



2017 California Probation Summary

Adult Probation

As a criminal justice sanction, adult probation is a tool that holds people convicted of crimes accountable and helps oversee their rehabilitation using evidence-based rehabilitation strategies that are proven to enhance public safety. The goal of probation is to prevent crime, reduce recidivism, restore victims and promote healthy families and communities. With large policy shifts such as SB 678 and the 2011 Public Safety Realignment, county probation departments have expanded their role in protecting public safety while simultaneously expanding key strategies such as risk/needs assessments, graduated rewards and sanctions, and development of evidence-based programming.

Adult Supervised Population

As of June 30, 2017, there were **355,666** adults with supervision cases with California’s county probation departments, most of whom were on formal probation, as opposed to realigned populations such as Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) and Mandatory Supervision. ¹ Since the sweeping changes of Realignment legislation in 2011, formal probationers continue to make up over 85 percent of the adult supervised population. On June 30, 2017, 86 percent of adults on supervision were on a formal probation grant, 10 percent were on PRCS, and four percent were on Mandatory Supervision (MS). ²

Population (as of June 30)	2015	2016	2017
Total-All Populations	388,626	367,515	355,666

The adult supervised population had a 5% decrease between 2016 and 2017. This reduction is attributed primarily to the continued decrease in formal felony probation cases under supervision due to Proposition 47, where felony probation cases were downgraded to misdemeanor probation or were terminated from probation ³. Starting 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. ⁴

¹ 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.

² Chief Probation Officers of California, Issue Brief: Public Safety Realignment, <http://www.cpoc.org/assets/Realignment/public%20safety%20realignment%20brief%201.pdf>

³ Report on the California Community Corrections Performance Incentives Act of 2009: Findings from the SB 678 Program (2016)

⁴ Legislative Analyst Office, Fiscal Impacts of Proposition 47, <http://www.lao.ca.gov/Reports/2016/3352/fiscal-impacts-prop47-021216.pdf>



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

Formal Probation

Statewide, as of June 30, 2017, probation departments supervised over four times more felony than misdemeanor cases on formal supervision.

Population (as of June 30)	2015	2016	2017
Felony	281,097	268,071	255,836
Misdemeanors	55,929	47,305	47,294
Total-Probation	337,026	315,376	303,130

Post Release Community Supervision

The PRCS population remained relatively largely unchanged from 2015 to 2017. The combination of full implementation of realignment as well as the number of second strike releases from prison have

Population (as of June 30)	2015	2016	2017
Total-PRCS	39,883	40,120	40,017

caused the PRCS population total to remain stable.

Mandatory Supervision

The Mandatory Supervision population has grown slightly since 2015. The continuing increase in Mandatory Supervision cases reflects counties' growing awareness of the efficacy of split sentencing and its value in ensuring offenders receive services and supervision upon reentry into the community

Population (as of June 30)	2015	2016	2017
Total-Mandatory Supervision	11,717	12,019	12,519

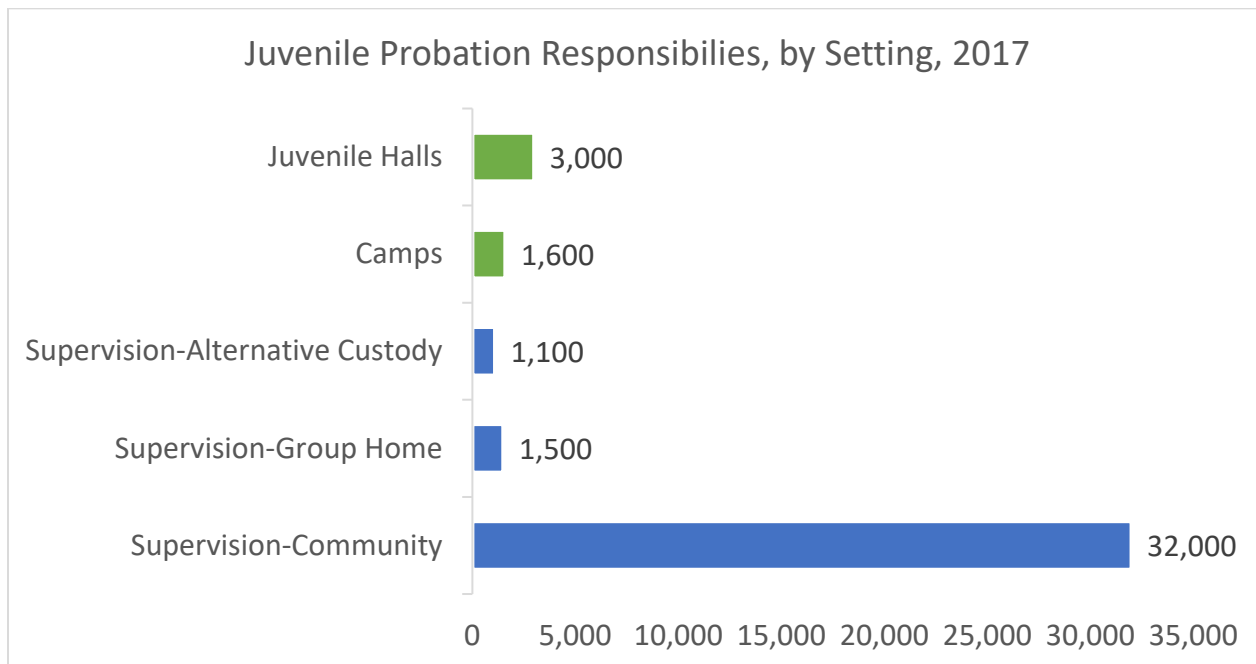
from a jail sentence.

Juvenile Services and Facilities

Over the last decade, California has seen tremendous change and success with how it approaches youth in the juvenile justice system. The passage of Juvenile Justice Realignment in 2007 gave Probation Departments the resources necessary to expand investments into local rehabilitation services for youth and greatly enhanced evidence-based practices. This had a significant impact and led to a precipitous decline in juvenile detention rates and juvenile arrest rates. It also gave Probation the opportunity to decrease reliance on institutions and greatly enhance assessments to determine who can be safely treated in the community.

Now, over 90% of youth in our justice system are safely treated in the community.

Youth are referred to Probation Departments in California for a variety of reasons and severity of risk factors. However, their initial referral is because they are alleged to have committed an offense. It is probation's duty to assess the youth's needs and make recommendations to the court. Probation may recommend to the court the youth be allowed to return home, placement in a foster care setting, or the youth be referred to a local or state commitment facility. Probation is involved with all youth going through juvenile delinquency court and by statute, is required to be present at all hearings. Often youth on probation are dealing with multiple challenges. Probation's role is to prevent entry into the adult system by reducing juvenile recidivism; to heal and reconnect families; and to respond to youth behavior with interventions that reduce re-offense and teach youth healthy and positive tools for dealing with adversity.



Juvenile Probation Population

As of June 2017, there were 30,659 youth at varying levels of the county probation system, down from 53,000 in 2013, or a decrease of 42 percent.

Population (as of June 30, 2015)	2015	2016	2017
Total-All Populations	39,853	35,101	30,659

Juvenile probation referrals decreased by 25 percent from 2015 to 2017, with each type of referral experiencing the same proportional decrease for felonies, misdemeanors and violations, but there was a 50 percent decline in referrals for infractions. The decline in juvenile referrals reflects an ongoing decrease in crime rates and juvenile arrests, which have fallen 73 percent since 2007.

Supervision Types

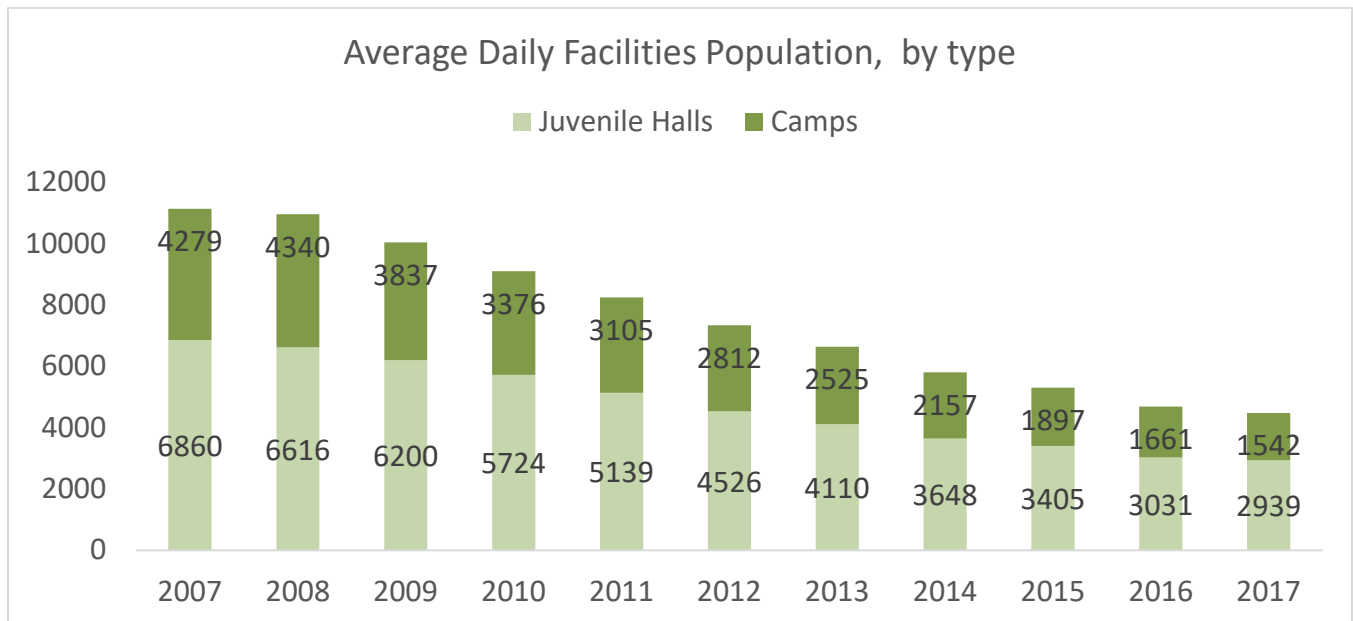
Of the youth on probation, the majority are under court ordered supervision, with the rest under varying types of informal supervision. These types can be grouped as:

- *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;*

Wards under W&I 602 for felony and misdemeanor offenses have consistently been the largest proportion of those on juvenile supervision. On June 30, 2017, there were 21,701 wards under W&I 602 on formal probation, representing 65 percent of all supervised youth. The decline in wardship and non-wardship probation have been consistent over the last few years.

Juvenile Facilities

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. As of June 30, 2017, there were a total of 4,481 youth in juvenile halls and camps. With 2,939 held in juvenile halls, the state's juvenile halls were at 35 percent of their combined capacity in 2017, similar to its capacity a year before. Similarly, juvenile camps, which held 1,542 on June 30, 2017, were at 37 percent of capacity compared to 38 percent a year prior. The number of bookings into juvenile hall has decreased 14 percent since 2015, from 46,723 in 2015 to 39,949 in 2017.



Conclusion

As a field of law enforcement, Probation in California is distinguished by its commitment to a research-based approach to public safety that promotes positive behavior change. California continues to see positive declines in juvenile arrest and detention rates, a strong indicator that the evidence-based strategies being undertaken by Probation Departments throughout the state are working. It would be in the interest of California to further enhance these strategies and investment in Probation to add additional programming for the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) population as well as re-purposing the juvenile infrastructure into more therapeutic settings that will further improve the outcomes for youth.