

Factors Affecting Probationers and the Challenges in Following Probation Conditions

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THE PROBLEM AND ITS BACKGROUND

Introduction

The Probation System in the Philippines is an important component of the Criminal Justice System, providing qualified offenders with the opportunity to receive community-based rehabilitation rather than incarceration. Restorative Justice is the main principle of Probation, emphasizing reforming offenders through guidance, counseling, and community service rather than harsh punishment (Caparas, 2020). The Presidential Decree No. 968, or the “Adult Probation Law” of 1976, by the late President Ferdinand E. Marcos, aims to promote behavioral reform and reduce the commission of crimes through the individualized treatment, supervision, and rehabilitation of the Parole and Probation Administration. (Parole and Probation Administration [PPA], 2023).

The Parole and Probation Administration is the government agency that strives to strengthen community-based rehabilitation in the Philippines. However, several studies note that problems arise in meeting their probation conditions. De Guzman (2021) found in his studies that most probationers encounter economic difficulties that hinder them from traveling to probation offices and securing jobs. Also, in Del Rosario's (2020) study, it was found that distance and transportation costs affect probationers' compliance, particularly in rural and suburban areas. These local studies are consistent with international studies, where logistical barriers such as cost and accessibility heavily affect probationers' compliance with their monthly reporting. (Clark, 2021)

The Fourth District of Laguna, which comprises 23 municipalities, has varying socioeconomic conditions, accessibility problems, and limited community rehabilitation. The area includes semi-urban and rural municipalities where job opportunities and social services are not evenly distributed. Mendoza (2023) found in his studies that probationers in Laguna often defend informal labor, which increases their problems in not reporting regularly to their probation offices due to financial and time constraints caused by distance. Also, social stigma and lack of awareness of rehabilitation programs often lead communities to not support former offenders because they always think that once a person is jailed, they cannot be reformed anymore (Caparas, 2020).

This study aims to analyze the challenges faced by probationers in complying with probation conditions in the 4th District of Laguna. It seeks to provide evidence-based insights that will significantly improve the probation system, especially in areas like supervision, rehabilitation interventions, and community-based support. These improvements aim to reduce recidivism among probationers, not only in the 4th District of Laguna but across the entire county.

Background of the Study

The Probation System in the Philippines was institutionalized through the Presidential Decree of 968, as amended by the Adult Probation Law in 1976. It was made to provide a community-based treatment alternative to incarceration that focuses on rehabilitation, reintegration, and restorative justice for the clients. (Parole and Probation Administration [PPA], 2023). The Law seeks probation as a corrective mechanism that gives qualified offenders a second chance, not by imprisonment but through community-based supervision, while

subjecting them to court-imposed conditions designed to promote and improve their behavior and reintegration in the community.

Despite the legal and programmatic framework of the law, many probationers struggle to comply with their court-imposed conditions. Some studies suggest that compliance is affected not only by the quality of the program but also by individual factors. Economic hardships, such as unemployment and unstable livelihoods, consistently pose major problems, preventing probationers from traveling for reporting requirements, fulfilling civil liabilities, or participating in office interventions (Del Rosario, 2020; De Guzman, 2021).

For probationers' dependent on informal jobs or unstable incomes, the need to secure daily earnings and limited time are more pressing than fulfilling probation requirements (Mendoza, 2023). Lack of stable employment is a significant factor in non-compliance and recidivism, especially when support systems are absent (Clark, 2021).

The social factor had played a central role in the success or failure of one's probation journey. Strong family ties, community support, and access to social networks have been proven to increase a probationer's motivation and compliance capacity. (Dizon, 2019; Farrall, 2018). On the other hand, peer pressure from delinquent associates, family problems, and negative stigma from the community can ruin rehabilitation and obstruct access to formal and informal support systems. (Garcia & Santos, 2022) In the Philippines, stigma towards persons who have been incarcerated proves social exclusion, lower hiring opportunities, and the unwillingness of community organizations to take part in reintegration initiatives are some factors that heighten their sense of exclusion and weaken prospects for continued desistance. (Caparas, 2020).

The institutional constraints are also an important scope. Probation offices in the Philippines face an influx of court referrals, limited resources for rehabilitation programs, and logistical barriers in municipalities with distant communities and insufficient transportation links. (PPA, 2023. Furthermore, the accessibility of services such as substance use counseling, skills training, livelihood training, and mental health care often shapes whether probation obligations are practical and attainable; without available or affordable support, compliance becomes more punitive than corrective. (Del Rosario, 2020; Clark, 2021).

The Fourth District of Laguna reflects the combined impact of these challenges on a local scale. The municipalities ranging from semi-urban to rural demonstrate unequal availability of employment, transport systems, and support services, influencing probationers' compliance capacity (Mendoza, 2023). Those probationers who live far from the probation officer or rehabilitation center face a greater logistical and financial burden, and those with limited education or problems with substance use face additional problems in their participation in intervention programs (De Guzman, 2021). Studies on Filipino probationers highlighted that locally adapted programs, including community livelihood projects, active participation of volunteer probation assistants, and reinforced family support, increase probationers' adherence when accessible and ongoing. (Mendoza, 2023; Dizon, 2019).

With the multifactorial approach, identifying and understanding the relationships among personal factors, such as financial strain and substance use; social factors, like family support and stigma; and institutional factors, such as access to services and caseloads, are essential. Understanding these factors is key to creating effective, responsive supervision for probationers in the 4th District of Laguna.

Analyzing these factors can shape policies and practices, helping the Parole and Probation Administration and other local authorities develop strategies to overcome compliance barriers, support rehabilitation, and reduce recidivism. (Maruna, 2017; Phelps, 2019). Therefore, this study aims to investigate these factors to produce recommendations focused on the socio-economic and institutional realities of the Fourth District of Laguna.

Theoretical Framework

This study is based on two related criminological and sociological views: The Rehabilitation Theory and the Social Control Theory. These frameworks together explain how individual, family/community, and institutional factors affect a probationer's compliance with probation conditions. They also show how these elements work together to influence successful reintegration into the community.

Rehabilitation Theory

Rehabilitation is one part of modern correctional philosophy. It focuses on the idea that offenders can change if they have support, chances to learn new skills, and help with their behavior. The theory suggests that crime often comes from social or economic problems, mental health issues, or limited access to education and jobs (Cullen & Jonson, 2017). Because of this, correctional systems that use rehabilitation do more than punish. They help offenders become productive, law-abiding citizens through counseling, community service, therapeutic communities, and educational support.

Rehabilitation is considered the most compassionate and socially effective way to address criminal behavior globally. Rehabilitation programs that are customized to an offender's needs and risks, like the Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) model, can dramatically lower recidivism rates, claim Andrews and Bonta (2010). According to the model, correctional interventions should: (1) be tailored to the risk level of the offender; (2) address criminogenic needs, such as substance abuse or unemployment; and (3) be administered in a way that considers the individual's capacity and learning style.

In the Philippines, the Presidential Decree No. 968 or the "Adult Probation Law of 1976 was based on the idea of rehabilitation. The Parole and Probation Administration (PPA) emphasizes personalized treatment, recognizing that every probationer requires interventions tailored to their unique background, abilities, and needs (PPA, 2023). Caparas (2020) and De Guzman (2021) found that probationers who participate in structured rehabilitation programs, such as skills training, counseling, and community service, are much more likely to follow the rules and get along with others. Dizon (2019) also stresses the importance of psychosocial support and community involvement. He says that rehabilitation should not only focus on the individual, but also on family and local institutions that encourage good behavior.

However, the success of rehabilitation depends on the available resources and socioeconomic support. In the study of Del Rosario (2020), he noted that limited opportunities to livelihood and skills programs and the financial constraint obstruct the ability of the probationer to maintain monthly report compliance. These conditions hinder motivation for a sense of change. Thus, a comprehensive support system is needed for supervision. The rehabilitation theory provides that institutional and personal factors, such as counseling, education, and livelihood, can affect the probationer's adherence to his probation conditions.

Social Control Theory

Travis Hirschi's (1969) Social Control Theory supports the rehabilitative perspective by arguing that individuals will obey social norms and laws when they have established strong social bonds, including attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief. When the four factors that lead people to follow the law are weak or broken, they are more likely to act abnormally.

This theory analyzes the impact of social relationships and community integration on adherence within the probation system. Probationers who maintain robust familial relationships, stable employment, and supportive peer networks are more inclined to comply with probation conditions, resulting in heightened repercussions for reoffending and increased benefits from adhering to lawful behavior (Hirschi, 1969; Farrall, 2018). Conversely, individuals subjected to mistreatment by family, facing community stigma, or encountering challenges in securing employment frequently contravene regulations and exhibit a heightened propensity for recidivism (Garcia & Santos, 2022; Maruna, 2017).

Social Control Theory emphasizes that a probationer's success depends not only on himself but also on the support from his family and community. Farrall (2018) stated that "probationers who are following their conditions especially evading crimes often have stronger social ties," which means connections act as a reinforcement for lawful behavior. In Dizon's (2019) study, he found that in the Philippines, family support during probation improved accountability and self-regulation, reducing the likelihood of violating probation conditions.

Maruna (2017) further observed that reintegration becomes successful when the probationers rebuild their prosocial identity. This study aligns with Hirschi's principle that belief in societal norms is maintained through

social inclusion and participation. When communities label the probationer as “offender” and do not give them important roles in society, this becomes a reason the probationer's behavior becomes unlawful, and the risk increases.

Integration of Theories

These theories illustrate that probation success depends on the internal and external factors. In the 4th District of Laguna, the rehabilitation of probationers must coincide with strong family ties, community support, and accessible resources. Weakness in any of these, whether individual, family/community, or institutional/probation systems, may create problems with their compliance and the increase in violations.

This study combined these two theories to briefly explain how rehabilitation theory and social theory influence probationers' behavior. This framework guides the identification of factors that affect adherence, such as personal and environmental conditions, to the reintegration's result.

Conceptual Framework

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE

DEPENDENT VARIABLE

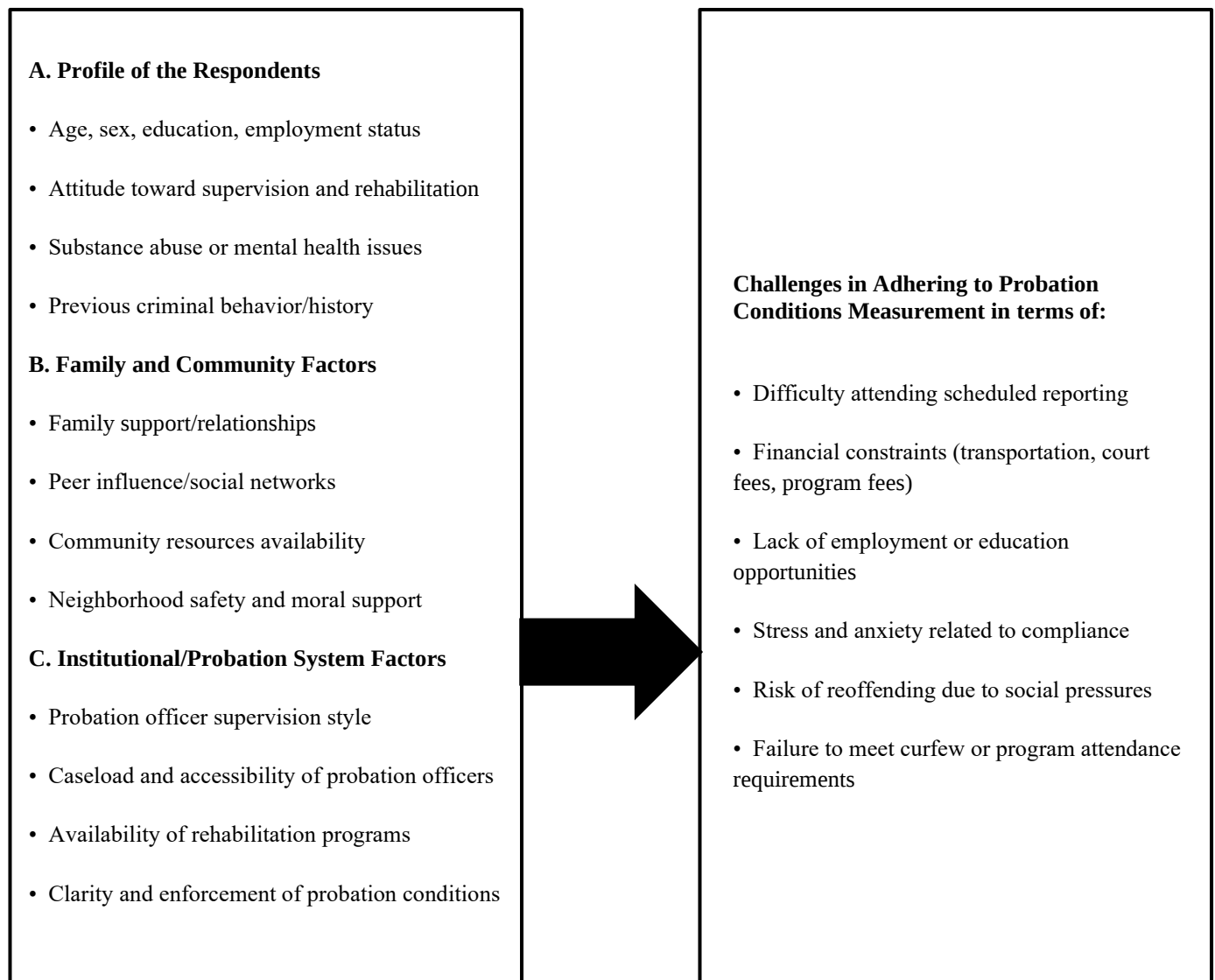


Figure 1 Research Paradigm of the Study

Figure 1 shows the conceptual flow of the study

This study is anchored on the interaction among the individual, family/community, and institutional/probation system factors that together affect the probationer's ability to comply with the probation conditions imposed on him. It acknowledges that a probationer's success in adhering to his probation requirements is not solely on him; his environment also influences it.

Statement of the Problem

This study sought to analyze the factors affecting probationers and the challenges in adhering to probation conditions in the 4th District of Laguna.

Specifically, it sought to answer the following questions:

1. What is the socio-demographic profile of the respondents in terms of:

1.1 Age

1.2 Sex

1.3 Educational Attainment and

1.4 Employment Status?

2. What are the individual factors affecting probationers in terms of:

2.1 Age, Sex, Educational attainment, and Employment status

2.2 Attitude toward supervision and rehabilitation

2.3 Substance abuse or mental health issues

2.4 Previous criminal behavior/history?

3. What family and community factors influence probationers' adherence to probation conditions as to:

3.1 Family support/relationships,

3.2 Peer influence/social networks,

3.3 Community resources availability,

3.4 Neighborhood safety and moral support?

4. What institutional/ Probation System factors affect probationers' compliance:

4.1 Probation officer supervision style,

4.2 Caseload and accessibility of probation officers,

4.3 Availability of rehabilitation programs,

4.4 Clarity and enforcement of probation conditions?

5. What challenges do probationers encounter in complying with probation conditions in terms of:

5.1 Difficulty attending scheduled reporting,

5.2 Financial constraints (transportation, court fees, program fees)

5.3 Lack of employment or education opportunities,

5.4 Stress and anxiety related to compliance,

5.5 Risk of reoffending due to social pressures,

5.6 Failure to meet curfew or program attendance requirements?

6. Is there a significant relationship between the identified individual factors, family and community factors and Institutional/ Probation System Factors and the challenges in adhering to Probation conditions?

Research Hypothesis

There is no significant relationship between the identified individual factors, family and community factors, and Institutional/ Probation System Factors, and the challenges in adhering to Probation conditions

Significance of the Study

This research sought to find whether there is a significant relationship between the identified individual factors, family and community factors, and Institutional/ Probation System Factors and the challenges in adhering to probation conditions.

Henceforth, it would be of great help to the following people:

Probationers: The main beneficiaries of this research are probationers, as this study directly examines the factors that affect their behavior and the difficulties they face in adhering to probation terms. This study may help make probation terms more realistic and achievable, reduce technical violations, and increase the success of the probationer's rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

Probation Officers: The Probation Officers will benefit from this study by gaining a better understanding of the root causes of probationers' nonadherence to probation terms. The results will assist PPOs in developing more tailored supervision strategies and approaches.

Family of Probationers: The families of the probationers will also benefit from this study, as they are also affected by the emotional, social, and financial costs of having a family member on probation. It will help promote the development of family-based interventions, counseling, and support programs that enhance the family's role in providing guidance and motivation.

Laguna Province Parole and Probation Office: The Laguna Province Parole and Probation Office can benefit from this study by using it to improve policies, guidelines, and rehabilitation programs. It can serve as an empirical basis for improving personnel training programs, supervision programs, and collaboration with agencies that provide employment, mental health, and social welfare services.

Judges: The study will serve as a guide for judges in deciding whether to issue an order against the offender. For them to also make a humane yet justifiable decision that will help the probationer with their rehabilitation in society.

Local Government Units (LGUs): The study will serve as important input for the Local Government Units (LGUs) in the 4th District of Laguna in designing and implementing community-based strategies for addressing issues related to probationers. The LGUs may utilize the results to design livelihood projects and employment opportunities for the benefit of the probationers. In addition, the LGUs may consider strengthening collaboration between the Parole and Probation Administration and local enterprises to provide more opportunities for the reintegration of these probationers into society without discrimination or prejudice.

Future Researchers: The study will help future researchers to have a better understanding of the subject and may also serve as a reference for them to fully understand the nature of second chances through probation.

Scope and Limitations

The study was confined to probationers supervised by the Parole and Probation Administration (PPA) in the 4th District of Laguna. The respondents were 200 probationers of District four (4) under the Laguna Province Probation and Parole Office in Santa Cruz, Laguna, who have been supervised for at least six (6) months, to ensure that the respondents have had enough experience to participate in the process of probation and are exposed to the challenges of compliance.

Focusing on the mentioned group, information about their experiences was gathered, especially regarding individual, family, community, and institutional factors that influence probationers' ability to comply with court-ordered conditions. These conditions include reporting, financial issues, lack of employment or education, stress and anxiety related to compliance, the risk of reoffending due to social pressures, and failure to meet curfew or program requirements.

Because of the nature of the study and the fact that the data came from self-reported answers from the probationers, there is room for response bias, especially with regard to compliance issues and drug abuse among other issues. This is because some of the answers were likely to be withheld due to fear of repercussions.

Definition of Terms

To clarify understanding and avoid misinterpretation in some parts of this research, the following terms were defined to ensure they were generally understood.

Case Management. The term refers to the systematic process PPOs use to evaluate a probationer's needs, design interventions, coordinate services, monitor progress, and evaluate outcomes throughout the probationary period.

Community Support. Community support refers to the assistance provided by local institutions, organizations, and groups, such as barangays, Non-Governmental Organizations, religious organizations, and social services. Community support may provide resources, employment, and acceptance.

Compliance. Compliance refers to the probationer's complete and consistent adherence to all court-imposed conditions of probation. Compliance indicates responsibility, a desire to change, and respect for the authority of the court and supervising officer.

Family Support. Family support refers to the emotional stimulation, financial support, guidance, and supervision extended by family members. High levels of family support can encourage probationers to comply with conditions and avoid recidivism.

Mental Health. Mental health refers to the probationer's psychological and emotional functioning, including his or her capacity to cope with stress, sustain interpersonal relationships, and make sound decisions. Poor mental health can impair compliance and rehabilitation.

Non-Compliance. Non-compliance refers to the probationer's failure to comply with one or more probation conditions. This could be due to intentional noncompliance, ignorance-based noncompliance, or circumstances such as financial difficulties, transportation unavailability, or personal issues. Non-compliance may be addressed through warnings, increased supervision, or probation revocation.

Probation and Parole Officer (PPO). A PPO is a government officer who supervises probationers and parolees. The officer's responsibilities include conducting assessments, writing reports, counseling clients, enforcing probation conditions, and referring clients to support services.

Probation. Probation refers to the legal disposition that is granted by the court to allow a convicted offender to remain in the community instead of serving a prison sentence, subject to certain terms and conditions. It is a form of correctional measure that focuses on supervision, guidance, and behavior modification rather than

punishment. Probation gives the offender a chance for reform while ensuring public safety through monitoring.

Probation Conditions. Probation conditions are the set of rules and regulations that a probationer is required to comply with as ordered by the court. These conditions include reporting to a supervising officer, having lawful employment, avoiding criminal behavior, participating in counseling or rehabilitation programs, adhering to curfew restrictions, and staying away from certain people or places. These conditions are designed to ensure that the probationer behaves in a manner that will not lead to reoffending.

Probationer. A probationer is a person who has been convicted of an offense and has been granted probation by the court. This person is allowed to live in the community under the supervision of a Parole and Probation Officer and must comply with all terms of the probation order.

Program Attendance. Program attendance is the probationer's participation in court-ordered programs such as counseling, therapy, education, or vocational training.

Protective Factors. Protective factors are positive factors that reduce the risk of reoffending and facilitate successful probation completion. These factors include positive family ties, stable employment, education, positive peer associations, and community support.

Recidivism. Recidivism is the act of reoffending or engaging in criminal behavior after having been previously punished or placed on probation. It is a common measure of the effectiveness of rehabilitation and supervision programs.

Rehabilitation. Rehabilitation is the process of helping probationers modify negative behaviors, attitudes, and habits and develop positive skills and values. It involves counseling, education, skills training, and other interventions to help individuals become responsible and productive members of society.

Reintegration. Reintegration is the process by which a probationer successfully returns to society and resumes family, social, and economic roles. It involves acceptance by the community, stable employment, and involvement in lawful and constructive activities.

Risk Factors. Risk factors are features or circumstances that raise the probability of non-compliance or reoffending. These may include substance abuse, unemployment, peer influence, lack of family support, or previous criminal record.

Socio-Economic Factors. Socio-economic factors are the social and economic circumstances that affect a probationer's life, including earning capacity, employment, education, housing, and access to resources. These factors can have a substantial impact on the capacity to comply with the terms of probation.

Stigma. Stigma refers to the negative labeling, discrimination, or social exclusion that probationers experience because of their criminal record. Stigma can affect employment, social acceptance, and self-esteem, hindering successful reintegration.

Substance Abuse. Substance abuse is the harmful or excessive use of drugs or alcohol that impacts a person's physical, mental, and social well-being. It can cloud judgment, increase the risk of criminal behavior, and impede compliance with probation terms.

Supervision. Supervision is the monitoring, direction, and assistance offered by Parole and Probation Officers to ensure compliance with the terms of probation. This involves reporting, home visits, counseling, and coordination with community resources.

Technical Violation. A technical violation occurs when a probationer violates a term of probation that does not include committing a new offense. This includes failing to report to a PPO, failing to appear at scheduled program sessions, or violating curfew. While not criminal, a technical violation can still lead to punishment or prosecution.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND STUDIES

RELATED LITERATURE

Probation

According to Johnson (2021), probation and parole are both alternatives to incarceration. However, probation occurs prior to and often instead of jail or prison time, while parole is an early release from prison. In both probation and parole, the party is supervised and expected to follow certain rules and guidelines. These guidelines are called conditions of parole, or probation conditions, and in both circumstances, the party is expected to submit to warrantless searches, without probable cause.

According to Kaebler and Alper (2020), probation is a court-ordered period of correctional supervision in the community, generally as an alternative to incarceration. In some cases, probation may be a combined sentence involving incarceration followed by a period of community supervision. Parole is a period of conditional supervised release in the community following a term in state or federal prison. Parolees include persons released through discretionary or mandatory supervised release from prison.

According to Campbellsville University (2020), probation and parole practitioners have already called for more action that ends the punitive aspects and promotes the supportive aspects of each method of supervision, as an opinion piece in USA Today summarized. There have been some early successes in the long road to probation and parole reform, but more is clearly needed. Greater awareness and advocacy can help probation and parole receive the attention necessary for real change.

As it has been established, the probation process has always been regarded as an effective method of rehabilitation rather than confinement. However, the success rate of such probation depends on how supervisory measures are applied. Given that access to rehabilitation resources, as well as economic possibilities, may vary considerably from one region to another, such as the 4th District of Laguna, the balance between supervision and rehabilitation might be difficult to achieve.

A. INDIVIDUAL FACTORS

Age, Gender, Education and Employment Status

All clients for CY 2024 were Filipinos. Of the 181,264 clients, probationers form the majority, were tallied at 171,013 or 94.34 percent overall. Pardonees comprised the smallest group, with 122 or 0.07 percent. The 10,129 parolees for 2024 formed 5.59 percent of the population. Across all types of clients, the largest number for each type came from the age bracket of 31 to 40 years old (53,548 or 29.54 percent overall). They composed 50,849 of the 171,013 probationers; 2,661 of the 10,129 parolees; and 38 of the 122 pardonees. This is followed by the 41 to 50 years old age group (44,741 or 24.68%) and the 21 to 30 years old age group (40,062 or 22.1%). (PPA, 2024)

Across all client types, the largest number for each was in the 31 to 40 years of age bracket. They composed 29.74 percent (or 45,143) of the 151,824 probationers; 25 percent (or 2,601) of the 10,402 parolees, and 30.72 percent for 511 of the 166 pardonees. Being the dominant bracket, this comprised 29.43 percent of the population of supervised clients, followed by the aged group of 41 to 50 years old (i.e., 24.68%) and the 21 to 30 years old group (i.e., 22.1%). A meager 1632 (i.e., 1%) were clients aged 20 and below. (PPA, 2023)

In the City of Cabanatuan, the probationers of the Parole and Probation Administration and any other probation offices indeed face various risk factors in their rehabilitation programs. The probationers were profiled by age, education, and employment. The study includes participants from various age groups, education levels, and employment statuses, helping us understand their different needs and challenges. Most probationers (147) are between 20 and 40 years old, likely in the middle of their working and family-raising years. The smaller group (composed of 93) is between 40 years old and above, which include those facing challenges such as age-related health problems or difficulty to land a job. (Ayeo-Eo and Jimmy, 2025)

This research conducted a rapid review of 50 articles on factors affecting probation revocation and ways to improve probation supervision. While findings were inconsistent, it was noted that there were consistent results showing that supervisory relationships and small caseloads, among others, improved probation outcomes. This was through developing a good working relationship between officers and clients where there existed mutual trust, respect, care, and understanding, as well as the use of cognitive behavioral programs. On the other hand, intense supervision, larger monetary sanctions, failure to pay fines, and clients' low educational levels were found to be associated with increased probation revocations. (Diaz et al., 2022)

In this case, the research assessed the efficacy of the Hidalgo County Emerging Adult Strategy (HCEAS) program through a randomized controlled trial. The aim was to examine whether the intervention could positively influence probation outcomes for emerging adults who had different developmental needs like impulsive behavior and lack of future orientation. The study demonstrated that the intervention strategy focusing on goal setting, rewards, identity, and relationships made substantial contributions toward increasing participant success in all areas of stability, with the exception of educational attainment. Furthermore, the number of negative events, such as arrests, motions to revoke, and probation appointments, decreased after the program was implemented. (Clark et al., 2023)

Despite extensive research on the impact of employment on offending and recidivism, little is known about how it influences the recidivism of Native Americans. In this study, we compare the likelihood of recidivism by race, examining the difference between Whites and Native Americans on Federal Probation in a Western state. Compared to Whites, Native Americans have a higher risk of recidivism and are less likely to be employed at the beginning of probation supervision. Ultimately, employment fully mediates the impact of race on recidivism. We discuss our findings within the broader context of systemic barriers to employment for Native Americans. (Tuttle et al., 2024)

They examined substance use patterns and treatment outcomes among 145 individuals under probation in Turkey, focusing on their sociodemographic, clinical, and criminal characteristics. Findings revealed that most participants were young, single males with low levels of education and income, and that marijuana was the most used substance, with a high prevalence of multiple substance use. Results also indicated that individuals with lower educational attainment were more likely to engage in criminal behavior and require extended treatment programs.

Both three-visit and six-visit monitoring programs were similarly effective, suggesting continued implementation of these interventions. The study emphasized the importance of early education on substance use, increased social awareness, and comprehensive psychiatric assessment—particularly for individuals with multiple substance use—to improve treatment outcomes and reduce recidivism (Sehlikoğlu et al., 2022).

Age, education, and employment status significantly influence a probationer's challenges, risks, and compliance with probation conditions. Younger and middle-aged adults often face difficulties related to work and family, while older individuals tend to have health and employment issues. To implement effective rehabilitation interventions, it is important to know the client's age. Although existing research unanimously indicates that age, educational attainment, and employment are key predictors of probation outcomes, these factors may have an even greater impact within the 4th District of Laguna because many probationers are engaged in informal or seasonal work. Economic limitations and lack of stable employment prospects may impede probationers' ability to report regularly and participate in various programs.

Attitude Toward Supervision and Rehabilitation

The Parole and Probation Administration's 2023 annual report provides an institutional view of supervision and rehabilitation in the Philippines, documenting the PPA's emphasis on community-based correction, individualized case management, and rehabilitative programming. The report frames supervision not merely as monitoring but as a platform for intervention in describing education, livelihood, and psychosocial services intended to increase client engagement and reduce recidivism.

Importantly for attitudes toward supervision, the report notes that probationers who receive clear expectations,

regular contact, and access to services tend to report more cooperative attitudes. This institutional perspective, therefore, links organizational capacity and program design directly to probationers' perceptions of supervision and their rehabilitation trajectories (Parole and Probation Administration, 2024).

The PPA's 2024 annual report updates program outcomes and highlights shifts in priorities toward strengthening aftercare and community partnerships. It underscores that continuity of care, especially post-program follow-up and linkages to livelihood and housing support substantially affects probationers' attitudes toward supervision: when supervision is perceived as a gateway to concrete reintegration support, probationers report greater trust and willingness to comply (Parole and Probation Administration, 2025).

According to Ausby (2021), the dissertation synthesizes theory and empirical research on the officer–client relationship and provides an instructive framework for understanding attitudes toward supervision. Ausby argues that supervisory style exists along a continuum from procedural/punitive to relational/rehabilitative, and that probationers' motivation, compliance, and self-reported rehabilitation progress are strongly correlated with perceptions of fairness, respect, and individualized support.

In the Philippine context, Ausby's framework helps explain findings that when officers adopt motivational, strengths-based approaches, probationers are likely to view supervision as supportive rather than punitive. A shift that corresponds to improved engagement with rehabilitation services and lower reoffending risk (Ausby, 2021).

In the study, lack of compliance with community supervision was determined through the examination of the experiences of 93 offenders in Scotland, who breached or were recalled for breaching conditions associated with community sentences and post-release conditions. The research developed a unified theory that identified three main determinants of lack of compliance as including motivational attitudes and belief structures of the offenders, the social structure and conditions in which they find themselves and which confine their choices, as well as the type of interactions they have with the relevant supervising authority (Weaver et al., 2021).

The research was based on data from the SVORI project, which included 781 participants, examining the connection between how community supervision officers treat individuals and probation outcomes. The analysis showed that subjects who felt respected, treated fairly, and justly by their officers were more likely to follow supervisory rules and had fewer violations. Therefore, the information above highlights the importance of respectful treatment in promoting law-abiding behavior, emphasizing that good relations between the supervision officer and the subject are crucial for successfully completing a probation term. (Buckner et al., 2023)

The longitudinal study using the Prison Project data examined how perceptions of procedural justice in the relationship between probation officers and clients influenced the likelihood of reoffending during a 12-month period. The findings show that probationers who felt their officers treated them fairly and justly were more likely to develop a stronger sense of duty to follow the law, which was associated with a lower risk of reoffending. This highlights the importance of how probation officers interact with their clients. The study emphasizes the value of restorative justice (RJ) as a paradigm shift within probation and social work in the criminal justice system.

Specifically, it outlines an intervention strategy that combines psychological counseling and social welfare practices, focusing on rehabilitation rather than punishment. The proposed approach includes three main stages: assessment and risk profile development, planning for psychosocial interventions, and the implementation of RJ through victim-offender mediations, community services, and ongoing monitoring. Despite ethical challenges related to these programs, there is a critical need for evidence-based rehabilitation models, especially given the limitations of current punitive supervision methods. (van Hall et al., 2024)

The study emphasizes the importance of restorative justice (RJ) as a paradigm shift in probation and social work within the criminal justice system. Specifically, it describes an intervention strategy that combines psychological counseling and social welfare practices, focusing on rehabilitation rather than punishment.

The proposed approach involves three main stages: assessment and risk profile development, planning for psychosocial interventions, and implementing RJ through victim-offender mediations, community services, and ongoing monitoring. Despite the ethical challenges related to implementing these programs, there is a significant need for evidence-based rehabilitation models instead of the current punitive supervision (Dana, 2025)

Attitude toward supervision and rehabilitation factors are closely interconnected. A positive attitude develops when probationers perceive supervision as helpful, respectful, and responsive to their needs, supported by adequate rehabilitation resources and challenged by systemic or socio-economic barriers. Since probation offices in the 4th District of Laguna may handle large caseloads, maintaining a positive supervision attitude can be quite challenging. In such cases, probationers' attitudes toward supervision will depend on various factors, including systemic issues.

Substance Abuse or Mental Health Issues

An estimated 2 million people are incarcerated in the US, with an estimated 10 million cycling through jails each year. For those who experience incarceration, the physical removal from the workforce, with increasingly lengthy placements in correctional facilities and lifelong criminal records, has been found to have direct impacts on both employment and health across the life course. The incarcerated population is majority low-income men of colour, a population already vulnerable to poor health and low employment rates. A less studied but comparably vulnerable and much larger criminal justice-involved population consists of those under community supervision. The emergence of mass incarceration in the US at the end of the 20th century coincided with what has come to be called 'mass supervision', 4.6 million people under correctional control in the community who will have lifetime public criminal records. (Morrison et. Al, 2021)

Individuals on probation who have mental illnesses face complex and interrelated challenges that increase barriers to accessing services, many of which create difficulties related to supervision compliance; these include housing instability, substance use, unemployment, trauma, comorbid physical health challenges, symptoms of mental illness, poor adherence to medication and treatment engagement, and eroding social support systems (Cuddeback et al., 2022)

The Biopsychosocial model sums up these theories into one: that addiction, being a medical condition, results from a complex interaction of biological, psychological, and social variables. The biopsychosocial model suggests that health and illness are determined by the interconnected, mutually influential biological, psychological, and social factors. The presence of criminogenic factors makes these dynamics even more challenging. (Libertad, 2025)

The research was carried out on the effects of mental health disorders and substance abuse problems on recidivism among 12,649 delinquent youths under probation based on data obtained from the JJ-TRIALS multi-site project. According to the research, youths with only mental health problems or substance abuse problems had a higher tendency of recidivism by 1.5 times compared to those who were not under probation.

However, those with both conditions experienced an even greater likelihood of recidivism (3.5). Moreover, they also re-offended earlier than those without any behavior-related health problems. The research also showed that intervention in such disorders through treatment minimized reoffending tendencies, especially for those with substance abuse and combined mental health problems; although the extent of efficacy differed with each type of behavior problem. (Stanley et al., 2025)

The analysis of the data collected through the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (2015-2021) was used to analyze substance use treatment patterns among those individuals under probation and parole by investigating sociodemographic, behavioral, and mental characteristics of the group under investigation. According to the results, few participants obtained treatment for alcohol and drugs in the last 12 months – only 15% and 16%, respectively.

It is important to note that many of these participants met the criteria for substance use disorder diagnoses, but still did not get any treatment. Racial differences were also evident since African American individuals obtained treatment for drugs less often than White individuals did. Therefore, it is possible to conclude that most individuals under probation and parole are males with poor socioeconomic conditions and behavioral problems; however, many of them cannot access adequate substance use treatment programs. (Hai et al., 2025)

The purpose of this research paper is to explore the link between the use of community behavioral health services and the risk of recidivism amongst 772 persons under probation who suffer from mental disorders and/or substance use problems. Based on the application of Cox proportional hazards models, the result of the research showed that the use of CBHS lowered the risk of re-arrest for individuals with mental disorders significantly, as the risk of recidivism decreased by 64%. No statistical association between CBHS utilization and the risk of re-arrest amongst substance abuse offenders was established (Jacobs, L. A., et al. 2022).

Health issues, both physical and mental, are important for understanding the challenges faced by probationers. Given the role of substance use and psychological problems as key barriers to probation adherence, there is an uneven distribution of services that assist in addressing these problems at the community level. In the 4th District of Laguna, the shortage of facilities that address such concerns, especially in rural communities, can pose a challenge to successful probation.

Previous Criminal Behavior/History

The Probation and Parole Administration's annual reporting emphasizes that a probationer's prior criminal record is regularly used in risk classification and case management. The PPA describes how prior offense type and recency shape supervision intensity, programming, and reintegration supports; individuals with repeated or violent prior offenses are routinely categorized as higher risk and receive closer supervision and targeted interventions, which influences both service allocation and recidivism monitoring. This operational stance shows that prior criminal behavior serves both as a predictor of reoffending risk and as a gatekeeper to the services probationers receive, shaping their rehabilitation trajectory in the community (Probation and Parole Administration, 2024).

Systematic reviews of recidivism internationally find that prior convictions are among the strongest and most consistent predictors of reconviction across countries and sentence types. There is evidence reported that the number and severity of prior offenses reliably predict short- and medium-term reconviction; risk increases with each prior conviction and with histories of violent or drug-related offending. While these global patterns do not replace local studies, they provide a theoretical and empirical foundation explaining why Philippine probation services and local researchers weigh previous criminal history heavily when estimating probationer risk, tailoring supervision, and prioritizing interventions (Yukhnenko et al., 2023).

The research sought to analyze the correlation between homelessness and recidivism among a total of 2,453 probationers, irrespective of their presence or absence of behavioral health disorders, employing the Incremental Propensity Score (IPS). The results indicate that homelessness declined by approximately 65%, resulting in a 9% reduction in arrest rates over one year; however, any minor reductions had no significant impact whatsoever. Although the findings were uniform across behavioral health groups, they were not significant in stratification analysis. (Jacobs et.al., 2023)

There was a significant correlation between prior criminal history and recidivism in the Commission study, with people having lower scores on their criminal history being less likely to be arrested again in comparison to people having higher scores. For example, Criminal History Category I offenders with zero criminal history points were less likely to be re-arrested (30.2%) than those with one criminal history point (46.9%). Furthermore, offenders who had never been involved in the criminal justice system before had lower recidivism levels (25.7%) than offenders who had been previously arrested (37.4%). Similarly, offenders whose previous crimes were not serious had a lower recidivism level (53.4%) than offenders whose previous crimes were more serious (approximately 70%). (United States Sentencing Commission, 2023)

Although a past criminal record is an indicator of recidivism and supervision outcomes, the influence of this risk factor should be considered in relation to offenders' socio-economic backgrounds. In particular, in Laguna's 4th District, lack of access to rehabilitation services, job prospects, and assistance programs can prevent the person from altering his/her behavior despite a strong determination to do so.

B. FAMILY AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Family Support/ Relationship

Probation programs typically provide individuals with structured environments that foster self-reflection and personal growth, helping them embrace life despite adversity. This is especially true for people who obtain support from their families and communities, since family connections serve as a key anchor during hard times (Johnson & Lee, 2022)

For many, this devotion arises from a realization of the need to repair connections with family and communities, which serves as a driving force for change (Thompson et al., 2022). Support Positive Peer Networks and Family Counseling: Facilitate access to positive peer groups and family counseling to strengthen social support networks and address relational issues that impact rehabilitation (Ayeo-Eo and Jimmy, 2025).

Social support can come from a variety of sources, including family members, friends, coworkers, and community organizations. The theory suggests that individuals who lack social support are more vulnerable to negative outcomes and may be more likely to engage in risky or harmful behaviors as a coping mechanism (Chouhy et al., 2020).

Family relationship information has been collected by HM Inspectorate of Probation (2021) for use in probation practice to demonstrate the significance of family bonds in preventing offenders from repeating their criminal behavior and achieving effective supervision outcomes. Family support provides evidence that relationships are an important basis for successful community reentry, as it helps prevent violations during the probation period. The main findings indicate that positive family relations inspire offenders to give up crime, comply with conditions set, and receive help from families in finding accommodation and work.

To develop clear processes for probationers regarding the integration process, Panesilvam et al. (2021) conducted a comprehensive analysis of family visitation and support structures and their effects on reintegration success rates. Focus on such factors as housing stability, employment, and recidivism rates in relation to the number of times family members visited the offenders and supported them are carefully analyzed in this study.

It show that families provide important assistance with respect to accommodation (72%), employment (58%), and the development of pro-social identities that prevent criminal reoccurrence, which indicates strong relationships between the number of visits from families and 35% reduction in recidivism rates; This review is based on evidence of how relationship networks become effective buffers to avoid problems like homelessness, unemployment, and social isolation that usually trigger probation violations.

In an analysis of the scholarly literature, Schaefer, Williams, and Ford (2021) examined the role of social networking as a protective or reoffense-prevention factor for parolees and probationers. Thus, the focus of the research was on understanding various forms of support provided by peers, partners, and families, as well as their influence on criminality and behavior compliance under community supervision.

The qualitative analysis conducted by the authors involved interviewing 15 parolees and probationers, and 16 of their close friends, known as "PoPPs" (parents, partners, and peers of probationers and parolees). The interview data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify patterns in the types and effects of social support. The findings revealed that while social support was usually effective and helped individuals comply with probation conditions, some kinds of support could unintentionally increase the chances of committing crimes. It is important to note the study's relevance to the current paper, as it highlights the ambiguous influence of peer and family social relationships.

Whereas family support is one of the key elements in ensuring successful reintegration, its success will depend largely on whether family members themselves possess socio-economic resources to provide such support. With many families in the 4th District of Laguna facing economic difficulties, it would appear that the family element of reintegration alone is insufficient.

Peer Influence/ Social network

Family members, friends, and even peers are essential when it comes to helping such offenders avoid relapsing into further crimes. It is the emotional, psychological, and practical support systems these networks provide that help address these problems during reintegration, and thus, these networks also help reduce the risk of relapse after completing probation. The resilience and determination demonstrated by the participants in this study highlight the human capacity for change and growth.

Many former probationers can transform their lives despite their significant hurdles, contributing positively to their communities. Factors that contributed to their successful reintegration include accepting responsibility for the past, a support system from family, friends, and peers, and becoming a better person with a purpose (Pendang & Nabe, 2024).

Social support is integral to reintegration, providing emotional, social, and financial assistance essential for navigating post-incarceration challenges. Effective support from family, peers, and community organizations reduces recidivism and enhances overall well-being (Russell, 2023; Fahmy, 2021). Programs emphasizing peer mentorship show promise in improving reintegration outcomes. Community organizations provide counseling, job training, and educational opportunities to address systemic barriers to reintegration (Christian, 2022).

Among the three groups assessed are family, friends, and community support groups; friends were rated the highest in providing empathy and understanding during struggles. This suggests that friendships play a pivotal role in offering emotional comfort during challenges (Matias, et.al., 2025).

According to Buck (2023), a critical review of the available literature indicates that peer support can enhance desistance by fostering empathy, hope, trust, positive role models, and referrals to other social support networks. From the critical review, the author identified a number of benefits experienced by offenders, including behavioral change, act desistance, personal development, improved psychological state, and improved quality of life. On the contrary, the literature review revealed inconsistency within some studies, and no effect of context has been found.

In their paper published in 2024, Fine et al., using the risk-need-responsivity paradigm and a quantitative methodology, explored the impact of familial, peer, and personal factors on success among youth on probation. Among other findings, the paper indicated that the higher the level of parental control and perceived procedural justice, the more likely it was that youth complied with conditions of their probation. Peer negative pressure was associated with greater involvement in deviant activities. In addition, the researchers observed that probationers experienced difficulties in the educational and occupational domains, largely determined by their social environment, leading to poor academic results and employment prospects. Positive expectations and social support networks positively contributed to compliance.

Although positive associations among peers lead to adherence and cessation of delinquent behaviors, the role of one's social network can be influenced by environmental factors in his or her community. For instance, in Laguna's 4th district, where a stigma against probationers may still persist, the individual may face social rejection, making him more susceptible to negative influences from his peers.

Community Resources Availability

The Parole and Probation Administration's Annual Report (CY, 2023) summarizes national-level community-based correction efforts, describing available community services (e.g., therapeutic groups, livelihood and skills training, community partnerships) and gaps that affect probation supervision and reintegration. The report highlights that the availability and geographic distribution of these services influence how effectively

probation officers can link clients to support (employment, counseling, community volunteers), and notes program expansion priorities showing that system-level resource availability directly shapes probationers' access to rehabilitative supports and the outcomes of community supervision (Probation and Parole Administration, 2024).

The APCCA/region-oriented review "Improving the Societal Reintegration of Offenders" (region-wide, includes Philippines examples) synthesizes evidence and program innovations (therapeutic community modalities, vocational training, digital tools for monitoring) aimed at strengthening community reintegration. It emphasizes that successful reintegration depends not only on individual motivation but also on the presence and quality of local community resources (APCCA, 2022).

A thematic review of recent Filipino studies and program evaluations identifies recurring barriers: patchy service coverage outside urban centers, limited livelihood placement options, and inconsistent community volunteer mobilization. The review emphasizes that community resource availability is a multidimensional construct (human services, economic opportunities, civic acceptance, physical accessibility) and that measuring this construct must consider both formal services (PPA programs, NGOs) and informal support (barangay-led initiatives, family networks) (Aranjuez, 2024).

The current dissertation focuses on the effects of social support and community-based programs on reducing recidivism among former inmates and identifies five types of social support: affirmation, networking, tangible, emotional, and informational. The research reveals that effective social support systems, including family, friends, peers, and community ties, play a crucial role in helping former prisoners reintegrate into society by ensuring access to fundamental resources such as housing, job opportunities, education, and counseling.

As evidenced by qualitative data collected from 13 ex-offenders, social support systems positively affect social integration, facilitate decision-making, and contribute to the development of reintegration strategies with minimal risk of relapse. Social support networks and community-based resources serve as protective factors that help offenders address issues related to stigmatization, unemployment, and the lack of necessities (Liggins, ____).

In another study, Lofstrom et al. (2022) explored the effects of the Pathways Home initiative, a collaboration PRCS strategy, on probation compliance and revocation of high-risk offenders. The authors adopted a quasi-experimental design to assess the intervention's outcomes among 261 high-risk male offenders discharged from California state prisons between 2018 and 2020, who were randomly assigned to either a conventional PRCS framework or the innovative Pathways Home framework. Notably, the new PRCS approach focused on early discharge planning, robust officer-offender relationships, and client engagement. The results indicated that the program improved probation compliance by 17 percentage points and reduced revocation cases by 14 percentage points after the first year of implementation.

In their study, Schaefer et al. (2022) investigated the effectiveness of strategies to reduce opportunities for probationers and parolees who commit DFV crimes, drawing on insights from environmental criminology. The purpose of this research was to demonstrate how environmental criminology can be used to reduce recidivism among individuals with a history of criminal activity and to teach them to recognize situations and crime opportunities. Using mixed methods, including quantitative analysis of an experimental trial conducted in Australia and thematic analysis of semi-structured interviews with participants, the authors established that the proposed intervention was effective in reducing recidivism among DFV perpetrators by 15.41%.

The presence of community-based interventions, such as peer-support groups and barangay-assisted programs, enhances accountability while also increasing a probationer's sense of belonging as a critical psychological factor in rehabilitation. While much is said about the role of readily available community resources in helping probationers comply with their obligations, inequalities in accessibility continue to pose problems. In the 4th District of Laguna, where the availability of livelihood projects, counseling centers, and other community initiatives might not be evenly distributed, probationers could very well have trouble accessing the required assistance.

Neighborhood safety and moral support

Emotional, instrumental, informational, and appraisal support from family, friends, neighbors, and community organizations plays a decisive role in a probationer's ability to desist from crime and successfully reintegrate. Reviews and conceptual papers argue that neighborhoods that provide both tangible help and moral support reduce stressors that otherwise push probationers back toward offending. In the Philippine context, authors synthesize evidence showing social support's links to reduced recidivism, improved mental health, and higher participation in rehabilitation programs and highlighting that moral support from neighbors acts as a protective factor when formal services are limited (Matias et al., 2025).

Theoretical and policy literature on community-based corrections (probation) stresses community acceptance and perceived neighborhood safety as necessary conditions for probation success. These works argue that when a community perceives the neighborhood as safe and when probationers feel they belong (reduced stigma, supportive neighbors), compliance with supervision improves because probationers can participate in livelihood activities and access local resources without fear or repeated harassment. Philippine reviews recommend strengthening neighborhood-level initiatives (Volunteer Probation Assistants, barangay awareness campaigns) to build a safety-support environment that buffers probationers from criminogenic pressures (Recla and Cuevas Jr., 2025).

In their qualitative study on the experiences of probationers enrolled in community rehabilitation services in Ozamiz City, Philippines, Paudac et al. (2024) used a phenomenological research design. The authors concluded that participation in such a program was beneficial for the development of self-control, self-growth, and community identity. Furthermore, the participants in the study stressed the importance of proper guidance by probation officers and of community service as a means of gaining support. From this, it can be seen that community engagement and moral and social support are key to the success of rehabilitation efforts.

The study on "Community-Based Treatment Programs Among Probationers in Davao City, Philippines" was conducted by Deligero and Nabe (2025). This qualitative study explored how community-based treatment programs assist in recovery and reintegration using a phenomenological approach with 13 probationers. It was revealed that probationers viewed their peers as both supervisors and mentors.

Further, probationers viewed these programs as important for developing morality, reconnecting socially, and improving personally. Financial problems, family obligations, and other inconveniences were considered factors that could sometimes interfere with joining the programs. To facilitate effective reintegration among probationers, the community needs to be supportive, provide moral guidance, and have accessible programs.

In Hawkins et al.'s umbrella review (2024), various systematic reviews and meta-analyses were examined to identify risk and protective factors associated with delinquent behavior among juveniles. The review revealed that risk factors, including drug use, offending behavior, weak parental supervision, childhood adversities, and peer pressure, predispose juveniles to delinquency, while protective factors, such as positive moral development and environmental support, mitigate against it.

By combining information from different studies, the review shows the considerable impact of social contexts in families, peers, and communities on criminal behavior. This research is important in this study because it emphasizes the role of social environmental factors, especially peer and familial pressures, in hindering or facilitating compliance with probation conditions.

Neighborhood safety and moral support are especially important because they directly influence a probationer's daily routine, mobility, and psychological well-being. A safe and accepting community reduces anxiety, increases feelings of belonging, and minimizes exposure to risky peers or hostile interactions that could trigger reoffending. Safe and supportive communities are essential for successful reintegration; stigma and limited community awareness may hinder probationers' acceptance in local settings. In the 4th District of Laguna, negative perceptions toward offenders may restrict participation in community activities and access to opportunities, thereby affecting compliance. This suggests that strengthening community acceptance and moral support systems is crucial in improving probation outcomes.

C. INSTITUTIONAL/PROBATION SYSTEM FACTOR

Probation officer supervision style

The nationwide status of probation and parole operations, highlighting caseload trends, service capacity, and institutional challenges. One of the most critical institutional factors discussed is the high officer-to-client ratio, where probation officers routinely handle more clients than the ideal supervision load. This situation influences the officer's supervision style, often shifting it toward administrative or compliance-focused supervision rather than therapeutic or rehabilitative approaches.

The report also identifies gaps in program delivery, limited field mobility, and resource deficits—factors that shape the quality and frequency of client monitoring. Field-level recommendations emphasize strengthening satellite reporting desks, enhancing coordination with LGUs, and improving PO visibility, which collectively influences how probation supervision is executed. (PPA, 2023)

The 2024 and 2025 annual reports build on prior findings by documenting continued increases in caseloads, especially after the decongestion initiatives and the expanded use of Community Service under RA 11362. These reports introduce innovations such as digital reporting mechanisms, online check-ins, and expanded engagement with Volunteer Probation Aides (VPAs).

These developments reflect institutional attempts to modify supervision styles from strictly face-to-face monitoring to a mixed-mode approach blending remote and direct supervision. The literature emphasizes that institutional decisions—such as resource budgets, technology adoption, and personnel deployment—directly affect how probation officers structure their interactions, frequency of contact, and case management strategies. (PPA, 2024)

The volume of caseload results in a disproportionate ratio of 1:330.59 for investigation cases, whereas the supervision ratio stands at 1:270.778. The combined investigation and supervision average caseload of every Parole and Probation Officer is 601.368. This computation is derived from the Profile of Clients 2020. This unprecedented increase negatively impacts the physical and mental health of Probation and Parole workers in addition to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. Insufficient number of personnel to effectively conduct investigation and supervision of offenders and the implementation of rehabilitation programmes for clients; and engagement of volunteers and community partners and resources (Magnaan, 2020).

To find out the causes of adult probation revocations, Diaz et al. (2022) conducted an overview. The findings indicate that strong, positive relations between officers and clients, a proper number of cases for each officer, and the availability of rehabilitation services are positively correlated with effective probation outcomes. However, the higher revocation rate was found to correlate with tight supervision, high fines, and certain demographic features. Thus, the paper shows that the role of probation officer supervision, characterized by confidence, compassion, and relationship-building, is crucial in reducing revocations.

The study conducted by Canton (2024) focused on the historical and conceptual links between social work and probation in England and Wales, proving that the dichotomy between these two disciplines was primarily political rather than theoretical yet had practical significance. According to this study, supplementing probation practice with concepts from social work, namely relational understanding and social contextualization, could increase its rehabilitative potential after careful analysis of its history, legislation, and disputes within this field. This research is particularly significant for studies on the style of probation supervision, given the emphasis on relational approaches.

In their study, Labrecque, Viglione, and Caudy (2022) investigated the effects of probation officer training on the effectiveness of community supervision programs. The aim was to determine whether the implementation of systematic training programs such as STARR, EPICS, and STICS enhances probation officers' interpersonal skills while reducing the risk of recidivism among clients.

They found that probation officers trained through these systems were able to apply rehabilitation measures, interact effectively with clients, and utilize behavioral modification strategies based on a systematic review and

meta-analysis of 25 empirical studies. In addition, it was found that recidivism rates were significantly reduced when these skills were appropriately used. This is because the research highlights how probation officer training and supervision affect probationers' performance.

The Pew Charitable Trusts (2023) examined how probation conditions affect those supervised in the community. According to the qualitative-descriptive analysis, while the purpose of probation is to support recovery, excessive probation conditions can be quite demanding. Reporting regularly, following curfew, and participating in programs are examples of probation conditions that often interfere with routine responsibilities and increase the likelihood of violations for individuals at higher risk. Obstacles to complying with probation conditions include, among others, budget constraints and a lack of services. All in all, when probationary situations are poorly designed, they may lead to failures rather than successes; hence, the importance of meaningful supervision criteria emerges.

The style of supervision carried out by probation officers has a profound effect on their compliance success rates. In particular, the transition from a purely punitive mode of supervision to a more rehabilitative, relationship-based approach has been shown to affect compliance. Nonetheless, in the case of Laguna, one must consider factors such as high case loads, a lack of human resources, and logistical constraints, which are common problems in Philippine communities. In some municipalities in the 4th District of Laguna, probation officers might have clients spread over large geographic areas, making regular contact less feasible. Therefore, supervision might become compliance-based despite intentions being otherwise.

Case load and accessibility of probation officers

Several factors should be measured in the reintegration program: the number of former offenders in the community sentencing programs, the accessibility of resources, and the number of parole and probation officers who supervise and evaluate the probationer's compliance with the program. As a result, more probationers had violated probation conditions and reintegrated into society than ever before. Thus, it was vital to identify effective offender reentry programs that led to successful reentry. (Bryant, 2022)

The positive results of therapeutic community treatment are linked to the implementation of restorative justice. To uphold the standards of restorative justice, guilty parties are required to compensate victims and provide community services to help restore the broken relationships caused by the harm to the involved parties. Intervention and conferencing are also used, in rare cases, to repair and restore clients' relationships with their victims and with the community. Given that client restoration occurs within the community, the use of therapeutic community treatment, combined with the principles of restorative justice, would be enhanced by the recruitment, training, and deployment of Volunteer Probation Associates (Chan, 2021).

There are three key subjects related to Parole and Probation Officers addressing criminogenic needs: (a) individual-centric variables, (b) organizational-centric variables, and (c) inherent-centric variables. This result demonstrates that, despite PPOs' efforts to address criminogenic needs, they tend to prioritize non-criminogenic needs or responsibility. The suggestions for social change from this study include community supervision agencies effectively implementing RNR to have a greater impact on reducing offenders' risk factors.

Also, PPOs and society may have an increase in understanding their effect on recidivism and people overcoming names that obstruct recovery endeavors. Future research should examine the perceptions of differing socioeconomies among probation and parole officers, correctional officers, and community partners to address criminogenic needs. (Stephenson, 2020)

Given that clients' rehabilitation occurs in the community, recruiting, training, and assigning Volunteer Probation Aides (VPAs) would further energize the therapeutic community treatment model in conjunction with restorative justice principles. The goal of the VPA program is to encourage as many citizens as possible to participate in the community-based probation and parole program. Since the VPA lives in the same community as the clients they oversee, they can apply the principles of restorative justice more deeply. As a result, volunteers can request assistance in meeting their clients' requirements and support field officers in monitoring parolees and probationers (Correction and Rehabilitation - Parole and Probation Administration, 2024).

Reports from field offices repeatedly note client barriers such as transportation costs and long travel distances to PPA offices that hinder timely reporting and program participation (PPA, 2023). Qualitative study of PPA officers that documents heavy caseloads, travel/resource constraints, and how long distances and limited field resources reduce officers' ability to reach supervisees, which in turn makes it harder for clients to comply (Fenellere et al., 2025).

Probationers report missing appointments or skipping program sessions because of the distance to offices, high fare costs, or inability to travel from remote barangays — directly linking office accessibility to non-compliance (Paudac, et.al, 2024).

Regarding the process of supervising probationers who have mental conditions, Terpstra and Mulvey (2021) carried out research concerning the perception of the role of mental health probation officers when exercising discretion. In other words, the main purpose of the research was to understand how officers responsible for mental health cases perceive their job and exercise discretion in their daily monitoring practice.

Using a qualitative methodological approach, Terpstra and Mulvey (2021) examined the narratives of 24 probation officers and supervisors in a large U.S. jurisdiction. In particular, the importance of discretion in supervision processes was demonstrated, as the findings showed that probation officers often strike a balance between enforcement measures and supportive and problem-solving approaches.

To examine variables related to adult probation revocation, Diaz et al. (2022) conducted a rapid review. The main objective of this study was to determine which types of supervision and conditions affect the probability of offenders completing probation and of having it revoked. Some earlier research on probation supervision, the process of interaction between probation officers and their clients, and supervision policies were analyzed within the framework of this research methodology. It was found out that even though strict supervision, imposing heavy sanctions in case of failure to pay the fines, led to probation revocation, having good relations with probationers, lower numbers of clients, and access to rehabilitative programs favored positive results in the probation process.

U.S. Administration, Courts (2023) examined the effectiveness of probation monitoring in the federal system, focusing on processes and workload. It was revealed that probation officers can handle increasingly large workloads under limited-resource conditions by using administrative information and system reports. Evidence-based approaches involving risk assessments and data analysis help uphold the quality of supervision. It is argued that institutional factors, primarily workload and resources, significantly affect offenders' outcomes and the effectiveness of probation monitoring.

Having a manageable caseload and ensuring that probation programs are easily available would significantly contribute to ensuring compliance. In the Philippines, particularly in Laguna, the situation becomes even more difficult due to transportation issues, financial constraints, and the distance between the probationer and the PPA office. There are many probationers living in rural barangays or remote locations in the 4th district who cannot comply with the regular reporting schedule due to the time and cost involved. Clearly, the problem here is not just one of convenience but of a socio-economic nature.

Availability of rehabilitation programs

The Parole and Probation Administration's (PPA) CY 2023 Annual Report provides comprehensive data on the scope and implementation of rehabilitation services for probationers nationwide. It details the number of clients enrolled in various treatment modalities, the reach of Volunteer Probation Assistants (VPAs), and the total rehabilitation and intervention services delivered. This report emphasizes PPA's institutional capacity. The 2024 Annual Report of PPA builds on the previous year's findings and highlights the "three-pronged" rehabilitation strategy, which integrates the Therapeutic Community Ladderized Program (TCLP), Restorative Justice (RJ), and Volunteer Probation Assistants (VPAs) as core components of community-based supervision.

The report emphasizes program expansion, client participation, and innovations such as digital reporting tools and additional volunteer engagement to improve access to rehabilitation services. It shows how institutional

policies and resource allocation affect the availability and quality of rehabilitation programs, influencing probationers' ability to engage in interventions and comply with supervision requirements (PPA, 2024).

The PCP is a PPA initiative that provides holistic rehabilitation services to address the diverse needs of probationers. It includes psychosocial counseling, livelihood and skills training, health and wellness interventions, educational support, and legal assistance. The program is institutionalized within PPA's rehabilitation approach to ensure probationers have access to resources that support reintegration. By linking these services to the broader framework of probation supervision, the PCP demonstrates how institutional availability of comprehensive programs directly affects compliance, reduces recidivism, and promotes successful community reintegration (PPA, 2024).

Negi, Chatterjee, Tripathy, Udhaya, Kumar, and Mehta (2026) conducted a systematic review to evaluate the effectiveness of rehabilitation and reintegration programs in facilitating social reintegration for individuals engaged in legal processes. Effective reintegration programs that encompass skills development, psychological treatment, and community involvement substantially lower reoffending rates, based on the study's analysis of empirical evidence and program implementation evaluations. The effectiveness was demonstrated to be contingent upon the adaptation of interventions to risk factors and consistent follow-ups. The importance of accessible, organized rehabilitation programs within probation systems is emphasized to foster reintegration and improve behavioral outcomes.

Sturm, Menger, de Vogel, and Huibers (2022) investigated the establishment of a successful relationship between probation officers and probationers under supervision. In conducting their research on the two groups, the authors employed a qualitative method in the Netherlands. It is important that clear goals and limits are set at the beginning of the supervision, as cooperation and trust evolve over time, making the relationship between employees strong. The findings emphasize the importance of communication, trust, and guidance in supervising probation officers, which may positively influence probationer outcomes (Sturm et al., 2022).

Capece (2022) evaluated the effect of community supervision on work outcomes among probationers and released supervised offenders. The purpose of this research was to examine how probation officers' engagement and monitoring expectations affect rehabilitation processes, particularly the availability of employment opportunities. The analysis involved evaluating community supervision regulations and conducting empirical research to measure the relationship between employment outcomes and supervisory expectations.

The findings revealed that although positive monitoring by probation officers may support the offender's successful reintegration into society, stringent supervisory expectations may act as barriers to employment opportunities. This study is relevant to the present research because it highlights how probation monitoring techniques may affect rehabilitation outcomes and reintegration processes, both of which are essential to reducing recidivism rates.

A 2023 study by Arbor, Lacroix, and Marchand examined the effects of the availability of rehabilitation programs on recidivism outcomes (Arbor et al., 2023). In the study mentioned, the researchers aimed to investigate the effect of disparities in access to different types of rehabilitation programs on offenders' probability of reincarceration. The research methodology employed in their study involved using an economic analysis grounded in variation in access to different rehabilitation programs between multiple jurisdictions. As a result of the research, it can be stated that despite the fact that treatment programs associated with addictions were not effective, those related to violent behavior, education, and employment greatly reduced the probability of recidivism.

Jones and Smith (2026) conducted an extensive review of the literature on rehabilitation and re-entry programs for individuals within the legal system. It is found that, while there are many programs, there are considerable differences among them in terms of accessibility, effectiveness, and availability. Furthermore, there are some issues concerning evidence-based approaches, lack of services provided, and problems meeting the requirements of certain populations. In general, it can be said that there is a need for appropriate rehabilitation programs that help reduce recidivism.

Well-organized rehabilitation programs that are easily accessible play a vital role in minimizing the rate of recidivism and ensuring that offenders integrate back into society without committing further criminal acts. But in Laguna, the success of these programs depends heavily on the availability of community resources and the involvement of LGUs in these efforts. Even though the country has good guidelines for rehabilitating criminals, including the Therapeutic Community Program and the Restorative Justice Program, their implementation can be inconsistent across municipalities due to available resources. Many areas within the 4th district may lack livelihood and training programs, as well as sufficient funding to implement them.

Clarity and enforcement of probation conditions

The 2024 Annual Report builds on earlier findings by detailing new institutional initiatives geared toward improving the clarity of probation conditions and strengthening supervision practices. These include digital reporting mechanisms, standardized client information materials, and expanded use of the PPA Citizens' Charter to inform clients of procedures and expectations. The report notes efforts to streamline communication through SMS reminders, digital case updates, and improved documentation processes, aimed at reducing confusion and administrative errors. Importantly, the 2024 report shows that clarity of conditions is not just an individual officer issue but an organizational priority, as reflected in pilot programs aimed at reducing miscommunication-related violations. This report provides up-to-date evidence on how PPA is operationalizing reforms to enhance both clarity and fair enforcement of probation requirements (PPA, 2024).

The PPA Citizens' Charter and Gazette publications outline service standards and procedural guarantees for clients, making them critical for assessing institutional clarity. These documents specify office hours, reporting procedures, contact numbers, grievance mechanisms, and turnaround times for probation-related services. They are intended to reduce confusion by presenting standardized, client-friendly information regarding probation obligations.

The Gazette issues between 2023 and 2025 further detail administrative innovations such as alternative reporting methods, the rollout of community-based reporting desks, and improvements in communication protocols intended to reduce missed reports. These publications reveal the PPA's institutional commitment to transparency and client empowerment—two key components that directly affect how clearly probation conditions are understood and how consistently they are enforced in practice (PPA, 2023).

A legal analysis in 2023 was conducted by Cong Wen regarding the pertinent probation conditions and how they should be determined in light of the Chinese criminal justice system. The objective of this study was to shed light on how probation conditions ought to be determined, noting that misinterpretations and incorrect interpretations can lead to the application of probation in either too much leniency or overly stringent measures, thereby failing to achieve its aims. For ensuring that probation is well-managed and adheres to legal standards, Wen analyzed existing legislation and legal principles regarding probation, focusing on the mandatory and optional conditions thereof.

The Pew Charitable Trusts (2023) conducted a study on the influence of enforcing and making probationary conditions clear on rehabilitation and compliance. The research claims that probationers are usually required to meet a set of conditions, such as check-ins, treatment, or curfew, and that these requirements may impede the process if they are ambiguous or too stringent. The research suggests that probationary conditions must be tailored to each individual's risk and needs and implemented in a way that encourages rehabilitation rather than merely supervision or punishment.

According to Karteron (2025), the impact of probation/parole mandates on people with disabilities was assessed with respect to issues of ambiguity and flexibility. The objective of the study was to understand how this group would experience challenges while navigating the legal process due to ambiguous and rigid criteria. The researcher analyzed statutes, regulations, and judicial decisions on probation and the rights of people with disabilities through legal doctrinal research. The findings revealed that most of the probation requirements were ambiguous and failed to recognize the needs of individuals with disabilities. As a result, these individuals find themselves in trouble when it comes to understanding and complying with legal requirements because of unintentional violations.

Williams and Schaefer's 2022 research aimed to provide guidance on implementing procedurally fair processes within probation and parole programs (Williams & Schaefer, 2022). The objective of this research was to explore how probation periods could be implemented and enforced in a more just, transparent, and systematic manner to improve the effectiveness of supervision. To achieve their objective, the researchers adopted a theoretical and literature-based methodology, drawing on prior work on procedural justice and punitive processes. The findings of this research indicated that probationers would be more inclined to perceive the program as real when probation officers implemented conditions in a just, transparent, and systematic manner.

Clear, just, and effectively communicated probation terms increase the probability of compliance and decrease the likelihood of violations. However, in Laguna, while clarity will be necessary for ensuring compliance, it might not necessarily ensure adherence if the individuals on probation have socio-economic challenges, such as low literacy rates and lack of information. Probationers may misinterpret probation terms not only because of inadequate communication but also because of the socio-economic context in which they live. Similarly, strict enforcement without accounting for contextual factors, such as work hours and transport availability, can inadvertently lead to technical violations.

C. CHALLENGES IN ADHERING TO PROBATION CONDITIONS

Difficulty attending scheduled reporting

The PPA's annual reports for recent years document overall high compliance rates but also describe operational realities that make attending scheduled reports difficult for probationers. Those systemic and logistical constraints create situations in which probationers, especially those from rural or low-income households, face long travel times, lost wages from missed work shifts, and occasional scheduling conflicts with employment or caregiving duties, which discourage or prevent timely reporting. These official reports, therefore, position structural/administrative burden as a central reason why some probationers fail to attend scheduled reporting. (PPA, 2024).

Research on legal financial obligations (LFOs) shows that monetary burdens interact with time burdens to increase noncompliance. When probationers must both work to cover LFOs and physically report at fixed times, the competing demands of earning income versus attending scheduled reporting often force choices that lead to missed appointments. (White & Sabol, 2021).

Recent practical literature on probation supervision recommends system innovations to reduce the burden of attendance. Evaluations and practice-oriented reviews emphasize that when remote reporting options or local volunteer networks are available, missed scheduled reports decline because the geographic and time costs for probationers fall. This literature frames difficulty attending reports as a solvable operational problem and pointing to policy levers (Gonowon & Donato, 2025).

Accordingly, Wilson (2025) conducted a 20-year systematic investigation of probation and parole revocation determinations in the United States to merge research developments and termination outcomes. Wilson examined 35 quantitative papers that exclusively analyzed revocation practices and policies and found substantial variation in the definition and measurement of "revocation" across the reviewed literature. Specifically, the results indicate that revocations, particularly those triggered by the accumulation of technical violations such as program noncompliance, have continued to be significant contributors to imprisonment rates, albeit to what degree remains unclear due to the varying methods used by researchers.

Additionally, sociodemographic factors like race, ethnicity, and gender interact in intricate ways to shape revocation trends, suggesting structural inequalities in supervision outcomes. In light of these findings, Wilson stressed the need for uniform measurement methods and varied approaches to researching revocation mechanisms. For effective community supervision, policy makers should consider implementing structured decision-making instruments and strengthening employment-focused reintegration services.

In their review of the literature, Brooker et al. (2023) explored the topic of serious mental illness among individuals on probation by conducting a systematic evaluation of existing studies on the connection between

mental health issues and probation. Specifically, the authors reviewed research on the role and effectiveness of professional mental health probation officers in addressing these problems, with a particular focus on the US. By comparing the trends in the US and Europe, the authors highlighted how specialized positions for probation officers who work with serious mental illnesses have been shown to produce remarkable results, such as increased efficiency in the evaluation process and appropriate care provided to this group of people.

As seen from this evaluation, the frequency of mental health-related problems among probationers is rather high; thus, there is a need for specific measures related to the supervision process in these cases. The authors suggest introducing professional mental health probation officers in Europe through a multi-center study that will assist people with serious mental illnesses and lead to better supervision outcomes.

According to Herbert (2022), he studied barriers preventing probationers from complying and concluded that transport problems, inadequate living situations, and conflicting job commitments were among those affecting reporting to appointments. It was noted that it is very difficult for probationers to balance their duties within the probationary period and the necessities of everyday life. Technical violations have been reported due to the inability to adhere to probationary terms, not due to rebellion.

Logistical and structural factors have been identified as significant reasons for the failure to report on time. In Laguna, these two factors are apparent among probationers residing in far-flung barangays and those involved in informal activities. An example of this is the case of daily-wage earners, whose priorities include earning more money than attending reporting sessions because of their immediate economic concerns. Furthermore, the expenses related to transportation, along with lack of accessible public transportation, make it difficult for them to report as scheduled.

Financial constraints

A total of 21,021 clients were unemployed, constituting 12.9 percent of the supervisees. Occupations of the clients with employment varied along the classifications of officials of government/special interest organizations/ corporate executives/managers/managing proprietors (with 2,717); professional (with 7,977), technicians and associate professionals (with 9,314); clerks (with 8,319), service workers and shop and market sales workers (with 1,403) farmers, forestry workers and fishermen with 48,783); trades and related workers with 11,383); plant and machine operators and assemblers (with 11,434); laborers and unskilled workers (with 24,589), and those with special occupations (with 15534). (PPA, 2023)

Financial problems are considered to be the greatest problems faced by the probationers, wherein it is difficult for them to apply for jobs because of their mistakes, and difficult to make money, as they consider it the greatest problem they have ever experienced. The probationers often find themselves caught in a vicious cycle of economic distress. Their previous mistakes make it challenging for them to secure employment, leaving them with limited opportunities to earn money. As a result, financial problems become a constant burden for them, further exacerbating their negative experience as they struggle to overcome the barriers imposed by their past actions. (Aranjuez, 2025)

Probationers face numerous challenges during their rehabilitation and reintegration into the community. Indeed, the journey to a renewed life after being on probation is an uphill battle. Problems encountered by them are no different from those of people placed in confinement. They also face numerous obstacles, including difficulty finding employment, housing, and transportation, as well as issues related to substance abuse, mental health, and family relationships. Though they are treated in a community-based setting, which is more compassionate and humanitarian when compared to a prison or jail (Gutierrez, 2020).

The relationship between the outcome of the probation process and the mental health symptoms among individuals under probation was examined by Lee, Rimal, Lee, and Daley (2023). In their study, using data from a large number of adult probationers, it was found that there is a strong relationship between the degree of mental health symptoms and the likelihood of violating probation terms and experiencing negative repercussions. Based on the findings presented by the researchers, mental health screenings and services are vital parts of an effective probation process, as unmanaged mental health issues may hinder compliance with the supervision process.

The paper explored the impact that legal financial obligations (fines, fees, reparations, and supervision costs) had on probationers. Data was collected from the 1995 Survey of Adults on Probation, and the study explored the extent to which the number, type, and frequency of such legal obligations would influence an individual's ability to make required payments. In doing so, the study found three crucial insights regarding LFOs and probation outcomes. One, those who were poorer found it harder to pay their court-related legal bills. Two, the complexity and the total burden placed by different monetary fines increased the likelihood of failure to pay these obligations. Three, it was found that the obligation for restitution was the most consistent predictor of missed payments among all fines and fees. In essence, when individuals fail to make required payments, legal financial obligations may inadvertently extend probation periods or result in punishment for offenders. The above results provide crucial insights for research on community supervision and recidivism.

Financial difficulties are among the most critical factors hindering probation compliance, according to research. In Laguna, this issue becomes aggravated because of a lack of job prospects, discrimination against offenders, and a high number of poor families. It becomes difficult for probationers to find a way to satisfy both primary needs and financial requirements associated with commuting, paying for rehabilitation programs, or making required payments. As a consequence, it becomes evident that poverty causes a failure in meeting requirements, which in turn, results in sanctions or increased probation period. Economic assistance plays a crucial role in Laguna allowing probationers to comply with requirements.

Lack of Employment or Education Opportunities

The international evidence base shows that employment-focused interventions increase the likelihood that people released from custody will start work and increase the number of days worked in the first 12 months, although they are less consistent at producing sustained, quality employment that protects against reoffending. Systematic review and meta-analysis work finds that employment interventions help probationers/ex-prisoners get into work which in turn strengthens bonds to conventional society and reduces incentives to re-offend. This matters for probation adherence because short-term or low-quality work may fail to remove economic pressure that pushes some supervisees back toward criminalized income sources (Connell et al., 2023).

Vocational and prison-based education programs have measurable effects on employment and recidivism outcomes in multiple contexts: a recent review of vocational-education studies concluded that participation in such programs can improve post-release employment and reduce reoffending. The implication for Philippine probationers is clear that limited or low-relevance in-custody education leaves supervisees without the human capital needed to comply with conditions that assume stable livelihood, increasing the risk of noncompliance (McNeeley, 2023).

Philippine-focused reviews and position pieces emphasize stigma, weak reentry services, and the absence of systematic employer engagement as structural barriers that prevent probationers/ex-offenders from translating training into real jobs. Authors writing on destigmatization and reintegration call for coordinated policies (LGU and national) that combine skills training with employer incentives and community education; without these structural fixes, individual-level rehabilitation is undermined by persistent labor-market barriers.

Based on the HM Inspectorate of Probation's evidence base on education, training, and employment (ETE) in probation services, offenders supervised in the community tend to have higher unemployment rates, lower educational levels, and limited work experience than the general public. Based on the literature, participating in ETE programs such as basic skills training, job-seeking support, vocational training, and employment placements reduces an offender's risk of re-offending, indicating employability as a key area for preventive efforts in crime reduction.

It is common for offenders on probation to experience difficulties engaging in ETE programs due to issues such as a disordered life, drug addiction, psychological problems, dysfunctional social relations, and discrimination at the workplace because of offenders' criminal history. Practitioners who apply basic correctional skills, including relationship development, motivational interviewing, and problem-solving techniques, are well positioned to engage their clients in ETE programs. This results in positive employment outcomes and reduced reoffending behavior.

In the article "Structural Disadvantages in Education and Career Opportunities for People With Juvenile Records," the Council of State Governments Justice Center (2021) explores the effects of state laws that prevent individuals with juvenile records from accessing education and employment opportunities. The literature states that several states impose legal restrictions on individuals with juvenile records, making it hard for them to obtain occupational licenses and jobs in government and colleges, among other things. Such legislation affects the economic well-being of youth in negative ways since these people find it difficult to get jobs and continue their education, two factors that play an important role in successful rehabilitation and lower rates of recidivism.

Porter, Cale, et al. (2025) examined the impact of a probation endorsement on the assessment of employability of individuals with a criminal record, especially those guilty of sexual crimes. In this mixed-methods experiment, a total of 226 participants were included to determine the employability of candidates before and after the presentation of their criminal record and a probation endorsement, where applicable. According to the findings, the employability rating and trust score significantly declined following the presentation of the candidate's criminal record. Nonetheless, the use of a probation endorsement mitigated rejection rates in candidates who engaged in sexual acts with minors and kept indecent photographs of minors but not those accused of rape.

Education and employment have been cited time and again as being essential in preventing relapse into criminal behavior. But because of the presence of these obstacles in Laguna, such as lack of employment opportunities, employers' discrimination, and insufficient skills training programs, it can be hard for probationers to obtain stable employment that would allow them to earn enough to comply with the terms set by the law. The implication here is that the rehabilitation process needs to go deeper than individual solutions; there must be solutions offered at a systemic level.

Stress and Anxiety Related to Compliance

National and WHO-level analyses of the Philippines show that mental disorders are common and that stigma, low help-seeking, and limited service capacity remain major barriers to care. These structural and cultural barriers increase the risk that people under supervision (probationers) will carry untreated anxiety or stress into supervision encounters; untreated symptoms (panic, hypervigilance, depressive withdrawal) can make attending required reporting sessions, following schedules, or engaging with parole/probation programs more difficult, which in turn raises noncompliance risk. Framing probation compliance without acknowledging the population-level help-seeking and service gaps therefore misses a key causal pathway linking psychological distress to supervision outcomes (World Health Organization, 2021).

Recent policy and program literature in the Philippines has emphasized the need to integrate mental-health approaches into justice settings. These reviews argue that when supervision systems incorporate screening, referral, and on-site or linked services, stress and anxiety that impair compliance can be identified and mitigated which improves attendance and condition adherence. Thus, literature proposing system-level reforms frames stress/anxiety as not only individual problems but programmatic risks that probation services must manage proactively (Go, 2024).

Recent Parole and Probation Administration (PPA) annual reporting and program documents (2023–2024) describe heavy caseloads, diverse client needs, and ongoing rollouts of community-based programming (TC, RJ, VPA). The PPA documentation highlights that probationers often face logistical, financial, and psychosocial stressors while under supervision factors the agency itself links to difficulties with compliance. The PPA's own operational reporting supports seeing stress/anxiety as a mediator affecting adherence.

Van Deinse, Mercier, Waters, Disbennett, Cuddeback, Velázquez, Lichtman, and Taxman (2023) conducted an analysis on the strategies used by probation agencies to supervise individuals with mental health disorders, a sizeable fraction of whom are under community supervision programs. This national research study examined screening procedures within agencies regarding mental health disorders, attributes of mental health probation caseloads (such as inclusion criteria, selection of officers, and training), as well as other strategies to assist individuals with mental health challenges that do not pertain to specialized caseloads. Among the key findings,

the study highlights the importance of proper screening measures, targeted officer training, partnerships with service providers, and modified supervision processes to account for the unique problems associated with mental illnesses among probationers.

Forster and Chalk (2021) studied the impact of communication strategies adopted by probation officers on their clients' compliance and the process of supervision. The analysis was performed using relational communication strategies like building rapport, being clear and responsive to concerns raised by offenders to determine how they affect perceptions about fairness of supervision measures and compliance therewith. Results showed that those probationers who had better experiences with communication strategies used by probation officers had greater levels of trust in officers, saw supervision processes as fairer, and were motivated to comply with supervision terms.

Choi et al. (2020) examined the severity of probation supervision as related to recidivism among those released from imprisonment in Pennsylvania. Applying a retrospective design based on data collected from over 5,000 subjects, namely, probationers and parolees, researchers revealed that higher supervision intensities, characterized by an increased number of contacts between probation officers and individuals under supervision, drug tests, and other types of control, were not linked to lower recidivism rates when adjusted for individual risk. Moreover, higher degrees of surveillance might not be an effective tool for preventing crimes committed by individuals on probation and may even result in technical violations of probation conditions, particularly among low-risk individuals.

Stress and anxiety are cited as very important but neglected variables that affect compliance among those on probation. The case of Laguna is no exception, as stress and anxiety among those on probation have a strong correlation with poverty, stigmatization, and job insecurity. Additionally, there are limited mental health resources that exacerbate the problem, especially in municipalities where these resources are unavailable. This implies that the probability of affected individuals complying with probation requirements becomes more difficult due to higher stress levels, which can prevent them from attending training sessions or reporting on time.

Risk of Reoffending Due to Social Pressures

Emotional and instrumental support from family and prosocial friends lower recidivism risk, while ties to delinquent peers, social isolation, or stigmatizing community reactions increase the likelihood of reoffending. These reviews highlight mechanisms relevant to probationers, and point out that the same social network can be protective or harmful depending on prevailing norms and resources. For the Philippines, the review suggests that weak formal support and persistent stigma mean social relationships often determine whether probationers can resist criminogenic social pressures (Mourão et al., 2023).

The stress that interventions should target network change rather than only individual skill-building, a point directly applicable to probation programs in the Philippines, where community ties and informal economies play outsized roles in daily life (Matias et al., 2025).

A focused review of Filipino studies and regional literature (2023–2024) underscores stigma and labeling as social-pressure pathways to recidivism: being publicly identified as an “ex-offender” limits job and housing access, undermines self-efficacy, and can push individuals back toward deviant networks for material or emotional support. The review argues that without deliberate anti-stigma and community-engagement strategies, probationers face powerful social pressures that increase the risk of noncompliance and reoffending. This situates social pressure not just as peer coercion but as a structural/social reaction that constrains lawful opportunities (Espanto, 2024).

HM Inspectorate of Probation (2025) identified a connection between well-structured processes of probation supervision and reduced re-offending among individuals on probation in England and Wales. In this regard, it was established that the probability of reconviction was higher among probation services with poor supervision practices than among those with better supervision practices. This study highlights the importance of supervision quality rather than the amount of contact between the probationer and supervision services in facilitating distancing and adherence to probation conditions.

According to Mamak et al. (2023), there was an analysis of the impact of statutory restrictions on the use of probation as a penalty in Poland, where probation sentences were restricted by a new legislative act. Comparing the court decisions made in the context of such crimes as drug possession and drunk driving before and after the restriction of probation, it has been found that restrictions on probation had a positive effect on sentencing leniency, disproving the idea that the increased possibility of using probation always leads to lower levels of punishment. The results indicate that judges' inability to impose probation leads to more lenient punishments, suggesting unforeseen consequences of legal reforms for punishment policies.

Yukhnenko, Blackwood, and Fazel (2019) conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis of risk factors for recidivism among individuals serving community sentences. The meta-analysis considered data from 15 studies undertaken in five different nations, which consisted of a total of 246,739 subjects, and identified that the presence of dynamic risk factors such as need for mental health services, drug use issues, antisocial friends, employment difficulties, marital issues, and poor socioeconomic conditions was highly correlated with criminal recidivism, almost similar to the level of association of static risk factors such as age, gender, and history of crimes.

The social environment can have two possible effects on an individual on probation: it can be a source of protection or a source of risk. In Laguna, a society that tends to live in close-knit societies, the process of labeling and stigmatization may have a very pronounced impact on probationers' rehabilitation. Restrictions on opportunities and social isolation may force an individual into contact with deviant peers or into resorting to crime. On the other hand, support from families and communities may help improve compliance and prevent reoffending.

Failure to Meet Curfew or Program Attendance Requirements

This report provides a theoretical framework that is highly relevant to understanding probation non-compliance globally, including curfew or attendance failures. The authors argue that many probation systems impose employment, reporting, mandatory program attendance without sufficiently tailoring them to individuals' socioeconomic realities. They show how onerous requirements such as frequent reporting or mandatory employment interact with client risk factors and constrain compliance, thereby increasing risk of technical violations (Widra, 2024).

The Parole and Probation Administration (PPA) in the Philippines defines the types of conditions that probationers are expected to observe, including attendance at training, seminars, group therapy, vocational-livelihood programs, and spiritual development sessions. It clarifies what "program attendance" means in the Philippine context. It shows that non-compliance is not limited to curfews or reporting, but also includes failure to attend these structured rehabilitative activities, which are integral to probation's rehabilitative aims.

Prison Policy Initiative (2024) conducted an assessment of typical probation conditions in 76 jurisdictions across the United States and found that the conditions set for people under community supervision are often vague, onerous, and unrelated to public safety. A person may be charged with a technical violation and incarceration even in cases when he or she did not engage in new criminal activity because of conditions, including employment requirement, movement limitation, financial penalties, restrictions on association, and regular contact, which go beyond the scope of criminal law. The study suggests that such cases happen more often among vulnerable groups, such as individuals who live in poverty, lack housing stability, or suffer from health problems, creating obstacles to employment, movement, and compliance.

The model Programs Guide (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 2022) was employed in conducting a literature analysis of the effectiveness of youth curfew regulations in preventing juvenile delinquency and criminal activity. According to the literature analysis findings, there have been mixed results regarding youth curfews' success in reducing rates of offending, where some rigorous evaluations have failed to identify any statistically significant decrease in juvenile offending rates; however, there have been some indications that the introduction of youth curfews has led to slight decreases in the rate of certain offenses.

Strict and standardized rules for probation conditions might not necessarily correspond to the practical experiences of those under probation. In Laguna, issues such as unpredictable work hours, transport problems, and personal/family obligations usually impede their adherence to curfews and participation in programs. This indicates that non-compliance can be more circumstantial than deliberate. Hence, the implementation of probation systems in Laguna should focus on more accommodating measures that consider socio-economic factors, while also ensuring accountability

RELATED STUDIES

Parole and Probation

The Parole and Probation Administration has used techniques to motivate community involvement in the rehabilitation of probationers/parolees/pardones through its Volunteer Probation Aide (VPA) program. The first is an information campaign in order to stimulate the members of the community to have an interest and support the rehabilitation program, for if the community does not give a penitent offender another chance in life, recidivism will continue to be a perennial criminal justice system problem.

The second is the positive incentive program instilling in the minds of the members of the community that they have something to gain if a penitent offender is given another chance, that is, freedom from fear of having this penitent offender transformed into a hardened criminal if put behind bars. The other probation rehabilitation approach to fostering community involvement is the social accountability approach, which involves an individual helping a neighbor in need, the development of the emotional dimension of people caring for others, and the probationer's involvement in various community projects.

A. INDIVIDUAL FACTORS

Age, Sex, Education, Employment status

In terms of supervision, 16 First Time Minor Drug Offenders (FTMDOs) were supervised by Probation Officers. If successful, upon compliance with the conditions of probation, the Board submits its recommendations for termination of probation to the courts with jurisdiction. The final discharge of the probation is thereby within the courts' discretion to issue such orders. (PPA, 2023)

Longer prison sentences are not effective in promoting desistance from crime and reducing recidivism. In fact, confinement disrupts the desistance process in many ways, and it should be used only as a last recourse. When possible, jurisdictions should favor alternatives to confinement for both juveniles and adults. Few individuals remain active in crime after the age of 40. Barring exceptional circumstances for those who pose a clear threat to public safety, there is no empirical basis for incarcerating individuals for decades past mid-adulthood (Kazemian, 2021).

Over one-third (37%) of adult males aged under 25 years who received probation orders in 2020 re-offended within a year of receiving probation. In comparison, one-quarter (25%) of young adult females re-offended during the same period (CSO, 2020).

Most participants were male, with an average age of 31 to 59 years, and only one female participant was 28 years old. Vocational training or skills enhancement activity, as one of the rehabilitation programs for probationers that teach offenders useful skills while in probation, is crucial to their endeavors as they need to seek employment. Skills development and employment are essentials in rehabilitation projects for probationers since they give probationers valuable mechanisms to get back to society. Therefore, when a probationer acquired fresh skills, they will always increase their chances of being employed hence reducing the cases of re-offence (Paudac, et.al, 2024).

In this study, researchers investigated the effect of the participation in the prison vocational education program on recidivism and employment after release, and considered the possible effects that the virus may have had on the two mentioned factors. With the use of the method of propensity score matching to eliminate the possible

effects of selection bias, the results have shown there are no differences in recidivism and employment between the participants in vocational certificate programs and non-participants. This means that previous positive results were the effect of selection bias. The main conclusion drawn from this research is the necessity for more rigorous approaches to the evaluation of programs and the need to follow a risk needs responsivity approach. (Morisson et.al.,2025)

This study investigated the determinants of successful probation completion among misdemeanor offenders using a sample of 6,600 cases from one county from 2016 to 2018. It was found that there is a 70.8% probability of successful probation completion, and that this is more common among female offenders, Hispanic offenders, older offenders, offenders with education above the high school level, and offenders without outstanding fines. However, offenders who are black, have prior offenses, and who committed property crimes were less likely to successfully complete their probation (Mowbray et.al., 2022).

The research investigated the determinants of probation applications in 2025 at the Antique Parole and Probation Office in San Jose, Antique, using a mixed-methods approach that included data on probationers and interviews with probation officers and probationers. The results indicated that the determinants of probation applications included demographic and legal factors such as age, sex, crime category, marital status, and educational level, with a greater tendency among male offenders aged 31–40 years, married, and educated up to the secondary level, and convicted under special laws.

In addition, the qualitative analysis identified several operational challenges, including the absence of rehabilitation programs and funding, a large number of cases, distance from the office, financial insecurity, and a poor environment, while probationers experienced problems related to fear of violations, psychological issues, and long distances to reporting offices. (Aguilar et. al.,2026)

Although previous research has clearly demonstrated the effects of demographic variables on probation success, their significance becomes more apparent when considered against the background of socioeconomic issues in Laguna. The availability of employment options in places like Santa Cruz is constrained by a lack of permanent jobs, which can make it more challenging for poorly educated probationers to obtain decent employment, thereby increasing the likelihood of violating probation rules. Additionally, young probationers in the region could be at risk due to peer influence, whereas older probationers might be more inclined towards rehabilitation efforts.

Attitude toward Supervision and Rehabilitation

This study commonly reported that supportive probation officers who helped connect them to livelihood programs, family counseling, and local volunteers positively shaped their attitudes toward supervision. Conversely, many probationers described socio-economic stressors that undermined their ability to participate in prescribed programs, producing frustration and ambivalence toward supervision. These findings reinforce the idea that supervision is evaluated by probationers in functional terms and that rehabilitation outcomes depend heavily on addressing structural barriers alongside clinical or behavioral interventions (Paudac et al., 2024).

Former probationers trace pathways to successful reintegration and highlight protective rehabilitation factors: sustained family support, access to skills training and livelihoods, and consistent psychosocial aftercare. The study's narratives indicate that positive attitudinal shifts toward supervision often occur when probationers experience tangible benefits from programs and when supervision is accompanied by community acceptance and opportunities for meaningful work (Pendang, 2024).

The study shows that program effectiveness improves when interventions are comprehensive: combining evidence-based clinical treatment, livelihood assistance, family involvement, and sustained case management. It also concludes that supervision perceived as holistic and consistent reduces reoffending risk, while supervision perceived as episodic or purely punitive does little to change underlying risk factors; thus, program continuity and resource investment are central to shaping both attitudes and outcomes (Daño, 2025).

Tyler's model was tested using a correlation analysis to determine the relationship between procedural justice, legitimacy, and felt obligation to comply with instructions. The sample used included 185 people who were undergoing county-level probation at the time of research. In this regard, a cross-sectional analysis was conducted through the use of structural equation modeling. It was established that people perceived those conducting the probation exercise as treating them procedurally justly, which created legitimacy in their eyes toward the authority that controls the probation process. Further, those who believed in the legitimacy felt obliged to obey probation officers. (Kaylor et. al., 2024).

The phenomenological study examined the perceptions of federal probation officers regarding the efficacy of rehab programs within the Federal Bureau of Prisons through semi-structured Zoom interviews with 10 probation officers in the Southern U.S. The research findings indicate that there is a need for more personalized and custom-made rehab programs to aid incarcerated people. Additionally, inadequate funds were cited as one of the primary challenges hindering the implementation of successful rehab programs. The recommendation was to form a joint committee comprising probation officers, companies, and community groups to spearhead reforms. (Harper, 2025)

This study aimed to examine the impact of social support networks on the reintegration of ex-inmates in Angeles City, Pampanga, focusing on emotional well-being, economic well-being, and recidivism. Using a quantitative descriptive survey method with a sample size of 122 respondents released in the last two years, the findings showed that each type of support—namely, emotional support, instrumental support, informational support, and appraisal support—was an important factor in improving the reintegration process among released inmates. Additionally, factors that affected these processes, such as a lack of financial resources and structural limitations, were identified. (Matias et al., 2025)

Positive attitudes toward supervision depend on how responsive the probation system is to the needs of those on probation. In Laguna, especially in the semi-urban and rural parts of the province, probationers' attitudes might hinge on the availability of rehabilitative support, including opportunities for rehabilitation, livelihood assistance, and community-based programs. If probationers perceive supervision as merely compliance-focused and not responsive, their attitude toward it may turn negative. Therefore, in Laguna, fostering positive attitudes involves implementing appropriate supervision methods along with enhancing support systems in the barangays.

Substance Abuse or Mental Health Issues

Recent European recommendations emphasize the crucial role of probation in addressing the mental health needs of individuals under supervision. It was emphasized that people in contact with the criminal justice system experience significantly higher rates of mental health conditions than the general population. These responses highlight the need for comprehensive emotional support within the probation system, ensuring that individuals have access to mental health resources as they navigate the challenges of rehabilitation (Brooker, 2023).

Elements like stable housing, employment opportunities, and access to mental health services are crucial for effective reintegration. The research highlighted that interventions targeting these areas substantially decrease the chances of reoffending. Hence, these responses demonstrate the essential importance of community reintegration in the rehabilitation journey of probationers. By actively engaging and demonstrating positive change in their communities, probationers will certainly overcome previous stigmas and rebuild themselves as law-abiding, contributing members of society (Beaudry et al., 2023).

Probation systems must become more adaptable and all-encompassing if they are to handle social as well as personal issues properly. Therefore, it is essential to provide probationers with services, including mental health assistance, job training, and flexible counseling, so they can manage their complex circumstances and improve their prospects of rehabilitation (Deligero & Nabe, 2025).

The study conducted by Brooker focused on the extent of mental health issues and drug abuse among probationers and the significant obstacles involved in accessing the proper services. The study indicated an

abundance of individuals suffering from mental health conditions such as personality disorders, alcohol misuse, and drug addiction. Yet, they were unable to access any form of treatment because of strict referral criteria, coordination of services, and engagement of probationers in the process.

There were further obstacles due to inadequate training for probation officers to identify and refer cases to appropriate treatment programs. There was also a lack of integration of mental health experts in the probation system. However, the study suggested that integrating mental health experts, such as community mental health nurses, into probation systems and providing adequate training during officer preparation would benefit service delivery (Center for Effective Practice, 2025).

Differences were investigated among violent and nonviolent probationers in a rural probation population in terms of their levels of drug use, involvement in crime, and mental state. Based on previous research findings, violent probationers are expected to be associated with greater levels of substance abuse, involvement in crimes, and poor mental health as compared to nonviolent probationers. Additionally, numerous studies are proving strong connections between substance abuse, mental illnesses, and violence committed by probationers. It is also worth mentioning that probationers usually suffer from various combinations of such disorders, which make them even more vulnerable. Despite the significant increase in the number of probationers, especially in rural areas, few studies have addressed the stated differences (Webster et. al., 2022).

The paper assessed the prevalence of mental health and substance abuse disorders among adults on probation and parole using data collected by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics and the NSDUH. According to the results, it was determined that people on probation and parole were twice or thrice more likely than those not under any supervision to engage in drug abuse or addiction behaviors, be diagnosed with a mental disorder, or suffer from psychological stress or depression. Although those under supervision accessed mental health services more often than the average citizen, they still had an unmet need for treatment, which persisted in time. It is important to note that insufficient access to adequate treatment may affect the success of their reintegration into society and increase the possibility of recidivism (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2022).

In Laguna, there is an inequality in the availability of mental health and rehab centers, especially in rural barangays. The inability to afford professional treatment, stigma, and lack of information contribute to the problem. This indicates that probationers who have not received proper treatment for their substance abuse and mental health disorders will be more likely to violate their probation conditions.

Previous Criminal Behavior/History

An empirical study of recidivism in the National Capital Region found that prior criminal history, particularly prior convictions for drug offenses and for violent acts, was associated with higher observed recidivism. The researchers reported that younger males with shorter incarcerations and prior records for drug or violence-related crimes showed higher rates of reconviction, suggesting that prior criminal behavior both identifies a higher-risk subgroup and points to offense-specific treatment needs (Delfin et al., 2023).

A qualitative, phenomenological study of former probationers in Davao City (2024) explored how prior offending shaped participants' reintegration experiences. It described how the criminals' past limited access to employment and social acceptance, which increased stress and sometimes led to relapse into problematic behaviors. The study's narratives make clear that prior criminal behavior operates through both material constraints and psychosocial processes such as shame and damaged trust, and that effective probation practice in the Philippines must combine supervision with employment facilitation and community destigmatization (Pendang & Nabe, 2024).

Probationers with multiple prior convictions or histories of gang affiliation reported more intensive supervisory contacts. They were more frequently channeled into restrictive or surveillance-heavy interventions rather than community reintegration support. The study concluded that an over-reliance on prior-history indicators without concurrent investment in protective resources like employment, family therapy, and skills training can entrench recidivism risk rather than reduce it (Paudac et al., 2024).

The research aimed at exploring the impact of relative deprivation on future dangerous behaviors of 1,023 probationers in China, and the mediating effect of negative coping styles, as well as the moderating effect of self-esteem in this process. Based on a survey and a moderated mediation analysis, it was revealed that individuals experiencing a high degree of perceived relative deprivation were more likely to engage in future dangerous behaviors. In turn, negative coping styles played a partial role as a mediator between relative deprivation and the above-stated behaviors. However, self-esteem reduced the effects of relative deprivation on both the likelihood of engaging in dangerous behaviors and its mediating role. (Frontiers Authors, 2025)

This study conducted an extensive review of risk factors for criminal recidivism among offenders on community sentences. In the analysis, 15 research articles from 5 countries, totaling 246,608 subjects, were used to derive the findings. Several dynamic factors, which include mental health needs, substance abuse, antisocial peer relations, employment difficulties, marital status, and low financial status, were found to be significantly linked with increased risk of recidivism. The identified risk factors were found to have equal predictive power as the static factors, including age, gender, and criminal history (PMC Authors, 2021).

In this research, a qualitative phenomenological design provided insight into the experiences of eight former probationers in the post-probation phase, complemented by focus group discussions. It was found that rehabilitating offenders helped them become better people through lifelong learning, improved social supports, greater responsibility, and increased caution in decision-making.

Nevertheless, some of the difficulties experienced include discrimination and stigma, overcoming addiction, and problems with their families. The success of reintegration can be credited mainly to personal accountability, strong family and peer support, and self-improvement. Hence, this study underscores the need for more individualized approaches to probation, especially during post-probation phases (Pendang et al., 2024).

A criminal record is a proven indicator of probation outcomes, but its influence is heightened when combined with the social and economic conditions prevailing in the locality. In Laguna, individuals on probation who have committed crimes before are likely to face stigmatization, unemployment, and mistrust within the community, which could prevent their rehabilitation into society. Moreover, regions with few opportunities for upward economic mobility might force the offender to repeat his/her crimes, as there are no other avenues open to him/her.

B. Family and Community Factors

Family support/relationships

Probationers' rehabilitation experiences led to lifelong learning, social support networks, and increased caution and responsibility. However, they also faced obstacles like humiliation, discrimination, overcoming addictions, and rebuilding family relationships. Factors contributing to their successful reintegration included accepting responsibility for past actions, support from family and peers, and a purposeful transition toward self-improvement. The study suggests that probation offices can use these findings to develop tailored interventions, raise community awareness, and provide better support to active and former probationers for successful reintegration (Pendang & Nabe, 2024).

Probationers may continue to become positive and build stronger relationships with the community. In conclusion, community support is essential for probationers, especially family support, which significantly impacts the successful completion of the probation period. Probation Officers or the government may conduct symposiums in the community to orient and educate community members that probationers are trying to change themselves, and that success will depend on community support. The community may also support and accept probationers as they are (Malig-on et al., 2023).

A wrongful act could lead to broken family ties. Being a probationer could cause mistrust and disappointment in family members. However, it could give a chance to reconcile with family and a chance to be accepted. The

strongest support for any probationer's treatment journey comes from their families, which can lead to effective probation (Agnes et al., 2022).

One way a family can give support is to have better and constant communication with each of the members. The more positively families communicate, the greater the chance the probationers will cope with the stress and other negative emotions they feel. When families communicate regularly, their relationship will become stronger, fostering trust and respect. Moreover, through family guidance, it could help them face difficult situations and make better decisions, away from linking to crime (Lado et al., 2023).

Turney and Goodsell (2023) analyzed probationers' experiences as parents to fill a gap in the existing literature that emphasizes imprisonment rather than community control, and its effects on custody, housing, and child-rearing practices. Based on the results of quantitative analysis combined with case study qualitative analyses that are based on interviews with 153 probationers in Hennepin County, Minnesota (44% of whom were parents), it was found that 42% of them had custody over their children, 20% lived with them, and 82% were engaged in child-rearing practices despite any hardships, including housing instability. At the same time, being a parent helps to foster compliance with probation terms, whereas the limitations of supervision may affect the availability of opportunities for probationers.

The study conducted by Malig-on et al. (2023) was designed to analyze the life experiences of probationers enrolled in treatment programs in Davao City, Philippines, employing a qualitative research design based on in-depth interviewing and thematic analysis of data from 13 purposefully sampled probationers. In this regard, results indicated that even in the presence of problems like psychological and social concerns, financial problems, and difficulties related to the conflict between family roles and those involved in probation, probationers considered their involvement in the programs as an important experience for self-improvement, spiritual rebirth, and family reunification. The study demonstrates that treatment programs are critical in facilitating positive changes in families and enhancing mutual understanding and acceptance.

Anonymous (2024) examined the experience of probationers in terms of community therapy and acceptance when undergoing rehabilitation, emphasizing the impact of relationships within their family and community in successfully completing probation programs. Through a case study approach and the use of Yin's five-step procedure in analyzing interview data, several major issues were identified as relevant to the topic, such as family relations and acceptance, having a positive attitude towards life, good relationship in the community, self-actualization, and employment challenges. Ultimately, from this research, it can be deduced that having strong family ties is a vital element in ensuring success among probationers despite facing economic struggles.

Piper et al. (2024) explored the extent of family participation in the process of juvenile probation, especially regarding substance abuse interventions, through a qualitative methodology involving a sample of 263 individuals who took part in 33 focus groups at various probation settings. In general, Piper et al. (2024) reported on the differences in the level of family participation that often suffered due to various obstacles, such as the mistrust toward the justice system, noncompliance, the lack of means (such as transport or financial resources), stigma related to treatment, and unawareness of available services. These difficulties were recognized as having adverse impacts on the functioning and efficacy of rehabilitation programs.

In Tolou-Shams et al.'s (2022) review-based empirical study, the relevance of family involvement in the mental well-being and behavior of youth who were part of the justice system was determined. It is important to mention that being separated from the family has a detrimental effect on their mental well-being and behavior, but intervention programs that involve the family contribute to their rehabilitation and result in positive changes in behavior. However, it should be noted that family intervention services for youth in the justice system are currently underutilized and represent a serious limitation.

Family is an important element that contributes to successful probation. In Laguna, the importance of family in the culture plays an important part in creating protection against non-compliance, since strong family ties act as a form of protection for the probationer. On the other hand, poverty in the family might create some challenges regarding the support for the probationer, both emotionally and financially. Hence, in situations where there is tension within the family, it leads to isolation of the probationer, thus leading to non-compliance.

Peer influence/social networks

The Bureau of Jail and Penology (BJMP) in the Philippines, envisioning itself as a dynamic institution, implemented various programs to ensure humane safekeeping and development of inmates. Among these programs was the Therapeutic Community and Modality Program (TCMP), defined by the Philippines' Parole and Probation Administration (2023) as an environment fostering mutual help. This treatment program, operating within the norms that required each member to play the dual role of client-therapist, induced therapeutic interactions to bring about change in relational, behavioral, affective, emotional, psychological, cognitive, intellectual, spiritual, and psychomotor or vocational-survival skills.

In the Philippines, the TCMP stood out as a widely utilized rehabilitation program for persons deprived of liberty (PDLs). Rooted in the principle of peer support, it emphasized prosocial values and showed evidence of effectiveness in reducing recidivism rates (BJMP, 2022).

Much more extensive conclusions were found regarding how, in French prisons, large numbers of clients taken into these programs had better family and social relations and self-esteem than those taking part in traditional treatment. These results support the findings of this study that the TC model provides a supportive environment promoting rehabilitation through emotional growth, peer influence and structure (Vinai et al., 2023).

Another aspect that could also be looked at by future studies is how technology might be included in probation monitoring, that is, through digital peer support groups, virtual therapy, and mobile-based monitoring, specifically in isolated or underfunded places. Subsequently, these developments might provide measurable, reasonably priced alternatives for increasing access to support services. Lastly, examining these domains can help to clarify successful rehabilitation strategies and direct the building of inclusive, evidence-based, and flexible probation systems (Deligaro and Nabe, 2024).

According to Nath et al. (2026), peer influence was studied regarding the ability to predict recidivism in inmates from low security correctional institutions based on the effect of social interaction expressed through linguistic phenomena on behavior. With the use of quantitative and computational methods, the researchers focused on analyzing 80,000 to 120,000 letters written by inmates and utilized Large Language Model (LLM) embeddings and innovative econometric models to evaluate peer effects on behavior.

In turn, the results showed that peer interactions through language significantly affect an individual's behavioral patterns, as LLM embeddings increased the prediction rate of recidivism by 30% within three years, compared to background variables alone. Thus, peer effects have a significant impact on behavior, demonstrating the importance of social networks and language when discussing compliance and recidivism, especially in regard to probationer behaviors.

In their study, Cochran et al. (2021) focused on the effects of peer relationships on recidivism for those supervised by the community using a longitudinal design. In the research, it was noted that those under probation and parole who continued to associate with their antisocial and delinquent peers were highly inclined to violate their probation terms and commit crimes again. On the other hand, those who had established connections with prosocial peers had considerably fewer incidents of recidivism and higher levels of compliance. This study demonstrates the significant effects that social networks have on an individual's behavior.

In their article, Bunda et al. (2025) explored the influence of social support systems in post-prison reintegration, with special emphasis being placed on the impact of peer networks on adjustment to society and recidivism of ex-offenders, including probationers. In their quantitative descriptive study with survey as research methodology involving a total of 122 respondents drawn from Angeles City, Pampanga, Bunda et al. demonstrated that peer networks offer an opportunity for receiving emotional and informational support that helps to lower the recidivism risks. At the same time, negative peer pressure and lack of sufficient resources pose as major obstacles to successful integration. Moreover, the results have demonstrated that familial assistance proves to be more efficient compared to peer networks in facilitating compliance.

The influence of peers is an important determinant of behavior among probationers. In Laguna barangays, which have tightly knit social circles, interactions with prosocial peers help enforce adherence, whereas contact with antisocial peers increases the probability of recidivism. While the availability of community intervention programs like the Therapeutic Community Modality can be positive, they require steady attendance and support from the community. It is, therefore, vital to consider peer relationships in local barangays in solving adherence problems.

Community Resources Availability

This evaluation examined implementation and outcomes of a local therapeutic-community program and found that program effectiveness was strongly mediated by local resource factors: availability of trained facilitators, regular meeting spaces, and linkages to livelihood training. Probationers achieved better adjustment and lower reoffending risk when these resources were present, while limited resources weakened program delivery and outcomes. The study demonstrates concretely how local resource availability affects rehabilitation under probation (Chan, 2021).

Participants reported that when these resources were available, they felt more supported, motivated, and capable of complying with their conditions. In contrast, the lack of such community-based services created feelings of stress, isolation, and difficulty sustaining positive changes. The study underscores that community resources availability plays a vital role in probationers' day-to-day functioning and overall success in rehabilitation (Aranjuez, 2024).

Successful reintegration was strongly tied to the presence of community resources. Those who had steady access to these supports were able to rebuild their lives more effectively, while individuals from resource-poor communities struggled with unemployment, social stigma, and unmet mental-health needs. The findings clearly demonstrate that community resources availability serves as a protective factor that enhances rehabilitation outcomes and reduces recidivism among probationers (Sarmiento, 2024).

Clark et al. (2021) conducted a quantitative survey of 48 service providers on the needs of parents who were formerly incarcerated and had a record of substance use disorder in the process of reintegration. The results revealed that the former parents experience many problems, which include poverty, insecure housing, substance use, mental disorders, and poor family relationships. The results indicated the importance of several services that need to be provided to support the integration process, which includes parent education, substance abuse treatment, peer groups, mental health services, housing services, and community resources. This information is significant for the present study because it illustrates the significance of social support and available resources to facilitate compliance with the probation conditions.

Morani et al. (2021) conducted research on the effects of community-based reentry programs on people making the transition from prison to society through a quantitative method. This study revealed that access to basic resources, including shelter, work, and community services, greatly enhances compliance with the terms of their probation or parole, while lack of access to the same heightens the likelihood of non-compliance and re-offending. The study underscores the importance of such programs in ensuring that there is minimal re-integration challenge faced by the probationers. These findings will be of great significance to the present study.

Lofstrom, Raphael, and Grattet (2022) assessed the Pathways Home Program, a collaborative post-release community supervision (PRCS) initiative, to assess the effectiveness of the program in enhancing probation compliance and revocation rates among high-risk offenders. The research involved a quasi-experiment whereby 261 high-risk male offenders released from California state prisons between 2018 and 2020 were divided into two groups: the control group that was placed under the traditional PRCS strategy and the experimental group, which used the collaborative strategy. Results indicated that offenders in the collaborative strategy were 17 percentage points more likely to show up on time for their initial probation meeting and 14 percentage points less likely to have their probation revoked during the first year.

The availability of community resources plays an important role in the success of probation. However, in Laguna, the inequitable allocation of resources in different municipalities and barangays poses challenges to

the compliance of probationers with the terms set by the court. The lack of access to job opportunities, vocational training, means of transport, and social services makes it difficult for them to report and attend rehabilitation programs. This highlights the need for improved collaboration between the Parole and Probation Office and the LGUs in Laguna.

Neighborhood Safety And Moral Support

Probationers who described supportive neighbors, those who offered encouragement, helped find work, or simply treated them with dignity reported greater motivation to comply with conditions and to pursue lawful livelihoods. Conversely, participants living in neighborhoods where suspicion, gossip, or active criminal activity prevailed described isolation, returned substance-use triggers, and higher stress that impeded program participation. These empirical narratives directly link moral support from neighbors and neighborhood safety to probation outcomes and echo calls for community-targeted interventions (Paudac et al., 2024).

Studies using survey data from formerly incarcerated individuals and probationers found that lower scores on perceived neighborhood safety and weaker informal social controls were associated with higher likelihoods of relapse into criminal activity, even after controlling for employment and substance abuse. These findings reinforce that the presence or absence of neighbor moral support has measurable impacts on recidivism risk (Breva et al., 2023).

Programmatic evaluations of the PPA's Volunteer Probation Assistant program and other barangay-level initiatives show that structured local volunteer networks can enhance both neighborhood safety perceptions and the moral support available to probationers. This demonstrates that formalizing neighbor involvement through programs can convert neighbor moral support into a reliable protective factor (Verdadero et al., 2023).

In their research, Meza et al. (2022) investigated the influence of neighborhood violence perception on the wellbeing and reintegration of African American and Latinx youths who have been incarcerated, through an interview process conducted with 25 subjects, as well as through a survey conducted among 50 juvenile delinquents. According to the findings of the research, there was evidence of high exposure to community violence, resulting in high stress levels, increased adverse childhood experiences, poor physical wellbeing, and low family support. Neighborhood environment plays a vital role in determining the success of reintegration efforts among juvenile offenders.

Jacobs and Skeem (2021) assessed the impact of neighborhood environment on the probability of reoffending among probationers based on a quantitative methodology and survival analysis using a sample size of 2,218 participants. According to the study results, residing in an environment that is disadvantaged, disorganized, and unsafe contributes immensely to increased recidivism, especially among low-risk probationers because such areas lack stability, poor social infrastructure, and expose residents to criminal activity. Therefore, the study confirms the significance of environmental factors in conjunction with personal features in shaping behavior. The results are pertinent to the present study since they emphasize the need for neighborhood safety and social support.

Bocanegra & Schoeny (2024) examined the geographic distribution of probationers across Chicago neighborhoods, analyzing data from Cook County probation records for 2011-2016 and community crime statistics. In doing so, they discovered significant clusters of probationers and, moreover, that shifts in these clusters were related to shifts in violence levels in the areas. This implies that the probationers' locations were not random and were related to the safety of the neighborhoods where they resided.

In the study conducted by Wu and Li (2024), the researchers explored how ecological and structural neighborhood attributes affect the behavior of individuals placed under supervision within the community, using a conceptual and case study design. Based on administrative data from Harris County, Texas, it was found that attributes such as residential instability, mobility, and neighborhood deprivation affect justice processes through interactions with other individual and structural factors. Such interactions may create obstacles to compliance and promote recidivism among residents of disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Environment plays a huge role in the behavior of probationers. For example, probationers who live in areas where there is a high rate of criminality and drug use can have difficulties in following their probation orders. On the other hand, an environment that supports and encourages acceptance helps probationers stay motivated and abide by the rules. There are programs like the barangay-level Volunteer Probation Aide Program and volunteerism efforts that can help create an encouraging environment.

C. Institutional/Probation System Factors

Probation Officer Supervision Style

According to Thompson (2022), probation officials' views may significantly affect how well an offender performs under supervision. Thompson, there is no universal agreement regarding what works in routine offender supervision.

According to Stephenson (2020), the lack of financing for community supervision organizations prevents parole and probation officers from helping prisoners properly reintegrate into the community. Skepticism about prison release and rehabilitation persists due to the current political environment, an increasing jail population, and a lack of affordable housing, factors that contribute to budgetary challenges in implementing these programs.

According to Brandon (2020), the findings from the research on probation officers in this study indicated that officers did not believe the programs available to offenders were working. In addition, the study revealed that probation officers believed the offender had to decide at the beginning of probation whether they would follow the rules of probation and the court. Also, probation officers indicated they did not play a large role in the offender's failure to remain crime-free. In summary, probation officers pointed out they did not know about evidence-based practices despite using programs such as drug treatment, anger management, and cognitive-behavioral therapy; Increased training will be essential for probation officers to understand their role in reducing recidivism.

Bock (2025) investigated the effectiveness of EPICS as an improvement in probation outcomes. It involved a quantitative analysis of the impact of rehabilitative and structured supervision approaches on the behavior of the probationers. The findings showed that probation officers employing cognitive behavioral interventions performed better than conventional probation supervision procedures in reducing recidivism rates and increasing compliance. This study is vital for understanding the impact of probation officer strategies on effective probation outcomes, given its focus on the importance of rehabilitative supervision.

Muentner et al.'s (2025) study on how probation officers' attitudes impact their supervision outcomes employed a qualitative case study method. As the findings revealed, probation officers who held a rehabilitative attitude towards their work built strong relationships with their charges. This resulted in better behavior and adherence to the terms and conditions stipulated by the community corrections system. On the other hand, bad behavior was related to the punitive attitude of probation officers.

One study conducted in 2025 on the topic was published in the Journal of Criminal Justice. It analyzed the effects of the styles of communication of probation supervisors on the level of compliance of probationers. The findings based on quantitative research indicated that while negative or enforcement-type communication may increase the likelihood of breaches, positive communication, characterized by clarity, mutual respect, and useful cooperation, positively affects compliance levels.

Another study carried out in 2025 on the subject was published in the Journal of Criminal Justice. The study examined the impact of the communication modes used by probation officers on the degree of compliance among probationers. The results of the study based on quantitative research showed that whereas negative or enforcement communication could lead to violations, positive communication, which is clear and cooperative, would boost compliance rates.

Tafrate et al. devised a measure to assess the extent to which probation officers apply motivational interviewing while providing supervision services to their clients. Several styles of supervision have been

found, such as enforcement-based and rehabilitation-oriented (motivational interviewing-consistent), by surveys and observations of the interaction. The findings show that while confrontational techniques are ineffective for positive behavioral change, those that motivate and involve the client are effective.

Evidence indicates that supervisory style plays an important role in determining probation outcomes. For instance, probation officers in Laguna usually supervise numerous offenders in their jurisdiction, so they cannot provide personalized supervision. When supervision takes on a compliance-oriented nature due to the large number of offenders to be supervised, probationers will not be able to get much help.

Case Load and Accessibility to Probation Office

The PPA 2023 report compiles field office feedback and repeatedly notes that transportation costs, long travel times from remote barangays, and limited local satellite services are common reasons probationers miss reporting or fail to attend required programs. The report recommends strengthening field presence and community coordination to address these barriers.

A qualitative study of PPA officers (Western Samar) documenting operational constraints: heavy caseloads, limited transport/resources for officers, and the long distances officers and clients must travel. The paper links these geographic/resource constraints to reduced home visits and client contact—factors that make it harder for supervisees to comply (Fenellere, et. Al., 2025).

Interviews with former probationers reveal repeated narratives of missed reporting and skipped program sessions because the probation office was far, transport fares were unaffordable, or travel would cost a whole day's wages. These lived experiences tie office distance directly to non-compliance and support calls for satellite desks, tele-reporting, or transport support (Pendang, et. Al, 2024).

Damon Mitchell, Raymond Chip Tafrate, Stephen M. Cox, and colleagues conducted research in 2024 investigating the impact of cognitive-behavioral training on probation officers' monitoring skills and work outcomes. Audio recordings of communication between officers and probationers were analyzed both before and during training using a quantitative pretest-posttest design. It was found out that there was an improvement in the cognitive-behavioral skills of officers, their communication, and ability to address criminogenic needs, which resulted in decreased rates of recidivism among probationers. This research has proven that despite the overload with cases, improvement of probation officers' skills increases the effectiveness of monitoring and leads to better outcomes of rehabilitation.

The study conducted by Omonya, Otiso, and Mwirigi (2024) examined how supervision, caseloads, and access to resources affected juvenile probation outcomes in Nairobi County, Kenya. The research involved collecting data through questionnaires and interviews with probation officers and juvenile probationers. Overloading officers was strongly linked to higher reoffending rates among juveniles, while better supervisory skills led to reduced reoffending. Limited resources and insufficient police training hampered effective supervision, but monitoring alone made no noticeable difference. The results highlight the importance of having access to competent officers with manageable caseloads.

At the Parole and Probation Administration in Camarines Sur, Philippines, the role of technology in helping probation officials manage the heavy workload has been assessed in a study conducted by Gonowon and Donato (2025). This study aimed at developing and analyzing the application called Supremo App to assist in managing the workload. Utilizing Agile software development process and applying System Usability Scale (SUS), the authors found out that the use of Supremo App improved the ability of officers to manage their caseloads and acquire the relevant data. However, even though the feedback from probation officers was positive, probationers experienced challenges when using the app due to lack of proficiency in the use of technology.

To determine whether specialized caseloads for emerging adults were effective in improving the outcome of supervision, Clark et al. (2023) conducted a randomized controlled study. In this study, they compared those probationers who were under normal probation supervision with those probationers who were assigned to

specialized caseloads. The results of their study indicated that the latter group was associated with less probation violation and arrest rates, as well as better compliance among probationers. This implies the importance of caseload management for improving the effectiveness of probation supervision.

In another study, Tidmarsh (2025) examines the impact of workload on the quality of supervision as well as the management of large caseloads by probation officers. In this case, the objective of the study was to explore the relationship between officers' capacity to provide effective and individualized supervision services and their overall workload. Tidmarsh adopts the qualitative methodology for conducting interviews with probation officers to get insights about their experiences regarding challenges and demands of supervision work. Among the findings is the conclusion that workload prevents officers from being able to communicate directly with the probationers resulting in administrative overload, very few face-to-face meetings, and even negative implications for the outcome of probation. It can be said that the above study is applicable to probation research since it clearly illustrates the importance of manageable caseloads in order for probation to remain accessible and effective.

The issue of accessibility is especially important in Laguna, as there are probationers who come from far-flung barangays with poor modes of transportation. The problem of expensive and inconvenient travel may become one of the reasons that will push them into violating the terms of their probation by skipping reports. Overloading cases assigned to each probation officer may also reduce follow-ups.

Availability of Rehabilitation Programs

Therapeutic Community Ladderized Program (TCLP), Restorative Justice (RJ), and Volunteer Probation Assistants (VPAs). The study measured client behavioral change, participation rates, and program outcomes, and analyzed implementation challenges such as limited resources, geographic disparities, and officer capacity. The study highlighted that probationers who had access to structured rehabilitation programs exhibited better compliance, reduced recidivism risk, and greater psychosocial adjustment, illustrating the direct influence of program availability and institutional support on probation outcomes (UP/NCPAG, 2023).

Probationers view the program as a pathway to personal growth and healing, and recognize probation officers as key drivers of rehabilitation and support. Participants described the program's impact on their internal development, as well as their spiritual and social reconnection. However, they also face psychosocial and economic challenges, along with difficulties balancing family responsibilities and probation schedules. To improve the program, probationers recommend enhancing livelihood and educational opportunities, maintaining consistent support systems, and strengthening personal development initiatives. The study concludes that probation-based treatment programs significantly contribute to the personal, social, and spiritual rehabilitation of probationers (Deligero and Nabe, 2025).

Most inmates will be released from prison one day, but once released, they may face disqualification from employment due to background checks and diminished social skills resulting from their time away from society. Therefore, rehabilitation programs such as skills development and employment support for probationers are essential and should be prioritized to ensure they are ready, equipped, and knowledgeable. When an offender is able to reintegrate into society, they are less likely to commit violence or reoffend. Vocational training or skills enhancement activities as part of rehabilitation programs for probationers that teach offenders useful skills while on probation are crucial for their success, as they need to seek employment. Skills development and employment are vital components of rehabilitation efforts for probationers because they provide valuable tools for reintegration. Consequently, when a probationer acquires new skills, their chances of employment increase, thereby reducing the likelihood of re-offending.

A study by Engel et al. (2022) examined the effects of intensive probation monitoring among young offenders in Germany. The purpose of this study was to find out whether more participation and aid by probation officers can decrease the rate of recidivism among juvenile offenders. The analysis compared offenders who received standard probation to those who received more intensive probation support, using an RCT and RDD framework. It is evident that offenders subjected to enhanced surveillance had a 10% lower probability of reoffending than those on standard probation, thereby reducing their recidivism rates considerably within the first six months.

The research study by Wolff, Baber, Dozier, Cordeiro, and Muller (2024) analyzed the effectiveness of ATIs on recidivism rates in thirteen federal districts within the United States. Unlike incarceration where offenders are detained or jailed, the purpose of the research was to investigate whether community based interventions would have the same effect on reducing recidivism. Recidivism rates for 1 to 3 years were compared between participants and non-participants in these programs. It appears that participants have lower recidivism rates.

Wodahl (2024) examined the impact of probation officers' approaches to supervising probationers, particularly between incentive and punishment strategies. The findings of this research revealed that, compared to punishment strategies, incentive-based approaches improved probationers' compliance levels and reduced recidivism rates. This study therefore shows that the approaches used by probation officers, whether helpful or punitive, can be highly influential on probation outcomes.

The first study reviewed in this paper is a retrospective cohort research conducted by Taylor et al., which examines the effect of selected characteristics of community reentry programs on the long-term outcomes of probationers and parolees. This study aimed to find out if particular qualities of community reentry programs affect their outcomes in terms of better reintegration into the society and reduced recidivism rates for a five-year period after discharge. In this research, the authors use program and administrative data from the Missouri Community Reentry Initiative (CRI) and perform multivariate regression analysis within a longitudinal cohort study design. This study shows that specific placements in community programs, together with active involvement in the services provided, are strongly associated with favorable community outcomes and low arrest rates among probationers and parolees.

Uy's (2025) mixed-methods research examined the impact of TC rehabilitation programs on parolees and probationers in Samar, Philippines. Satisfaction assessments of the programs in behavior, cognition, spirituality, and occupations were the main purposes. Program influences on employability, social relationships, and community integration were other concerns studied. Findings from the explanatory sequential method (questionnaire followed by interviews) involving 160 participants revealed that although improvements in vocational competencies were only slightly enhanced, program participants derived more joy in the social and cognitive domains. The findings suggest that although TC programs have positive influences on emotions and social relations, access to rehabilitation programs should be complemented by practical abilities and employment opportunities to achieve better reinforcement.

Probation can be effective only if there are rehabilitation programs available. While there are rehabilitation programs available in Laguna, the extent and regularity of the same may differ from municipality to municipality. Insufficient funding, inadequate partnership, and lack of facilities may hinder program delivery. Hence, to address the varying requirements of probationers, it is important to increase program availability through support from local government units and communities.

Clarity and Enforcement of Probation Conditions

Emphasizes the importance of community-based correction programs. Through this program, probationers are given opportunities to acquire valuable skills essential for reintegration into society (Sloas et al., 2020). Community-based correction programs play a vital role in providing the necessary support and resources for probationers, and by investing in these programs, society can create a more effective and humane approach to criminal justice that prioritizes rehabilitation and reintegration (Paudac et al., 2024).

To enhance the effectiveness of community-based correction programs in Ozamiz City, it is recommended that investment be made in probation officer training and support. Providing ongoing professional development opportunities in areas such as motivational interviewing, conflict resolution, and behavioral management can strengthen officers' ability to address the diverse needs of probationers. Moreover, ensuring that officers have adequate resources to support probationers' access to education, job training, and mental health treatment is crucial for improving rehabilitation outcomes. By prioritizing the role of probation officers as mentors and guides, these programs can continue to promote positive behavioral change and contribute to safer communities (Paudac et al., 2024).

Ruhland and Scheibler (2022) conducted research to examine probation officers' discretion in monitoring clients' compliance with conditions. This study, which involved qualitative data gathered from two probation departments in the United States, reveals that probation officers strike a balance between adhering to rules and supporting clients who are unable to meet the stipulated rules. Discretion of the probation officers, institutional guidelines, and individual characteristics of the clients may play an important part in the decision-making process.

Technical violations and their relationship with the number of probation conditions have been studied by Dir et al. (2021) in regard to first-time offenders in the US. They found that youths with more conditions imposed on their probation were more likely to commit technical violations, based on a quantitative analysis of youth justice records. Therefore, excessive scrutiny can lead to increased non-compliance. For achieving compliance and successful rehabilitation outcomes, the methods of supervision must be carefully weighed.

Kolpakova and Utorova (2025) conducted a study on prosecutors' monitoring of imprisonment sentences, examining the regulations and structural problems in the Russian penal system. The researchers identified current violations, including inadequate inmate management, security measures, the provision of materials and medical aid, and accountability procedures, using legal and comparative analysis methods. Legal concerns were also raised, including conflicting labor laws and unclear conditions for granting parole. Prevention-based supervision and risk assessment were discussed in the paper. This paper is pertinent to probation and prison research since it highlights the significance of effective monitoring and supervision in ensuring legality, safeguarding rights, and improving rehabilitation outcomes.

The influence of probation revocation on further criminal justice involvement was analyzed by a 2024 study that was published in the *Journal of Criminal Justice*. Using hierarchical logistic regression, the researchers found no correlation between revocations and subsequent arrests or jail involvement among the 1,873 subjects. Yet, for low-risk individuals, the revocation of probation for technical violations was shown to result in higher chances of imprisonment, thus suggesting that strict probation enforcement can lead to unexpected consequences. The study emphasizes the importance of finding a compromise between support and enforcement to reduce unnecessary criminal justice involvement.

As noted by Widra (2024), studies on probation conditions across different areas of the United States show that these rules are vague, broad, and confusing. As indicated by the systematic evaluation of the rules, these probationers were unaware of the unclear rules; hence, they were more likely to commit legal violations unknowingly. This made a probation violation more likely.

The clarity of probation conditions is important to ensure that probationers follow the rules, whereas complex conditions make non-compliance more likely. According to research studies, it is important to consider the balance between enforcement and assistance. Differences in the communication and enforcement processes for probation conditions in Laguna may affect probationers' ability to understand and follow the rules.

CHALLENGES IN ADHERING TO PROBATION CONDITIONS

Difficulty Attending Scheduled Reporting

Based on Verdadero (2023), the Volunteer Probation Assistant (VPA) system in Ilocos provinces documents that the presence (or absence) of local volunteers significantly affects probationers' ability to comply with reporting schedules. Areas lacking VPA support saw more missed scheduled reports, attributed by respondents to distance, transportation costs, and lost income from time away from work. The study provides empirical support for community-level support as a factor in attendance.

Studies using interviews and focus groups consistently identify scheduling conflicts and economic necessity as primary reasons probationers miss scheduled reporting, and they document probationers' preference for flexible reporting arrangements or localized reporting points. These rich, participant-driven accounts corroborate administrative data and show how individual circumstances translate to missed reports (Paudac et al., 2024).

Research into parole and probation officers' work conditions finds that heavy caseloads, limited staff, and transportation/logistics for supervision constrain officers' capacity to accommodate probationers' scheduling needs. Officers report limited ability to offer flexible reporting times or outreach visits due to workload and travel constraints; as a result, strict office-hour reporting remains the default and contributes to nonattendance (Fenellere, Jr. et al., 2025).

According to Lowder et al. (2022), a quantitative study was carried out to examine compliance and noncompliance sequences among probationers to shed light on the effects of various behaviors on probation revocation. Social sequence analysis was performed based on a big sample of 4,389 probationers from Monroe County in Indiana. It was found out that full compliance was the most frequent occurrence, while the most frequent occurrence among non-compliance sequences was a single Failure to Appear (FTA). Furthermore, it was concluded that repeated FTAs and substance abuse noncompliance sequences increased chances of probation revocation substantially, indicating that repetition of technical violations, especially those related to substance abuse, played an important role in probationers' failure of probation terms.

Probation Officers' Views on the Effects of Economic Barriers on Probationers' Capability to Successfully Undergo Probation in Eastern North Carolina. The article by Ponton (2025) explores probation officers' views on the influence of economic barriers on probationers' capacity to successfully complete probation in Eastern North Carolina. Applying a qualitative research design grounded in phenomenology, the research revealed that economic barriers, such as a lack of employment opportunities, fines, homelessness, and indebtedness, often prevent offenders from complying with the terms of probation and increase their likelihood of committing another crime. According to probation officers, assessing an offender's economic status at an early stage is necessary to formulate a strategy for dealing with the offender.

Risk factors and support requirements of probationers for the SUC Intervention Program

In their attempt to formulate better interventions for probationers, Ayeo-Eo and Jimmy (2025) evaluated the risk factors and support requirements of probationers to facilitate their rehabilitation. This research aimed to identify the main challenges faced by probationers and determine the support required for their smooth transition back into society. A quantitative descriptive approach involving the use of survey questionnaires on 240 probationers was conducted using a convenience sampling method.

It was established that education levels, unemployment, and prior criminal activity are among the main risk factors faced by probationers. Additionally, the study identified many important support needs such as education assistance, job opportunities, and life skills training, which significantly improve the chances of successful reintegration for probationers. Statistical tests also showed a strong relationship between the risk factors and support needs of the probationers. This indicates that, to ensure successful reintegration into society, addressing these risk factors through adequate support services for offenders is crucial. The study concluded that integrating education, employment, and life skills into probation programs will greatly help reduce risk factors and promote reintegration.

It is clear that the failure to comply with reporting obligations is not only an issue of voluntary compliance but is greatly affected by the barriers in place, such as travel costs, distance, and workplace conflict. Within the setting of Laguna, especially in municipalities such as Santa Cruz, wherein probationers could be residing in barangays that are distant from each other, the lack of sufficient public transportation and reliance on a daily wage to meet subsistence needs contribute to the difficulty. Many probationers would have to spend a whole day's pay just to participate in reporting. Additionally, it seems that the presence of volunteer probation assistants (VPAs) and decentralized reporting are not evenly distributed in all areas.

Financial Constraints

It is essential to understand that probationers have diverse needs beyond their reoffending risk. Addressing criminogenic factors such as antisocial personality traits, substance abuse, and lack of education or employment is crucial to reducing the risk of recidivism (Chloupis and Kontompasi, 2025).

Studies have demonstrated that probation services should not only categorize individuals by their risk levels but also offer targeted interventions that address specific needs, such as antisocial behavior patterns, substance abuse, and lack of stable housing (Stevens et al., 2025)

The study showed that low education and unemployment are critical risk factors that affect probationers' success. Employment is identified as a protective factor against recidivism, and barriers to employment (such as low education levels and a lack of vocational training) significantly increase the risk of reoffending (Schiraldi, 2020)

Van Beek, de Vogel, and van de Mheen (2023) examined whether financial problems and debts would predict criminal recidivism among individuals on probation. Specifically, the objective of the paper was to assess whether debt could be considered as a predictor of criminal re-offending alongside the factors that predict criminal recidivism. The researchers employed a Dutch sample comprising of 250 offenders on probation and the Finances, Debt, and Offending Scale, as well as Cox survival regression and receiver operating characteristic analysis, to ascertain whether overall debt and certain financial difficulties predicted recidivism in general and for certain kinds of offenses during the 5.41-year follow-up.

It is evident from the findings of the study that the overall debt and finances moderate the prediction of criminal recidivism as FDOS scores showed statistically significant predictive power for different types of offenses, particularly property and drugs offenses. Moreover, opinions from probation officers on whether funds are criminogenic affected recidivism prediction significantly.

The researchers Wilfong et al. (2021) explored the impact of financial aid and job training on the criminal justice consequences of women on probation in the US. Acknowledging that financial hardships are common among individuals on probation, especially women, the authors examined whether participation in government financial assistance and job services would affect probation outcomes, such as imprisonment. Based on quantitative evidence, the study found that female probationers who received Social Security Disability Insurance were significantly less likely to be held in prison during the probation period than those who were not beneficiaries of the program.

It shows that enhancing financial security through government financial aid and job support is crucial to preventing poor criminal justice outcomes among women on probation. Therefore, the importance of accounting for socio-economic factors, such as the availability of financial support, should be recognized in the design of programs to enhance compliance and reduce imprisonment rates among women probationers.

In their article, Breno et al. (2023) explored effective probation processes for addressing indications of inadequate development in individuals on community supervision. The objective of the study was to examine the potential of probation agencies to detect early warning indicators that suggest that a probationer is not developing appropriately and the best approaches to improving the effectiveness of supervision procedures. The authors conducted an empirical review of community supervision processes, particularly intermediate warning indicators such as defiance, missed appointments, and other problems that can precede larger offenses and recidivism.

According to the findings, when probation officers apply evidence-based interventions to address early warning indicators, the probability of increasing compliance and minimizing future violations is high. Additionally, the study highlighted the importance of a structured system of supervision processes that rely on data-driven decision-making and risk assessment tools to inform officers' actions. The findings imply that early responses to supervision problems are likely to improve the effectiveness of probation processes and facilitate criminal rehabilitation.

Financial problems that can cause non-compliance among probationers, especially when they experience unemployment, indebtedness, and the inability to access the most basic needs. As seen in Laguna, where many probationers depend on their work during harvest time, in construction, or even in vending at times, financial problems are a direct cause of non-compliance due to the inability to secure a means of transport to fulfill some of the terms and requirements of the probation. From this perspective, it is evident that the compliance process among probationers in the area is directly linked with economic challenges.

Lack of Employment or Education Opportunities

As stated by Vivares and Cuevas, Jr. (2023), ex-convicts identified “having difficulty applying for a job” and “struggling to earn a living” as primary themes; participants reported background-check rejections, limited skills from penitentiary vocational programs, and very few formal job leads after release. Those economic hardships and repeated rejections made adherence to conditions difficult, and participants recommended government job-placement programs specifically targeted to formerly incarcerated people. This study provides direct qualitative evidence linking a lack of employment opportunities to obstacles in meeting post-release supervision requirements.

According to Arreola et al. (2024), reintegration experiences among Philippine ex-offenders likewise reports lack of opportunities and financial assistance as recurrent barriers: participants described family support as helpful but insufficient, and noted that without local employment programs or employer willingness to hire them, they felt pushed to informal or unstable work that conflicted with probation expectations. The study highlights that probation compliance cannot be understood solely as individual “will” which reflects local labor market structure, employer stigma, and the availability of bridging support.

Based on Amurao et al. (2024), employers’ perspectives (Angeles City) found many employers reluctant to hire people with conviction histories unless incentives, guarantees, or clear evidence of rehabilitation were offered; yet employers who had experience hiring former persons deprived of liberty were more open, particularly for nonviolent or short-sentence cases. This employer-level evidence explains why even well-trained probationers struggle: training alone is insufficient if local businesses persistently screen out applicants with records. The paper recommends targeted employer engagement, policy incentives, and public awareness campaigns to expand actual job opportunities for probationers — all necessary to improve probation adherence driven by economic stability.

In addition to exploring the topic of recidivism and ways to minimize it, Breno et al. (2023) analyzed effective probation procedures used to address the symptoms of low developmental progress displayed by individuals serving on community supervision orders. Specifically, the authors aimed to examine the issue of identifying early warning signs of non-compliance among offenders, as well as ways to intervene to address the problem and improve supervision outcomes.

For that reason, an empirical review of procedures for community supervision was conducted, with attention paid to intermediate warning signs, including disobedient behavior and failure to attend scheduled meetings with officers, as well as other problems that may arise before more serious offenses occur. The main finding of the work is that a positive outcome can be achieved through targeted, evidence-based interventions after observing warning signs.

Furthermore, there is a critical need for a structured process for conducting supervision that involves the use of data and risk assessment tools to support relevant decisions. Thus, early responses to supervision issues might enhance the performance of probation systems and assist in the rehabilitation of offenders.

The research conducted by Harlow (2003) assessed gender differences in criminal justice processes and outcomes, using national data to examine disparities in how males and females experience the judicial process, sentencing, and corrections. As reported, females have higher chances of being found guilty of non-violent crimes and receiving probation as opposed to incarceration, encountering many socioeconomic challenges such as poverty, unemployment, and childcare responsibilities. This research indicated that certain social and economic conditions influence the effectiveness of probation and community supervision for women, leading to differences in their experiences compared to those of men.

Unemployment and inadequate education greatly affect reintegration and raise the likelihood of non-compliance. Despite being an industrialized province, in Laguna there are still few employment opportunities available for offenders owing to employers' stigmatization and the absence of inclusion in hiring practices. Even after providing the training, the offenders still face difficulty finding stable employment. This is because the rehabilitation programs fail to address the province's labor market realities. Therefore, this research aims to explore the need for such interventions to improve probation compliance in Laguna.

Stress and Anxiety Related to Compliance

According to Ramones (2022), a study that measured depression, anxiety and stress levels among persons deprived of liberty (DASS) found elevated levels of psychological distress in custodial populations. The study underscores that justice-involved Filipinos experience clinically meaningful anxiety and stress that could plausibly persist on release and undermine compliance with community supervision if not treated or supported.

Exploring the potential of mental-health courts and integrated models found strong stakeholder support but also identified barriers: limited trained clinicians, stigma among clients, and logistical constraints for routine screening and referral. These empirical findings show that even when stakeholders acknowledge the link between psychological symptoms and supervision outcomes, practical barriers slow implementation (Go, 2024).

Social isolation, shame, family burden, financial instability, and anxiety about reporting and being judged were all factors that interviewees said made it harder to meet supervision requirements consistently. Those empirically linking emotional distress to missed appointments, avoidance of probation offices, or failing to complete program requirements directly support treating stress and anxiety as a measurable and meaningful dependent variable in models of probation compliance (Pendang & Nabe, 2024).

Diaz, Lowder, Northcutt, Bohmert, Ying, and Hatfield (2024) conducted a retrospective observational study to determine whether probation revocation was associated with future criminal behavior among individuals who had completed probation in Monroe County, Indiana. Data on 1,873 probation clients were collected for the past five years. The researchers found that probation revocation does not predict future jail or prison re-entry, new criminal charges, or probation re-entry, even after accounting for other factors. Technical violations that lead to revocation significantly increase the chances of jail reentry among low-risk probation clients. It can be noted that punitive actions intended to address probation clients' violation behavior might end up adversely affecting specific groups.

Phelps et al. (2022) investigated the connection between the effects of probation supervision on the physical and mental well-being of probationers in Hennepin County, Minnesota. It was discovered that around half of the 162 adult probationers experienced an improvement in their well-being due to the benefits of mandatory drug therapy, housing, and nutritional security, as well as positive interactions with the probation officer. In contrast, other individuals' well-being deteriorated due to the pressure, fear of being revoked, and lack of socioeconomic resources.

Phelps et al. proposed that probation supervision involves not only advantages but also disadvantages that affect health. This emphasizes the complex role of community supervision as both a resource and a stressor. These results indicate the need to consider broader social determinants of health and supervision conditions to enhance well-being and, thus, make probation more effective.

Psychological stressors such as anxiety, revocation fear, and stigma hurt compliance. The community-based nature of the Laguna community makes the situation worse because the stigma associated with probation in barangays may create embarrassment and alienation for the offenders. Moreover, the lack of mental health facilities in the community also worsens the situation. Hence, based on the foregoing discussion, it is recommended that probation supervision incorporate psychosocial intervention and counseling programs to enhance compliance outcomes.

Risk of Reoffending Due to Social Pressures

Based on Delfin (2023), the study identified demographic and offense-type predictors and highlighted social-context antecedents associated with higher reoffending rates. The social pressures mediate those statistical relationships directly relevant to probationers whose noncompliance often stems from returning to prior social settings.

Participants repeatedly identified peer pressure, community-level norms, and neighborhood environmental constraints as direct contributors to relapse into criminal behavior after release. The study's narratives illustrate

how social pressure operates both as active coercion and as passive pull, showing clear pathways to probation noncompliance and reoffending (Begontes et al., 2024).

A 2024 qualitative study of ex-offenders in the Philippines documented barriers to reintegration, such as stigma from the community and employers, strained family ties, and limited access to legitimate livelihoods. The study links these social pressures to a higher risk of reoffending and frames recommendations for probation practice, such as strengthening family support, community education, and livelihood programs to reduce that risk (Arreola, 2024).

Yukhnenko et al. (2025) developed and tested OxMore, a new risk assessment model for people serving community sentences in Sweden that incorporates mental conditions, substance abuse, and dynamic life events. The research evaluated a nationwide sample of 59,676 individuals and found that dynamic modeling based on mental health crises, victimization, and geographic distance predicted future criminal activity more precisely than traditional static modeling approaches.

Their findings indicated high predictive accuracy, particularly for violent (c-index = 0.74) and overall recidivism (c-index = 0.69). This implies that dynamic models can improve risk stratification using current data. According to their conclusion, technology-enabled dynamic assessments may support effective probation supervision, efficient resource management, and treatment strategies that prevent recidivism.

The influence of subjective evaluation and coping strategies on the risk of re-offending among probationers was examined by Tang et al. (2025). Based on surveys involving more than 1,000 probationers in four different provinces, it is observed that relative deprivation is a significant predictor of future dangerous behavior. Negative coping strategies are partly mediators, whereas self-respect influences the direct effect and the mediation of the relationship between the two factors. According to previous literature, those probationers who view themselves as deprived will be engaged in activities that involve risks, except when adaptive coping strategies are used along with high levels of self-respect.

Jacobs and Skeem (2020) examined how neighborhood risk factors affect recidivism amongst probationers residing in San Francisco, California, particularly the impact of an individual's risk level and living environment on recidivism rates. With a sample size of 2,218 probationers, it was established that neighborhood risk factors such as disadvantage and disorder elevated recidivism levels for those individuals who had low personal risks. In contrast, the factors did not significantly affect those who had high personal risks. The results obtained suggest that neighborhood risk factors are a valid form of explaining the recidivism levels of low-risk individuals, which is indicative of the disadvantage saturation theory.

Peer pressure, social stigma, and the environment play a huge role in reoffending and lack of compliance among probationers. Probationers in Laguna find themselves back within the same environments where committing criminal acts might become normalized. In such settings, there is a high probability of reoffending without having effective prosocial mechanisms in place. The importance of such interventions at the community level is crucial for reducing the negative social pressure on probationers. Community acceptance can be viewed as a protective measure for probationers in Laguna.

Failure to Meet Curfew or Program Attendance Requirement

One of the emergent themes is the difficulty of adhering to program attendance requirements due to competing work or family obligations, which sometimes force probationers to miss sessions. This directly ties to the failure-to-meet attendance requirement as a structural barrier, not merely a matter of willful non-compliance, but conflicting demands (Deligero & Nabe, 2025).

Although the primary focus is on relapse into substance use, this links reactance to non-compliance with probation conditions. High reactance may lead probationers to resist program mandates, skip them, or disengage, which contributes to technical violations. Their findings suggest supervision strategies should account for reactance to reduce non-compliance risk (Monteclaro & San Jose, 2025).

The challenges identified are difficulties in complying with probation conditions, especially structured reporting, curfews, and attendance at mandated programs. Participants report emotional strain, stigma, and practical constraints that make consistent compliance difficult. This study underscores how non-compliance is not always a simple “choice,” but embedded in broader psychosocial dynamics (Recla & Cuevas, 2025).

Dir, Magee, Clifton, Ouyang, Tu, Wiehe, and Aalsma (2021) examined the prevalence and factors influencing technical probation violations amongst first-time offenders in the juvenile justice system. In this survival analysis study of 18,289 youths in the youth probation files, the results indicate that about 15.3% of the subjects had technical violations at the start of their first probation term. The researchers found that youth with more probation conditions were more likely to violate technical terms and to commit violations sooner. The study findings further show that black youth, male gender, and younger adolescents were more prone to receive technical violations compared to other categories, with electronic monitoring and program referrals linked to quicker violations.

The literature analysis conducted through the Model Programs Guide (Office of Justice Programs, 2023) on the effectiveness of youth curfew policies in reducing youth delinquent behavior and engagement in the justice system was mixed. While there are indications that some studies reported a slight decrease in the incidence of certain offenses after implementing youth curfews, others indicated minimal effects or even a lack of change in terms of the overall rate of juvenile criminal activities, which means that youth curfews cannot make much difference in terms of promoting behavior change. The findings from the literature analysis suggest that curfews may be effective only if proper strategies are used to enforce them, along with appropriate community intervention measures such as education and recreational opportunities.

Non-compliance with curfew and attendance of the programs could stem from the fact that many offenders have other priorities in life, such as working and taking care of their families, as opposed to deliberately violating curfew. Considering that most probationers in Laguna are providers for their families, a tight schedule of programs might clash with the offenders' economic activities. Furthermore, the time spent commuting to attend the programs adds another barrier to program participation. This shows that program structures should be flexible in order to fit the local socio-economic setup.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents and discusses the research design, research subject, data-gathering procedure, instruments, and statistical treatment, all of which require critical reasoning.

Research Design

The researcher adopted a descriptive-correlational research methodology. Descriptive techniques were used to provide systematic descriptions of the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents, as well as the personal, familial/community, and organizational variables that affect probationers. On the other hand, the correlation technique was used to establish the relationship between these variables and the difficulties that probationers face in complying with their probation requirements. The data collected from the questionnaire were analyzed and presented in statistical form to concisely and clearly describe the variables or factors under study.

The ethical considerations of informed consent, data confidentiality, and anonymity were also addressed in this study. The research design followed ethical principles, ensuring participants were treated ethically and their rights protected. Additionally, the study used a mixed-methods approach, which provided a comprehensive understanding of individual, family/community, and institutional/probation system factors, as well as the challenges of complying with probation conditions, through analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data. This approach enhanced the validity and reliability of the findings and offered a deeper insight into the complex dynamics of complying with probation conditions.

While the descriptive correlational method is applicable in investigating the relationships among the variables, this research does not investigate any causative relationships between the variables. The research only aims at identifying relationships between the variables.

Population and Sampling

The target population of this study consisted of 200 respondents chosen from the total population of probationers under the supervision of District 4, Laguna Province Parole and Probation Office (LPPPO), located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Santa Cruz, Laguna. The probationers were individuals undergoing community-based sentences under court-imposed probation conditions at the time of the study.

The respondents were selected based on specific criteria to ensure they could provide relevant and reliable information. The probationers chosen for the study met the following criteria: (1) they were officially under probation supervision in District 4 at the time of data gathering; (2) they were at least 18 years old; (3) they were physically and mentally capable of answering the survey or interview questions; and (4) they were willing to participate in the study voluntarily.

The sampling method used to select the respondents was purposive sampling. The method was suitable for the study, as it involved selecting respondents with direct experience of probation conditions and the challenges of complying with them. The method enabled the researcher to select respondents who could provide the most relevant information on the factors influencing probationers and the challenges they faced in complying with probation conditions.

Research Instrument

The researcher used a validated self-developed questionnaire, which consisted of 90 items meant to gauge the effects of probationer factors individually, as a family member/community member and organization, and the difficulties faced in compliance with the conditions of probation. In order to validate the questionnaire, it was subjected to content validation among experts on criminology, public administration, researchers, and probation supervisors. These provided comments and recommendations to make sure the questions were clear, relevant, and appropriate.

A pilot test was done among selected probationers, excluding the actual respondents used in this study. Reliability analysis was performed through the use of Cronbach's Alpha. Results show that the questionnaire had a satisfactory reliability score, implying that the instrument was reliable in data collection.

Furthermore, researcher used a personal information sheet to gather necessary information from the study's respondents. The personal information sheet included questions on age, sex, educational attainment, and employment status. The instrument or questionnaire was written in English and translated into Tagalog to ensure respondents could understand the questions and provide valid answers. The questionnaire was divided into five (5) sections: demographics, individual factors, family/community factors, institutional/probation system factors, and challenges in adhering to probation conditions.

To ensure a clear, accurate representation of the gathered data, the researcher used the Likert scale to measure participants' responses.

Research Procedure

Upon the approval of the questionnaire and the formal request to conduct the study, the research process continued to the data-gathering stage. Permission was secured from the Chief of the Laguna Province Parole and Probation Office, who had jurisdiction over District Four (4) of Laguna, to conduct the study. The study was conducted at the Laguna Provincial Capitol Compound in Santa Cruz, Laguna, where the probationers regularly reported.

The researcher used a validated self-developed questionnaire to collect data on respondents' demographic characteristics, including age, sex, educational attainment, and employment status. A total of two hundred (200) respondents were chosen for the study. Before the respondents answered the questionnaire, they were informed of the study's purpose and asked to provide informed consent to ensure voluntary participation and to

eliminate any extraneous factors that might influence the study. They were given the freedom to respond in writing or orally, as they preferred, without any restrictions on their responses.

The administration of the questionnaire depended on respondents' availability and was scheduled during the clients' monthly reporting period. After administering the questionnaire, the researcher collected the completed instruments for sorting, coding, and data tabulation in preparation for statistical analysis.

Since the data were collected from respondents who were on probation, some form of response bias might have been evident since people can be afraid of sharing certain information for fear of repercussions, even though they were assured that the data would be kept confidential.

Statistical Treatment

The statistical analysis for this study, which involved individual, family/community, and institutional/probation system variables, as well as challenges in complying with probation conditions, relied on the study's questions and objectives and on the collected data.

The collected data were analyzed using frequency and percentages for the respondents' profiles. The weighted mean and standard deviation were used to compute the level and dispersion of the respondents' responses on the mentioned factors and challenges. The Pearson Correlation Coefficient (Pearson r) was used to test the significance of the relationship between the independent and dependent variables (factors and challenges, respectively).

Pearson Correlation Coefficient

Guilford developed the Pearson Correlation Coefficient "R" test in 1956 in an effort to quantify and analyze the linear relationship between two variables. It is used to determine whether a linear relationship exists between two variables and how strong it is (as indicated by the p-value and the coefficient r , respectively). This test is used only when the underlying assumptions are true.

The Rule of Thumb presented by Guildford (1973) was adopted to interpret relationship strength. The table summarizes Guildford's (1973) Rule of Thumb for the interpretation of the correlation coefficient (r)

Table Guildford's (1973) Rule of Thumb for Interpretation of Correlation Coefficient

r	Interpretation
$< .20$	Slight, almost negligible relationship
$.20 - .40$	Low correlation, definite but small relationship
$.40 - .70$	Moderate correlation, substantial relationship
$.70 - .90$	High correlation, marked relationship
$> .90$	Very high correlation, very dependable relationship

A Likert scale was used in the survey questionnaire to measure respondents' attitudes and perceptions regarding variables that influenced compliance with probation conditions. The respondents were asked to rate their level of agreement or disagreement with a set of structured response options.

Scale	Weight	Remarks	Interpretation
5	4:20 - 5:00	Strongly Agree	Very Acceptable
4	3:40 - 4:19	Agree	Acceptable
3	2:60 - 3:39	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Moderately Acceptable
2	1:80 - 2:59	Disagree	Fairly Acceptable
1	1:00 - 1:79	Strongly Disagree	Not Acceptable

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS, AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

This chapter presents the analysis and interpretation of data gathered to understand the factors affecting probationers and the challenges they face in adhering to probation conditions. As stated in the previous chapter, the survey was conducted among 200 respondents associated with the research.

1. What is the Socio-Demographic Profile of the Respondents in terms of age

Table 1.1: Socio-Demographic Profile of the Respondents in Terms of Age

Age	<i>f</i>	%
18-25	15	7.5%
26-35	89	44.5%
36-45	82	41%
46-55	10	5%
56 and above	4	2%
Total	200	100%
<i>Note. N=200.</i>		

Table 1.1 presents the respondents' age profile. The largest percentage of respondents (44.5%) belongs to the 26-35-year age group ($f=89$). The second most populous category of respondents consists of people aged 36-45 ($f=82$; 41%). When taken together, 85.5% of all respondents fall into these categories, meaning that the great majority of the probationers being studied are in the best years of their lives – working and raising families. Younger respondents, aged 18-25, constitute only 7.5% ($f=15$). Even less populated are the older age categories: people aged 46-55 represent 5% ($f=10$), while those aged 56 and older represent only 2% ($f=4$).

The predominance of respondents aged 26-45 is highly significant for this study, given the increased pressures they face regarding their financial situation and family obligations.

Table 1.2: Socio-Demographic Profile of the Respondents in Terms of Sex

Sex	<i>f</i>	%
Male	181	90.5%
Female	19	9.5%
Total	200	100%
<i>Note. N=200.</i>		

Table 1.2 shows that there are a large number of males, who constitute 90.5% ($f=181$) of the respondents, whereas female respondents comprise only 9.5% ($f=19$). This means that the majority of the respondents were male.

Table 1.3 Socio-Demographic Profile of the Respondents in Terms of Educational Attainment

Education	<i>f</i>	%
No Formal Education	2	1%
Elementary Level	13	6.5%
Elementary Graduate	26	13%
High School Level	57	28.5%
High School Graduate	86	43%
College Level	9	4.5%
College Graduate	4	2%
TESDA Graduate	3	1.5%
Total	200	100%
<i>Note. N=200.</i>		

Table 1.3 shows that the greatest percentage of respondents (43%, $f=86$) has attained High School Graduate Status, while another 28.5% ($f=57$) attained the status of High School Level. This means that 71.5% of the population has attained these levels of education. Fewer respondents attained elementary education (13%), and attained Elementary Level (6.5%). It should be noted that the great majority of respondents did not pursue higher education; only a very few did. Specifically, only 4.5% and 2% attained College Level and College Graduate statuses, respectively.

Table 1.4 Socio-Demographic Profile of the Respondents in Terms of Employment Status

Status	<i>f</i>	%
Regular	19	9.5%
Part-Time	155	77.5%
Self-Employed	20	10%
Unemployed	4	2%
Student	0	0%
Unable	2	1%
Total	200	100%
<i>Note. N=200.</i>		

Table 1.4 shows that a substantial number of participants (77.5%, $f=155$) have a Part-Time occupation. Only 9.5% ($f=19$) have regular jobs, compared to 10% ($f=20$) who are Self-Employed. Another 3% of the participants either do not have jobs (Unemployment) or are Unable to work.

The dominance of part-time occupations among participants indicates that their lives lack economic stability. The presence of part-time occupations also provides an important backdrop to the problems encountered by the participants, as discussed later in the study.

II. Individual Factors

Table 2.1 Perceived Level of Influence of Age, Sex, Educational Attainment, and Employment Status

Indicator	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Influence
1. My age influences my capacity to comply with probation conditions.	4.23	0.44	Very high
2. My sex influences my experiences during probation supervision.	3.87	0.57	High
3. My educational background influences my understanding of probation regulations.	4.08	0.37	High
4. Having a job assists me in complying with probation conditions.	4.09	0.39	High
5. My personal circumstances (age, sex, education, and employment) influence my compliance with probation.	4.12	0.34	High
Overall	4.07	0.33	High
<i>Note. N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00 = Very High, 3.41–4.20 = High, 2.61–3.40 = Moderate, 1.81–2.60 = Low, 1.00–1.80 = Very Low.</i>			

Table 2.1 presents respondents' perceptions of the extent to which personal circumstances influence their adherence to the conditions of probation. The mean of 4.07 and a standard deviation of 0.33 imply a strong influence of personal factors on adherence to probation conditions. The low standard deviation implies that the answers tend to be consistent and close to the mean, suggesting that most respondents hold a common view about the degree of influence of the said factors. Among the five indicators used in the research, the variable “age” had the highest mean of 4.23 (Standard Deviation = 0.44), indicating a very high level of influence.

Next in line is the general influence of personal circumstances, which received an average of 4.12 (Standard Deviation = 0.34) and was also categorized as high. Third in rank is the variable “employment status,” whose mean score of 4.09 (Standard Deviation = 0.39) is high. In addition, educational background was found to have a strong influence on adherence to probation conditions, with a mean score of 4.08 (Standard Deviation =

0.37). Lastly, the least influential among the five indicators is the variable “sex,” which had an average score of 3.87 (Standard Deviation = 0.57)

The results imply that a probationer's demographic and socioeconomic status significantly influence his/her ability to comply with the terms and conditions imposed on him/her. The highest score is associated with age, suggesting that maturity, life experience, and perhaps physical strength can affect compliance behaviors. On the other hand, the relatively high scores for education level and employment status indicate that being highly educated and gainfully employed can improve understanding of rules and provide the stability needed to comply. At last, the low mean value for the sex variable suggests that gender-specific experiences can also affect compliance behaviors, but to a lesser degree than other variables.

In the City of Cabanatuan, the probationers of the Parole and Probation Administration and any other probation offices indeed face various risk factors in their rehabilitation programs. The probationers were profiled by age, education, and employment. The study includes participants from various age groups, education levels, and employment statuses, helping us understand their different needs and challenges. Most probationers (147) are between 20 and 40 years old, likely in the middle of their working and family-raising years. The smaller group (comprising 93) is aged 40 and above and includes those facing challenges such as age-related health problems or difficulty finding a job. (Ayeo-Eo and Jimmy, 2025)

Table 2.2 Perceived Level of Influence of Attitude Toward Supervision and Rehabilitation

Indicator	M	SD	Influence
1.I think that probation supervision assists me in enhancing my conduct.	4.50	0.50	Very high
2.I am ready to abide by the instructions of my Probation Officer.	4.56	0.50	Very High
3.I consider rehabilitation programs to be helpful to me.	4.69	0.47	Very High
4.I am serious about my responsibilities on probation.	4.78	0.43	Very High
5.I am motivated to successfully finish my probation.	4.62	0.50	Very High
Overall	4.63	0.37	Very High

Note. N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5:00 = Very High, 3.41–4.20 = High, 2.61–3.40 = Moderate, 1.81–2.60 = Low, 1.00–1.80 = Very Low.

Table 2.2 shows the respondents' attitudes towards the probation process, with a mean of 4.63 and a standard deviation of 0.37. These scores indicate a very high level of attitude. Thus, the respondents have very high attitudes towards probation. Among the indicators, the highest scoring was the seriousness respondents attributed to their duties while on probation, with a mean of 4.78 and a standard deviation of 0.43. Other indicators include perceptions that the rehabilitation programs will help (mean = 4.69, SD = 0.47) and motivation to succeed during the period of probation (mean = 4.62, SD = 0.50). Being ready to follow instructions from their Probation Officer also scored high, with a mean of 4.56 and an SD of 0.50. The indicator receiving the lowest score is respondents' belief that probation supervision improves their behavior, with a mean of 4.50 and SD = 0.50, but it is still considered very high.

Based on the results, the probationers are aware of what they must do and have internal motivations that will help them meet the requirements imposed on them during their probation period. The extremely high rating of the seriousness of responsibilities points to the high level of accountability and internal motivation, two important aspects of rehabilitation. At the same time, the respondents highly appreciate rehabilitation programs, indicating that they understand there are effective methods for helping them behave properly. Finally, the respondents are willing to heed their probation officers' advice. Despite receiving the lowest average score for the statement about how supervision improves their behavior, the extremely high rating should be noted.

The research was based on information gathered from the SVORI project, which included 781 subjects, and analyzed the link between procedural justice in community supervision officer treatment and probation outcomes. The analysis indicated that subjects who felt they were treated respectfully, fairly, and justly by their supervising officers had better adherence to supervisory rules and fewer violations. Thus, the information

above demonstrates the importance of respectful treatment in ensuring law-abiding conduct, indicating that proper relations between the supervising officer and the subject under supervision are essential for the successful completion of a probation term. (Buckner et al., 2023)

Table 2.3 Perceived Level of Influence of Substance Abuse or Mental Health Issues

Indicator	M	SD	Influence
1.Issues about alcohol or drugs impact my probation compliance.	4.04	0.18	High
2.Emotional or mental stress hinders me from complying with probation terms.	3.90	0.59	High
3.I require assistance regarding mental or emotional issues.	4.12	0.34	High
4.Drug use may hinder my rehabilitation.	4.13	0.35	High
5.Counseling assistance helps me cope with my personal issues.	4.13	0.33	High
Overall	4.06	0.30	High
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00 = Very High, 3.41–4.20 = High, 2.61–3.40 = Moderate, 1.81–2.60 = Low, 1.00–1.80 = Very Low.			

Table 2.3 provides an overview of respondents' views on the extent to which psychological and substance-related factors affect their compliance with probation terms. The average rating of 4.06 (standard deviation 0.30) suggests a strong influence, indicating that these factors are vital to probation compliance. Among the indicators, the most important were drug use as an obstacle to rehabilitation and counseling assistance, whose mean scores were identical at 4.13 (standard deviation 0.35 and 0.33, respectively).

Next in importance is the need for assistance with problems related to one's emotions or mental state, with an average score of 4.12 (standard deviation 0.34). Alcohol and drug issues also had a strong influence on respondents, with an average score of 4.04 (standard deviation 0.18). Meanwhile, the least important indicator in this context was the difficulty in meeting probation requirements due to emotional and mental strain, which received an average score of 3.90 (standard deviation 0.59); however, it can still be considered to have a high level of influence.

The results indicate that internal issues, such as substance abuse and psychological problems, significantly affect how well probationers follow the rules. The positive ratings on drug abuse and drinking problems confirm that they continue to act as significant obstacles to the rehabilitation process. However, the fact that the counseling aid is rated just as highly shows that the interviewees acknowledge the importance of professional guidance in tackling the above-mentioned problems. The requirement of psychological and emotional counseling also highlights the fact that the interviewees recognize their internal problems and are willing to seek assistance. Emotional strain was rated lowest, but the relatively high score suggests it may be another issue influencing compliance.

From these findings, the program used for probation should give priority to offering counseling and drug abuse services during the probation period. The research shows that such services would play an important role in helping the person on probation overcome problems within themselves. In the end, the individual will be able to comply with the terms and conditions of the probation program. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that the client is helped to overcome their personal issues.

The research was carried out on the effects of mental health disorders and substance abuse problems on recidivism among 12,649 delinquent youths under probation based on data obtained from the JJ-TRIALS multi-site project. According to the research, youths with only mental health problems or substance abuse problems had a higher tendency of recidivism by 1.5 times compared to those who were not under probation. However, those with both conditions experienced an even greater likelihood of recidivism (3.5). Moreover, they also re-offended earlier than those without any behavior-related health problems. The research also showed that intervention in such disorders through treatment minimized reoffending tendencies, especially for those with substance abuse and combined mental health problems;. However, the extent of efficacy varied across types of behavior problems. (Stanley et al., 2025)

Table 2.4 Perceived Level of Influence of Previous Criminal Behavior/History

Indicator	M	SD	Influence
1.My experiences with crime in the past influence my current conduct.	4.46	0.50	Very high
2.My past errors of judgment encourage me to make positive changes.	4.67	0.47	Very high
3.My criminal record influences the way people treat me.	4.59	0.49	Very high
4.I am attempting to avoid committing the same crimes in the future.	4.61	0.50	Very high
5.My past conduct influences my experience with probation.	4.53	0.51	Very high
Overall	4.57	0.40	Very high
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00 = Very High, 3.41–4.20 = High, 2.61–3.40 = Moderate, 1.81–2.60 = Low, 1.00–1.80 = Very Low.			

Table 2.4 presents respondents' perceptions of the effects of their prior criminal history on their current behavior and adherence to probation requirements. The mean of 4.57 and a standard deviation of 0.40 suggest that respondents' past experiences have a very strong effect on their current behavior. Of all the variables analyzed, respondents rated the variable positively, indicating that their past mistakes have taught them valuable lessons and resulted in positive change ($M = 4.67$, $SD = 0.47$).

This was followed by the respondents' efforts not to reoffend ($M = 4.61$, $SD = 0.50$) and the perceived effect of their criminal record on how they are treated by others ($M = 4.59$, $SD = 0.49$). On the other hand, the lowest mean value was obtained for the variable measuring the effect of past experiences on present conduct ($M = 4.46$, $SD = 0.50$). In general, the indicators show a consistent trend, with exceptionally high scores and only slight variation, indicating a clear understanding of the importance of one's past actions in shaping today's behaviors.

It can be seen from the results above that people are well aware of the consequences their previous actions had, and they use the experience as motivation to change something about themselves. Specifically, the highest possible score on the question about learning from past actions indicates the person's internal need to change and improve. In turn, the high score on the need to avoid future offenses can indicate the respondent's intention to change and obey the law. Furthermore, the realization that past criminal history can affect how others treat him/her may also be an important factor influencing future decisions.

Such findings suggest that probation initiatives should capitalize on this high level of accountability and motivation to engage in interventions that seek to influence personal behavior and growth. Given that respondents are already showing signs of a desire to learn from past experiences and avoid reoffending, they may benefit greatly from programs that emphasize self-reflection, counseling, and skill development. Furthermore, the significance respondents attribute to their criminal histories in terms of social treatment indicates the need for programs that help people reintegrate into society and be accepted there.

There was a significant correlation between prior criminal history and recidivism in the Commission study, with people having lower scores on their criminal history being less likely to be arrested again in comparison to people having higher scores. For example, Criminal History Category I offenders with zero criminal history points were less likely to be re-arrested (30.2%) than those with one criminal history point (46.9%). Furthermore, offenders who had never been involved in the criminal justice system before had lower recidivism levels (25.7%) than offenders who had been previously arrested (37.4%). Similarly, offenders whose previous crimes were not serious had a lower recidivism level (53.4%) than offenders whose previous crimes were more serious (approximately 70%). (United States Sentencing Commission, 2023)

Table 3.1 Perceived Level of Influence of Family Support/Relationships

Indicator	M	SD	Influence
1.My family urges me to comply with the conditions of my probation.	4.52	0.52	Very high
2.I get emotional support from my family.	4.46	0.54	Very high
3.My family assists me in attending necessary meetings or programs.	4.52	0.52	Very high

4.Problems in my family make it hard for me to comply with my probation.	4.34	0.58	Very high
5.Having a strong family relationship helps me avoid reoffending.	4.50	0.52	Very high
Overall	4.47	0.45	Very high
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5:00 = Very High, 3.41–4.20 = High, 2.61–3.40 = Moderate, 1.81–2.60 = Low, 1.00–1.80 = Very Low.			

Table 3.1 shows the impact of family support on the respondents' adherence to probation conditions. The result of 4.47 with a standard deviation of 0.45 suggests a very high family impact, indicating that it significantly affects the probation process for the respondents. It should be noted that among the listed indicators, the highest means was observed for questions about the impact of family on respondents' urge to adhere to conditions and to help them attend required meetings/programs (4.52; SD = 0.52). In addition, a very close mean score was obtained when asking about the ability of a good family relationship to prevent the respondents from committing a crime (4.50; SD = 0.52). Emotional support by the family was considered very high, with a score of 4.46 (SD = 0.54). At the same time, the lowest but still very high mean score was reached when asking whether difficulties related to the family make it harder to comply with probation (4.34; SD = 0.58).

These outcomes suggest that the family should be acknowledged as part of the process of rehabilitation during probation. Engaging families through counseling and family interventions may help increase adherence and lower the risk of recidivism. Also, addressing family-related issues is critical because conflicts within the family may hinder the probationer from meeting their obligations during probation. All in all, the outcomes reveal the significance of the family-based model in probation, where families can play an integral role in achieving rehabilitation.

From the results obtained, one gets an impression that the family is indeed a source of motivation and help for probationers. High scores for both encouragement and practical help, such as taking them to mandatory programs, indicate that family members work hard to ensure they meet all requirements for their probation. Emotional support, in turn, helps probationers cope with the difficulties of this situation; at the same time, good relations with family may serve as a protective factor against criminal behavior. However, the fact that a large number of respondents identified family-related problems as a barrier means that the family can not only be helpful but a source of obstacles as well.

To develop clear processes for probationers regarding the integration process, Panesilvam et al. (2021) conducted a comprehensive analysis of family visitation and support structures and their effects on reintegration success rates. Focus on such factors as housing stability, employment, and recidivism rates in relation to the number of times family members visited the offenders and supported them are carefully analyzed in this study.

It show that families provide important assistance with respect to accommodation (72%), employment (58%), and the development of pro-social identities that prevent criminal reoccurrence, which indicates strong relationships between the number of visits from families and 35% reduction in recidivism rates; This review is based on evidence of how relationship networks become effective buffers to avoid problems like homelessness, unemployment, and social isolation that usually trigger probation violations.

Table 3.2 Perceived Level of Influence of Peer Influence/Social Networks

Indicator	M	SD	Influence
1.My friends affect my behavior.	4.59	0.49	Very high
2.I stay away from friends who engage in illegal acts.	4.49	0.50	Very high
3.Positive social interactions assist me in following probation.	4.52	0.50	Very high
4.Negative peer influence may cause probation violations.	4.61	0.51	Very high
5.My social group influences my rehabilitation.	4.62	0.51	Very high
Overall	4.56	0.39	Very high
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5:00 = Very High, 3.41–4.20 = High, 2.61–3.40 = Moderate, 1.81–2.60 = Low, 1.00–1.80 = Very Low.			

Table 3.2 presents respondents' opinions on the influence of peer and group relations on probation compliance and rehabilitation. An average mean score of 4.56 and a standard deviation of 0.39 indicate a very high degree of influence, suggesting that peer relations significantly shape behavior. As far as the indicators, go, the highest mean was scored by the indicator of the influence of the social group on respondent rehabilitation ($M = 4.62$, $SD = 0.51$), while the next one is concerned with the negative effect of peer relations that can result in the violation of probation conditions ($M = 4.61$, $SD = 0.51$).

Very high ratings were also given to statements related to the behavior affected by friends ($M = 4.59$, $SD = 0.49$) and the positive effect of social relations on compliance with probation ($M = 4.52$, $SD = 0.50$). Despite a slightly lower mean, efforts to remove friends engaged in criminal activity have been ranked as very high in importance ($M = 4.49$, $SD = 0.50$).

The results show that peers and the environment are influential determinants in both fostering desirable and undesirable behaviors among probationers. Given the high values assigned to the social group's influence and peer pressure, it is apparent that associating with particular individuals can either help or complicate the process of following probation requirements. Conversely, the fact that there is a general consensus on the usefulness of positive social interaction in encouraging compliance shows that positive relations can contribute to behavioral conformity. Despite the attempts made by probationers to isolate themselves from those involved in criminal activity, their low mean score shows that doing so can be difficult.

Family members, friends, and even peers are essential when it comes to helping such offenders avoid relapsing into further crimes. It is the emotional, psychological, and practical support systems that these networks provide that help with these problems during the process of reintegration, and thus, the same networks assist in reducing the chances of relapse after completing probation. The resilience and determination demonstrated by the participants in this study highlight the human capacity for change and growth. Many former probationers can transform their lives despite their significant hurdles, contributing positively to their communities. Factors that were revealed to their successful reintegration include acceptance and accountability for what had happened in the past, support system from family, friends, and peers, and becoming a better person with a purpose (Pendang & Nabe, 2024).

Table 3.3 Perceived Level of Influence of Community Resources Availability

Indicator	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Influence
1. There are community programs available to help probationers.	4.43	0.50	Very high
2. I have access to livelihood or skills training programs.	4.27	0.70	Very high
3. Community support services help me comply with probation.	4.35	0.63	Very high
4. Lack of community resources makes compliance difficult.	4.46	0.50	Very high
5. Local organizations help with my rehabilitation.	4.41	0.49	Very high
Overall	4.38	0.46	Very high
<i>Note.</i> $N=200$. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very High, 3.41–4.20=High, 2.61–3.40=Moderate, 1.81–2.60=Low, 1.00–1.80=Very Low.			

Table 3.3 presents the respondents' ratings of the influence of community support and resources on probation compliance and rehabilitation. With an average score of 4.38 and a standard deviation of 0.46, the community-related factors have a very strong influence, indicating their important role in the probation process among the respondents. Among the indicators mentioned, the one rated highest in terms of influence is “Lack of community resources makes compliance difficult” ($M = 4.46$, $SD = 0.50$), suggesting the considerable importance of limited access to necessary support systems. Next, the second highest rating was given to the “Availability of community programs to help probationers” ($M = 4.43$, $SD = 0.50$), followed by the third indicator, “Community organizations involved in helping probationers' rehabilitation” ($M = 4.41$, $SD = 0.49$). Fourth in line is the factor of “Community support services assisting in compliance” ($M = 4.35$, $SD = 0.63$). Finally, the “Access to livelihood programs” indicator had the lowest rating of 4.27 ($SD = 0.70$), but it also has very high ratings.

From the above discussion, we can deduce that community support is very crucial in ensuring that probation is adhered to and rehabilitation is achieved. The high score awarded to the lack of community resources as a barrier shows that inadequate services can actually impede probationers' effective achievement of objectives. It should be noted however that the high score awarded to the existence and effectiveness of community programs shows that respondents acknowledge the importance of outside help in the process of rehabilitation. Nonetheless, the low average and high standard deviation for livelihood and skills programs show that they are not equally available to all respondents.

These findings suggest that efforts to establish effective community-based support structures are crucial to improving the effectiveness of probation processes. From these findings, there is a clear indication that more emphasis must be placed on ensuring that various programs, including livelihood training and skills acquisition, are readily available to help probationers integrate back into society. Additionally, there should be greater cooperation between probation offices and other community-based agencies to ensure adequate support services are provided to clients. It is especially crucial to address the limited community-based services, which affect compliance and rehabilitation efforts.

The current dissertation focuses on studying the effect of social support and community-based programs on lowering recidivism rates among former inmates and identifies five types of social support including affirmation, networking, tangible, emotional, and informational. The research reveals that effective social support systems that include family members, friends, peers, and community ties play a crucial role in helping former prisoners reintegrate into society since they ensure access to fundamental resources such as housing, job opportunities, education, and counseling. As evidenced by qualitative data collected from 13 ex-offenders, social support systems positively affect social integration, facilitate decision-making, and contribute to the development of reintegration strategies with minimal risk of relapse. Social support networks and community-based resources represent protective factors that allow offenders to address issues related to stigmatization, unemployment, and the absence of basic necessities. (Liggins)

Table 3.4 Perceived Level of Influence of Neighborhood Safety and Moral Support

Indicator	M	SD	Influence
1.My neighborhood environment influences my behavior.	4.69	0.48	Very high
2.I am safe in my community.	4.58	0.49	Very high
3.Members of my community judge me because of my record.	4.59	0.50	Very high
4.Stigma hinders my reintegration into society.	4.59	0.51	Very high
5.Acceptance from my community helps me change.	4.58	0.53	Very high
Overall	4.61	0.43	Very high
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very High, 3.41–4.20=High, 2.61–3.40=Moderate, 1.81–2.60=Low, 1.00–1.80=Very Low.			

Table 3.4 shows the influence of the neighborhood's safety and the moral support of the individuals on the probationers' behavior. As shown in the table, the overall mean of 4.61 and the standard deviation of 0.43 indicate a very high level of influence. It shows that the community plays an important role in shaping probationers' lives. The highest mean (of 4.69) is obtained for the indicator of "the neighborhood environment influences my behavior," which is also the highest rated indicator. In addition, two other highly rated indicators are "members of the community think of me due to my record" and "community stigmatizes me so I cannot get back into society," both obtaining means of 4.59 and having low standard deviations of 0.50 and 0.51, respectively. The indicators with the lowest means (4.58 and 4.58, respectively) but still in the very high category were "I feel safe in this community" and "acceptance in the community helps me to change," with standard deviations of 0.49 and 0.53, respectively.

These results clearly indicate that the social environment plays an important role in shaping the behavior, attitudes, and rehabilitation of probationers. A high score for the influence of neighborhood environment indicates that people are strongly influenced by their surroundings. In addition, high scores in case of stigma and judgment show that probationers face some difficulties concerning social acceptance which may not

contribute towards their rehabilitation. On the other hand, high scores for safety and community acceptance indicate that any positive influence could help them change their behavior and comply with the terms and conditions of their probation.

From the findings above, it is clear that the community setting plays an important role in determining the effectiveness of probation and rehabilitation activities. In supportive, conducive communities, change can take place more easily. However, when the community is not supportive and holds negative views of the person, probation may not be successful due to noncompliance with the rules and regulations. Consequently, it would be advisable for probation officers to integrate both individual and community-based intervention approaches to facilitate compliance with probation.

Theoretical and policy literature on community-based corrections (probation) stresses community acceptance and perceived neighborhood safety as necessary conditions for probation success. These works argue that when a community perceives the neighborhood as safe and when probationers feel they belong (reduced stigma, supportive neighbors), compliance with supervision improves because probationers can participate in livelihood activities and access local resources without fear or repeated harassment. Philippine reviews recommend strengthening neighborhood-level initiatives (Volunteer Probation Assistants, barangay awareness campaigns) to build a safety–support environment that buffers probationers from criminogenic pressures (Recla and Cuevas Jr., 2025).

Table 4.1 Perceived Importance as a Factor of Probation Officer Supervision Style

Indicator	M	SD	Importance
1.My Probation Officer respects me.	4.46	0.54	Very important
2.My PPO explains probation terms clearly.	4.43	0.53	Very important
3.I am comfortable talking to my PPO.	4.48	0.54	Very important
4.My PPO gives me good guidance.	4.50	0.53	Very important
5.Supervision helps me stay on track.	4.47	0.53	Very important
Overall	4.47	0.45	Very important
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very important, 3.41–4.20=Important, 2.61–3.40=Moderately important, 1.81–2.60=Slightly important, 1.00–1.80=Not important.			

Table 4.1 below shows the level of importance accorded to supervision style in determining the respondents' compliance and rehabilitation. An overall mean of 4.47 and a standard deviation of 0.45 indicate that supervision style is very important to the respondents, suggesting a strong appreciation for the probation officer's supervision in helping them behave well. Regarding the indicators, the highest mean score was observed for the indicator on the probation officer providing good guidance (M = 4.50, SD = 0.53). The second-highest mean score was for the respondents' feeling at ease when conversing with the probation officer (M = 4.48, SD = 0.54). Other indicators receiving high mean scores included feeling supervised keeps them on track (M = 4.47, SD = 0.53) and respect from the probation officer (M = 4.46, SD = 0.54). In contrast, the lowest mean score was attained for the clear explanation of probation terms (M = 4.43, SD = 0.53). However, this indicator too scores highly in terms of importance.

The results suggest that interaction with probation officers is crucial in ensuring probationers' compliance. The respondents rate highly on guidance, communication, and respect, indicating that there is professionalism and supportiveness in the interactions between probationers and their officers. A respondent's ability to communicate with their probation officer demonstrates mutual trust, which is essential for effective supervision. The fact that respondents view supervision as important in ensuring compliance highlights the vital role of probation officers in this process. Although clarity of explanations has the lowest average among all variables in the study, its rating remains quite high.

Such conclusions can suggest that using a supportive approach based on the relationship between probation officer and clients can positively influence the effectiveness of probation and the outcome of rehabilitation. Probation officers who show respect for their clients, give them appropriate guidance, and establish open

dialogue can ensure the creation of a trusting atmosphere and cooperation of probationers. On one hand, such an approach allows for more efficient compliance with probation regulations; on the other hand, it positively impacts the personal growth of clients.

To find out the causes of adult probation revocations, Diaz et al. (2022) conducted an overview. The findings indicate that positive and strong relations between the officers and the clients, proper number of cases for the officer, and availability of rehabilitation services are positively correlated with effective results of probation. However, the higher rate of revocations was found to correlate with tight supervision, high fines, and some demographic features. Thus, the paper shows that the role of probation officer supervision style characterized by confidence, compassion, and relationship-building is crucial in reducing revocations.

Table 4.2 Perceived Importance as a Factor of Caseload and Accessibility of Probation Officers

Indicator	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Importance
1. My PPO is available whenever I need help.	3.96	0.37	Important
2. I can readily reach my PPO.	3.83	0.52	Important
3. My PPO has sufficient time to respond to my concerns.	4.20	0.40	Important
4. I am receiving regular supervision.	4.23	0.47	Very important
5. I am satisfied with the accessibility of my PPO.	4.14	0.40	Important
Overall	4.07	0.29	Important
<i>Note.</i> <i>N</i> =200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very important, 3.41–4.20=Important, 2.61–3.40=Moderately important, 1.81–2.60=Slightly important, 1.00–1.80=Not important.			

Table 4.2 shows how respondents rated the accessibility of their Probation and Parole Officer (PPO) and how it influences their compliance with probation conditions. With a mean score of 4.07 and a standard deviation of 0.29, it can be concluded that accessibility is genuinely important to the respondents, which explains why the rating is high but not the highest compared to other dimensions in the study. The highest-scoring indicator concerns whether respondents are being supervised regularly ($M = 4.23$, $SD = 0.47$). This dimension is categorized as "very important." Following that is satisfaction with the PPO having enough time to address the respondents' needs ($M = 4.20$, $SD = 0.40$), also rated as highly important. Likewise, satisfaction with PPO accessibility ($M = 4.14$, $SD = 0.40$) received a high mean score and is rated as highly important. The availability of PPO upon request and ease of reaching out to the officer scored relatively lower, with means of 3.96 ($SD = 0.37$) and 3.83 ($SD = 0.52$), respectively, both rated as important.

The data imply that while probationers view their PPO as accessible and responsive, there are minor shortcomings regarding immediacy and accessibility. The maximum rating given to the regularity of supervision reveals that probationers are subject to continuous monitoring, an important element in meeting the requirements of probation. Probationers' perception of the PPO being highly responsive and allocating sufficient time to deal with issues implies that the respondents appreciate the assistance and attention provided to them by their supervisors. Nevertheless, low ratings assigned to the ease of accessing the PPO and its immediacy suggest the possibility of difficulties in contacting their supervisors.

Such findings suggest that greater access and more effective means of communication between the probationer and PPOs could increase the efficiency of probation supervision even more. Providing better ways of contacting one another, such as increased frequency of meetings or use of other forms of communication, might prove helpful in resolving any problems that might arise more swiftly. Regular supervision along with a more accessible and receptive attitude of the PPO are important factors to consider in the matter.

In order to examine the variables related to adult probation revocation, Diaz et al. (2022) conducted a fast review. The main objective of this study was to find out what types of supervision and what conditions have an effect on the probabilities of success in completing probation for the offenders and of having them revoked. Some earlier researches on probation supervision, the process of interaction between probation officers and

their clients, and supervision policies were analyzed within the framework of this research methodology. It was found out that even though the stricter supervision, imposing heavy sanctions in case of failure to pay the fines led to probation revocation, having good relations with probationers, lower numbers of clients and access to rehabilitative programs favored positive results in probation process.

Table 4.3 Perceived Importance as a Factor of Availability of Rehabilitation Programs

Indicator	M	SD	Importance
1. Rehabilitation programs are available for me.	3.92	0.45	Important
2. The programs available meet my needs.	3.71	0.57	Important
3. I am encouraged to participate in rehabilitation programs.	4.09	0.28	Important
4. Participation in the program aids my personal growth.	4.10	0.30	Important
5. There is a lack of programs that make compliance difficult.	4.10	0.29	Important
Overall	3.98	0.28	Important
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very important, 3.41–4.20=Important, 2.61–3.40=Moderately important, 1.81–2.60=Slightly important, 1.00–1.80=Not important.			

Table 4.3 shows the respondents' evaluations regarding the importance and adequacy of the rehabilitation programs in facilitating their compliance with probation. With an average score of 3.98 and a standard deviation of 0.28, respondents perceived rehabilitation programs as important. However, the rating is below the highest value. Looking into the items used for evaluation, respondents attributed high values to the following two indicators: “participation in the program contributes to my personal growth” (Mean = 4.10, SD = 0.30) and “no rehabilitation programs make me unable to comply with probation” (Mean = 4.10, SD = 0.29). The next highest score goes to the indicator “respondents encourage participating in rehabilitation programs” (Mean = 4.09, SD = 0.28), followed by the one related to availability of such programs (Mean = 3.92, SD = 0.45). However, the lowest score was given to the last indicator, i.e., “programs offered satisfy the need of respondents” (Mean = 3.71, SD = 0.57), yet this value falls within the range of important. Overall, all the indicators evaluated scored positively in terms of importance but with lower values in terms of adequacy.

From the results, it is clear that despite respondents appreciating the importance of rehabilitation programs in developing themselves and ensuring their compliance, some reservations exist on whether such programs meet their requirements. The fact that the rating for encouragement and personal growth is relatively high means that probationers are eager to engage in such programs because they find them rewarding. Nonetheless, the fact that the rating for program adequacy is relatively low means that current programs are perhaps inadequate in meeting the demands of the respondents. Moreover, it is clear that the absence of such programs acts as a deterrent to compliance.

This suggests that there should be a greater effort exerted to ensure that the rehabilitation programs used in the probationary setting become better and more effective. Though current rehabilitation programs are considered as helpful, making them relevant, accessible, and more responsive to the needs of probationers would make them even more helpful and more beneficial. The idea is to provide a variety of rehabilitation programs which would also suit the needs of clients. In effect, the research suggests that there should be a focus on quality and suitability, aside from making sure that there are indeed rehabilitation programs provided to the clients.

Negi, Chatterjee, Tripathy, Udhaya, Kumar, and Mehta, (2026) conducted a systematic review to evaluate the effectiveness of rehabilitation and reintegration programs for facilitating social reintegration of individuals who were engaged with the legal processes. Effective reintegration programs that encompass skills development, psychological treatment, and involvement in the community substantially lower rates of re-offending, based on the analysis of empirical evidence and evaluations of program implementations done by the study.

The effectiveness was demonstrated to be contingent upon the adaptation of interventions to risk factors and consistent follow-ups. The importance of accessible and organized rehabilitation programs within probation systems is emphasized for fostering reintegration and improving behavioral outcomes.

Table 4.4 Perceived Importance as a Factor of Clarity and Enforcement of Probation Conditions

Indicator	M	SD	Importance
1. The terms of probation are clearly explained to me.	4.71	0.48	Very important
2. I understand what is expected of me.	4.68	0.47	Very important
3. The terms of probation are strictly enforced.	4.67	0.48	Very important
4. Clear terms help me follow them better.	4.61	0.50	Very important
5. There may be confusion about the terms.	4.56	0.56	Very important
Overall	4.64	0.43	Very important
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very important, 3.41–4.20=Important, 2.61–3.40=Moderately important, 1.81–2.60=Slightly important, 1.00–1.80=Not important.			

Table 4.4 shows the respondents' assignment to the clarity and enforcement of the probation terms. It should be noted that the average score of 4.64 with a standard deviation of 0.43 suggests that the respondents consider these aspects extremely important. Looking at the specific scores for each indicator, one can say that the highest average score was achieved by the statement “The terms of probation are clearly explained” (M = 4.71, SD = 0.48), followed by the second one concerning the respondents’ comprehension of their responsibilities and the third one related to the strictness of the terms’ enforcement (both M = 4.68; SD = 0.47).

Another indicator that received a high score (M = 4.61, SD = 0.50) was the possibility of using clear terms to make respondents comply with the conditions. On the other hand, the least important was the probability of misunderstandings (M = 4.56, SD = 0.56); however, the latter indicator also remains very important. Thus, we can speak about an obvious tendency, according to which all the indicators receive extremely high scores.

The results seem to confirm the idea that knowledge of what a person should do on parole is critical for behavior management. The extremely high scores for both factors can be interpreted to mean that people value their right to know, as this would make compliance much easier. However, the emphasis on the need for strict enforcement also reveals that accountability measures must be implemented to secure compliance. On the other hand, the considerably low score for potential confusion indicates that while most people understand what they should do, some questions might emerge at times.

The conclusions drawn from these findings suggest that probation services must be geared towards effective communication of rules and their strict application to achieve better success. Making sure that the offenders fully understand what rules they have to comply with will lower the chances of non-compliance. Furthermore, the combination of communication and enforcement of these rules will contribute to the success of the supervision process as well.

The Pew Charitable Trusts (2023) conducted a study on the influence of enforcing and making probationary conditions clear on rehabilitation and compliance. The research claims that probationers are usually required to meet a certain set of conditions, such as check-ins, treatment, or curfew, and this may impede the process if they are ambiguous and too stringent. The research suggests that probationary conditions must be tailored to each individual's risk and needs and implemented in a manner that encourages rehabilitation instead of merely supervision or punishment.

Table 5.1 Perceived Challenge of Difficulty Attending Scheduled Reporting

Indicator	M	SD	Challenge
1. Sometimes, it is difficult for me to attend my scheduled reporting.	4.24	0.44	Very serious
2. The distance from the probation office affects my reporting.	4.12	0.70	Serious
3. Transportation problems cause me to miss reporting schedules	4.31	0.46	Very serious
4. My work schedule conflicts with my reporting schedule.	4.31	0.46	Very serious
5. Family responsibilities sometimes prevent me from reporting.	4.27	0.44	Very serious
Overall	4.25	0.44	Very serious
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very serious challenge, 3.41–4.20=Serious challenge, 2.61–3.40=Moderate challenge, 1.81–2.60=Slight challenge, 1.00–1.80=Not a challenge.			

Table 5.1 shows the perceptions of the difficulties regarding scheduled probation reporting attendance. With an average score of 4.25 and a standard deviation of 0.44, attending scheduled probation reporting is considered a very serious difficulty among the participants. In terms of the individual indicators, the highest average scores are for transportation difficulties and work scheduling, with both at 4.31 (SD = 0.46), suggesting these are the most challenging issues regarding scheduled reporting attendance. This is then followed by familial obligations, which are also perceived as very serious difficulties (M = 4.27, SD = 0.44), and difficulties attending scheduled reporting itself (M = 4.24, SD = 0.44). Meanwhile, the lowest average score is for the distance to the probation office, which received a score of 4.12 (SD = 0.70); however, this is still considered a serious difficulty.

Based on the findings, one can say that practical considerations and circumstances are important barriers in attending the scheduled reports. It is evident from the high scores given by probationers for transportation problems and their conflicting work schedule as economic and practical barriers to attend reporting sessions. The other barrier identified is family obligations as some probationers find themselves with the responsibility of taking care of families which may be a hindrance to report sessions. Distance to the probation office was not a very big issue compared to transportation problems.

From the above results, it is evident that the probation system may need to consider more flexible arrangements for probationers' reporting. Some strategies that can be employed include changing the schedule, providing alternative reporting methods, or ensuring close collaboration between employers and probationers. It might also help improve access to transport or to have reporting facilities dispersed across different areas. In general, the above results indicate a need for more responsive management of probation programs, given the external environment's impact on compliance.

Job situation of the respondents, wherein a considerable number are employed in either part-time or unstable jobs. The financial insecurity that comes with it hinders their ability to afford any form of financial flexibility, thus making it harder for them to cope with transportation expenses and strict reporting hours. In most cases, part-time employees earn from their daily wage, which means that skipping work due to the reporting process will directly lead to loss of pay.

According to Herbert (2022), he studied barriers preventing probationers from complying, and concluded that transport problems, inadequate living situations, and conflicting job commitments were among those affecting reporting to appointments. It was noted that it is very difficult for probationers to balance their duties within the probationary period and the necessities of everyday life. Technical violations have been reported due to the inability to adhere to probationary terms, not due to rebellion.

Table 5.2 Perceived Challenge of Financial Constraints

Indicator	M	SD	Challenge
1. I do not have the money for transportation when I report.	4.54	0.50	Very serious
2. Financial issues cause me difficulty in attending mandatory programs.	4.48	0.56	Very serious
3. I sometimes give priority to family expenses rather than probation requirements.	4.43	0.50	Very serious
4. Program expenses are a burden to me.	4.51	0.52	Very serious
5. Financial assistance will help me comply better.	4.49	0.52	Very serious
Overall	4.49	0.44	Very serious
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very serious challenge, 3.41–4.20=Serious challenge, 2.61–3.40=Moderate challenge, 1.81–2.60=Slight challenge, 1.00–1.80=Not a challenge.			

Table 5.2 summarizes participants' ratings of financial limitations as a threat to compliance with probation orders. With an average of 4.49 and standard deviation of 0.44, it can be concluded that financial problems constitute a very serious challenge to the surveyed population. Among the factors identified, the indicator receiving the highest score is the lack of funds to travel to the office to report (M = 4.54, SD = 0.50), underscoring transportation expenses as the most critical financial obstacle.

Close behind are the problems of financial burden associated with the program itself ($M = 4.51$, $SD = 0.52$) and the idea that money could aid compliance ($M = 4.49$, $SD = 0.52$). A very serious challenge is the issue of financial constraints hindering attendance at required programs ($M = 4.48$, $SD = 0.56$). Prioritizing family expenses over probation demands received the least attention, with a mean of 4.43 ($SD = 0.50$); however, it is still considered a very serious challenge.

It is also clear that financial constraints play a huge part in ensuring that the obligations imposed under supervision are met by the probationers. The high score for transportation expenses indicates that even meeting obligations, such as attending appointments, can be problematic due to insufficient funds. It is also evident that program expenses and difficulties in attending required programs are indicative of the wider problem of economic stability. The priority given to paying for family needs further underscores the competing demands faced by probationers. It is notable that the respondents agree that financial assistance improves their chances of compliance.

Considering these findings, it is evident that overcoming financial challenges is crucial for achieving higher success in probation and rehabilitation efforts. Offering financial aid, transportation, or subsidizing the cost of participation in the program might help alleviate the burden on probationers and assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities. Incorporating sources of livelihood or ways to earn money into probation programs can also play an important role in addressing the underlying causes of financial problems.

Transportation expenses and program costs may also be due to respondents' economic status, characterized by temporary and poverty-level jobs. This suggests that probationers live in an environment where even small expenditures for attending required meetings and participating in programs become burdensome. Given that temporary employees do not receive regular incomes, their primary concern is meeting their families' immediate necessities rather than probation expenses.

Incorporating sources of livelihood or ways to earn money into probation programs can also play an important role in addressing the underlying causes of financial problems. Moreover, from the results obtained, it can be noted the existence of an important phenomenon that can be termed as "intent-capacity gap." Failure to comply with the conditions of probation is not because of the unwillingness on the part of the offenders but the inability to do so. It is evident from the consistent high scores on structural problems, especially financial constraints and transport costs, that although the probationers intend to comply with the conditions, they are unable to do so due to socioeconomic conditions.

Financial problems are considered to be the greatest problems faced by the probationers, wherein it is difficult for them to apply for jobs because of their mistakes, and difficult to make money, as they consider it the greatest problem they have ever experienced. The probationers often find themselves caught in a vicious cycle of economic distress. Their previous mistakes make it challenging for them to secure employment, leaving them with limited opportunities to earn money. As a result, financial problems become a constant burden for them, further exacerbating their negative experience as they struggle to overcome the barriers imposed by their past actions (Aranjuez, 2025).

Table 5.3 Perceived Challenge of Lack of Employment or Education Opportunities

Indicator	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Challenge
1. I have a hard time looking for a job because of my record.	4.25	0.45	Very serious
2. Unemployment impacts my probation compliance.	4.45	0.50	Very serious
3. I do not have access to training or education.	4.24	0.43	Very serious
4. Job opportunities would assist me in avoiding violations.	4.38	0.53	Very serious
5. My lack of qualifications impacts on my employment opportunities.	4.33	0.50	Very serious
Overall	4.33	0.40	Very serious
<i>Note.</i> $N=200$. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very serious challenge, 3.41–4.20=Serious challenge, 2.61–3.40=Moderate challenge, 1.81–2.60=Slight challenge, 1.00–1.80=Not a challenge.			

Table 5.3 shows an overview of the respondents' perceptions of the problems associated with lack of

employment and educational opportunities as far as probation compliance is concerned. As shown above, the mean score of 4.33 (with a standard deviation of 0.40) indicates that these challenges are perceived as very serious indeed. The indicator that received the highest score is that unemployment influences probation compliance ($M = 4.45$, $SD = 0.50$). Such results indicate the great importance of having a job to meet the requirements of probation. The next highest score was attributed to the idea that job opportunities help in avoiding violations ($M = 4.38$, $SD = 0.53$). The third position is taken by the statement that lack of qualifications influences job opportunities ($M = 4.33$, $SD = 0.50$). Finally, the fourth place is occupied by the inability to find a job because of having a criminal record ($M = 4.25$, $SD = 0.45$). However, the lack of access to education or training was considered the least serious problem by the respondents ($M = 4.24$, $SD = 0.43$), which is also very serious.

The results show that restricted access to jobs and education is an impediment to meeting the requirements of probation. The high score given for unemployment reveals that a lack of a source of income can create problems in terms of being able to attend sessions and participate in relevant programs. The perception about the influence of a criminal record on one's chances of getting hired shows that probationers face stigma and other restrictions in the workforce. Moreover, the low number of qualifications as well as the restriction in attending training programs further reveals the limitations associated with education.

These findings suggest that probation programs should place emphasis on job creation and skills training when developing their rehabilitation programs. Enabling probationers to gain skills and training, as well as job placement, can increase their employment prospects, which would be beneficial for their overall reintegration. Working with employers and communities to break down negative perceptions of criminal backgrounds can also help gain more job opportunities. Ultimately, the study suggests that probation programs should consider economic and educational factors in their services to achieve positive outcomes.

Based on HM Inspectorate of Probation's (2025) evidence base on education, training, and employment (ETE) in probation services, offenders supervised in the community tend to have higher unemployment rates, lower educational levels, and limited work experience compared to the general public. Based on the literature, participating in ETE programs such as basic skills training, job-seeking support, vocational training, and employment placements reduces an offender's risk of re-offending, indicating employability as a key area for preventive efforts in crime reduction. It is common for offenders on probation to experience difficulties engaging in ETE programs due to issues such as a disordered life, drug addiction, psychological problems, dysfunctional social relations, and discrimination at the workplace because of offenders' criminal history. Practitioners who apply basic correctional skills, including relationship development, motivational interviewing, and problem-solving techniques, are well positioned to engage their clients in ETE programs. This results in positive employment outcomes and reduced reoffending behavior.

Table 5.4 Perceived Challenge of Stress and Anxiety Related to Compliance

Indicator	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Challenge
1. I experience stress regarding the fulfillment of probation requirements.	4.45	0.52	Very serious
2. I am concerned about making violations inadvertently.	4.46	0.54	Very serious
3. Emotional pressure influences my compliance.	4.41	0.50	Very serious
4. I experience anxiety when reporting to the probation office.	4.41	0.63	Very serious
5. Stress sometimes influences my decision-making.	4.47	0.53	Very serious
Overall	4.44	0.45	Very serious
<i>Note.</i> $N=200$. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very serious challenge, 3.41–4.20=Serious challenge, 2.61–3.40=Moderate challenge, 1.81–2.60=Slight challenge, 1.00–1.80=Not a challenge.			

The perceptions of stress and anxiety as challenges in adherence to probation are presented in Table 5.4 below. The average value of 4.44, with a standard deviation of 0.45, indicates that respondents consider the above-mentioned problems to be very serious challenges. As far as the indicators are concerned, the greatest average

values have been found in response to the problem statement that says that stress sometimes affects decision-making ($M = 4.47$, $SD = 0.53$) and the one stating that respondents fear violating probation terms due to their own actions ($M = 4.46$, $SD = 0.54$). Also high were the responses regarding stress in performing probation tasks ($M = 4.45$, $SD = 0.52$). Emotions affecting compliance with probation terms ($M = 4.41$, $SD = 0.50$) and stress associated with reporting to the probation officer ($M = 4.41$, $SD = 0.63$) received the lowest ratings but remain quite serious problems for the respondents.

These findings highlight the significance of emotional and psychological determinants of the offenders' compliance behavior. The high fear of violating the conditions, even without the intention to do so, suggests that offenders may feel ongoing pressure and stress due to the need to meet certain expectations. In addition, the effect of stress on decision-making shows how emotional problems may impair the offender's judgment and lead to non-compliance. Finally, the feeling of anxiety from making reports and emotional pressure are evident.

The conclusion that can be drawn from the results is that mental and psychological assistance and training in stress coping techniques are needed within the probation program. Offering psychological assistance and advice will aid in coping with stress among probationers. The creation of a positive environment will assist in overcoming the fear experienced when reporting to a probation officer. Thus, the research results show that paying attention to the psychological well-being of probationers, specifically helping to minimize stress and anxiety, can benefit decision-making and increase compliance.

Recent policy and program literature in the Philippines has emphasized the need to integrate mental-health approaches into justice settings. These reviews argue that when supervision systems incorporate screening, referral, and on-site or linked services, stress and anxiety that impair compliance can be identified and mitigated which improves attendance and condition adherence. Thus, literature proposing system-level reforms frames stress/anxiety as not only individual problems but programmatic risks that probation services must manage proactively (Go, 2024).

Table 5.5 Perceived Challenge of Risk of Reoffending Due to Social Pressures

Indicator	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Challenge
1. The negative influence of others tempts me to break the law.	4.50	0.53	Very serious
2. I am pressured by others to commit illegal acts.	3.80	0.43	Serious
3. The stigma of the community makes it difficult for me to change.	4.54	0.51	Very serious
4. The lack of acceptance in the community puts me at risk of reoffending.	4.54	0.52	Very serious
5. Positive social support assists me in resisting negative influences.	4.53	0.55	Very serious
Overall	4.38	0.37	Very serious
<i>Note.</i> $N=200$. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very serious challenge, 3.41–4.20=Serious challenge, 2.61–3.40=Moderate challenge, 1.81–2.60=Slight challenge, 1.00–1.80=Not a challenge.			

Table 5.5 reveals the level of seriousness that respondents attribute to the challenges associated with the risk of reoffending owing to social pressure. The mean score of 4.38, with a standard deviation of 0.37, indicates that respondents consider such challenges extremely serious. From among the factors under examination, the two indicators with the highest mean scores are that stigma associated with the community and absence of acceptance in the community, both with an average of 4.54 (standard deviation = 0.51 and standard deviation = 0.52). The following factors include positive social pressure as helping resist negative influence (mean = 4.53, standard deviation = 0.55), and negative influence from other individuals as making them tempted to break the law (mean = 4.50, standard deviation = 0.53). In contrast, the least mean score was obtained for the indicator of being pressured by others into committing illegal activities, scoring 3.80 (standard deviation

Based on the results, external social pressures, especially those involving stigma and poor social acceptance, seem to have a considerable impact on the rehabilitation of offenders. The high scores associated with stigma and social rejection imply that society's negative attitudes will not only prevent them from adopting positive

change but also hinder their reintegration. On the other hand, the significant role of peer influence and the social environment should not be underestimated, since many probationers believe that unfavorable social influences could make them repeat their offenses. Nevertheless, the respondents are strongly convinced that social support can help them resist social pressures and take legal action instead.

These findings suggest that the issues of social stigma and community support structures must be tackled to reduce the likelihood of recidivism. Social integration campaigns, including awareness-raising and rehabilitation efforts, could help create an enabling community structure for probationers. Moreover, promoting social networks and relationships through mentoring programs, peer counseling, and family participation can play a vital role in overcoming adverse influences. In conclusion, the above findings highlight the importance of adopting a community-based rehabilitation model that addresses social stigma and social support structures simultaneously.

A focused review of Filipino studies and regional literature (2023–2024) underscores stigma and labeling as social-pressure pathways to recidivism: being publicly identified as an “ex-offender” limits job and housing access, undermines self-efficacy, and can push individuals back toward deviant networks for material or emotional support. The review argues that without deliberate anti-stigma and community-engagement strategies, probationers face powerful social pressures that increase the risk of noncompliance and reoffending. This situates social pressure not just as peer coercion but as a structural/social reaction that constrains lawful opportunities (Espanto, 2024).

Table 5.6 Perceived Challenge of Risk of Failure to Meet Curfew or Program Attendance Requirements

Indicator	M	SD	Challenge
1. I sometimes fail to follow curfew rules.	4.46	0.51	Very serious
2. I miss program sessions due to personal problems	4.50	0.50	Very serious
3. Scheduling conflicts cause me to miss required activities.	4.55	0.52	Very serious
4. I find it difficult to balance probation and personal responsibilities.	4.59	0.50	Very serious
5. Clear scheduling would help me comply better.	4.57	0.53	Very serious
Overall	4.53	0.43	Very serious
<i>Note.</i> N=200. The mean is interpreted as follows: 4.21–5.00=Very serious challenge, 3.41–4.20=Serious challenge, 2.61–3.40=Moderate challenge, 1.81–2.60=Slight challenge, 1.00–1.80=Not a challenge.			

Table 5.6 presents respondents’ opinions on the difficulties they face when failing to follow curfews and when participating in programs. The average score of 4.53, with a standard deviation of 0.43, indicates that these difficulties are perceived as very serious challenges by the respondents. Among the indicators, the highest average score was for the difficulty of juggling probation and other obligations ($M = 4.59$, $SD = 0.50$), making it the most serious challenge. Next, respondents found having clear schedules helpful for improving compliance ($M = 4.57$, $SD = 0.53$), and they believed scheduling issues prevent them from complying with mandatory activities ($M = 4.55$, $SD = 0.52$). The difficulty of missing program activities due to personal reasons also scored high, with a mean of 4.50 ($SD = 0.50$). Conversely, the lowest average score was for failure to follow curfew regulations ($M = 4.46$, $SD = 0.51$). Although it was the lowest score, it still falls into the very serious category.

These results imply that time management and conflicting demands are significant contributors to noncompliance with probation terms. The maximum rating for difficulty in balancing the demands of probation and personal life indicates that respondents find it difficult to handle various commitments, including work, family life, and probation. In addition, the respondents rate their difficulty with scheduling and attending sessions as high, suggesting that inflexible or conflicting schedules can be an obstacle to compliance. Finally, the respondents strongly agree that scheduling could significantly contribute to compliance.

From this study, it can be seen that probation programs may benefit from adopting a scheduling system that is both flexible and structured to facilitate greater success in meeting their probation requirements. The provision

of a clearly coordinated schedule, as well as reasonable changes based on their specific situations, may avoid problems and promote higher attendance rates among probation clients. Additionally, tips on managing time and prioritizing responsibilities could be of great value to probation clients.

Prison Policy Initiative (2024) assessed typical probation conditions in 76 jurisdictions across the United States and found that the conditions imposed on people under community supervision are often vague, onerous, and unrelated to public safety. A person may be charged with a technical violation and face incarceration, even when he or she did not engage in new criminal activity, due to conditions, including employment requirements, movement limitations, financial penalties, restrictions on association, and regular contact, that go beyond the scope of criminal law. The study suggests that such cases happen more often among vulnerable groups, such as individuals who live in poverty, lack housing stability, or suffer from health problems, creating obstacles to employment, movement, and compliance.

Table 6.1 Correlations Between the Individual Factors and the Challenges in Adhering to Probation Conditions

Individual Factors	Challenges in Adhering to Probation Conditions					
	Difficulty Attending Scheduled Reporting	Financial Constraints	Lack of Employment and Education Opportunities	Stress and Anxiety Related to Compliance	Risk of Reoffending Due to Social Pressures	Failure to Meet Curfew or Program Attendance Requirements
Age, Sex, Education, Employment Status	.152* slight .031	.189* slight .007	.006 slight .938	-.017 slight .811	.106 slight .134	.113 slight .112
Attitude Toward Supervision and Rehabilitation	.089 slight .209	.318* low <.001	.033 slight .645	.169 slight .017	.310* low <.001	.395* low <.001
Substance Abuse or Mental Health Issues	-.023 slight .743	.051 slight .469	.077 slight .281	-.058 slight .412	.049 slight .487	.082 slight .246
Previous Criminal Behavior/History	.012 slight .869	.130 slight .066	-.044 slight .538	.126 slight .076	.283* low <.001	.317* low <.001
<i>Note.</i> Cell contains the Pearson r correlation coefficient, its interpretation of strength, and the corresponding p-value. The degree of freedom is 198. *$p < .05$.						

Table 6.1 shows that most of the individual factors and the corresponding compliance problems exhibit a slight to low level of correlation with one another, and both positive and negative correlations are possible. Positive correlations with slight direction for age, gender, education, and employment have been established as related to the problem of attending scheduled reporting and financial issues (both statistically significant, $r = .152$ and $r = .189$, respectively). Such results imply that socio-economic variables have a minimal but meaningful impact on the problems encountered by probationers. The problem with this variable does not show any connection to compliance issues such as lack of employment and educational opportunities, stress and anxiety, risks of committing a crime, and failing to meet curfew and program participation rules (very low r -values and statistically insignificant p -values).

Attitudes toward supervision and rehabilitation proved to be the strongest predictors out of all individual characteristics. Weak but statistically significant associations were found in relation to financial difficulties ($r = .318, p < .001$), anxiety and stress about compliance ($r = .310, p < .001$), and inability to comply with the rules concerning curfew and participation in programs ($r = .395, p < .001$).

These associations might be rather weak statistically, but there are practical considerations worth noting. For instance, financial difficulties might have an effect on one's compliance, especially in cases where one experiences unstable income or transportation difficulties. Also, anxiety and stress might affect compliance, because psychological stress might impede one from meeting their compliance obligations due to fear of violating probation rules. Furthermore, non-compliance in regard to curfew requirements and attendance at programs might be caused by a variety of factors.

On the contrary, substance abuse problems or mental illnesses do not reveal significant correlations to any of the mentioned obstacles. Indeed, all observed correlations are insignificant and minor, indicating that, from the perspective of the study, these phenomena do not correlate significantly with compliance problems. This fact can be explained through the influence of external variables that were not considered during the research.

History of crime correlates significantly positively with increased risk of offending due to social pressure ($r = .283, p < .001$) and failing to adhere to curfew and participation rules ($r = .317, p < .001$). From these results, one can assume that individuals with a history of crime tend to face various behavioral obstacles that may hinder their ability to comply with certain norms and recommendations. At the same time, no significant correlations are noted for other kinds of obstacles.

From the table above, it is evident that the highest level of relationship exists between attitude towards supervision and rehabilitation, especially for the cases where there has been failure to adhere to the terms of program participation or curfews. In contrast, the lowest relationships exist when the case at hand involves substance abuse or mental illnesses, as the variables in these cases exhibit no or negligible levels of correlation.

Based on the findings, it can be said that although personal characteristics and experiences of individuals play a role in determining the level of success in complying with probation terms, they are not the critical factors in this regard. For instance, the stronger relationship between attitude towards supervision indicates the significance of motivation, perceptions, and engagement in the rehabilitation process. Probationers with a definite attitude towards their supervision are more likely to recognize challenges involved, thus becoming more susceptible to such obstacles. At the same time, probationers with prior criminal records are more likely to have established behavioral patterns or social influences that would lead to noncompliance.

This suggests that probation intervention measures should not only consider the client's personal information but also foster an attitude of supervision and address any behaviors related to their past criminal acts. In public administration, there is a need for programs that motivate, engage, and support the rehabilitation process. Although individual variables play an essential role, these should be supported by other social and organizational strategies to overcome compliance problems.

In summary, the study found that individual variables have a minimal but significant relationship with compliance issues among probation clients. Of all the individual variables considered, attitude towards supervision and criminal history were found to have a stronger relationship, while the other variables showed little relationship with compliance issues.

From the studies mentioned above, it is evident that demographic characteristics, including age, gender, and education level, are weak predictors of compliance with probation. Conversely, attitudes towards probation and perceptions of authority have more significance when it comes to the influence on compliance with and violation of the conditions set out under probation terms. Moreover, it is important to take into account the issue of the reentry-reincarceration cycle, where the probability that individuals who have been previously imprisoned will be incarcerated once again becomes extremely high because of the presence of persistent challenges, such as difficulty in finding legal work and keeping one's job. The studies show that reincarceration negatively affects employment, with both individual and longitudinal impacts. (Morris et al., 2021)

Table 6.2 Correlations Between the Family and Community Factors and the Challenges in Adhering to Probation Conditions

Family and Community Factors	Challenges in Adhering to Probation Conditions					
	Difficulty Attending Scheduled Reporting	Financial Constraints	Lack of Employment and Education Opportunities	Stress and Anxiety Related to Compliance	Risk of Reoffending Due to Social Pressures	Failure to Meet Curfew or Program Attendance Requirements
Family Support/Relationship	.128 slight .070	.213* low .002	.031 slight .662	.086 slight .224	.171* slight .016	.238* low <.001
Peer Influence/Social Networks	.190* slight .007	.490* moderate <.001	.147* slight .037	.325* low <.001	.506* moderate <.001	.615* moderate <.001
Community Resources Availability	-.0017 slight .809	.062 slight .380	.063 v .377	.095 slight .182	.214* low .002	.256* low <.001
Neighborhood Safety and Moral Support	.171* slight .016	.429* moderate <.001	.126 slight .076	.385* low <.001	.730* high <.001	.714* high <.001
Note. Cell contains the Pearson r correlation coefficient, its interpretation of strength, and the corresponding p-value. The degree of freedom is 198. *$p < .05$.						

Table 6.2 shows that family/community variables are generally associated with compliance problems at higher levels than individual variables. The majority of the correlations are positive and range from low to high significance, suggesting that as the strength of these variables' effects increases, individuals face greater compliance problems. For example, there is a low positive correlation with financial constraints ($r = .213$, $p = .002$) and curfew/program attendance ($r = .171$, $p = .016$). This shows that family variables are associated with certain types of compliance problems, such as financial and attendance issues. However, the relationships are very low for other compliance problems.

In terms of peer pressure and social networks, there appear to be more reliable connections than with other difficulties. For instance, a very slight positive association is found with the problem of participating in scheduled meetings ($r = .190$, $p = .007$) and the inability to find any means of livelihood or schooling ($r = .147$, $p = .037$). It should be noted that a moderate positive correlation is discovered between the following difficulties: financial limitations ($r = .490$, $p < .001$); risk of repeating the crime because of social pressure ($r = .506$, $p < .001$); non-compliance with curfews and program attendance requirements ($r = .615$, $p < .001$); and a low positive correlation with anxiety ($r = .325$, $p < .001$).

Community resources exhibit mostly small and insignificant associations, except for weak but significant associations with reoffending probability ($r = .214$, $p = .002$) and non-compliance with attendance expectations ($r = .256$, $p < .001$). It seems that the availability of community resources influences behavioral safety and participation in expected activities.

The relationship between neighborhood safety and moral support is the highest of all the factors shown in the table. There is a slight, positive correlation between the two ($r = .171$, $p = .016$), while there is a moderate positive correlation with financial limitations ($r = .429$, $p < .001$). There is also a low positive correlation with stress and anxiety ($r = .385$, $p < .001$). Notably, there are strong positive correlations with the risk of committing a crime due to societal pressure ($r = .730$, $p < .001$) and with not meeting curfew and probation program attendance ($r = .714$, $p < .001$). This means that the neighborhood's status and the presence of moral support play important roles in how probationers behave.

Compared, the strongest relationships are found for neighborhood safety and moral support, especially regarding recidivism risk and attendance problems, while peer and social networks follow. On the contrary, the lowest relationships exist for community resources and certain elements of family support, all of which are characterized by weak and insignificant correlations. Generally speaking, the findings emphasize that social and environmental factors, specifically peer- and community-related factors, have a greater impact on compliance problems than any other factor.

On a practical level, this implies that probationers' behavior is strongly influenced by their social environment. Peer pressure, as well as lack of safety and proper community settings, may contribute to a greater tendency toward re-offense and noncompliance. At the same time, positive social influence works to protect the individual. The effects of family support were also seen, though they seemed to be more limited than those of social factors. Such conclusions derive from practical experiences of probationers who tend to be affected by the social environment to a significant degree.

The above findings suggest a need to build capacity within community-based interventions to enhance probation programs. Community programs that facilitate positive peer associations, ensure safety in neighborhoods, and promote community acceptance will help minimize issues related to compliance. From a public administration standpoint, the above findings imply that collaboration among probation offices, local government entities, and community agencies needs to be established. Such programs can enhance the success of probation programs by combating stigma and promoting social integration.

Generally, the correlation analysis provides clear evidence of a strong and, in some cases, considerable correlation between issues related to family/community and difficulties in complying with the terms of probation. This clearly indicates that achieving effective adherence to the terms of probation cannot be achieved through individual effort alone, but rather through efforts made within the larger social context.

Studies using survey data from formerly incarcerated individuals and probationers found that lower scores on perceived neighborhood safety and weaker informal social controls were associated with a higher likelihood of relapse into criminal activity, even after controlling for employment and substance abuse. These findings reinforce that the presence or absence of neighbor moral support has measurable impacts on recidivism risk (Breva et al., 2023).

Table 6.3 Correlations Between the Institutional/Probation System Factors and the Challenges in Adhering to Probation Conditions

Institutional/ Probation System Factors	Challenges in Adhering to Probation Conditions					
	Difficulty Attending Scheduled Reporting	Financial Constraints	Lack of Employment and Education Opportunities	Stress and Anxiety Related to Compliance	Risk of Reoffending Due to Social Pressures	Failure to Meet Curfew or Program Attendance Requirements
Probation Officer Supervision Style	.174* slight .014	.115 slight .104	.152* slight .032	.138 slight .052	.279* low <.001	.354* low <.001
Caseload and Accessibility of Probation Officers	-.009 slight .900	.165* slight .019	.066 slight .351	-.015 slight .831	.073 slight .304	.003 slight .961
Availability of rehabilitation programs	.058 slight .413	.030 slight .671	.106 slight .134	.025 slight .721	-.063 slight .372	-.071 slight .315

Clarity and Enforcement of Probation Conditions	0015 slight .838	.233* low <.001	-.007 slight .920	.171* slight .016	.361* low <.001	.422* moderate <.001
Note. Cell contains the Pearson r correlation coefficient, its interpretation of strength, and the corresponding p-value. The degree of freedom is 198. *$p < .05$.						

Table 6.3 indicates that, in general, the majority of the correlation values between institutional factors and issues encountered during probation were very weak to weak and showed either positive or negative correlations. Regarding the probation officer's supervision style, the results show a slightly significant positive correlation with difficulties attending scheduled reports ($r = .174$, $p = .014$) and having no job or educational prospects ($r = .152$, $p = .032$). There was also a weak positive significance correlation with being at risk of re-offending due to peer pressure ($r = .279$, $p < .001$) and failing to comply with curfew and program attendance ($r = .354$, $p < .001$). However, the connection between supervision styles and finances/stress was slightly insignificant.

The variables relating to caseloads and accessibility of the probation officers seem to exhibit insignificant associations with most problems. The only problem that seems to have a slight but significant correlation with these variables is the problem of finances ($r = .165$, $p = .019$). This could imply that the problems of accessibility could have an insignificant impact on the problem of finances facing the probationers. All other correlations appear very slight and insignificant except for one negative correlation with the problem of attendance ($r = -.009$, $p = .900$).

There is no statistical significance in relation to the availability of rehabilitation programs for the identified problems, as they all exhibit small correlations. In this regard, the mere existence of programs does not appear to affect the degree of difficulty of adhering to the set conditions. This means that other elements, which might have a greater impact on the results obtained here, could be involved in the process, although not included in this particular research.

The clarity and enforcement of probation conditions are more closely linked than any other institutional factors. The data reveals a relatively low but still significant positive correlation between these conditions and the individual's financial situation ($r = .233$, $p < .001$). Additionally, a slight positive correlation can be seen with respect to the individual's stress and anxiety regarding compliance ($r = .171$, $p = .016$). More interestingly, there is a relatively low positive correlation with the individual's risk of reoffending ($r = .361$, $p < .001$) and a moderate positive correlation with their inability to comply with curfews or program attendance ($r = .422$, $p < .001$). This is the highest value in the whole table.

In comparison, the highest institutional correlation is observed in the areas of clarity and compliance with probation terms, especially regarding curfew and program attendance. Second to this are the type of supervision conducted by the probation officer, which shows consistent yet weaker significance in the other challenges listed. The least significant institutional correlations come from the presence of rehabilitation programs and aspects of caseload/accessibility.

Practically speaking, it indicates that institutional variables, although not extremely powerful, do have some effect on the probationer's life. The manner in which probation officers monitor their clients and the nature of the rules that prevail can impact how probationers respond to their obligations. For example, rules that are vague or overly rigid might make compliance difficult, causing stress for others. Additionally, the lack of any relationship between program availability and other independent variables indicates that merely offering services may not be enough; rather, it may require more than that.

These results suggest that the management of probation services should focus on improving the quality of supervision and clarifying the terms of probation to ensure effective enforcement. In terms of public administration theory, this underscores the need to develop guidelines, implement an effective communication system, and adopt positive forms of supervision.

In conclusion, the findings of the correlation study reveal that the role of institutional or probation system variables in influencing difficulties with following probation terms is low yet considerable. Specifically, among institutional variables, those related to the clarity and enforcement of probation conditions and supervisory approach prove to exhibit the strongest correlation, whereas others exert only slight effects. Hence, institutional changes may help enhance compliance with probation terms; however, they must be incorporated into a wider framework.

Ruhland and Scheibler (2022) conducted research to examine probation officers' discretion in monitoring clients' compliance with conditions. This study, which involved qualitative data gathered from two probation departments in the United States, reveals that probation officers strike a balance between adhering to rules and supporting clients who are unable to meet the stipulated rules. The discretion of probation officers, institutional guidelines, and clients' individual characteristics may play an important role in the decision-making process.

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter provides an overview of the conclusions from the presentation, evaluation, and interpretation of the study's data, along with suggestions for future research.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The goals of this research are to analyze factors influencing compliance with probation conditions and the problems encountered in complying with those conditions. Based on the study's results, respondents are mainly men aged 26 to 45. Moreover, most of them had completed only secondary education and were engaged in part-time work. Therefore, probationers belong to a group of people who face both economic difficulties and social constraints, which can be important for analyzing compliance with probation conditions.

Regarding individual factors, age, occupation, and educational status were observed to have a very high level of perceived influence on compliance. In addition, respondents had a very positive attitude toward probation in relation to their level of seriousness in undertaking responsibilities, motivation to complete probation, and the efficacy of the rehabilitation process. Substance abuse, psychological problems, and previous criminal behavior were also perceived to have a very high degree of influence on compliance.

Nevertheless, contrary to these perceptions, a different picture emerges from the correlation analysis results. Most of the variables were found to have only a weak relationship with actual compliance difficulties, with the notable exception being attitude toward supervision and rehabilitation, which had significant correlations with financial problems, stress, and anxiety, and compliance with the program. It seems, therefore, that motivation and perception may be important, but are not the main factors involved.

The notable contradiction pertains to substance abuse. Previous research shows (Table 2.3) that the study participants regard substance abuse as one of the major concerns that is believed to affect them greatly ($M = 4.06$). However, according to the results of the correlation analysis (Table 6.1), it was found that neither substance abuse nor mental health problems had statistically significant relationships with compliance issues. This finding implies that despite the perception of substance abuse as one of the most influential matters, probationers do not directly experience such violations like failure to report or participate in assigned programs and violation of curfew as consequences of this problem. Instead, such a finding reveals that the compliance issues experienced by individuals in the 4th District of Laguna are more closely linked to structural problems, including poverty, inadequate transportation, and workplace conflicts.

Social and community variables were identified to be among the most dominant determinants of compliance. Social support from family, friends, and the community at large is important in shaping probationers' behavior. The presence of positive social supports contributes to compliance and rehabilitation, whereas negative social supports like stigmatization, discrimination, and lack of a safe environment contribute to non-compliance and recidivism. Neighborhood safety and social support were significantly associated with compliance outcomes.

Other institutional variables that have been cited to be equally important include the way the probation officer supervises the probationer, their accessibility, the availability of the rehabilitative programs, and whether the terms of probation are explicit. It has also been noted that positive supervision and explicit conditions lead to better compliance. Nonetheless, the findings indicate that having rehabilitation programs alone is not enough.

As for the problems faced by probationers, financial limitations were found to be the biggest, especially regarding travel costs and participation in programs. Some other problems that have been experienced by probationers include inability to report as required because of work commitments, unavailability of employment opportunities, anxiety associated with compliance, peer pressure, and inability to observe the curfew rules. This suggests that compliance is strongly influenced by the environment rather than by individual behavior alone.

Overall, from a correlation analysis perspective, individual-related variables tend to be less influential, whereas social and community-related factors appear to carry greater significance in terms of compliance obstacles. Variables related to institutional factors, however, tend to carry relatively low levels of association.

In connection with the hypothesis test, the null hypothesis was partially rejected because some independent variables, such as attitude towards supervision, prior criminal record, influence of peers, environment, and probation requirements, were found to be significantly related. On the other hand, other independent variables such as substance abuse, availability of services, and certain demographics lacked significant relationships.

It can be argued that the level of compliance with probation is not entirely determined by personal willingness, but rather by economic and social circumstances and structural barriers. In turn, this implies the need to differentiate between potential risk factors and actual non-compliance with probation terms.

CONCLUSION

Success in meeting probation obligations is affected by several personal, social, and systemic factors in a probationer's life. Among all the identified factors, social and community-related aspects play a key role in ensuring that probationers meet their obligations. Even though there seems to be a correlation between the personal factors, such as age, education, or employment status, and compliance, their importance is much smaller than the importance of other environmental and social factors.

Probationers have a positive attitude towards the supervision process, indicating that they are highly motivated to meet their obligations and ready to follow probation conditions. Nonetheless, probationers encounter multiple obstacles from outside, including poverty, unemployment, and a lack of opportunities. The above-mentioned factors create a significant "gap" between intention and capacity.

Furthermore, family influence and peer pressure have equally vital effects on shaping probationers' behavior. While positive social influences promote compliance and help in reintegration, negative influences coupled with stigmatization and poor social networks are highly likely to result in non-compliance and criminal behavior. For instance, the most prominent effects were observed among community characteristics and the conditions within these communities, including neighborhood safety and moral support. In other words, the risk of committing further crimes ($r = .730$) and of violating probation conditions regarding curfew and program participation ($r = .714$) is most strongly predicted by the social environment.

Institutional factors, such as probation officers' supervision styles and the clarity and enforcement of probation conditions, also contribute to compliance outcomes. However, the findings suggest that the mere availability of rehabilitation programs is insufficient. Instead, the quality, accessibility, and responsiveness of these programs are more critical in addressing probationers' needs and improving adherence.

The research shows that adherence to probation cannot be determined solely by personal readiness and actions; rather, it is significantly influenced by the social setting, economic conditions, and the effectiveness of support systems. It shows how the role of social and environmental elements dominates over personal attributes.

The results of this study strongly confirm the basic assumptions of Social Control Theory, which claims that people are less prone to deviant behavior if they are included in supportive social interactions and environments.

Therefore, this study provides empirical evidence that improving probation outcomes requires a shift from purely individual-focused interventions toward community-based and systemic approaches. Strengthening community support systems, improving neighborhood conditions, reducing stigma, and addressing economic vulnerabilities are essential strategies for enhancing compliance, supporting rehabilitation, and ultimately reducing recidivism among probationers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the research results, several suggestions could be considered to promote better adherence to probation orders and improve rehabilitation among probationers in the 4th District of Laguna. Efforts should be made to address capacity constraints, such as transport costs ($M=4.54$) and conflicting schedules ($M=4.31$). Therefore, probation offices might introduce alternative reporting mechanisms, such as the creation of satellite or barangay-based reporting units, the implementation of tele-reporting/check-ins for probationers who pose no risk, and transport support for poor clients.

Secondly, the importance of developing effective community-based mechanisms cannot be underestimated, especially by improving the efficiency of the Volunteer Probation Assistant (VPA) Program at the barangay level. Given the significant role that neighborhood safety and encouragement play ($r = .714$), increasing the number of trained VPA to act as “moral anchors” in the community could prove instrumental.

Third, it is important to address economic vulnerability. Probation offices are advised to collaborate with DOLE, LGUs, and cooperatives to create job opportunities favorable to probationers. Examples of such programs may include job placement services, skills development, livelihood seminars, cooperation with local businesses willing to employ individuals with criminal backgrounds, and access to small livelihood funds or loans. These measures will ensure that probationers have sufficient income and are not financially unstable, thereby reducing the likelihood of non-compliance.

Fourth, there is a need to enhance the accessibility and responsiveness of the programs. Even though rehabilitation programs are available, they can only be successful if they are accessible and relevant. It is important to adjust schedules to accommodate the availability of working probationers, deliver programs locally, and ensure need-based intervention.

Fifth, an integrative strategy is suggested as a way forward. The probation officer must maintain his supervisory stance with dignity, provide guidance, and maintain constant communication while simultaneously attending to the probationer's psychological and social aspects. Making counseling available, enhancing family ties, and initiating community programs to minimize discrimination and stigma may alleviate some of the stress and social pressure on probationers, which can contribute to non-compliance. In return, the probationer must cooperate in their own rehabilitation, cultivate healthy interpersonal connections, and seek assistance when experiencing financial or emotional problems.

Sixth, from an institutional standpoint, the PPA must promote inter-agency coordination among LGUs, employment bureaus, and community-based organizations to create an integrated community-based probation system. Moreover, policies need to be geared towards enhancing program efficiency, providing funding assistance, and reducing probation officers' workloads to make supervision more effective.

Lastly, further studies can investigate other variables associated with probation compliance including those arising from cultural factors, problems in implementing policies, and the efficacy of rehabilitation programs in the long run. Future studies may also consider other social, psychological, and institutional variables which would play an important role in the rehabilitation and successful integration of probationers back into society.

Likewise, future studies are also highly encouraged to employ qualitative research designs which involve face-to-face interviews and focus group discussions with probationers as well as probation officers. Such methodological designs are expected to provide more insights about the experiences, perceptions, and challenges in complying with probation terms among probationers and even probation officers.

Additionally, future researchers are advised to apply standardized instruments in conducting research to ensure consistency in reliability and validity of results associated with probation compliance and rehabilitation variables. At the same time, a mixed-method research design is also advisable to ensure that a combination of both qualitative and quantitative techniques would lead to more conclusive results.

In general, enhancing probation compliance requires moving beyond the current paradigm that emphasizes the individual alone toward one that promotes a community-level response and capacity building to facilitate sustainable rehabilitation and lower recidivism.

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