

Division of Criminal Justice Services
Probationers Under Supervision
Overview

General Description

In New York State, probation is a court-ordered sentence involving a period of community-based supervision imposed by a criminal or family court. In general, probationers are released in the community without serving a period of local incarceration. In certain circumstances, offenders may be sentenced to a split sentence where they are required to serve a short jail sentence plus a period of probation. The mandatory term of probation for a Class B misdemeanor conviction is one year, or two or three years for Unclassified and Class A misdemeanor convictions. A mandatory term of probation for a felony conviction is three, four, or five years for convictions other than Class A-II felonies (under PL 220), Class B felonies (under PL 220.48) or any other Class B felonies (under PL 220) committed by a second felony offender. In the case of sexual assaults, the mandatory terms of probation are doubled. New York City and the 57 counties outside of New York City operate probation departments. Oversight is provided by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives.

Data Collection Methodology

The Integrated Probation Registrant System (IPRS) maintained by the Division of Criminal Justice Services is the central repository for probation information in New York State. The IPRS database is updated by local probation departments and includes transactions related to new sentences to probation, address changes, transfers of supervision, violations, and case closings. Probation departments access IPRS through the eJusticeNY Integrated Justice Portal, a secure communications network for law enforcement. In some counties, IPRS is integrated with Caseload Explorer, a local case management system, which allows for automated data transfer and improves the accuracy and timeliness of information. IPRS is used by DCJS to produce statistics about probationers under supervision. The data presented represent the number of unique individuals on probation, not the number of probation sentences. Adults on probation are shown by the county where they are currently supervised; this information is reported to the state by county probation departments. Adult is defined as an individual who is 18 years old or older at the time of crime. Data presented prior to 2020 includes a small number of individuals who were 17 or younger at the time of the crime; these individuals had been considered adults prior to full implementation of the state's Raise the Age law. IPRS data is collected from the time of the probation sentence until discharge from probation. Counts do not include individuals on interim supervision.

Statistical and Analytic Issues

The dataset counts unique adult probationers. If an offender is under supervision for more than one conviction, only one case is reported. The Probationers Under Supervision file is updated annually as described on the OPEN DATA NY webpage. Contributing agencies are continuously updating and transmitting data; therefore, numbers may change over time.

Limitations of Data Use

This data set is limited to probationers sentenced in criminal court and supervised by the New York City Probation Department and the 57 county probation departments outside of New York City. The dataset includes probationers transferred to New York State probation who have a conviction from another state, for which conviction type is not available and included in the "Other/Unknown" category. Requests for additional information may be directed to DCJS or to local probation agencies.

Public access to this data is intended solely to allow the public convenient and immediate access to public information. While all attempts are made to provide accurate, current and reliable information, the Division of Criminal Justice Services recognizes the possibility of human and/or mechanical error and that information captured at a point in time may change over time.