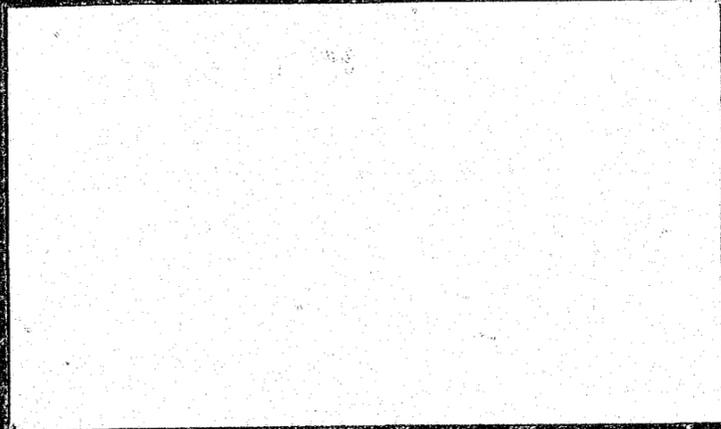Commonwealth of Kentucky
Department of Justice
Bureau of Corrections

Office of Administrative and Fiscal Affairs
Division of Management Information Systems
Research and Evaluation Unit

79738

A DESCRIPTION OF
CLASSIFICATION AND PROGRAM NEEDS
OF KENTUCKY OFFENDERS

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Several sources of data were examined, particularly the data maintained from the Multi-Method Assessment Instrument, to provide a profile of offenders admitted to Kentucky correctional institutions. The major findings provided are:

- 96.2% of admissions are males
- 73% of admissions are white
- Median age for males is 24 years; for females, 26 years.
- 54% of the males are single, whereas 53% of the females were separated or divorced
- Approximately 56% of admissions are first offenders.
- Males and females were similar in probation and parole violations, escape patterns, and scores on dangerousness and violence.
- Caseworkers feel that females will have more difficulty adjusting to prison and will require closer supervision.
- Caseworkers' ratings of security requirements corresponded with scores on related scales.
- Approximately one-third of the respondents expressed fear of other inmates.
- 67% of the offenders failed to complete high school; 11% failed to complete elementary school.
- The average educational level attained for males was ninth grade and for females, tenth grade.
- Over a third of males and females have never been employed as long as one year on a job.
- Approximately one-third of the offenders are unemployed at the time of arrest.
- Almost half of the offenders held jobs that required minimal education or training or were unskilled.
- Most of the offenders have no vocational training.
- Most of the offenders report between 6 and 11 health problems; females generally reported more health problems than males.
- Females exhibit a higher level of stress than males.
- Level of stress corresponds with both number and type of health problems reported.
- Based on a simplified classification scheme, 21% were statutorily ineligible for minimum security, 16% were initially ineligible due to sentence length, and 63% could be considered for minimum security.
- Self-reported substance abuse was a significant problem for both male and female respondents.

One of the most critical needs of any correctional agency is an effective classification process. Classification to appropriate security levels is vital for the protection of the community and for the safe keeping of the offenders confined. However, of equal importance is that useful programs, tailored to fit the needs of offenders, be offered to those seeking self-improvement. Several recent occurrences have heightened the awareness of these processes: the appointment of a new Commissioner of Corrections, the anticipated opening of a new medium security facility, the reference made in the consent decree to examination of the classification procedures, the progressive incarceration plan, the programs that aid rehabilitation, and institutional employment. Because programs and classification systems cannot be responsibly designed without information about the offenders being served, the Research and Evaluation Unit was asked to provide information which could be utilized to make better decisions about Kentucky's offenders' needs.

As is sometimes the case in information requests, details were not provided as to the specific data needed or the most useful format in which the data should appear. Rather, the information that was considered to be most useful was selected and reported in a standard report form. Therefore, if more specific information is needed or required in a different format, every effort will be made to meet these needs.

Although the primary data source for this report is the information obtained from the Multi-Method Assessment Instrument, other sources included a sample of new admissions to KSR during 1978 and 1979, a collection of information on women incarcerated at KCIW in 1979, summary data from the National Prisoner Statistics for Kentucky, and a sample of offenders released in 1978. The available data were reviewed and information relating to classification or program needs was extracted.

The Multi-Method Assessment Instrument (MMAI) was developed through a grant funded by LEAA and the University of Kentucky and was intended as a screening device to be used in classifying inmates. It was developed to provide objective criteria in making decisions for classifying inmates to maximum, medium, and minimum security levels and to identify the programmatic and personal needs of the inmates. It was also hoped that the MMAI could provide the staff with more information about the clients they serve. It is important, for purposes of interpretation, to remember that the MMAI provides only self-report data; there is no provision for verification of the reported information.

The instrument consists of a series of four test booklets and a structured interview which is conducted by a classification and treatment officer. It is not designed to provide an in-depth diagnosis of medical or psychological problems, but to give an overall picture of the needs of the client.

New admissions to KCIW and KSR are given the MMAI in four parts, one part per day for four days, and within two weeks of their admission to the institution. They are tested in the Admissions and Orientation Unit during the time in which they are attempting to adjust to a new environment, and responses may be affected by this fact. Provisions are made for those offenders who cannot read or have such low reading ability that they cannot comprehend the test. These offenders listen to a tape recording of the test instructions and questions. Those groups of offenders who might not be tested upon admission to the institution would include those who go directly to the hospital, are blind (or have such poor eyesight that they cannot read the tests), those who are considered extremely dangerous, those who are retarded, and those who are on medication which might make their responses to the tests invalid.

The data presented in this report are based on 1,768 offenders who were tested between the dates of January, 1978 and May, 1979. According to Population Movement Summaries prepared by the Bureau of Corrections' Central Office, 2,750 new commitments were made to KSR and KCIW during the period covered by this study. It appears that administration of the MMAI was fairly consistent over this time period at KSR, but testing at KCIW was limited to a shorter time span. Appendix A includes a table which shows the number of persons tested at each institution and the number of new commitments and violators admitted for each month of this time period. It should be noted that since this test was not administered to all new commitments at KSR or KCIW during this time, it may not be truly representative of the entire population of offenders who were received during that period. Because of concern that the sample may not be representative of all admissions, additional data sources were used to confirm or question results presented.

Demographic Characteristics

Examination of the characteristics of the 1,768 offenders for whom data were available showed that 97% or 1,718 were male and 3% or 50 were female. This compares with the current population of all institutions which is 96.2% male and 3.8% female. Table 1 shows that the racial composition of the total sample was 73% white, 25% black, and for 2% of the group race was not recorded. The racial composition for both the male and female sample also closely approximates the current racial composition of all institutions. The sex and racial composition of the MMAI group, therefore, appears similar to the current prison population and provides some assurance that the sample is representative of the characteristics of all incarcerated offenders. However, while the sample appears representative, the number of females tested was very small. Generalizations made on the basis of information for a small sample should be made cautiously.

The median age for males who completed the tests was 24 years and for females it was 26 years (Table 2). Marital status of those tested with the MMAI varied considerably according to sex. As Table 3 indicates, 54% of the men were single, whereas only 36% of the women were single. Also, more men (24%) than women (10%) were married. Separations and divorces were more common in the female population (48%), but only 19% of the male population were separated or divorced. There were also differences in marital status according to race. The majority (71%) of black males were single. It was more common for black females to be either single or separated (77%) as compared to white females (36%). Both white males and white females were more likely to be divorced than blacks.

TABLE 1

RACE AND SEX OF MMAI RESPONDENTS[1]

	MMAI				Current Population			
	Black		White		Black		White	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Males	24.3	418	73.6	1,264	28.6	1,055	71.4	2,631
Females	44.0	22	56.0	28	31.3	46	68.7	101
		Total - 1,732				Total - 3,833			

[1] Race of 36 male MMAI respondents was unknown.

FIGURE 1

RACE AND SEX

73.0%

24.1%

1.3%

1.6%

||||| Black Males

▓ White Females

▒ Black Females

☐ White Males
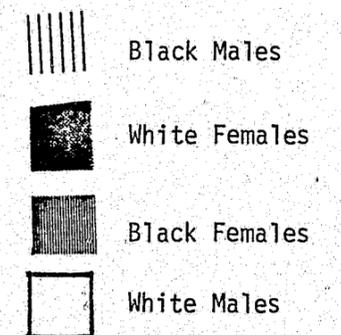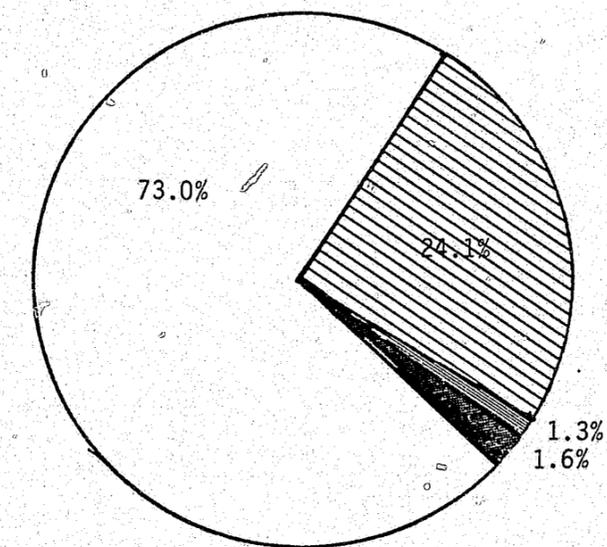
TABLE 2

AGE OF RESPONDENTS[1]

Age Range	Male		Female	
	%	N	%	N
Less than 24	53	905	40	20
25 to 35	35	594	50	25
36 to 50	10	169	10	5
More than 50	2	27	0	0
Total		1,695		50

[1]Age was unknown for 23 males.

FIGURE 2

AGE OF RESPONDENTS
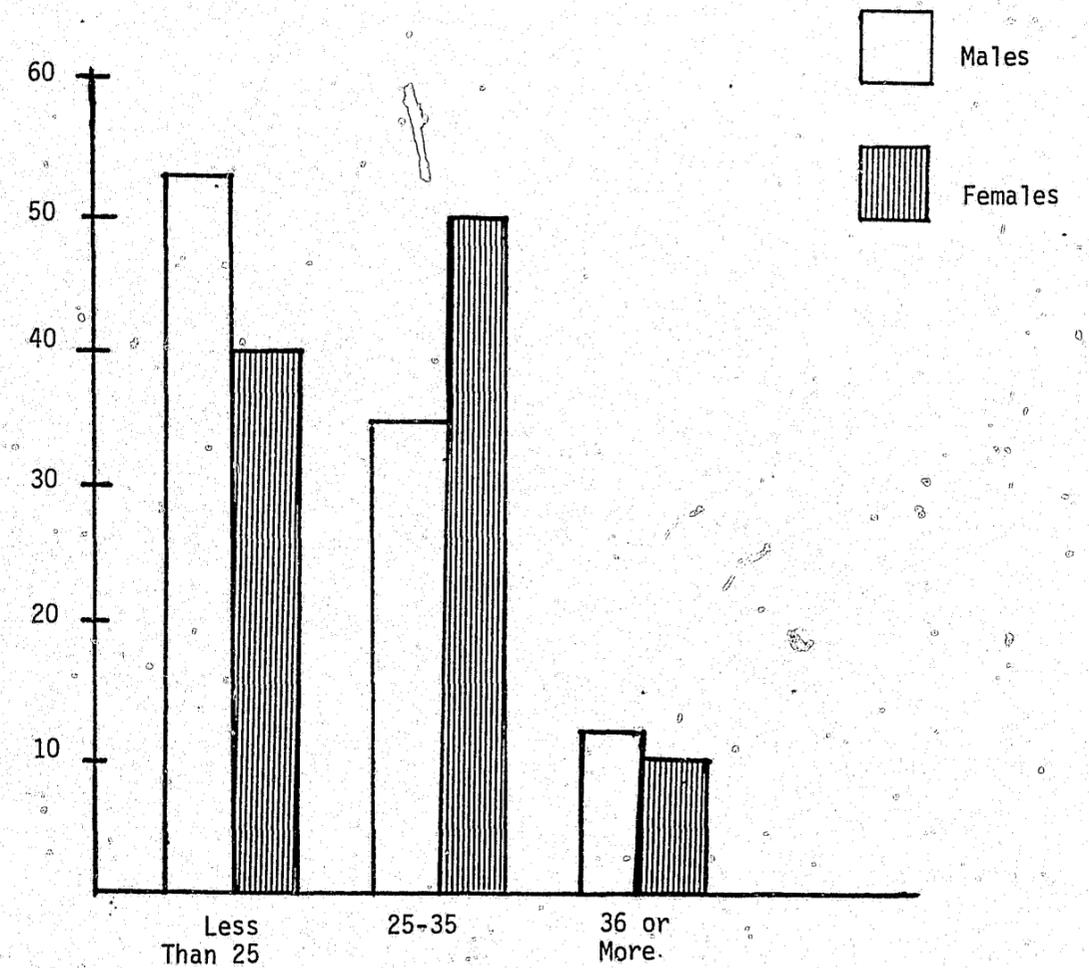
TABLE 3

RESPONDENTS ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS BY SEX AND RACE

	Males				Females			
	Black		White		Black		White	
Marital Status	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Single	71	298	50	631	50	1	25	2
Married	15	64	27	345	9	11	10	7
Separated	7	29	9	113	27	2	11	3
Divorced	6	23	13	170	9	6	46	3
Unknown	1	4	.4	5	4	2	7	13
	100%	418	100%	1,264	100%	28	100%	22

Offenders were questioned as to the stability and supportiveness of their families. The responses formed a scale which was categorized into three levels. Virtually all (96%) of both the men and women responded that their families were stable and highly supportive. For both males and females, the remainder responded that their families were only slightly unstable and offered some support. No one in either group responded to the question by stating that their families were highly unstable and offered no support whatever. Since other studies have shown that offenders come from rather unstable family backgrounds, the categorization of the scale may be invalid or perhaps the scale measures something other than family stability.

Criminal Sophistication

The degree of criminal sophistication of offenders is of great concern in corrections. This information is used for classification to various security levels and for planning program needs. Criminal sophistication is usually determined by historical information concerning criminal activity.

First offenders comprised the majority of both the males and females in this group, with 56% of the males and 60% of the females having no prior felony convictions (Table 4). Although slightly more females than males had one prior felony conviction, 23% of the males had two or more prior felony convictions compared to only 12% of the females. A sample of new admissions to KSR showed only slight variation from this pattern.

Prior probation violations were consistent between males and females, with 85% of the males and 82% of the females having no prior probation violations. As Table 5 shows, there was no significant difference between the male and female population in terms of total probation violations.

However, there were some data to indicate that females may be paroled more often than males. Thirty-five percent of the females have had one or more prior parole violations as compared to only 23% of the males. While the differences are not statistically significant, they may be a reflection of testing policy differences between KSR and KCIW, with the women's institution having tested returned parole violators more often than KSR.

A finding which may surprise those who consider women better security risks is that there was no significant difference in the number of males and females who reported attempting to or having escaped from a correctional facility, approximately 12% of both groups. Therefore, it can be concluded

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS

	MMAI		New KSR Admissions	
Male	%	N	%	N
None	56	960	50	150
One	21	364	22	66
More Than One	23	387	28	84
Female*				
None	60	30		
One	28	14		
More Than One	12	6		

*No data were available to compare female prior convictions.

that the female respondents did not differ significantly from the males on reported number of prior felony convictions, probation violations, parole violations, or escapes or attempts to escape (Table 5).

Several scales on the MMAI are designed to measure the level of criminal sophistication of offenders. The dangerousness scale is based on the number of incidents in the person's past which would indicate some level of aggression. Samples of questions from this scale are included in Appendix B. There was no significant difference between males and females on this scale, as 49% of the males and 50% of the females related no incidents in their background which would indicate potential aggression or danger. Another 44% of the males and 48% of the females indicated that there were some factors in their background which could lead to potential aggression or danger. Very few offenders fell into the high risk range on the scale (5% of the males and 2% of the females).

The violence scale is based on the number of incidents in the person's background which would indicate violent behavior (see sample questions, Appendix B). Again, there was very little difference between the males (66%) and females (64%) who had many incidents in their background which would indicate violence. According to scores on the violence and dangerousness scales, males and females did not differ significantly.

Caseworkers were asked to classify the incoming inmates to levels of supervision, and on delinquency, sophistication, risk of recidivism, and predicted adjustment to the institution. Caseworkers classified 66% of the males and 78% of the females as similar to a typical first offender. Males were perceived as being more sophisticated on this measure in that 36% of the males and only 22% of the females were categorized as similar

TABLE 5

INDICATORS OF CRIMINAL SOPHISTICATION

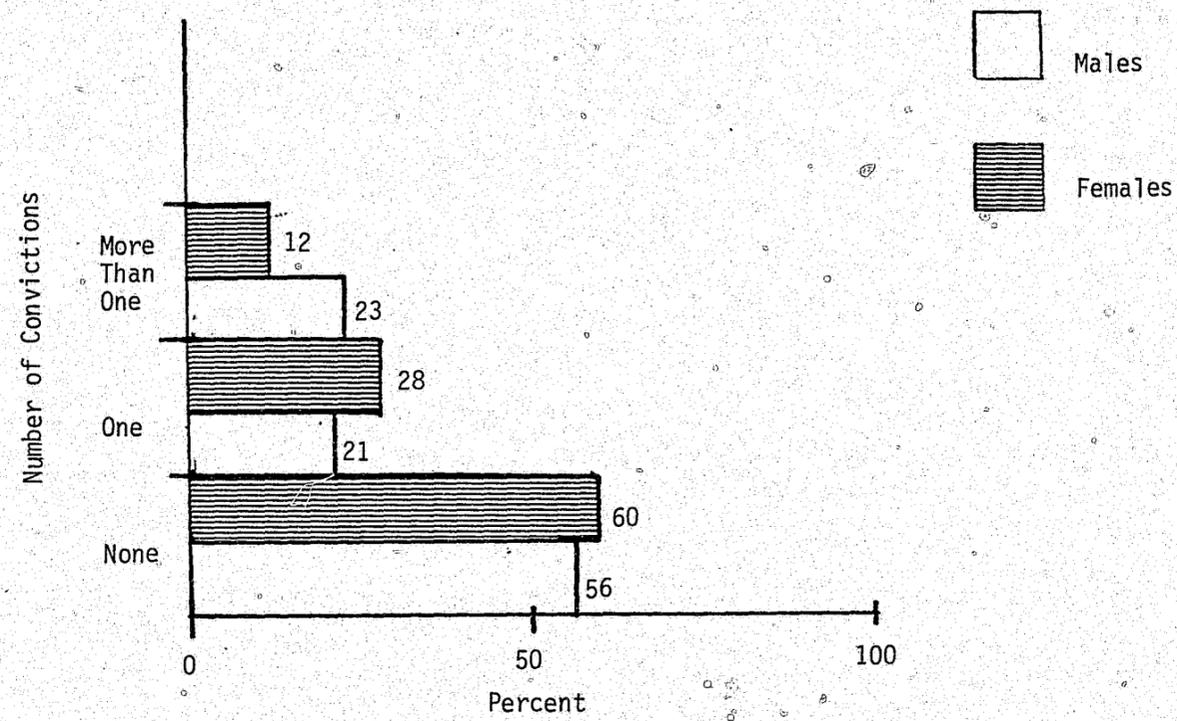|	Escapes	Probation Violations	Parole Violations
Male	%	%	%
None	89	85	78
One	8	11	20
More Than One	1	4	3
Female			
None	88	82	65
One	6	16	29
More Than One	6	2	6

FIGURE 3

PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS

Males

Females

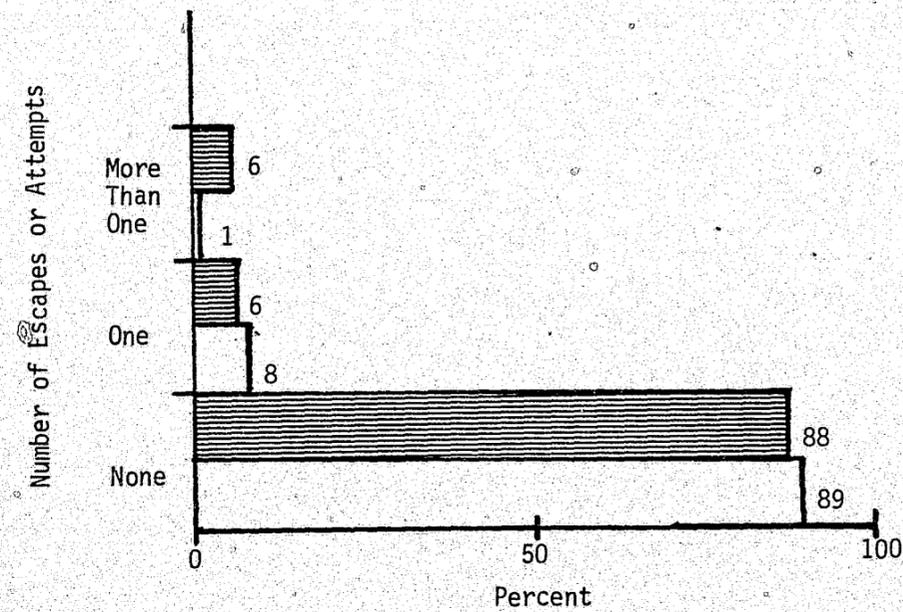FIGURE 4

PRIOR ESCAPES AND ATTEMPTS

FIGURE 5

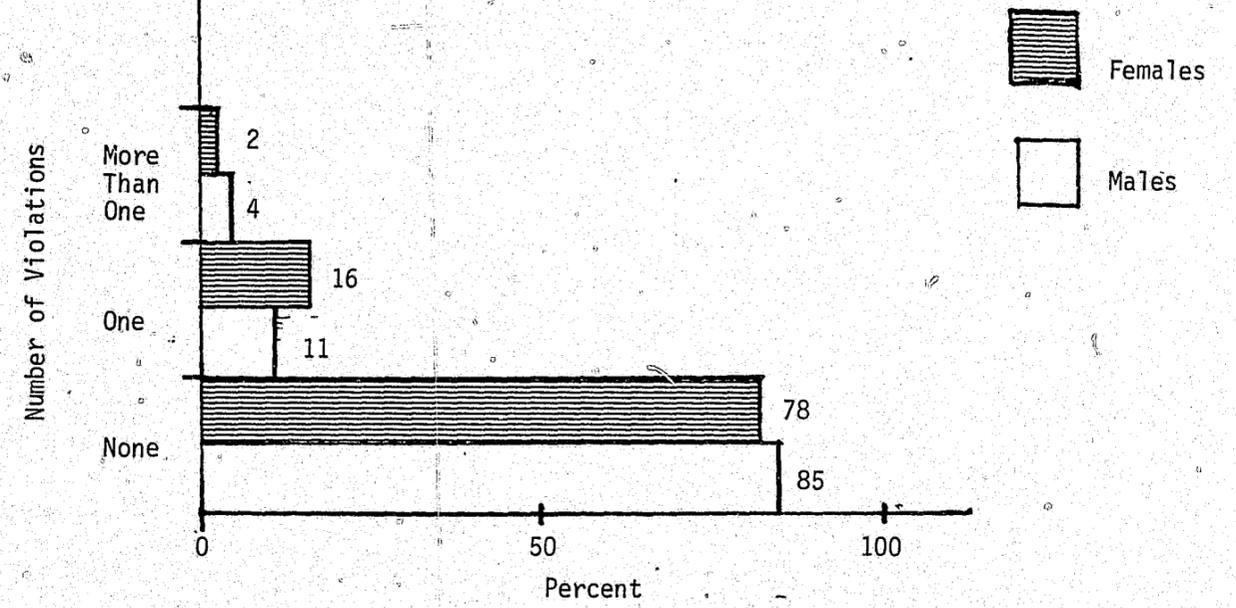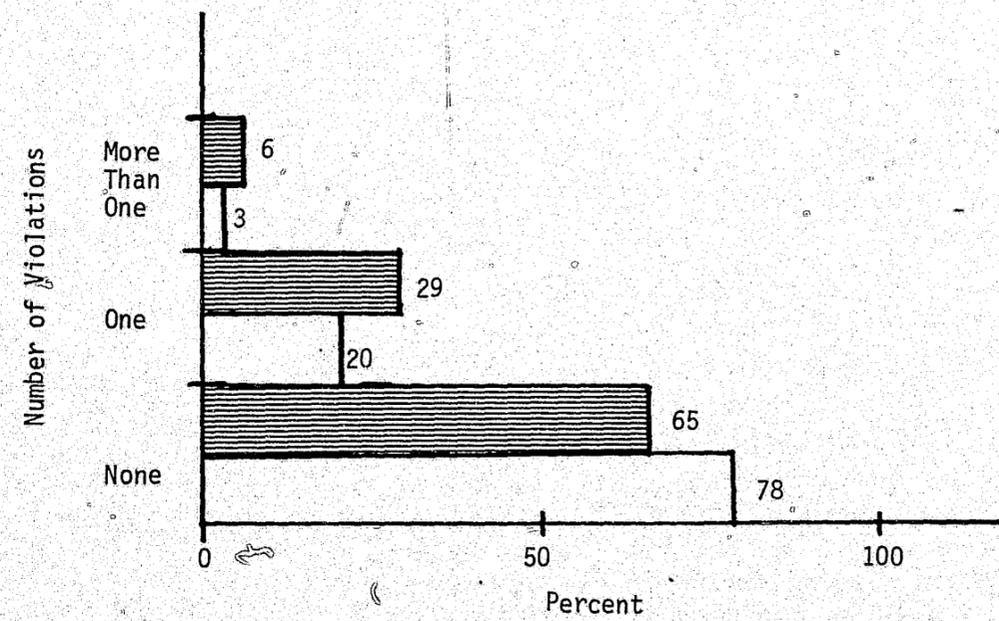PRIOR PROBATION VIOLATIONS

Females

Males

FIGURE 6

PRIOR PAROLE VIOLATIONS

to multiple or incorrigible offenders. Males were also perceived as slightly more sophisticated in terms of risk of recidivism; 72% of the males were classified as being medium or high risk, compared to 68% of the females who were classified this way. These differences, however, were not statistically significant.

In direct contrast to this perceived risk of recidivism and level of sophistication, the caseworkers seemed to feel that females would have more difficulty in adjusting to institutional life and would require closer supervision than males. Eighty-five percent of the females were seen as likely to encounter some difficulty in adjusting to institutional life, whereas only 39% of the males were perceived as likely to encounter adjustment problems (Table 6).

According to the caseworkers' recommendations, only 8% of the females should be classified to minimum security, whereas 57% of the males were considered to be minimum security candidates (Table 7). The difference in suggested level of supervision may be explained by policy differences at KCIW and KSR. At KCIW, the women must "earn" minimum security classification through a level system which requires that time be served at the medium security level prior to eligibility for minimum security classification. At KSR, however, men may be directly classified from the A & O Unit to a minimum security facility. The caseworker ratings of females on expected institutional adjustment and level of supervision do not seem to correspond with level of criminal sophistication since there were no significant differences between the sexes on criminal history measures. It is possible, therefore, that caseworker ratings in these areas are not reflective of criminal sophistication, but may be indicative of either traditional views of female offenders or of policy differences between institutions.

TABLE 6

CASEWORKER RATING OF
PREDICTED INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

Predicted Institutional Adjustment	Male		Female	
	%	N	%	N
No Problems Predicted	61	978	15	7
May Have Some Problems	33	522	50	23
Problems Predicted	6	98	35	16

TABLE 7

CASEWORKER SUGGESTION FOR LEVEL OF SUPERVISION

Suggested Level of Supervision	Male		Female	
	%	N	%	N
Minimum	57	970	8	4
Medium	39	664	76	37
Maximum	3	42	14	7
Segregation	.1	1	0	0
Special	1	16	2	1

The caseworkers' recommended level of supervision was directly related to the scores on the violence and dangerousness scales, even though these two parts of the test were completed independently and without the caseworkers' knowledge of the scores. As shown in Table 8, those offenders who were recommended for minimum security classification had the lowest average scores on both of these scales, whereas those recommended for maximum security had the highest average scores. The caseworkers' rating of the offender's violence or aggression potential and scores on the same scales was also directly related. This is also shown in Table 8.

While not directly related to criminal sophistication, it is important that an offender know how to take care of him or herself in the institution for the sake of security and social stability inside. Responses showed that 28% of the males and 32% of the females had some doubt about their ability to take care of themselves in an institution. This is not surprising in light of the fact that the majority of the respondents were first offenders who had never been incarcerated.

Although most of the male and female respondents expressed no fear of the inmate population at the institutions, some, 35% of the males and 20% of the females, stated that they did have some fear of the unexpected, fear of harm from other inmates, and fear stemming from actually having been threatened by other inmates. None of the female respondents stated that they had been threatened, however. Again, this is not surprising since this is an entirely new situation for the majority of the respondents. It would seem that, in light of the inmates' responses to questions on their ability to care for themselves in the institution and fear of the

TABLE 8

COMPARISON OF CASEWORKER'S RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SUPERVISION WITH AVERAGE VIOLENCE AND DANGEROUSNESS SCORES

Level of Supervision	Average Violence Score	Average Dangerousness Score
Minimum	13	9
Medium	19	12
Maximum	25	16
Segregation	26	21
Special	18	15

population, that a program designed to address these types of questions and to present realistic expectations is needed during the admission and orientation period.
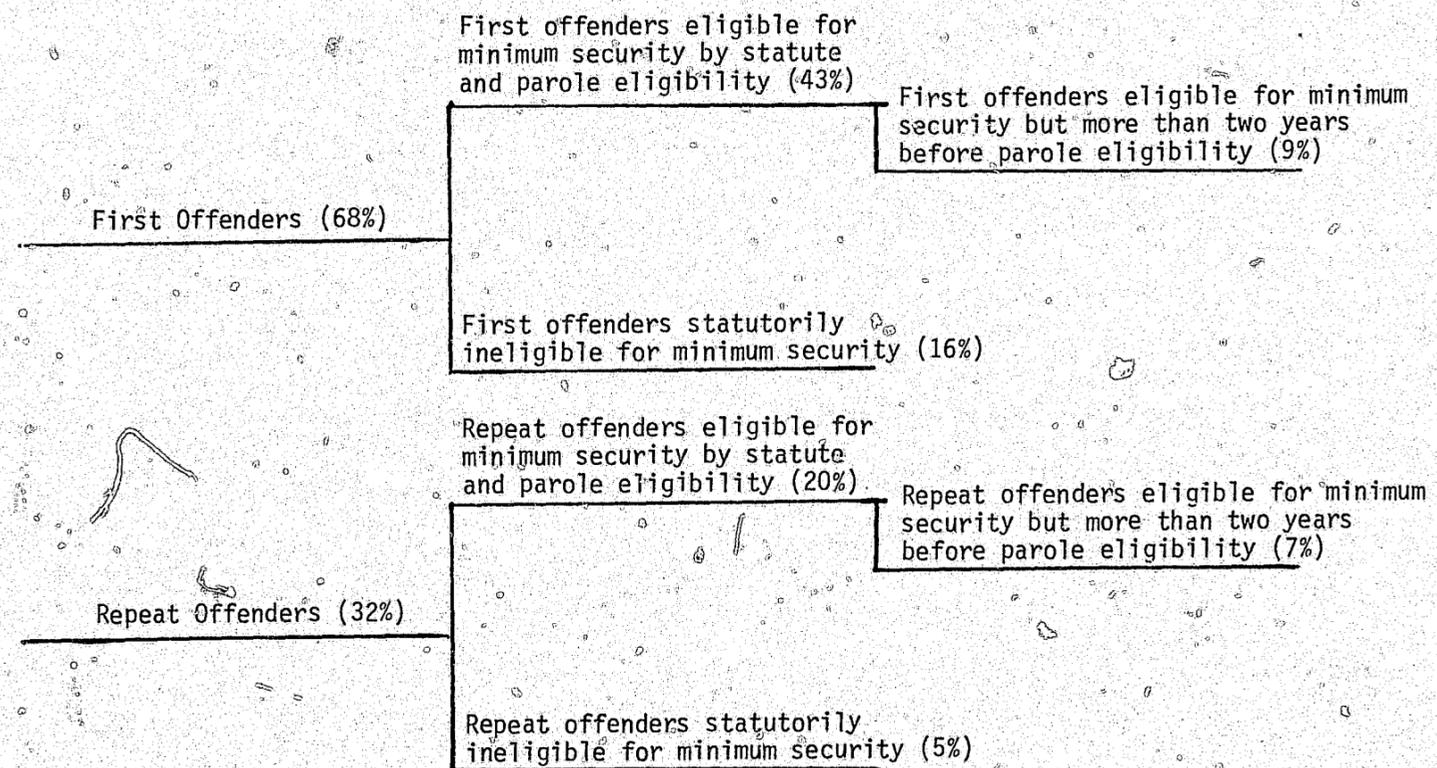
Inmate Classification

If the classification of inmates can be simplified to a scheme based on number of prior incarcerations and parole eligibility status, several data sources can provide us with information about the numbers of offenders who can be anticipated to be classified to minimum, medium, or maximum security facilities. In reality, of course, classification is much more complex and involves many other variables.

Kentucky law (KRS 197.140) mandates that certain persons are ineligible for transfer from maximum or medium security institutions to minimum security institutions. These persons include those who have had an escape or an attempted escape within the last five years, those who have served less than one year on a life sentence, and those who were incarcerated for crimes such as rape, sodomy, robbery with victim injury, or assault with intent to rob.

If first offender status is used in classifying to custody level, statutory ineligibility and parole eligibility must be considered separately for first and repeat offenders. Figure 7 shows the percent of our new admissions that fall into each category. Since this information is based on a sample of new admissions and eliminates technical parole violators, more offenders would be housed at KSR if technical violation rates remain unchanged. Furthermore, criteria used to classify offenders to KSP were not considered nor were criteria to be utilized for the special programs at LLCC.

A total of 63% of the incoming offenders would be eligible for minimum security by statute and parole eligibility. Another 16% would be statutorily eligible for minimum security, but have more than two years to serve prior to parole. The remaining 21% are ineligible for minimum security.

FIGURE 7

PERCENT OF ADMISSIONS[2] WHO FIT
SIMPLIFIED CLASSIFICATION SCHEME[1]

First Offenders (68%)

First offenders eligible for
minimum security by statute
and parole eligibility (43%)

First offenders eligible for minimum
security but more than two years
before parole eligibility (9%)

First offenders statutorily
ineligible for minimum security (16%)

Repeat Offenders (32%)

Repeat offenders eligible for
minimum security by statute
and parole eligibility (20%)

Repeat offenders eligible for minimum
security but more than two years
before parole eligibility (7%)

Repeat offenders statutorily
ineligible for minimum security (5%)

[1]This classification scheme is for information purposes only. The actual classification of
offenders, in reality, is much more complex than presented here.

[2]Based on a sample of new admissions to KSR during 1978 and 1979.

Employment and Vocational Information

Another area of great concern to the Bureau of Corrections is that of employability and vocational training for offenders. From data provided by the MMAI, it is evident that Kentucky's offenders are deficient in vocational training and job readiness skills. For example, 18% of the inmates reported that they had never held a job for more than 6 months prior to incarceration and 30% of the offenders were unemployed at the time of arrest. Of those who were employed at the time of arrest, 39% were employed in unskilled jobs. It can also be assumed that job retention is a problem for many offenders since 43% of those who were employed prior to arrest had been on that job less than 12 months. This information is not completely surprising in light of the fact that 57% of the offenders stated they had never received any vocational training. Of those who had received vocational training, 43% had only 6 months or less. It would seem evident, therefore, that most incoming offenders would be limited due to their lack of employability skills to unskilled or manal labor types of jobs. For purposes of classification and programming, Table 9 provides employment profiles of male and female respondents.

When asked if they would be interested in receiving vocational training, 99.7% responded positively. The respondents were asked to select from a limited list of vocational areas in which they might receive training. Table 10 shows the most commonly occurring first and second choices of male and female respondents. Since the list of options was, in part, determined by the vocational programs already available, these choices should not be interpreted as absolute, but rather as general indicators of areas of interest.

TABLE 9

EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING PROFILE

	Males %	Females %
Longest Time Employed on Any Job		
Less than one year	37	44
One to two years	24	21
Length of Time on Last Job Prior To Arrest*		
Unemployed	30	41
Three months or less	22	28
Four to twelve months	21	17
Skill Level of Last Job*		
Unskilled labor	39	34
Required minimal education or training	8	23
Prior Vocational Training		
None	56	56
Less than six months	19	16
Six months to one year	10	12

*The majority of persons in these categories also had less than a high school education.

FIGURE 8

MONTHS ON LAST JOB PRIOR TO ARREST
(MALES ONLY)

☐ Unemployed

▤ Three Months
or Less

▦ Four to Twelve
Months

▨ More Than
Twelve Months
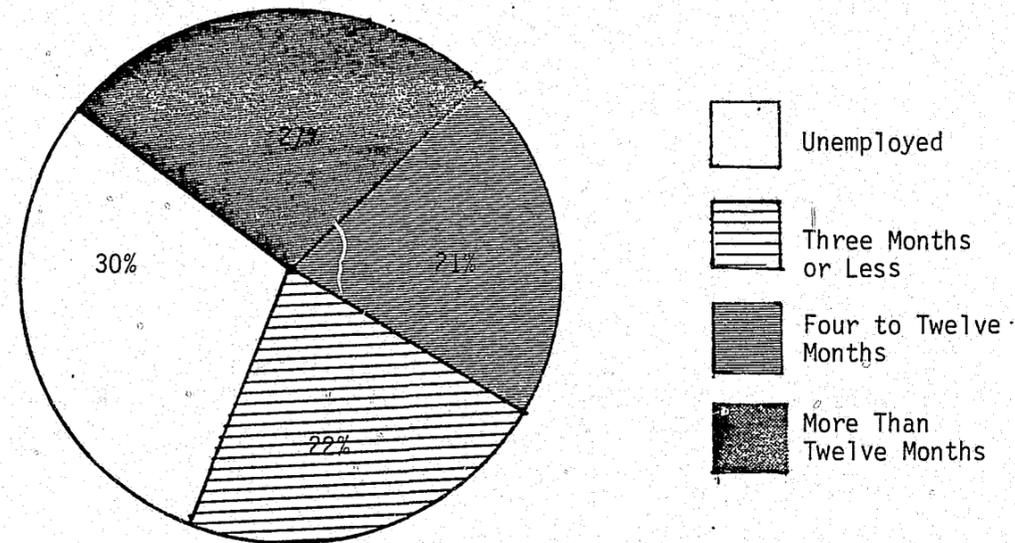
FIGURE 9

SKILL LEVEL OF LAST JOB
(MALES ONLY)

☐ Unskilled Labor

▨ Minimum Educati
and Training
Required

▧ Business Sales
or Management

▦ Skilled Labor

■ Professional or
Semi-Profession
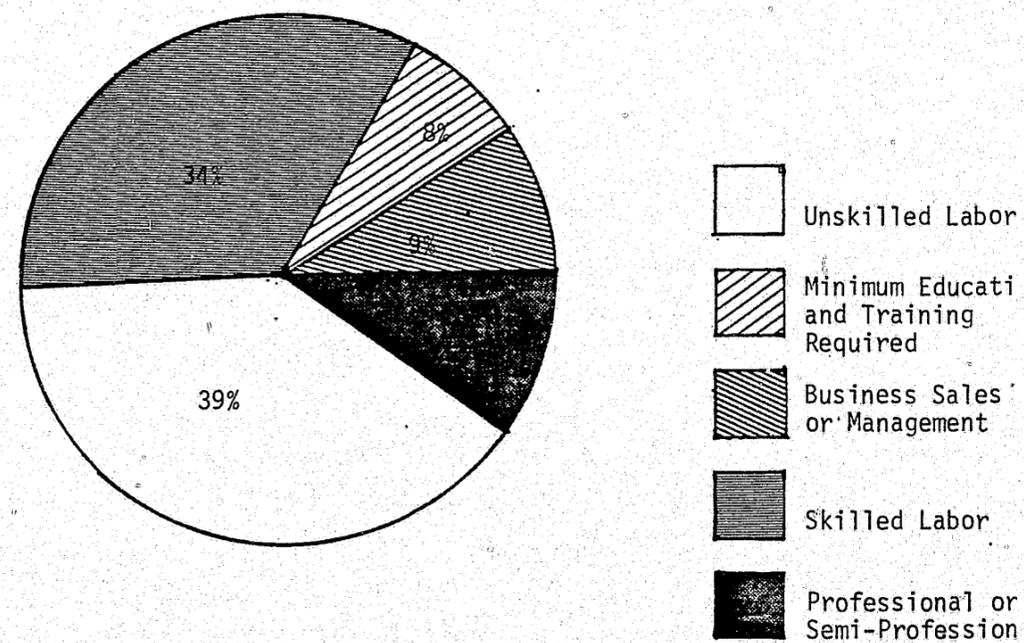
TABLE 10

VOCATIONAL PREFERENCES

Males

Category	Percent Selecting As First or Second Choice
General Agriculture	8
Auto Mechanics	13
Auto Body Repair	8
Building Trades	13
Heavy Equipment Operator	9

Females

General Office Practice	12
Secretarial	16
Data Processing	10
Practical Nursing and Child Care	8
Rehabilitation Work	12
Bookkeeping	14
Cosmetology	8
Teaching	8

Academic Information

Several pieces of information which would be useful in planning academic programs for offenders are available. The school achievement score, designed to reflect the respondents' verbal and quantitative knowledge, appears to rank offenders much lower than other measures. When scores on the school achievement measure were classified according to ranges, most males ranked at grade school level, whereas most females were at high school level, with only .1% at college level. Comparing these results with the actual level of education which had been attained by the participants, it was found that 68% of all males and 70% of all females had not finished high school. In addition, 12% of the males and 8% of the females had not completed grade school. As Table 11 indicates, the level of education reported is comparable to the NPS data for 1977, showing only a slight discrepancy for females. A recent study of KCIW's population indicates an average tenth grade level for females, and a sample of admissions to KSR shows an average ninth grade level for males. Therefore, although the school achievement score seems to rank very low, the actual level of education seems to be consistent in all data sources.

Measuring IQ is a controversial issue. Researchers have shown that IQ tests are socio-economically and racially biased, and that test scores may be influenced by environmental factors in the testing situation. Because of the nature of the population being tested and the circumstances of the testing, the individual IQ scores are very questionable. Since the IQ score for the MMAI is a non-standardized measure, combining the school achievement score plus a judgement score, the raw score is not useful; however, based on categories of the IQ scale, most offenders (62%), are of average

TABLE 11

ACTUAL EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF RESPONDENTS

Level Completed	MMAI		National Prisoner Statistics - 1977	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Did Not Finish Grade School	12%	8%	11.5%	10.5%
Finished Grade School	13%	10%	14.1%	10.5%
Did Not Finish High School	43%	52%	42.5%	43.8%
Finished High School or Above	32%	30%	28.0%	35.2%

FIGURE 10

ACTUAL EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF RESPONDENTS

Males

25%

43%

32%

Females

52%

18%

30%

Finished Grade
School or Less

Did Not Finish
High School

Finished High
School or Above
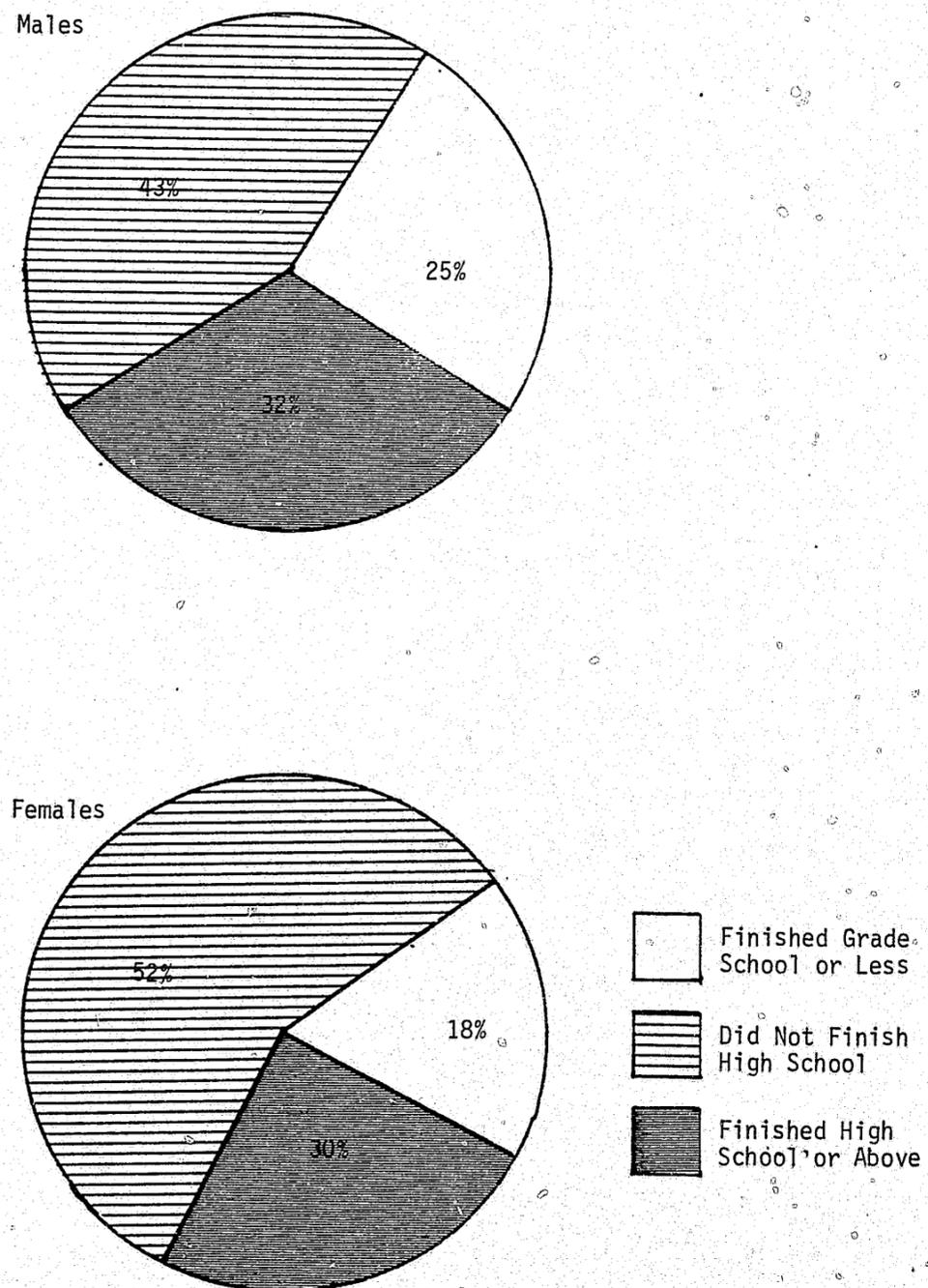
intelligence (Table 12). Only 4% of the women scored below average, whereas 16.5% of the men ranked below average. More women were categorized above average, probably because they also scored higher in verbal knowledge. The only other data available on IQ scores comes from BETA tests administered at the A & O Unit at KSR.

All of the participants expressed some interest in continuing their formal education. When asked to select only one educational option, most of the males showed interest in at least completing high school, while most of the females had an interest in college courses. Vocational training was also of interest to many respondents; 43% of the males and 23% of the females expressed some interest in vocational courses. It is obvious, therefore, that offenders not only need, but also desire, additional educational opportunities.

TABLE 12

MMAI IQ RANGES OF RESPONDENTS[1]

	Male		Female	
	%	N	%	N
Illiterate or Below Average	16.5	284	4.0	2
Average	62.2	1068	62.0	31
Above Average	21.2	365	34.0	17

IQ scores missing on one male respondent.

[1]Average BETA score for males admitted to KSR during the winter and spring of 1978-79 was 87, which falls into the average range.

Health and Stress

It is evident from information obtained on the MMAI that a significant portion of the offenders entering Kentucky institutions arrive with various health problems. On a general health rating scale, only 28% of the respondents were identified as being in good health; 60% of the respondents were classified as having some health problems, reporting between six and twenty specific health problems. Another 11% of those tested had many problems, reporting twenty-one or more health-related problems. As Table 13 demonstrates, women, in general, reported more health-related problems.

The most commonly reported health problems included tuberculosis, dental problems, vision problems, and severe headaches. Table 14 lists the most common problems and the percentage of the males and females who reported having these problems.

A significant number of both males and females reported what could be termed psychological or mental health problems, with 38% of both groups reporting that they suffered from depression. Those who had seen a psychiatrist at some time in their lives included 42% of the women and 21% of the men. Approximately 14% of each group had been a patient in a mental health clinic or hospital at some time during their lives.

The MMAI includes a stress scale which is based on the respondents' answers to questions about events and influences in their outside life. It has been documented in medical literature that specific health problems and one's general health are related to stress in an individual. General health was also found to be related to scores on the stress scale. For those respondents who were rated as in good health, only 2% fell into the high category on the stress scale. Those who reported several health problems

TABLE 13

GENERAL HEALTH STATUS OF RESPONDENTS

Health Status[1]	Males %	Males N	Females %	Females N
Good	29	498	12	6
Some Problems	61	1042	64	32
Many Problems	10	178	24	12

[1]Good = less than 6 reported health problems
Some = 6 to 20 problems
Many = more than 20 problems

FIGURE 11
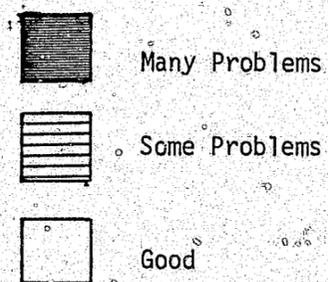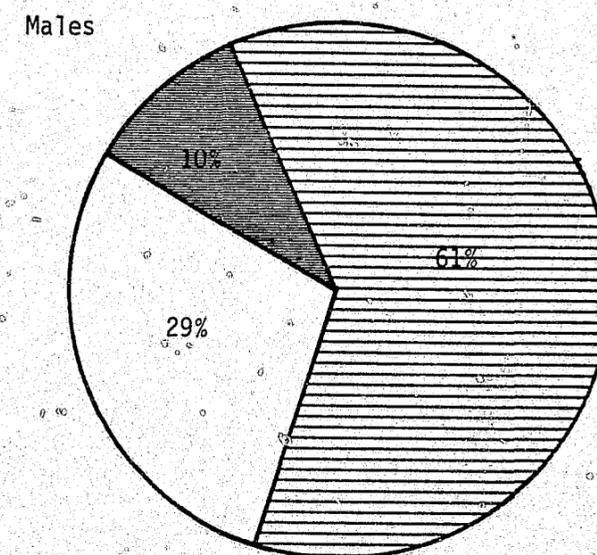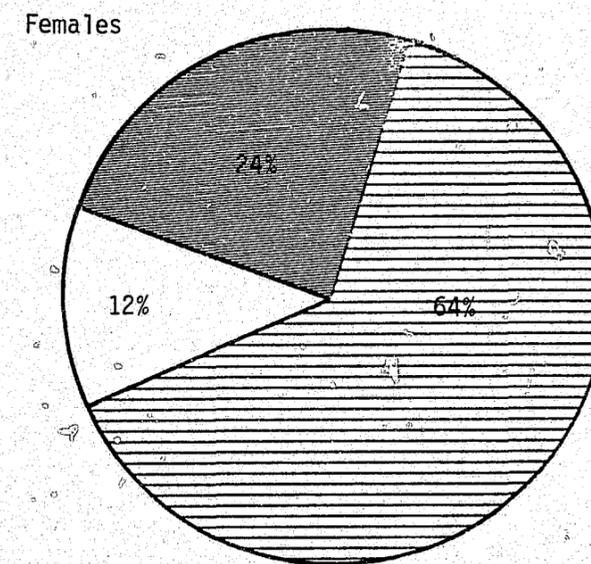
GENERAL HEALTH STATUS OF RESPONDENTS

Females

24%

12%

64%

Males

10%

29%

61%

Many Problems

Some Problems

Good

TABLE 14

COMMON HEALTH PROBLEMS[1]

	Percent and Number Reporting			
	Males		Females	
Problem	%	N	%	N
Glasses	27.1	465	56.0	28
Eye trouble	27.5	472	42.0	21
Teeth or gums	47.5	815	56.0	28
Stomach trouble*	23.1	396	34.0	17
Diarrhea or constipation	20.7	355	48.0	24
Muscles and joints	22.4	384	32.0	16
Pains in the arms or legs	30.5	522	40.0	20
Foot trouble	25.9	444	24.0	12
Skin trouble	25.7	441	28.0	14
Headaches*	40.5	695	68.0	34
Dizzy spells	26.9	461	48.0	24
Head injury	25.3	433	20.0	10
Serious operation	21.1	362	34.0	17
Serious injury	36.1	619	24.0	12
Insomnia*	44.0	755	66.0	33
Heavy smoker	40.8	699	40.0	20
Depressed*	37.5	642	38.0	19
Nightmares*	21.1	361	26.0	13

[1]Problems listed are those indicated by at least twenty percent
of both the male and female samples as being a health problem.

*Indicates problem also associated with stress.

were considered to be in the medium range as far as general health was concerned, and the majority of them fell into the medium range on the stress scale. For those who reported many health problems (more than 21), 78% scored in the high range on the stress scale. Table 15 illustrates this relationship. An attempt was also made to determine whether those persons who reported having specific medical problems also scored high on the stress scale which is included in the MMAI. (See Table 14 for selected health problems related to stress.)

Since high blood pressure is also a more significant problem for the black population, stress scores for this specific health problem were separated according to race. Both black and white males who reported that they had high blood pressure rated high on the stress scale. White females with high blood pressure were also in the high range, but black females fell into the medium range on the stress scale.

As was expected, there was a positive relationship between specific health problems and the respondents' scores on the stress scale for males. In all cases, males who reported these specific health problems scored in the high range of the scale. The average stress scores for those males who stated that they did not have these health problems all fell into the medium range.

The relationship between the health problems and stress scores did not hold true for females, however. The average scores on the stress scale for those women who had seen a psychiatrist at some time or who had been a patient in a mental health clinic or hospital were significantly higher than those who had not, but not for the other health problems. It is significant to note, however, that while the relationship between reported

TABLE 15

GENERAL HEALTH/STRESS

Health	Percent of Respondents in Each Stress Category		
	Low	Medium	High
Good (Less than 6) n = 504	16	82	2
Some Problems (6-20) n = 1074	.5	56.5	43
Many Problems (21 or more) n = 190	1	21	78

health problems and scores on the stress scale did not hold for the females tested, their average scores on the stress scale, regardless of health problems, were higher than those for the males.

Overall, the male population was rather evenly divided on the stress scale between low, medium, and high stress scores. In the female population, though, only 10% scored in the low range, 30% in the medium range, and 60% were in the high range of the stress scale.
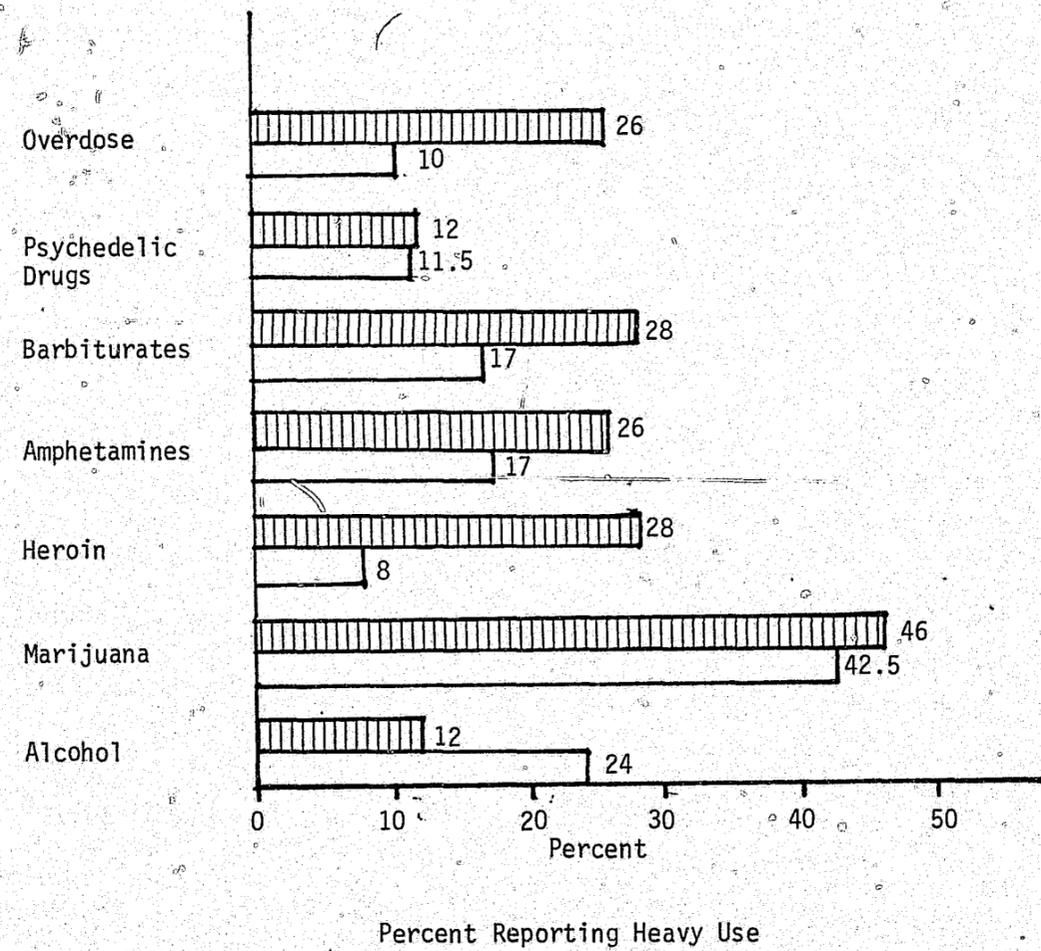
Substance Abuse

The final area to be discussed concerns the use of drugs and alcohol by incoming offenders. On this section of the test, the incoming offenders were asked to respond yes or no to whether they regularly used certain substances, including marijuana, heroin, amphetamines, barbiturates, and psychedelic drugs. As shown in Table 16, responses indicated that 43% of the offenders regularly used marijuana, and 8% stated that they regularly used heroin. Both amphetamines and barbiturates were regularly used by 18% of this group, and 11% reported they used psychedelic drugs such as LSD.

Alcoholism is often cited as a problem for inmates and this assumption is supported by the responses on the MMAI. Twenty-four percent of the males and twelve percent of the females reported that they were heavy drinkers. This information would seem to indicate a need for drug treatment and education programs.

TABLE 16

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE

	Male (N = 1,714)		Female (N = 50)	
	%	N	%	N
Alcohol	24.0	402	12	6
Marijuana	42.5	729	46	23
Heroin	7.6	131	28	14
Amphetamines	17.3	297	26	13
Barbiturates	16.9	290	28	14
Psychedelic Drugs	11.5	197	12	6
Overdose	10.4	178	26	13

FIGURE 12

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Substance	Males	Females
Overdose	10	26
Psychedelic Drugs	11.5	12
Barbiturates	17	28
Amphetamines	17	26
Heroin	8	28
Marijuana	42.5	46
Alcohol	24	12

Percent

Percent Reporting Heavy Use

||||| Females

APPENDIX A

KENTUCKY STATE REFORMATORY

Date	New Commitments	Violators	Total	Number With MMAI Data Available
January 1978	64	17	81	4
February	141	23	164	48
March	165	36	201	172
April	181	43	224	164
May	155	35	190	86
June	181	29	210	168
July	107	38	145	124
August	150	56	206	84
September	99	41	140	95
October	205	38	243	102
November	155	59	214	73
December	160	41	201	104
January 1979	125	59	184	102
February	147	55	202	137
March	177	41	218	119
April	195	46	241	0
May	190	47	237	1
Totals	2,597	704	3,301	1,583

KENTUCKY CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION FOR WOMEN

Date	Commitments	Violators	Total	Number With MMAI Data Available
January 1978	6	0	6	0
February	12	1	13	0
March	13	1	14	0
April	7	0	7	0
May	12	1	13	0
June	9	0	9	10
July	6	0	6	3
August	8	4	12	5
September	7	1	8	6
October	12	3	15	1
November	3	1	4	1
December	8	2	10	9
January	7	3	10	7
February	10	3	13	3
March	13	3	16	0
April	13	3	16	0
May	13	1	14	0
Totals	153	30	186	45

APPENDIX B

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS FROM DANGEROUSNESS INDEX

How would you describe the way you were disciplined or punished?

    a. Fairly and reasonably.
    b. By being scolded or spanked.
    c. By being beaten.

Were you ever abandoned (left) by one or both of your parents?

    a. No
    b. By one parent.
    c. By both parents.

Do you think that your brothers or sisters ever had a drinking problem, nervous or mental problem, or was mentally slow? (Mark "A" if they had any of these.)

    a. Yes   b. No

Were either of your parents ever convicted of a criminal offense?

    a. Yes   b. No

How many times have you been in a fist fight or serious scuffle within the last year no matter how it started or who was at fault?

    a. None   c. Twice   e. More than 3 times
    b. Once   d. Three times

How many tattoos do you have?

    a. None   c. Two   e. More than three
    b. One   d. Three

How many times in your life would you say that you've really been in love or have fallen in love?

    a. Never   c. 2 or 3 times   e. Many, many times
    b. Only once   d. 4 or 5 times

Did you like animals and have pets when you were a child growing up?

Do you have any known birth defects such as club foot, hair lip, etc.?

Before you were 12 years of age, did you ever hurt your head badly through an accident by falling or being hit by someone?

In the neighborhood in which you grew up, was there much crime or violence?

Were there any times when members of your family fought with or physically beat up on one another?

During your youth, did you ever get so depressed that you thought about committing suicide?

Were you made fun of, "put down", or humiliated a lot when you were a kid?

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS FROM VIOLENCE INDEX

Looking back on the days you spent in your family or childhood home, how happy were they?

a. very happy
b. happy most of the time
c. mostly unhappy
d. very unhappy

Were you under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time you committed the crime?

a. no
b. yes - alcohol
c. yes - drugs
d. yes - both

How many times have you been arrested and charged with assault or assault-like charges with or without a deadly weapon, or murder, rape, or armed robbery? (Including present charge if assault.)

a. never
b. once
c. 2 times
d. 3 times
e. over 3 times

How many guns have you had in your possession in your lifetime - any and all kinds of guns?

a. none
b. one
c. 2 - 5
d. 6 - 10
e. over 10

Do you ever get into a bad mood or become aggressive after - not before - you've been drinking or using drugs like the drinker who says "I can lick any man in the house"?

a. no
b. yes
c. sometimes

Most everybody has trouble with people now and then and even occasionally will get into a fight - words or worse. How many times would you say you've had trouble with other people, friends, relatives, strangers, etc. within the last 6 months?

a. none - no serious arguments
b. one or two verbal disagreements
c. three or more real serious verbal battles
d. one or more actual fights - had words and came to blows
e. one or more fights in which knives or guns were used

END