



2016 California Probation Summary¹

Adult Probation

Adult probation serves a dual role of rehabilitating offenders, as well as holding them accountable and keep the community safe. With large policy shifts like SB678 and Realignment, county probation departments have grown their roles as well as their uptake of key strategies like risk assessment, graduated rewards and sanctions for violations, and development of evidence based programming.

Adult Supervised Population

As of June 30, 2016, there were **367,515** adults with supervision cases with California’s county probation departments, most whom were on formal probation, as opposed to realigned populations such as PRCS and Mandatory Supervision.² Since the sweeping changes of Realignment legislation in 2011, formal probationers

Population (as of June 30)	2014	2015	2016
Total-All Populations	419,221	387,059	367,515

continue to make up over 80 percent of the adult supervised population. On June 30, 2016, 85 percent of adults on supervision were on a formal probation grant, 11 percent were on PRCS, and four percent were on Mandatory Supervision (MS).³

The adult supervised population had a 5% decrease between 2015 and 2016. This reduction is attributed primarily to the decrease in formal felony probation cases under supervision due to Proposition 47, where felony probation cases were resentenced and either remained on misdemeanor probation or where terminated from probation⁴. Under Prop 47 in 2015, new cases for eligible crimes are now sentenced as misdemeanors rather than felonies, resulting in far fewer felony formal probation sentences granted.⁵

Who is being supervised?

Adult Supervision are broken out into four different types:

- Post release community supervision (PRCS): People under the supervision of probation after release from state prison
- Mandatory supervision (MS): People serving supervision part of split sentence for a crime under PC 1170h.
- Felony probation: People on a formal grant of probation where the most serious case is a felony

¹ Data used in this report is from the CPOC Annual Population Survey, a voluntary census of California’s probation department done in July of each year.

² CPOC uses a hierarchy of PRCS→Mandatory Supervision→Felony Probation→Misdemeanor Probation to count people with multiple grants of supervision. The is different than other counting rules so may result in slightly different totals than collection under SB678 or Department of Justice.

³ <http://www.cpoc.org/assets/Realignment/public%20safety%20realignment%20brief%201.pdf>

⁴ Report on the California Community Corrections Performance Incentives Act of 2009: Findings from the SB 678 Program (2016)

⁵ <http://www.lao.ca.gov/Reports/2016/3352/fiscal-impacts-prop47-021216.pdf>

- Misdemeanor probation: People on a formal grant of probation where the most serious case is a misdemeanor.

Following an increase from 2013 to 2014, the number of adult supervision new cases decreased nine percent from 2014 to 2015, driven largely by a 13 percent decrease in formal probation new cases during this time, with this trend continuing through June 2016 with another 9 percent decline. The trend in the total supervised population reflects a similar pattern as the new cases trend – a slight overall increase in 2014, driven by an increase in the Mandatory Supervision population, and an overall decrease in 2015 and 2016, driven by a large reduction in the formal probation population. Over these three years, the PRCS population has staying relatively stable, at around 40,000 people supervised.

Formal Probation

Population (as of June 30)	2014	2015	2016
Felony	315,951	281,097	268,071
Misdemeanors	54,910	55,929	47,305
Total-Probation	354,700	338,056	315,376

Statewide, as of June 30, 2016, probation departments supervised over five times more felony than misdemeanor cases. This is a trend worth watching in the coming years, as increased resources for misdemeanor

offenders resulting from Proposition 47 may alter the proportion of those on felony versus misdemeanor formal probation supervision.

Post Release Community Supervision

The PRCS population has remained relatively stable from 2014 to 2016. The combination of full implementation of realignment as well as the number of second strike releases from prison have caused the PRCS population

Population (as of June 30)	2014	2015	2016
Total-PRCS	40,778	39,905	40,120

total remain stable.

Mandatory Supervision Discussion

The Mandatory Supervision population has remained relatively stable since 2014, after large increases between 2013 and 2014. The continuing increase in Mandatory Supervision cases reflects counties' growing awareness of the efficacy of split sentencing and its value in ensuring that offenders receive services and supervision upon reentry into the community from a jail sentence. In fact, many of the state's counties used split sentencing less than 20% of the time. However, changes in legislation have now created the "presumption" of a sentence being split which will likely raise the percent as those sentenced to serve 1170h jail terms are released to mandatory supervision.

Population (as of June 30)	2014	2015	2016
Total-Mandatory Supervision	11,557	11,780	12,019

Juvenile Services and Institutions

Juveniles are referred to the probation department primarily from local law enforcement agency because they are believed to have committed a criminal offense that falls under Welfare and Institutions Code 602.

Depending on the type of offense, probation must refer the juvenile's case to the district attorney for the filing of WIC 602 petition or divert the juvenile from a court proceeding. Probation is involved with all youth going through the juvenile delinquency court and by statute is required to be present at all hearings. The primary function of the juvenile delinquency court is to balance the best interest of the minor and public safety.

Juvenile Probation Population

As of June 2016, there were approximately 35,081 youth at varying levels of the county probation system, down nearly 20% since 2014.

Population (as of June 30, 2015)	2014	2015	2016
Total-All Populations	45,890	39,853	35,081

All juvenile probation referrals decreased by 25 percent from 2014 to 2016, with each type of referral experiencing the same proportional decrease for felonies, misdemeanors and violations, but a 50% decline in referrals for infractions. The decline in juvenile referrals reflects an ongoing decrease in crime rates and juvenile arrests, which have fallen 54 percent from 2006 to 2015.

Supervision Types

Of the youth on probation, the majority are under court ordered supervision, with the rest under varying types of informal supervision. These types can be grouped as:

- *Wardship / Court Ordered Supervision under W&I 602 or 601*
 - *W&I 725(b)wardship probation;*
- *Non-wardship / Court Ordered Supervision under W&I 602 or 601*
 - *W&I 790- Deferred entry of judgement;*
 - *W&I 654.2- Court places minor on informal probation (probation without wardship or voluntary probation);*
 - *W&I 725(a)- 6 months non-wardship probation;*
- *Non-Court Order Supervision*
 - *W&I 654 diversion*
 - *Other*
 - *W&I 450- Non-minor dependent or adults that qualify to get foster care reimbursement;*

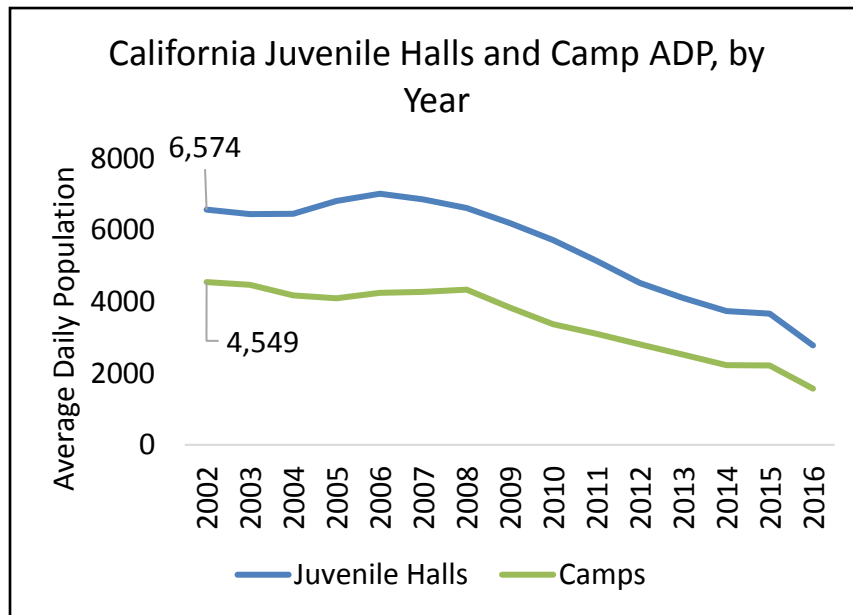
Over ten years, the juvenile population is down over 50% from 80,000 in 2007.

Wards under W&I 602 for felony and misdemeanor offenses have consistently been the largest proportion of those on juvenile supervision. On June 30, 2016, there were 27,300 wards under W&I 602 on formal probation, representing 71 percent of all supervised youth. The decline in wardship and non-wardship probation have been consistent over last few years. However, Non-Court ordered supervision has increased as more youth are diverted from the formal system, or still qualifying for probation foster care reimbursement,

Juvenile Institutions

Consistent with the declining population numbers across all probation populations, the average daily population in juvenile facilities and the number of new juvenile hall bookings have also decreased. The number of bookings into juvenile hall has decreased 9 percent in one year, from 46,723 in 2015 to 41,248 in 2016, reflecting the increased use of evidence based programs in many counties and use of prevention, diversion, and alternatives for juvenile offenders as well as the decrease in juvenile arrests.

As of June 30, 2016, the state held a total of 4,350 youth in juvenile halls and camps. Despite the decline in the number of juveniles supervised by probation departments, the number of juveniles that are receiving psychotropic medication and that have open juvenile mental health cases have both remained steady.



Therefore, over time the proportion of the juvenile institutional population that is receiving mental health services in custody has increased. This mirrors a similar trend in the state's adult jail and prison population and carries important implications for counties. Probation departments must monitor this trend and explore how to meet the increasing mental health needs of those they supervise and house in custody.