Interagency Council on Intermediate Sanctions

April 2010 Timothy Wong, ICIS Research Analyst

State of Hawaii, FY 2006

Hawaii Recidivism Update

This 2009 recidivism study is a comparative update of the 2002 Hawaii Recidivism Baseline Study. Hawaii's statewide recidivism rate is an important indicator of the Interagency Council on Intermediate Sanctions' (ICIS) efforts to reduce recidivism by 30% over a 10-year period (2002 to 2011). Although ICIS monitors several additional measures of success, recidivism reduction remains a critical and long-term goal.

This 2009 recidivism study is comprised of **2,198** offenders from the following State agencies:

1. Hawaii State Probation Services - 1,337 *Offenders Sentenced to Felony Probation*.
2. Hawaii Paroling Authority - 635 *Offenders Released to Parole*.
3. Department of Public Safety - 226 *Maximum Term Released Prisoners.*

Background: ICIS conducted its first recidivism study in 2002. This baseline study analyzed sentenced felony offenders on probation, or offenders released to parole in FY 1999. This study subsequently monitored the offenders for technical violations or criminal rearrests over a three-year period (1999 through 2002). Based on the 2002 study, ICIS reported a **baseline recidivism rate of 63.3%** (53.7% for Felony Probationers and 72.9% for Parolees). ICIS has since conducted three additional recidivism updates for Fiscal Years 2003, 2005, and 2006, which replicated the methodology and recidivism definition adopted in the FY 1999 baseline study and maintains the methodological consistency for trend analysis and comparisons in recidivism rates.

Methodology

The 2009 follow-up study analyzed offenders who entered probation, offenders released to parole, or maximum-term prisoners released in FY 2006. This study subsequently monitored all offenders for recidivism over a 36-month period. ICIS defines recidivism as criminal arrest (offense charges), criminal contempt of court, or revocation. The recidivism dataset includes data fields from the following State information systems: the CYZAP database; Department of the Attorney General's Proxy database; Hawaii State Judiciary's PROBER information system; and the Hawaii Paroling Authority's (HPA) database. The arrest charges and court violations compiled in this study are from a Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) September

2009 download. The data elements from the CJIS download include State Identification Numbers (*SIDs)*, *Arrest/Conviction Dates*, *Initial Charge Severity*, and *Initial Charge*/*Disposition* descriptions. The demographic information includes *Race*, *Sex*, and *Date of Birth*.

The CJIS download included 15,273 total charges from Fiscal Years 2006-2009. Probation, Parole, and PSD has respectively defined the *Follow-up Start Date* as the sentencing date, parole start date, and prison release date. This date calculates the *Time to Recidivism* (length of time expired before the arrest charge or revocation violation). In situations involving multiple charges filed on the same arrest date, the most severe charge (felony, misdemeanor, or petty misdemeanor) becomes the recorded recidivism event. The following paragraphs specify the methodologies employed for each agency.

1. Probation Services

Probation included 1,234 felony offenders, with data extracted from the PROBER information system and PROXY database. The defined *Follow-up Start Date* is the supervision start date or sentencing/disposition date. Excluded from the analysis are probationers who had a current plea agreement initiated within the FY 2006 period, or who served time in jail during their probation period[1]. These procedures are consistent with the methodology employed in the three previous recidivism studies, and are critical to this study's internal validity.

2. Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA)

HPA provided a listing of 782 offenders paroled in FY 2006. This listing included parolee SIDs and release to parole dates (*Follow-up Start Date)*.

3. Department of Public Safety (PSD)

PSD provided an August 2008 download of 226 maximum term incarcerated offenders released from prison in FY 2006. This download included the SIDs and maximum term release dates (*Follow-up Start Date)*. This study helped to analyze the recidivism trends of maximum term offenders between FY 2005 and FY 2006. Although PSD recidivism data were not included in the initial baseline study, future updates will track recidivism trends for maximum term offenders.

[1] The DAG/DANCP cases eliminated from this study totaled 279, or 13.3% of the total records, while probationers in jail comprised 62 cases, or 3.0% of the total records in the data set.

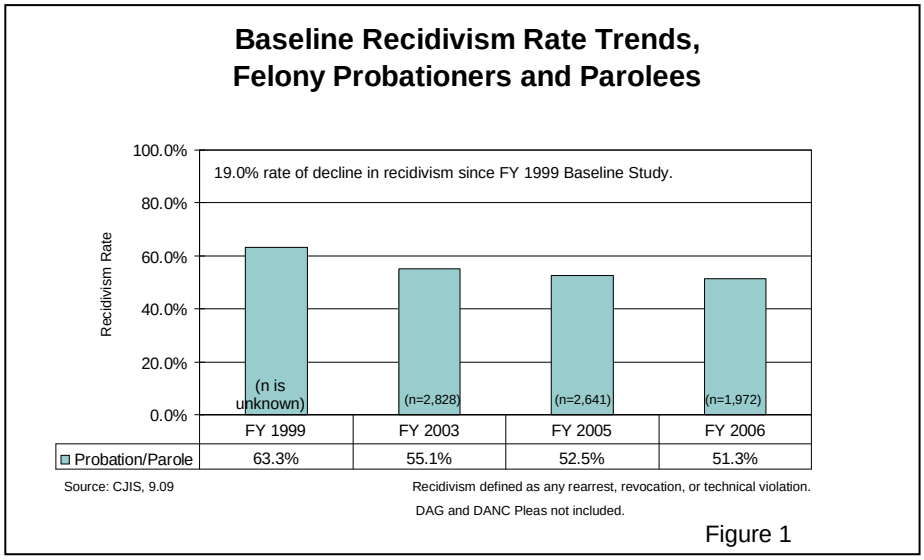


Figure 1

Figure 1 presents the recidivism trends for felony probationers and parolees in the FY 1999 baseline year, and subsequent recidivism rate updates (Fiscal Years 2003, 2005, and 2006).

- The 51.3% recidivism rate for FY 2006 signifies a 12.0 percentage point decline, based on the FY 1999 baseline.
- Since the initial baseline study, the rate of recidivism decline is at 19.0%, more than halfway to the targeted 30% decline in recidivism.

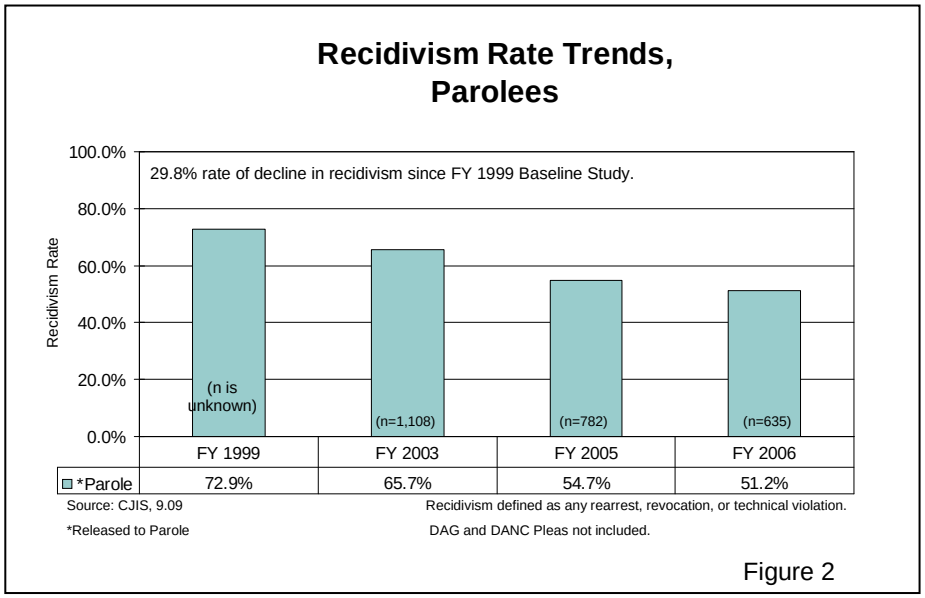


Figure 2

Figure 2 depicts the recidivism trends for parolees in the FY 1999 baseline year, and subsequent recidivism rate updates.

- The 51.2% recidivism rate for FY 2006 indicates a 21.7% percentage point decline in recidivism.
- The rate of recidivism decline is at 29.8%, which is meeting the targeted 30% recidivism decline.

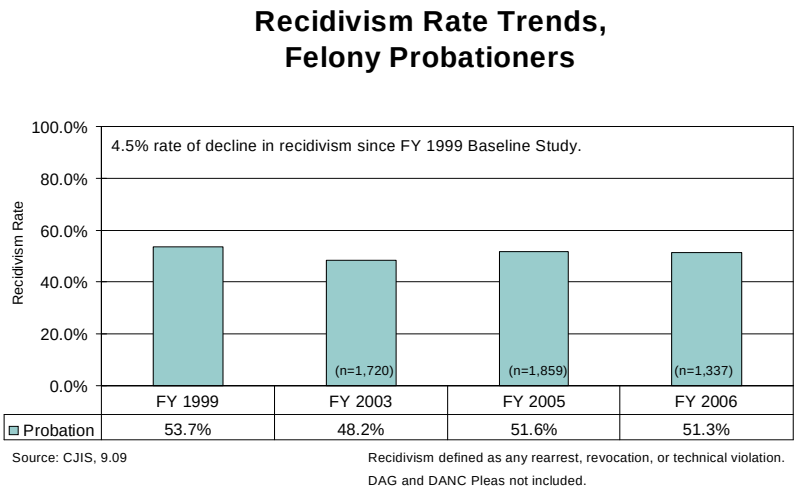


Figure 3

Figure 3 displays the recidivism trends for probationers in the FY 1999 baseline year, and subsequent recidivism rate updates.

- The 51.3% recidivism rate for FY 2006 resulted in a 2.4% percentage point decline in recidivism.
- The rate of recidivism decline is at 4.5%, far from meeting the targeted 30% recidivism decline.

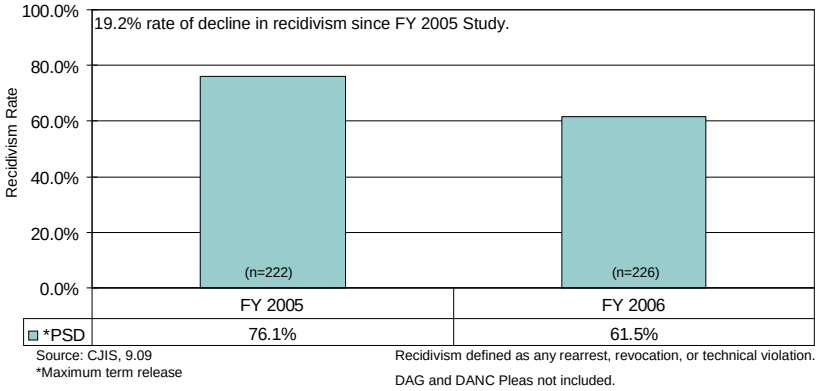


Figure 4

Figure 4 reveals the recidivism trends for "maxed out" prisoners released in FY 2005 and FY 2006.

- The 61.5% recidivism rate for FY 2006 indicates a 14.6 percentage point decline in recidivism from the previous, FY 2005 recidivism rate.
- The Recidivism rate has declined by 19.2%.

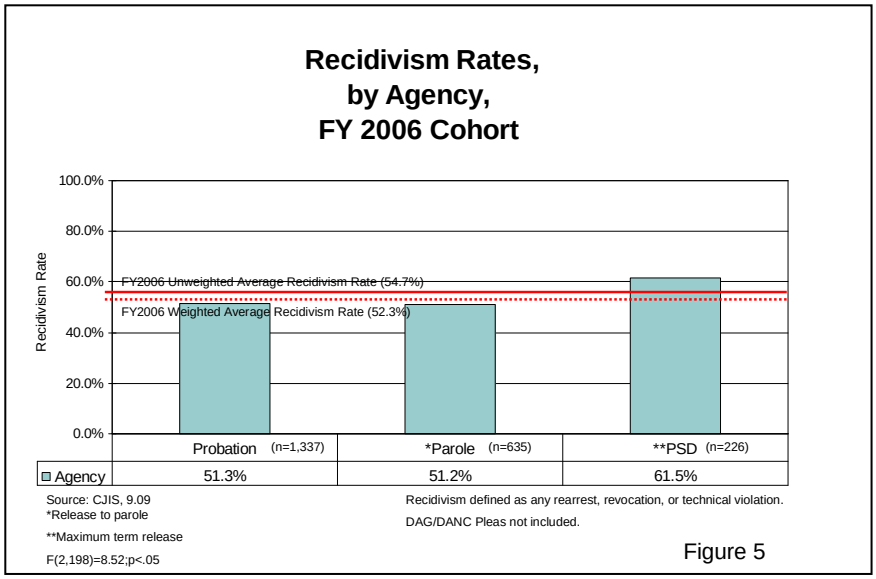


Figure 5

Figure 5 examines the FY 2006 recidivism rates for probationers, parolees, and maximum term prisoners. The differences in recidivism rates between agencies are statistically significant at the p<.05 level.

- The unweighted average (54.7%) is 2.4 percentage points higher than the weighted average (52.3%), because of the combined effects of PSD's high recidivism rate (61.5%) and low offender count (n=225).

Technical Note: The weighted average is an additional option used to report averages, especially when there is great disparity between offender counts (n), and wide variations in summarized scores within multiple categories.

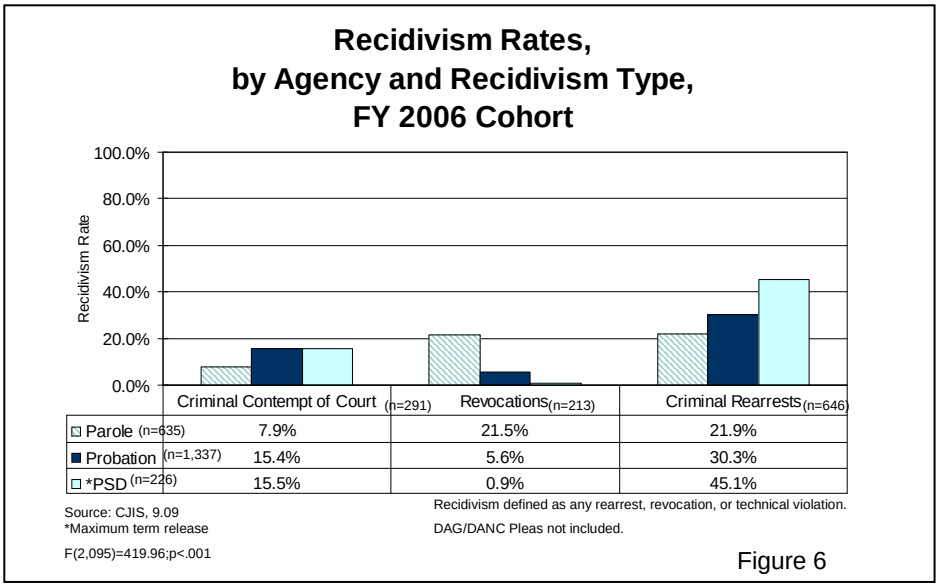


Figure 6

Figure 6 depicts the FY 2006 recidivism rates, by agency and recidivism type. The differences in recidivism rates between agencies, with respect to recidivism type, are statistically significant at the p<.001 level.

- PSD has the highest Criminal Rearrest rate (45.1%) and the highest Criminal Contempt of Court rate (15.5%).

- Parole has the highest Revocation rate (21.5%)

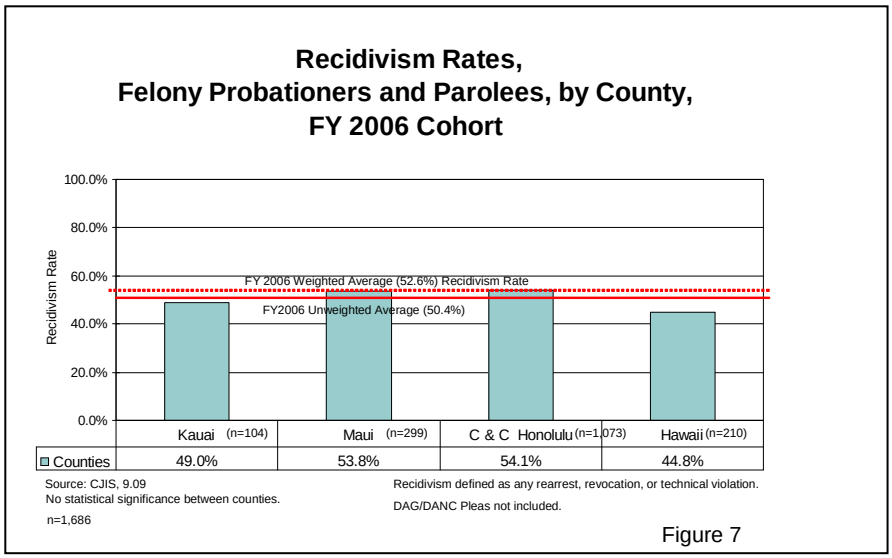


Figure 7

Figure 7 displays the FY 2006 recidivism rates for felony probationers and parolees, by county. The differences in recidivism rates between counties are not statistically significant.

- The unweighted average (50.4%) is 2.2 percentage points lower than the weighted average (52.6%) because of the combined effects of Hawaii County's low recidivism rate (44.8%) and low offender count (n=210).
- The City and County of Honolulu has the highest recidivism rate (54.1%), which is almost 10 percentage points higher than Hawaii County's recidivism rate.

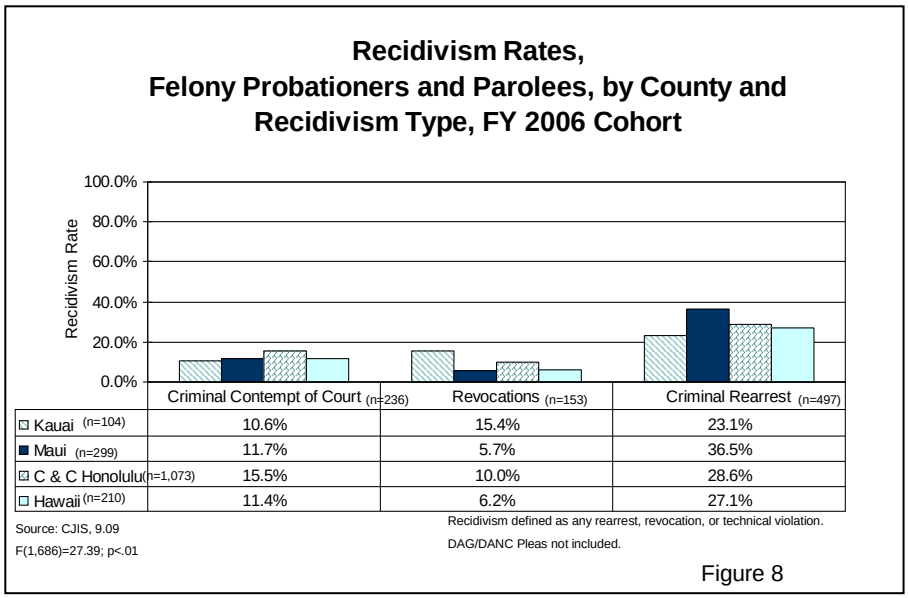


Figure 8

Figure 8 reveals the FY 2006 recidivism rates for felony probationers and parolees, by county and recidivism type. The differences in recidivism rates between counties, with respect to recidivism type, are statistically significant at the $p<.01$ level.

- Maui County has the highest Criminal Rearrest rate (36.5%), but the lowest Revocation rate (5.7%), as compared to the other counties.
- Kauai County has the lowest Criminal Rearrest rate (23.1%), Criminal Contempt of Court rate (10.6%), but the highest Revocation rate (15.4%), as compared to the other counties.
- The City and County of Honolulu has the highest Criminal Contempt of Court rate (15.5%).

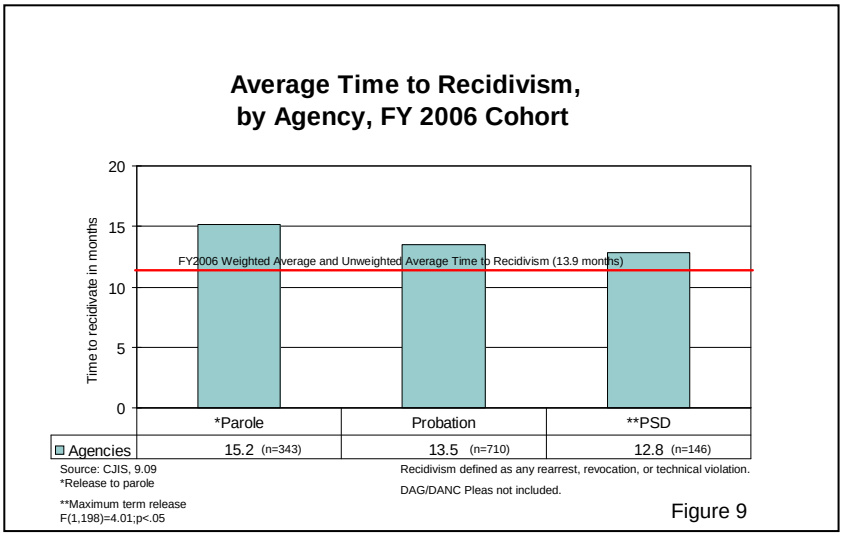


Figure 9

Figure 9 examines the FY 2006 average time in months between the *Follow-up Start Date* and the *Recidivism Event Date,* by agency. The differences in the average time to recidivism between agencies are statistically significant at the p<.05 level.

- The weighted and unweighted average time to recidivism is 13.9 months.
- Parole has the longest average time to recidivism (15.2 months), 1.3 months longer than the average recidivism period.
- PSD has the shortest average time to recidivism (12.8 months), 1.1 months shorter than the average recidivism period.

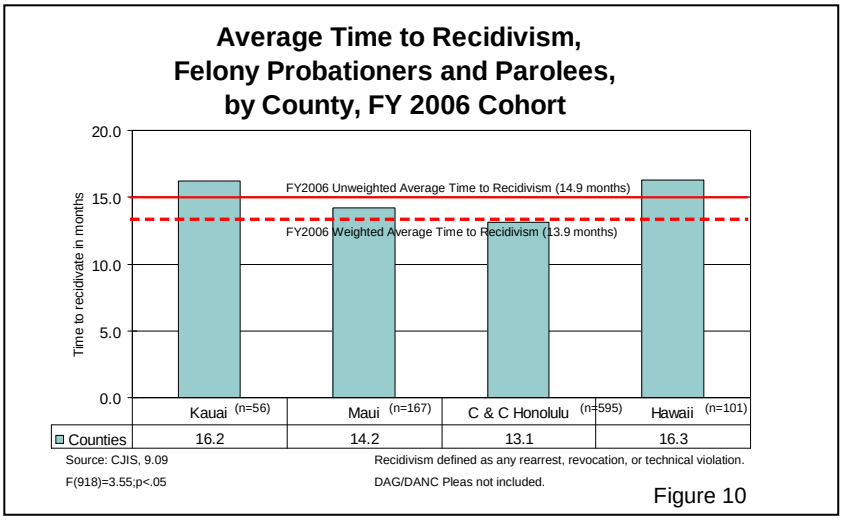


Figure 10

Figure 10 depicts the FY 2006 average time in months between the *Follow-up Start Date* and the *Recidivism Event Date* for felony probationers and parolees, by county. The differences in the average time to recidivism between counties are statistically significant at the p<.05 level.

- The 14.9-month unweighted average in time to recidivism is one month longer than the weighted average of 13.9 months. The 1.0-month difference between the weighted and unweighted average is due to the combined effects of Hawaii County's longest time to recidivism period (16.3) and low subject count (n=101).
- The City and County of Honolulu has the shortest average time to recidivism (13.1 months), 0.8 months shorter than the average (weighted) recidivism period.

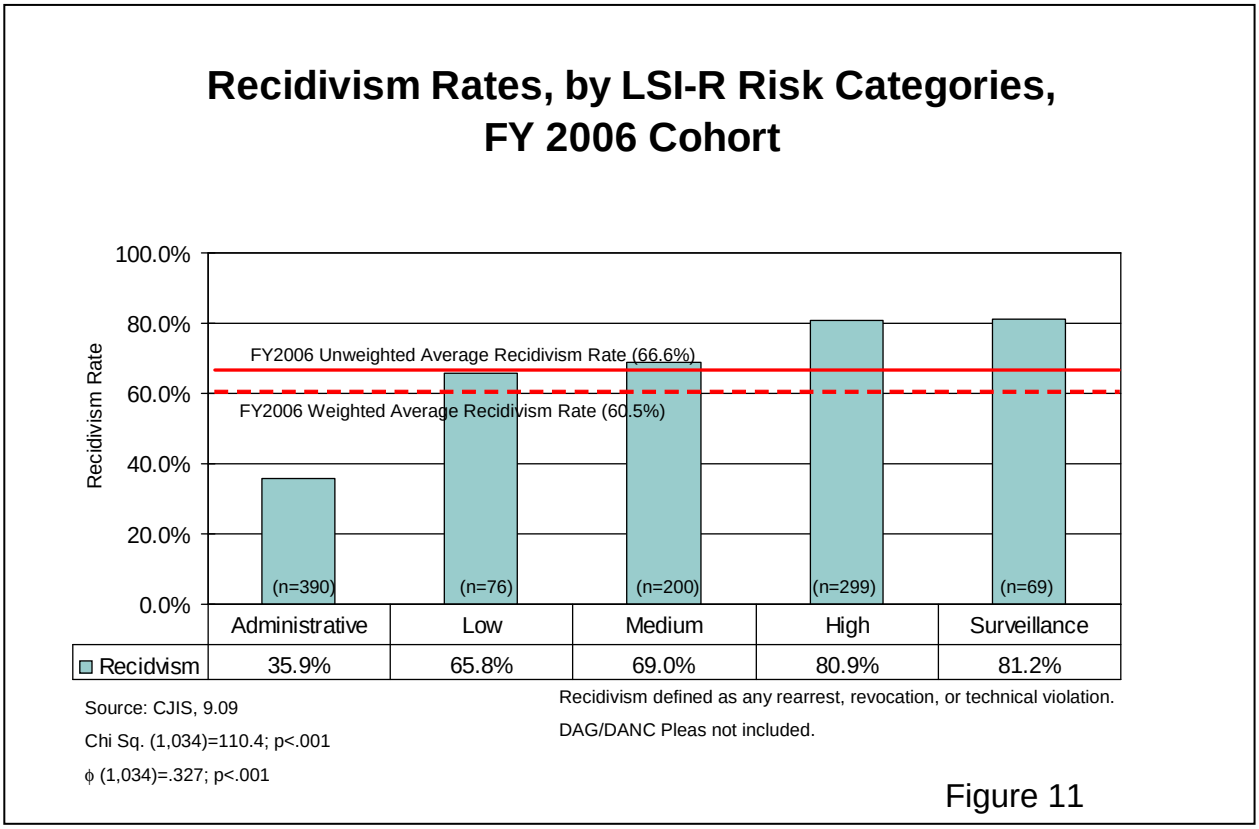


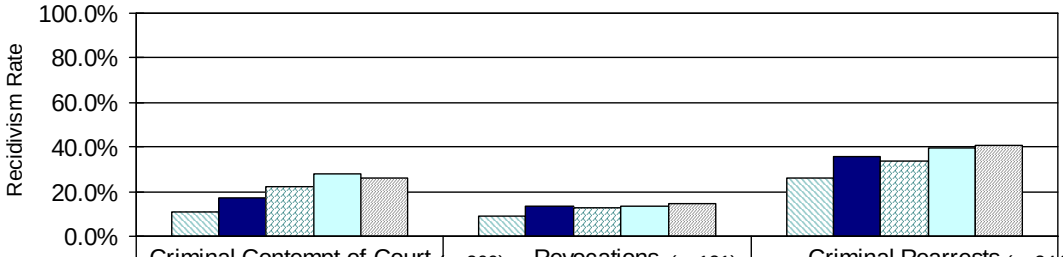
Figure 11 displays the FY 2006 recidivism rates, by LSI-R risk classification categories. The data reveal that as risk levels respectively increase from Administrative through Surveillance levels, recidivism rates incrementally increase at the p<.001 level of statistical significance. This finding suggests that the LSI-R risk categories are predictive of recidivism.

- The unweighted average (66.6%) is 10.1% higher than the weighted average (60.5%) because of the combined effects of the Surveillance level's high recidivism rate (81.2%) and low offender count (n=69).

- The High (80.9%) and Surveillance (81.2%) level offenders have the highest recidivism rates, which are respectively, 33.7% and 34.2% above the weighted average.

- The Administrative level offenders have the lowest recidivism rate (35.9%), which is 40.7% below the weighted average.

Recidivism Rates, by LSI-R Risk Categories and Recidivism Type, FY 2006 Cohort



	Criminal Contempt of Court (n=200)	Revocations (n=121)	Criminal Rearrests (n=344)
Administrative (n=390)	10.8%	9.0%	26.2%
Low (n=76)	17.1%	13.2%	35.5%
Medium (n=200)	22.0%	13.0%	34.0%
High (n=299)	27.8%	13.4%	39.8%
Surveillance (n=69)	26.1%	14.5%	40.6%

Source: CJIS, 9.09

Chi Sq. (1,034)=110.41; p<.001

ϕ (1,034)=.327; p<.001

Recidivism defined as any rearrest, revocation, or technical violation.

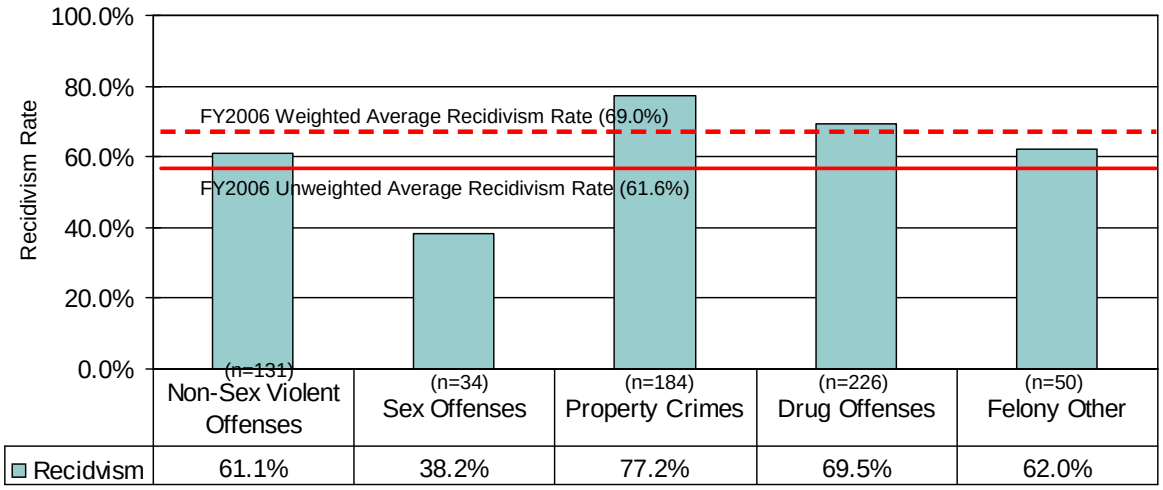
DAG/DANC Pleas not included.

Figure 12

Figure 12 depicts the FY 2006 recidivism rates, by LSI-R risk classification categories and recidivism type. The data indicates that the LSI-R risk classification system is predictive of recidivism for the type of offense committed. The differences in recidivism rates between the Administrative, Low, Medium, High, and Surveillance level offenders are statistically significant for Criminal Contempt of Court, Revocations, and Criminal Rearrests at the p<.001 level.

- The Surveillance level offenders have the highest recidivism rates for both Revocations (14.5%) and Criminal Rearrests (40.6%).
- The Administrative level offenders have the lowest recidivism rates for Criminal Contempt of Court (10.8%); Revocations (9.0%); and Criminal Rearrests (26.2%).
- The High Risk offenders have the highest recidivism rate for Criminal Contempt of Court (27.8%).

Recidivism Rates, by Initial Offense Type, FY 2006 Cohort



	(n=131) Non-Sex Violent Offenses	(n=34) Sex Offenses	(n=184) Property Crimes	(n=226) Drug Offenses	(n=50) Felony Other
Recidivism	61.1%	38.2%	77.2%	69.5%	62.0%

Source: CJIS, 9.09

Chi Sq. (840)=46.5; p<.01

ϕ (840)=.235; p<.01

Recidivism defined as any rearrest, revocation, or technical violation.

DAG/DANC Pleas not included.

Figure 13

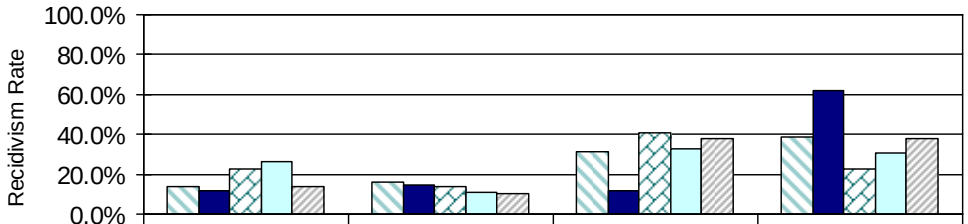
Figure 13 examines the FY 2006 recidivism rates, by initial offense type. The data reveal that the differences in recidivism rates, by initial offense type, are predictive of recidivism at the p<.01 level of statistical significance.

- The unweighted average (61.6%) is 10.7% lower than the weighted average (69.0%) because of the combined effects of Sex Offenses' low recidivism rate (38.2%) and low offender count (n=34).

- The Property Crimes offenders have the highest recidivism rate (77.2%), which is 11.9% above the weighted average.

- The Sex Crimes offenders have the fewest number of offenders (n=34), and the lowest recidivism rate (38.2%), which is 44.6% below the weighted average.

Recidivism Rates, by Initial Offense and Recidivism Type, FY 2006 Cohort



Initial Offense	Criminal Contempt of Court (n=175)	Revocations (n=106)	Criminal Rearrests (n=299)	Did Not Recidivate (n=260)
Non-Sex Violent Offenses (n=131)	13.7%	16.0%	31.3%	39.0%
Sex Offenses (n=34)	11.8%	14.7%	11.8%	61.7%
Property Crimes (n=184)	22.3%	14.1%	40.8%	22.8%
Drug Offenses (n=226)	26.1%	10.6%	32.7%	30.6%
Other Felonies (n=50)	14.0%	10.0%	38.0%	38.0%

Recidivism Type

Source: CJIS, 9.09
Chi Sq. (840)=46.52; p<.01

ϕ (840)=..235; p<.01

Recidivism defined as any rearrest, revocation, or technical violation.

DAG/DANC Pleas not included.

Note: The combined recidivism rates for Criminal Contempt of Court, Revocation, and Criminal Rearrests totals to the Recidivism Rate for each Offense type (see recidivism rates by type of Offense in Figure 13).

Figure 14

Figure 14 depicts the FY 2006 recidivism rates, by initial offense type and type of recidivism. The differences in recidivism rates, by the type of offense and recidivism type, are statistically significant at the p<.01 level.

- Offenders sentenced for Property Crimes have the highest recidivism rate for Criminal Rearrests (40.8%).
- Offenders sentenced for Non-Sex Violent Offenses have the highest recidivism rate for Revocations (16.0%).
- Offenders sentenced for Drug Offenses have the highest recidivism rate for Criminal Contempt of Court (26.1%).
- Sex Offenders have the lowest recidivism rate for Criminal Contempt of Court (11.8%) and Criminal Rearrests (11.8%).
- Other Felonies have the lowest recidivism rate for Revocations (10.0%).
- Offenders sentenced for Non-Sex Violent Offenses have 13.7% recidivism rate for Criminal Contempt of Court.

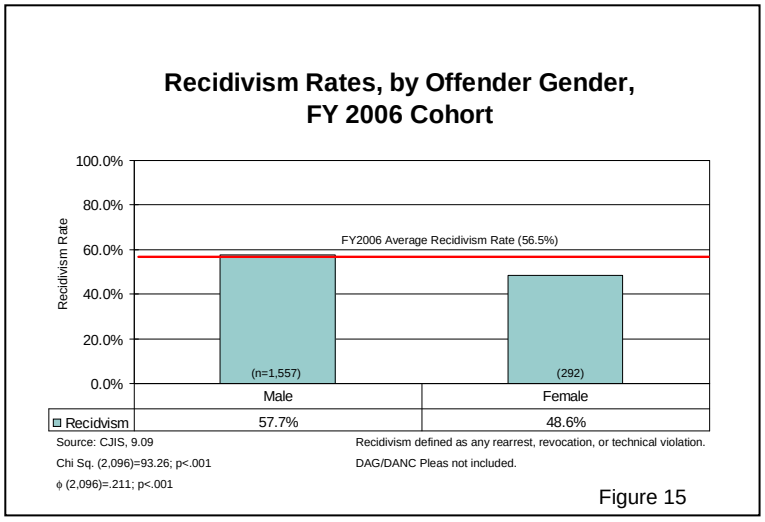


Figure 15

Figure 15 displays the FY 2006 recidivism rates, by gender. The difference in recidivism rates between males and females is statistically significant at the p<.001 level.

- The Male recidivism rate is 18.7% (9.1 percentage points) greater than the Female rate.
- The ratio of male to female offenders is 5 to 1 in favor of males.

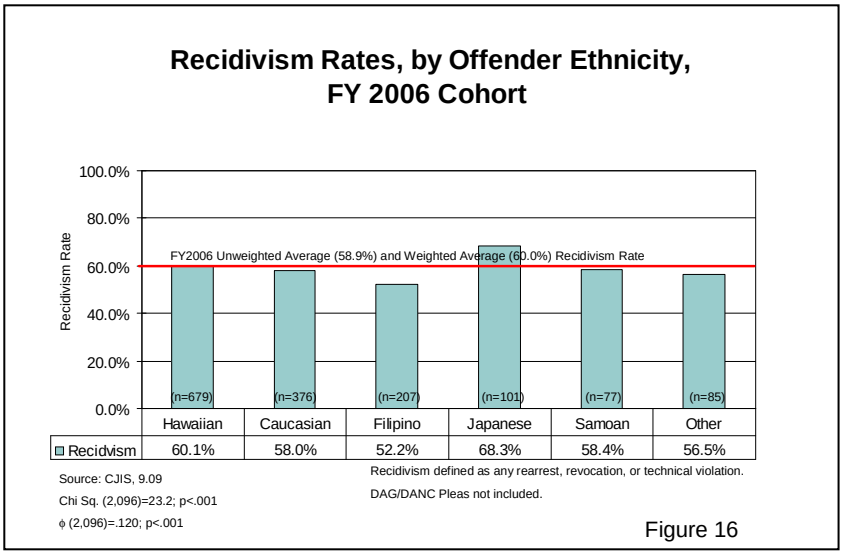
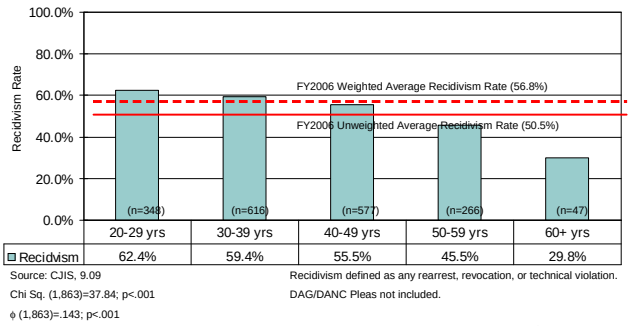


Figure 16

Figure 16 reveals the FY 2006 recidivism rates of selected ethnic groups. The differences in recidivism rates between ethnic groups are statistically significant at the p<.001 level.

- The unweighted average (58.9%) is 1.8% lower than the weighted average (60.0%) because of the combined effects of the Filipino's low recidivism rate (52.2%) and low offender count (n=207).
- The Japanese group has the highest recidivism rate (68.3%), while the Filipino group has the lowest rate (52.2%).

Recidivism Rates, by Offender Age Range, FY 2006 Cohort



Source: CJIS, 9.09
Chi Sq. (1,863)=37.84; p<.001
ϕ (1,863)=.143; p<.001

Recidivism defined as any rearrest, revocation, or technical violation.
DAG/DANC Pleas not included.

Figure 17

Figure 17 examines the FY 2006 recidivism rates, by age range. The differences in recidivism rates between offender age ranges are statistically significant at the p<.001 level.

- The unweighted average (50.5%) is 11.1% lower than the weighted average (56.8%) because of the combined effects of the 60+ age group's low recidivism rate (29.8%) and low offender count (n=47).
- The 20-29 years old age group has the highest recidivism rate (62.4%).
- The 60+ age group has the lowest recidivism rate (29.8%).

Summary and Discussion

There has been a gradual decline in Hawaii's statewide recidivism rate over the past decade. The 2009 recidivism rate (51.3%) is 19.0% (12.2 percentage points) lower than the 2002 baseline recidivism rate (63.3%). This decline is especially apparent for parolees, whose 51.2% recidivism rate in 2009 represents a 29.8% decline in recidivism since 2002 (Figure 2). However, felony probationers have a 4.5% decline in recidivism, which amounts to only a marginal change in recidivism since 2002 (Figure 3). It is unknown why the probation recidivism rate has not significantly declined, however, continued officer training in Motivational Interviewing (MI) and Cognitive Restructuring (COG), and greater case-planning efforts on the high and surveillance level offenders may reduce recidivism in future years.

With respect to county-level data (Figure 8), felony probationers and parolees in the City and County of Honolulu have the highest recidivism rate (54.1%), whereas those in Hawaii County have the lowest recidivism rate (44.8%). These county-level trends differ slightly when analyzing the recidivism rates for *Criminal Contempt of Court*, *Revocations,* or *Criminal Rearrests*. Offenders from the City and County of Honolulu have the highest recidivism rate for Criminal Contempt of Court (15.5%), whereas Maui County has the highest recidivism rate for Criminal Rearrests (36.5%), and Kauai County has the highest recidivism rate for Revocations (15.4%). Figure 10 reveals the shortest average recidivism period (13.1 months) for probationers and parolees in City and County of Honolulu, and the longest recidivism period (16.3 months) for probationers and parolees in Hawaii County.

Finally, recidivism rates are higher for offenders with higher assessed LSI-R risk levels. In Figure 12, the Surveillance level offenders have the highest recidivism rates for Revocations (14.5%) and Criminal Rearrests (40.6%), while the Administrative level offenders have the lowest recidivism rates for Revocations (9.0%) and Criminal Rearrests (26.2%). In Figure 14, Non-Sex Violent Offenders have the highest recidivism rates for Revocations (16.0%), while Property Crime offenders have the highest recidivism rates for Criminal Rearrests (40.8%).

Based on the reported recidivism trends in the State of Hawaii, ICIS must be careful in predicting the direction of recidivism. There are unknown (or at least currently undocumented) factors that could significantly affect upward or downward pressures in the recidivism rate. Furthermore, probationers and parolees need regular monitoring because of the considerable environmental and individual factors that contribute to recidivism in Hawaii. It is important that the policies and procedures that ICIS agencies have in place are conducive to evidence-based practice. In other words, ICIS should continue to validate assessment instruments (PROXY, LSI-R, etc) used in risk classification. They should also strive to improve the offender classification system by minimizing classification errors, and by employing a classification system that is both predictive of recidivism and useful for offender management. This includes adherence to the risk and needs principles critical to supervised services. In addition, ICIS needs to evaluate the specific evidence-based practices (e.g., Motivational Interviewing, Cognitive Restructuring, case plans) employed by the court officers. This includes monitoring treatment provider effectiveness, such as tracking provider outcomes, i.e., program completion rates, and the delivery of risk-based offender and follow-up services.

Hawaii Recidivism Update
is available electronically at the ICIS web site:
<hawaii.gov/icis>.