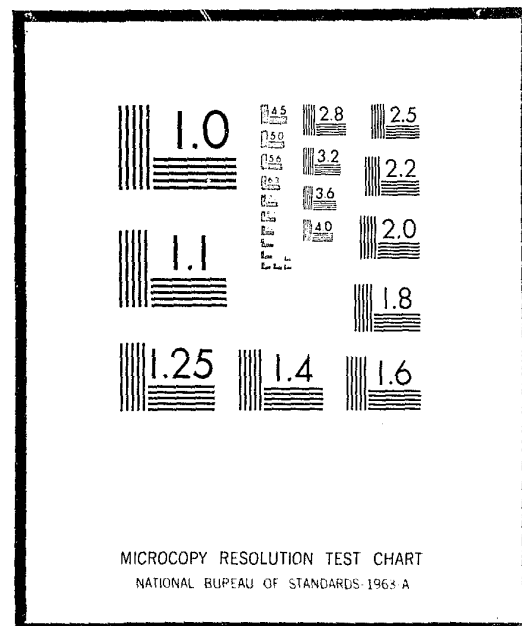


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SIGNIFICANT FACTORS RELATING TO RECIDIVISTS

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SIGNIFICANT FACTORS RELATING TO RECIDIVISTS

by Stephen R. Pipkin

INTRODUCTION

Recidivism denotes the characteristic of relapsing into or persisting in a particular mode of behavior or condition. A particular type of recidivist is one who persists in crime. Recidivism, used in reference to those who persist in crime, still has a variety of meanings which are often used interchangeably, with the result that statements must be carefully explained and qualified. For example, recidivism may be defined with respect to the individual's prior arrest record disregarding the fact that he may or may not have been convicted. Another definition of recidivism deals with prior convictions; however, this definition fails to distinguish whether or not the individual was incarcerated or was guilty of a felony or misdemeanor. The definition of recidivism chosen for this study focused on prior confinement for felony offenses. A recidivist was operationally defined as any person who having been convicted of a felony offense and having been previously subject to correctional treatment

in the Texas Department of Corrections (TDC) again committed a felony offense and was reincarcerated in TDC.

The Texas Department of Corrections has as an objective the rehabilitation of offenders committed to its care. The purpose of any rehabilitation program is to reduce or eliminate recidivism. The factor that determines the effectiveness of any rehabilitation program is the ability to bring about a prescribed change in behavior. When dealing with felon offenders, the change sought is from criminal behavior to that of a productive individual with a set of values compatible with those of society. This change in behavior is frequently measured by whether or not the ex-inmate returns to prison. Thus, if all offenders released committed no new crimes, the rehabilitation process would be considered completely successful. However, practitioners in the field of criminal justice know this is not the case.

Statistical data on inmates currently incarcerated in the Texas Department of Corrections reveal that one-third of all offenders currently confined have been confined in TDC previously. In addition, data provided by the Pre-Release Center indicate that approximately 20% of the offenders who participate in the pre-release program return to TDC. The percentage seems high until the characteristics of the candidates for rehabilitation are examined. The offenders

committed to TDC are usually those whose offenses are serious enough to merit separation from society, or those who are poor risks for some other form of treatment (probation).

The primary purpose of this study is to provide a comprehensive statistical description of recidivists who are presently serving sentences at Texas Department of Corrections (TDC). The principal areas of concern include isolating data relative to: demographic factors; inmate behavior before, during, and after incarcerations; individual psychological characteristics including attitudes; and sociological factors.

Additional objectives of this study include establishing correlates, where they may exist, among the variables relative to the recidivist; establishing a broad base of factual information to be used in already planned research as well as in future experimental studies; and, hopefully, providing a stimulus for other investigators concerned with the problem of recidivism.

The procedure for this study was to use a questionnaire to collect variables which were not available on the Department's Inmate Information File. These data were then used to describe the population and tests were performed on the

descriptive variables for correlates common to recidivists.

The total information, compiled from interviews and from the Inmate Information File, was grouped into six categories: (1) demographic characteristics, (2) pre-institutional criminal behavior, (3) prior institutional experience, (4) postinstitutional factors, (5) current offense information, and (6) alcohol and drug information.

Selected data, although available on the Inmate Information File, were also placed on the questionnaire. A comparison of the information collected through interviews and that in the Inmate Information File was made in order to determine data reliability. This comparison indicated that the data utilized in this study were accurate and reliable.

METHODOLOGY

Definition of Terms

Recidivist: Any person who having been convicted of a felony offense and having been previously subject to correctional treatment in the Texas Department of Corrections again commits a felony crime and is reincarcerated in the Texas Department of Corrections.

Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient: An index number varying from -1 through 0 to +1 indicating the magnitude and direction of relationship between two continuously measured variables (i.e., age vs. length of time of residence). This correlation coefficient is denoted by the symbol r and is commonly referred to as the Pearson r .

Point-biserial correlation coefficient: An index number varying from -1 through 0 to +1 indicating the direction and magnitude of relationship between a continuously measured variable and one expressed as a dichotomy (i.e., age vs. race). The point-biserial coefficient is a special case of the product-moment correlation and is denoted by the symbol r_{pb} .

Probability: The expected frequency of an occurrence based on the laws of chance. For example, if the probability (p) of an occurrence is .05, that signifies that the event could have occurred by chance alone only 5 times in 100. The probability of an occurrence is denoted by the symbol p.

Questionnaire Development

The questionnaire used in this study was developed by the researcher in order to obtain information on recidivists that was not already available in the Department's Inmate Information File. Certain data that were available in the Inmate Information File were placed on the questionnaire in order to determine the reliability of the instrument. After the initial development, the questionnaire was administered to several inmates (4% of the sample) to determine if it progressed in an even, logical order and to assure that all possible responses could be coded.

The initial questionnaire was revised several times before an acceptable form was developed. It was then, and only then, that the questionnaire was administered

to the sample population. In order to eliminate disparity in coding, all questionnaire responses were coded by the researcher. The questionnaire is presented in Appendix A.

Sample Selection

A pseudo-random sample of all male offenders was used in this study. One hundred inmates were selected by inmate number between March 2, 1972 and March 21, 1972 from the transient inmate population at the Diagnostic Unit and interviewed by the researcher. The only selection criteria were that the inmates had to have been previously incarcerated in TDC and had to have been re-incarcerated for the commission of a new felony offense.

Interview Procedure

The questionnaire was administered to each recidivist as a verbal interview. Prior to each interview, the inmate was informed that the interviewer was a representative of the Division of Research and that all information collected would be confidential regarding the personal identity and responses of a particular inmate. Furthermore, it was explained that the purpose of the study was

to collect group information pertaining to recidivists and that in no way would a given inmate be identifiable in the final study. Finally, it was explained that participation was voluntary and that it would be neither beneficial nor detrimental for an inmate to participate. It is interesting to note that only three inmates refused to participate.

Data Analysis

The data collected on the questionnaires were coded, processed by an automated data system, then frequency distributions were generated for each question. These frequency distributions were analyzed with the intention of obtaining information about the recidivist. A 46 by 46 variable correlation matrix was generated to indicate mathematical relationships and levels of significance for the data. The correlation matrix is presented in Appendix B.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

The ethnic group distribution of the sample was 40% Caucasian, 40% Negro, and 20% Mexican-American. This distribution is characteristic of the total inmate population. Since a random sampling technique was used for

subject selection, this type of distribution was expected. The fact that this distribution was obtained adds validity to the sampling technique.

The mean age of the recidivists studied was 33 years and the range of ages was from 18 to 64. Thirty-one percent of the offenders were 18 to 27 years old and the 28- to 37-year-old age group comprised 38% of the recidivists sampled (Table 1).

Table 2 presents the current marital status of the inmates studied. Twenty-nine percent of the recidivists claimed to be single. The married and the divorced inmates each represented 31% of the sample. The correlation coefficient revealed that the older an inmate was when first confined in any place of confinement, the more likely he was married.¹ In addition, the older an inmate was, the more likely he was married.²

Information on participation in the military service is shown in Table 3. The type of discharge received by

1 $r_{pb} = +.226, p = .0220$

2 $r_{pb} = +.267, p = .0072$

TABLE 1

AGE OF RECIDIVISTS

<u>Actual Age, years</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
18 to 22	11	11.00
23 to 27	20	20.00
28 to 32	21	21.00
33 to 37	17	17.00
38 to 42	17	17.00
43 to 47	4	4.00
48 to 52	4	4.00
53 to 57	1	1.00
58 to 62	3	3.00
63 to 67	1	1.00
Not specified	1	1.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

TABLE 2

CURRENT MARITAL STATUS
OF THE RECIDIVISTS

<u>Marital Status</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
Single	29	29.00
Married	31	31.00
Divorced	31	31.00
Separated	3	3.00
Widowed	1	1.00
Common-Law	5	5.00
Other	0	--
TOTAL	100	100.00

each inmate was collected because it provided a more accurate account of his participation than did the branch of service. Sixty-nine percent of the sample claimed no military service, 13% had received honorable discharges, and 14% had been given discharges other than honorable. The correlation coefficient revealed that the older an inmate was, the more likely he had been in the military.³ The inmates who had served in the military tended to be older at first arrest,⁴ first confinement,⁵ and at first conviction.⁶

Previous studies have shown that a large percentage of the inmate population had never served in the military; therefore, inmates in the sample were questioned as to their eligibility for the military at any time. Forty-three percent of the sample claimed to have been eligible for military service at some time. Forty percent of the inmates stated they were never eligible for military

3 $r_{pb} = +.521, p = .0001$

4 $r_{pb} = +.420, p = .0001$

5 $r_{pb} = +.462, p = .0001$

6 $r_{pb} = +.456, p = .0001$

TABLE 3

TYPE OF MILITARY DISCHARGE RECEIVED

<u>Type of Discharge</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
Honorable	13	13.00
Dishonorable	2	2.00
Undesirable	10	10.00
Bad conduct	2	2.00
General	3	3.00
Medical	1	1.00
No service	69	69.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

service because of criminal activities prior to the age of eligibility.. In addition, 11% claimed ineligibility because of health or medical problems and 6% stated they did not know if they were ever eligible.

The inmates sampled were questioned regarding their county of residence and the reported data were compiled and placed in frequency tables with respect to Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas in Texas. The data, displayed in Table 4, show that 23% of the recidivists sampled were from the Dallas area while 22% were from the Houston area. Eighty-four percent of the offenders claimed they resided in one of the state's metropolitan statistical areas.

When asked if they had family or relatives in their county of residence, 84% said they did and 15% stated they did not. The inmates were also asked how long they had lived in the county they claimed to have resided in. Ninety-one percent of the inmates had resided in the county for over one year. Seventy-nine percent had lived in the county all their lives. The correlation coefficient showed that the longer a member of the sample resided in

TABLE 4

RESIDENCE OF RECIDIVISTS
AT THE TIME OF INCARCERATION

<u>Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
Abilene (Taylor & Jones Co.)	2	2.00
Amarillo (Potter & Randall Co.)	0	--
Austin (Travis Co.)	3	3.00
Beaumont-Port Arthur-Orange (Jefferson & Orange Co.)	4	4.00
Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito (Cameron Co.)	1	1.00
Bryan-College Station (Brazos Co.)	0	--
Corpus Christi (Nueces & San Patricio Co.)	1	1.00
Dallas (Dallas, Collin, Denton, Ellis, Kaufman, & Rockwall Co.)	23	23.00
El Paso (El Paso Co.)	1	1.00
Fort Worth (Tarrant & Johnson Co.)	7	7.00
Galveston-Texas City (Galveston Co.)	1	1.00
Houston (Harris, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Liberty, & Montgomery Co.)	22	22.00

TABLE 4 (Concluded)

Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas	Number of Inmates	Percent of Inmates
Laredo (Webb Co.)	0	--
Lubbock (Lubbock Co.)	2	2.00
McAllen-Pharr-Edinburg (Hidalgo Co.)	0	--
Midland (Midland Co.)	1	1.00
Odessa (Ector Co.)	0	--
San Angelo (Tom Green Co.)	1	1.00
San Antonio (Bexar & Guadalupe Co.)	11	11.00
Sherman-Denison (Grayson Co.)	0	--
Texarkana (Bowie Co.)	0	--
Tyler (Smith Co.)	1	1.00
Waco (McLennan Co.)	0	--
Wichita Falls (Wichita & Archer Co.)	3	3.00
Total SMSA	84	84.00
Other Counties	16	16.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

his county of residence the younger he was likely to have been when first arrested⁷ and first confined.⁸

Regarding family relationships, 90% of the inmates stated they had some contact with their families at least once a month. Thirty-five percent of the recidivists were living with their families at the time of arrest for the current offense while 54% claimed to have been living away from their families at the time of arrest.

The responses to the question, "Were you supporting your family one year prior to your conviction?", were grouped as follows: (1) 32% of the sample population claimed they were, (2) 14% claimed they were for part of the year, and (3) 53% stated they were not supporting their families. Of the 100 inmates interviewed, 89 reported that their families were not receiving any government assistance (welfare) one year prior to their arrest. When asked if their families were currently receiving

7 $r = -.299$, $p = .0023$

8 $r = -.242$, $p = .0143$

any assistance, 76 said they were not. Of those inmates whose families were receiving assistance, 13 were receiving aid to dependent children and 10 were receiving some other form of assistance.

EDUCATION

Regarding education, each recidivist sampled was questioned about the highest grade he completed in school. Twenty-three percent of the sample had a formal education of 6 years or less and 44% had completed grade 7, 8, or 9. Ninety percent of the inmates interviewed had less than a high school education (Table 5).

When asked if they ever had an opportunity to learn a trade or skill, 64% of the recidivists sampled stated they had not. Nine percent had an opportunity to learn welding and 6% had an opportunity to learn auto mechanics (Table 6). When asked where they had the opportunity to learn a trade or skill, 8% claimed training in other confinement institutions, 6% claimed on-the-job training, and 5% claimed TDC. The remaining 17% of the inmates received their opportunities in free-world programs.

OCCUPATION

The civilian occupations of the recidivists sampled

TABLE 5

FORMAL EDUCATION OF RECIDIVISTS

<u>Highest Grade Completed</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
1 - 2	1	1.00
3 - 4	7	7.00
5 - 6	15	15.00
7 - 8	28	28.00
9 - 10	28	28.00
11 - 12	17	17.00
13 - 14	2	2.00
15 - 16	1	1.00
17 or more	0	--
Not specified	1	1.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

TABLE 6
TYPE OF SKILLS OF THE RECIDIVISTS

<u>Skill</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
Welding	9	9.00
Auto mechanics	6	6.00
Draftsman	1	1.00
Barber	2	2.00
Cook	2	2.00
Refrigerator repair	3	3.00
Appliance repair	0	--
Culinary arts	1	1.00
Heavy equipment	2	2.00
Carpenter	1	1.00
Auto body repair	2	2.00
Bricklayer	2	2.00
Radio & TV repair	1	1.00
Electrician	1	1.00
Meat cutter	1	1.00
Bakery	1	1.00
Tractor mechanics	1	1.00
None	64	64.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

are shown in Table 7. Each inmate was asked what type of work he typically did in the free world. The occupations shown are almost as diverse as society. However, there is a noticeable absence of white-collar workers. The gross monthly income the inmates claimed they received from their typical job ranged from \$100 a month to over \$1,000 a month (Table 8). The median income was \$450 and the mean income was \$456.

When asked, "What percentage of the time were you employed during the last two years spent in the free world?", 7% responded that they were not employed, 46% claimed they were employed 50% of the time or less, and 28% stated they were employed all of the time. The correlation coefficient revealed that those recidivists who were drug addicts were more likely to have been employed a smaller percentage of the time.⁹

In response to the question, "What is the longest time you have spent on one civilian job?", 33% answered 6 months or less. An additional 15% stated their longest

⁹ $r_{pb} = -.280, p = .0049$

TABLE 7

OCCUPATIONS OF RECIDIVISTS

<u>Skill</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
Laborer	15	15.00
Construction laborer	7	7.00
Painter	7	7.00
Auto mechanics	4	4.00
Mechanic's helper	1	1.00
Carpenter	2	2.00
Carpenter's helper	5	5.00
Roofer	5	5.00
Cement finisher	2	2.00
Bricklayer	2	2.00
Sheetrock hanger	1	1.00
Carpet layer	2	2.00
Maintenance worker	2	2.00
Electrician	1	1.00
Display carpenter	1	1.00
Truck driver	5	5.00
Porter	4	4.00
Shipping clerk	1	1.00
Roughneck	1	1.00

TABLE 7 (Concluded)

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
Heavy equipment operator	1	1.00
Merchant seaman	2	2.00
Welder	4	4.00
Barber	2	2.00
Waiter	3	3.00
Assembly machine operator	2	2.00
Mold finisher	1	1.00
Hide tanner	1	1.00
Service station operator	2	2.00
Salesman	4	4.00
Dishwasher	1	1.00
Cook	1	1.00
Farmer	1	1.00
Seismograph operator	1	1.00
House framer	1	1.00
No job	5	5.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

TABLE 8

INCOME RECEIVED BY RECIDIVISTS

<u>Monthly Income</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
0 - \$100	4	4.00
\$101 - \$200	7	7.00
\$201 - \$300	12	12.00
\$301 - \$400	22	22.00
\$401 - \$500	24	24.00
\$501 - \$600	16	16.00
\$601 - \$700	4	4.00
\$701 - \$800	8	8.00
\$801 - \$900	0	--
\$901 or more	3	3.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

employment was more than 6 months but less than 13 months (Table 9).

Table 10 provides information on the type of work the recidivist did the longest. Thirty-nine percent stated that they performed unskilled labor on the job at which they were employed for the longest period of time. Twenty-nine percent claimed the job at which they were employed the longest involved semi-skilled labor and 19% reported doing skilled labor the longest. In addition, 66% of the inmates sampled stated that the job at which they were employed the longest required no training and 33% said their job did require some training.

PRE-INSTITUTIONAL CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR

Pre-institutional criminal behavior are those factors in the recidivist's background which are related to crime. For example, it has been hypothesized that the younger an offender was when he first left home, the more likely he will continue in crime. The correlation coefficient showed that the older an inmate was when he first left home, the older he was when first convicted.¹⁰ Conversely, the

¹⁰ $r = +.279, p = .005$

TABLE 9

LONGEST PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT

<u>Number of Months</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
1 - 6	33	33.00
7 - 12	15	15.00
13 - 18	8	8.00
19 - 24	7	7.00
25 - 30	2	2.00
31 - 36	11	11.00
37 - 42	0	--
43 - 48	8	8.00
49 or more	16	16.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

TABLE 10

LONGEST EMPLOYMENT BY TYPE

<u>Type of Employment</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
Unskilled	39	39.00
Driver - car, truck, et cetera	8	8.00
Semi-skilled	29	29.00
Skilled	19	19.00
White collar	4	4.00
Never employed	1	1.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

younger an offender was when he first left home, the younger he was when first convicted.

When asked, "How old were you the first time you left home for 3 months or more on your own?", 92% of the inmates stated they left home by age 20 while 62% were under 18 years old when they left home (Table 11). The mean age was 16.

In response to questioning regarding age at first arrest, 71% of the recidivists reported they had been arrested by age 17 (Table 12). The range was from 8 to 38 years old. Twenty-two percent of the offenders were arrested between 18 and 25. The mean age at the time of first arrest was 16.

The age of the sample members at the time of first confinement for any offense ranged from 8 to 38 years old (Table 12). Twenty-five percent of the recidivists were 13 or younger when first confined and 90% of the sample had been confined by age 26. The mean of this variable was 18.

Realizing that an individual could possibly have been arrested or confined at an early age for a petty offense, each inmate was asked how old he was when he first got into serious trouble. Serious trouble was defined

TABLE 11

AGE WHEN FIRST LEFT HOME
FOR 3 MONTHS OR MORE

<u>Age, years</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
8 - 9	1	1.00
10 - 11	1	1.00
12 - 13	7	7.00
14 - 15	18	18.00
16 - 17	32	32.00
18 - 19	20	20.00
20 - 21	10	10.00
22 - 23	4	4.00
24 - 25	2	2.00
26 - 27	2	2.00
28 - 29	0	--
30 - 31	0	--
Not specified	3	3.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

TABLE 12

AGE OF RECIDIVISTS AT TIME OF FIRST ARREST, FIRST CONFINEMENT,
FIRST ARREST FOR A SERIOUS OFFENSE, AND FIRST CONVICTION OR ADJUDICATION

Age, years	ARREST		CONFINEMENT		ARREST FOR A SERIOUS OFFENSE		CONVICTION OR ADJUDICATION	
	Number Inmates	Percent Inmates	Number Inmates	Percent Inmates	Number Inmates	Percent Inmates	Number Inmates	Percent Inmates
8 - 12	21	21.00	7	7.00	2	2.00	5	5.00
13 - 17	50	50.00	56	56.00	34	34.00	43	43.00
18 - 21	14	14.00	14	14.00	31	31.00	19	19.00
22 - 25	8	8.00	11	11.00	15	15.00	15	15.00
26 - 30	5	5.00	7	7.00	10	10.00	9	9.00
31 - 35	1	1.00	2	2.00	3	3.00	4	4.00
36 or older	1	1.00	3	3.00	5	5.00	4	4.00
Not specified	0	--	0	--	0	--	1	1.00
TOTAL	100	100.00	100	100.00	100	100.00	100	100.00

as being apprehended while engaged in crimes such as shoplifting, auto theft, burglary, et cetera. Thirty-six percent admitted being in serious trouble by age 17 and 46% of the offenders were first in serious trouble between the ages of 18 and 25 (Table 12). The mean age was 20.

The age at which the members of the sample claimed they were first convicted or adjudicated for a crime is reported in Table 12. Forty-nine percent of the recidivists had been convicted or adjudicated by age 17 and 35% were convicted between the ages of 18 and 25. The mean age for first conviction was 19.

The correlation coefficient showed that the younger an inmate was when first convicted the more likely he had been confined in a reformatory¹¹ and had had a juvenile probation.¹² Regarding juvenile involvement in crime, 26% of the recidivists claimed they had received juvenile probated sentences, 25% of the sample stated they had been confined in detention homes, and 28% admitted being

11 $r = -.208, p = .03$

12 $r = -.405, p = .0001$

previously confined in a reformatory. For a detailed presentation of juvenile-related data, refer to Table 13.

When asked, "How many times have you previously been in jail for 48 hours or more?", 5% claimed they had never been confined for that length of time, 36% stated they had been in jail one to five times, and 24% admitted being confined in jails six to 11 times. In addition, 35% reported being confined in jails 12 or more times. The correlation coefficient revealed that those offenders who had numerous jail confinements also were more likely to be admitted alcoholics.¹³

In order to better portray the jail time served by the recidivists, each inmate was asked how many times he had been in jail 30 days or more for other than the current offenses. Fifty percent of the sample had not been confined previously for a period of 30 days or more. Twenty-seven percent had been confined only one time for 30 days or more. The remaining 23% had been confined from 2 to 9 times for 30 days or more. When asked if

13 $r_{pb} = +.227, p = .0216$

TABLE 13

RECORD, AS JUVENILES, OF CONFINEMENTS AND
PROBATED SENTENCES OF RECIDIVISTS

<u>Number of Times</u>	CONFINEMENT IN DETENTION HOME		PROBATED SENTENCE		CONFINEMENT IN REFORMATORY	
	<u>Number Inmates</u>	<u>Percent Inmates</u>	<u>Number Inmates</u>	<u>Percent Inmates</u>	<u>Number Inmates</u>	<u>Percent Inmates</u>
0	75	75.00	74	74.00	72	72.00
1	8	8.00	24	24.00	15	15.00
2	3	3.00	2	2.00	10	10.00
3	1	1.00	0	--	2	2.00
4	1	1.00	0	--	1	1.00
5	0	--	0	--	0	--
6	1	1.00	0	--	0	--
7	1	1.00	0	--	0	--
8	2	2.00	0	--	0	--
9	0	--	0	--	0	--
10	3	3.00	0	--	0	--
11 or more	5	5.00	0	--	0	--
TOTAL	100	100.00	100	100.00	100	100.00

they had ever served a jail sentence, 20% said they had served out fines and 31% stated they had been sentenced to jail for an offense. Forty-nine percent of the offenders claimed they had never served a jail sentence.

Probated sentences, as adults, were received only once by 45% of the recidivists sampled, 5% admitted having two probations, and 1% had three. Almost half of the recidivists, 49%, had never had an adult probated sentence.

The number of times each recidivist had previously been incarcerated in TDC is shown in Table 14. Fifty-one percent had served one prior sentence in TDC, 33% had served two prior sentences, and 11% had served three. Five percent of the sample claimed to have been previously confined four or more times.

PRIOR INSTITUTIONAL EXPERIENCE

The variables in this section characterize the inmate's prior institutional life. These variables are primarily concerned with what the recidivist did while last incarcerated in TDC.

The length of sentences received by the recidivists in this sample when last incarcerated are presented in Table 15. The range of sentences was from 1 to 20 years.

TABLE 14

PREVIOUS CONFINEMENTS IN TDC

<u>Number of Confinements</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
1	51	51.00
2	33	33.00
3	11	11.00
4	3	3.00
5	0	--
6	2	2.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

TABLE 15

MAXIMUM LENGTH OF PREVIOUS SENTENCE

<u>Maximum Sentence, -years</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
1 - 2	33	33.00
3 - 4	28	28.00
5 - 6	18	18.00
7 - 8	7	7.00
9 - 10	5	5.00
11 - 12	4	4.00
13 - 14	2	2.00
15 - 16	0	--
17 - 18	2	2.00
19 - 20	1	1.00
21 or more	0	--
TOTAL	100	100.00

Thirty-one percent of the offenders had received 2-year sentences and 3- to 5-year sentences had been given to 42% of the sample. A total of 75% of the inmates had previous sentences of 5 years or less. The mean sentence previously received by this sample was 4 years 9 months.

The actual amount of time the members of this sample served when last incarcerated in TDC (Table 16) ranged from 1 month to 99 months. The mean sentence served was 26.4 months. Sixty-five percent of the sample claimed they served 2 years or less when last confined in TDC, while 95% served 5 years or less. The correlation coefficient revealed that the longer an inmate was previously confined, the less likely he believed that prison was a deterrence to crime.¹⁴

Table 17 presents data on the recidivists' prison work assignments prior to Pre-Release. Agriculture provided employment for 37% of the recidivists; food service, truck or tractor driver, and unskilled labor jobs were each performed by 12% of the sample. It is important to point out that all recidivists were previously employed in TDC.

¹⁴ $r_{pb} = -.265, p = .007$

TABLE 16

ACTUAL TIME SERVED ON PREVIOUS SENTENCE

<u>Time Served, months</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
1 - 12	18	18.00
13 - 24	47	47.00
25 - 36	14	14.00
37 - 48	11	11.00
49 - 60	5	5.00
61 - 72	1	1.00
73 or more	4	4.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

TABLE 17

LAST WORK ASSIGNMENT IN TDC
PRIOR TO PRE-RELEASE

<u>Work Assignment</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
Food service	12	12.00
Typing and book- keeping	2	2.00
Orderly or office clerk	6	6.00
Skilled (other than above)	8	8.00
Semi-skilled (other than above)	8	8.00
Unskilled	12	12.00
Agriculture	37	37.00
Truck or tractor driver	12	12.00
Other	3	3.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

Regarding program participation, each inmate was asked if he had ever attended academic school in TDC. Fifty-three percent of the recidivists stated they had attended school and 46% had not.

Each inmate was asked if his prison job assignment restricted his opportunity to participate in the academic programs. Twelve percent of the inmates said it did, while 85% stated it did not and 3% did not know. The fact that 12% had jobs which they claimed restricted their participation does not imply that the 12% wanted to participate.

When asked if they had ever participated in a vocational training program at TDC, 94% of the recidivists stated they had not. Of the 6 inmates who had received vocational training, 1 each received training in welding, culinary arts, auto body repair, brick laying, tractor mechanics, and baking.

In response to questioning regarding voluntary programs in TDC, 6% of the sample stated they had participated in Alcoholics Anonymous and 18% of the inmates claimed they participated in religious programs when previously confined. Other programs receiving responses were group counseling and recreation programs with 1%

and 3%, respectively. Thirty-nine percent of the recidivist inmates sampled claimed to have participated previously in a combination of the aforementioned programs while 33% reported they participated in no programs.

When asked, "Have you participated in Pre-Release?", 63% of the sample claimed they had, 35% said they had not, and 2% did not attend Pre-Release because of medical problems. A subjective question was interposed regarding Pre-Release: each inmate was asked if he thought Pre-Release was beneficial. Seventy percent of the inmates stated that they believed it would be beneficial, 14% thought it was not, and 16% said they did not know because they had never attended.

In order to determine if the inmates sampled had any support from family members while incarcerated, they were questioned regarding visitors during last incarceration. Fifty-nine percent of them said they had visitors and 40% claimed no visitors when last confined. When inmates with no visitors were asked why they had no visitors, 32% stated their relatives had no transportation and 20% said it was too far for their relatives to travel. Twenty-two percent claimed they did not want any visitors and 12% reported they had no one who would visit. Too short a

sentence and relatives did not have the money to make the trip were other reasons for not having visitors.

The age of the offenders when last released is presented in Table 18. The 18- to 22-year-old age group comprised 23% of the sample, those inmates who were 23 to 27 when last released accounted for 25% of the recidivists, 32% were 28 to 37, and 20% were 38 or older. Relating to age, correlation coefficient showed that the older an inmate was when last released, the more likely he was an admitted alcoholic.¹⁵

Data were collected on the type of release received by the sample. Seventy-six percent of the sample discharged their last sentence and 20% claimed to have received a parole. One inmate (1%) stated he last left TDC on a bench warrant and one inmate (1%) reported he received a pardon. Data on 2 inmates were unavailable.

POSTINSTITUTIONAL FACTORS

The postinstitutional factors are those variables related to the social and employment characteristics of

¹⁵ $r_{pb} = .207, p = .036$

TABLE 18

AGE OF RECIDIVISTS WHEN LAST
RELEASED FROM TDC

<u>Age, years</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
18 - 22	23	23.00
23 - 27	25	25.00
28 - 32	24	24.00
33 - 37	8	8.00
38 - 42	7	7.00
43 - 47	4	4.00
48 - 52	2	2.00
53 - 57	2	2.00
58 - 62	3	3.00
Unknown	2	2.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

the offenders between last confinement and current confinement. This section will attempt to provide information about where the offender went when last released, with whom he was in contact, the length of time it took him to find a job, and other related social and employment data.

Each inmate sampled was questioned regarding where he went when last released from TDC. The majority of the offenders (85%) returned to their families when released. In addition, 5% claimed they returned to their families briefly and then went on their own. Ten percent of the sample stated they started on their own immediately after release. When questioned about geographic areas, 82% reported they returned to the county they lived in prior to incarceration. Seventeen percent claimed they went to a new area.

When asked, "During your last release, did you associate with the same friends you knew before your first trip to TDC?", 55% said no. Thirty-four percent stated they did associate with the same friends while 11% said they did some of the time. Asked if their friends had criminal records, 52% responded yes, 43% replied no, and 5% were not sure.

The sample members were asked if their families helped them get started when last released. Seventy-eight percent reported their families did help and 19% claimed no help from their families. The responses of three inmates were not specific enough to classify.

The method used by the recidivists to obtain employment on their first job after release is presented in Table 19. The table shows that 26% of the sample had help from their families with their first jobs, 21% had a friend's help, and 19% secured employment by simple application. The Texas Employment Commission obtained employment for 10% of the sample, 6% returned to an old job, and 8% used some other method not previously mentioned. Ten percent of the sample stated they had not been employed since last released from TDC.

The length of time it took the sample members after release to find employment that lasted a week or more is presented in Table 20. Fifty-one percent of the offenders claimed they secured jobs within one week after release and 18% reported they obtained employment within 2 to 4 weeks after release. The 7% who began work immediately after release had previously arranged for jobs. Thirteen percent stated they never had a job which lasted a week

TABLE 19

METHOD OF OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT
ON FIRST JOB AFTER RELEASE

<u>Method</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
Family	26	26.00
Friend	21	21.00
Simple application	19	19.00
Texas Employment Commission	10	10.00
Returned to old job	6	6.00
Other	8	8.00
No job	10	10.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

TABLE 20

LENGTH OF TIME TO FIND
EMPLOYMENT AFTER RELEASE

<u>Number of Weeks</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
1	51	51.00
2	6	6.00
3	4	4.00
4	8	8.00
5	0	--
6	3	3.00
7	0	--
8	1	1.00
9	0	--
10 or more	7	7.00
No job	13	13.00
Job arranged prior to release	7	7.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

or more since they were last released.

The number of jobs held by recidivists since last release from TDC is shown in Table 21. Twenty percent of the sample had held one job, 41% had held two or three jobs, 9% had held 4 jobs, and 9% had held 5 jobs since last release. Ten percent of the offenders stated they had never gained employment.

When asked, "Did being an ex-inmate limit your chances to find a job?", 47% claimed it did. Forty-eight percent said that being an ex-inmate did not affect their ability to find employment and 5% stated they did not know.

Asked if they had been refused membership in a labor union since last released, 6% claimed they had. Thirty percent reported they had not been refused, while 64% had never applied. There was no indication that being an ex-inmate kept sample members from joining labor unions.

In response to the question, "Were the resources available to you upon your release from TDC sufficient for you to get back on your feet or to earn a livelihood?", 65% said the resources were not sufficient and 35% reported they were. Asked about the length of time they

TABLE 21

NUMBER OF JOBS HELD BY THE RECIDIVISTS
SINCE LAST RELEASE FROM TDC

<u>Number of Jobs</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
0	10	10.00
1	20	20.00
2	20	20.00
3	21	21.00
4	9	9.00
5	9	9.00
6	2	2.00
7	2	2.00
8	2	2.00
9	0	--
10	1	1.00
11 or more	4	4.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

used their prison release clothing, 75% claimed one day. Fourteen percent stated they used the clothes to work in until they wore out. The remaining 11% claimed they used the clothes one to two weeks or until they could afford to buy some other clothes.

When asked if they thought they had a fair chance to make it since last release from TDC, 83% said they did. Fifteen percent stated they did not have a fair chance, while 2% did not know.

When asked, "Is prison a deterrence to crime?", 26% of the sample responded yes. A large number of the recidivists studied (67%) expressed a belief that prison does not deter people from crime and 7% were not sure.

In response to the question, "Does the fact that another conviction could mean trial as an habitual deter you from crime?", 59% stated yes, 37% replied no, and 4% did not know.

CURRENT OFFENSE INFORMATION

The current offense variables investigate what brought the offenders back to TDC and check the hypothesis that the rate of recidivism is highest during the first few months after release. Another purpose of this

section is to present data on the types of crimes recidivists commit. An objective of this study was to determine if recidivists continue to commit the same type of crimes or tend to commit increasingly more serious offenses.

Data relating to the interval of time between last release from prison and arrest for the current offense are presented in Table 22. Of the recidivist population studied, 24% had committed the current offense within 6 months after their last release and 18% within 7 to 12 months. Fifty-one percent had been arrested for the current offense within 18 months after release. Those inmates who were not arrested until 3 to 5 years after release accounted for 16% of the sample and 15% of the recidivists had remained free for more than 5 years.

The data on length of time between release and arrest for the current offense supports the hypothesis that the highest rate of recidivism is within the first few months after release. For example, the period of highest recidivism rate was 1 to 6 months, accounting for 24% of the group studied. This period was followed closely by the 7- to 12-month period when 18% of the sample recidivated.

When asked, "How many arrests did you have between

TABLE 22

LENGTH OF TIME BETWEEN RELEASE FROM
PRISON AND ARREST FOR CURRENT OFFENSE

<u>Number of Months</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
1 - 6	24	24.00
7 - 12	18	18.00
13 - 18	9	9.00
19 - 24	5	5.00
25 - 30	7	7.00
31 - 36	6	6.00
37 - 42	5	5.00
43 - 48	4	4.00
49 - 54	2	2.00
55 - 60	5	5.00
61 or more	15	15.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

your last release from prison and your arrest for the current offense?", 33% claimed no other arrest. In addition, 19% reported only one arrest while 21% claimed two. Nineteen percent had three to five arrests and 8% claimed six or more arrests for other than the current offense.

A list of offenses for which the sample members are incarcerated is presented in Table 23. The 100 inmates sampled were convicted for committing 140 offenses. The recidivists in the sample were guilty of committing 38 burglaries, 30 thefts over \$50, 21 drug offenses, 19 forgeries, and 11 robberies. In addition, four were committed to TDC for homicide, four for auto theft, four for fraud, four for driving while intoxicated, two for sexual assault, two for carrying prohibited weapons, one for extortion, and one for an offense against public peace.

When the current offenses were compared to the prior offenses, it was found that the most frequently repeated offense was burglary with 28. Other offenses frequently repeated were theft with 11 and drugs with eight (Table 23). Information concerning whether or not the offenders were

TABLE 23

SUMMARY OF OFFENSES COMMITTED
BY RECIDIVISTS

Type of Offense	Prior Offenses	Current Offenses	Repeat Offenses
Homicide	3	4	1
Sexual assault	2	2	1
Robbery	11	11	3
Assault	1	0	0
Arson	1	0	0
Extortion	0	1	0
Burglary	70	38	28
Theft	32	30	11
Stolen vehicle	15	4	4
Forgery	30	19	4
Fraud	7	4	3
Embezzlement	1	0	0
Property damage	1	0	0
Drugs	17	21	8
Sex offense	1	0	0
Weapons	1	2	1
Public peace	0	1	0
DWI	3	4	2
Family offense	1	0	0

repeating the same offenses or committing more serious offenses is as follows:

Repeated same offense	61 inmates
Repeated property offense	61 inmates
Repeated offense against person	5 inmates
Committed more serious offense	9 inmates
Committed less serious offense	9 inmates

The amount of bond ranged from \$1000 to denial of bond. Twelve percent of the offenders were held without bond because they were accused of capital offenses or considered habitual criminals. Thirty-six percent of the sample had bonds from \$1000 to \$2000 and 71% had bonds of \$10,000 or less.

Questions regarding whether or not the inmates sampled had made bond revealed that 26% had. Seventy-three percent of the sample claimed they had not made bond on the current offense.

The length of time each sample member waited from arrest to trial for the current offense was recorded. The mean wait was 6 months; however, because of skewed data the median, 3 months, was a better measurement of the typical wait. Twenty-seven percent of the sample

recidivists population claimed they waited a month or less for trial and 74% waited 6 months or less for trial. Only 10% of the sample waited longer than a year for trial. The length of time the inmates waited could have been spent either in jail or out free on bond.

When asked, "How did you obtain your lawyer?", 64% stated their lawyer was state appointed. Twenty-six percent of the sample claimed they hired an attorney for their defense and 9% reported that their families provided an attorney (Table 24).

The number of times members of the sample saw their attorneys is shown in Table 25. This number includes pre-trial conferences, jail visitations, and court appearances. Twenty-nine percent of the offenders claimed they saw their attorneys once -- in court on the day of their trial. Twenty-six percent stated they saw their lawyers twice and 15% reported they saw their lawyers three times. The remaining 30% of the offenders saw their lawyers from four to 50 times.

When questioned regarding how they pleaded, 87% reported they pleaded guilty. Nine percent claimed they pleaded not guilty, while 4% pleaded both guilty and not guilty. Fourteen percent of the offenders reported having

jury trials. Eighty-six percent of the offenders stated they did not have a jury trial. When asked, "Who sentenced you?", 93% of the sample claimed the judge did the sentencing and 6% stated the jury did.

The correlation coefficient showed that those offenders who had private lawyers had fewer arrests since last release¹⁶ and had previously served shorter sentences.¹⁷ The more times an inmate saw his attorney, the more likely he pleaded not guilty,¹⁸ the longer his current sentence was,¹⁹ and the more likely he was an alcoholic.²⁰

The 100 inmates sampled were questioned regarding detainer and codefendants. There were 96 who reported no detainers, one inmate said he had a detainer, and three were not sure. Seventy-one percent of the inmates interviewed claimed they had no codefendants. Sixteen percent had one codefendant, 7% had two, 3% had three, and 3% had four to six.

$$16 \ r_{pb} = .446, \ p = .0001$$

$$17 \ r_{pb} = .468, \ p = .0001$$

$$18 \ r_{pb} = .915, \ p = .0001$$

$$19 \ r = .252, \ p = .01$$

$$20 \ r_{pb} = .216, \ p = .02$$

TABLE 24

METHOD USED TO OBTAIN DEFENSE
ATTORNEY FOR TRIAL RESULTING
IN MOST RECENT CONVICTION

<u>Method</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
Self-retained	26	26.00
Provided by family	9	9.00
Provided by state	64	64.00
Provided by bene- factor	1	1.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

TABLE 25

NUMBER OF TIMES OFFENDER SAW HIS
ATTORNEY FROM TIME OF ARREST
TO COMPLETION OF TRIAL

<u>Number of Times</u>	<u>Number of Inmates</u>	<u>Percent of Inmates</u>
1	29	29.00
2	26	26.00
3	15	15.00
4	3	3.00
5	2	2.00
6	5	5.00
7	1	1.00
8	3	3.00
9	0	--
10	3	3.00
11 or more	13	13.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

The current maximum sentences received by the sample members are shown in Table 26. The median sentence was 5 years. Thirty-six percent of the offenders had sentences of 2 to 3 years and the group with 4- to 5-year sentences comprised 22% of the sample. The data also showed that 97% of the recidivists had sentences of 20 years or less.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG INFORMATION

This section presents data on the use and abuse of alcohol and drugs by members of the sample. The data obtained were probably reported conservatively because offenders are reluctant to disclose information concerning drug abuse.

When asked if they drank alcoholic beverage, 71% of the recidivists said they did and 29% claimed they did not. When asked how often they got drunk, 38% said either they did not drink or they never got drunk, 40% stated they got drunk occasionally and were moderate drinkers, and 12% of the sample reported they got drunk every weekend. When asked if they considered themselves alcoholics, 10% of the sample stated they were.

The questioning regarding drug usage revealed that 62% of the sample did not use drugs. Seven percent of

TABLE 26

CURRENT MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF THE
RECIDIVISTS

Maximum Sentence, years	Number of Inmates	Percent of Inmates
2 - 3	36	36.00
4 - 5	22	22.00
6 - 7	7	7.00
8 - 9	9	9.00
10 - 11	11	11.00
12 - 13	4	4.00
14 - 15	6	6.00
16 - 17	1	1.00
18 - 19	0	--
20 or more	4	4.00
TOTAL	100	100.00

the offenders stated they used marijuana. Opium and opium derivatives were used by 26% of the sample. Four percent reported they used all kinds of drugs, while 1% claimed they used only amphetamines.

When asked, "How often do you use drugs?", 11% stated they used drugs only experimentally, 4% of the offenders claimed they used drugs daily but were not addicted, and 22% of the inmates sampled stated they had previously been addicted to some drug.

The correlation coefficient revealed that those offenders who were alcoholics were older at first arrest,²¹ first confinement,²² and first conviction.²³ The alcoholics probably had more jail sentences²⁴ and were more likely to have a probated sentence²⁵ on their record.

Concerning drug information, the correlation coefficient showed that offenders who used drugs probably

21 $r_{pb} = .248, p = .01$

22 $r_{pb} = .200, p = .04$

23 $r_{pb} = .285, p = .004$

24 $r_{pb} = .227, p = .02$

25 $r_{pb} = .216, p = .02$

served shorter actual sentences when last incarcerated²⁶ and had fewer jobs between sentences.²⁷ Those offenders who were drug addicts were likely to have a comparatively lower income prior to incarceration²⁸ and were probably employed less often and for shorter periods of time²⁹ than non-addicted offenders. One possible explanation is that an addict needs more money than he can obtain legally; therefore, to seek employment would be time consuming and serve no practical end.

In summary, 10% of the recidivists sampled reported they were alcoholics and 22% of the offenders stated they had been addicted to drugs. Therefore, 32% of the recidivists admitted they had alcohol or drug related problems.

26 $r_{pb} = -.266, p = .007$

27 $r_{pb} = -.339, p = .0009$

28 $r_{pb} = -.199, p = .04$

29 $r_{pb} = -.280, p = .004$

STUDY HIGHLIGHTS

These highlights were compiled from data in frequency distributions and the correlation matrix. All data selected from the correlation matrix were significant at the .05 level or better. The following statements do not necessarily delineate the causes of recidivism but rather describe traits characteristic of recidivists.

1. Recidivist offenders tended to have their first encounter with the law as juveniles.

2. Recidivists tended not to have served in the military; however, the majority of recidivists who had served in the military received other than honorable discharges.

3. The older a recidivist was, the higher the probability he had served in the military.

4. Recidivists who had served in the military tended to be older at first arrest, first confinement, and first conviction.

5. Recidivists usually resided in an urban area prior to incarceration for the current offense.

6. Recidivists had lived in their claimed counties of residence for at least 5 years.

7. Recidivists usually had family members in the area in which they resided.

8. Recidivists had received a formal education of less than 12 years.

9. The younger a recidivist was when first convicted the more likely he had been confined in a reformatory and had received a juvenile probation.

10. The older a recidivist offender was, the higher the probability he was an alcoholic.

11. Recidivists usually have not participated in vocational training programs either in TDC or in civilian life.

12. Recidivists tended to participate in either the religious program, Alcoholics Anonymous, or recreation program while confined.

13. The majority of recidivists secured employment within a month after their last release from TDC.

14. Recidivists tended to repeat the same offense.

15. Crimes against property are the types most likely to be repeated by recidivists.

16. Recidivists tended not to be released on bond because of their inability to secure the necessary funds.

17. Recidivists usually pleaded guilty to the current offense and were represented by a court appointed attorney.

18. Recidivists tended to receive sentences of from 2 to 5 years.

19. The majority of recidivists believe that prison is not a deterrence to crime.

20. The longer a recidivist was previously incarcerated the higher the probability he believed that prison is not a deterrence to crime.

IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

This study was designed to identify variables related to recidivists and to evaluate those variables in order to establish correlates common to recidivists. The section of this document which deserves serious consideration deals with prior institutional experience. The data contained in this section pertains to the inmate's program participation.

It was found that approximately half of the recidivist offenders participated in the Department's academic programs. There is little doubt that participation, per se, is a valuable experience. However, there was no indication as to whether or not participation affected recidivism. Therefore, it would be desirable to conduct research aimed

at determining the effectiveness of the academic program on recidivism.

The data concerning the recidivist participation in TDC vocational programs revealed that only six inmates from the sample had participated. The question arises, were the number of failures small because of the success of the program or because only a few inmates had participated. Again, further research is needed to determine the effectiveness of the vocational programs.

It is likely that the characteristics of the recidivist will change over time. It is probable that existing programs will be modified and expanded and that new programs will be developed. A re-examination would, therefore, assist in the evaluation of the existing programs as well as examine the new programs while providing additional and more recent data on the recidivist.

This study has presented more extensive data on recidivists than has previously been available. However, this study should be followed by inquiries into program evaluation and postinstitutional social adjustment. There is a need for studies that will determine the characteristics of those inmates who do not recidivate. And finally, there is a need for predictive models which will predict who will recidivate and who will not.

QUESTIONNAIRE

APPENDIX A
QUESTIONNAIRE

PROJECT NUMBER			SUBJECT ID	
COL #	DATA	INFO #	DATA	CODING INFORMATION
1-6		1	Inmate Number	Actual Number
7		2	Race	1. Negro 4. Other 2. Caucasian 3. Mexican-American
8-9		3	Age	Actual Number (Years)
10		4	Marital Status upon first admission	1. Single 4. Separated 2. Married 5. Common-law 3. Divorced 6. Other
11		5	Current Marital Status	1. Single 4. Separated 2. Married 5. Widowed 3. Divorced 6. Common-law 7. Other
12		6	Were you eligible for the military?	1. Yes 2. No, because of prior record 3. No, because of medical or health problem 4. Unknown
13		7	Type of Military Discharge	1. Honorable 5. General 2. Dishonorable 6. Medical 3. Undesirable 7. No Service 4. BCD
14-16		8	County of residence at time of arrest	Code
17-18		9	How long did you live in your county of residence?	Actual Number (Months)
19		10	Were you living with your family at the time of your arrest for this offense?	Code
20		11	Were you supporting your family one year prior to your conviction?	1. Yes 2. Yes, part of a year 3. No 4. No, incarcerated 5. Hospitalized

PROJECT NUMBER			SUBJECT ID	
COL #	DATA	INFO #	DATA	CODING INFORMATION
21		12	Were you or your family receiving assistance one year prior to your arrest?	1. Yes 2. No
22		13	Is your family receiving any assistance while you are currently incarcerated?	1. Yes, aid to dependent 2. Yes, food stamps 3. Yes, other 4. No 5. Unknown
23-24		14	What members of your family are you in contact with at least once a month?	Record, to be encoded after study completed
25		15	Did you have any visitors the last time you were incarcerated?	1. Yes 2. No
26-27		16	If yes, who visited you?	1. No visitors 2. List: (Encode later)
28-29		17	If no, why didn't you get any visitors?	List
30		18	When you were released last time, did you go back to the area you lived in before?	1. Yes 2. No
31-32		19	Who was dependent upon you for financial support?	Record, to be encoded after study is completed
33		20	During your last release, did you associate with the same friends you knew before your first trip?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Sometimes
34		21	Did some of your friends have criminal records?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown
35-36		22	How old were you the first time you were arrested?	Actual Number

PROJECT NUMBER			SUBJECT ID	
COL #	DATA	INFO #	DATA	CODING INFORMATION
37-38		23	How old were you the first time you were confined for any offense?	Actual Number
39-40		24	How old were you the first time you were in big trouble?	Actual Number
41-42		25	How old were you the first time you left home for three months or more on your own?	Actual Number
43-44		26	How old were you the first time you were convicted or adjudicated in a court for a crime?	Actual Number
45		27	How many juvenile probation sentences have you had?	Actual Number
46-47		28	How many detention homes have you been in?	Actual Number
48-49		29	How many juvenile reformatories have you been in?	Actual Number
50-55		30	What felony offenses have you previously been convicted of?	Code (three offenses with longest sentences)
56-57		31	How many times have you previously been in jail? (48 hours or more)	Actual Number
58		32	How many times have you done big time in jail?	Actual Number
59		33	Have you ever served a jail sentence?	1. Fine 2. Committed 3. No jail sentence
60		34	Have you been in any other prison since last release from TDC?	1. Yes 2. No

PROJECT NUMBER			SUBJECT ID	
COL #	DATA	INFO #	DATA	CODING INFORMATION
61		35	How many times have you been in TDC?	Actual Number
62		36	How many probated sentences have you had as an adult?	Actual Number
63		37	How did you leave your last release from TDC?	1. Discharge 5. Pardon 2. Parole 3. Escape 4. B/W
64-65		38	How old were you when you were last released from prison?	Actual Number
66-71		39	What offense are you sentenced for this time?	Code (Three offenses)
72		40	How did you plead?	1. Guilty 2. Not Guilty 3. Both
73-75		41	What percentage of the time did you plead guilty?	Actual percentage
1-6			Inmate Number	
7			Card Number	
8-13		42	What offenses did you plead guilty to?	Code 3 offenses
14		43	How did you obtain a lawyer?	1. Self-retained 2. Provided by family 3. Provided by state 4. Benefactor

PROJECT NUMBER			SUBJECT ID	
COL #	DATA	INFO #	DATA	CODING INFORMATION
15-16		44	How often did you see your lawyer?	Actual Number
17		45	Did you have a trial by jury?	1. Yes 2. No
18		46	Who sentenced you?	1. Judge 2. Jury
19		47	Did you make bail after true bill from grand jury?	1. Yes 2. No
20-23		48	What was the amount of your bond at first arrest?	Actual Number (Thousands)
24-26		49	What was the amount of your bond after true bill from the grand jury?	Actual Number (Thousands)
27-28		50	How long did you wait before trial?	Actual Number (Months)
29		51	How long did you live in the county you were sentenced from? (months)	1. 1-6 5. 60+ 2. 6-12 6. Did not reside 3. 12-36 in county 4. 36-60
30		52	Do you have any detainers?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown
31		53	How many codefendants did you have?	Actual Number
32-33		54	How long were you out of prison before you were arrested for the current offense?	Actual Number (Months)
34-35		55	How many arrests did you have between your last release from prison and your arrest for the current offense?	Actual Number

PROJECT NUMBER			SUBJECT ID	
COL #	DATA	INFO #	DATA	CODING INFORMATION
36		56	How many convictions have you had between your last release from TDC and your conviction for the current offense?	Actual Number
37-38		57	How much time were you sentenced to previously?	Actual Number (Years)
39-41		58	How long did you serve?	Actual Number (Months)
42-44		59	What was the maximum time you got for the current offense(s)?	Actual Number (Years)
45		60	Did you appeal your case?	1. Yes 2. No
46-47		61	How long did you stay in jail before coming to TDC after receiving your sentence?	Actual Number (Weeks)
48-49		62	How long did you stay in jail awaiting outcome of your appeal?	Actual Number (Weeks)
50-51		63	What is the highest grade you completed in school?	Actual Number
52-53		64	Have you ever had an opportunity to learn a skill? If so, what skill?	Open End (Code later)
54-55		65	Where did you learn a skill?	Open End (Code later)
56		66	Have you participated in any academic programs while confined in TDC?	1. Yes 2. No
57		67	Have you picked up any skills informally like on the job or as a helper?	1. Yes 2. No

PROJECT NUMBER			SUBJECT ID	
COL #	DATA	INFO #	DATA	CODING INFORMATION
58		68	Have you furthered your vocational training since leaving TDC?	1. Yes 2. No
59-60		69	Did you participate in a vocational training program at TDC?	Code after study completed
61		70	If a member of a formal training program at TDC, did the program help you obtain a free world job?	1. Yes 2. No 3. No program
62		71	Did you use any of the skills that you picked up while at TDC in your free world occupation?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown
63		72	Did your job assignment restrict your participation in the education programs?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown
64-65		73	What type of work did you typically do in the free world?	Code after study completed List:
66-68		74	How much did you make at that job a month?	Actual Amount
69-70		75	How long did it take you to find your first job after your last release? (job which lasted a week or more)	Actual Number (Weeks)
71-72		76	How many jobs have you held for one week or longer during the time you were last released from TDC?	Actual Number

PROJECT NUMBER			SUBJECT ID	
COL #	DATA	INFO #	DATA	CODING INFORMATION
73-74		77	During the last two years in the free world, how much time were you employed?	Actual Number
75-76		78	What is the longest time you have spent on one civilian job? (Months)	Actual Number
77		79	On what type of job have you been employed the longest?	1. Unskilled labor 2. Car, truck, or tractor driver 3. Semi-skilled or less than 2 years at skill 4. Skilled 5. White collar or business owner 6. Never employed
78		80	Did your longest civilian job require any training?	1. Yes 2. No 3. No job
79-80		81	Did any of the following sources of prison aid help you in jobs requiring training?	Code
1-6			Inmate Number	
7			Card Number	
8		82	Did being an ex-inmate limit your chances to find a job?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown
9		83	Was a job arranged for you prior to your release?	1. Job arranged and procured 2. Job arranged and not procured 3. No job arranged
10		84	Were you refused membership in a labor union?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Never applied
11-12		85	How did you obtain your first job?	Code after study completed List:

PROJECT NUMBER			SUBJECT ID	
COL #	DATA	INFO #	DATA	CODING INFORMATION
13-14		86	What was your last prison work assignment?	Code
15		87	Did you participate in any of the following programs?	1. AA 2. Religious programs 3. Group sessions 4. Recreation programs 5. Combined 6. None
16		88	Have you participated in Pre-Release?	1. Yes 2. No 3. No, because of medical reasons
17		89	Do you think Pre-Release is beneficial?	1. Yes 2. No
18-19		90	What agencies have helped you since release from TDC?	Code
20		91	Did you have any family to go to when you were released?	List (Code after study completed)
21		92	Did your family help you get started?	
22-23		93	Where did you go when you were last released, ie, to family, friends, Salvation Army, etc.?	Open Ended
24		94	Do you think you have had a fair chance to make it in the free world since your last trip to TDC?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown
25		95	Do you drink?	

PROJECT NUMBER			SUBJECT ID	
COL #	DATA	INFO #	DATA	CODING INFORMATION
26		96	How often do you get drunk in a week?	
27-28		97	What kind of drugs do you use?	
29		98	How often do you use drugs?	
30-31		99	Why did you commit the current offense?	Open Ended
32-33		100	When you got out last time what did you fear the most?	
34		101	Did you think you would make it last time?	1. Yes 2. No
35		102	Is prison a deterrence to crime for you?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Unknown
36		103	Does the fact that another conviction could mean trial as an habitual deter you from crime?	1. Yes 2. No
37-38		104	What is the most important thing a man needs when he leaves?	
39		105	How long did you use prison release clothing?	1. One day 5. Until I could buy some other clothes. 2. One week 3. Two weeks 4. One month
40		106	Did you have family to return to after your release?	1. Yes 2. No
41-43		107	What percentage of inmates taking this questionnaire do you think answered it truthfully?	

APPENDIX B
CORRELATION MATRIX

CORRELATION MATRIX CODES

DATA
ANALYSIS
NUMBER

1	Age at interview
2	Current marital status
3	Eligibility for military
4	Type of release received from military
5	Length of residence in county
6	Income prior to incarceration
7	Age, first arrest
8	Age, first confined
9	Age, first serious trouble
10	Age, first left home
11	Age, first convicted
12	Juvenile probations, number
13	Number confinements, detention homes
14	Number confinements, reformatories
15	Number confinements, jails
16	Number confinements, long jail time
17	Number of other prisons since departed TDC
18	Number of previous confinements TDC
19	Number of adult probations
20	Age at last release - TDC
21	Plea
22	How lawyer obtained
23	Number of times saw lawyer
24	Amount of bond at first arrest
25	Length of residence in county
26	Length of time released before arrest for current offense
27	Number of arrests since last release
28	Number of convictions since last release
29	Length of sentence, prior
30	Actual time previously served
31	Length of sentence, current
32	Highest grade in school
33	Academic programs - TDC
34	Skills trained OJT
35	Vocational training since confinement
36	Vocational training - TDC
37	Income, prior to current confinement
38	Length of time to find employment after release
39	How many jobs since last released
40	How much were you employed
41	What is the longest time on one job
42	Use of alcohol
43	Alcoholic
44	Use of drugs
45	Drug addict
46	Is prison deterrence
47	Is habitual deterrence

CORRELATION MATRIX

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
1.										
2.	.27									
3.	.42									
4.	.52									
5.	-.23			-.21						
6.	.31.		.21	.29						
7.	.59		.37	.42	-.30	.27				
8.	.64	.23	.39	.46	-.24	.36	.89			
9.	.67		.36	.41		.34	.62	.68		
10.	.22						.33	.29	.22	
11.	.70		.36	.46		.34	.70	.74	.87	.28
12.	-.28		-.31	-.30		-.24	-.37	-.35	-.31	
13.	-.21	-.24					-.23	-.28		
14.							-.25	-.24		
15.	.43			.25		.31	.27	.30	.43	.21
16.	.28	.31		.30						
17.	.28									
18.						-.20				
19.	.26									
20.	.27		.20							
21.	.28							.21	.37	.20
22.						.24				
23.	.28					.20	.22	.25	.32	.29
24.										
25.										
26.										
27.							-.25	-.23		

CORRELATION MATRIX (Continued)

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
28.					.67					
29.										
30.	.24		.28	.21						
31.	.30	.25								
32.										
33.										
34.										
35.										
36.	-.21									
37.										
38.										
39.					-.39					
40.			.22			.26	.21	.24	.24	
41.	.23		.37	.31						
42.	.36					.24		.27		
43.	.38					.25	.20	.24		
44.										
45.					-.20					
46.								-.26		
47.										

CORRELATION MATRIX (Continued)

	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
1.										
2.										
3.										
4.										
5.										
6.										
7.										
8.										
9.										
10.										
11.										
12.	-.41									
13.										
14.	-.21		.27							
15.	.42									
16.					.22					
17.					.25	.26				
18.							.39			
19.										
20.				-.40						
21.	.37	-.20			.31					
22.										
23.	.35	-.21			.37					
24.										-.23
25.			.39	.24		.24				
26.			.31							
27.										

CORRELATION MATRIX (Continued)

	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
28.										
29.				.46						
30.		-.25								
31.			-.21							
32.								.25		
33.										
34.										
35.								-.26		
36.										
37.						.20				
38.										
39.										
40.	.23									
41.										
42.	.24									
43.	.29					.23				
44.							.22	.21		
45.										
46.						.20				
47.										

CORRELATION MATRIX (Continued)

	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
1.										
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18.										
19.										
20.										
21.										
22.										
23.		.92								
24.										
25.		-.28								
26.		-.32		-.23		.89				
27.			.45							

CORRELATION MATRIX (Continued)

	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
28.										
29.		.47					.27			
30.	.22									
31.	.32		.25		-.20			-.20		
32.									.38	
33.			-.28							
34.										
35.										
36.										
37.										
38.		-.20					.21			
39.				.23						
40.									.53	
41.					-.24	-.25				
42.							-.27	.33		
43.			.22							
44.								-.27		
45.										
46.				.25	.23	.23			-.27	
47.										

CORRELATION MATRIX (Continued)

	31.	32.	33.	34.	35.	36.	37.	38.	39.	40.
28.										
29.										
30.										
31.										
32.										
33.			.26							
34.		-.30								
35.										
36.										
37.										
38.										
39.										
40.										
41.										
42.		.24								
43.		.26								
44.									-.34	
45.										-.28
46.										-.27
47.										-.26

CORRELATION MATRIX (Concluded)

	41.	42.	43.	44.	45.	46.	47.
28.							
29.							
30.							
31.							
32.							
33.							
34.							
35.							
36.							
37.							
38.							
39.							
40.							
41.							
42.		.21					
43.							
44.							
45.							
46.						-.29	
47.							

END