



**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION**

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**FEMALE OFFENDERS PROGRAMS**  
**COMMUNITY PRISONER MOTHER PROGRAM**  
**AND FAMILY FOUNDATION PROGRAM**

**Office of Research**  
**Adult Research Branch**

**Sacramento, California**  
**Revised May 2008**



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Prepared by Adult Research Branch  
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**Objectives:** To report on the characteristics and outcomes of those females participating in the Family Foundations Program (FFP) and the Community Prisoner Mother Programs (CPMP).

**Methodology:** The information on program participants was obtained through data reported in the Offender Based Information System (OBIS). The study groups included in this report are those who were released from the two programs during the period of July 2002 through June 2006. The return-to-prison rate within one and two year of release to parole is measured.

**Study Limitations:** Since neither program currently collects data on program participants, the study is limited to the data reported in OBIS. For comparative purposes, a study control group cannot be constructed due to a lack of data in OBIS. Data on whether a female offender has children is not captured in OBIS, which prevents the construction of a control group of program eligible females.

**Findings:**

- Between July 2002 and June 2006 CPMP shows an increase in the number of participants released annually from 61 to 75. During the same time period, FFP increase from 49 to 57.
- The majority of participants from both programs are young females. Program participants average 30 years of age, the average age ranged between 29 and 31 years. This is about six years younger than the average age of the general female offender first released to parole during the same time period.
- The majority of participants from both programs are White. This is similar to the general female offender population who were first released to parole during the same time period.

- The chief commitment offenses among all program participants are property crimes (60 percent). CPMP program participants have experienced a decline in the percentage of offenses that are drug related from 44 percent to 35 percent between July 2002 and June 2006. However, over the same time period FFP participants have experienced an increase in the percentage of offenses that are drug related from 18 percent to 30 percent.
- The one-year follow-up recidivism rates of CPMP participants have ranged from a high of 25 percent to a low of 16 percent from July 2002 through June 2006. Over the same period, the one-year follow-up recidivism rates of FFP participants have ranged from a high of 16 percent to a low of 9 percent.

**Conclusion:**

Both programs reported a relatively low recidivism rate. However, because the recidivism rates could not be compared to a control group of female offenders, the low rate cannot be attributed to participation in the programs alone. Female offenders who met the eligibility requirements but did not participate in the programs could have comparatively low recidivism rates as well.

**Recommendations:**

- Comprehensive participant data should be collected.
- Both programs should be formally evaluated.

**FEMALE OFFENDER PROGRAMS  
COMMUNITY PRISONER MOTHER PROGRAM AND FAMILY FOUNDATIONS PROGRAM**

<b>Female Offender Programs Characteristics of Program Participants Released during 7/2002 through 6/2006</b>									
	<b>Community Prisoner Mother Program (CPMP)</b>				<b>Family Foundations Program (FFP)</b>				<b>Total</b>
<i>Release year</i>	<i>7/2002 - 6/2003</i>	<i>7/2003 - 6/2004</i>	<i>7/2004 - 6/2005</i>	<i>7/2005 - 6/2006</i>	<i>7/2002 - 6/2003</i>	<i>7/2003 - 6/2004</i>	<i>7/2004 - 6/2005</i>	<i>7/2005 - 6/2006</i>	
<b>Program Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>497</b>
<b>Age Group</b>									
19-23	8%	16%	13%	19%	20%	16%	19%	11%	15%
24-28	26%	28%	38%	24%	29%	44%	31%	49%	34%
29-33	34%	31%	17%	29%	31%	20%	33%	16%	26%
34-38	21%	18%	18%	19%	16%	11%	9%	16%	16%
39-47	10%	7%	15%	9%	4%	9%	7%	9%	10%
<b>Ethnicity</b>									
African American	25%	28%	28%	24%	29%	20%	15%	26%	24%
Hispanic	39%	18%	21%	31%	33%	29%	35%	39%	31%
White	34%	46%	49%	39%	31%	49%	46%	32%	41%
Other	2%	8%	3%	7%	8%	2%	4%	4%	5%
<b>Offense Category</b>									
Person	7%	5%	8%	9%	2%	0%	11%	4%	6%
Property	46%	50%	53%	53%	76%	71%	65%	63%	60%
Drug	44%	42%	32%	35%	18%	25%	20%	30%	31%
Other	3%	3%	7%	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%

<b>Recidivism Rates within One Year Follow-up Period Comparison of Female Offenders in Community Prisoner Mother Program and Family Foundations Program Released during 7/2002 through 6/2006</b>						
<b>Returns Within One Year</b>						
	<b>Community Prisoner Mother Program (CPMP)</b>			<b>Family Foundations Program (FFP)</b>		
<i>Release year</i>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<i>7/2002 - 6/2003</i>	61	10	16.39%	49	8	16.33%
<i>7/2003 - 6/2004</i>	74	14	18.92%	55	9	16.36%
<i>7/2004 - 6/2005</i>	72	18	25.00%	54	5	9.26%
<i>7/2005 - 6/2006</i>	75	18	24.00%	57	9	15.79%