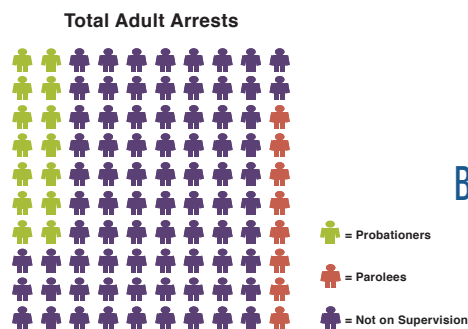


# The Impact of Probation and Parole Populations on Arrests in Four California Cities

Los Angeles, Redlands, Sacramento, and San Francisco

## THE PROBLEM

### Supervision Status among All Adult Arrestees



Designation	Adult Arrests	% of Total
Total	476,054	100%
Parolees	40,476	8.5%
Probationers	66,251	13.9%
Not Supervised	369,327	77.6%

- To what extent do people on probation and parole contribute to crime, as measured by arrests?
- What types of crimes are these people most likely to commit?
- What strategies can law enforcement employ to better respond to the people being released from prisons and jails to community supervision?

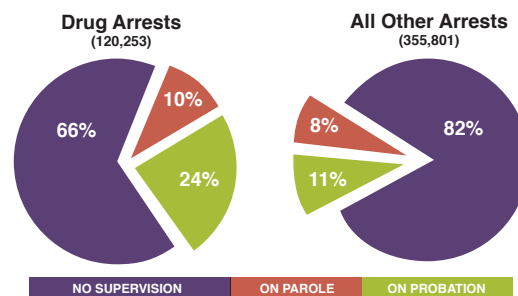
## BACKGROUND

- The study was commissioned by the chiefs of police of Los Angeles, Redlands, Sacramento, and San Francisco. It is the result of an extraordinary and dynamic collaboration among police departments, sheriff's departments and probation agencies spanning four counties, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
- The dataset assembled for this study encompassed all people arrested during a three-and-a-half-year time period from January 2008 to June 2011.
- The study includes data regarding people placed under Non-Revocable Parole beginning in January 2010, although it immediately precedes the implementation of many of the provisions of California's 2011 Realignment Legislation.

## KEY FINDINGS

- **Approximately one in five arrests (22%) involved an individual under probation or parole supervision; the majority of total arrests (78%) involved people who were not under supervision.** Of those under supervision who were arrested, nearly twice as many were on probation as on parole.
- **The extent to which people under probation or parole supervision contributed to arrest activity varied by jurisdiction.** Arrests involving individuals under supervision varied across the jurisdictions, from 11% of all arrests in San Francisco to 30% in Sacramento.
- **People under probation and parole supervision were involved in one in six arrests for violent crime. On the other hand, one in three arrests for drug crime involved someone on probation or parole.** Of all types of offenses tracked in this study, people under supervision were more likely to be arrested on drug offenses than either violent, property, or other arrests.

Drug and All Other Arrests by Supervision Status



- **The number of arrests made in the four jurisdictions during the study period declined by 18% overall, while the number of arrests of people under supervision in these jurisdictions declined by 40%.** The number of arrests involving individuals under parole supervision declined by 61% and by 26% for individuals under probation supervision.
- **The number of arrests made in the four jurisdictions during the study period declined by 18% overall, while the number of arrests of people under supervision in these jurisdictions declined by 40%.** The number of arrests involving individuals under parole supervision declined by 61% and by 26% for individuals under probation supervision.
- **The assessment of a parolee's risk of reoffense was an effective indicator of the likelihood that he/she would be rearrested, although the assessment of a probationer's risk of reoffense did not effectively predict that individuals likelihood to reoffend in three of the four jurisdictions.**

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Promote the implementation of validated risk assessment tools for each local probation department to determine which people under community supervision are most likely to reoffend.
- Improve coordination among law enforcement, probation, and parole agencies; design policies and practices to facilitate sharing of risk assessment results and to inform how law enforcement professionals use these data.
- Provide targeted, evidence-based supervision and treatment strategies for individuals assessed to be at high risk for reoffense.
- Continue analyses of arrest and supervision data to track how people under supervision are contributing to arrest activity since the implementation of Realignment.
- Improve state's capacity to share and analyze data among local jurisdictions and state corrections agencies.

## CONCLUSION

**T**HE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THIS REPORT ARE BASED ON RESEARCH AND FINDINGS related to arrest data from four geographically and demographically diverse counties in California. The problem questions addressed by this study are questions shared by jurisdictions across the state and around the country. These findings and recommendations provide a baseline for evaluating changes in policies and practices and the related impact on public safety.

### Methodology

For the purposes of this study, researchers amassed more than 2.5 million adult arrest, probation, and supervision records maintained over a 42-month period between January 1, 2008 and June 30, 2011 by 11 different agencies, including:

Los Angeles, Redlands, Sacramento, and San Francisco Police Departments

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Bernardino County Probation Departments

San Francisco Probation Department

Los Angeles and San Bernardino Sheriff's Departments

Read the complete report at <http://www.nationalreentryresourcecenter.org/publications/california-arrests-study>

For more information on this report, contact Robert Coombs at (646) 743-6069 or [rcoombs@csg.org](mailto:rcoombs@csg.org).

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*The Council of State Governments Justice Center is a national nonprofit organization that serves policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels from all branches of government. The Justice Center provides practical, nonpartisan advice and evidence-based, consensus-driven strategies to increase public safety and strengthen communities.*