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THE MULTI-STATE OFFENDER

A REPORT CONCERNING STATE PRISONERS WHO WERE CRIMINALLY ACTIVE IN MORE THAN ONE STATE

Submitted to the
Bureau of Justice Statistics

by

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Executive Summary

A major issue underlying the need for improved criminal history records is the mobility of offenders across jurisdictional boundaries. Based upon a followup of a sample representing 108,580 prisoners discharged from State prisons in 11 States during 1983, substantial mobility was detected using State and Federal fingerprint records of arrests and prosecutions. Overall, about 31% of the sampled offenders had arrests in different States during the period preceding their imprisonment or within 3 years following prison discharge in 1983. About 25% of the releasees studied had prior arrests in different States and just over 10% had arrests following prison discharge in States other than the State in which they had been imprisoned. About 13% of all offenders, who had acquired approximately 1.6 million arrest charges over their criminal careers, had been arrested in at least 2 States.

These findings were obtained from a sample of more than 16,000 prisoners, drawn to represent 108,580 prisoners who were discharged during 1983 from prisons in California, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, and Texas. Together, these 11 States accounted for 57% of the State prisoners nationwide who were discharged that year.

Records of Arrests and Prosecutions (RAP sheets), based upon a fingerprint identification number, were obtained for each discharged inmate from both the State in which the prison term was served and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Together the two RAP sheets provided a list of an inmate's fingerprintable arrest and disposition transactions before and after the prison release in 1983. In addition, the two sets of criminal history records provided information on both transactions occurring within the same State and those occurring in other States. Each prisoner in the followup was tracked for exactly 3 years following prison discharge.

Prior research by the Bureau of Justice Statistics on the multistate offender (see **Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 1983**, BJS, NCJ-116261, April 1989) showed that offender mobility is an important factor in measuring post-prison recidivism. While the study found that 62.5% of prison releasees were rearrested within 3 years, the estimate of recidivism would have been 57% if followup had been limited to only those arrests occurring within the same State as the imprisonment. Records of arrests and prosecutions in other States also underscore the importance of the complete criminal history for both sentencing and correctional decisions--nearly 27% of the prisoners discharged in 1983 had records of arrests in States other than the State in which they had been serving time.

Other findings from the study include:

- An estimated 6% of the discharged prisoners had fingerprintable arrests in more than one State both preceding their incarceration and following their release from prison in 1983.

- Prior to their imprisonment, about 37% of males and 28% of the females had been arrested in more than one state. Following their discharge in 1983, about 12% of males and 8% of females had a subsequent arrest in another State.

- More than one State had fingerprint records from the arrests of 44% of the white inmates and 28% of the black inmates before their imprisonment. After prison discharge in 1983, within 3 years about 14% of whites and 8% of blacks were rearrested in at least one other State.

- Hispanic prisoners, similar to black offenders, were found to be less mobile than non-Hispanics. While about 20% of Hispanic releasees had a multistate arrest history, about 39% of non-Hispanics had such a history. After leaving prison in 1983, 7% of Hispanics and 12% of non-Hispanics had arrests in at least two States.

- Not surprisingly, the pervasiveness of multistate arrests in the criminal history increased with age--among offenders age 18 to 24 when discharged in 1983, 12% had a record of previous arrests in at least two States. Among those who were at least age 44 in 1983, 52% had prior arrests in two or more States. After release, up to age 44, the percent rearrested in other States was consistently around 10-11% regardless of age; among those age 44 or older, however, less than 8% were subsequently arrested in other States.

- Extent of education was found to be an important factor in differentiating multistate from single State offenders. Before their imprisonment, about 22% of those offenders without a high school diploma had arrests in multiple States compared to 34% of those offenders who had completed high school. During the post-prison

followup, 10% of the school dropouts and 13% of the high school graduates were arrested in States other than the one from which they were discharged. Even after controlling for race and age, more education was associated with a greater likelihood of being arrested and fingerprinted in more than one State.

■ Both pre-release and post-release mobility varied substantially across the individual States. While 49% of the discharged Oregon prisoners had previous arrests in other States, 21% of New York's releasees had multistate arrest histories. After prison release, Oregon's inmates were the most likely and New York's the least likely to have subsequent arrests in other States. Discharged offenders in Oregon and New Jersey were found to be the most likely to have out-of-State arrests in States which were contiguous to the one in which they had been imprisoned.

■ Prior to prison discharge, the 108,580 offenders had acquired more than 900,000 arrest transactions on nearly 1.4 million different arrest charges. For both arrests and charges, 13% were in multiple States. After release in 1983, within 3 years the offenders accumulated an additional 182,000 arrests on 276,000 new charges. About 12% of the post-prison arrests and charges were in States other than the one in which the imprisonment term had been served. Comparing offenders with at least two arrests, multistate offenders had a larger number of arrests per offender both prior to and following their discharge from prison in 1983 than did those whose arrests were limited to a single State. However, after controlling for age (exposure time), differences in the number of arrests per person for single State and multistate offenders largely disappeared.

■ Little difference was found between single State offenders and those who had arrests in multiple States preceding their incarceration in the percentage rearrested within 3 years of prison release--62% and 64% respectively.

■ For most offense categories, prisoners with prior arrests in more than one State served longer prison terms than prisoners with arrests in a single State only. However, after taking criminal history into account, these differences largely disappeared

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Of the 108,580 persons released from prisons in eleven states in 1983, representing more than half of all released state prisoners that year, more than a quarter had been arrested out-of-state at least once prior to their 1983 release.

Ten percent of the prisoners had at least one out-of-state arrest within three years of their 1983 release. Thirty percent had been arrested at least once out of state sometime during their criminal career. This prison population recorded an estimated 118,000 out-of-state arrests, and 183,000 out-of-state charges prior to their 1983 release, and another 21,000 arrests and 34,000 charges in the three years subsequent to release. On average, one arrest in eight occurred out-of-state.

These findings were based on a sample of more than 16,000 released prisoners, representing all those released from prison in eleven states during 1983. The eleven states in the sample included California, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, and Texas. These states accounted for more than 57% of all state prisoners released in the nation during the year.

In this report, a multistate offender is defined in two ways:

1. A prerelease multistate offender was a prisoner who was arrested out-of-state at least once prior to his/her 1983 prison release.

2. A post-release multistate offender was a prisoner who was arrested out-of-state at least once within the three years immediately succeeding his/her 1983 prison release.

The time period to which the data in this report refer includes the entire adult criminal history of the prisoner cohort prior to his/her 1983 prison release, plus a period of exactly three years subsequent to each prisoner's date of release.

Other findings from the sample include the following:

o Males were more likely to be multistate offenders. A non-Hispanic, white, male, who was twenty-seven years old at release was twenty to twenty-four percent more likely to be a multistate offender than was a non-Hispanic, white, female, of age twenty-seven.

o Whites were more likely to be multistate offenders. A twenty-seven year old non-Hispanic, white, male was 80 to 120 percent more likely to be a multistate offender than was a non-Hispanic, black, male, of age twenty-seven.

o Hispanics were less likely to be multistate offenders. An Hispanic, white, male, age twenty-seven was a third as likely to be a multistate offender as a non-Hispanic prisoner of similar demographic characteristics.

o Prerelease multistate offenders were approximately six years older than single state offenders at time of release. A non-Hispanic, white, male, of age thirty-nine was twice as likely to be a multistate offender as a twenty-one year old prisoner of similar demographic characteristics.

o The higher rates of multistate offending by older prisoners was largely due to time at risk, rather than an age-related propensity to do out-of-state crime. Analysis of the post-release period, in which time at risk is relatively short, shows a much smaller relation between age and multistate offending.

o The more formal education the prisoner had, the more likely the prisoner was to be a multistate offender. A non-Hispanic, white male, of age twenty-seven, who was a high school graduate was fifteen percent more likely to be a multistate offender prior to release than was a high school dropout with similar demographic characteristics.

o Multi-state offending rates varied from a low of eight percent for Illinois to a high of twenty-nine percent for Minnesota. The larger the population in the releasing state, the smaller the proportion of out-of-state arrests. Out-of-state arrest rates within states contiguous to the releasing state were positively correlated with the size of the population of the contiguous states, and inversely correlated with the size of the population of the releasing state.

o Multi-state offenders were significantly more criminally active than single state offenders. A prerelease multistate offender with at least two prior arrests averaged fifty-five percent more arrests than a single state offender having at least two prior arrests. Among prisoners having at least one post-release arrest, multistate offenders averaged fifteen percent more arrests than single state offenders.

- Particular demographic and criminal history cohorts had very different rates of multistate offending. For example, among prisoners with at least two prior arrests, non-Hispanic white males, age thirty-nine, with eighteen prior arrests had a sixty-three percent chance of being a multistate offender. This is twenty-five times the likelihood of multistate offending by Hispanic, white females, age twenty-one, with two prior arrests.

- Multi-state offenders were charged with twenty to sixty percent more forgery, fraud, and vehicle theft offenses, and fifteen to thirty percent more commercial theft and drunk and disorderly offenses per arrest than single state offenders.

- Single state offenders were charged with twelve to thirty percent more drug offenses, and ten to fifteen percent more robbery, burglary, and assault offenses than multistate offenders.

- Approximately two-thirds of the prerelease multistate offenders were arrested at least once within three years of their 1983 release. The multistate offender averaged about eight percent more arrests in the post-release period of observation.

- On the average, multistate offenders served one to two months longer time in prison than single state offenders. However, when the demographic and criminal history characteristics of the prisoner are taken into account, the evidence shows that the multistate offender served the same amount of prison time to first release, or less time, than the single state offender.

THE MULTI-STATE OFFENDER POPULATION

Of the 108,580 inmates released from the eleven state prisons in 1983, 28,830 had at least one pre-release out-of-state arrest, and 10,990 had at least one out-of-state arrest within three years of their release. For the combined time period, including both the prerelease and post-release observation periods, 30.7 percent of these releasees had at least one out-of-state arrest. Six percent of these prisoners were arrested out of state in both observation periods.

Significantly fewer prisoners were arrested in the post-release observation period. This is largely due to time at risk. The prerelease period includes the prisoner's entire adult criminal career up to the date of release, whereas the post-release period includes only the three years subsequent to release.

TABLE 1

THE PRISON RELEASE POPULATION BY MULTISTATE STATUS

Type of Offender	Number (1,000)	Percent of All Prisoners
Total: All prisoners	108,580	100.0
Prerelease Observation Period		
No out-of-state arrest prior to 1983 release	79,750	73.4
At least one out-of-state arrest prior to 1983 release	28,830	26.6
Three-Year Post-Release Observation Period		
No out-of-state arrest	97,590	89.9
At least one out-of-state arrest after 1983 release	10,990	10.1
Entire Observation Period		
No out-of-state arrest	75,250	69.3
Both prerelease and post-release out-of-state arrests	6,490	6.0
Prerelease out-of-state only	22,340	20.6
Postrelease out-of-state only	4,500	4.2

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.

CORRELATES OF MULTI-STATE OFFENDING

Gender, Race, and Ethnicity

Of a total of 101,800 released male prisoners, 74,400 had no prior out-of-state arrest, and 27,300 had at least one multistate arrest. Thus, the odds that a male would be a prerelease multistate offender were 36.7 in a 100. Of the very much smaller female prisoner cohort, consisting of 6,400 prisoners, 5,000 had no prior out-of-state arrest, and 1,400 had been arrested out of state at least once. The odds that a female would be a multistate offender were 28.3 in a 100. The odds ratio for males relative to the ratio for females equals 1.30 (= 36.7/28.3), and is statistically significant. This means that males were thirty percent more likely to have had a prerelease multistate arrest than females.

In the post-release observation period, the odds that a male prisoner would develop a multistate record were 11.5 in a 100. The odds for females were 7.6 in a 100. The resulting odds ratio, 11.5/7.6 = 1.51, is statistically significant, and indicates that males were 51 percent more likely to have an out-of-state arrest in the post-release period than were females.

Fifty-four percent of the prisoners were white, forty-five percent were black, and one percent were of other races. In the prerelease period, the odds were 43.9 to 100 that a white prisoner was a multistate offender. The corresponding odds for a black prisoner were 28.0 to 100. The resulting, statistically significant odds ratio, 0.64, indicates that blacks were approximately one-third less likely to have engaged in multistate activity in the prerelease period; or, conversely, that whites were 56 percent (= 1/0.64) more likely to be a multistate offender. The post-release data show a wider discrepancy between black and white multistate activity rates, with whites being 75 percent (=1/0.57) more likely to have a multistate arrest record.

Approximately twelve percent of the prisoner release population were Hispanic. The data indicate significantly lower multistate activity rates for Hispanics v. non-Hispanics in both observation periods. In the prerelease observation period, Hispanics were almost half as likely as non-Hispanics to be multistate offenders, whereas in the post-release period the odds were 57 to 100.

TABLE 2

PRISONERS BY GENDER, RACE, ETHNICITY, MULTISTATE STATUS AND OBSERVATION PERIOD

Demographic Characteristic	All Prisoners (1,000)	Period of Observation							
		Pre-Release				Post-Release			
		Single State (1,000)	Multi-State (1,000)	Multi-State Odds[a]	Odds Ratio[b]	Single State (1,000)	Multi-State (1,000)	Multi-State Odds[a]	Odds Ratio[b]
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Gender									
Total	108.2	79.4	28.7	36.1		97.2	11.0	11.3	
Male	101.8	74.4	27.3	36.7	1.30	91.3	10.5	11.5	1.51
Female	6.4	5.0	1.4	28.3	.	5.9	0.5	7.6	.
Race									
Total	108.1	79.4	28.7	36.1		97.2	11.0	11.3	
White	58.5	40.7	17.9	43.9	.	51.3	7.2	14.1	.
Black	48.8	38.1	10.7	28.0	0.64	45.2	3.6	8.0	0.57
Other	0.8	0.6	0.2	28.1	0.64	0.7	0.1	15.2	1.08
Ethnicity:									
Total	108.1	79.4	28.7	36.1		97.2	11.0	11.3	
Hispanic	13.1	10.9	2.2	20.3	0.52	12.3	0.8	6.8	0.57
Non-Hispanic	95.0	68.5	26.5	38.7	.	84.9	10.1	11.9	.

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.
[a]Odds in 100.
[b]The odds ratios are: male v. female, black v. white, other races v. white, and Hispanic v. non-Hispanic.

Age at Time of Release

At time of release, the mean age of the prison population was 29.5 years. The age distribution of the population was highly skewed, with disproportionate numbers of young prisoners. For example, there were 38,020 prisoners who were between ages 18 and 24, 28,670 between ages 25 and 29, but only 11,990 for the entire class of inmates over the age of 44.

The prerelease multistate offender was significantly older than his single state counterpart, averaging 33.9 years, compared to the single state offender's 27.9 years. Within the prerelease single state offender cohort, the age distribution was skewed similarly to that of the aggregate prisoner population. The same is not true for the prerelease multistate offender cohort. The latter shows no clear pattern.

In the prerelease observation period, multistate offending was strongly correlated with age. For example, the odds that a prisoner of age 18-24 would have been a multistate offender were 13 to 100, and the odds for a prisoner of age 25-29 were 31 to 100. The odds increase to 109 to 100 for prisoners over age 44.

The age distributions related to the post-release observation period differ significantly from that of the prerelease period. The mean ages of single state and multistate offenders are approximately equal: 29.6 and 29.0, respectively.

Both post-release age distributions reflect the skewness of the parent population. But, age and multistate offending rates, as reflected in their odds ratios, do not systematically covary as they do in the prerelease period. The odds ratio for prisoners between the ages of 18 and 44 vary between 11 and 12 to 100. The lowest odds ratio, 8 to 100, is for the oldest age class. This is the class that, in the prerelease period, had the highest odds ratio.

Two hypotheses might be advanced to explain the relation between age and rates of multistate offending displayed by the prisoner cohort. The one hypothesis is that the probability of engaging in multistate activity inherently increases with age. That is, a twenty-year old might be less likely to commit an out-of-state crime than, say, a thirty-year old. This age-specific increase in propensity to do out-of-state crime might derive from any number of possible causes. As examples: older persons may be more knowledgeable about the mechanics of out-of-state movement, or they may have more out-of-state opportunities, either legitimate or illegitimate, or they may have more contacts with out-of-state persons, or they may have a greater ability to finance an out-of-state movement.

TABLE 3

PRISONERS BY AGE, MULTISTATE STATUS AND OBSERVATION PERIOD

Age	All Releasees[a] (1,000)	Prerelease Period			Post-Release Period		
		Single State (1,000)	Multi-State (1,000)	Multi-State Odds[b]	Single State (1,000)	Multi-State (1,000)	Multi-State Odds[b]
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
18 - 24	38,020	33,540	4,470	13	34,030	3,980	12
25 - 29	28,670	21,820	6,850	31	25,720	2,950	11
30 - 34	19,280	12,480	6,790	54	17,260	2,010	12
35 - 44	10,090	5,640	4,450	79	9,010	1,080	12
Over 44	11,990	5,730	6,260	109	11,060	930	08
Combined	108,040	79,750	28,830	36	97,590	10,990	11
Mean Age	29.5	27.9	33.9		29.6	29.0	

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.

[a] The population of prisoners who were less than 18 years old at release represent less than 0.5 percent of the sample, and are omitted from this and later tabular data. This group is included in the regression and other analyses that follow.

[b] Odds per 100.

While this hypothesis is consistent with observed prerelease multistate offending rates, it is not consistent with observed post-release behavior. It is not clear why factors inherent in the aging process would influence multistate offending in the one period, but not in the other.

An alternative hypothesis is that the observed age/mobility relation is artifactual, arising from the covariance of age with time at risk. If we suppose that the propensity to do out-of-state crime is a constant with respect to age, so that a thirty year old person is just as likely to commit an out-of-state crime within the next year as a twenty year old person, then a thirty year old person can be expected to accumulate more out-of-state arrests than a twenty year old person. That is, the pattern of odds ratios displayed in column 4 of Table 3 are consistent with the hypothesis that the likelihood of becoming a multistate offender is a function of time at risk, rather than some factor inherent in the aging process.

The presence of an age/multistate activity relation in the prerelease period and its absence in the post-release period provides support for the time-at-risk hypothesis. The prerelease period is relatively long. It permits a large accumulation of years by older offenders, with each additional year increasing the cumulative probability that the offender will become a multistate offender. Hence, age and multistate activity can be expected to covary, if the time-at-risk hypothesis is correct. The post-release period has a relatively narrow, three year observation window, with substantially less potential for increase in the cumulative probability of multistate offending. Given the reduced potential through time-at-risk, no relation between age and multistate offending is observed.

Of course, these two hypotheses need not be mutually exclusive. It is possible that there are factors inherent in the aging process that also affect the likelihood of multistate offending.

Education

Data for school grade completed are available for approximately one-half of the prison release population. Two-thirds of these prisoners had never completed high school. Almost 20 percent had never been to high school. Only 6.8 percent had some post-high school training.

The proportion of single state offenders who had never completed high school is 71 percent. That for multistate offenders is 57 percent. More generally, among prisoners having at least some high school education, more education is associated with higher rates of multistate offending. The odds of being a multistate offender rise from 26 to 100 for some high school education, to 49 to 100 for a high school graduate, and to 59 to 100 for some post-high school education.

The likelihood that a prisoner would be a prerelease multistate offender did not increase uniformly with educational level. The odds of being a multistate offender were higher for a person with no high school than for a person with some high school education. This anomalous result appears to be due to a confounding of age with education.

Prerelease multistate offenders with no high school were 7.3 years older than their single state counterparts, whereas multistate offenders with some post-high school training were only 3.5 years older. The difference narrows uniformly with age. Because older inmates were more likely to be multistate offenders, a decrease in the age differential between single state offenders and multistate offenders which occurred simultaneously with an increase in education would diminish the measured effect of education on multistate offending. Thus, the anomalous multistate odds for persons with no high school could be explained as the result of an education effect being out-weighed by an age effect.

The odds of becoming a post-release multistate offender increase with the progression from some high school to high school graduate, and from high school graduate to some post-high school, just as they do for prerelease multistate offenders. The odds do not decrease, however, with the progression from no high school to some high school, as they do for prerelease multistate offenders. Also, contrary to the prerelease period, there is no systematic decline in the age differential between post-release single state offenders and post-release multistate offenders as education increases. These differences between the two observation periods suggest that age and education operated in different directions in affecting the odds of becoming a multistate offender, and that when the age effect was weak, as it was in the post-

release period, one observes a more definite increase in multistate offending as the education level increases.

In order to achieve a more precise measure of the education effect on multistate offending, as distinguished from an age effect, and also to control for possible confounding effects of gender, race, and ethnicity, a logistic regression analysis was performed on the data set. Illustrative results derived from the regression analysis are presented in Table 6. The table presents the estimated odds of multistate offending by a male, non-Hispanic prisoner, of selected ages, race, and educational attainment. The table shows, for example, that the odds were 19 to a 100 that a white male, non-Hispanic prisoner, age 21, with no high school would be a multistate offender. The table also shows that, as education increases, the likelihood that a male, non-Hispanic prisoner of age 21 would be a multistate offender also increased. For persons within this cohort who had some post-high school education, the odds were 59 to 100, or more than twice the odds for persons with some high school.

More generally, it can be said that, controlling for race and age, multistate offending increases with education across all four education levels and within both observation periods. Also, controlling for race and education, the likelihood of prerelease multistate offending increases with age, but not post-release multistate offending. The table also indicates that whites are more predisposed to multistate offending than blacks, irrespective of age, education, or observation period.

The results described above are for non-Hispanic males. Results for females and for Hispanics, not shown in this report, display the same pattern.

TABLE 4

PRISONERS BY EDUCATION, MULTISTATE STATUS AND OBSERVATION PERIOD

School Grade Completed	All Releasees (1,000)	Prerelease Period			Post-Release Period		
		Single State (1,000)	Multi-State (1,000)	Multi-State Odds[a]	Single State (1,000)	Multi-State (1,000)	Multi-State Odds[a]
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
8th Grade or less	9,780	7,470	2,320	31	8,820	960	11
Some High School	24,290	19,260	5,030	26	21,980	2,310	11
HS Graduate	13,080	8,790	4,280	49	11,440	1,640	14
Post-High School	3,450	2,170	1,280	59	2,990	460	15
All levels	50,600	37,680	12,920	34	45,230	5,370	12

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.
[a]Odds per 100.

TABLE 5

PRISONERS BY AGE, EDUCATION, MULTISTATE STATUS AND OBSERVATION PERIOD

School Grade Completed	Mean Age All Prisoners	Age Difference[a] by Multistate History	
		Prerelease Multistate	Post-Release Multistate
	(1)	(2)	(3)
8th Grade or Less	30.3	7.3	-1.8
Some High School	27.2	6.1	-0.2
HS Graduate	30.0	4.9	-0.7
Post High School	33.0	3.5	-0.7
All Levels	29.0	6.0	-0.4

[a]Age Difference = mean age of multistate offender cohort less mean age of single state offender cohort.

TABLE 6

EFFECT OF EDUCATION ON MULTISTATE OFFENDING, CONTROLLING FOR OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC CORRELATES

Age and Education	Estimated Odds of Multistate Offending by Non-Hispanic Males[a]			
	Prerelease Period		Post Release Period	
	White	Black	White	Black
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Age 21				
No High School	19	9	16	8
Some High School	22	11	18	9
High School Grad	27	14	20	10
Post-High School	32	16	23	11
Age 27				
No High School	32	16	15	8
Some High School	43	19	18	9
High School Grad	45	23	19	10
Post-High School	54	28	22	11
Age 39				
No High School	89	45	14	6
Some High School	108	54	15	8
High School Grad	127	64	18	9
Post-High School	156	79	20	10

[a]See TECHNICAL NOTES, Education Effects for derivation of these data. Odds are per 100.

All effects in the logit regression model were statistically significant at the 0.0001 level except gender. The latter was significant at the 0.04 level. Significance pertains to the overall effect. Differences between two levels within an effect having more than two levels may not be significant. For example, differences in multistate offending rates between age 21 and age 27 in the post-release period may not be statistically significant.

MULTISTATE ACTIVITY BY STATE OF RELEASE

Multistate activity rates vary substantially by state of release. For example, 49 percent of Oregon's prisoners were arrested at least once out of state in the prerelease period, 25 percent of the prisoners of California, North Carolina and Ohio, and 21 percent of New York's prisoners. Twenty-two percent of Oregon's prisoners had at least one post-release arrest. Corresponding rates for California, North Carolina, and Ohio were 8, 12, and 10 percent. Although the post-release arrest rates are much lower than the prerelease rates, the pattern of arrest rates is very similar. The rank correlation coefficient between the prerelease and post-release arrest ratios is positive and significant at the 0.01 level.

Eighty-two percent of the arrest records for the prerelease and post-release periods, combined, indicate the specific state in which the arrest occurred.[a] Within this reduced data set, arrests were classified as occurring within the state of release, within contiguous states, or elsewhere. On the average, 85.4 percent of all arrests occurred within the state of release. The rate varies from a high of 91.6 percent for Illinois to a low of 71 percent for Minnesota. Approximately 4.1 percent of all arrests occurred in states contiguous to the state of release. The rate varies from a high of 19.2 percent for Oregon to a low of 1.6 percent for Michigan. Variation in the contiguous states' percentages is significantly greater, relative to its mean of 4.1 percent, than is variation in the state of release percentages, relative to its mean of 85.4 percent.

The analysis of the arrest location data indicates that the more populous the state, the larger the proportion of arrests occurring within the state. A third of the variation in the in-state percentages is explained by the releasing state's population size. A plausible hypothesis for this covariation is that population size is an index for opportunities to commit crime: the more opportunities available locally, the less the inclination to seek targets elsewhere.

The analysis of the arrest location data shows that 88 percent of the variation in the percentage of arrests occurring in contiguous states can be explained by the ratio of the population of the contiguous states to the population of the releasing state. This implies that the percentage of arrests occurring in

[a]Identification of the arresting state was based on the first two characters of the ORI code in the arrest record.

contiguous states is larger, the larger the population size of the contiguous state; and is smaller, the larger the size of the releasing state's population. If population is a proxy for criminal opportunities, then a plausible hypothesis would be that geographical movement of offenders is subject to push/pull factors. Offenders are pulled toward (contiguous) states with larger populations, and are pushed out of state if the releasing state's population is small.[b]

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[b]See TECHNICAL NOTES, Location Equations.

TABLE 7

OUT-OF-STATE ARREST RATES AND ARREST LOCATION, BY STATE OF RELEASE

State of Release	Prisoners Arrested Out of State		Percentage of Known Arrest Locations[a]			
	Prerelease (%)	Post-Release (%)	Total	In State	Contiguous State	Other
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
California	25	8	100.0	87.1	2.1	10.8
Florida	30	14	100.0	84.2	2.2	13.6
Illinois	24	11	100.0	91.6	3.2	5.2
Michigan	23	8	100.0	88.8	1.6	9.6
Minnesota	36	16	100.0	71.0	6.1	22.9
N.Carolina	25	12	100.0	79.6	6.5	13.9
New Jersey	37	18	100.0	84.5	11.1	4.4
New York	21	7	100.0	90.6	4.3	5.1
Ohio	25	10	100.0	83.2	4.6	12.2
Oregon	49	22	100.0	73.3	19.2	7.5
Texas	26	8	100.0	81.7	3.3	15.0
All States	27	10	100.0	85.4	4.1	10.6

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.
[a]Omits arrests for which a location is not known.

ARRESTS AND CHARGES

The cohort of 108,580 prisoners was responsible for 1.092 million arrests and 1.658 million charges. Eighty-three percent of these arrests and charges occurred in the prerelease period. Approximately one arrest in eight occurred out of state, with a slightly larger percentage in the prerelease period than in the post-release period. These arrest and charge counts refer to the location of the arrest or charge, not to the type of offender. Out-of-state arrests and charges are wholly ascribable to multistate offenders, but some in-state arrests and charges are also ascribable to multistate offenders.

The number of charges per arrest was higher for arrests that occurred out of state. There were 1.51 to 1.52 charges per in-state arrest, and 1.55 to 1.62 charges per out-of-state arrest, depending on the observation period.

Of the 1.658 million charges lodged against the prisoner cohort, 45 percent were for property offenses. The proportions for violent, drug, and public order offenses are, respectively, 16, 12, and 24 percent. The odds of a criminal charge originating out-of-state were 15 in a 100. The odds of a violent offense charge originating out-of-state were 12 in a 100. Thus, violent offenses were 20 percent less likely to occur out-of-state than the "average" offense.

Charges for vehicular property offenses, forgery, drunk & disorderly conduct, and commercial vice were approximately twice as likely to originate out of state as were robbery, burglary, assault, and drug possession.

The odds distribution for out-of-state charges differs little between the two observation periods. The principal exceptions concern sex, drunk & disorderly, and drug crimes.

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF ARRESTS AND CHARGES

BY LOCATION OF THE ARREST

Observation Period and Arrest Location	Arrests	Charges
Entire Observation Period		
Total (1,000)	1,092	1,658
In State	952	1,441
Out of State	140	217
Percent Out of State	13	13
Pre-Release Period		
Total (1,000)	909	1,381
In State	791	1,199
Out of State	118	183
Percent Out of State	13	13
Post-Release Period		
Total (1,000)	182	276
In State	161	243
Out of State	21	34
Percent Out of State	12	12

Details may not add to totals due to rounding

TABLE 9

NUMBER OF CHARGES BY CHARGE CLASS AND ORIGIN

Charge	Charges: Entire Period	Odds per 100 of Charge Originating Out-of-State: Entire Period	Pre-release	Post-Release
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Total (1,000)	1,658	15	15	14
Percent	100	-	-	-
All Violent	16	12	12	14
Homicide	1.0	14	12	18
Kidnaping	0.4	12	11	20
Rape	0.6	15	15	10
Other Sex	0.8	11	8	27
Robbery	5.9	12	12	14
Assault	6.4	11	11	11
Other Violent	0.7	16	15	18
All Property	45	15	15	15
Burglary	12.9	12	12	14
Larceny	15.0	15	15	12
Vehicular	3.8	23	23	20
Arson	0.2	9	9	12
Forgery	5.0	23	23	18
Illegal Possession	4.4	15	15	18
Other Property	3.3	12	12	14
All Drug	12	12	12	10
Drug Possession	5.5	10	11	5
Drug Trafficking	1.7	14	16	5
Other Drug	4.7	14	14	18
Public Order	24	18	18	16
Weapons	4.1	14	14	16
Parole/Probation	2.5	16	18	10
DUI & Traffic	5.2	14	14	18
Fugitive	1.3	49	47	61
Drunk & Disorderly	2.7	22	23	12
Commercial Vice	1.0	20	19	23
Other Public Order	7.1	18	19	14

TABLE 9 (Concluded)

NUMBER OF CHARGES BY CHARGE CLASS AND ORIGIN

Charge	Charges: Entire Period	Odds per 100 of Charge Originating Out-of-State: Entire Period	Pre-release	Post-Release
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Other Identified	1	12	12	12
Unknown	3	15	16	12

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.

Of the 909,000 arrests of the entire prisoner cohort in the prerelease period, 351,000 were of persons who had at least one out-of-state arrest. Thus, multistate offenders were responsible for 39 percent of all arrests in the prerelease period. Of the 351,000 arrests of multistate offenders, 118,000, or 34 percent occurred out of state.

In the post-release period, the entire prisoner cohort was responsible for 182,000 arrests, of which 33,000, or 18 percent, are ascribed to multistate offenders. Of the 33,000 arrests of multistate offenders, 21,000 or 64 percent occurred out of state.

In the prerelease period, the average single state offender was arrested 7.0 times. The average for the multistate offender was 12.2 arrests. Thus, the prerelease multistate offender registered 75 percent more arrests per offender than the single state offender. That is, the multistate offender's arrest ratio was 175. In the post-release period, the multistate offender averaged almost twice as many arrests as those offenders who had had no post-release out-of-state arrest: the multistate offender's arrest ratio was 197. Thus, the ratios indicate that multistate offenders are significantly more criminally active than their single state counterparts.

The large number of arrests per multistate offender indicated by these arrest ratios derive, in part, from the definition of a multistate offender. A prerelease multistate offender had at least two arrests, one being the in-state arrest associated with the 1983 prison release, whereas a single state offender may have had but one prerelease arrest. A post-release multistate offender must have at least one arrest -- the out-of-state arrest -- whereas the single state offender to which comparison is made may have had no post-release arrest. To correct for this upward bias, prerelease multistate offenders are compared to single state offenders who had at least two prior arrests, and post-release multistate offenders are compared to single state offenders who had at least one post-release arrest.

TABLE 10

ARRESTS AND MEAN ARREST RATIOS BY MULTISTATE ARREST HISTORY AND PERIOD OF OBSERVATION

Offender's Multistate History	Period of Observation: Prerelease Period	Period of Observation: Post-Release Period
Panel A: Arrests (1,000)		
	(1)	(2)
Total	909	182
Single State	558	149
Multistate	351	33
Instate	233	12
Out of State	118	21
Percent Multistate	39	18
Panel B: Mean Arrest Ratios, All Offenders[a]		
	(3)	(4)
Prerelease Multistate	175	109
Post-Release Multistate	115	197
Panel C: Mean Arrest Ratios, Selected Offenders[a]		
	(5)	(6)
Prerelease Multistate: Offenders with at least two prerelease arrests	155	101
Post-Release Multistate: Offenders with at least one post-release arrest	96	115

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.

[a]Mean arrest ratio = 100 * (mean number of arrests per multistate offender) / (mean number of arrests per single state offender), for specified offender samples.

The arrest ratios calculated for these selected cohorts show a smaller, but still substantial differential in arrest rates. A prerelease multistate offender had fifty-five percent more arrests than his single state offender counterpart during the prerelease period. A post-release multistate offender had fifteen percent more arrests during the post-release period than his single state offender counterpart.

The arrest ratios that cross observation periods with a non-matching offense type show that prerelease multistate offenders were not more criminally active in the post-release period, and that post-release multistate offenders were not more criminally active in the prerelease period. The post-release arrest ratio for the prerelease multistate offender was 101; the prerelease arrest ratio for the post-release multistate offender was 96.

The data set used in this report contain criminal records derived from law enforcement, courts, and corrections. The older criminal records do not permit a systematic linkage of arrests to court and custody data. The newer records permit this linkage, so that it is possible to track an offense from the individual arrest through court disposition, including possible custody and changes in custody status. The latter records shall be referred to hereafter as Integrated Criminal History (ICH) files, and are to be distinguished from All Criminal History Files, the files upon which the foregoing information has been based.

Generally speaking, the ICH files underreport the mean number of arrests and charges in the prerelease period. For example, depending on the prisoner cohort, the ICH files' mean is 14 to 31 percent less than the All Files mean. Underreporting also exists with respect to arrests and charges occurring after the 1983 prison release, but the extent of underreporting is either much reduced or, in the case of the post-release multistate offender, is eliminated entirely. For example, mean arrests in the ICH files are zero to 12 percent lower than mean arrests in the All Files data set, depending upon the prisoner sample.

The extent of underreporting is greatest for multistate offenders and for the prerelease period. For example, the All Files data set indicates that single state offenders with at least two prior arrests had an average of 7.9 arrests, compared to 12.2 arrests per multistate offender. That is, the All Files data set indicates that multistate offenders were approximately 55 percent more criminally active in the prerelease period.

The ICH files, which are based on the subset of files containing court and custody data, report average arrests for single state and multistate offenders of 6.8 and 8.4, respectively.

That is, the ICH files indicate that multistate offenders were 24 percent more criminally active, not 55 percent, as indicated by the All Files data set. [The underreporting of mean charges is of the same order of magnitude.]

The large underreporting of prerelease criminal activity and the differentially large underreporting of prerelease multistate activity appear to have a common origin. Because the ICH files tend to omit older, non-computerized criminal records, it is expected that the degree of underreporting will be greater in the prerelease period. Thus, one finds, as expected, that mean arrests and charges per prisoner sample are in much closer agreement between the two data sets when the criminal records relate to the recent past.

Because the likelihood of becoming a multistate offender is partly the function of time at risk, exclusion of the older criminal records result in a disproportionate exclusion of multi-state offenders. Thus, one finds, consistent with expectation, no difference in the reporting of <u>prerelease</u> single state v. multistate offending for the period subsequent to release, and a slight under reporting of post-release activity by <u>post-release</u> single state offenders: for example, the All Files data set has single state offenders averaging 3.9 charges subsequent to release, versus an ICH file average of 3.8 charges.

TABLE 11

MEAN ARRESTS AND CHARGES BY MULTISTATE ARREST HISTORY, PERIOD OF OBSERVATION AND DATA SOURCE[a]

Multistate Status	Period of Observation and Data Source							
	Prerelease				Post-Release			
	All Files		ICH Files		All Files		ICH Files	
	Arrests	Charges	Arrests	Charges	Arrests	Charges	Arrests	Charges
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Panel A: Prerelease Arrest History								
All Single State	7.0	10.5	5.6	9.6	1.6	2.5	1.4	2.2
At Least Two Priors								
Single State	7.9	11.8	6.8	10.8	1.8	2.6	1.6	2.5
Multistate	12.2	18.4	8.4	13.9	1.8	2.7	1.6	2.4
Panel B: Post-Release Arrest History of Recidivists								
Single State	9.8	14.7	8.4	13.4	2.6	3.9	2.5	3.8
Multistate	9.5	14.3	7.4	12.3	3.0	4.7	3.0	4.7

[a]ICH (Integrated Criminal History) files are the "cycle-based" files which link arrest and court disposition data and custody data to each individual arrest. "All files" includes 'event-based', rap sheet data which do not permit a systematic linking of disposition and custody data to specific arrests.

A SYNTHESIS OF DEMOGRAPHIC AND CRIMINAL HISTORY CORRELATES

It was shown that gender, race, ethnicity, age, and arrest rates are correlates of multistate activity rates. A logistic regression analysis was used to provide a synthesis of research findings concerning demographic and arrest history characteristics as these affect multistate activity.

Consider, first, the odds of becoming a multistate offender, given that the prisoner is white. The odds that a 27 year old non-Hispanic male, with six prior arrests, would be a multistate offender were 45 to 100. The odds for a non-Hispanic female, age 27, with six priors, were 33 to 100. That is, holding ethnicity, age, and prior criminal history constant, a white male was a third more likely to have engaged in out-of-state crime prior to release than was a white female.

Age had a very substantial effect on prerelease multistate offending. White non-Hispanic males, with six priors, and of age 39 were 3.3 times more likely to become a prerelease multistate offender than were their age 21 counterparts (Table 12, line 3 v. line 4). The number of prior arrests is also highly predictive of multistate offending. The odds of multistate offending for white males, age 27, non-Hispanic, with 18 prior arrests were twice those for the counterpart person with two priors (Table 12, lines 5 v. 6). Ethnicity was also significantly related to multistate offending. A typical white Hispanic was a third as likely to be a multistate offender as a typical white non-Hispanic (lines 1 v. 7).

The foregoing estimated odds refer to whites and to the prerelease period. The estimated odds for whites for the post-release period exhibit a pattern that is similar, except that the age effect, while positive and statistically significant, is of much smaller consequence.

The estimated odds for blacks for both the prerelease and post-release periods parallel those for whites, and are everywhere smaller in value, reflecting the fact that blacks are less likely to engage in out-of-state crime.

The logistic regression analysis shows that different demographic and arrest history cohorts can have very different rates of out-of-state crime. To illustrate: a white, non-Hispanic male, age 39, with 18 prior arrests is 65 times (=170/2.6) more likely to have an out-of-state arrest prior to release than a black, Hispanic female, age 21, with two prior arrests.

TABLE 12

ESTIMATED OUT-OF-STATE ARREST ODDS BY DEMOGRAPHIC AND ARREST HISTORY CHARACTERISTICS AND BY PERIOD OF OBSERVATION: PRISONERS WITH AT LEAST TWO PRIOR ARRESTS OR AT LEAST ONE RECIDIVISTIC ARREST[a]

Gender	Age	Ethnicity	Arrests and Multistate Offending: Odds per 100			
			Prerelease Period		Post-Release Period	
			Prior Arrests	Multi-State Odds	Recidivistic Arrests	Multi-State Odds
Panel A: White Prisoners						
1.Male	27	NonHisp	6	45	3	33
2.Female	27	NonHisp	6	33	3	27
3.Male	21	NonHisp	6	30	3	32
4.Male	39	NonHisp	6	100	3	39
5.Male	27	NonHisp	2	37	2	32
6.Male	27	NonHisp	18	75	6	45
7.Male	27	Hispanic	6	14	3	10
8.Male	39	NonHisp	18	170	6	52
Panel B: Black Prisoners						
9.Male	27	NonHisp	6	20	3	12
10.Female	27	NonHisp	6	15	3	9
11.Male	21	NonHisp	6	14	3	11
12.Male	39	NonHisp	6	45	3	14
13.Male	27	NonHisp	2	16	2	11
14.Male	27	NonHisp	18	33	6	16
15.Male	27	Hispanic	6	6	3	4
16.Male	39	NonHisp	18	79	6	19
17.Female	21	Hispanic	2	3	2	3

[a]The selected age and arrest values approximate the 10, 50, and 90 percentile values of their respective distributions. See TECHNICAL NOTES, Synthesized Effects for derivation of probabilities.

A stepwise regression analysis was performed to determine the effect of one demographic variable on the number of arrests and charges incurred, while statistically controlling for the effects of other demographic correlates. Within the prerelease period and the population of single state offenders, the number of arrests and charges varied by demographic characteristic as one would expect: males, blacks, Hispanics, and older prisoners have more arrests and charges than their demographic opposite. The same was not true of the population of multistate offenders. Female multistate offenders incurred more arrests and charges than their male opposites. Hispanic multistate offenders averaged more charges, but not more arrests, than non-Hispanic multistate offenders. The reversal of arrest and charge ratios among female prisoners may result from an interaction between the multistate/single state distribution of offenses and the distribution of offenses by gender. Violent offenses and burglary are more likely to have been in-state offenses and were also more likely to have been committed by males. On the other hand, offenses such as forgery and fraud are more likely to be out-of-state offenses and are also relatively more likely to be committed by females.

Because of the smaller observation window, one would anticipate fewer arrests and charges per prisoner in the post-release period. The data confirm the expectation. For example, white male non-Hispanic single state offenders of age 27 registered 1.3 arrests and 1.9 charges, compared to their respective prerelease values of 7.1 and 10.6. The post-release distribution of arrests and charges also displays a very different age effect: contrary to the prerelease period, older inmates, both single state and multistate, incurred fewer arrests and charges than younger inmates.

The stepwise regression analysis also permits comparisons of arrest and charge frequencies between single state and multistate offenders, controlling for specific age, race, ethnic, and gender characteristics. Within both observation periods, with one exception, multistate offenders were arrested more often and were charged with more offenses than single state offenders. For example, white, male, non-Hispanic, single state offenders averaged 7.1 arrests and 10.6 charges in the prerelease period, compared to 8.6 arrests and 13.2 charges for multistate offenders. The exception to the rule that multistate offenders were more criminalistic concerns white male Hispanic prisoners. Within the prerelease period, the multistate cohort is estimated to have had somewhat fewer arrests (9.0 v. 9.3) and somewhat fewer charges (12.7 v. 13.4) than the multistate cohort. The reason for this exception is not apparent.

TABLE 13

ESTIMATED ARRESTS AND CHARGES PER PRISONER BY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTIC AND PERIOD OF OBSERVATION: PRISONERS WITH AT LEAST TWO PRIOR ARRESTS OR AT LEAST ONE POST-RELEASE ARREST[a]

Gender	Age	Ethnicity	Period of Observation: Prerelease (At least two priors) Arrests SS	Arrests MS	Charges SS	Charges MS	Post Release (At least one post arrest) Arrests SS	Arrests MS	Charges SS	Charges MS
Panel A: White Prisoners										
1. Male	27	Non-Hisp	7.1	8.6	10.6	13.2	1.3	2.9	1.9	4.6
2. Female	27	Non-Hisp	6.4	10.0	8.4	14.8	1.3	3.8	1.9	4.6
3. Male	21	Non-Hisp	3.5	3.8	5.3	6.5	1.4	3.0	2.0	4.7
4. Male	39	Non-Hisp	11.2	15.1	17.0	22.4	1.0	2.6	1.4	4.1
5. Male	27	Hispanic	9.3	9.0	13.4	12.7	1.9	2.6	2.8	4.2
Panel B: Black Prisoners										
6. Male	27	Non-Hisp	8.5	10.0	13.0	15.5	1.8	3.4	2.7	5.4
7. Female	27	Non-Hisp	7.8	11.4	10.8	17.2	1.8	4.3	2.7	5.4
8. Male	21	Non-Hisp	4.9	5.2	7.7	8.8	1.9	3.5	2.9	5.6
9. Male	39	Non-Hisp	12.6	16.5	19.4	24.8	1.6	3.2	2.3	5.0
10. Male	27	Hispanic	10.7	15.8	10.4	15.1	2.4	3.1	3.6	5.1

[a]The selected age and arrest values approximate the 10, 50, and 90 percentile values of their respective distributions. See TECHNICAL NOTES, Arrests and Charges for derivation of arrest and charge data.

The prerelease multistate/single state differentials are substantially larger than the post-release differentials, largely because the absolute number of arrests and charges are larger in the former period. In the prerelease period the largest of these differentials relate to females and to black male Hispanics.

ADMITTING OFFENSE

Approximately one-third of the prisoner cohort was admitted to prison for a violent offense. [The admitting offense is defined as that offense carrying the maximum sentence.] Almost half of the prisoners were admitted for property offenses. The single most common offenses were burglary and robbery, accounting for a quarter and almost a fifth of prison admissions, respectively.

The proportion of multistate offenders within the admissions pool depends, in part, on the cohort being considered. The proportion is larger if the cohort excludes single state offenders who have had but one prerelease arrest or if the cohort excludes releasees who were not rearrested. If only prisoners with at least two prior arrests are considered, then the odds of being a multistate offender are 41 in a 100, as contrasted to 36 in a 100 for all prisoners. The differences are more dramatic when the post-release observation period is considered. For all prisoners, the odds of being a multistate offender were 11.3 to 100; whereas, when prisoners who were not rearrested in the post-release are excluded, the odds that the inmate would become a multistate offender were 19.3 to 100. However, the pattern of the odds of becoming a multistate offender, by admitting offense, is preserved, whichever cohort is used: only the scale changes.

Generally speaking, prerelease multistate offenders were overrepresented in violent sex crimes, homicide, assault, property (except burglary), and public order offenses (except DUI and Traffic). The odds of being a multistate offender were 50 to 80 percent greater for sex offenders than for robbers. Multistate offenses were underrepresented in robbery, burglary, and drug offenses.

The profile of the post-release population largely resembles that of the prerelease population. The principal differences are that admissions for rape--but not other violent sexual assaults--and traffic violations become more characteristic of the single state offender.

TABLE 14

ADMITTING OFFENSE WITH MAXIMUM SENTENCE BY MULTISTATE ARREST HISTORY: ALL PRISONERS AND SELECTED COHORTS

Admitting Offense	All Prisoners	Multistate Odds[a]			
		Prerelease MultiState		Post Release MultiState	
		All Prisoners	At Least Two Prior Arrests	All Prisoners	At Least One Post-Rel. Arrest
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
All Offenses					
Number (1,000)	106.1	-	-	-	-
Percent	100.0	36	41	11.3	19.3
All Violent	34.5	32	39	9.9	17.8
Homicide	5.0	37	48	7.8	20.5
Rape	2.2	44	58	7.5	14.1
Other Sex Assaults	2.0	40	54	12.0	30.9
Robbery	18.6	27	32	10.5	16.6
Assault	5.7	37	44	10.7	18.9
Other Violent	1.0	32	40	6.1	12.9
All Property	48.1	39	43	13.0	20.5
Burglary	25.7	33	37	11.4	17.6
Larceny	11.2	44	48	13.5	21.0
Vehicular Theft	2.6	47	51	23.7	31.3
Forgery/Fraud	5.2	52	56	14.8	27.6
Other Property	3.5	38	43	13.2	24.5
All Drugs	9.4	33	38	8.6	17.9
Drug Trafficking	4.5	30	34	9.4	19.0
Other Drug	5.0	36	43	7.9	16.8
Public Order	6.3	42	47	10.2	20.2
Weapons	2.2	40	42	12.8	21.7
DUI & Traffic	2.0	37	41	5.5	13.4
Other Pub Order	2.1	49	59	12.2	24.4
All Other Offenses	1.6	33	37	9.2	13.5

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.
[a]Odds in 100.

OFFENSE-SPECIFIC DISTRIBUTION OF CHARGES

Of the 1.658 million charges lodged against the prison release population over the observation period, 16 percent were for violent offenses, nearly half were for property offenses, a sixteenth were for robbery, an eighth were for burglary. The distribution of all charges is much less concentrated than the distribution of admission offenses. A fifth of all admissions were for the charge of robbery, a quarter for burglary. These latter differences are explained in part by the fact that robbery and burglary, being more serious offenses, are more likely to be the admissions charge. Charges for other property offenses, such as larceny and illegal possession, are more likely to be a secondary offense associated with the admission, or may be unrelated to a prison admission.

In the period prior to the prison admission for which release was obtained in 1983, single state offenders who had been arrested at least twice, averaged 5.4 charges for property offenses, as well as 2.0 violent property, 2.7 public order, and 1.4 drug charges. The typical single state offender had accumulated, in total, 11.8 charges prior to this prison admission. This is to be contrasted to those single state offender who had had but one prior arrest: their average was 3.0 charges per person.

The multistate offender displayed a still higher activity rate: 2.6 violent, 8.3 property, 4.6 public order, and 1.9 drug charges, for an accumulated total of 18.4 prior criminal charges. On the average, the multistate offender's prerelease record shows 55 percent more charges than the single state offender. The multistate offender's per offense average was greater in each and every offense category. The largest differentials relate to rape, larceny, forgery/fraud, vehicular property, drunk & disorderly, and commercial vice offenses. The multistate offender averaged 144 percent more charges for forgery/fraud than the single state offender, and over 60 percent more charges for rape, larceny, and vehicular property offenses.

Large differentials are also recorded for parole/probation violations and for being a fugitive, both of which offenses naturally cohere with the status of being a multistate offender. The large difference relating to charges that cannot be identified may be due to less complete reporting of out-of-state charges.

The difference in average number of offenses per prisoner is lowest for robbery, burglary, other violent sex offenses, as-

sault, and drug possession. Even then the multistate offender averaged 22 percent more charges for robbery and 26 percent more for burglary.

In the post-release period, the number of charges lodged against offenders who were arrested at least once in the three years subsequent to their 1983 release was, on the average, a third to a fourth as great as the number recorded for the prerelease period. This smaller average is largely due to the smaller length of the post-release observation window. There are also some significant differences between the single state and the multistate averages. For some offenses, single state offenders were charged with fewer offenses, notably rape, assault, and drugs. On balance, however, the pattern of charge differentials is much the same as in the prerelease period. Robbery, assault, burglary, and drugs were more characteristic of single state offenses. Property offenses, excepting burglary, and public order offenses, excepting parole/probation violation were more characteristic of multistate offending. The major changes in the pattern of single state v. multistate offending were the reversal of importance of rape v. other violent sex offenses as a multistate crime, and the diminished importance of parole/probation violation as a multistate crime. The reason for these particular changes is not apparent.

TABLE 15

DISTRIBUTION OF CHARGES AND CHARGES PER PRISONER BY OFFENSE AND BY MULTISTATE ARREST HISTORY: SELECTED COHORTS

Charge	All Prisoners: Number and Percent of Total[a]	Charges per Prisoner					
		Prerelease Period: At Least Two Prior Arrests			Post Release Period: At Least One Post-Release Arrest		
		Single State	Multi-state	Ratio[b]	Single State	Multi-state	Ratio
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
All Charges							
Number (1,000)	1,658	824	530	-	222	52	-
Charges/Prisoner	15.2	11.8	18.4	155	3.90	4.74	122
Percent	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Violent	16%	1.96	2.58	132	0.61	0.68	110
Homicide	1.0	0.11	0.16	150	0.03	0.04	123
Kidnaping	0.4	0.05	0.07	153	0.02	0.02	145
Rape	0.6	0.07	0.12	169	0.02	0.01	86
Other Sex	0.8	0.09	0.11	125	0.03	0.05	170
Robbery	5.9	0.77	0.94	122	0.20	0.23	111
Assault	6.4	0.79	1.05	132	0.29	0.28	99
Other	0.7	0.08	0.12	149	0.03	0.04	134
All Property	45%	5.40	8.34	154	1.63	2.09	128
Burglary	12.9	1.70	2.13	126	0.45	0.49	110
Larceny	15.0	1.73	2.84	164	0.62	0.75	120
Vehicular Theft	3.8	0.46	0.82	179	0.10	0.17	170
Arson	0.2	0.03	0.04	148	0.01	0.01	125
Forgery/Fraud	5.0	0.50	1.21	244	0.17	0.26	152
Illegal Possession	4.4	0.56	0.78	138	0.15	0.24	155
Other	3.3	0.43	0.52	121	0.13	0.17	131
Drugs	12%	1.44	1.92	133	0.58	0.49	84
Possession	5.5	0.69	0.85	123	0.29	0.15	53
Trafficking	1.7	0.20	0.28	138	0.08	0.06	69
Other Drugs	4.7	0.55	0.79	144	0.22	0.28	128

TABLE 15 (Concluded)

DISTRIBUTION OF CHARGES AND CHARGES PER PRISONER BY OFFENSE AND BY MULTISTATE ARREST HISTORY: SELECTED COHORTS

Charge	All Prisoners: Number and Percent of Total[a]	Charges per Prisoner: Prerelease Period: At Least Two Prior Arrests			Post Release Period: At Least One Post-Release Arrest		
		Single State	Multi-state	Ratio[b]	Single State	Multi-state	Ratio
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Public Order	24%	2.75	4.61	168	0.94	1.27	135
Weapons	4.1	0.52	0.72	137	0.15	0.19	121
Parole/Probation	2.5	0.26	0.46	176	0.14	0.15	105
DUI & Traffic	5.2	0.64	1.00	157	0.16	0.23	138
Fugitive	1.3	0.11	0.38	358	0.03	0.15	552
Drunk/Disorderly	2.7	0.30	0.62	204	0.07	0.10	141
Commercial Vice	1.0	0.12	0.21	175	0.03	0.05	158
Other	7.1	0.80	1.24	154	0.35	0.40	116
All Other Identified	0.9%	0.13	0.15	115	0.02	0.02	97
Unknown	3.0%	0.32	0.60	189	0.14	0.18	123

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.
[a]Total charges, known and unknown, both observation periods.
[b]100 * Multistate mean/Single State mean.

CASE PROCESSING

Of the 650,000 prerelease arrests recorded in the ICH files, 444,000 were of single state offenders. Multistate offenders registered 206,000 arrests, of which 189,000, or 92 percent, were instate arrests. A corresponding court record can be found for two-thirds of these 650,000 arrests, with proportionately more for instate arrests of single state offenders (68%) than for arrests of multistate offenders (64%). Sixty-six percent of out-of-state arrests have a corresponding court record. Thus, within the ICH data base, the linkup of prerelease court transaction data with prerelease law enforcement data does not appear to be significantly affected by the location of the offense.

In the prerelease, the court lodged approximately one charge for each arrest of a multistate offender, whether the arrest occurred in-state or out of state. For the single state offender, the ratio of charges to arrests was 1.14. Although the charges per arrest ratio favored the multistate offender, the number of convictions per charge was higher for the multistate offender. For single state offenders the ratio was 0.57, for the multistate offender's in-state arrests and out-of-state arrests the ratios were, respectively, 0.61 and 0.72. The bottom line ratio, the probability of conviction, given that an arrest was made, is composed of, and is obtained as the multiplication of, the ratio of charges to arrests and the ratio of convictions to charges. For the single state offender, the probability of conviction, given an arrest, was 0.65. For the multistate offender's in-state arrests and out-of-state arrests the respective ratios are 0.61 and 0.73. Thus, the multistate offender was somewhat less likely to be convicted as the result of an arrest if the arrest occurred in-state, but was more likely to be convicted if the arrest occurred out of state.

In the post-release period, substantially fewer arrests have a corresponding court record, but the discrepancy is much greater for the multistate offender. Sixty-one percent of the single state offender's arrests have a court record, but only half of the multistate offender's in-state arrests and 54 percent of the out-of-state arrests have a court record. The number of charges per multistate offender in-state arrest was almost three times that of the single state offender and also that of for the multistate offender's out-of-state arrests. This high ratio largely explains the three times higher probability that a multistate offender would be convicted as a result of an in-state arrest. The reason for this unusual differential may be due to the nature of the sample and the mix of offenses for which post-release period court records were available.

TABLE 16

ARRESTS, COURT CHARGES, AND CONVICTIONS, BY LOCATION OF ARREST, MULTISTATE OFFENDER STATUS, AND PERIOD OF OBSERVATION[a]

Location of Arrest	Multistate Status	Arrests (1,000)	Court			Cases Per Arrest	Charges Per Arrest	Convictions Per Charge	Convictions Per Arrest
			Cases (1,000)	Charges (1,000)	Convictions (1,000)				
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(8)	(7)
Panel A:	Prerelease Period								
In State	Single State	444	304	508	289	0.68	1.14	0.57	0.65
In State	Multistate	189	122	191	116	0.64	1.01	0.61	0.61
Out of State	Multistate	17	11	17	12	0.66	1.01	0.72	0.73
Panel B:	Post-Release Period								
In State	Single State	123	74	114	62	0.61	0.93	0.54	0.50
In State	Multistate	10	5	25	15	0.50	2.45	0.59	1.44
Out of State	Multistate	14	8	12	7	0.54	0.87	0.59	0.51

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.
[a]Data derived from integrated criminal history files.

One's overall impression from examination of the data for the two observation periods is that the court in the state of release was at least as likely, if not more likely, to convict a multistate offender on a particular charge as to convict a single state offender.

In the prerelease period, approximately two-thirds of all arrests resulted in a conviction. For approximately two-thirds of these convictions, the ICH files provide sentencing information related to these convictions. Thus, for approximately half of all prerelease arrests, the sentencing outcome is known. Over three-quarters of these sentences were incarcerating sentences. Because incarcerations are more likely to be counted, the importance of incarceration relative to other sentences is likely to be exaggerated. This would seem to be especially true of out-of-state incarcerations. Thus, what can be said of the prerelease period is that the multistate offender was slightly more likely to receive an incarcerating sentence from the court of his state of release than a single state offender, and might possibly have been significantly more likely to receive such a sentence from an out-of-state court.

For the post-release period, in-state reporting levels approximate those of the prerelease period. Out-of-state reporting is significantly lower. The lower rate may be due to the relatively short observation window. As in the prerelease period, incarcerations dominate the distribution of known sentences.

TABLE 17

COURT SENTENCES BY LOCATION OF ARREST, MULTISTATE OFFENDER STATUS, AND PERIOD OF OBSERVATION[a]

Location of Arrest	Multi-State Status	Known Sentences		Percentage Distribution of Known Sentences					
		Per Case	Total (1,000)	Total	Incarceration	Probation	Fine	Suspended	Other
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Panel A: Prerelease Observation Period									
In State	Single State	0.69	208	100	75	19	4.9	0.8	0.5
In State	Multi-state	0.70	86	100	76	15	6.3	1.3	0.6
Out of State	Multi-state	0.78	9	100	87	8	3.9	0.3	1.0
Panel B: Post-Release Observation Period									
In State	Single State	0.68	50	100	85	10	2.7	0.4	1.7
In State	Multi-state	0.64	3	100	79	13	4.1	1.3	2.5
Out of State	Multi-state	0.48	4	100	86	9	0.2	4.4	0.5

[a]Data derived from integrated criminal history files.

RECIDIVISM

On the average, sixty-three percent of the prisoners were rearrested for a felony or serious misdemeanor offense within three years of release. The percentages for single state and multistate offenders are, respectively, sixty-two and sixty-four percent. When correction is made for the confounding effects of demographic and criminal history characteristics, the difference in recidivism rates ascribable to, or associated with, multistate status is substantially larger than the two percentage point differential obtained from the aggregate data.

The expected odds of recidivating were calculated for selected cohorts of single state and multistate offenders by means of a logit regression equation. The regression analysis indicates that white females were a third less likely to recidivate than white males with otherwise similar demographic and arrest characteristics. The gender differential between black females and black males was about half of that of white females (Table 18, lines 1 v. 2 and 10 v. 11). Older prisoners were much less likely to recidivate. A 21 year old prisoner, with otherwise similar demographic and arrest history characteristics, was approximately six times as likely to recidivate as a 39 year old prisoner (lines 3 v. 4 and 12 v. 13). The number of prior arrests was strongly related to recidivism. Depending on the cohort being considered, persons with 18 priors were 9 to 12 times more likely to recidivate than persons with 2 priors (lines 5 v. 6 and 14 v. 15). Hispanics were more recidivistic (lines 1 v. 7 and 10 v. 16), and blacks were also more recidivistic (Panels A v. B).

For all cohorts, multistate offender recidivism rates exceeded those of single state offenders. For example, the odds that a white male non-Hispanic prerelease multistate offender with six prior arrests would recidivate within three years of release were 167 to 100. The corresponding value for a single state offender was 127. Thus, the multistate offender was 28 percent more likely to recidivate. More generally, a multistate cohort was a third more likely to recidivate than its corresponding single state cohort. The exception to this generalization concerns the effect of number of prior arrests. The multistate/single state differential narrows appreciably for cohorts with more prior arrests. With 18 priors, for example, multistate offenders were only 10 to 16 percent more likely to recidivate.

The difference in expected recidivism rates among offenders could be substantial. For example, a twenty-one year old black,

non-Hispanic male multistate offender with eighteen prior arrests was ninety-seven percent certain to recidivate within three years, in contrast to an eighteen percent rate for a thirty-nine year old white, non-Hispanic, single-state, male offender with two priors.

An Ordinary Least Squares regression analysis was used to differentiate the separate effects of demographic, arrest history, and multistate status on the expected number of post-release arrests. A typical white male, age 27, non-Hispanic, with six priors was expected to be arrested 1.5 times within three years of release. For a twenty-one year old male with otherwise similar characteristics, the mean was 1.9 arrests. More generally, the expected number of post-release arrests correlates with the odds of recidivating. The principal exception is that there was no gender differential in expected number of arrests. Evidently, females were less likely to recidivate, but those that did were arrested more frequently than their male counterparts.

Multi-state offenders averaged 0.2 more arrests than single state offenders. The principal exception to this generalization is that the differential narrows with number of prior arrests. For whites, the differential becomes trivial when the number of priors exceeds 18.

TABLE 18

EXPECTED ODDS OF RECIDIVATING WITHIN THREE YEARS OF RELEASE AND THE EXPECTED NUMBER OF POST-RELEASE ARRESTS, BY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS, NUMBER OF PRIOR ARRESTS, AND PRERELEASE MULTI-STATE STATUS

Gender	Age	Ethnicity	Prior Arrests	Odds per 100 of Recidivating		Expected Number of Post-Release	
				S.S. (1)	M.S. (2)	S.S. (3)	M.S. (4)
Panel A: White Prisoners							
1.Male	27	NonHisp	6	127	163	1.3	1.5
2.Female	27	NonHisp	6	85	113	1.3	1.5
3.Male	21	NonHisp	6	257	355	1.9	2.1
4.Male	39	NonHisp	6	41	54	0.4	0.6
5.Male	27	NonHisp	2	64	89	0.7	0.9
6.Male	27	NonHisp	18	733	809	3.0	3.0
7.Male	27	Hispanic	6	186	245	1.6	1.7
8.Male	21	NonHisp	18	1,567	1,900	3.8	3.8
9.Male	39	NonHisp	2	22	32	0.0	0.2
Panel B: Black Prisoners							
10.Male	27	NonHisp	6	194	257	1.6	1.8
11.Female	27	NonHisp	6	127	170	1.6	1.8
12.Male	21	NonHisp	6	400	525	2.2	2.4
13.Male	39	NonHisp	6	64	85	0.8	0.9
14.Male	27	NonHisp	2	96	138	1.0	1.2
15.Male	27	NonHisp	18	1,150	1,329	3.2	3.3
16.Male	27	Hispanic	6	285	376	1.8	2.0
17.Male	21	NonHisp	18	2,400	3,233	4.1	4.1

[a]Age and arrests correspond, approximately, to 10, 50, and 90 percentile values.
[b]See TECHNICAL NOTES, Recidivism for derivation of probabilities.

TIME SERVED TO FIRST RELEASE, BY MULTI-STATE ARREST HISTORY

The median time served by single state offenders for whom the 1983 prison release was a first release was 15.3 months, 0.9 months of which represented credit for pretrial detention. Mean time served was substantially higher, indicating a highly skewed distribution.

Single state offenders with at least two prior arrests, in contrast to all single state offenders, were incarcerated for an additional 0.2 months when the median is used for average time served, but their sentence was not distinguishably longer than all single state offenders when the mean is used as the average.

Multistate offenders with at least two priors served an average sentence which was five to nine percent longer than their single state counterpart, depending on the average used. The difference derives primarily from time served in prison, rather than from credited jail time.

These summary averages disguise considerable variation across offense classes, and by multistate status. Prisoners whose admitting offense was homicide served an average of 53.3 months (4.4 years) to first release if they were single state offenders, and 64.2 months (5.4 years) if a multistate offender. For robbers, the respective averages are 34.6 and 37.3; for burglary, 20.4 and 21.7; and for drug offenses, 19.4 and 20.2 months. For most offense categories, multistate offenders served somewhat longer sentences than single state offenders. The largest differential was one year (for homicide). The exceptions were for assault, miscellaneous property, and weapons offenses.

The longer sentences meted out to multistate offenders can be entirely explained away by the demographic and criminal history correlates of time served. A stepwise regression analysis was used to evaluate the effect of multistate status on time served, while controlling for age, number of prior arrests, gender, race, ethnicity, and the presence of violent offenses in the past criminal history. None of the offense-specific regression equations indicated a positive effect of multistate status on time served, and for two admitting offenses -- robbery and assault -- multistate offenders actually served significantly less time in confinement.

Thus, with respect to an incarcerating sentence, it is seen that the multistate offender was treated the same as, or more leniently than, his/her single state offender counterpart. This is true despite the fact that multistate offenders have signifi-

cantly higher arrest rates. The ratios of the mean number of prior arrests of multistate offenders to the mean number of arrests of single state offenders, by admitting offense, indicate that the multistate offender averaged forty-three to ninety-three percent more arrests than the single state offender.

TABLE 19

TIME SERVED TO FIRST RELEASE
BY MULTI-STATE ARREST HISTORY

Cohort by Multistate History	Time Served (months) Median	Mean
All Single State		
Total Time Served	15.3	23.0
Credit Jail Time	0.9	3.5
Prison Time	12.7	19.5
Single State, At Least Two Priors		
Total Time Served	15.5	23.0
Credited Jail Time	1.0	3.6
Prison Time	12.8	19.4
Multi-State		
Total Time Served	16.2	25.0
Credited Jail Time	0.9	3.7
Prison Time	13.1	21.3

TABLE 20

MEAN TIME SERVED TO FIRST RELEASE BY ADMITTING OFFENSE WITH MAXIMUM SENTENCE LENGTH: PRISONERS WITH AT LEAST TWO PRIOR ARRESTS

Admitting Offense	Months Served	
	Single State	Multi-State
	(1)	(2)
Violent Offenses		
Homicide	53.3	64.2
Sex	37.5	38.1
Robbery	34.6	37.3
Assault	24.2	24.2
Other Violent	28.8	33.7
Property Offenses		
Burglary	20.4	21.7
Larceny	15.4	16.5
Vehicle Theft	17.3	18.4
Forgery/Fraud	16.9	20.0
Other Property	17.1	16.2
Drug Offenses	19.4	20.2
Other Offenses		
Weapons	21.2	21.1
DUI	8.0	8.6
All Other	18.0	20.7

TABLE 21

DEMOGRAPHIC AND CRIMINAL HISTORY CORRELATES OF TIME SERVED BY ADMITTING OFFENSE: PRISONERS WITH AT LEAST TWO PRIOR ARRESTS

Admitting Offense	Effect on Time Served (in Months)[a]							
	Multi-State Status	Age	Prior Arrests	Male	White	Hispanic	Violent History[b]	Arrest Ratio[c]
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Violent Offense								
Homicide	-	3.3	-1.1	21.5	-7.5	-	-	1.72
Violent Sex	-	0.9	-	-	-9.2	13.0	-	1.75
Robbery	-3.9	2.4	-0.6	12.4	-4.3	-	-	1.63
Assault	-4.1	1.1	-	10.2	-	-	-	1.73
Other Violent	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	1.47
Property Offense								
Burglary	-	0.9	-	4.6	-	-2.9	1.1	1.52
Larceny	-	0.4	0.2	4.6	-	-	-	1.69
Vehicle Theft	-	-	0.6	-	-	-	-	1.60
Forgery/Fraud	-	0.1	0.4	3.1	-3.4	-	-	1.53
Other Property	-	0.9	-	-	-	-9.1	1.1	1.93
Drug Offenses	-	0.3	0.1	-	-4.5	7.1	-	1.67
Other Offenses								
Weapons	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.1	1.43
DUI and Other Traffic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.73
All Other	-	0.1	0.4	-	-	-	2.3	1.54

[a]Indicated effects are significant at the 0.05 level. The equations from which these effects were derived appear in TECHNICAL NOTES, Time Served.

[b]Effect of a ten percentage point increase in ratio of (Violent Offense Charges)/(All Charges) in prerelease period.

[c](Mean prerelease arrests of multistate offenders)/(Mean prerelease arrests of single state offenders)

Offense-specific arrest rates are almost certainly positively correlated with offense-specific conviction rates. Given that the multistate offender had been arrested more often in the past, one would expect that the multistate offender had also been convicted more often in the past. The ICH data indicate that, on a charge by charge count, the court is not more lenient with multistate offenders. Thus, one possible reason for equal, or more lenient treatment, given that the multistate offender is a more serious offender, is that the court had less information about the prior criminal history of the multistate offender at time of sentencing. The disparity in availability of single state v. multistate ICH arrest records supports this hypothesis.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Notation for Equations

AGE:	Age at time of release
ED:	Categorical variable with response levels: No High School, Some High School, High School Graduate, Some Post-High School
HISPANIC:	Dummy variable: Non-Hispanic = 0, Hispanic = 1
MALE:	Dummy variable: Female = 0, Male = 1
MULTI:	Dummy variable: Non-multistate offender = 0, Multistate offender = 1
NPRECHG:	Number of prerelease charges
NPSTARR:	Number of post-release arrests
NPSTCHG:	Number of post-release charges
PI:	Probability derived from logit regression estimator. See Logit Transform, below
PRIORS:	Number of prerelease arrests
VIOLSHR:	100 * [Number prerelease violent arrest charges) / (total prerelease arrest charges)]
WHITE:	Dummy variable: black = 0, white = 1
X:	Logit regression estimator. See Logit Transform, below.

Significance Levels

All coefficients reported below are significant at the 0.05 level. Most all are significant at the 0.001 level.

Logit Transform

A logistic regression equation produces a log-odds estimator for the dependent variable. The estimator was converted to its corresponding, more commonly understood probability value via

$$(1)\quad PI = EXP(X) / [1 + EXP(X)],$$

where PI is the probability value appearing in a data table, and X is the log-odds value derived from a logistic regression equation.

Education Effect

The prerelease data of Table 5 were derived from the logit regression:

$$X = 4.59 + 0.19 * ED + 0.087 * AGE + 0.19 * MALE + 0.69 * WHITE - 0.80 * HISPANIC.$$

The post-release data were derived from the logit regression:

$$X = 2.68 + 0.14 * ED - 0.0098 * AGE + 0.15 * MALE + 0.74 * WHITE - 0.65 * HISPANIC.$$

See the Logit Transform, above, for conversion of X to the table's probability values.

Location Equations

The OLS regression equation associated with Table 7 column (4) is IA = 76.3 + 0.63 * POP.REL, where IA is the percentage of arrests occurring in state of release, and POP.REL is the population in state of release in 1983 (in millions). The coefficient of determination equals 0.32, and the POP.REL coefficient is significant at the 0.04 level.

The OLS regression equation for column (5) is CA = 13 + 15.7 * POP.RATIO, where CA is the percentage of arrests occurring in contiguous states, and POP.RATIO is the population in 1983 in contiguous states divided by POP.REL. The coefficient of determination equals 0.88, and the POP.RATIO coefficient is significant at the 0.0001 level.

Arrests and Charges

The data of Table 13 were derived from these stepwise OLS regressions:

$$PRIORS = -16.85 - 1.93 * MULTI + 1.31 * AGE - 0.015 * AGE * AGE + 0.20 * AGE * MULTI + 0.69 * MALE - 2.07 * MALE * MULTI - 1.42 * WHITE + 2.19 * HISPANIC - 1.84 * HISPANIC * MULTI$$

$$NPRECHG = -23.84 + 1.80 * AGE - 0.019 * AGE * AGE$$

+0.24 * AGE * MULTI +2.18 * MALE
-3.80 * MALE * MULTI - 2.36 * WHITE
+2.82 * HISPANIC - 3.25 * HISPANIC * MULTI

NPSTARR = 2.02 + 2.48 * MULTI -0.00030 * AGE * AGE
- 0.86 * MALE * MULTI - 0.54 * WHITE
+ 0.63 * HISPANIC - 0.95 * HISPANIC * MULTI

NPSTCHG = 3.15 + 2.69 * MULTI - 0.00057 * AGE * AGE - 0.85 * WHITE + 0.90 * HISPANIC - 1.26 * HISPANIC * MULTI

Synthesized Effects

The prerelease data of Table 12 were derived from the logistic regression:

X = -4.01 + 0.068 * AGE + 0.30 * MALE + 0.79 * WHITE
+0.044 * PRIORS - 1.16 * HISPANIC.

The post-release data were derived from the logistic regression:

X = -2.93 + 0.011 * AGE + 0.27 * MALE + 1.00 * WHITE
+0.094 * PRIORS - 1.18 * HISPANIC

See the Logit Transform, above, for conversion of X to the table's probability values.

Recidivism

The probability data of Table 18 were derived from the logit regression:

X = 3.18 + 0.38 * MULTI - 0.19 * AGE * 0.0016 * AGE * AGE
+0.22 * PRIORS - 0.0014 * PRIORS * PRIORS
-0.017 * MULTI * PRIORS - 0.0014 * AGE * PRIORS
+0.40 * MALE -0.43 * WHITE + 0.39 * HISPANIC

See the Logit Transform, above, for conversion of X to the table's probability values.

The number of arrests were derived from the OLS regression:

NPSTARR = 4.19 + 0.22 * MULTI - 0.18 * AGE + 0.0019 * AGE * AGE
+0.22 * PRIORS - 0.00057 * PRIORS * PRIORS
-0.010 * MULTI * PRIORS - 0.0025 * AGE * PRIORS
-0.022 * MALE - 0.30 * WHITE + 0.26 * HISPANIC

Time Served

The data of Table 21 were derived from Stepwise OLS regressions, with critical entry and retention probabilities of 0.05. The regressions were evaluated for AGE = 27 and PRIORS = 6, and are:

HOMICIDE = 110 + 7.60 * AGE -0.080 AGE * AGE + 21.5 * MALE
-7.50 * WHITE - 1.08 * PRIORS.

SEX = 17.2 + 0.88 * AGE - 9.16 * WHITE + 12.95 * HISPANIC

ROBBERY = -45.1 - 3.91 * MULTI + 3.17 * AGE - 0.012 * AGE * AGE
+12.4 * MALE - 4.28 * WHITE - 0.021 * AGE * PRIORS

ASSAULT = -34.1 - 4.15 * MULTI + 2.64 * AGE - 0.029 * AGE *
AGE + 10.2 * MALE

OTHER VIOLENT = -0.97 + 1.04 * AGE

BURGLARY = -22.0 + 2.06 * AGE - 0.022 * AGE * AGE
+4.62 * MALE - 2.89 * HISPANIC + 1.1 * VIOLSHR

LARCENY = 2.08 + 0.33 * AGE + 4.58 * MALE - 0.0068 * PRIORS
+0.0082 * AGE * PRIORS

VEHICLE THEFT = 13.2 + 0.83 * PRIORS - 0.017 * PRIORS * PRIORS

FORGERY/FRAUD = 13.7 + 3.11 * MALE - 3.38 * WHITE - 0.010 *
PRIORS * PRIORS + 0.019 * AGE * PRIORS

MISC PROPERTY = -8.42 + 1.40 * AGE - 0.017 * AGE * AGE -9.10 *
HISPANIC + 1.07 * VIOLSHR

DRUGS = -23.8 + 2.34 * AGE - 0.027 * AGE * AGE
-4.25 * WHITE + 6.78 * HISPANIC

WEAPONS = 20.0 + 1.38 * VIOLSHR

DUI & OTHER TRAFFIC = [No significant variables]

ALL OTHER = 14.3 - 0.0078 * PRIORS * PRIORS + 0.015 * AGE *
PRIORS + 2.28 * VIOLSHR

METHODOLOGY

Sample description

A sample of prisoners released in 1983 was obtained from records submitted by participating states in the National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP). Individual corrections records were linked with records of arrests and prosecutions (rap sheets) maintained by the criminal identification bureaus in the eleven states. Rap sheet data on offenders who were arrested in more than one state were obtained from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

State and Federal rap sheets were found for 16,355 of the 18,374 prisoners in the original sample. Excluding the 159 prisoners who died during the followup period, complete records were obtained for 90% of the original sample. Most of the sampled prisoners with incomplete records did not have an FBI identification number in their corrections record or on the State rap sheet. Without this number, FBI rap sheets could not be obtained. There was no evidence of any systematic difference between those persons with complete records and those lacking either a State or FBI rap sheet.

Findings in this study are representative of an estimated 108,580 prisoners who were released in the eleven states and who were alive in 1987. Only released prisoners with sentences to state prison of greater than one year are included. Administrative releases, prisoners who were absent without leave (AWOL), escapees, transfers, releases on appeal, and those who died in prison are excluded from the sample.

A separate, self-representing sample of male and female prisoners was drawn within each of the participating states, except Minnesota, in which all released prisoners were selected. Within each gender group in the ten sampled states, prisoners were grouped into twenty-four strata that were defined by categories of race, age, and type of offense. Prisoners were selected systematically from each strata to yield independent samples of males and females within each state.

To adjust for differences in the sampling rate among states and for differences among strata in the coverage of rap sheets, a series of weights were introduced. The weights were applied so that individuals in each state and stratum were properly represented in the combined eleven-state sample. The resulting weighted sample is representative of the estimated 108,580 prisoners who were released in the eleven states, and who were alive in 1987.

Precision of the sample

Overall, the 95% confidence interval for the percent of all released prisoners who were rearrested within three years (62.5%) was approximately plus or minus one percentage point. The precision of other estimates varied by item, size of the estimate, and the sample size for each group. The precision of estimates of the percent rearrested based on 1,000 sampled prisoners, for example, varied between two and 3.5 percent, depending on the percent rearrested.

Unless otherwise noted, differences cited in the text between groups of released prisoners which were derived from regression equations were statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.

Coverage of criminal-history files

Criminal-history information maintained by the state identification bureaus and the FBI includes all felonies and serious misdemeanors. These files exclude arrests and court actions involving charges such as drunkenness, vagrancy, disturbing the peace, curfew violation, loitering, false fire alarms, unspecified charges of suspicion or investigation, and traffic violations (except manslaughter, driving under the influence of drugs or liquor, and hit-and-run, which are included in the files).

Information on offenses committed by juvenile offenders is not reported in the rap sheets unless the offender was charged or tried in court as an adult. Consequently, all figures presented in this report refer to adult arrests only.

Arrests for serious offenses are not always recorded in the criminal-history files, largely because of the absence of readable fingerprint cards. To correct for this underreporting incarceration records lacking prior arrest records were counted

as arrests in the calculation of rearrest rates, time to first rearrest, and the number of prior adult arrests.

Offenses

The offenses reported in the criminal-history files were recoded following definitions outlined in BJS Crime Definitions,, which is available upon request. For each arrest in the files, the total number of charges was recorded. However, the type of charge, disposition, and sentence were coded on a maximum of six charges per arrest. For prisoners released in 1983 after serving time in prison for more than one offense, the offense with the longest sentence was defined as the most serious.