyzed. A composite of the collateral information as extracted from this report showed that 60% of the inmates studied had one prior adult incarceration, while eighty-eight (41%) of the total had previous juvenile institutional records. There were 132 (61%) of the 216 inmates who were serving terms at the time of the study for Part I offenses, fifty-eight were for burglary offenses. Of the 216 inmates, over 50% had previously been convicted on Part I offenses.



**END**