



Recidivism Research at BJS

Howard N. Snyder
Chief, Recidivism, Reentry & Special Projects
Bureau of Justice Statistics

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BJS Recidivism Studies

- Recidivism of Young Paroles (release in 1978)
- Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 1983
- Recidivism of Felons of Probation, 1986-89
- Offenders Returning to Federal Prison 1986-97
- Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 1994
- Recidivism of Sex Offenders Released from Prison in 1994
- Recidivism of Felons Convicted in 2002 (**forthcoming**)
- Recidivism of Domestic Violence Offenders Convicted in 2002 (**forthcoming**)

BJS is working to build a process that will reconvert raw RAP sheets into researchable databases by

- Parsing text streams into a crude database with common fields and state-specific codes
- Developing the software to recode the data in these fields into standard values
- Insuring that the software can be easily modified to accept and recode new text strings or coding values

To build this software system, BJS is

- Assembling files of all current State statutes and their literals
- Collecting state-specific coding options (e.g. criminal history user's manuals, dropdown box codes)
- Aggregating code from conversion programs used in previous BJS recidivism studies

Stages of the Prisoners Released in 2005 Study

- Obtain NCRP records from 30+ States with State Identification Numbers (SIDs)
- Determine State-specific sampling designs
- Select samples and send SIDs to Nlets
- Nlets submits SIDs, obtains, and parses RAP sheets into relational database with State codes
- Nlets database codes are standardized and a criminal history research extract is produced
- Research extract is linked with NCRP record and analysis can begin

Other Proposed Recidivism Studies

- Recidivism of Federal Offenders
- Redemption of Juvenile Delinquents
- Developmental Patterns and Correlates of Recidivism (NLSY97)
- Probation and Parole Revocation: A Multistate Assessment
- Corrections Record Linkage Project