

Hypothesis:

Socioeconomic factors as well as prison conditions will positively correlate to recidivism.

Methods:

Factors will be evaluated such as education programs in prison and prison conditions that could have an effect on recidivism.

Rationale:

- Education programs “can translate into improvements in public safety and reintegration of former prisoners into the labor force, families, communities, schools, and religious organizations”
- A \$1 investment in prison education reduces incarceration costs by \$4 to \$5 during the first three years after an inmate’s release.
- Of the 168 graduates of the Bard Prison Initiative, an education program in Upstate New York, who were released from prison, the three-year recidivism rate is less than 1%.

References:

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Recidivism:

~The rate in which prisoners relapse into criminal behavior after previously spending time in jail.

Abstract:

Reason: America has the highest rate of crime and incarceration when compared to other countries. Problem: The high incarceration rates are large in part due to the high recidivism rates leading to a heavy economic burden on its citizens. Methods: Factors will be evaluated such as education programs in prison and prison conditions that could have an effect on recidivism. Hypothesis: Socioeconomic factors as well as prison conditions will positively correlate to recidivism. Implications: Determining important factors that cause recidivism could educate policy makers to reduce the factors which will ultimately reduce recidivism.

Data:

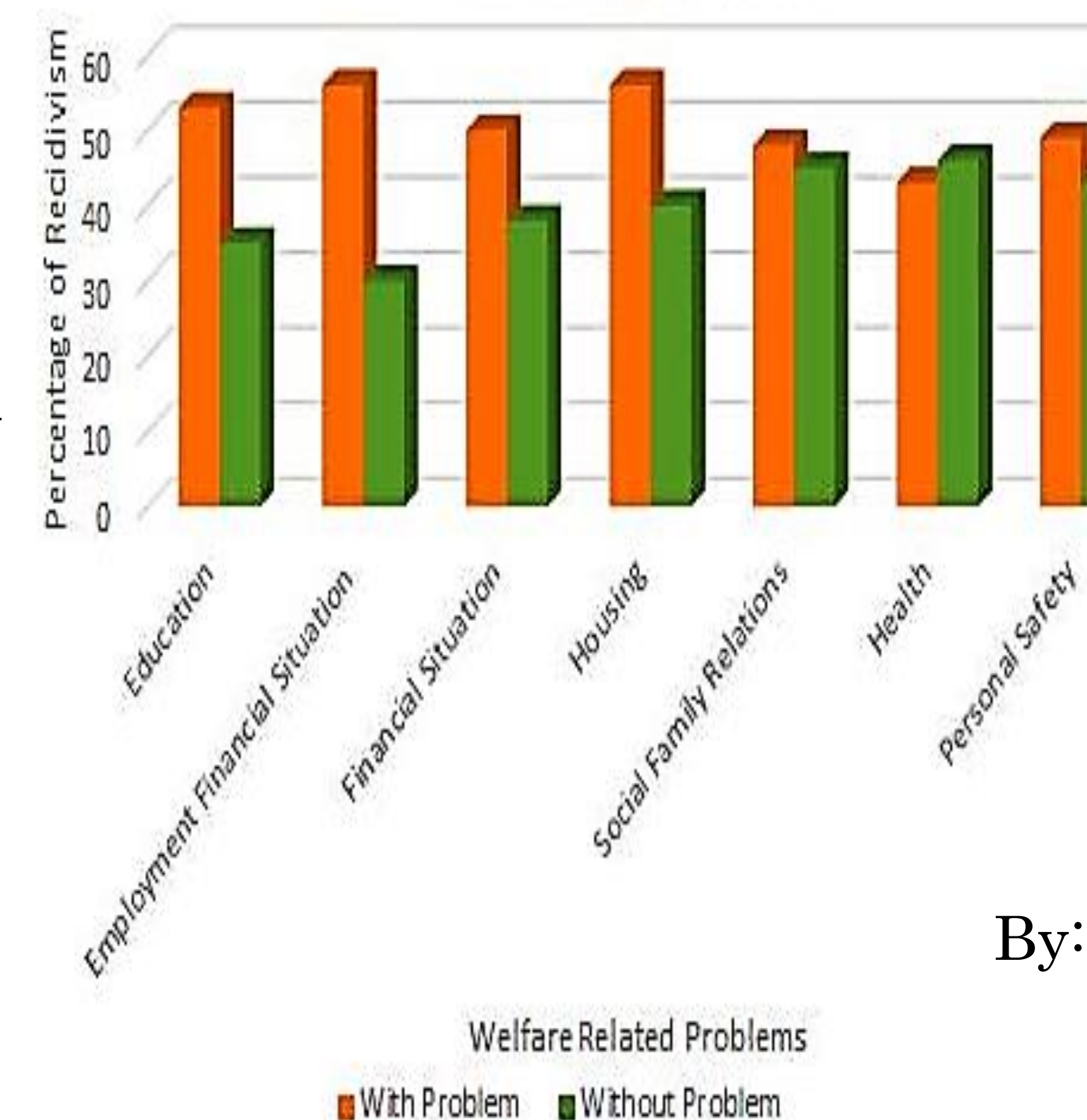
In 2002, there was a survey study in Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Texas, Utah and Virginia and the results of these surveys were that educational programs cut recidivism from 49% to 20%. In a 2009 report from the National Correctional Association, it says that prisoners who earn an Associate of Arts degree or an Associate of Science degree are 70% less likely to return to prison. The U.S. Department of Justice said that education programs are the best way to reduce recidivism.

Introduction:

Recidivism is the rate in which prisoners relapse into criminal behavior after previously spending time in jail. In criminal justice, this concept is measured in crime acts that result in rearrests, reconviction, or return to prison within three years of being released. In a country where there are so many widespread opportunities to progress in today's world it is a shame that it is the same country notorious for its incarceration rates. Over the past twenty-five years, Psychologists and Sociologists have focused on how factors ranging from gender and age, to location and crimes on a global level affect recidivism.



Recidivism Factors



Conclusion:

In conclusion, recidivism is at an all time high in the United States and it continues to increase. But with education programs, the United States can reduce the rate of recidivism. If the United States begins to invest more of their money in education programs for many prisons, there will be a decrease in recidivism nationwide. That will then lead to less unnecessary spending on prisons.

Impact of Prison Programs on the Rate of Recidivism



- Did not reoffend within a 3 year period
- Reoffended as predicted
- Increased the rate of crime after release from prison

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