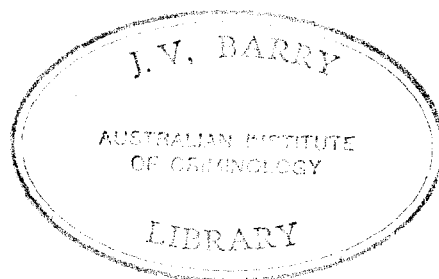


HOMICIDE AND RECIDIVISM

A study of men released from custody after
having served sentences for murder,
attempted murder, or manslaughter



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Report to the Criminology Research Council and the
Victorian Department of Community Welfare Services

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FOREWORD

This study looks at recidivism among men convicted of homicide. It is the third of several reports describing the findings of a study into recidivism among males convicted of violent offences. Findings of similar studies of robbers and rapists are described in the first and second reports respectively, and the fourth report will describe the findings of recidivism among men convicted of serious assault.

The study was commissioned by the Criminology Research Council in conjunction with the Victorian Department of Community Welfare Services, and I wish to express my gratitude for their financial support and assistance.

The study would not have been possible without the co-operation and assistance of a large number of people and organisations. I am grateful for the assistance of the Victoria Police and members of the Victorian Department of Community Welfare Services.

Special thanks are due to Mr Meinard Rook of the Office of Research and Social Policy, for his thoughtful comments and practical assistance; Rosalie Maller and Jon Sago, who assisted with the coding of the data; Leanne Peters and Jenny Cook for their able typing and secretarial assistance; Chief Superintendent C. Keating of the Victoria Police; Deputy Governor Jim Fellows of the Correctional Services Division in providing information for the study; Mr Jack Tovey and Mr Reg Hunter for proof-reading the final manuscript.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
List of Figures	iv
List of Tables	iv
Abstract	vii
1. Introduction	1
1.1 Sample	2
1.2 Sources of Information	2
1.3 Variable Selection	3
1.4 Coding Procedure	4
1.5 Data Analysis	5
2. Number and Pattern of Offences	6
2.1 Number and type of convictions following release	6
2.2 Rate of conviction over time following release	9
2.3 Convictions at the same time as the criterion offence	10
2.4 Convictions during the criterion sentence	10
3. Social and Criminal History and Recidivism	14
3.1 Demographic factors	17
3.2 Family characteristics	19
3.3 Personal characteristics	24
3.4 Education	28
3.5 Prior work record	30
3.6 Prior sentences and court orders	33
3.7 Prior convictions	43
3.8 Characteristics of crime	46
3.9 Sentence characteristics	57
3.10 Parole characteristics	71
4. Summary and Comments	82
4.1 Number and pattern of convictions following release	82

	Page
4.2 Comparison of recidivists and non-recidivists	84
Appendices	
Appendix I Summary of information coded	87
Appendix II Tables of offences following release	89
Appendix III Indices of recidivism	91
Appendix IV The modified Normandeau Crime Index	94
Appendix V Correlations analysis	97

List of Figures

Figure 1	Number of offenders convicted in five years following release by type of offence	8
Figure 2	Number of offenders recorded for violent, non-violent and any convictions for each year up to five years following release	9

List of Tables

Table 1	Violent and non-violent convictions following release	6
Table 2	Second conviction with criterion conviction	12
Table 3	Third conviction with criterion conviction	12
Table 4	Main conviction during sentence	13
Table 5	Second conviction during sentence	13
Table 6	Region of birth	17
Table 7	Area of residence at the time of the offence	18
Table 8	Number of brothers	19
Table 9	Number of sisters	20
Table 10	Number of siblings	20
Table 11	Parents' marital status	21
Table 12	Home situation	22
Table 13	Marital status	23
Table 14	Number of children	24
Table 15	Intelligence	25
Table 16	Physical condition	25
Table 17	Violent offender type	27
Table 18	Prior mental history	28
Table 19	Age left school	29
Table 20	School grade reached	30
Table 21	Occupational status	31
Table 22	Prior work stability	32
Table 23	Length of employment at the time of the offence	33
Table 24	Previous ward	34

	Page
Table 25	Prior sentence record 35
Table 26	Total prior months in prison or youth training centre 37
Table 27	Number of prior convictions 38
Table 28	Age on first conviction 40
Table 29	Number of aliases 41
Table 30	Length of previous sentence 42
Table 31	Time outside since previous sentence 43
Table 32	Prior criminal record 44
Table 33	Type of homicide 46
Table 34	Number of victims 47
Table 35	Sex of victims 48
Table 36	Relationship of victim 50
Table 37	Weapon used 51
Table 38	Number of accomplices 52
Table 39	Degree of premeditation 53
Table 40	Motive 54
Table 41	Alcohol use at time of offence 55
Table 42	Drug use at time of offence 56
Table 43	Amount stolen at time of the criterion offence 56
Table 44	Number of convictions at the same time as criterion conviction 57
Table 45	Type of sentence 58
Table 46	Governor's pleasure or maximum sentence group 58
Table 47	Maximum sentence 59
Table 48	Whether minimum sentence given 60
Table 49	Length of minimum sentence 61
Table 50	Time inside during sentence 62
Table 51	Prison or youth training centre for most of sentence 63
Table 52	Prison or youth training centre for last part of sentence 64
Table 53	Prisoner security rating 65
Table 54	Prison conduct rating 66
Table 55	Remission 67
Table 56	Time discharge postponed 68
Table 57	Time in H Division 69

		Page
Table 58	Age on conviction	70
Table 59	Age on release	71
Table 60	Governors' or Superintendents' predictions	72
Table 61	Parole officers' predictions	73
Table 62	Parole decision	74
Table 63	Special conditions on parole order	75
Table 64	Length of parole	76
Table 65	Domestic situation on release	77
Table 66	Parole reporting	78
Table 67	Job plans on release	79
Table 68	Stability of work on parole	80
Table 69	Type of breach	81

Tables in Appendices

Table I	Numbers of recorded convictions following release	89
Table II	Conviction rates over five years following release by type of crime	90
Table III	Intercorrelations between eight indices of recidivism	93
Table IV	Modification of Normandeau's Crime Index used to score offences following release	95
Table V	Crime Index for prior offences	96
Table VI	Correlations between recidivism and family characteristics	99
Table VII	Correlations between recidivism and education	100
Table VIII	Correlations between recidivism and prior work	101
Table IX	Correlations between recidivism and criminal record I, II, III and IV	102
Table X	Correlations between recidivism and crime characteristics	106
Table XI	Correlations between recidivism and sentence characteristics	107
Table XII	Correlations between recidivism and predictions	109
Table XIII	Correlations between recidivism and parole characteristics	110

ABSTRACT

Information was collected about 105 men released from prison or youth training centre in Victoria between 1969 and 1974 inclusive after having served sentences for murder, attempted murder or manslaughter. Information coded included: demographic factors, family background, education, prior work record, personal characteristics, prior criminal and institutional record, characteristics of the homicide crime, sentence and parole characteristics.

The data were analysed to provide information about: (1) the number and types of convicted crimes following release, (2) the pattern of violent and non-violent crime over time following release, (3) the characteristics of men given custodial sentences for homicide, and (4) the characteristics of those who were convicted of: (i) no further offences, (ii) further minor offences, (iii) non-violent offences leading to prison sentences, and (iv) violent offences.

1. INTRODUCTION

A great deal is known about the background characteristics of men charged with homicide. However, far less is known about the extent to which it is possible to assess the likelihood of further criminal activity following release from custody.

Homicide involves taking or attempting to take another persons' life. In this report the usage of the term "homicide" follows the definition of the Victoria Major Crime Index. It includes murder, attempted murder and manslaughter, but excludes manslaughter arising out of traffic accidents.

Of the major crimes in Victoria, homicide is the least common accounting for less than 0.1 percent of all major crimes.

While the number of deaths resulting from homicide is far less than those resulting from traffic offences, the emotional impact of homicide has tended to be far greater.

The average sentences given to convicted murderers are the highest for any of the major categories of crime. This reflects both the extreme seriousness of the offence of taking another life, and the need to protect society from further offences.

A proportion of men convicted of homicide are given indeterminate sentences, having been found to be legally insane. The issue of predicting future dangerousness is particularly important for this group, since they are kept in custody until they are deemed to be no longer a danger to society. However, in recent years there has been considerable questioning as to whether experts can accurately assess the extent to which a person is dangerous, and there is an urgent need for accurate information in this area.

This study is concerned with determining rates of violent and non-violent re-offence and factors affecting re-offence among males given custodial sentences for homicide. The major aim is to determine the extent to which information available at the time of release or during parole can be used to predict whether, and in what way, an offender is likely to offend again within the next five years.

A prior feasibility study was conducted to investigate the sources of information about offenders and to consider the relative advantages and disadvantages of alternative research designs. The results of the feasibility study are included in a report to the Criminology Research Council¹, in which a more detailed rationale for the approach of this report is presented.

1.1 Sample

The sample was defined as the population of males who were released from prison or youth training centre in Victoria between January 1969 and December 1974 inclusive, after serving sentences for homicide. A total of 105 convicted men were included in the sample. Considerable care was taken to ensure that the sample was as comprehensive and unbiased as possible. Lists of prisoners received at prison were cross-checked against parole lists, and against prisoner case history files. Similar lists were compiled for youth trainees.

The records of men who were convicted of attempted murder and manslaughter before 1968 and who were serving prison sentences with no fixed minimum term could not be located. However, evidence presented in the feasibility study indicates that the numbers involved are very small (less than 3 percent of the sample) and could not seriously bias the finding, since most had sentences with specified maximum and minimum terms.

1.2 Sources of Information

Information about offenders was gathered from several sources, namely: the Correctional Services Division prisoner case history files (which are known as the "classification files"), the probation and parole case history files, and the Family and Adolescent Services Division case history files. Criminal records were obtained from the Victoria Police. Other sources of information included: the Parole Board card index, the Parole Board case history files and the Children's Welfare Register.

1. Burgoyne, P.H. Feasibility of the violent offenders recidivism study. A report to the Criminology Research Council, Canberra, Australia, September, 1978.

It was also hoped to integrate information about prior mental history from the Health Commission's Mental Health Division, but co-operation was not forthcoming.

Details of the types of information in the various files is included in the feasibility study.

1.3 Variable Selection

The main criteria for selecting variables for inclusion in the study was their potential relevance in assisting the courts and other agencies to make decisions about offenders. A very wide range of potentially relevant information about social, psychological and criminal history was coded, including:-

- (1) demographic factors (country or state of birth, date of birth, race, area of residence at the time of the offence);
- (2) family background (marital status of parents, number of brothers and sisters, offender's marital status and home situation at the time of the offence, number of children);
- (3) education (age left school and grade reached at school);
- (4) prior work record (occupational status, prior work stability and length of prior employment);
- (5) personal characteristics (intelligence, physical condition, offender type and prior mental history);
- (6) previous institutional record (prior ward, number of prior probation, probation breach, prior parole, parole breach, youth training centre sentences, prison sentences, total prior time in prison or youth training centre, number of prior convictions, age on first conviction, number of aliases, length of immediately prior sentence, time outside since last prior sentence and age on conviction);
- (7) prior criminal record (number of prior convictions for 12 types of offence including assault, larceny and escape);

- (8) characteristics of crime (type of offence(s), number of victims, relationship of victim to offender, method of injury, degree of injury, number of accomplices, degree of premeditation, motive, influence of alcohol or drugs, amount of money taken);
- (9) sentence characteristics (length of maximum and length of minimum sentence, institution where most and last part of sentence served, date of conviction and date of release, amount of remission, amount of time discharge postponed, time in H division - the high security/punishment division in Victoria);
- (10) parole characteristics (length of parole deferred, or parole denied, reliability of parole reporting, parole job plans, stability of work on parole, domestic situation on release, parole expiry date).

Dates and main types of offences and total number of offences were recorded from release up to December 1978.

A complete list of variables coded is given in Appendix I.

1.4 Coding Procedure

After interviewing a number of prisoners and investigating the sources of information available, a preliminary coding manual was developed. This was modified on the basis of experience gained during a pilot study. The final coding manual, which is 24 pages long, was used to code a total of 132 variables. The coding manual is included as Appendix I of the first report in this series¹.

Two research assistants helped with the coding. Careful attention was given to coder training, and ongoing checks ensured a high standard of coding reliability. The data were coded directly into computer data sheets. A computer

1. Burgoyne, P.H. Recidivism Among Robbers. Victorian Department of Community Welfare Services, 1980.

programme was written to detect data which did not fit into the coding categories or which showed evidence of inconsistency, and corrections were made as necessary.

1.5 Data Analysis

The basic design of the study is to view the homicide in respect of which the offender was released during 1969 to 1974 as the criterion offence. Offences prior to this time are treated as prior criminal history, while those following release are treated as aspects of recidivism.

The data were analysed to provide information on (1) number and pattern of offence, and (2) level of association and statistical significance of social and criminal history with recidivism. The results of these analyses are presented in the two main sections following. This is followed by a brief conclusion.

It would have been desirable to subject the data to further analysis to investigate possible causal relationships and to consider their implications for criminological theory and correctional practice. However, this has not been possible within the budget constraints of this study.

2. NUMBER AND PATTERN OF OFFENCES

In this section the results are presented under four headings:-

- (1) Number and type of convictions following release;
- (2) Rate of conviction over time following release;
- (3) Convictions at the same time as the criterion offence; and
- (4) Convictions during the criterion sentence.

2.1 Number and Type of Convictions following Release

The first three conviction dates following release and the date of the most important other conviction (if any) were coded for the study. For each of these dates the types of the three most serious different crimes were coded using the categories defined in the back of the coding manual¹. In addition the total number of other convictions following release was also recorded up to December 1978.

The percentage of the homicide group with violent, non-violent, or any offence following release and the mean number of convictions and standard deviations are presented in Table 1. Since virtually all the violent offences were coded by date and type, those not coded by type were classified as non-violent.

TABLE 1 - VIOLENT AND NON-VIOLENT CONVICTIONS FOLLOWING RELEASE
HOMICIDE GROUP*

TYPE OF OFFENCE	PERCENTAGE WITH AT LEAST ONE CONVICTION	MEAN CONVICTIONS PER RELEASEE	STANDARD DEVIATION
VIOLENT	10.7	0.19	0.67
NON-VIOLENT	27.2	1.24	3.24
ANY OFFENCE	30.1	1.43	3.40

*N - 105

1. Appendix I, Recidivism Among Robbers.

Thirty percent of the homicide group had convictions for at least one offence following release. This includes 11 percent who had at least one conviction for a violent offence, with a mean of 0.19 convictions per releasee. Of those with convictions for violent offences the average number of convicted violent offences was 1.8. Twenty-seven percent had convictions for non-violent offences, with a mean of 1.24 convictions per releasee. Thus, those who had convictions for non-violent offences received an average of 4.6 convictions for these categories of offence. Nearly all of those who had convictions for violent offences also had convictions for non-violent offences.

To indicate the main types of crime on release the offences were recorded into 12 categories (plus "died" and "left the country or state"). The numbers of each type of offence within five years of release are presented in Figure 1. The numbers of recorded offences are given in Table I of Appendix II.

The most common convicted violent offence was assault, with about 7 percent being convicted of assault following release. One person was convicted of robbery, one of homicide and one of rape.

The most common convicted offences were property offences, particularly fraud or receiving, followed by burglary and theft; and driving offences (which include drink-driving, and driving without a licence or uninsured).

Figure 1 does not include parole breaches, since these generally followed conviction for one of the offences shown. Table I shows that four of the homicide group were recorded as having left Victoria and four died.

Table I indicates that a few of the homicide group were convicted more than once for the same type of offence. Since not all reported offences result in a conviction, the total number of offences, particularly for the less important crimes, is greater than the recorded figures.

Nevertheless the numbers of violent and non-violent offences following release are considerably lower for the homicide group than for the other groups released from custody after being convicted of violent offences. For example, the rate of conviction

HOMICIDE

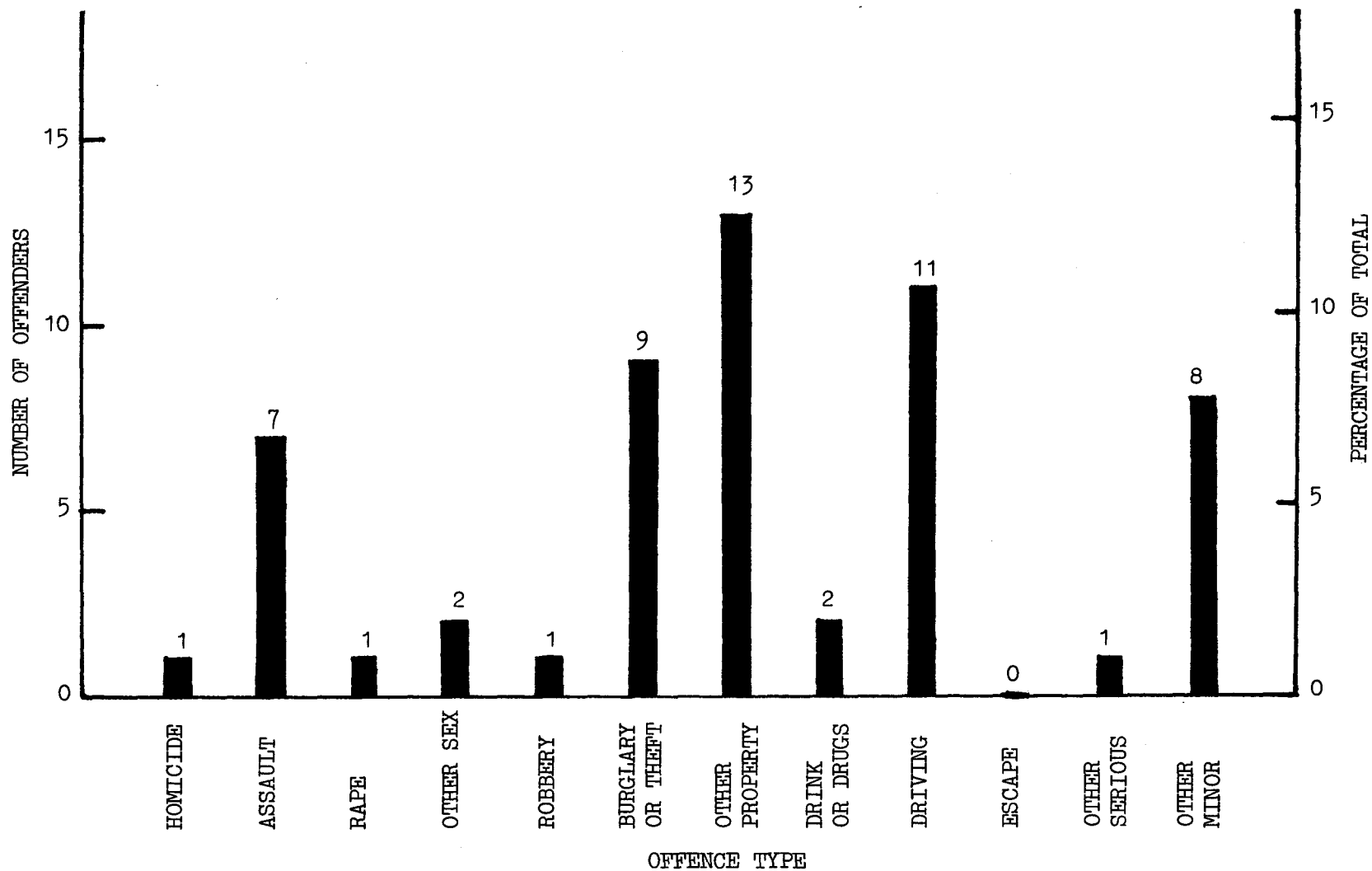


FIGURE 1 : NUMBER OF OFFENDERS CONVICTED
IN FIVE YEARS FOLLOWING RELEASE BY TYPE OF OFFENCE

for both violent and non-violent offences for men released from custody after having served sentences for serious assault was found to be more than three times as great as for the homicide group.

2.2 Rate of Conviction Over Time Following Release

To investigate the pattern over time of recorded convictions the offences were classified by the year following release in which the convictions occurred. The full results of the analysis of the convictions over time from release by type of offence are presented in Table II (Appendix II). In Figure 2 below is shown the number of offenders by year after release for convictions for violent, non-violent and any offence.

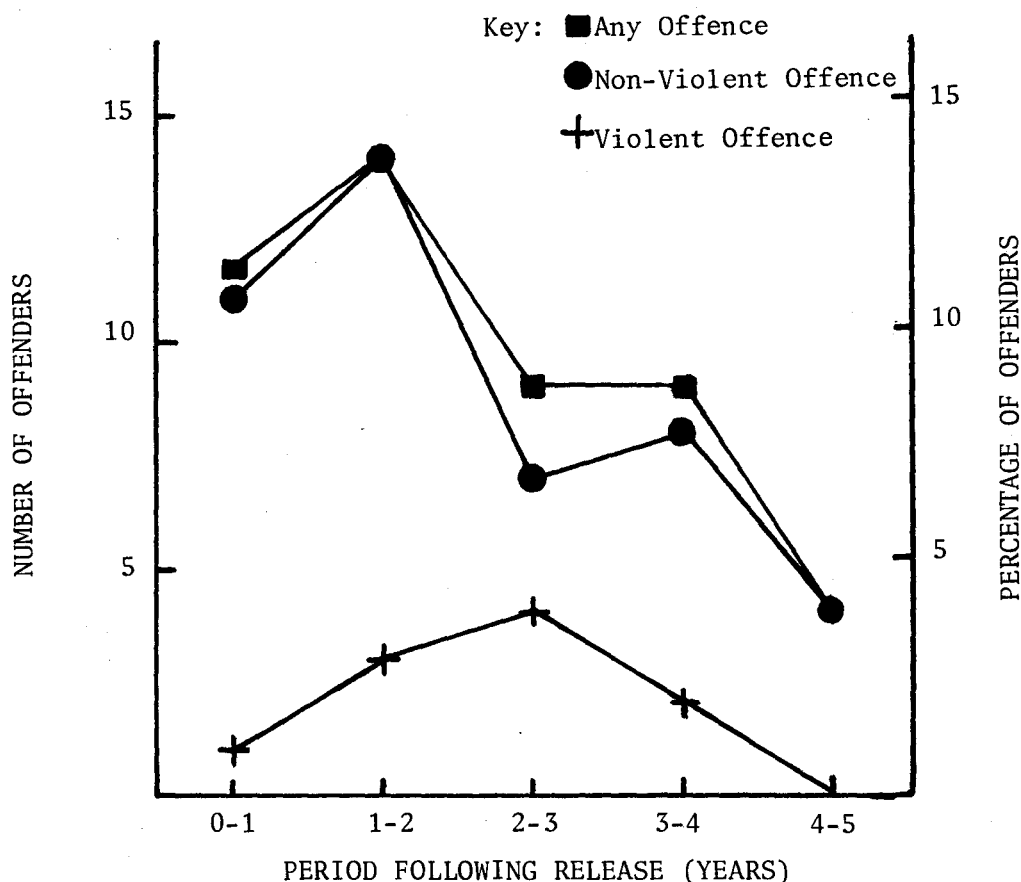


FIGURE 2: NUMBER OF OFFENDERS RECORDED FOR VIOLENT, NON-VIOLENT AND ANY CONVICTIONS FOR EACH YEAR UP TO FIVE YEARS FOLLOWING RELEASE

Figure 2 indicates that the number of persons being convicted of non-violent offences drops off following the second year after release, and the numbers being convicted of violent offences decrease after the third year. The numbers being convicted of violent offences each year are too small for reliable generalisations to be made about the change in rate of violent offences over time following release.

Also, in the case of about 15 percent of the homicide group the further convictions were coded for only four years following release. So the actual rate of offence for year five might be up to 15 percent higher than that shown in Figure 2.

2.3 Convictions at the Same Time as the Criterion Offence

Twelve percent were convicted of at least one other offence at the same time as their conviction for homicide. The most serious other conviction and the second most serious other conviction are shown at the end of this section, in Tables 2 and 3 respectively.

In these tables the percentages for each offence type refer to the percentage who went to the type of institution described by the column heading.

The most common additional convictions were for a further homicide or an assault. Five percent had a further homicide, and 5 percent had an assault, as their second conviction.

Only four of the homicide group had two or more additional convictions at the same time as their conviction for homicide.

2.4 Convictions During the Criterion Sentence

Some of the prisoners committed further offences during the course of their sentence, either during escape or while in custody. Convictions for the two most serious offences were recorded during the study.

The most serious and second most serious conviction before release, for each type of custodial institution, are shown at the end of this section, in Tables 4 and 5 respectively.

Eleven of the homicide group were convicted of other offences during their period in custody, three of whom were convicted of two or more offences. Two of the offences involved escapes. The most common offences involved breaches of prison discipline or regulations, which are here coded under the category of "Other" offences.

The number of offences committed by the homicide group is much lower than for the other groups of violent offenders. For example, 24 percent of the robbery group were convicted of further offences during their stay in prison, compared with 11 percent for the homicide group. Not all offences, of course, result in conviction, and internal disciplinary actions were not recorded.

TABLE 2: SECOND CONVICTION WITH CRITERION CONVICTION

OFFENCE	TYPE OF INSTITUTION			ROW TOTAL	
	Y.T.C.	PRISON	PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTION		
NONE	% (n)	100.0 (3)	88.3 (83)	85.7 (6)	88.5 (92)
HOMICIDE	% (n)	0 (0)	5.3 (5)	0 (0)	4.8 (5)
ASSAULT	% (n)	0 (0)	4.3 (4)	14.3 (1)	4.8 (5)
RAPE	% (n)	0 (0)	1.1 (1)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)
ROBBERY	% (n)	0 (0)	1.1 (1)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	2.9 (3)	90.4 (94)	6.7 (7)	100.0 (104)

TABLE 3: THIRD CONVICTION WITH CRITERION CONVICTION

OFFENCE	TYPE OF INSTITUTION			ROW TOTAL	
	Y.T.C.	PRISON	PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTION		
NONE	% (n)	100.0 (3)	96.8 (91)	85.7 (6)	96.2 (100)
ASSAULT	% (n)	0 (0)	2.1 (2)	14.3 (1)	2.9 (3)
BURGLARY OR THEFT	% (n)	0 (0)	1.1 (1)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	2.9 (3)	90.4 (94)	6.7 (7)	100.0 (104)

TABLE 4: MAIN CONVICTION DURING SENTENCE

OFFENCE TYPE		Y.T.C.	PRISON	PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTION	ROW TOTAL
NONE	%	66.7	89.4	100.0	89.4
	(n)	(2)	(84)	(7)	(93)
BURGLARY AND THEFT	%	0	2.1	0	1.9
	(n)	(0)	(2)	(0)	(2)
ESCAPE	%	33.3	1.1	0	1.9
	(n)	(1)	(1)	(0)	(2)
OTHER	%	0	7.4	0	6.7
	(n)	(0)	(7)	(0)	(7)
COLUMN TOTAL	%	2.9	90.4	6.7	100.0
	(n)	(3)	(94)	(7)	(104)

TABLE 5: SECOND CONVICTION DURING SENTENCE

OFFENCE TYPE		Y.T.C.	PRISON	PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTION	ROW TOTAL
NONE	%	100.0	96.8	100.0	97.1
	(n)	(3)	(92)	(7)	(102)
BURGLARY & THEFT	%	0	1.1	0	1.0
	(n)	(0)	(1)	(0)	(1)
OTHER	%	0	2.1	0	1.9
	(n)	(0)	(2)	(0)	(2)
COLUMN TOTAL	%	2.9	90.5	6.7	100.0
	(n)	(3)	(95)	(7)	(105)

3. SOCIAL AND CRIMINAL HISTORY AND RECIDIVISM

The social and criminal history is presented in this section under ten headings: (1) demographic factors; (2) family characteristics; (3) personal characteristics; (4) education; (5) prior work record; (6) prior sentence record; (7) prior convictions; (8) characteristics of crime; (9) sentence characteristics; and (10) parole characteristics. Sections 8, 9 and 10 refer to the conviction for the homicide which is treated as a criterion offence. The criminal history prior to this conviction is regarded as prior criminal history, while any convictions after serving the sentence for the criterion conviction are regarded as recidivism.

To investigate the relationship between the various types of background factors and recidivism the data have been analysed using (i) cross-tabulation, and (ii) product moment correlations.

In Appendix III eight alternative indices of recidivism are introduced and a table of the correlations between them for the homicide group is presented. One of the indices of recidivism, which is known here as the crime score, is an index of recidivism which is formed by adding the total number of offences following release with each conviction weighted by the seriousness of offence as estimated by a modified Normandeau Crime Index for Australia. Details of the modified Normandeau Crime Index are presented in Appendix IV.

Tables of correlations of the social and criminal background with four indices of recidivism are presented in Appendix V which also contains an explanatory introduction to the tables. The four indices of recidivism used are: (1) crime score; (2) time after release before being convicted of a violent offence; (3) time after release before being convicted of a non-violent offence; and (4) time spent in prison following release as a result of a further conviction.

For the purpose of cross-tabulations, the releasees were classified into one of the four categories defined below depending upon

the degree of recidivism over the five years following release:-

- "NONE" - no further convictions recorded in the five years following release;
- "MINOR" - conviction within five years of release for non-violent offence or offences only, not leading to a prison sentence;
- "PRISON" - conviction within five years of release for non-violent offence or offences only, leading to a prison sentence;
- "VIOLENT" - conviction within five years of release for violent offence or offences (usually, but not necessarily, with a prison sentence and convictions for non-violent offences).

The numbers in brackets refer to the numbers of the homicide group belonging to that particular classification. The percentages in each cell of the tables (other than the totals) are percentages of the total for the whole row. From these we can infer the relative level of recidivism.

The percentages in the "Row Total" are the percentage of the homicide group who possess a particular characteristic. Comparison of the Row Total percentages with population statistics (eg. the Australian Bureau of Statistics figures) permits comparison of the homicide group with other groups of people.

In some cases the variables do not apply to all members of the homicide group (for example, parole characteristics only apply to those considered for parole) and in a few other instances the information was not available. These cases are excluded from the tables.

It is possible to view the degree of recidivism as being ordered from low to high. In many cases it is also possible to view the background variables as also belonging to ordered categories, (for example, number of children). Where this is

the case, the association between background and the degree of recidivism is indicated by the Kendall tau correlation. Tau is also used where the background is dichotomous.

Tau varies from +1 for perfect concordance of ordering in the same direction to -1 for discordance of ordering. A score of zero indicates that there is no systematic tendency for the orders to agree or disagree.

The tau correlation has a slightly different correction for tied ranks depending upon whether the table has the same number or a different number of rows and columns.

Where the background is more appropriately regarded as not having any order from low to high, the chi-square test is used to determine the likelihood that the relationship between the background variables and recidivism is due to chance rather than systematic factors.

In cases where the assumptions of the chi-square test are seriously violated (usually where the number of observations in some rows and columns are too small), the chi-square test has been omitted.

Symbols used in Cross-tabulations

τ - denotes the Kendall tau correlation;

χ^2 - chi-square;

p - is the statistical significance, p of less than .05 indicates that there is a less than 5 percent probability of the apparently systematic results having been due to chance variations. Where the probability is greater than .1, the abbreviation "NS" is used to denote "Not Significant."

3.1 Demographic Factors

3.1.1 Region of Birth

Victoria was the recorded state of birth of 48 percent of the homicide group (Table 6), and 36 percent were born overseas. There is no clear relationship between region of birth and recidivism.

TABLE 6: REGION OF BIRTH

REGION		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
VICTORIA	% (n)	68.1 (32)	19.1 (9)	6.4 (3)	6.4 (3)	48.0 (47)
OTHER AUSTRALIA	% (n)	62.5 (10)	6.3 (1)	12.5 (2)	18.8 (3)	16.3 (16)
OTHER ENGLISH	% (n)	50.0 (2)	25.0 (1)	0 (0)	25.0 (1)	4.1 (4)
OTHER EUROPE	% (n)	76.9 (20)	11.5 (3)	3.8 (1)	7.7 (2)	26.5 (26)
OTHER	% (n)	100.0 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5.1 (5)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.4 (69)	14.3 (14)	6.1 (6)	9.2 (9)	100.0 (98)

3.1.2 Race

All were coded as "white" except for two who were described as aboriginal and two as Asian. The numbers of non-white people are too small for reliable generalisations to be made about the relationship between race and recidivism.

3.1.3 Area of Residence at the Time of the Offence

The area of residence was coded into the eight Department of

Community Welfare regions around the Melbourne area, and "Other Victoria" and "Outside Victoria".

A rather high proportion (43 percent) were recorded as being resident in the "Inner Urban" region of Melbourne at the time of their offence (Table 7). The regional breakdown was too fine for statistically reliable conclusions to be reached about the relative recidivism rate for different regions.

TABLE 7: AREA OF RESIDENCE AT THE TIME OF THE OFFENCE

AREA	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
WESTERN %	54.5	18.2	0	27.3	12.6
SUBURBS (n)	(6)	(2)	(0)	(3)	(11)
NORTH WEST %	100.0	0	0	0	3.4
SUBURBS (n)	(3)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(3)
NORTH EAST %	66.7	22.2	0	11.1	10.3
SUBURBS (n)	(6)	(2)	(0)	(1)	(9)
INNER EASTERN %	0	100.0	0	0	1.1
SUBURBS (n)	(0)	(1)	(0)	(0)	(1)
OUTER EASTERN %	66.7	33.3	0	0	3.4
SUBURBS (n)	(2)	(1)	(0)	(0)	(3)
SOUTHERN %	100.0	0	0	0	4.6
SUBURBS (n)	(4)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(4)
WESTERNPORT %	100.0	0	0	0	2.3
(n)	(2)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(2)
INNER %	78.4	10.8	5.4	5.4	42.5
URBAN (n)	(29)	(4)	(2)	(2)	(37)
OTHER %	75.0	12.5	0	12.5	18.4
VICTORIA (n)	(12)	(2)	(0)	(2)	(16)
OUTSIDE %	0	0	0	100.0	1.1
VICTORIA (n)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(1)	(1)
COLUMN %	73.6	13.8	2.3	10.3	100.0
TOTAL (n)	(64)	(12)	(2)	(9)	(87)

3.2 Family Characteristics

3.2.1 Numbers of Brothers and Sisters

There is a tendency for the homicide group to have come from relatively large families. Of the known cases 58 percent were recorded as having three or more siblings (Table 10). This includes step-brothers and sisters where they were living in the same family.

There is no association between number of brothers and degree of recidivism (see Table 8). However, there is a relationship between numbers of sisters and recidivism, particularly for violent offences.

Just over one-third of the homicide group had three or more sisters. Of these 45 percent were reconvicted, including 23 percent for violent offences. This compares with 25 percent reconvictions, including 3 percent for violent offences, for those with less than three sisters.

TABLE 8: NUMBER OF BROTHERS

NUMBER OF BROTHERS	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
0	% (n)	72.7 (16)	13.6 (3)	9.1 (2)	4.5 (1)	24.2 (22)
1	% (n)	66.7 (16)	20.8 (5)	4.2 (1)	8.3 (2)	26.4 (24)
2	% (n)	63.6 (7)	9.1 (1)	18.2 (2)	9.1 (1)	12.1 (11)
3 OR MORE	% (n)	67.6 (23)	14.7 (5)	2.9 (1)	14.7 (5)	37.4 (34)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	68.1 (62)	15.4 (14)	6.6 (6)	9.9 (9)	100.0 (91)

$$T = .05, NS$$

TABLE 9: NUMBER OF SISTERS

NUMBER OF SISTERS	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
0	% (n)	70.0 (14)	15.0 (3)	15.0 (3)	0 (0)	22.0 (20)
1	% (n)	76.7 (23)	13.3 (4)	3.3 (1)	6.7 (2)	33.0 (30)
2	% (n)	80.0 (8)	20.2 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	11.0 (10)
3 OR MORE	% (n)	54.8 (17)	16.1 (5)	6.5 (2)	22.6 (7)	34.1 (31)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	68.1 (62)	15.4 (14)	6.6 (6)	9.9 (9)	100.0 (91)

$$\tau = .15, p = .05$$

TABLE 10: NUMBER OF SIBLINGS

NUMBER OF SIBLINGS	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
0	% (n)	50.0 (4)	25.0 (2)	25.0 (2)	0 (0)	8.8 (8)
1	% (n)	88.9 (16)	5.6 (1)	5.6 (1)	0 (0)	19.8 (18)
2	% (n)	58.3 (7)	25.0 (3)	0 (0)	16.7 (2)	13.2 (12)
3	% (n)	66.7 (8)	16.7 (2)	8.3 (1)	8.3 (1)	13.2 (12)
4	% (n)	75.0 (6)	25.0 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	8.8 (8)
5 OR MORE	% (n)	63.6 (21)	12.1 (4)	6.1 (2)	18.2 (6)	36.3 (33)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	68.1 (62)	15.4 (14)	6.6 (6)	9.9 (9)	100.0 (91)

$$\tau = .06, \text{ NS}$$

The number of sisters is significantly correlated with time after release before being convicted of a violent offence ($r = .31$), and the correlation with the amount of time spent in prison resulting from further offences following release approaches significance ($r = .16$), but there is no significant correlation with crime score or time before being convicted of a non-violent offence.

3.2.2 Parents' Marital Status

Over half (51 percent) had parents who had died or were living overseas, and 14 percent were recorded as being separated or remarried (Table 11). Although there is an apparent tendency for those whose parents had separated to have a higher level of recidivism, the numbers are not great enough for reliable generalisation.

TABLE 11: PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

PARENTS' STATUS	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
MARRIED	75.0 (24)	15.6 (5)	0 (0)	9.4 (3)	34.8 (32)
SEPARATED OR REMARRIED	53.8 (7)	15.4 (2)	7.7 (1)	23.1 (3)	14.1 (13)
DIED OVERSEAS	70.2 (33)	14.9 (7)	8.5 (4)	6.4 (3)	51.1 (47)
COLUMN TOTAL	69.6 (64)	15.2 (14)	5.4 (5)	9.8 (9)	100.0 (92)

3.2.3 Home Situation at the Time of the Offence

Twenty-six percent were living with their wives at the time of their offence (Table 12). They had a somewhat lower level of recidivism, with 21 percent being reconvicted, compared with an average of 33 percent of the other groups.

TABLE 12: HOME SITUATION

HOME SITUATION	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
WIFE WIFE % (n)	79.2 (19)	4.2 (1)	12.5 (3)	4.2 (1)	25.8 (24)	
WITH DEFACTO % (n)	69.2 (9)	15.4 (2)	0 (0)	15.4 (2)	14.0 (13)	
WITH PARENTS % (n)	72.4 (21)	13.8 (4)	3.4 (1)	10.3 (3)	31.2 (29)	
OTHER % (n)	59.3 (16)	22.6 (6)	7.4 (2)	11.1 (3)	29.0 (27)	
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	69.9 (65)	14.0 (13)	6.5 (6)	9.7 (9)	100.0 (93)

3.2.4 Marital Status of the Offender

Half were single at the time of their offence, 25 percent were married and 18 percent were separated, divorced or widowed (Table 13). In view of the small numbers in some of the categories it is difficult to determine clear-cut trends. However, there is some evidence that those who were married, divorced or separated at the time of their offence were less likely to re-offend, compared with those who were single or living in a defacto relationship.

To calculate a correlation co-efficient the data were recoded into married and not currently married. However, none of the correlations between marital status and the four indices of recidivism is statistically significant.

TABLE 13: MARITAL STATUS

MARITAL STATUS	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
SINGLE	% (n)	64.6 (31)	14.6 (7)	8.3 (4)	12.5 (6)	50.0 (48)
MARRIED	% (n)	79.2 (19)	8.3 (2)	8.3 (2)	4.2 (1)	25.0 (24)
DE FACTO	% (n)	57.1 (4)	14.3 (1)	0 (0)	28.6 (2)	7.3 (7)
SEPARATED, DIVORCED OR WIDOWED	% (n)	76.5 (13)	23.5 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)	17.7 (17)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	69.8 (67)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.4 (9)	100.0 (96)

3.2.5 Number of Children

Thirty-nine percent had one or more children at the time of their offence, and they were less likely to recidivate, with 22 percent being reconvicted compared with 36 percent of those who had none. Only one person who had a child at the time of his offence was convicted of a further violent offence upon release (Table 14).

The Kendall tau correlation between number of children and degree of recidivism, is statistically significant, and the product moment correlation with crime score and time before being convicted of a non-violent offence ($r = .17$ for both) approaches an adequate level of statistical significance.

TABLE 14: NUMBER OF CHILDREN

NUMBER OF CHILDREN	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
0 % (n)	64.4 (38)	15.3 (9)	6.8 (4)	13.6 (8)	61.5 (59)
1 % (n)	75.0 (12)	12.5 (2)	12.5 (2)	0 (0)	16.7 (16)
2 % (n)	70.0 (7)	20.0 (2)	0 (0)	10.0 (1)	10.4 (10)
3 OR MORE % (n)	90.9 (10)	9.1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	11.5 (11)
COLUMN TOTAL % (n)	69.8 (67)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.4 (9)	100.0 (96)

$$T = -.16, p < .05$$

3.3 Personal Characteristics

3.3.1 Intelligence

Rarely were any specific tests of intellectual ability reported on the case history files. However, frequently interviewers' impressions were recorded on probation or parole reports. Clearly, such impressions cannot be regarded necessarily as accurate assessments of mental abilities. Nevertheless, given the absence of "objective" tests, the interviewers' impressions form the potential basis of parole decisions.

Fourteen percent of the cases, in which there were comments on intelligence, were recorded as intellectually handicapped or "slightly below normal." This group appeared to have a slightly higher rate of recidivism (Table 15), but the numbers do not permit statistical generalisation.

TABLE 15: INTELLIGENCE

INTELLIGENCE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
NORMAL	71.6 (58)	16.0 (13)	4.9 (4)	7.4 (6)	86.2 (81)
BELOW NORMAL	61.5 (8)	7.7 (1)	7.7 (1)	23.1 (3)	13.8 (13)
COLUMN TOTAL	70.2 (66)	14.9 (14)	5.3 (5)	9.6 (9)	100.0 (94)

$$T = .07, \text{ NS}$$

3.3.2 Physical Condition

As with intelligence, estimates of physical and health problems are frequently based on interviewers' impressions. Twenty-two percent of those on whom information was available were recorded as having health problems or physical handicaps. No significant differences in their recidivism rate can be observed (Table 16).

TABLE 16: PHYSICAL CONDITION

PHYSICAL CONDITION	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
GOOD	68.5 (50)	15.1 (11)	6.8 (5)	9.6 (7)	77.7 (73)
BELOW NORMAL	76.2 (16)	14.3 (3)	0 (0)	9.5 (2)	22.3 (21)
COLUMN TOTAL	70.2 (66)	14.9 (14)	5.3 (5)	9.6 (9)	100.0 (94)

$$T = -.06, \text{ NS}$$

3.3.3 Offender Type

On the basis of the pilot study a violent offender typology was developed.

It is an attempt to characterise the descriptive categories used by probation and parole officers and others working with violent offenders. It is not a scientific analysis of offender characteristics into statistically distinct clusters. The main use of the typology is to communicate an intuitive impression of the proportion of offenders who were perceived as belonging to each "type". It is possible to establish predictive validity for the typology by examining the extent to which one group differs from another in its pattern of recidivism.

To facilitate presentation of the data the offender categories were reduced from 21 to seven (see Table 17).

Just over half the homicide group (53 percent) were coded as "Normal". The most common other categories were "Aggressive" (13 percent) and "Impulsive" (18 percent). The numbers in each category are too small for reliable generalisations to be made. However, it is interesting to note that only one of the six men classified as psychotic was convicted following release.

TABLE 17: VIOLENT OFFENDER TYPE

OFFENDER TYPE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
OPPORTUNIST % (n)	66.7 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	33.3 (1)	3.2 (3)
INADEQUATE % (n)	25.0 (1)	25.0 (1)	25.0 (1)	25.0 (1)	4.2 (4)
PSYCHOTIC % (n)	85.7 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	14.3 (1)	7.4 (7)
AGGRESSIVE % (n)	41.7 (5)	41.7 (5)	16.7 (2)	0 (0)	12.6 (12)
IMPULSIVE % (n)	76.5 (13)	5.9 (1)	5.9 (1)	11.8 (2)	17.9 (17)
DISTURBED % (n)	100.0 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2.1 (2)
NORMAL % (n)	76.0 (38)	12.0 (6)	4.0 (2)	8.0 (4)	52.6 (50)
COLUMN TOTAL (n)	70.5 (67)	13.7 (13)	6.3 (6)	9.5 (9)	100.0 (95)

Although when coding offender type the recidivism criminal record was not usually available, there is a likelihood that prior criminal record influenced the coding judgments, and on some occasions it is possible that knowledge of recidivism could have contaminated the judgments. Hence, some caution should be exercised before concluding that the coding system has adequate validity. The offender typing was made on the basis of information available at the time of conviction. Personality characteristics are not constant over a person's life, or even over different situations. Hence, it should not necessarily be assumed that a person classified on the basis of one particular crime would demonstrate this as a characteristic over prolonged periods of time.

3.3.4 Prior Mental History

Only 7 percent of the homicide group were recorded in their prison or probation and parole records as having received psychiatric treatment prior to their offence, either during a previous prison sentence or not (Table 18). No difference was observed in the recidivism rate for those having had psychiatric treatment compared with those who had not. However, the numbers are not large enough for any reliable conclusions to be made about the relationship between prior mental history and recidivism.

It seems likely that the figure of 7 percent is an underestimate of the actual proportion having received psychiatric treatment of some sort. Since the co-operation sought of the Victorian Mental Health Division was not forthcoming, it is not possible to determine the actual number treated by that authority.

TABLE 18: PRIOR MENTAL HISTORY

TREATMENT	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
NOT KNOWN	% (n)	70.8 (68)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	8.3 (8)	93.2 (96)
PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT	% (n)	71.4 (5)	0 (0)	14.3 (1)	14.3 (1)	6.8 (7)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

3.4 Education

3.4.1 Age Left School

Sixty-five percent left school at 14 years of age or less. There is no significant linear relationship between age left school and degree of recidivism. However, inspection of the cross-tabulation

suggests a possible non-linear relationship, with 61 percent recidivism for those leaving school at 15, compared with 9 percent for those above 15, and 26 percent for those below (Table 19).

Although the numbers are too small for reliable generalisation, a similar non-linear relationship was found for the robbery group.

TABLE 19: AGE LEFT SCHOOL

AGE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
14 OR BELOW	73.6 (39)	11.3 (6)	7.5 (4)	7.5 (4)	64.6 (53)
15	38.9 (7)	27.8 (5)	5.6 (1)	27.8 (5)	22.0 (18)
16 OR ABOVE	90.9 (10)	0 (0)	9.1 (1)	0 (0)	13.4 (11)
COLUMN TOTAL	68.3 (56)	13.4 (11)	7.3 (6)	11.0 (9)	100.0 (82)

$$T = .06, NS$$

There is a tendency approaching statistical significance for those who left school later to be out of prison longer before committing a non-violent crime ($r = .19$). But the correlations with other indices of recidivism are not significant.

3.4.2 School Grade Reached

The pattern of results for the school grade reached is somewhat similar to those for age left school. There is no significant association between the school grade reached and degree of recidivism. However, none of those who reached above Grade 9, were reconvicted, compared with 38 percent of those who reached Grade 8.

TABLE 20: SCHOOL GRADE REACHED

SCHOOL GRADE		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
BELOW	%	70.0	13.3	6.7	10.0	38.0
GRADE 8	(n)	(21)	(4)	(2)	(3)	(30)
GRADE 8	%	62.1	24.1	3.4	10.3	36.7
	(n)	(18)	(7)	(1)	(3)	(29)
GRADE 9	%	69.2	7.7	7.7	15.4	16.5
	(n)	(9)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(13)
ABOVE	%	100.0	0	0	0	8.9
GRADE 9	(n)	(7)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(7)
COLUMN	%	69.6	15.2	5.1	10.1	100.0
TOTAL	(n)	(55)	(12)	(4)	(8)	(79)

$$\chi = -.06, \text{ NS}$$

3.5 Prior Work Record

3.5.1 Occupational Status

Only 9 percent were classified as skilled, white-collar or higher occupational status. The majority (70.1 percent) were classified as unskilled (Table 21). The number of skilled men committing further offences is not large enough for generalisations to be made about the relationship between occupational status and recidivism.

None of the correlations between occupational status and the four indices of recidivism is statistically significant.

TABLE 21: OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

OCCUPATIONAL GROUP	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
SKILLED OR WHITE COLLAR	55.6 (5)	11.1 (1)	11.1 (1)	22.2 (2)	9.4 (9)
SEMI-SKILLED	78.9 (15)	21.1 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)	19.8 (19)
UNSKILLED	69.1 (47)	13.2 (9)	7.4 (5)	10.3 (7)	70.8 (68)
COLUMN TOTAL	69.8 (67)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.4 (9)	100.0 (96)

$$T = .01, NS$$

3.5.2 Prior Work Stability

Prior work stability was coded using a modified form of Ohlin's¹ classification of work record. This was recoded to give a simpler classification, the results of which are presented in Table 22.

The category "Regular" includes those who had worked steadily all their lives at one or only a few jobs and apprentices. "Irregular" includes those who had not held a job for a long period of time but showed fairly continuous employment, while "Intermittent" includes those who had not worked at all or did not have relatively continuous employment.

About half were classified as having an "Irregular" work record. The other half were fairly evenly divided between "Regular" and "Intermittent" (Table 22). There is some evidence that those who were classified as intermittent were more likely to commit further

1. Ohlin, L.E. Selection for parole. Russell Sage Foundation: New York, 1951.

violent offences following release with 25 percent reconviction for violent offences, compared with an average of 4 percent for the other groups.

Prior work stability is significantly correlated with crime score ($r = .24$), time before being convicted of a violent offence ($r = .32$), and time spent in prison following release ($r = .21$), but not with time before being convicted of a non-violent offence ($r = .03$).

TABLE 22: PRIOR WORK STABILITY

WORK STABILITY		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
REGULAR	%	69.6	21.7	4.3	4.3	24.0
	(n)	(16)	(5)	(1)	(1)	(23)
IRREGULAR	%	73.5	12.2	10.2	4.1	51.0
	(n)	(36)	(6)	(5)	(2)	(49)
INTERMITTENT	%	62.5	12.5	0	25.0	25.0
	(n)	(15)	(3)	(0)	(6)	(24)
COLUMN TOTAL	%	69.8	14.6	6.3	9.4	100.0
	(n)	(67)	(14)	(6)	(9)	(96)

$$T = .07, NS$$

3.5.3 Length of Prior Employment

Whereas "Prior Work Stability" looks at the long-term work record of the offenders prior to conviction; "Employment at the Time of the Offence" considers length of employment or unemployment, at the time of the offence.

Inspection of the cross-tabulation reveals no major difference in recidivism rates between those who were unemployed at the time of the offence and those who had been working for up to one year. The most notable difference was between these two groups and those who had been working at the same job for one year or more.

The length of prior employment is significantly correlated with time before being convicted of a violent offence, and time spent in prison following release ($r = .24$ for both). The correlations with crime score ($r = .20$) and time before being convicted of a non-violent offence ($r = .16$) approach statistical significance.

TABLE 23: LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT AT THE TIME OF THE OFFENCE

LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
UNEMPLOYED	%	59.1	18.2	4.5	18.2	25.3
	(n)	(13)	(4)	(1)	(4)	(22)
UP TO 1 YEAR	%	59.4	15.6	15.6	9.4	36.8
	(n)	(19)	(5)	(5)	(3)	(32)
ONE YEAR OR MORE	%	81.8	15.2	0	3.0	37.9
	(n)	(27)	(5)	(0)	(1)	(33)
COLUMN TOTAL	%	67.8	16.1	6.9	9.2	100.0
	(n)	(59)	(14)	(6)	(8)	(87)

$$T = -.18, p < .05$$

3.6 Prior Sentences and Court Orders

In this section various aspects of sentences and sentence-related variables are appraised in terms of the extent to which they predict recidivism, and in the next section the numbers and types of prior convictions are appraised.

3.6.1 Previous Ward

Being made a ward of the state is a protection order, not a sentence. However, the order is frequently made in response to offences committed by a juvenile.

Thirteen percent were recorded as having been wards of the state (Table 24). This is about half the percentage for the other groups of violent offenders.

Those who were wards of state were more likely to be convicted of "Minor" offences following release; that is, non-violent offences for which they were not sentenced to prison.

Although this effect shows up as a significant Kendall tau correlation with degree of recidivism, the numbers of wards are rather small and none of the product moment correlations with the four indices of recidivism is statistically significant.

TABLE 24: PREVIOUS WARD

PREVIOUS WARD	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
YES	% (n)	41.7 (5)	41.7 (5)	8.3 (1)	8.3 (1)	13.3 (12)
NO	% (n)	73.1 (57)	10.3 (8)	6.4 (5)	10.3 (8)	86.7 (78)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	68.9 (62)	14.4 (13)	6.7 (6)	10.0 (9)	100.0 (90)

$$\tau = -.12, p < .05$$

3.6.2 Number of Prior Probation Orders

For ease of reference, the results of the number of prior probation orders and several other aspects of sentence record are summarised in a single table (Table 25). The figures refer to the numbers with one or more of the particular type of sentence. Comparison with the bottom row which gives the total figures for the whole homicide group permits estimates to be made of the relative rates of recidivism. The Kendall tau correlations shown were calculated for the uncollapsed tables for each sentence type. They

provide an estimate of the extent to which having received the particular type of sentence is associated with degree of recidivism.

Just over a quarter (26 percent) were recorded as having received prior probation orders, and this group were more likely to re-offend after release. The number of prior probation orders is significantly correlated with all the indices of recidivism, with correlations ranging from $r = .40$, for time before being convicted of a violent offence, to $r = .33$ for both time before being convicted of a non-violent offence and time spent in prison following release.

TABLE 25: PRIOR SENTENCE RECORD

PRIOR RECORD	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	τ
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
PROBATION % (n)	59.3 (16)	22.2 (6)	3.7 (1)	14.8 (4)	26.2 (27)	.16*
PROBATION BREACH % (n)	66.7 (6)	22.2 (2)	11.1 (1)	0 (0)	8.7 (9)	.13
YOUTH TRAINING CENTRE % (n)	37.5 (3)	50.0 (4)	0 (0)	12.5 (1)	7.8 (8)	.17*
PRISON % (n)	62.5 (20)	15.6 (5)	9.4 (3)	12.5 (4)	31.1 (32)	.10
PAROLE % (n)	66.7 (8)	16.7 (2)	0 (0)	16.7 (2)	11.7 (12)	.02
PAROLE BREACH % (n)	66.7 (4)	16.7 (1)	0 (0)	16.7 (1)	5.8 (6)	-
ALL HOMICIDES % (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)	

τ denotes the Kendall tau correlation, * = $p < .05$

3.6.3 Prior Probation Breach

Of 27 who had been subject to prior probation orders, 33 percent had breached a probation order prior to their conviction for homicide (Table 25).

There is no clear-cut relationship between the number of prior probation breach and recidivism.

In calculating the correlations between the number of probation breach and the four indices of recidivism, those with no prior probations were excluded. There is a correlation of $r = .28$ with time before being convicted of a non-violent offence. But in view of the small sub-sample size, the effect is not statistically significant.

3.6.4 Number of Prior Youth Training Centre Sentences

Eight of the homicide group had received prior youth training centre sentences (Table 25), and they had a high level of recidivism with five of the eight being reconvicted; mostly for minor offences.

The number of youth training centre sentences is significantly correlated with time before being convicted of a violent offence and time spent in prison following release (both $r = .27$), but not with the other indices of recidivism.

Although the result is highly statistically significant, it should be interpreted cautiously, since, because of the small numbers of violent offenders involved, the results contravene some of the assumptions of the significance test. Nevertheless, it is in line with findings for the other groups of violent offenders.

3.6.5 Number of Prior Prison Sentences

Nearly a third (31 percent) had received prior prison sentences (Table 25). The number of prior prison sentences is significantly related to the amount of time spent in prison following release ($r = .20$), but not with the other indices of recidivism.

3.6.6 Prior Parole

Only 12 percent of the homicide group had been subject to prior parole orders. This is less than the numbers for the other groups of violent offenders. There is no evidence that the number of prior parole orders is related to recidivism among the homicide group, but the numbers with prior parole orders are not large enough to allow generalisation.

3.6.7 Prior Parole Breach

Half of those who had been on parole had also been convicted of a prior breach of a parole order (Table 25). There is no evidence that this is related but, as before, the numbers in this group are too small to allow generalisation.

3.6.8 Total Time Spent in Prison or Youth Training Centre

About one-third (34 percent) had spent some time in custody prior to their conviction for homicide (Table 26). However, there is no clear relationship between recidivism and the total time spent in custody.

TABLE 26: TOTAL PRIOR MONTHS IN PRISON OR YOUTH TRAINING CENTRE

PRIOR TIME	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
NONE	% (n)	75.0 (51)	11.8 (8)	5.9 (4)	7.4 (5)	66.0 (68)
UP TO 6 MONTHS	% (n)	66.7 (8)	8.3 (1)	16.7 (2)	8.3 (1)	11.7 (12)
6 TO 24 MONTHS	% (n)	53.8 (7)	30.8 (4)	7.7 (1)	7.7 (1)	12.6 (13)
ABOVE 2 YEARS	% (n)	70.0 (7)	10.0 (1)	0 (0)	20.0 (2)	9.7 (10)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

$$T = .11, \text{ NS}$$

3.6.9 Number of Prior Convictions

Sixty-three percent had one or more convictions prior to their criterion offence, and 22 percent had ten or more prior convictions (Table 27). There is a very slight tendency for the number of prior convictions to be correlated with the degree of recidivism. The correlation with time spent in prison following release is $r = .17$, which approaches an adequate level of statistical significance.

However, unlike the results for the other groups of violent offenders the results for the present group are not clear-cut. For example, none of the six offenders who had 25 or more previous convictions offended again following release, and the number of convictions is not correlated with crime score, or time before being convicted of a violent or non-violent offence. This seems to be due to the fact that those with larger numbers of convictions were likely to be older at the time of release, and as Table 59 shows level of recidivism decreases with increasing age.

TABLE 27: NUMBER OF PRIOR CONVICTIONS

PRIOR CONVICTIONS	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
NONE	% (n)	78.9 (30)	7.9 (3)	2.6 (1)	10.5 (4)	36.9 (38)
1	% (n)	71.4 (10)	14.3 (2)	14.3 (2)	0 (0)	13.6 (14)
2 TO 4	% (n)	73.3 (11)	20.0 (3)	6.7 (1)	0 (0)	14.6 (15)
5 TO 9	% (n)	69.2 (9)	7.7 (1)	7.7 (1)	15.4 (2)	12.6 (13)
10 TO 14	% (n)	71.4 (5)	14.3 (1)	14.3 (1)	0 (0)	6.8 (7)
15 TO 24	% (n)	20.0 (2)	40.0 (4)	10.0 (1)	30.0 (3)	9.7 (10)
25 OR ABOVE	% (n)	100.0 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5.8 (6)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

$$r = .11, p < .06$$

3.6.10 Conviction Score

The conviction score is the sum of the convictions at the time of release with each conviction weighted by the type of sentence received.

Conviction score was defined as:-

Four times the number of convictions leading to a prison or youth training centre sentence + two times the number of convictions leading to probation + the number of other convictions.

Conviction score has a very similar predictive pattern to the number of prior convictions, and is significantly related to time spent in prison only.

3.6.11 Crime Score at the Time of Release

The crime score at the time of release was calculated by adding all the convictions prior to release with each weighted by seriousness of offence according to the modified Normandeau Crime Index described in Appendix IV. The crime score at the time of release is an estimate of the total seriousness of prior convictions at the time of release.

The crime score at the time of release is not significantly correlated with any of the indices of recidivism.

3.6.12 Age on First Conviction

Fifty-two percent of the homicide group were under 21 at the time of their first conviction (Table 28). This compares with 81 percent of the robbery group. In the one-third of cases where there were no prior convictions, the age on the criterion conviction is the age on first conviction.

There is no discernable linear relationship between age on first conviction and recidivism. However, none of the 21 men who were over 30 at the time of their first offence, were imprisoned or committed any violent offences following release.

TABLE 28: AGE ON FIRST CONVICTION

AGE AT FIRST CONVICTION		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
15 OR UNDER	% (n)	68.8 (11)	18.8 (3)	6.3 (1)	6.3 (1)	19.3 (16)
16 TO 20 YEARS	% (n)	66.7 (18)	11.1 (3)	7.4 (2)	14.8 (4)	32.5 (27)
21 TO 30 YEARS	% (n)	63.2 (12)	10.5 (2)	21.1 (4)	5.3 (1)	22.9 (19)
ABOVE 30	% (n)	85.7 (18)	14.3 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	25.3 (21)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	71.1 (59)	13.3 (11)	8.4 (7)	7.2 (6)	100.0 (83)

$$T = -.12, \text{ NS}$$

3.6.13 Number of Aliases

Only 15 of the homicide group had aliases which were known to the police (Table 29). The low number makes it difficult to determine any reliable trends. However, it does appear that those with one or more aliases were more likely to be convicted of a minor offence following release, compared with those with no known aliases.

The correlation between the number of aliases and time before being convicted of a non-violent offence is $r = .18$, which approaches an adequate level of statistical significance. None of the other correlation co-efficients is statistically significant.

TABLE 29: NUMBER OF ALIASES

NUMBER OF ALIASES	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
0	% (n)	73.9 (65)	10.2 (9)	6.8 (6)	9.1 (8)	85.4 (88)
1	% (n)	55.6 (5)	33.3 (3)	11.1 (1)	0 (0)	8.7 (9)
2 OR ABOVE	% (n)	50.0 (3)	33.3 (2)	0 (0)	16.7 (1)	5.8 (6)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

$$\chi^2 = .06, \text{ NS}$$

3.6.14 Length of Previous Sentence

Length of sentence refers to the estimated time actually spent in prison or youth training centre following the previous convictions. Table 30 shows that 35 percent had no previous recorded convictions. This group had a much lower recidivism rate with only 19 percent recorded as being reconvicted. Forty-two percent of those having a prior conviction did not receive a prison or youth training centre sentence at their previous conviction although many of these would have spent time in prison on remand. Of those with prior convictions, there is no significant linear tendency for amount of time spent in prison or youth training centre to be related to level of recidivism, although the correlations with time before being convicted of a violent offence and time spent in prison following release ($r = .19$ for both) approach statistical significance.

TABLE 30: LENGTH OF PREVIOUS SENTENCE

PERIOD OF TIME	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
NONE	% (n)	69.8 (30)	16.3 (7)	9.3 (4)	4.7 (2)	41.7 (43)
UP TO 6 MONTHS	% (n)	66.7 (10)	13.3 (2)	13.3 (2)	6.7 (1)	14.6 (15)
6 TO 24 MONTHS	% (n)	42.9 (3)	28.6 (2)	0 (0)	28.6 (2)	6.8 (7)
ABOVE 2 YEARS	% (n)	50.0 (1)	50.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.9 (2)
NO PRIOR	% (n)	80.6 (29)	5.6 (2)	2.8 (1)	11.1 (4)	35.0 (36)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

$$\tau = .13, \text{ NS}$$

Tau is calculated with "No Prior" excluded

3.6.15 Time Outside Since Previous Conviction

Time outside since the previous conviction is calculated from the difference between the date of the criterion conviction and the previous conviction minus the time spent in prison or youth training centre following the previous conviction.

Those with no prior convictions were treated as having been outside since their tenth birthday.

There is a low but clear relationship between time outside since the previous conviction and degree of recidivism. Of those who had been outside for 12 months before their conviction for homicide, 50 percent were reconvicted. Whereas, of those who had been outside for four or more years, 20 percent were reconvicted. But there is little difference between these groups in the level of violent offences.

TABLE 31: TIME OUTSIDE SINCE PREVIOUS SENTENCE

TIME	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
UP TO 6 MONTHS	% (n)	50.5 (5)	10.0 (1)	30.0 (3)	10.0 (1)	10.0 (10)
6 TO 12 MONTHS	% (n)	50.0 (5)	20.0 (2)	30.0 (3)	0 (0)	9.8 (10)
1 TO 2 YEARS	% (n)	70.0 (14)	20.0 (4)	0 (0)	10.0 (2)	19.6 (20)
2 TO 3 YEARS	% (n)	75.0 (3)	25.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.9 (4)
3 TO 4 YEARS	% (n)	50.0 (2)	25.0 (1)	0 (0)	25.0 (1)	3.9 (4)
4 TO 6 YEARS	% (n)	90.0 (9)	10.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	9.8 (10)
6 OR MORE YEARS	% (n)	77.3 (34)	9.1 (4)	2.3 (1)	11.4 (5)	43.1 (44)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.5 (72)	13.7 (14)	6.9 (7)	8.8 (9)	100.0 (102)

$$T = -.13, p < .05$$

Time outside since the previous conviction is significantly correlated with time outside following release before being convicted of a non-violent offence ($r = .24$), but is not significantly correlated with the other indices of recidivism.

3.7 Prior Convictions

The numbers and proportions with convictions for each of 12 categories of offence, and escape from prison and from youth training centre, cross-tabulated with degree of recidivism, are presented in Table 32. To simplify the tables the recidivism rates for those without convictions for each of the categories of prior offence are not given. An estimate of the relative recidivism rates may be obtained by comparing the figures in each of the rows with those for all the homicide group, given

TABLE 32: PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD

PRIOR OFFENCE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	τ
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
HOMICIDE % (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	-
ASSAULT % (n)	55.0 (11)	20.0 (4)	10.0 (2)	15.0 (3)	19.4 (20)	.10*
RAPE % (n)	50.0 (1)	50.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.9 (2)	-
OTHER SEX % (n)	70.0 (7)	0 (0)	20.0 (2)	10.0 (1)	9.7 (10)	.01
ROBBERY % (n)	25.0 (1)	50.0 (2)	0 (0)	25.0 (1)	3.9 (4)	-
BREAKING OFFENCES % (n)	60.9 (14)	21.7 (5)	4.3 (1)	13.0 (3)	22.3 (23)	.06
LARCENY OR ILLEGAL USE % (n)	68.2 (30)	15.9 (7)	6.8 (3)	9.1 (4)	42.7 (44)	.03
FRAUD OR RECEIVING % (n)	50.0 (6)	33.3 (4)	0 (0)	16.7 (2)	11.7 (12)	.09
DRINKING OFFENCE % (n)	53.3 (8)	26.7 (4)	20.0 (3)	0 (0)	14.6 (15)	.08
DRUG OFFENCE % (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	-
DRIVING OFFENCE % (n)	50.0 (7)	21.4 (3)	21.4 (3)	7.1 (1)	13.6 (14)	.11*
OTHER SERIOUS % (n)	75.0 (3)	25.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.9 (4)	-
ESCAPE PRISON % (n)	10.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	-
ESCAPE YTC % (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	10.0 (1)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	-
ALL HOMICIDES % (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)	

τ denotes the Kendall tau correlation. * = $p < .05$

on the bottom row of the table. The Kendall tau correlations, which provide a measure of ordinal association between the number of prior offences and degree of recidivism, are based on the uncollapsed tables. The corresponding product moment correlations with the four indices of recidivism are given in Table IX of Appendix V.

The percentages in the row total provide estimates of the proportion with prior convictions for each of the offence types categorised.

The prior offences were categorised into: (1) homicide, (2) assault, (3) rape, (4) other sex, (5) robbery, (6) breaking offence, (7) larceny or illegal use of a motor vehicle, (8) fraud or receiving, (9) drinking offence, (10) drug offences, (11) driving offences, (12) other serious offences, as well as (13) escape from prison, and (14) escape from youth training centre.

By far the most common prior offence was larceny or illegal use of motor vehicles, with 43 percent having prior convictions for this. Twenty-two percent had prior breaking offences.

The most common violent offence was assault with 19 percent having prior convictions for this. None of the group had prior homicides.

There is very little association between any of these prior convictions and recidivism following the release after the sentence for homicide. There is no significant correlation between crime score or time after release before being convicted of a violent offence and the number of prior convictions in any of the categories, although some of the associations approach significance. Time before being convicted of a non-violent offence is significantly associated with the number of prior robberies ($r = .22$), prior fraud or receiving ($r = .27$), rape ($r = .20$) and driving ($r = .18$). Because of the small numbers involved in some of the prior offences, particularly in the case of rape and robbery, the results should be treated cautiously, since some of the assumptions of the significance tests are violated.

The time spent in prison following release is correlated at a level approaching statistical significance with the number of prior assaults ($r = .16$), breaking offences ($r = .17$), and larceny or illegal use ($r = .17$). Time spent in prison to a greater extent than the other indices of recidivism, reflects sentencing policy as well as convicted crime.

3.8 Characteristics of Crime

3.8.1 Type of Main Offence

Sixty percent were convicted of manslaughter as their main offence, 29 percent of murder, and the remaining 11 percent of attempted murder. Those convicted of manslaughter had the highest rate of recidivism, with 39 percent being reconvicted, compared with 17 percent of the convicted murderers and 9 percent of those convicted of attempted murder.

None of the attempted murder group and only one of the murder group were convicted of violent offences after release.

TABLE 33: TYPE OF HOMICIDE

OFFENCE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
MURDER % (n)	83.3 (25)	13.3 (4)	0 (0)	3.3 (1)	29.1 (30)
MANSLAUGHTER % (n)	61.3 (38)	14.5 (9)	11.3 (7)	12.9 (8)	60.2 (62)
ATTEMPTED MURDER % (n)	90.9 (10)	9.1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	10.7 (11)
COLUMN TOTAL % (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

$$T = .06, \quad NS$$

3.8.2 Number of Victims

Five of the murder group were convicted of offences against more than one victim at the time of their conviction for homicide, and none of them were convicted of further offences following release.

TABLE 34: NUMBER OF VICTIMS

NUMBER OF VICTIMS		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
1	%	68.1	15.4	6.6	9.9	94.8
	(n)	(62)	(14)	(6)	(9)	(91)
2 OR MORE	%	100.0	0	0	0	5.2
	(n)	(5)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(5)
COLUMN TOTAL	%	69.8	14.6	6.3	9.4	100.0
	(n)	(67)	(14)	(6)	(9)	(96)

$$T = -.06, p < .1$$

3.8.3 Sex of Victim

Two-thirds of the offences were against male victims only, the remainder were against females only, except for one case in which there were victims of both sexes (Table 35). There are no clear differences in the rate of recidivism as a function of the sex of the victims.

TABLE 35: SEX OF VICTIMS

SEX	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
MALE	% (n)	68.8 (44)	17.2 (11)	4.7 (3)	9.4 (6)	66.7 (64)
FEMALE	% (n)	71.0 (22)	9.7 (3)	9.7 (3)	9.7 (3)	32.3 (31)
BOTH	% (n)	100.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	69.8 (67)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.4 (9)	100.0 (96)

3.8.4 Relationship of the Victim to the Offender

The relationship of the victim to the offender was originally coded into 33 categories based on the categorisation system used by Dr Alan Bartholomew, the Psychiatrist-in-Charge of the psychiatric clinic at Pentridge Prison, in a large-scale study of the characteristics of people charged with murder.

To study the relationship between "social closeness" of the victim to the offender and recidivism, the relationship of the victim to the offender was recoded into a scale from very distant to very close, as below:-

- 1 - complete stranger;
- 2 - acquaintance;
- 3 - drinking friend, prison officer, neighbour, business partner, employer or employee;
- 4 - friend, landlord/lady, boarder;

- 5 - grandparents, parents-in-law, brother or sister-in-law, son/daughter-in-law, de facto's spouse, de facto's relations, fiancée's relations, lover, fiancée;
- 6 - homosexual friend, lover, fiancée;
- 7 - parent, spouse, sibling, son or daughter, stepson/daughter, stepfather/mother, guardian, de facto wife, stepbrother/sister, de facto's child.

There is no significant correlation between closeness of victim in any of the indices of recidivism.

For the purpose of obtaining cross-tabulation between relationship of victim and degree of recidivism, the original categories were coded into seven categories which distinguish between relatives and friends.

Twenty-three percent of the victims were strangers, a further 23 percent acquaintances, 21 percent friends, and 17 percent of the victims were either wives or lovers (Table 36).

It appears that those who killed or attempted to kill their friends were most likely to recidivate with 60 percent being reconvicted within five years of release. Because of the small number being convicted of violent offences in each of the categories, it is not possible to generalise with any degree of certainty about which groups were most likely to commit further violent offences.

TABLE 36: RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM

RELATIONSHIP	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
WIFE OR LOVER	% (n)	81.3 (13)	12.5 (2)	6.3 (1)	0 (0)	16.7 (16)
RELATIVE, IN-LAW	% (n)	75.0 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	25.0 (2)	8.3 (8)
SON OR DAUGHTER	% (n)	66.7 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	33.3 (1)	3.1 (3)
NEIGHBOUR OR WORKMATE	% (n)	100.0 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5.2 (5)
ACQUAINTANCE	% (n)	81.8 (18)	9.1 (2)	9.1 (2)	0 (0)	22.9 (22)
FRIEND	% (n)	40.0 (8)	35.0 (7)	10.0 (2)	15.0 (3)	20.8 (20)
STRANGER	% (n)	68.2 (15)	13.6 (3)	4.5 (1)	13.6 (3)	22.9 (22)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	69.8 (67)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.4 (9)	100.0 (96)

3.8.5 Weapon Used

The weapon used to cause injury is shown in Table 37. The most commonly used weapon was a gun being fired. Those who had used kicking or punching as a way of injuring their victim had the highest rate of recidivism, with 47 being reconvicted, including 20 percent for violent offences.

For the purposes of calculating the correlation with the four indices of recidivism the weapons used were coded in terms of

their dangerousness. However, dangerousness of weapons is not significantly correlated with any of the indices of recidivism.

TABLE 37: WEAPON USED

WEAPON		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
COMBINATION OF WEAPONS	% (n)	66.7 (6)	11.1 (1)	11.1 (1)	11.1 (1)	10.0 (9)
GUN FIRED	% (n)	62.9 (22)	20.0 (7)	8.6 (3)	8.6 (3)	38.9 (35)
SHARP INSTRUMENT	% (n)	88.2 (15)	0 (0)	5.9 (1)	5.9 (1)	18.9 (17)
BLUNT INSTRUMENT	% (n)	80.0 (8)	20.0 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	11.1 (10)
KICK, PUNCH	% (n)	53.3 (8)	20.0 (3)	6.7 (1)	20.0 (3)	16.7 (15)
STRANGLE	% (n)	75.0 (3)	25.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.4 (4)
BURN	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
ARMED THREAT	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
UNARMED THREAT	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	68.9 (62)	15.6 (14)	6.7 (6)	8.9 (8)	100.0 (90)

3.8.6 Number of Accomplices

Twenty-four percent had one of more accomplices at the time of their offence (Table 38). There is, however, no association between number of accomplices and recidivism.

TABLE 38 : NUMBER OF ACCOMPLICES

NUMBER OF ACCOMPLICES	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
0	% (n)	69.9 (51)	15.1 (11)	6.8 (5)	8.2 (6)	76.0 (73)
1	% (n)	66.7 (10)	13.3 (2)	6.7 (1)	13.3 (2)	15.6 (15)
2	% (n)	75.0 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	25.0 (1)	4.2 (4)
3 OR MORE	% (n)	75.0 (3)	25.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.2 (4)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	69.8 (67)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.4 (9)	100.0 (96)

$$T = .00, \text{ NS}$$

3.8.7 Degree of Premeditation

In relatively few cases (16 percent) was the violence planned more than a very short time ahead. In a third of the cases the killing or attempted killing was coded as "impetuous unprovoked violence" while in 22 percent of cases the violence was described as "provoked" (Table 39). Those who had planned a crime ahead, without planning the violence were most likely to re-offend but the numbers are too small for reliable generalisation.

Degree of premeditation is not significantly correlated with any of the indices of recidivism.

TABLE 39: DEGREE OF PREMEDITATION

DEGREE OF PREMEDITATION	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
CRIME AND VIOLENCE PLANNED	% (n)	80.0 (12)	13.3 (2)	6.7 (1)	0 (0)	15.6 (15)
CRIME ONLY PLANNED	% (n)	33.3 (2)	16.7 (1)	33.3 (2)	16.7 (1)	6.3 (6)
VIOLENCE PLANNED A SHORT TIME AHEAD	% (n)	84.6 (11)	7.7 (1)	0 (0)	7.7 (1)	13.5 (13)
IMPETUOUS UNPRO- VOKED VIOLENCE	% (n)	62.5 (20)	15.6 (5)	6.3 (2)	15.6 (5)	33.3 (32)
PROVOKED VIOLENCE	% (n)	76.2 (16)	14.3 (3)	4.8 (1)	4.8 (1)	21.9 (21)
IMPETUOUS CRIME NO VIOLENCE	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
INJURY ACCIDENTAL	% (n)	66.7 (6)	22.2 (2)	0 (0)	11.1 (1)	9.4 (9)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	69.8 (67)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.4 (9)	100.0 (96)

$\chi^2 = .01, NS$

3.8.8 Motive

A wide range of motives were ascribed to the homicides. By far the most common was "argument", into which category 42 percent of the motives were coded (Table 40). Thirteen percent of the homicides were coded as "accident" and 11 percent as "gain". Three percent were coded as "psychopathic".

In view of the fineness of the categorisation it is not possible to derive significant findings about the relationship between motive and recidivism.

TABLE 40: MOTIVE

MOTIVE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
GAIN % (n)	70.0 (7)	10.0 (1)	10.0 (1)	10.0 (1)	10.5 (10)
RIVALRY % (n)	100.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.1 (1)
SEX % (n)	50.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	50.0 (1)	2.1 (2)
FUN % (n)	50.0 (1)	50.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2.1 (2)
REVENGE % (n)	66.7 (2)	0 (0)	33.3 (1)	0 (0)	3.2 (3)
AGGRIEVED LOVE % (n)	100.0 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5.3 (5)
ARGUMENT % (n)	62.5 (25)	20.0 (8)	7.5 (3)	10.0 (4)	42.1 (40)
ANGER % (n)	71.4 (5)	14.3 (1)	0 (0)	14.3 (1)	7.4 (7)
INDISCRIM- INATE % (n)	80.0 (4)	20.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5.3 (5)
DEPRESSION % (n)	100.0 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.2 (3)
CRYING BABY % (n)	100.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.1 (1)
ACCIDENT % (n)	58.3 (7)	16.7 (2)	8.3 (1)	16.7 (2)	12.6 (12)
PSYCHOPATHIC % (n)	100.0 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.2 (3)
SUICIDE PACT % (n)	100.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.1 (1)
COLUMN TOTAL % (n)	69.5 (66)	14.7 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.5 (9)	100.0 (95)

3.8.9 Alcohol at the Time of the Offence

Forty-one percent of the homicide group were reported to be under the influence of alcohol at the time of their offence (Table 41). Moreover, those who took alcohol at the time of their offence were significantly more likely to be reconvicted following release; with 49 percent of those being reconvicted, including 15 percent for violent offences. This compares with 18 percent of those who did not use alcohol being reconvicted, including 5 percent for violent offences.

TABLE 41: ALCOHOL USE AT TIME OF OFFENCE

ALCOHOL USE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
NONE % (n)	82.5 (47)	8.8 (5)	3.5 (2)	5.3 (3)	59.4 (57)
ALCOHOL USED % (n)	51.3 (20)	23.1 (9)	10.3 (4)	15.4 (6)	40.6 (39)
COLUMN TOTAL % (n)	69.8 (67)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.4 (9)	100.0 (96)

$$T = .30, p < .001$$

The influence of alcohol at the time of the offence is significantly associated with crime score ($r = .23$), time before being convicted of a non-violent offence ($r = .32$), and time spent in prison following release ($r = .21$), and the correlation with time before being convicted of a violent offence approaches significance ($r = .16$).

3.8.10 Drug Use at the Time of the Offence

Three of the homicide group were reported to have been under the influence of drugs at the time of their offence (Table 42). This is not a large enough number to permit inferences about the relationship between drug use and recidivism among men convicted of

homicide. Most of the homicide group were convicted during the sixties. Since then use of illicit drugs appears to have become more common, which might be expected to influence the relative incidence of illicit drug use during violent crime.

TABLE 42: DRUG USE AT TIME OF OFFENCE

DRUG USE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
NONE % (n)	69.9 (65)	15.1 (14)	5.4 (5)	9.7 (9)	96.9 (93)
DRUGS USED % (n)	66.7 (2)	0 (0)	33.3 (1)	0 (0)	3.1 (3)
COLUMN TOTAL % (n)	69.8 (67)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.4 (9)	100.0 (96)

3.8.11 Amount of Money Stolen

Only one of the homicide group was recorded as having taken any money at the time of the offence and in that case the amount taken was less than \$100 (Table 43).

TABLE 43: AMOUNT STOLEN AT TIME OF CRITERION OFFENCE

AMOUNT	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
NONE % (n)	70.6 (72)	13.7 (14)	6.9 (7)	8.8 (9)	99.0 (102)
UP TO \$100 % (n)	100.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)
COLUMN TOTAL % (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

3.8.12 Number of Offences at the Time of the Criterion Conviction

Thirteen percent were convicted of other offences at the same time as their conviction for homicide. This compares with 60 percent for the robbery group. Only one of those convicted of additional offences was convicted of a further offence following release, and this was for a minor offence not resulting in re-imprisonment (Table 44).

TABLE 44: NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS AT THE SAME TIME AS CRITERION CONVICTION

NUMBER		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
1	% (n)	67.8 (61)	14.4 (13)	7.8 (7)	10.0 (9)	87.4 (90)
2	% (n)	100.0 (8)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	7.8 (8)
3 OR MORE	% (n)	80.0 (4)	20.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.9 (5)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

$$T = -.08, p < .05$$

3.9 Sentence Characteristics

In this section the characteristics of the custodial sentences undergone by the men as a result of their conviction for homicide are examined.

3.9.1 Type of Sentence

The majority (91 percent) were sentenced to prison. In addition, three offenders (3 percent) were sentenced to youth training centre, and six were sentenced to a psychiatric institution. Two of the three sentenced to youth training centre were reconvicted following release, whereas none of those who had been sent to a psychiatric institution were convicted of further offences following release.

TABLE 45: TYPE OF SENTENCE

TYPE OF SENTENCE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
YOUTH TRAIN- ING CENTRE	% (n)	33.3 (1)	33.3 (1)	0 (0)	33.3 (1)	2.9 (3)
PRISON	% (n)	70.2 (66)	13.8 (13)	7.4 (7)	8.5 (8)	91.3 (94)
PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTION	% (n)	100.0 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5.8 (6)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

$$T = -.08, p < .05$$

Most prisoners receive a definite maximum sentence. However, 20 of the homicide group (19 percent) were found to be insane and detained indefinitely subject to the "Governor's pleasure", until such time as they were deemed to be no longer dangerous.

Only one of those who had been detained subject to the Governor's pleasure was reconvicted following release, and this was for a minor, non-violent offence which did not result in imprisonment. In contrast, 35 percent of those receiving a definite maximum sentence were convicted of further offences, including 11 percent for violent offences.

TABLE 46: GOVERNOR'S PLEASURE OR MAXIMUM SENTENCE GROUP

GOVERNOR'S PLEASURE OR MAXIMUM SENTENCE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
GOVERNOR'S PLEASURE	% (n)	95.0 (19)	5.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	19.4 (20)
MAXIMUM GIVEN	% (n)	65.1 (54)	15.7 (13)	8.4 (7)	10.8 (9)	80.6 (83)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

$$T = .19, p < .005$$

3.9.2 Length of Maximum Sentence

The maximum sentences for the homicide group were much greater than for the other groups of violent offenders. Fifty-nine percent received maximum sentences in excess of six years (Table 47). The average maximum sentence was seven years eight months. There is no significant relationship between maximum length of sentence and recidivism.

TABLE 47: MAXIMUM SENTENCE

MAXIMUM SENTENCE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
UP TO 1 YEAR % (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
1 TO 2 YEARS % (n)	66.7 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	33.3 (1)	3.6 (3)
2 TO 3 YEARS % (n)	40.0 (2)	20.0 (1)	20.0 (1)	20.0 (1)	6.0 (5)
3 TO 4 YEARS % (n)	77.8 (7)	11.1 (1)	0 (0)	11.1 (1)	10.8 (9)
4 TO 6 YEARS % (n)	77.8 (14)	16.7 (3)	0 (0)	5.6 (1)	21.7 (18)
6 OR MORE YEARS % (n)	60.4 (29)	16.7 (8)	12.5 (6)	10.4 (5)	57.8 (48)
COLUMN TOTAL % (n)	65.1 (54)	15.7 (13)	8.4 (7)	10.8 (9)	100.0 (83)

$$T = .04, \text{ NS}$$

3.9.3 Minimum Sentence

All offenders sentenced to youth training centre have their sentences reviewed with a possibility of parole within nine months of being sentenced. Those receiving sentences of less than nine months are not usually considered for parole.

For offenders sentenced to prison there is a different system. Where the sentence of imprisonment is two years or more, the court must fix a minimum sentence unless it considers it inappropriate, and where the sentence is 12 months or more, and is less than two years, the court may give a minimum sentence. The minimum terms must be at least six months less than the total sentence.

Those who are committed for an indefinite period subject to the Governor's pleasure are also not given a minimum sentence.

Table 48 shows that in three-quarters of cases a specific minimum sentence was given. Of the remaining cases, 3 percent were youth trainees, who are eligible for parole after nine months, and most of the rest were Governor's pleasure cases.

TABLE 48: WHETHER MINIMUM SENTENCE GIVEN

MINIMUM SENTENCE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
NO MINIMUM SENTENCE	% (n)	91.3 (21)	4.3 (1)	0 (0)	4.3 (1)	22.3 (23)
MINIMUM GIVEN	% (n)	66.2 (51)	15.6 (12)	9.1 (7)	9.1 (7)	74.8 (77)
YOUTH TRAINING CENTRE	% (n)	33.3 (1)	33.3 (1)	0 (0)	33.3 (1)	2.9 (3)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

Those detained under Governor's pleasure orders are subject, when released, to special supervision by the Parole Board.

Table 49 shows the length of minimum sentence. Nearly a third of those receiving a specific minimum sentence received a minimum of six or more years. Inspection of the cross-tabulation between length of minimum sentence and degree of recidivism reveals an apparent tendency for those with minimum sentences of four years or more to have a higher level of recidivism with 43 percent being reconvicted within five years, compared with 24 percent for those receiving minimum sentences of less than four years. However, this apparent difference is not reflected in a significant Kendall tau correlation; nor are any of the correlations between length of minimum sentence and the indices of recidivism statistically significant.

TABLE 49: LENGTH OF MINIMUM SENTENCE

MINIMUM SENTENCE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
UP TO 1 YEAR	% (n)	83.3 (5)	0 (0)	16.7 (1)	0 (0)	7.8 (6)
1 TO 2 YEARS	% (n)	66.7 (8)	8.3 (1)	0 (0)	25.0 (3)	15.6 (12)
2 TO 3 YEARS	% (n)	81.8 (9)	18.2 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	14.3 (11)
3 TO 4 YEARS	% (n)	75.0 (6)	12.5 (1)	12.5 (1)	0 (0)	10.4 (8)
4 TO 6 YEARS	% (n)	53.3 (8)	26.7 (4)	13.3 (2)	6.7 (1)	19.5 (15)
6 OR MORE YEARS	% (n)	60.0 (15)	16.0 (4)	12.0 (3)	12.0 (3)	32.5 (25)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	66.2 (51)	15.6 (12)	9.1 (7)	9.1 (7)	100.0 (77)

$$T = -.10 \quad NS$$

3.9.4 Time Inside During Criterion Sentence

In a small number of cases the exact date of release was not known, and an estimate was made using information on the length of sentence.

The average time served during sentence was five years and one month. The relationship between time spent inside during sentence and degree of recidivism is given in Table 50.

There is no significant linear relationship between time served during criterion sentence and any of the four indices of recidivism.

TABLE 50: TIME INSIDE DURING SENTENCE

TIME	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
UP TO 6 MONTHS	% (n)	83.3 (5)	0 (0)	16.7 (1)	0 (0)	5.8 (6)
6 TO 12 MONTHS	% (n)	80.0 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)	20.0 (1)	4.9 (5)
1 TO 2 YEARS	% (n)	73.7 (14)	10.5 (2)	0 (0)	15.8 (3)	18.4 (19)
2 TO 3 YEARS	% (n)	63.6 (7)	27.3 (3)	9.1 (1)	0 (0)	10.7 (11)
3 TO 4 YEARS	% (n)	77.8 (7)	11.1 (1)	11.1 (1)	0 (0)	8.7 (9)
4 TO 6 YEARS	% (n)	55.6 (10)	16.7 (3)	11.1 (2)	16.7 (3)	17.5 (18)
6 OR MORE YEARS	% (n)	74.3 (26)	14.3 (5)	5.7 (2)	5.7 (2)	34.0 (35)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.9 (73)	13.6 (14)	6.8 (7)	8.7 (9)	100.0 (103)

$$T = .01, \text{ NS}$$

3.9.5 Type of Institution for Most of Sentence

In Victoria all offenders sent to prison for serious offences (and nearly all other prisoners) are first sent to Pentridge Prison, which is a high-security prison. Many of the shorter-term prisoners remain there. Also, a variety of other prisoners are kept at Pentridge, including prisoners regarded as high security risks, and ones subject to psychiatric treatment.

The other prisons are medium security, except for four prisons which were coded as minimum security. These were the reforestation prisons of Won Wron and Morwell River, and the prison farms of Cooriemungle, which is now closed, and Dhurringile.

Forty-four percent of the prisoners spent most of their sentence at Pentridge, the high-security prison (Table 51). This group had a lower rate of recidivism than the other prisoners with 19 percent being reconvicted, compared with an average of 37 percent for the medium and minimum security prisons. Although the youth trainees had the highest rate of recidivism, as for the other groups of violent offenders, the numbers are not large enough to allow generalisations to be made.

TABLE 51: PRISON OR YOUTH TRAINING CENTRE FOR MOST OF SENTENCE

INSTITUTION	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
YOUTH TRAIN- ING CENTRE	% (n)	33.3 (1)	33.3 (1)	0 (0)	33.3 (1)	3.1 (3)
PENTRIDGE (HIGH SECURITY)	% (n)	81.0 (34)	9.5 (4)	2.4 (1)	7.1 (3)	43.8 (42)
MEDIUM SECURITY	% (n)	64.3 (27)	14.3 (6)	9.5 (4)	11.9 (5)	43.8 (42)
LOW SECURITY	% (n)	55.6 (5)	33.3 (3)	11.1 (1)	0 (0)	9.4 (9)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	69.8 (67)	14.6 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.4 (9)	100.0 (96)

To obtain correlations with recidivism, the security level of the prisons was coded from 1 = high security to 3 = minimum security, and the youth trainees were excluded from the analysis. Level of prison security for most of the sentence is significantly associated with time before being convicted of a non-violent offence ($r = .24$), with low prison security being associated with high recidivism. The correlation with crime score is in the same direction ($r = .13$), but is not statistically significant, and there is no significant association with time before being convicted of a violent offence or time spent in prison following release.

3.9.6 Institution for the Last Part of Sentence

The data for the institution for the last part of the sentence were treated in a similar way to those for most of the sentence. There were slightly fewer prisoners kept in Pentridge for the last part of their sentences, but as before those at Pentridge had the lowest rate of recidivism when released, with 19 percent being convicted compared with 35 percent of the medium and low security institutions. However, none of the correlations between security of institution for the last part of the sentence and recidivism are statistically significant.

TABLE 52: PRISON OR YOUTH TRAINING CENTRE FOR LAST PART OF SENTENCE

INSTITUTION	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
YOUTH TRAIN- ING CENTRE	% (n)	33.3 (1)	33.3 (1)	0 (0)	33.3 (1)	3.2 (3)
PENTRIDGE (HIGH SECURITY)	% (n)	81.3 (26)	6.3 (2)	3.1 (1)	9.4 (3)	33.7 (32)
MEDIUM SECURITY	% (n)	64.0 (32)	18.0 (9)	8.0 (4)	10.0 (5)	52.6 (50)
LOW SECURITY	% (n)	70.0 (7)	20.0 (2)	10.0 (1)	0 (0)	10.5 (10)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	69.5 (66)	14.7 (14)	6.3 (6)	9.5 (9)	100.0 (95)

3.9.7 Prisoner Security Rating

Prisoners are given a security rating of either "Minimum", "Medium" or "Maximum" security. This is usually given when a prisoner arrives in prison and is possibly changed after an escape attempt or other disturbance. (A more complex system of points is used by the prisoner classification committee as an aid to allocating prisoners to different sections of the prison system).

Over three-quarters of the homicide group (76 percent) were categorised as "Medium" security (Table 53). There is no significant association between the security rating and degree of recidivism.

TABLE 53: PRISONER SECURITY RATING

SECURITY RATING	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
MINIMUM	% (n)	66.7 (6)	22.2 (2)	11.1 (1)	0 (0)	10.8 (9)
MEDIUM	% (n)	69.8 (44)	12.7 (8)	7.9 (5)	9.5 (6)	75.9 (63)
MAXIMUM	% (n)	63.6 (7)	18.2 (2)	0 (0)	18.2 (2)	13.3 (11)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	68.7 (57)	14.5 (12)	7.2 (6)	9.6 (8)	100.0 (83)

$$T = .02, \text{ NS}$$

3.9.8 Prison Conduct Rating

Every month classification prisoners are rated by a supervising prison officer on "Conduct", using five categories from "very good" to "poor". Prisoners serving less than six months, if under 21, and less than one year, if an adult, are not subject to classification and conduct ratings are not available.

The prison conduct rating for the year up to release was calculated by scoring the five categories on a five-point scale from 1 = "poor" to 5 = "very good" and adding the 12 scores giving a maximum conduct rating of 60 points. For those prisoners with relatively short sentences who had less than 12 conduct ratings the total scores were multiplied by the appropriate ratio (which is 12/n, where n is the number of ratings) to adjust the maximum possible score to 60.

Table 54 shows that the conduct ratings during the last year in prison are related to the level of recidivism. Most of the group received relatively high conduct ratings, with 89 percent receiving at least 50 out of 60 points, and 55 percent received the maximum of 60 conduct points. There is no correlation between conduct ratings in the last 12 months of the sentence and any of the indices of recidivism.

TABLE 54: PRISON CONDUCT RATING

CONDUCT RATING	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
UP TO 39	% (n)	100.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.2 (1)
40 TO 49	% (n)	87.5 (7)	0 (0)	0 (0)	12.5 (1)	9.4 (8)
50 TO 55	% (n)	61.5 (8)	15.4 (2)	15.4 (2)	7.7 (1)	15.3 (13)
56 TO 59	% (n)	68.8 (11)	18.8 (3)	0 (0)	12.5 (2)	18.8 (16)
60	% (n)	68.1 (32)	14.9 (7)	8.5 (4)	8.5 (4)	55.3 (47)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	69.4 (59)	14.1 (12)	7.1 (6)	9.4 (8)	100.0 (85)

$\tau = .03, NS$

3.9.9 Remission

Most of the prisoners were granted some remission of sentence; only 5 percent of those about whom information is available received none. There was, however, no statistically significant relationship between amount of remission of sentence and any of the indices of recidivism.

TABLE 55: REMISSION

REMISSION		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
NONE	%	50.0	25.0	0	25.0	5.3
	(n)	(2)	(1)	(0)	(1)	(4)
UP TO 4 WEEKS	%	71.4	14.3	0	14.3	9.3
	(n)	(5)	(1)	(0)	(1)	(7)
4 TO 12 WEEKS	%	76.9	7.7	0	15.4	17.3
	(n)	(10)	(1)	(0)	(2)	(13)
12 TO 26 WEEKS	%	58.8	23.5	17.6	0	22.7
	(n)	(10)	(4)	(3)	(0)	(17)
26 WEEKS OR MORE	%	61.8	14.7	8.8	14.7	45.3
	(n)	(21)	(5)	(3)	(5)	(34)
COLUMN TOTAL	%	64.0	16.0	8.0	12.0	100.0
	(n)	(48)	(12)	(6)	(9)	(75)

$$\tau = .04, \text{ NS}$$

3.9.10 Time Discharge Postponed

For breaches of prison regulations and minor offences while in prison, prisoners may receive penalties, including postponement of the date of discharge of the prison sentence.

Table 56 shows that those who had their discharge postponed were more likely to be convicted of further offences following release. Fifty percent of those who had their discharge postponed were convicted of further offences, compared with 32 percent who had no postponement of discharge.

TABLE 56: TIME DISCHARGE POSTPONED

DISCHARGE POSTPONED		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
NONE	% (n)	68.3 (41)	15.0 (9)	8.3 (5)	8.3 (5)	78.9 (60)
SOME	% (n)	50.0 (8)	18.8 (3)	6.3 (1)	25.0 (4)	21.1 (16)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	64.5 (49)	15.8 (12)	7.9 (6)	11.8 (9)	100.0 (76)

$$T = .14, p < .1$$

The length of time of discharge postponement is correlated at levels approaching statistical significance with time before being convicted of a violent offence ($r = .20$), and time spent in prison following release ($r = .19$), but the correlations with time before being convicted of a violent offence and crime score, although in the same direction, are low ($r = .14$ for both) and not statistically significant.

3.9.11 Time in H Division

H Division of Pentridge Prison is the high-security/punishment section of the Victorian prison system.

Only 9 percent of the prisoners in the homicide group were recorded as having spent time in H Division. In view of the small proportion no statistically significant relationship between time in H Division and recidivism was observable.

TABLE 57: TIME IN H DIVISION

TIME IN H DIVISION	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
NONE	% (n)	68.0 (51)	13.3 (10)	8.0 (6)	10.7 (8)	91.5 (75)
SOME	% (n)	57.1 (4)	28.6 (2)	0 (0)	14.3 (1)	8.5 (7)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	67.1 (55)	14.6 (12)	7.3 (6)	11.0 (9)	100.0 (82)

$$T = .03, \text{ NS}$$

3.9.12 Age on Conviction

The average age on conviction for the homicide group is 32 years two months, which is much higher than for the other groups of violent offenders. Forty-one percent were over 35 years of age at the time of conviction. This compares with 8 percent of the robbery group who were above 35 years of age at the time of their conviction for robbery.

Those above 50 years of age at the time of their conviction had a relatively low rate of recidivism with only one out of nine (11 percent) being reconvicted, whereas of those under 21, eight out of 22 (36 percent) were reconvicted (Table 58).

Possibly due to random fluctuations, recidivism does not increase uniformly with age for the intermediate age groups, and the Kendall tau correlation with degree of recidivism is not statistically significant.

Age on criterion conviction is significantly correlated with crime score ($r = .19$), and the correlations with time before being convicted of a violent offence ($r = .15$) and non-violent offence ($r = .13$) are in the same direction, but not statistically significant.

TABLE 58: AGE ON CONVICTION

AGE		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
UP TO 20	%	63.6	18.2	9.1	9.1	22.7
YEARS	(n)	(14)	(4)	(2)	(2)	(22)
21 TO 25	%	94.4	5.6	0	0	18.6
YEARS	(n)	(17)	(1)	(0)	(0)	(18)
26 TO 35	%	47.1	17.6	17.6	17.6	17.5
YEARS	(n)	(8)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(17)
36 TO 50	%	77.4	16.1	3.2	3.2	32.0
YEARS	(n)	(24)	(5)	(1)	(1)	(31)
ABOVE 50	%	88.9	0	11.1	0	9.3
YEARS	(n)	(8)	(0)	(1)	(0)	(9)
COLUMN	%	73.2	13.4	7.2	6.2	100.0
TOTAL	(n)	(71)	(13)	(7)	(6)	(97)

$$T = -.06, \text{ NS}$$

3.9.14 Age on Release

The mean age on release of the homicide group was 37 years and one month. Table 59 shows that the level of recidivism decreases with increasing age on release.

Age on release is significantly associated with crime score ($r = .20$), and the correlations with time before conviction for a violent offence and non-violent offence are $r = .17$ and $r = .14$, respectively.

TABLE 59: AGE ON RELEASE

AGE	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
UP TO 20 YEARS	% (n)	57.1 (4)	14.3 (1)	14.3 (1)	14.3 (1)	6.9 (7)
21 TO 25 YEARS	% (n)	60.0 (9)	20.0 (3)	6.7 (1)	13.3 (2)	14.9 (15)
26 TO 35 YEARS	% (n)	75.0 (21)	7.1 (2)	7.1 (2)	10.7 (3)	27.7 (28)
36 TO 50 YEARS	% (n)	67.6 (23)	17.6 (6)	5.9 (2)	8.8 (3)	33.7 (34)
ABOVE 50 YEARS	% (n)	82.4 (14)	11.8 (2)	5.9 (1)	0 (0)	16.8 (17)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.3 (71)	13.9 (14)	6.9 (7)	8.9 (9)	100.0 (101)

$$\tau = -.09, p < .1$$

3.10 Parole Characteristics

3.10.1 Governors' and Superintendents' Predictions of Parole Success

About six weeks before being considered by the Parole Board for parole release each prisoner is subject to a report by the prison governor. In the case of a youth trainee being considered by the Youth Parole Board, the report is usually written by the youth training centre superintendent. This report normally contains among other things an evaluation of the prisoner's or trainee's chances of success or likelihood of re-offence. This was coded on a nine-point scale from "dangerous" to "excellent prospects" (see the coding manual). To facilitate the presentation of results this has been recoded into four evaluative categories which are shown in Table 60 below.

There is a tendency for the governors' and superintendents' evaluations to be optimistic rather than pessimistic. Only 9 percent of the evaluations were coded as falling within the five most negative categories from "dangerous" to "likely to fail."

Those who were rated as having poor prospects were somewhat more likely to be recidivists, with four out of seven being reconvicted, including one person for a violent offence. There was not a lot of difference in the rate of recidivism between the "possibly fail" and the "good" prospect groups.

TABLE 60: GOVERNORS' OR SUPERINTENDENTS' PREDICTIONS

LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
POOR	% (n)	42.9 (3)	14.3 (1)	28.6 (2)	14.3 (1)	9.3 (7)
POSSIBLE	% (n)	66.7 (8)	8.3 (1)	8.3 (1)	16.7 (2)	16.0 (12)
MODERATELY GOOD	% (n)	56.3 (9)	25.0 (4)	6.3 (1)	12.5 (2)	21.3 (16)
GOOD	% (n)	70.0 (28)	17.5 (7)	5.0 (2)	7.5 (3)	53.3 (40)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	64.0 (48)	17.3 (13)	8.0 (6)	10.7 (8)	100.0 (75)

$$T = -.14, p < .1$$

Governors' or superintendents' predictions are significantly correlated with time spent in prison following release ($r = .24$). The correlations with crime score ($r = .19$), time before being convicted of a violent offence ($r = .17$) and a non-violent offence ($r = .13$) are in the same direction, but below an adequate level of statistical significance. Overall, the predictions for the homicide group are less accurate than those for the other groups of violent offenders.

3.10.2 Parole Officers' Predictions of Parole Success

For each prisoner or youth trainee being considered for parole a report is written by a parole officer, or, in the case of youth trainees, by a youth parole officer. In writing the

report the parole officer will generally interview the prisoner and discuss his work plans and his likely domestic situation on release.

In most cases the parole officer will make a codeable estimate of the likelihood of re-offence if released. These predictions were coded on the present study using the same categories as for the governors' or superintendents' estimates. The findings for the homicide group are presented in Table 61.

TABLE 61: PAROLE OFFICERS' PREDICTIONS

LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
POOR % (n)	44.4 (4)	11.1 (1)	11.1 (1)	33.3 (3)	10.6 (9)
POSSIBLE % (n)	53.8 (7)	23.1 (3)	7.7 (1)	15.4 (2)	15.3 (13)
MODERATELY GOOD % (n)	65.0 (13)	15.0 (3)	10.0 (2)	10.0 (2)	23.5 (20)
GOOD % (n)	76.7 (33)	16.3 (7)	2.3 (1)	4.7 (2)	50.6 (43)
COLUMN TOTAL % (n)	67.1 (57)	16.5 (14)	5.9 (5)	10.6 (9)	100.0 (85)

$$T = -.24, p < .01$$

For the homicide group, the parole officers show a better level of prediction than the governors and superintendents. (This was not the case for all the groups of violent offenders). The rate of recidivism ranged from 66 percent of the group coded as having poor prospects to 33 percent for the group rated as having good prospects.

The parole officers' predictions are significantly correlated with crime score ($r = .27$), time before being convicted of a violent offence ($r = .25$), and time spent in prison following

release ($r = .24$), and the correlation with time before being convicted of a violent offence ($r = .17$) approaches statistical significance.

3.10.3 Parole Decision

In only 13 percent of the cases being considered for parole was parole deferred, usually for less than three months, and in no cases was parole denied (Table 62). In a further 26 percent of the known cases, usually those detained subject to the Governor's pleasure, the issue of parole deferral was not applicable. These latter cases were excluded from the correlational analyses.

TABLE 62: PAROLE DECISION

PAROLE DECISION		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
PAROLED AT 1ST OPPORTUNITY	% (n)	68.9 (42)	14.8 (9)	8.2 (5)	8.2 (5)	64.9 (61)
DEFERRED FOR LESS THAN 3 MONTHS	% (n)	28.6 (2)	28.6 (2)	14.3 (1)	28.6 (2)	7.4 (7)
DEFERRED FOR 3 MONTHS OR MORE	% (n)	0 (0)	50.0 (1)	0 (0)	50.0 (1)	2.1 (2)
PAROLE DENIED	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
NOT APPLICABLE	% (n)	91.7 (22)	4.2 (1)	0 (0)	4.2 (1)	25.5 (24)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.2 (66)	13.8 (13)	6.4 (6)	9.6 (9)	100.0 (94)

$$\tau = .17, p < .005$$

Tau is calculated with "Not Applicable" cases excluded.

Even though the numbers are small, those for whom parole was deferred tend to have a much higher recidivism rate. Of the nine who had their release on parole deferred, all but two were reconvicted following eventual release.

The length of time of parole deferral is significantly correlated with time before being convicted of a violent offence ($r = .35$), and the correlation with time before being convicted of a non-violent offence ($r = .19$) approaches statistical significance.

3.10.4 Special Conditions on Parole Order

Thirty-two percent of those released on parole or special supervision were banned from alcohol during the period of their parole as the only special condition. In addition, 8 percent had psychiatric treatment as a special condition, and a further 20 percent had a combination of conditions, which usually included a ban on alcohol consumption (Table 63).

TABLE 63: SPECIAL CONDITIONS ON PAROLE ORDER

SPECIAL CONDITIONS	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
NONE	% (n)	75.0 (27)	11.1 (4)	2.8 (1)	11.1 (4)	40.0 (36)
ALCOHOL	% (n)	48.3 (14)	24.1 (7)	13.8 (4)	13.8 (4)	32.2 (29)
PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT	% (n)	85.7 (6)	14.3 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	7.8 (7)
OTHER OR BOTH	% (n)	83.3 (15)	11.1 (2)	0 (0)	5.6 (1)	20.0 (18)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	68.9 (62)	15.6 (14)	5.6 (5)	10.0 (9)	100.0 (90)

As with the other groups of violent offenders, those who had a ban on alcohol consumption as their only condition, had the highest rate of recidivism, with 52 percent being reconvicted. There was a very low rate of recidivism among those receiving psychiatric treatment as their sole condition, with one out of seven being reconvicted, and this was for a minor offence.

3.10.5 Length of Parole

Since most prisoners were released at the first opportunity for parole, the length of parole is closely linked to the difference between the minimum and the maximum sentences minus the amount of remission already obtained. Most of the parole periods were between two to six years. There is, however, no significant association between length of parole and level of recidivism (Table 64).

TABLE 64: LENGTH OF PAROLE

TIME	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
UP TO 6 MONTHS	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
6 TO 12 MONTHS	% (n)	66.7 (2)	33.3 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.2 (3)
1 TO 2 YEARS	% (n)	62.5 (5)	12.5 (1)	0 (0)	25.0 (2)	8.6 (8)
2 TO 3 YEARS	% (n)	66.7 (18)	14.8 (4)	11.1 (3)	7.4 (2)	29.0 (27)
3 TO 4 YEARS	% (n)	65.0 (13)	15.0 (3)	5.0 (1)	15.0 (3)	21.5 (20)
4 TO 6 YEARS	% (n)	79.3 (23)	6.9 (2)	6.9 (2)	6.9 (2)	31.2 (29)
6 OR MORE YEARS	% (n)	66.7 (4)	33.3 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	6.5 (6)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	69.9 (65)	14.0 (13)	6.5 (6)	9.7 (9)	100.0 (93)

$$\tau = -.07, \text{ NS}$$

However, the correlations between length of parole and the time before being convicted of a violent offence ($r = .15$) and non-violent offence ($r = .17$) suggest that shorter periods of time before committing offences are associated with shorter length of parole, but the associations do not reach statistical significance.

3.10.6 Domestic Situation Returned to on Release

Thirty-one percent of the homicide group returned to live with their parents following release. The others are fairly evenly divided between wives, other family, friends or hostel, and a further two people were released to hospital (Table 65).

TABLE 65: DOMESTIC SITUATION ON RELEASE

SITUATION	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
PARENTS	75.0	10.7	7.1	7.1	30.8
(n)	(21)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(28)
WIFE OR	75.0	16.7	0	8.3	13.2
DE FACTO	(9)	(2)	(0)	(1)	(12)
OTHER FAMILY	58.8	17.6	11.8	11.8	18.7
(n)	(10)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(17)
TRANSIENT HOSTEL OR HOME	60.0	20.0	6.7	13.3	16.5
(n)	(9)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(15)
HOSPITAL	100.0	0	0	0	2.2
(n)	(2)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(2)
FRIENDS	64.7	17.6	5.9	11.8	18.7
(n)	(11)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(17)
COLUMN TOTAL	68.1	15.4	6.6	9.9	100.0
(n)	(62)	(14)	(6)	(9)	(91)

Those who went to live with parents or wives or in hospital had a slightly lower level of reconviction, compared with those who went to live with other members of the family, friends or hostel.

But the differences in the numbers reconvicted is not very large and it is not possible to assume that there are reliable differences.

3.10.7 Parole Reporting

Parolees must report regularly during their parole period to a parole officer to whom they are assigned. On the basis of the parole officers' written comments the parole reporting behaviour prior to any offence was coded wherever enough information was available. The main findings for the homicide group are presented below (Table 66).

TABLE 66: PAROLE REPORTING

PAROLE REPORTING	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
IMMEDIATE OFFENCE	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	50.0 (1)	50.0 (1)	2.4 (2)
IRREGULAR AND PROBLEMS	% (n)	25.0 (1)	25.0 (1)	25.0 (1)	25.0 (1)	4.8 (4)
IRREGULAR BUT NO PROBLEMS	% (n)	33.3 (2)	33.3 (2)	16.7 (1)	16.7 (1)	7.1 (6)
FAIRLY REGULAR BUT UNCO-OPERATIVE	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	50.0 (1)	50.0 (1)	2.4 (2)
REGULAR AND FAIRLY CO-OPERATIVE	% (n)	74.4 (29)	15.4 (6)	5.1 (2)	5.1 (2)	46.4 (39)
REGULAR AND GOOD	% (n)	80.6 (25)	9.7 (3)	0 (0)	9.7 (3)	36.9 (31)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	67.9 (57)	14.3 (12)	7.1 (6)	10.7 (9)	100.0 (84)

$$\tau = -.21 \quad p < .005$$

Tau is calculated with "Immediate Offence" cases excluded.

Two percent committed violent offences before they had a chance to report and they are excluded from the calculation of the tau correlation, since no measure of reporting was possible for them. For the remainder, there is a fairly strong correlation between degree of recidivism and reporting behaviour.

Of those groups who were irregular or unco-operative in their reporting, an average of 75 percent were reconvicted, whereas of those groups who were regular, 23 percent were reconvicted.

Regularity and co-operativeness of parole reporting is correlated with time before being convicted of a non-violent offence ($r = .43$), and violent offence ($r = .25$). The correlations with crime score and time spent in prison following release (both $r = .15$), are in the same direction but do not reach statistical significance.

3.10.8 Job Plans on Release

As part of their parole plan, prisoners discuss their future work plans with a parole officer. Table 67 shows a possible slight tendency for those with well-formed plans to have lower levels of recidivism, particularly if they intended to go back to their old job.

TABLE 67: JOB PLANS ON RELEASE

PLANS	DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL	
	NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT		
NO JOB OR PLAN	% (n)	100.0 (7)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	7.6 (7)
PLANS TO LOOK	% (n)	54.5 (18)	21.2 (7)	9.1 (3)	15.2 (5)	35.9 (33)
POSSIBLE JOB	% (n)	64.3 (9)	14.3 (2)	14.3 (2)	7.1 (1)	15.2 (14)
NEW JOB	% (n)	68.2 (15)	18.2 (4)	0 (0)	13.6 (3)	23.9 (22)
OLD JOB	% (n)	87.5 (14)	6.3 (1)	6.3 (1)	0 (0)	17.4 (16)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	68.5 (63)	15.2 (14)	6.5 (6)	9.8 (9)	100.0 (92)

Among the seven who had no plans, there were no recidivists. However, many of these were either going directly to hospital or of very ill health.

The correlations with the indices of recidivism included those with no plans, and partly as a result of this, none of the coefficients obtained are statistically significant.

3.10.9 Stability of Work on Parole

Of those releasees about whom there are records, five did not find any job on release, and none of these were reconvicted. As indicated previously, this group consists largely of those who were of ill-health on release. The majority of the releasees found a job shortly after release and stayed in that job during the course of their parole. This group had a slightly lower rate of recidivism than those who lost their job or took a long time to find a job (Table 68).

TABLE 68: STABILITY OF WORK ON PAROLE

WORK		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
NO JOB	%	100.0	0	0	0	6.2
	(n)	(5)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(5)
JOB AND LEFT	%	63.2	10.5	10.5	15.8	23.5
	(n)	(12)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(19)
LATE AND STAYED	%	55.6	33.3	0	11.1	11.1
	(n)	(5)	(3)	(0)	(1)	(9)
SOON AND STAYED	%	72.9	12.5	6.3	8.3	59.3
	(n)	(35)	(6)	(3)	(4)	(48)
COLUMN TOTAL	%	70.4	13.6	6.2	9.9	100.0
	(n)	(57)	(11)	(5)	(8)	(81)

$$T = -.03, \text{ NS}$$

3.10.10 Type of Breach

Twenty-one percent were recorded as having breached parole. In all but five cases this was recorded as being by conviction rather than by cancellation due to breaches of parole conditions. Table 69 shows that of those parolees who did not breach parole, 86 percent had no further convictions within five years of release.

TABLE 69: TYPE OF BREACH

TYPE OF BREACH		DEGREE OF RECIDIVISM				ROW TOTAL
		NONE	MINOR	PRISON	VIOLENT	
CONVICTION	% (n)	0 (0)	43.8 (7)	25.0 (4)	31.3 (5)	15.8 (16)
CANCELLATION	% (n)	20.0 (1)	40.0 (2)	40.0 (2)	0 (0)	5.0 (5)
NO BREACH	% (n)	86.0 (49)	7.0 (4)	1.8 (1)	5.3 (3)	56.4 (57)
NOT APPLICABLE	% (n)	91.3 (21)	4.3 (1)	0 (0)	4.3 (1)	22.8 (23)
COLUMN TOTAL	% (n)	70.3 (71)	13.9 (14)	6.9 (7)	8.9 (9)	100.0 (101)

4. SUMMARY AND COMMENTS

Social and criminal background information was collected relating to 105 men released from prison or youth training centre between 1969 to 1974 inclusive after serving sentences for murder, attempted murder and manslaughter. As far as possible the sample included all men in Victoria who were released during this period after serving sentences for homicide, including those who had been given sentences of indeterminate length subject to the Governor's Pleasure.

The results of the study have provided a detailed data base relating to the characteristics of men sentenced for homicide, the types and patterns of convictions following release, and the extent to which a wide range of personal, social and criminal characteristics were predictive of further violent and non-violent offences.

In this summary are discussed some of the main findings concerning: (1) the number and pattern of convictions following release of the homicide group compared with other groups of violent offenders, and (2) the characteristics which differentiate between the recidivists and non-recidivists.

4.1 Number and Pattern of Convictions Following Release

The most striking feature about men released after serving sentences for homicide is that they have a much lower rate of recidivism both for violent and non-violent offences compared with those who had served sentences for other violent crimes. In the period following release up to December 1978 just under 11 percent of the homicide group were convicted of further violent offences. This compares with an average of 29 percent for the other groups of violent offenders studied. Twenty-seven percent were convicted of non-violent offences following release, compared with an average of 59 percent for the other groups of violent offenders.

The most common violent offence following release was assault, with 7 percent being convicted of this. One person was convicted of a further homicide, one of rape and one of robbery. Of the non-

violent offences property offences, such as receiving and burglary, and driving offences were the most common.

The overall rate of conviction was at a maximum between the first and second years following release and by the fifth year had dropped to very low levels. For violent offences, the rate of recidivism was at a maximum between the second and third years following release. But the numbers of violent offences are not large enough for reliable inferences to be made about the relative frequencies of violent offences following release. However, a very similar pattern of violent offences over time was observed for the rape group. The main difference being the much lower average rate for the homicide group.

A comparison of the characteristics of the men convicted of homicide with those convicted for the other forms of violent offence, provides the most likely explanation of the difference. The men convicted of homicide typically have fewer prior convictions, they are older at the time of their conviction and release, and more likely to be married with children. In addition they have longer sentences and parole periods and during parole they are subject to more intensive supervision. While in prison they are less likely to get into further trouble and have generally higher conduct ratings than the other groups of violent offenders.

It is quite likely that the relatively long sentences, high level of supervision and especially careful screening prior to release contribute to the lower level of recidivism among the homicide group in general and those given indeterminate sentences in particular. However, it is unlikely that the length of sentence and degree of supervision are even the main factors in causing these groups to have a lower recidivism rate than the other groups of violent offenders. Since the homicide group typically score lower on the other factors predictive of recidivism, there can be little doubt that they had a lower initial predisposition for further violent and non-violent offences.

It is difficult to escape the conclusion that, from the point of view of protection of society, there is a disproportionate amount of

resources put into the homicide group, particularly those found to be insane, compared with those convicted of serious assault and other major violent offences.

A great many of those convicted of serious assault have sentences of under one year and the majority have no parole supervision whatsoever. Yet these men are far more dangerous than those released after serving sentences for homicide. While other factors need to be taken into account, to the extent that the intention is to protect society, it would be far more effective to give longer sentences to those people who had been convicted of serious assault particularly if they had prior convictions.

4.2 Comparison of Recidivists and Non-recidivists

Many of the factors which differentiate between recidivists and non-recidivists for the homicide group also differentiate for other groups of violent offenders. (See the other reports in this series on the three other groups of violent offenders). However, in most cases, the association tends to be much lower for the homicide group than for other groups of violent offenders, and in many cases it does not reach statistical significance.

Product moment correlations with the four indices of recidivism were calculated for a total of 65 variables, encompassing social and criminal background, as well as crime, sentence and parole characteristics. On a chance basis it would be expected that about three of the variables to be correlated at less than the .05 level of significance using the conservative one-tailed test. However, in the case of time before being convicted of a non-violent offence eight of the variables are correlated at beyond the .05 level. (For the robbery group the corresponding figure for time before being convicted of a non-violent offence is 34 significant correlations.) Ten of the variables are significantly correlated with time spent in prison following release as a result of further convictions; for time before being convicted of a violent offence the figure is eight, and for crime score the figure is only five.

There are several explanations for the finding that there are fewer significant predictors of recidivism for the homicide group, compared with other groups of violent offenders. The first is that the sample size of the homicide group is smaller than the robbery group, for example, and the smaller the sample size the larger the level of association required for statistical significance. However, not only are the number of significant associations lower, but the actual levels of association tend to be lower.

A major reason for the lower levels of association is simply that the rates of re-offence are much lower for the homicide group, and it is more difficult to predict rare events than relatively frequent events. A further reason involves the greater time lapse between the information being obtained and the commission of further offences, due to the longer average sentences served for homicide, and also the longer average time following release before committing an offence. With time people change, and hence the longer the period of time between the measurement of characteristic and the opportunity to commit an offence the lower the likely level of prediction.

In spite of generally lower levels of prediction there are some variables which bear a moderately strong association with re-offence among the homicide group. Of the background factors the one which most strongly predicts further violent offences is the number of siblings, especially the number of sisters. This also tends to be a predictor for the other groups of violent offenders. The reason for this is not certain, but it is possible that those who came from larger families were less likely to receive parental attention, and consequently were more likely to be more socially deprived and less socialised into societal values.

Prior work stability is also a predictor of further violent offences, but not, in the case of the homicide group, of further non-violent offences. This probably relates to the extent to which the person fitted into a normal societal framework prior to the conviction for homicide. It is noteworthy in this context that even though the convictions for homicide were during

a period of almost full employment, one-quarter of the offenders were unemployed at the time of their offence.

It has frequently been suggested that very few murderers have prior convictions. However, in the case of our group, 63 percent had one or more prior convictions. This is considerably lower than for the other groups of violent offenders.

In contrast to the other groups of violent offenders there is only a very low relationship between the number of prior convictions and level of recidivism, and there is no clear relationship between the amount of time spent in prison prior to homicide and reconviction following release. However, those who had been given prior probation orders were much more likely to be reconvicted, and if they had been sentenced to youth training centre prior to their offence they were far more likely to be convicted of further violent offences. Those who had been made wards of state prior to the homicide were more likely to be convicted of further violent offences, but were not more likely to be convicted of serious or violent offences.

The predictions of parole success or failure prior to release by both the prison governors and the interviewing parole officers do not have a very high correlation with recidivism. However, there is evidence that failure to report regularly on parole is related to re-offence. It would appear that for the homicide group, as for the other groups, parole officers should treat lack of co-operativeness and regularity of attendance on parole very seriously.

Within the homicide group the sub-group with the lowest identifiable rate of reconviction are those who were given indeterminate sentences. This group had been found to be insane and were detained subject to the "Governor's Pleasure". Out of 20 men who were released on special supervision following indeterminate sentences, none were reconvicted of violent offences.

The average length of custody of those who were given indeterminate sentences for homicide was eight years and one month. This compares with an overall average of five years and one month for the homicide group as a whole. In terms of the need to protect society from further offences, those who were given indeterminate sentences are clearly unduly penalised compared with other offenders.

VIOLENT OFFENDERS RECIDIVISM STUDY

Summary of Information Coded

Date* of birth.
 Country or State of Birth.
 Race.
 Number of aliases.
 Age left school.
 Grade reached at school.
 Occupational status.
 Stability of work experience prior to offence.
 Length of employment (at the time of the offence).
 Number of sisters (at the time of the offence).
 Number of brothers (" ").
 Marital status of parents (at the time of the offence).
 Prior mental history.
 Violent offender type.
 Intelligence or mental disability (at the time of the offence).
 Physical handicaps (at the time of the offence).
 Home status (at the time of the offence).
 Area of residence (at the time of the offence).
 Marital status (" ").
 Number of children (" ").
 Date of conviction for criterion offence.
 Type of sentence (e.g. YTC or prison).
 Maximum length of sentence.
 Minimum sentence.
 Prison security rating.
 Institution in which most of sentence served.
 Institution in which last part of sentence served.
 Conduct ratings in prison.
 Remission.
 Time discharge postponed.
 Time in H-Division (high security/punishment division).
 Parole decision (length of deferral or denial).
 Special conditions on parole order.
 Governor's or superintendent's estimate of prisoner's prognosis
 on release (for YTC or maximum/minimum sentence cases).
 Parole officer's estimate of prognosis.
 Number of victims of criterion offence.
 Sex of victims.
 Relationship of most seriously injured victim to offender.
 Instrument used to cause injury.
 Degree of injury.
 Number of accomplices.
 Degree of premeditation.
 Motive.
 Influence of alcohol and drugs.
 Domestic situation upon release.
 Job obtained on release.
 Stability of work during parole.
 Parole reporting prior to any breach.
 Date of release (for criterion offence).
 Date of expiry of parole term.
 Date of any parole breach.

* Year and nearest month only are coded for all dates.

Type of breach.
 Previous ward.
 Number of prior convictions.
 Number of prior probation.
 Number of prior probation breach.
 Number of prior YTC sentences.
 Number of prior prison sentences.
 Age at first conviction.
 Total time in prison or YTC prior to conviction for criterion offence.
 Number of prior paroles.
 Number of prior parole breach.
 Escape history.
 Number of prior homicides.
 Number of prior assault.
 Number of prior rape or attempted rapes.
 Number of prior buggery or attempted.
 Number of prior other sexual offence.
 Number of prior robberies.
 Number of prior breaking offence.
 Number of prior larceny and illegal use.
 Number of prior fraud or receiving.
 Number of prior drink offences.
 Number of prior motoring offences.
 Number of prior other serious offences.
 Date of last conviction before criterion and type of 3 most serious offences committed then.
 Time spent in prison following last prior conviction.
 Date of 2nd last conviction before criterion and type of 3 most serious offences committed then.
 Time spent in prison following 2nd last prior conviction.
 Number of offences committed at time of criterion.
 Amount stolen during criterion offence.
 Type of 3 most serious offence at time of criterion conviction.
 Two most serious offences committed during prison sentence for criterion conviction.
 Date of first conviction following release, type of 3 most serious offences committed then and time spent in prison.
 Date of 2nd conviction following release, type of 3 most serious offences committed then and time spent in prison.
 Date of 3rd conviction following release, type of 3 most serious offences committed then and time spent in prison.
 Total number of other convictions, and total other time spent in prison following release for criterion offence.
 Date of other most serious offence following release and type of 3 most serious offences then.
 Date of 1st prosecution following release not resulting in any prosecution, type of 2 most serious alleged offences.

TABLE II
CONVICTION RATES OVER FIVE YEARS FOLLOWING
RELEASE BY TYPE OF CRIME

TYPE OF OFFENCE		PERIOD FOLLOWING RELEASE					TOTAL OFFENDERS	TOTAL OFFENCES
		1YR	1-2YRS	2-3YRS	3-4YRS	4-5YRS		
HOMICIDE	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	1.0 (1)
ASSAULT	% (n)	0 (0)	2.9 (3)	1.9 (2)	1.9 (2)	0 (0)	6.8 (7)	9.7 (10)
RAPE	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	1.9 (2)
OTHER SEX	% (n)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	1.9 (2)	5.8 (6)
ROBBERY	% (n)	1.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	1.0 (1)
BURGLARY OR THEFT	% (n)	4.9 (5)	1.0 (1)	1.0 (1)	3.9 (4)	1.0 (1)	8.7 (9)	19.4 (20)
OTHER PROPERTY	% (n)	4.9 (5)	2.9 (3)	0 (0)	3.9 (4)	1.9 (2)	12.6 (13)	13.6 (14)
DRINK OR DRUGS	% (n)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	1.9 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.9 (2)	2.9 (3)
DRIVING	% (n)	1.9 (2)	2.9 (3)	3.9 (4)	1.9 (2)	1.0 (1)	10.7 (11)	21.4 (22)
ESCAPE	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
OTHER SERIOUS	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.0 (1)	1.9 (2)
OTHER	% (n)	0 (0)	3.9 (4)	3.9 (4)	1.9 (2)	0 (0)	7.8 (8)	10.7 (11)
DIED	% (n)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1.9 (2)	1.9 (2)	0 (0)	3.9 (4)	3.9 (4)
LEFT STATE OR COUNTRY	% (n)	3.9 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.9 (4)	3.9 (4)

APPENDIX III

INDICES OF RECIDIVISM

To capture different notions of recidivism, and to partly compensate for different errors of measurement, it is desirable to use several indices of recidivism. By comparing the correlations between different indices of recidivism the extent to which they are measuring similar underlying constructs can be estimated.

Eight indices of recidivism were calculated in the present study and are defined below:-

1. CRIME SCORE - a measure of the total number of recorded convictions following release with each conviction weighted by the seriousness of offence as estimated by the modified Normandeau Crime Index described in Appendix IV;
2. TIME TO VIOLENT - the time up to a maximum of five years following release before a recorded conviction for a violent offence;
3. TIME TO NON-VIOLENT - the time up to a maximum of five years following release before a recorded conviction for a non-violent offence;
4. TIME TO PRISON - time up to a maximum of five years following release before being sent to prison;
5. TIME IN PRISON - the total recorded time spent in custody under sentence in the five years following release;
6. NUMBER OF VIOLENT - total number of convictions following release which were coded as violent;

7. NUMBER OF NON-VIOLENT - total number of convictions following release which were coded as non-violent;
8. TOTAL NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS - total number of recorded convictions following release.

The intercorrelations between these indices of recidivism are given in Table III for the homicide group, and are based on a sample size of 103.

TABLE III
 INTER-CORRELATIONS BETWEEN EIGHT INDICES OF RECIDIVISM

INDEX	CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME TO PRISON	TIME IN PRISON	NUMBER OF VIOLENT	NUMBER OF NON-VIOLENT
TOTAL NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS	.64	-.38	-.71	-.54	.26	.94	.92
NUMBER OF NON-VIOLENT	.51	-.26	-.69	-.47	.15	.73	-
NUMBER OF VIOLENT	.77	-.66	-.28	-.53	.60	-	-
TIME IN PRISON	.70	-.73	-.28	-.69	-	-	-
TIME TO PRISON	-.67	.56	.61	-	-	-	-
TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	-.54	.31	-	-	-	-	-
TIME TO VIOLENT	-.69	-	-	-	-	-	-

APPENDIX IV

THE MODIFIED NORMANDEAU CRIME INDEX

It is useful to have an index of amount of criminal activity which takes into account both the number of offences and their relative seriousness. One attempt to estimate the seriousness of crimes had been made by Normandeau¹, who had subjects in 11 countries rate their perceived seriousness of a variety of criminal acts. On the basis of results from an Australian sample he derived a Crime Index for Australia.

The Normandeau Crime Index does not cover all possible criminal acts. Also, in many cases there is not enough information present in criminal records to use the index in its original form. Consequently, to use the Crime Index on criminal record data it is necessary to make certain assumptions to fill the gaps.

Table IV below shows the modified crime scores used to code the recidivism data, and Table V shows the scores used to code the prior criminal records, which were coded using a simpler category system. The original Normandeau Crime Index and the rationale for the modifications used are presented in the first report in this series on Recidivism Among Robbers.

1. Normandeau, A. A crime index for England and 10 other countries. *The Criminologist*, 1970, 5(16), 63-71.

TABLE IV

MODIFICATION OF NORMANDEAU'S CRIME INDEX USED TO
SCORE OFFENCES FOLLOWING RELEASE

<u>Code</u>	<u>Offence</u>	<u>Score</u>
1	Murder	46
2	Manslaughter	46
3	Attempted murder	15
4	Serious assault	9
5	Other assault	5
6	Rape	16
7	Attempted rape	8
8	Buggery	8
9	Indecent assault, gross indecency	8
10	Carnal knowledge under 10 or under 16	8
11	Incest	14
12	Other sexual offences: (e.g. exposure)	4
13	Robbery with violence	14
14	Robbery, armed robbery, robbery in company	6
15	Attempted robbery	4
16	Burglary, breaking in	2
17	Theft, larceny, (except motor vehicles)	1
18	Theft, larceny or illegal use of motor vehicle	1
19	Fraud, embezzlement	1
20	(Wilful damage, arson) serious offences against property	2
21	Minor property offences: e.g. receiving	1
22	Drinking offences	1
23	Drink driving offences	1
24	Drug offences	1
25	Serious driving offences	2
26	Other driving offences	1
27	Firearm offences (excluding bombing and use of firearm to evade arrest)	1
28	Public nuisance offences	1
29	Escape, abscond	1
30	Minor offences and breaches of regulations	1
31	Breach of bond or probation	1
32	Breach of parole	1
33	Other serious offences: e.g. abduction, perjury	6
34	Other minor offences	1
35	Breaches of prison and YTC regulations	1

TABLE V

CRIME INDEX FOR PRIOR OFFENCES

<u>OFFENCE</u>	<u>CRIME SCORE</u>
Homicide	46
Assault	7
Rape or attempted rape	14
Buggery or attempted buggery	8
Other sexual offence	4
Robbery	6
Breaking offence	2
Larceny and illegal use	1
Fraud or receiving	1
Drink offences	1
Drug offences	1
Motoring offences	1
Other serious offences	6
Other convictions	1

APPENDIX V

CORRELATION ANALYSIS

The degree of linear relationship between the social and criminal background and recidivism is examined using Pearson product moment correlations.

For the correlation analysis the scores on the variables have to be interpretable along a scale from "high" to "low". Where necessary this was achieved by recoding, which is described in the text of the report. Those cases in which it is not appropriate to interpret the variables as ranging from high to low (e.g. for "motive") are excluded from the analysis.

The four indices of recidivism included in the correlation analysis are: (1) crime score, (2) time following release before being convicted of a violent offence, (3) time following release before being convicted of a non-violent offence, and (4) time spent in prison following release. These were chosen to include a wide range of aspects of recidivism, and are described in Appendix III. It is expected that for most purposes the crime score will be the most appropriate criterion measure of recidivism.

In the tables the correlation co-efficient is denoted by the symbol "r", and the number of cases on which it is based is denoted by the symbol "n". The statistical significance, which is denoted by the symbol "p", is based on a two-tailed Student's t-test.

The statistical significance refers to the likelihood that the correlation obtained would be in the same direction and have a magnitude greater than zero if we repeated the study on a different sample from the same population. In most cases the distribution of results in the present study is somewhat skewed. This can give rise to inaccuracies in the estimates of significance, although the errors are not usually great for large samples as in the present study. To allow for the problem of skewed distribution and because of the lack of clear direction hypotheses in some cases, the conservative two-tailed test, which gives lower significance levels, was used for all product moment correlations.

Usually researchers use the 5 percent level of significance as a criterion in concluding whether a variable is a valid predictor of recidivism. However, the level of correlation provides more useful information than the significance. The finding that a variable appears to have no association with recidivism can be of equal theoretical and practical importance to discovering a statistically significant relationship.

TABLE VI
 CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND FAMILY CHARACTERISTIC
 HOMICIDE GROUP

FAMILY CHARACTERISTIC		INDEX OF RECIDIVISM			
		CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON
NUMBER OF BROTHERS	r	-.01	-.14	-.05	-.04
	(n)	(93)	(91)	(91)	(93)
	p	-	-	-	-
NUMBER OF SISTERS	r	.09	-.31	-.07	.16
	(n)	(93)	(91)	(91)	(93)
	p	-	<.005	-	-
NUMBER OF SIBLINGS	r	.04	-.26	-.07	.07
	(n)	(93)	(91)	(91)	(93)
	p	-	<.05	-	-
NUMBER OF CHILDREN	r	-.17	.12	.17	-.09
	(n)	(98)	(96)	(96)	(98)
	p	<.1	-	<.1	-
MARITAL STATUS	r	.09	-.08	-.12	.03
	(n)	(98)	(96)	(96)	(98)
	p	-	-	-	-

TABLE VII
 CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND EDUCATION
 HOMICIDE GROUP

EDUCATION		INDEX OF RECIDIVISM			
		CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON
AGE LEFT SCHOOL	r	.10	-.11	-.19	.10
	(n)	(84)	(82)	(82)	(84)
	p	-	-	<.1	-
GRADE REACHED AT SCHOOL	r	.01	.00	.09	.04
	(n)	(80)	(79)	(79)	(80)
	p	-	-	-	-

TABLE VIII
CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND PRIOR WORK
HOMICIDE GROUP

ASPECT OF WORK		INDEX OF RECIDIVISM			
		CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON
OCCUPATIONAL STATUS	r	-.01	-.04	-.09	-.02
	(n)	(95)	(93)	(93)	(95)
	p	-	-	-	-
PRIOR WORK STABILITY	r	.24	-.32	-.03	.21
	(n)	(91)	(90)	(90)	(91)
	p	<.05	<.005	-	<.05
LENGTH OF PRIOR EMPLOYMENT	r	-.20	.24	.16	-.24
	(n)	(88)	(87)	(87)	(88)
	p	<.1	<.05	-	<.05

TABLE IX
CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD I
HOMICIDE GROUP

PRIOR RECORD	INDEX OF RECIDIVISM				
		CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON
PRIOR WARD	r	-.12	.03	.11	-.09
	(n)	(91)	(90)	(90)	(91)
	p	-	-	-	-
NUMBER OF PROBATIONS	r	.35	-.40	-.33	.33
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	<.001	<.001	<.001	<.001
NUMBER OF PROBATION BREACHES	r	.15	-.03	.28	-.16
	(n)	(27)	(27)	(27)	(27)
	p	-	-	-	-
NUMBER OF YOUTH TRAINING CENTRE SENTENCES	r	.09	-.27	-.07	.27
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	<.005	-	<.01
NUMBER OF PRISON SENTENCES	r	.15	-.12	-.04	.20
	(n)	(103)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	-	-	<.05
TOTAL TIME IN PRISON OR YOUTH TRAINING CENTRE	r	.08	-.08	.04	.12
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	-	-	-
NUMBER OF PAROLES	r	.02	-.08	-.10	.01
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	-	-	-
NUMBER OF PAROLE BREACHES	r	-.01	.00	.19	-.30
	(n)	(12)	(12)	(12)	(12)
	p	-	-	-	-

TABLE IX (Continued)
 CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD II
 HOMICIDE GROUP

PRIOR RECORD		INDEX OF RECIDIVISM			
		CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON
NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS	r	.11	-.14	-.09	.17
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	-	-	<.1
CONVICTION SCORE AT RELEASE	r	.13	-.15	-.07	.19
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	-	-	<.05
CRIME SCORE AT RELEASE	r	.12	-.12	-.11	.11
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	-	-	-
AGE ON FIRST CONVICTION	r	-.12	.16	.06	-.09
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	-	-	-
NUMBER OF ALIASES	r	.06	-.12	-.18	-.06
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	-	<.1	-
LENGTH OF PREVIOUS PRISON OR YTC SENTENCE	r	.03	-.09	-.12	.20
	(n)	(162)	(161)	(160)	(162)
	p	-	-	-	<.05
TIME OUTSIDE SINCE PREVIOUS SENTENCE	r	-.16	.06	.24	-.10
	(n)	(104)	(102)	(102)	(104)
	p	-	-	<.05	-

TABLE IX
CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD III
HOMICIDE GROUP

PRIOR OFFENCE	INDEX OF RECIDIVISM				
	CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON	
ASSAULT	r (n) p	.15 (105) -	-.13 (103) -	-.14 (103) -	.16 (105) <.1
RAPE	r (n) p	.04 (105) -	.04 (103) -	-.20 (103) <.05	-.04 (105) -
OTHER SEX	r (n) p	.13 (105) -	-.10 (103) -	-.09 (103) -	-.06 (105) -
ROBBERY	r (n) p	.07 (105) -	-.13 (103) -	-.22 (103) <.05	-.06 (105) -
BREAKING OFFENCE	r (n) p	.04 (105) -	-.14 (103) -	.04 (103) -	.17 (105) <.1
LARCENY OR ILLEGAL USE	r (n) p	.16 (105) -	-.08 (103) -	-.05 (103) -	.17 (105) <.1
FRAUD OR RECEIVING	r (n) p	.16 (105) -	-.07 (103) -	-.27 (103) <.01	.06 (105) -

TABLE IX (Continued)

CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD IV

HOMICIDE GROUP

PRIOR OFFENCE	INDEX OF RECIDIVISM				
	CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON	
DRINK	r (n) p	-.06 (105) -	.10 (103) -	-.14 (103) -	.09 (105) -
DRIVING	r (n) p	.12 (105) -	.00 (103) -	-.18 (103) < .1	.23 (105) < .05
OTHER SERIOUS	r (n) p	-.05 (105) -	.06 (103) -	-.05 (103) -	-.05 (105) -
ESCAPE HISTORY	r (n) p	.03 (105) -	.03 (103) -	.01 (103) -	.02 (105) -

TABLE X
CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND CRIME CHARACTERISTICS
HOMICIDE GROUP

CRIME CHARACTERISTICS		INDEX OF RECIDIVISM			
		CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON
NUMBER OF VICTIMS	r	-.09	.07	.12	-.06
	(n)	(98)	(96)	(96)	(98)
	p	-	-	-	-
CLOSENESS OF VICTIM	r	-.02	.01	.00	.00
	(n)	(97)	(96)	(96)	(97)
	p	-	-	-	-
DANGEROUSNESS OF INSTRUMENT	r	-.02	-.10	-.07	.03
	(n)	(92)	(90)	(90)	(92)
	p	-	-	-	-
DEGREE OF INJURY	r	-.14	.11	.02	-.10
	(n)	(97)	(95)	(95)	(97)
	p	-	-	-	-
NUMBER OF ACCOMPLICES	r	.00	-.07	.06	.00
	(n)	(98)	(96)	(96)	(98)
	p	-	-	-	-
DEGREE OF PREMEDITATION	r	-.02	-.02	-.04	-.06
	(n)	(98)	(96)	(96)	(98)
	p	-	-	-	-
ALCOHOL INVOLVED	r	.23	-.16	-.32	.21
	(n)	(97)	(96)	(96)	(97)
	p	<.05	-	<.001	<.05
AMOUNT OF MONEY TAKEN	r	-.04	.03	.05	-.03
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	-	-	-
NUMBER OF OFFENCES AT SAME TIME	r	-.05	.04	.06	-.04
	(n)	(105)	(103)	(103)	(105)
	p	-	-	-	-

TABLE XI
CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND SENTENCE CHARACTERISTICS
HOMICIDE GROUP

SENTENCE CHARACTERISTICS		INDEX OF RECIDIVISM			
		CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON
MAXIMUM SENTENCE	r	.00	.06	.02	.05
	(n)	(83)	(83)	(83)	(83)
	p	-	-	-	-
MINIMUM SENTENCE	r	.03	-.01	-.04	.09
	(n)	(80)	(80)	(80)	(80)
	p	-	-	-	-
TIME INSIDE DURING SENTENCE	r	-.05	.07	.05	.01
	(n)	(103)	(103)	(103)	(103)
	p	-	-	-	-
TYPE OF PRISON FOR MOST OF SENTENCE	r	.13	.03	-.24	-.02
	(n)	(95)	(93)	(93)	(93)
	p	-	-	<.05	-
TYPE OF PRISON FOR LAST PART OF SENTENCE	r	.08	.10	-.10	-.02
	(n)	(93)	(91)	(91)	(93)
	p	-	-	-	-
PRISON SECURITY RATING	r	-.02	-.13	.04	-.10
	(n)	(85)	(83)	(83)	(85)
	p	-	-	-	-
PRISON CONDUCT RATING	r	-.02	-.01	-.05	.04
	(n)	(86)	(85)	(85)	(86)
	p	-	-	-	-

TABLE XI (Continued)
 CORRELATIONS OF RECIDIVISM WITH SENTENCE CHARACTERISTICS
 HOMICIDE GROUP

SENTENCE CHARACTERISTICS	INDEX OF RECIDIVISM				
	CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON	
REMISSION	r	.07	-.03	-.03	.09
	(n)	(75)	(75)	(75)	(75)
	p	-	-	-	-
TIME DISCHARGE POSTPONED	r	.14	-.20	-.14	.19
	(n)	(76)	(76)	(76)	(76)
	p	-	<.1	-	-
TIME IN 'H' DIVISION	r	-.07	.05	-.05	-.06
	(n)	(84)	(82)	(82)	(84)
	p	-	-	-	-
AGE ON CRITERION CONVICTION	r	-.19	.15	.13	-.04
	(n)	(104)	(102)	(102)	(104)
	p	<.1	-	-	-
AGE ON RELEASE	r	-.20	.17	.14	-.03
	(n)	(102)	(102)	(102)	(102)
	p	<.05	<.1	-	-

TABLE XII
CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND PREDICTIONS
HOMICIDE GROUP

PREDICTION		INDEX OF RECIDIVISM			
		CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON
GOVERNORS' OR SUPERINTENDENTS'	r	-.19	.17	.13	-.24
	(n)	(76)	(75)	(75)	(76)
	p	< .1	-	-	< .05
PAROLE OFFICERS'	r	-.27	.25	.17	-.24
	(n)	(85)	(85)	(85)	(85)
	p	< .05	< .05	-	< .05



TABLE XIII
CORRELATIONS BETWEEN RECIDIVISM AND PAROLE CHARACTERISTICS
HOMICIDE GROUP

PAROLE CHARACTERISTICS		INDEX OF RECIDIVISM			
		CRIME SCORE	TIME TO VIOLENT	TIME TO NON-VIOLENT	TIME IN PRISON
DEFERRAL OF PAROLE	r	.05	-.35	-.19	.08
	(n)	(71)	(70)	(70)	(71)
	p	-	<.005	-	-
CONDITIONS ON PAROLE ORDER	r	-.01	.09	.01	-.05
	(n)	(91)	(90)	(90)	(91)
	p	-	-	-	-
LENGTH OF PAROLE	r	-.07	.15	.17	-.09
	(n)	(94)	(94)	(94)	(94)
	p	-	-	-	-
PAROLE REPORTING	r	-.15	.25	.43	-.15
	(n)	(87)	(85)	(85)	(87)
	p	-	<.05	<.001	-
JOB PLANS	r	-.10	.06	.13	-.05
	(n)	(93)	(92)	(92)	(93)
	p	-	-	-	-
WORK STABILITY	r	-.05	-.01	-.05	.00
	(n)	(82)	(81)	(81)	(82)
	p	-	-	-	-