UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

THE TREND OF RECIDIVISM IN IOWA

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Final Year Project Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONS.) STATISTICS

FACULTY OF COMPUTER AND MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

JULY 2019

ABSTRACT

Recidivism can be defined as act repeating or return to the criminal behaviour by the same or different type of offense. A recidivist refers to a person that commits crimes again after being released from prison. The focus of this study is to examine the trend of recidivism in Iowa. This study aims to determine the common race that does recidivism, the average day for the criminal to commit crime again after release, and to find out whether all the recidivists do the same type of crimes for the first and second times. In addition, this study examined the relationship between age of release for the first time and number of days recidivists take to commit crime again. In this study, the researchers used descriptive, normality and non-parametric tests as the methodology. Descriptive statistics were used to determine the normality of distribution. This method was used to achieve the first, second and third objectives in this study. Next, normality and non-parametric tests were used to fulfil the last objective of the study. The study found that recidivism is commonly done by Blacks rather than Whites and most of the recidivists repeat the same crime again after being released from their first imprisonment within 13 months. Finally, there is a significant relationship between age of release for the first imprisonment and number of days recidivists take to commit crime again. For future studies, it is recommended for researchers to look into local data to better explain the trend of recidivism in the Malaysian context.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

"In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful"

Firstly, we are grateful to Allah S.W.T for giving us the strength to complete this project successfully. We wouldn't have done this research successfully without His guidance.

We would like to express our gratitude to our supervisor Madam Emmy Nurashikin Binti Ismail Hashim for guiding us and giving support to finish this project completely. Next, we would like to thank Mister Abdul Fattah bin Abd Ghani, APB lecturer that acted as our English language editor for this full report and also giving support towards the end of this study.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to lecturers that shared their knowledge with us in the process of completing this study especially in analysing the data. Last but not least, thank you also families and friends for their never-ending moral support all these years.

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