

San Diego County Probationers Revoked to Prison 2009-2010

This analysis examines 1,355 adult probationers in San Diego County who were revoked to state prison during the FY 2009-10. In order to better understand how to reduce this number, a deeper understanding of these individuals is necessary. The following information is a summary of our investigation of the individuals revoked to state prison in the most recent fiscal year.

The largest single group of individuals revoked were men (85%) between the ages of 18-35 (67%). More than one-third of this group (39%), are between 18-25. In terms of geographic region, over one quarter of the revocations came from the north (28%), with one fifth coming from the central (22%) region of the county. Fifteen percent came from the east region, 13% from the south and 19% were transient¹.

Characterizing the revoked population in terms of their probation, on average they were on probation for 2.2 years at the time of revocation. They were most likely assessed[∞] as high risk (55%) and were supervised on high level supervision (44%) compared to mid level (21%). The largest concentration of offenders who were revoked to state prison were supervised in high risk caseloads characterized by caseload ratios of 1 to 50.

When examining the offenders who were supervised using specialized supervision units, the largest group came from Gang Suppression Unit (9%). An additional 5% come from our PC1210 Offender Treatment Program and 4% from the Driving Under the Influence Unit.

¹ The remaining probationers had out of county addresses

[∞] Using the COMPASS and FSFS assessment tools

We looked at the behavior on probation to try to isolate behaviors that might be predictive of probation failure. We found that 45% of the individuals who were revoked tested positive for drugs while under supervision, and 46% had a warrant issued while under supervision. On average, individuals who were revoked to prison had been in a “revoked warrant issued” status 1.8 times prior to their final revocation.

Lastly, we examined felony offenses committed while under supervision that led to a conviction and commitment to prison. We found that of those revoked 820 (61%), had no new felony conviction and can therefore be considered having been revoked on a “technical violation.” A new felony conviction occurred for the remaining 535 (39%). The most serious conviction during the period of probation can be seen in Table 1. The top five offenses for offenders revoked to prison are in the following categories: Drugs (23%); Burglary (18%); Theft (11%); Assault (10%); and Robbery (8%). Please see Table 1 for all offense types.

Table 1: Most Serious Conviction Group while under Probation Supervision

Offense Category	Number of Offenders	Percent of Offenders
Drugs	125	23.36%
Burglary	97	18.13%
Theft	57	10.65%
Assault	56	10.47%
Robbery	42	7.85%
Auto Theft	37	6.92%
Petty Theft	25	4.67%
Other Felonies	42	7.85%
Weapons	17	3.18%
Drive Under the Influence	16	2.99%
Forgery, Checks	6	1.12%
Other Sex Law Violations	5	0.93%
Rape	2	0.37%
Kidnapping	2	0.37%
Homicide	2	0.37%
Manslaughter n/Vehicular	1	0.19%
Lewd or Lascivious	1	0.19%
Hit and Run	1	0.19%
Arson	1	0.19%