Florida Prison Recidivism Report: Releases from 2010 to 2017

June 2019

Florida Department of Corrections
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Office of Strategic Initiatives

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Defining Recidivism

The Florida Department of Corrections defines recidivism as a **return to prison,** as the result of either a new conviction or a violation of post-prison supervision, within three years of their prison release date. The follow-up periods are calculated from prison release date to the date of readmission to prison.

Changing Recidivism Rates

The three-year recidivism rate has decreased from 27.6% in 2008 to 24.7% in 2015. However, the recidivism rates have fluctuated over the past five years. These rates are shown below:

- Inmates released in 2011 who returned to prison within three years → 26.2% recidivism rate

- Inmates released in 2012 who returned to prison within three years → 25.2% recidivism rate

- Inmates released in 2013 who returned to prison within three years → 25.4% recidivism rate

- Inmates released in 2014 who returned to prison within three years → 24.5% recidivism rate

- Inmates released in 2015 who returned to prison within three years → 24.7% recidivism rate
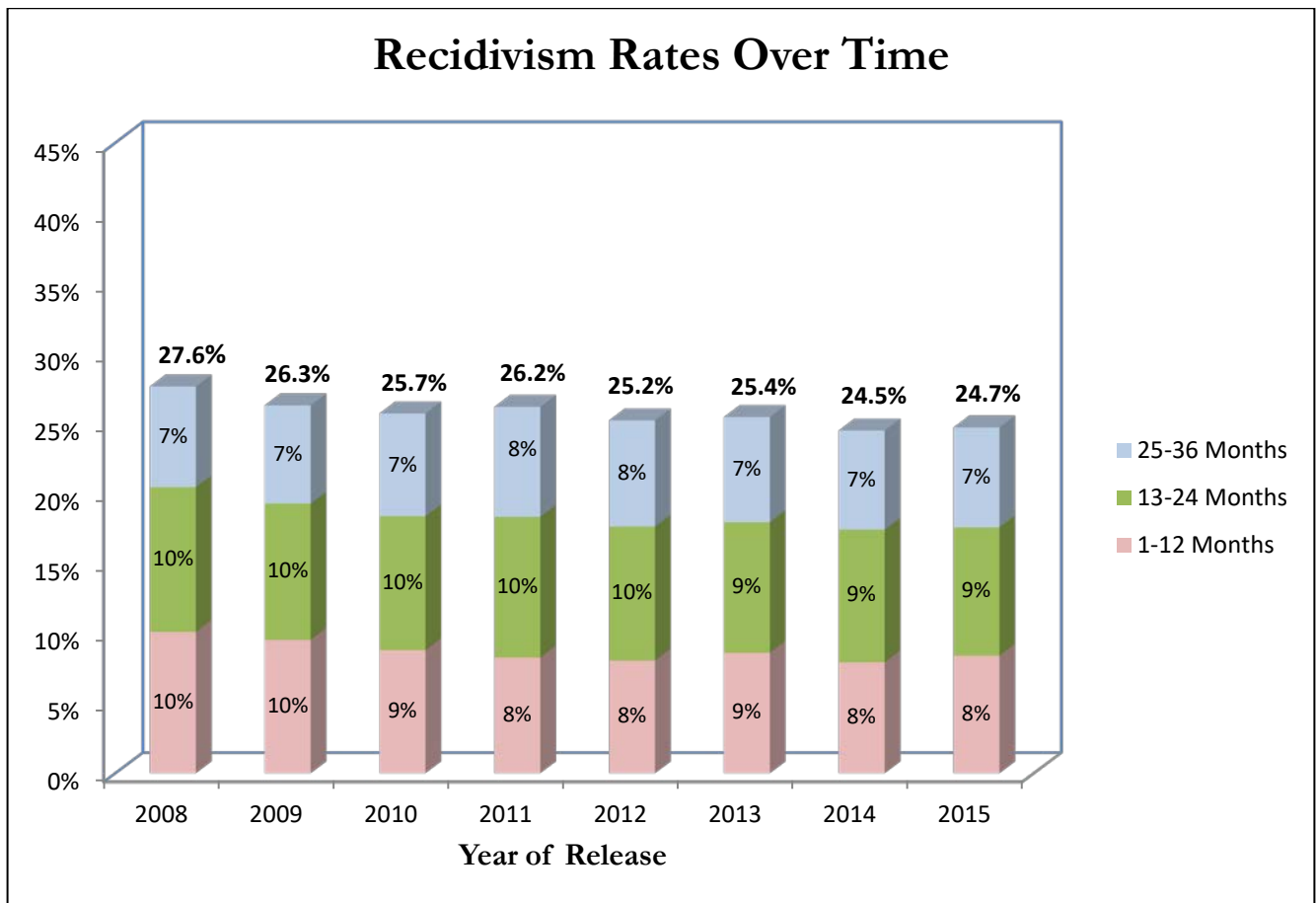
Major Factors

For 2015 releases, some factors found to influence an inmate's likelihood of recidivism include (both male and female):

- Number of prior prison commitments
    - more priors → higher likelihood of recidivating
- Whether the inmate has a supervision term after release
    - supervised → higher likelihood of recidivating
- The inmate's education level
    - higher education level → lower likelihood of recidivating
- The inmate's age at release
    - younger → higher likelihood of recidivating
- The inmate's theft offense counts
    - more counts→ higher likelihood of recidivating

INTRODUCTION

The Florida Prison Recidivism Report is produced annually by the Bureau of Research and Data Analysis within the Florida Department of Corrections. The report examines the recidivism rate of Florida's released inmate population. While the use of recidivism as a performance indicator of the state's rehabilitative efforts can be debated, the analysis itself is of significant public importance. Given that 86% of inmates housed in Florida prisons today will one day be released back into our communities, those responsible for the state's planning and budgeting need to know the likelihood that an inmate released today will one day return to Florida's prison system. More importantly, for the public and those charged with ensuring public safety, the state's recidivism rate is an important measure of criminal activity produced by released prisoners.

When discussing recidivism rates, the factors that influence recidivism must be considered. For example, recidivism rates vary across age groups, racial/ethnic groups, and gender. To better determine where to devote correctional and community resources, it is imperative that we identify the factors that influence both success and failure to understand and address the challenges inmates face upon returning to the community.

This study finds that the factors that influence Florida's recidivism rate are generally consistent with existing national research. A 2018 report from the Pew Center on the States shows the overall recidivism rate (**return to prison for any reason within three years of release**) for releases in 2012 from the states that participated was 37%. [1] A 2014 report from the Bureau of Justice Statistics of 23 states reports an overall three-year recidivism rate of nearly 50% for 2005 releases.[2]

Unlike many states, Florida currently paroles very few inmates, since parole was effectively abolished in 1983. There are two other types of post-prison supervision still present in Florida. An offender can either be supervised by the department resulting from a court-imposed split sentence or have post prison conditional release supervision where eligible inmates have the terms and conditions set by the Florida Commission on Offender Review (FCOR). In the study cohort of 2015 releases, about 36% of inmates were released to supervision terms (Appendix B). Historically, inmates who are supervised following release recidivate at a higher rate than those without post-release supervision. Since fewer of Florida's released inmates are supervised post-release, Florida's recidivism rate can be much lower than states that still release most of their inmates to parole.

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[1] Pew Center on the States, *the Changing State of Recidivism: Fewer People Going Back to Prison*
(Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, Aug. 2018)
https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2018/08/01/the-changing-state-of-recidivism-fewer-people-going-back-to-prison

[2] United States. U.S. Department of Justice. Bureau of Justice Statistics. *Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010*. By Matthew R. Durose, Alexia D. Cooper, Ph.D., and Howard N. Snyder, Ph.D. Washington D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2014. Web. 24 Apr. 2014. www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/rprts05p0510.pdf

METHODOLOGY

In this study recidivism is defined as a **return to prison,** as the result of either a new conviction or a violation of post-prison supervision, within three years of their prison release date. For this study, survival analysis techniques are used to compute recidivism rates and to define the statistical models that determine which factors significantly influence recidivism rates. The basic rates for tables and graphs are computed from Kaplan-Meier estimates of the survival curve using right-censored data. The analyses of factor significance are conducted using Cox models (proportional hazards regression) of the same data. The analysis used a 5% level of significance to determine which factors to include, and a stepwise selection routine for determining the order of importance. The correlations between factors were considered during the stepwise routine to eliminate highly correlated variables from both being selected for inclusion in the model. In some cases, where two or more variables were measuring the same concept, choices about variable inclusion were based on the clarity of the variable definition. The resulting models built on the Florida prison releases from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 have area under the curve (AUC) statistics of 0.73 for males and 0.71 for females.

All inmates released from Florida prisons from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 are included in the study, with the following exceptions:

- Inmates who died or were executed have been omitted from the calculation of recidivism rates.
- Inmates who are missing information on the factors of interest are omitted from the analysis of factor influences.
- Inmates with more than one release in a calendar year have only the first release included.
- Inmates with detainers in place at the time of release are omitted.

The following variables were considered for inclusion in the model:

- **Inmate Background Information**
    - Gender is male – Yes/No
    - Number of prior prison commitments
    - Age at release
    - Age at first offense
    - Ethnicity is Hispanic – Yes/No
    - Race is black – Yes/No
    - Confirmed or suspected gang member – Yes/No

- **Inmate Incarceration Information**
    - Time served in prison (current incarceration in months)

- Custody level – Low or High (Low-Community and Minimum Custody; High-Close Management)
- Number of disciplinary reports inmate receives during the current incarceration
- Substance abuse severity score
- Diagnosed mental illness – Yes/No
- Supervision to follow – Yes/No
- Number of visits inmate receives within the 12 months prior to release
- Bus ticket furnished by the Department of Corrections for release transportation – Yes/No
- Inmate is assigned to close management within three years prior to release – Yes/No
- Inmate is homeless at release – Yes/No
- Inmate medical grade at release
- Inmate is employed at release – Yes/No
- Total counts of grievances inmate files during the current incarceration

- **Inmate Education/Program Information**
  - Has inmate obtained a GED/HS certificate – Yes/No
  - Has inmate received a vocational certificate – Yes/No
  - Most recent Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE) score (education level in grade equivalents) at release
  - Inmate educational level claimed
  - Has inmate participated in academic, vocational, and substance abuse programs – Yes/No
  - Has Inmate worked on an outside job before release - Yes/No
  - Has inmate participated in dog or horse training program – Yes/No

- **Inmate Criminal History**
  - Most serious violent offense in criminal history [Categories for murder/manslaughter, sex offense, robbery, other violent offense (e.g. assault or kidnapping) – Yes/No]
  - Violent offense within 15 years prior to admission (Categories for murder/manslaughter, sex offense, robbery, and other violent offense – Yes/No)
  - Offense counts in criminal history (Categories for murder/manslaughter, sex offense, robbery, other violent offense, burglary, theft, drugs, weapons, and other non-violent offense)
  - Non-violent offense counts within 5 years prior to admission (Categories for burglary, theft, drugs, weapons, and other non-violent offense)

- **Social Cognitive Factors**
  These factors are measured by the following domain scores (scale: 1-5)
  - Education & Employment Score – This domain considers the social achievement of a significant academic milestone and employment history
  - Criminal Thinking Score - This domain considers how a person's behavior reflects his/her thinking, and whether their mental orientation is prosocial or supports their criminal behavior
  - Wellness Score - This domain includes a wide range of skills, such as healthy habits, proper hygiene, good nutrition and appropriate leisure time activities

- Family/Marital Score – This domain considers impact of marital or equivalent relationships on the pro-criminal influences and antisocial attitudes
- Substance Abuse Score – This domain considers the inmate history of alcohol and drug use
- Criminal Associates Score - This domain considers inmate's attachments to criminal associates
- Anti-Social Personality Score – This domain considers the antisocial behavior marked by impulsiveness, aggression, and stimulation seeking

For the criminal history factors, only those offenses for which the inmate received either a Florida prison sentence or Florida community supervision sentence are considered. Crimes in Florida that resulted in other sanctions, such as fines, county jail, or federal sentences, are not included. Arrests, supervision, or prison sentences outside of Florida are also not included, unless they are a part of the inmate's Florida sentence. *For information on re-arrest rates, please refer to page 18 of this report.*

In addition, for the "most serious violent offense" factor, an inmate can only be designated to one of the offense categories listed below. For example, if an inmate has committed both a sex offense and a robbery, he/she will be counted in the sex offense category, NOT in the robbery category, according to the offense severity hierarchy. The offense severity hierarchy for the most serious violent offense factor is as follows:

1. Murder
2. Sex Offense
3. Robbery
4. Other Violent Offense (e.g. assault, kidnapping, etc.)

RECIDIVISM RATES OVER TIME

Recidivism Rates Over Time

Chart: Recidivism Rates Over Time

Year of Release	1-12 Months	13-24 Months	25-36 Months	Total
2010	9%	10%	7%	25.7%
2011	8%	10%	8%	26.2%
2012	8%	10%	8%	25.2%
2013	9%	9%	7%	25.4%
2014	8%	9%	7%	24.5%
2015	8%	9%	7%	24.7%
2016*	8%	9%		17.8%
2017*	9%			8.5%
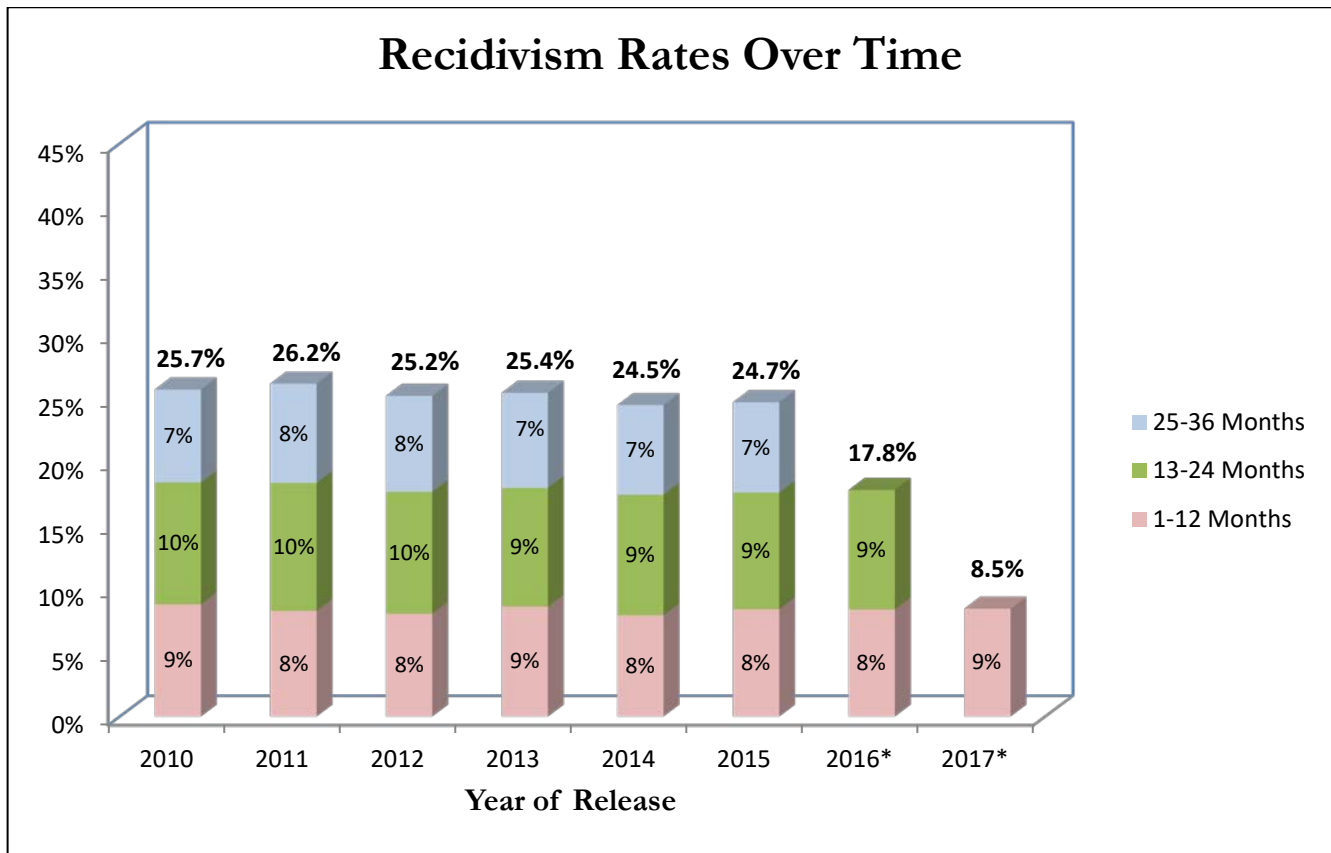
- As of the 2019 report, 3-year recidivism rates cannot yet be computed for 2016 and 2017 releases, so only one- and two-year rates are provided in the chart.

Recidivism rates are certainly affected by factors outside the influence of the Department of Corrections, such as unemployment, crime rates, and local criminal justice issues, including jail bed availability, gang activities, and judicial behavior. Statewide initiatives such as truth-in-sentencing, increased use of mandatory prison terms, and availability of inmate rehabilitative programs may also influence recidivism rates. For these reasons, recidivism rates cannot be used as the only measure of operational performance for the Florida prison system. Recidivism is a measure of a multitude of societal issues working for and against the released inmate, before he ever receives a prison sentence and long after he is released.

Recidivism Rates by Gender

Chart showing stacked bar graph of recidivism rates by gender with categories 25-36 Months, 13-24 Months, and 1-12 Months.

Male total: 26.4% (25-36 Months: 7%, 13-24 Months: 10%, 1-12 Months: 9%)

Female total: 13.2% (25-36 Months: 5%, 13-24 Months: 5%, 1-12 Months: 4%)
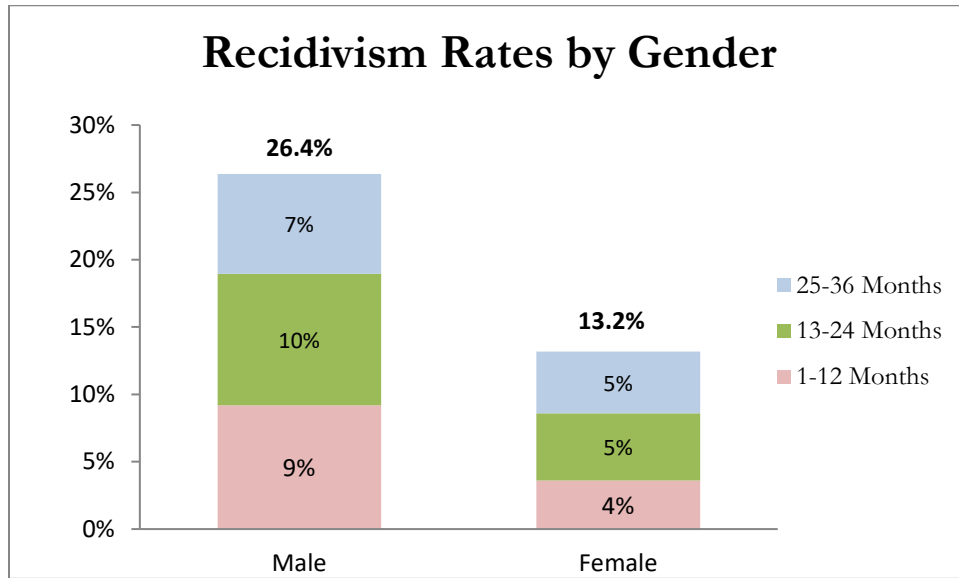
Female inmates' recidivism rates are much lower than male inmates' rates. At three years, the male recidivism rate is 26.4% while the female rate is only 13.2%. Other factors could account for the observed difference. While the average time served for males is 44 months, the average time served for females is only 27 months. Approximately 32% of female releases have some type of supervision to follow compared to 37% of males. These are only a few of the factors that may explain some of the differences in recidivism rates for males and females.

RECIDIVISM RATES BY PRIMARY OFFENSE
FOR INMATES RELEASED in 2015

Recidivism Rates by Primary Offense (2015 Releases)

Primary Offense	1-12 Months	13-24 Months	25-36 Months	Total
MURDER/MANSLAUGHTER	6%	6%	4%	16%
DRUGS	5%	8%	6%	19%
PROPERTY...	8%	10%	7%	25%
SEXUAL/LEWD BEHAVIOR	13%	7%	5%	25%
WEAPON	7%	10%	8%	25%
OTHERS	8%	10%	8%	26%
VIOLENT, OTHER	11%	9%	6%	26%
BURGLARY	10%	11%	8%	30%
ROBBERY	12%	11%	8%	31%

Recidivism Rate

■ 1-12 Months   ■ 13-24 Months   ■ 25-36 Months
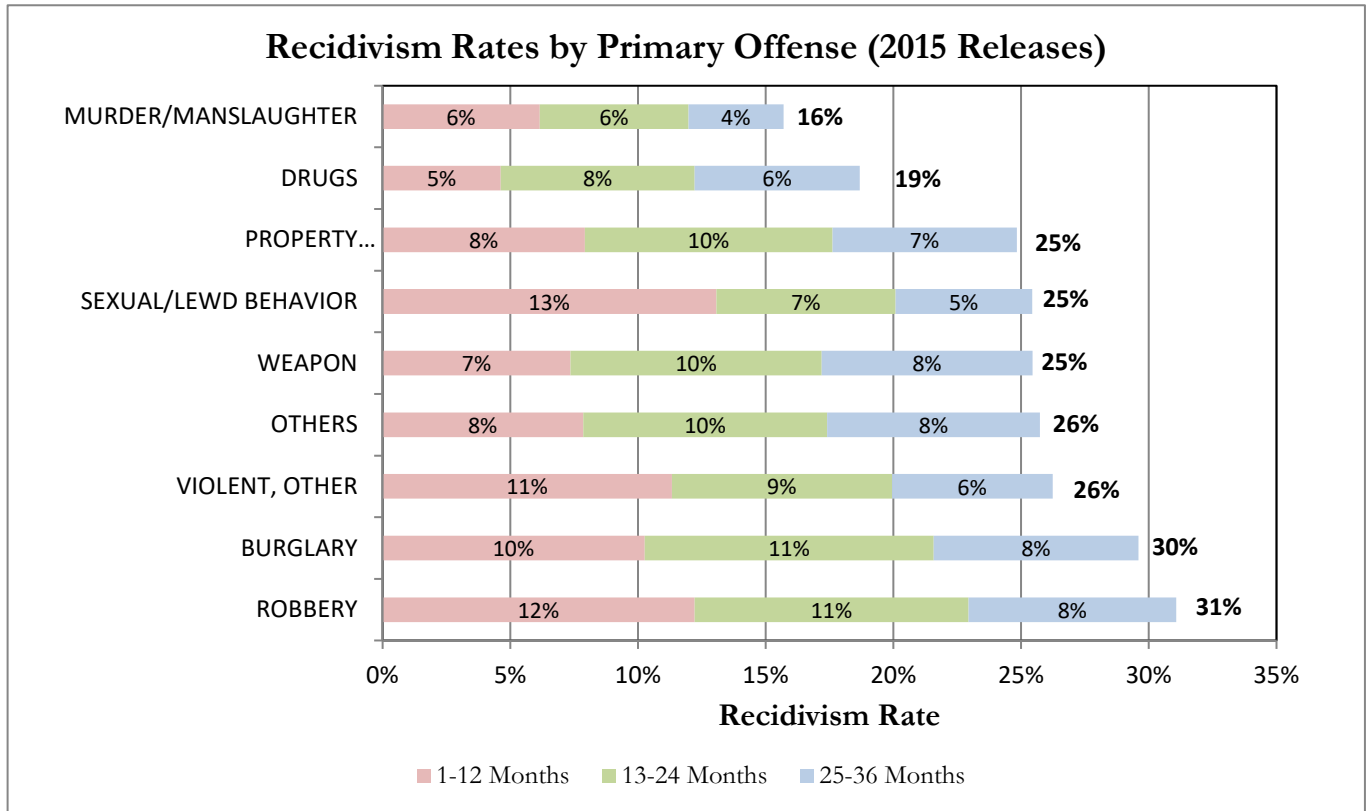
The graph above shows that inmates serving a prison sentence for murder/manslaughter offenses have the lowest recidivism rate of 16%, followed by inmates with drugs offenses. Inmates with robbery offenses have the highest recidivism rate of 31%, and recidivism rate of burglary offenders ranks second at 30%. Ranging from 25% to 26%, there is not much difference in the recidivism rates for the inmates serving violent other (e.g. aggravated assault, battery, kidnapping, arson) offenses, weapon offenses, other non-violent (e.g. DUI, driving with suspended or revoked license, failure to register) offenses, sexual/lewd behavior offenses, and property/theft/fraud/damage offenses.

Recidivism Rates by Age at Release (2015 Releases)

Age at Release	1-12 Months	13-24 Months	25-36 months	Total
60+	9%	5%	3%	**16%**
50-59	10%	7%	5%	**22%**
35-49	9%	8%	6%	**24%**
25-34	7%	9%	8%	**24%**
18-24	9%	13%	10%	**31%**
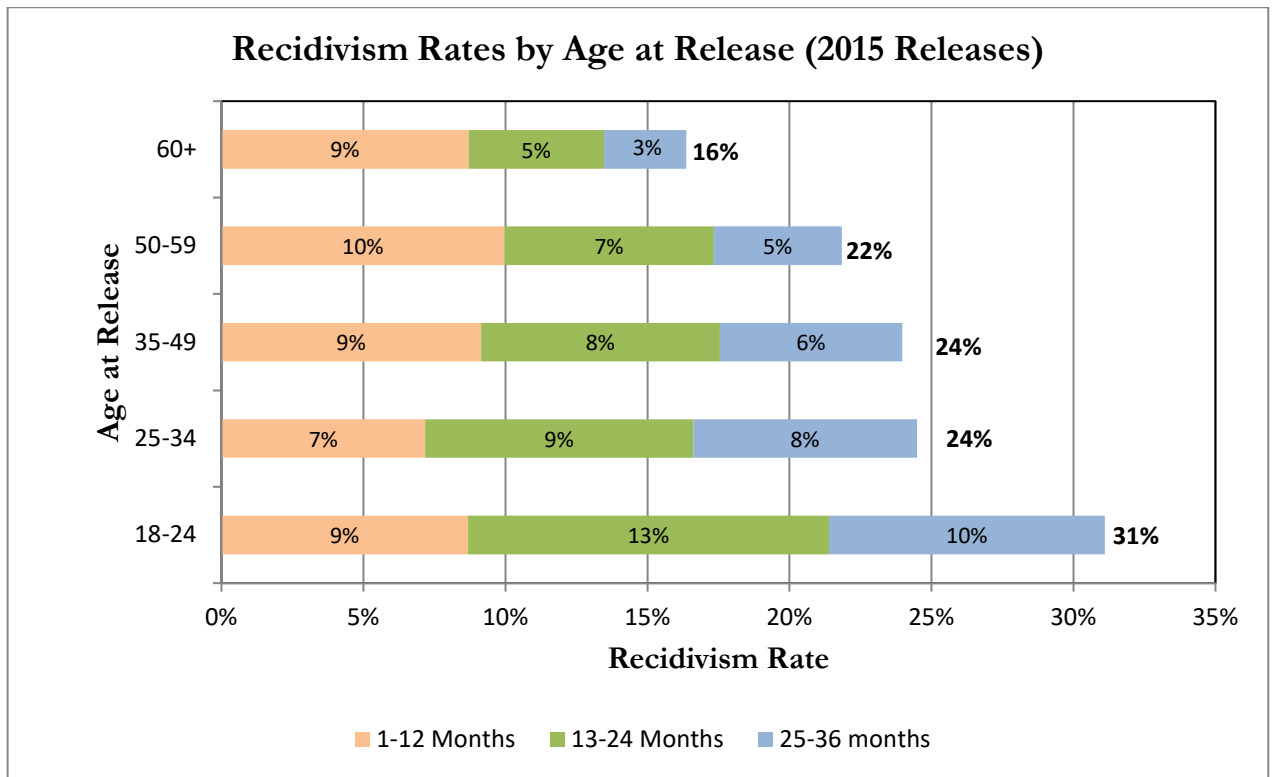
An inmate's likelihood to recidivate decreases with age at release. Note that there is little difference in the recidivism rates between the age group of 25-34 and 35-49.

RECIDIVISM RATES – MODEL FACTOR TABLES
FOR INMATES RELEASED in 2015

The hazard ratio is a descriptive measure used to compare the survival times of two different groups of offenders. Hazard ratios in the tables below are interpreted as the multiple of the likelihood of failure. For example, in Table 1 male inmates who are gang members have a hazard ratio of 1.988. This ratio means that a male inmate who is a gang member is (1.988-1=0.988) 98.8% more likely to fail than a male inmate who is not a gang member with all other factors held constant (meaning they are identical on all factors in the model except for gang membership).

On the other hand, if the hazard ratio is less than one, the interpretation is a percent reduction in likelihood to fail. For example, in Table 1 a male Hispanic inmate is (1-0.677=.323) 32.3% less likely to recidivate than a non-Hispanic male inmate with all other factors held constant.

For those measures that are expressed as numeric counts instead of dichotomous (Yes/No), the hazard ratios show the increase or decrease **per unit increase** in the factor. For example, in Table 2 for each additional disciplinary report a male inmate receives while incarcerated, his likelihood of recidivating increases by (1.01-1=.01) 1.0%. For each additional grade level tested, his likelihood of recidivating decreases by (1-0.969=0.031) 3.1%.

Table 1. Hazard Ratios for Categorical Factors Selected by Model (Male)

Factors	Values	Overall Releases 2015 (Available Data Only)	Percent of Release Cohort	Recidivism Rate	Hazard Ratio
Supervision to Follow	Yes	9,507	37%	38%	2.171**
	No	16,207	63%	20%	
Gang Membership	Yes	2,818	11%	50%	1.988**
	No	22,896	89%	24%	
Custody at Release	Low (Community or Minimum)	12,117	47%	22%	0.852**
Ethnicity	Hispanic	2,575	10%	21%	0.677**
	Non-Hispanic	23,139	90%	27%	
Homeless Residence Status at Release	Yes	878	3%	42%	1.347**
	No	24,836	97%	26%	
Murder Offense within 15 Years prior to Admission	Yes	642	3%	17%	0.673**
Employed at Release	Yes	2,160	8%	17%	0.82**
	No	23,554	92%	27%	

**: p-value ≤ 0.01; *: 0.01 < p-value <0.05; NS: Not Significant at α = 0.05

Table 2. Hazard Ratios for Continuous Factors Selected by Model (Male)

Factors	Value	Median	Mean	Hazard Ratio
Criminal History	Number of Prior Prison Commitments (0-11)	0.0	0.9	1.252**
Age at Release	Age at Release (15-87)	34	37	0.975**
Institutional Behavior	Number of Disciplinary Reports Inmate Receives during the Current Incarceration (0-193)	1.0	2.9	1.01**
Education Level	Most Recent Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE) Score (Grade Equivalents of 1-12.9) before Release	7.2	†	0.969**
Number of Visits Inmate Receives within 12 Months prior to Release	Number of Visits (0-250)	0.0	8.7	0.993**
Inmate History of Alcohol and Drug Use	Substance Abuse Severity Score (0-14)	3.0	4.7	1.018**
Inmate Attachments to Criminal Associates	Criminal Associate Score (1-5)	2.0	2.1	1.024*
Offense History	Number of Theft Offenses before Release (0-69)	1.0	2.0	1.022**
	Number of Burglary Offenses before Release (0-45)	0.0	1.2	1.023**
	Number of Other Non-Violent Offenses within 5 Years prior to Admission (0-15)	0.0	0.3	1.076**

**: p-value ≤ 0.01; *: 0.01 < p-value <0.05; †: An average cannot be calculated for grade equivalent TABE scores since these are not interval scale.

Table 3. Hazard Ratios for Categorical Factors Selected by Model (Female)

Factors	Values	Overall Releases 2015 (Available Data Only)	Percent of Release Cohort	Recidivism Rate	Hazard Ratio
Supervision to Follow	Yes	1,184	32%	20%	2.211**
	No	2,549	68%	10%	
Robbery Offense within 15 Years prior to Admission	Yes	261	7%	21%	1.363*
	No	3,472	93%	13%	

**: p-value ≤ 0.01; *: 0.01 < p-value <0.05;

Table 4. Hazard Ratios for Continuous Factors Selected by Model (Female)

Factors	Value	Median	Mean	Hazard Ratio
Criminal History	Number of Prior Prison Commitments (0-7)	0.0	0.5	1.609**
Age at Release	Age at Release (17-77)	34	36	0.97**
Education and Employment Background	Education and Employment Score (1-5)***	2.0	2.3	1.179**
Offense History	Number of Theft Offenses within 5 Years prior to Admission (0-29)	0.0	1.4	1.058**

**: p-value ≤ 0.01;
*** Education and Employment Score assess the inmate's employment and educational background so any needs in these areas can be addressed through specialized services and programming. Higher scores indicate lower levels in the background, which demand more services and programming to improve.

Table 5. Factors Not Included in the Model

Factor	Value	Overall Releases 2015	Percent of Release Cohort	Recidivism Rate
Release Type	Expiration of Sentence (No Supervision to Follow)	18,733	64%	18%
	Conditional Release (mandatory supervision for serious offenders as specified in F.S. 947.1405)	4,868	17%	42%
	Expiration of Sentence to Probation or Community Control (Split Sentence)	4,591	16%	32%
	Program Supervision (Addiction Recovery)	1,052	4%	21%
Release Facility	Major Correctional Institution (DC facilities only)	20,176	69%	27%
	Work/Forestry Camp	1,039	4%	24%
	Work Release	3,916	13%	14%
	Re-Entry Center	234	1%	23%
	Contract Drug	270	1%	19%

Note that the results presented in Table 5 do not constitute a rigorous evaluation of any factor. For example, it is not valid to claim that if all inmates went to Work Release Centers, one would observe a lower overall recidivism rate. Inmates who succeed at work release do not necessarily have the same characteristics as other inmates, so the work release impact would likely be different if expanded to include a broader group of inmates.

Factors in Order of Predictability by Gender

Listed below are the factors, in order of importance, that affect the recidivism rates:

'H' - a higher likelihood of recidivism; 'L' - a lower likelihood of recidivism (Male)	H	L
1. Supervision Following Prison	x	
2. Gang Member Suspected or Confirmed	x	
3. Number of Prior Prison Commitments	x	
4. Age at Release		x
5. Number of Visits Inmate Receives within 12 Months prior to Release		x
6. Number of Disciplinary Reports Inmate Receives during the Current Incarceration	x	
7. Number of Theft Offenses before Release	x	
8. Hispanic Ethnicity		x
9. Most Recent TABE (Education Level) Score before Release		x
10. Low Custody at Release		x
11. Inmate Substance Abuse Severity Score	x	
12. Inmate with Homeless Residence Status at Release	x	
13. Number of Other Non-Violent Offenses within 5 Years prior to Admission	x	
14. Number of Burglary Offenses before Release	x	
15. Murder Offense within 15 Years Prior to Admission		x
16. Inmate with Employment at Release		x
17. Inmate Attachments to Criminal Associates	x	

'H' - a higher likelihood of recidivism; 'L' - a lower likelihood of recidivism (Female)	H	L
1. Number of Prior Prison Commitments	x	
2. Supervision Following Prison	x	
3. Age at Release		x
4. Number of Theft Offenses within 5 Years prior to Admission	x	
5. Inmate Education and Employment Score	x	
6. Robbery Offense within 15 Years prior to Admission	x	

The factors that affect male recidivism rates, but not female rates are:

1. Inmate with Homeless Residence Status at Release
2. Low Custody at Release
3. Gang Membership
4. Number of Disciplinary Reports Inmate Receives during the Current Incarceration
5. Inmate Substance Abuse Severity Score
6. Number of Visits Inmate Receives within 12 Months prior to Release
7. Hispanic Ethnicity
8. Inmate Commits Murder Offense within 15 Years Prior to Admission
9. Inmate with Employment at Release
10. Number of Other Non-Violent Offenses within 5 Years Prior to Admission
11. Inmate Attachments to Criminal Associates
12. Number of Burglary Offenses before Release

The factors that affect both male recidivism and female recidivism in the same direction are (not in order of importance):

1. Number of Prior Prison Commitments
2. Supervision to Follow
3. Age at Release
4. Inmate Education Achievements (male is affected by the TABE score and female is affected by the education and employment score)
5. Number of Theft Offenses

Robbery Offense affects the female recidivism rate, but has no significant impact on the male recidivism rate.

Re-Arrest Rates

A review by the Office of Program Policy and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) recommended that the department include re-arrest rates in addition to recidivism rates in this report. The Bureau of Research and Data Analysis worked with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) to match arrest records to the release cohorts used in the recidivism calculation (all of the arrests occurred in Florida, and the lack of a post-release arrest record in Florida's Computerized Criminal History database does not mean that the inmate was not arrested post-release in another state).

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) maintains Florida's Computerized Criminal History (CCH) files, which contain arrest information submitted by Florida law enforcement agencies via fingerprint cards or Livescan, as well as judicial and custody information, submitted by the Clerks of Court and the Department of Corrections, respectively. Note that CCH data are continually updated and arrest/judicial records are subject to change as additional information is received and entered. Caution should be used when comparing individual categories, as these may be impacted by events that have not yet been recorded in the database.

Defining Re-Arrest

Re-arrest is defined as any arrest after release from prison. The arrest could result in a new conviction, a violation of post-prison supervision, or another disposition. The follow-up periods (typically reported as **three years**) are calculated from prison release date to the date of arrest.

Release Year	Follow-up Period								
	12 Months			24 Months			36 Months		
	Arrested after Release	Total Released	Re-Arrest Rate	Arrested after Release	Total Released	Re-Arrest Rate	Arrested after Release	Total Released	Re-Arrest Rate
2011	12,595	31,683	39.8%	17,602	31,683	55.6%	20,111	31,683	63.5%
2012	11,394	30,462	37.4%	16,334	30,462	53.6%	18,708	30,462	61.4%
2013	11,200	29,677	37.7%	15,878	29,677	53.5%	18,213	29,677	61.4%
2014	10,883	29,766	36.6%	15,515	29,766	52.1%	17,910	29,766	60.2%
2015	10,743	29,447	36.5%	15,337	29,447	52.1%	17,725	29,447	60.2%

Changing Re-Arrest Rates

       The annual release cohorts have shown decreases in five-year re-arrest rates. The declining trend in the re-arrest rates during recent years is consistent with the statewide decrease in Florida arrest numbers for past years. Please refer to *http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/FSAC/Data-Statistics/UCR-Arrest-Data.aspx* for more information about statewide arrest numbers.

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Appendix A: Recidivism and Custody

Recidivism rates measure the likelihood that an inmate who is released from prison will return to a Florida prison (not county jail) within three years.

Recidivism Rates by Facility Type and Custody at Release

An inmate's custody is determined by criminal history as well as behavior in prison. The custody of the inmate is not just a factor in determining where inmates are housed, but also a good predictor of recidivism risk. Higher custody inmates are much more likely to recidivate than low custody inmates and this relationship holds for both male and female inmates. Studies have shown that program resources produce more positive results on inmates with moderate to high risk to recidivate than on inmates with a low risk to recidivate.

The table below represents over 29,000 inmates who were released from public and private prisons from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015.

	Male Inmates		Female Inmates	
	Recidivism Rate	Number and Percent of Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number and Percent of Releases
Release from Major Institution (Major DC, Re-Entry Center, Work Camp, Road Prison)				
Close Custody	35.6%	n = 3,691 14.4% of all males released	21.7%	n = 180 4.8% of all females released
Medium Custody	28.6%	n = 9,037 35.1% of all males released	14.8%	n = 656 17.6% of all females released
Minimum Custody	26.8%	n = 6,044 23.5% of all males released	15.7%	n = 949 25.4% of all females released
Community Custody	20.0%	n = 2,498 9.7% of all males released	10.3%	n = 1,180 31.6% of all females released
Release from Work Release / Transition Center				
Community Custody Overall	14.7%	n = 3,513 13.7% of all males released	9.1%	n = 673 18.0% of all females released
DC Work Release Centers	13.7%	n=1,581	9.0%	n=332
Contract Facilities	15.6%	n=1,932	9.1%	n=341

Note: Inmates released from work release/transition centers have lower recidivism rates compared with those released from major institutions. Contract facilities include contracted work release as well as Tomoka CRC and Jacksonville Bridge.

Appendix B: Recidivism Rates Tables

	Male				Female			
	Total Returned	Total Released	Recidivism Rate	Percent in the Male Category	Total Returned	Total Released	Recidivism Rate	Percent in the Female Category
Race								
White	2,837	11,262	25.2%	43.8%	339	2,646	12.8%	70.9%
Black	3,391	11,812	28.7%	45.9%	137	930	14.7%	24.9%
Hispanic	544	2,575	21.1%	10.0%	14	146	9.6%	3.9%
Others	11	65	16.9%	0.3%	2	11	18.2%	0.3%
Total	6,783	25,714	26.4%	100.0%	492	3,733	13.2%	100.0%
Prison Commitment History								
First-time Offender	2,774	13,502	20.5%	52.5%	268	2,658	10.1%	71.2%
Repeat Offender	4,009	12,212	32.8%	47.5%	224	1,075	20.8%	28.8%
Total	6,783	25,714	26.4%	100.0%	492	3,733	13.2%	100.0%
Post-Prison Supervision to Follow								
No	3,200	16,207	19.7%	63.0%	251	2,549	9.8%	68.3%
Yes	3,583	9,507	37.7%	37.0%	241	1,184	20.4%	31.7%
Total	6,783	25,714	26.4%	100.0%	492	3,733	13.2%	100.0%
Gang Association								
No	5,370	22,896	23.5%	89.0%	483	3,704	13.0%	99.2%
Yes	1,413	2,818	50.1%	11.0%	9	29	31.0%	0.8%
Total	6,783	25,714	26.4%	100.0%	492	3,733	13.2%	100.0%
Sentence Length								
5 Years or Less	5,395	20,906	25.8%	81.3%	466	3,488	13.4%	93.4%
Between 5-10 Year	902	3,174	28.4%	12.3%	20	187	10.7%	5.0%
More Than 10 Year	486	1,634	29.7%	6.4%	6	58	10.3%	1.6%
Total	6,783	25,714	26.4%	100.0%	492	3,733	13.2%	100.0%
Age at Release								
Under 25	1,250	3,821	32.7%	14.9%	69	372	18.5%	10.0%
25-34	2,401	9,095	26.4%	35.4%	207	1,548	13.4%	41.5%
35-49	2,193	8,500	25.8%	33.1%	164	1,331	12.3%	35.7%
50-59	790	3,398	23.2%	13.2%	43	417	10.3%	11.2%
60+	149	900	16.6%	3.5%	9	65	13.8%	1.7%
Total	6,783	25,714	26.4%	100.0%	492	3,733	13.2%	100.0%
Substance Abuse Treatment Needed								
No	2,090	8,209	25.5%	31.9%	88	782	11.3%	20.9%
Yes	4,693	17,505	26.8%	68.1%	404	2,951	13.7%	79.1%
Total	6,783	25,714	26.4%	100.0%	492	3,733	13.2%	100.0%

	Male				Female			
	Total Returned	Total Released	Recidivism Rate	Percent in the Male Category	Total Returned	Total Released	Recidivism Rate	Percent in the Female Category
Mental Health Status at Release								
Inmate does not require on-going treatment	5,756	22,682	25.4%	88.2%	273	2,165	12.6%	58.0%
Inmate requires ongoing treatment	1,027	3,032	33.9%	11.8%	219	1,568	14.0%	42.0%
Total	6,783	25,714	26.4%	100.0%	492	3,733	13.2%	100.0%
Primary Offense								
Murder/Manslaughter	95	552	17.2%	2.1%	2	66	3.0%	1.8%
Sexual/Lewd behavior	361	1,423	25.4%	5.5%	5	16	31.3%	0.4%
Robbery	663	2,067	32.1%	8.0%	29	160	18.1%	4.3%
Violent, Other	1,032	3,691	28.0%	14.4%	64	486	13.2%	13.0%
Burglary	1,387	4,551	30.5%	17.7%	64	352	18.2%	9.4%
Property Theft/Fraud/Damage	1,095	3,916	28.0%	15.2%	150	1,098	13.7%	29.4%
Drugs	1,230	6,051	20.3%	23.5%	138	1,271	10.9%	34.0%
Weapons	361	1,400	25.8%	5.4%	9	54	16.7%	1.4%
Other	559	2,062	27.1%	8.0%	31	230	13.5%	6.2%
Total	6,783	25,714	26.4%	100.0%	492	3,733	13.2%	100.0%
Custody at Release								
Community	1,025	6,030	17.0%	24.0%	184	1,859	9.9%	50.7%
Minimum	1,630	6,087	26.8%	24.3%	152	954	15.9%	26.0%
Medium	2,627	9,153	28.7%	36.5%	102	672	15.2%	18.3%
Close	1,368	3,813	35.9%	15.2%	41	185	22.2%	5.0%
Total (excluding missing)	6,650	25,083	26.5%	100.0%	479	3,670	13.1%	100.0%
Risk of Recidivating								
1	259	2,657	9.7%	11.6%	144	1,924	7.5%	58.9%
2	600	3,822	15.7%	16.7%	125	652	19.2%	20.0%
3	777	3,675	21.1%	16.1%	47	304	15.5%	9.3%
4	2,860	9,123	31.3%	39.9%	91	329	27.7%	10.1%
5	1,668	3,583	46.6%	15.7%	20	59	33.9%	1.8%
Total (excluding missing)	6,164	22,860	27.0%	100.0%	427	3,268	13.1%	100.0%
TABE Score at Release								
0.1-5.9	2,693	9,104	29.6%	38.2%	138	953	14.5%	26.8%
6.0-8.9	1,603	6,062	26.4%	25.4%	127	883	14.4%	24.8%
9.0-12.9	2,060	8,692	23.7%	36.4%	198	1,721	11.5%	48.4%
Total (excluding missing)	6,356	23,858	26.6%	100.0%	463	3,557	13.0%	100.0%

Please use the calculated return rate with caution if the total releases to that county are less than 50

County of Conviction (Primary Offense)	2013			2014			2015		
	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)
Alachua	191	633	30.2%	157	610	25.7%	218	618	35.3%
Baker	15	67	22.4%	20	63	31.7%	20	76	26.3%
Bay	187	813	23.0%	230	830	27.7%	175	824	21.2%
Bradford	23	51	45.1%	26	87	29.9%	30	135	22.2%
Brevard	202	902	22.4%	228	900	25.3%	257	954	26.9%
Broward	426	1911	22.3%	440	1,957	22.5%	408	2,070	19.7%
Calhoun	12	53	22.6%	15	54	27.8%	13	57	22.8%
Charlotte	48	266	18.0%	64	266	24.1%	66	288	22.9%
Citrus	56	233	24.0%	59	220	26.8%	48	234	20.5%
Clay	96	364	26.4%	82	355	23.1%	80	359	22.3%
Collier	77	325	23.7%	73	297	24.6%	64	306	20.9%
Columbia	77	308	25.0%	81	249	32.5%	82	281	29.2%
Miami-Dade	486	1744	27.9%	414	1,706	24.3%	384	1,662	23.1%
Desoto	22	77	28.6%	27	100	27.0%	27	86	31.4%
Dixie	13	57	22.8%	18	57	31.6%	21	61	34.4%
Duval	540	1,989	27.1%	520	1,903	27.3%	488	1,780	27.4%
Escambia	175	738	23.7%	186	778	23.9%	184	791	23.3%
Flagler	34	143	23.8%	34	152	22.4%	22	129	17.1%
Franklin	13	53	24.5%	8	44	18.2%	10	34	29.4%
Gadsden	43	153	28.1%	38	166	22.9%	28	166	16.9%
Gilchrist	3	23	13.0%	8	34	23.5%	11	25	44.0%
Glades	3	17	17.6%	4	19	21.1%	8	25	32.0%
Gulf	8	28	28.6%	10	37	27.0%	8	35	22.9%
Hamilton	2	38	5.3%	7	24	29.2%	2	9	22.2%
Hardee	19	65	29.2%	16	50	32.0%	13	53	24.5%
Hendry	19	69	27.5%	17	79	21.5%	17	79	21.5%
Hernando	71	288	24.7%	73	342	21.3%	103	340	30.3%
Highlands	47	200	23.5%	53	185	28.6%	48	184	26.1%
Hillsborough	597	2,303	25.9%	586	2,376	24.7%	534	2,161	24.7%
Holmes	14	60	23.3%	20	57	35.1%	20	79	25.3%
Indian River	52	234	22.2%	55	186	29.6%	56	192	29.2%
Jackson	44	173	25.4%	35	153	22.9%	40	160	25.0%
Jefferson	10	51	19.6%	8	46	17.4%	10	41	24.4%
Lafayette	3	14	21.4%	5	10	50.0%	4	8	50.0%
Lake	92	437	21.1%	88	501	17.6%	92	451	20.4%
Lee	206	794	25.9%	170	795	21.4%	170	728	23.4%
Leon	201	660	30.5%	199	716	27.8%	214	653	32.8%
Levy	34	131	26.0%	22	122	18.0%	28	104	26.9%
Liberty	11	25	44.0%	9	24	37.5%	4	19	21.1%
Madison	8	58	13.8%	14	51	27.5%	13	45	28.9%
Manatee	111	445	24.9%	115	419	27.4%	98	393	24.9%
Marion	236	838	28.2%	234	984	23.8%	227	927	24.5%
Martin	77	316	24.4%	55	299	18.4%	57	288	19.8%
Monroe	51	208	24.5%	56	195	28.7%	38	185	20.5%
Nassau	21	97	21.6%	31	124	25.0%	31	121	25.6%

County of Conviction (Primary Offense)	2013			2014			2015		
	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)
Okaloosa	85	304	28.0%	95	316	30.1%	96	335	28.7%
Okeechobee	36	130	27.7%	34	152	22.4%	47	148	31.8%
Orange	365	1,395	26.2%	325	1,276	25.5%	322	1,259	25.6%
Osceola	85	410	20.7%	93	390	23.8%	83	364	22.8%
Palm Beach	250	1,150	21.7%	269	1,124	23.9%	266	1,120	23.8%
Pasco	191	741	25.8%	173	916	18.9%	135	852	15.8%
Pinellas	440	1,939	22.7%	364	1,809	20.1%	439	1,786	24.6%
Polk	413	1,382	29.9%	381	1,492	25.5%	402	1,558	25.8%
Putnam	90	305	29.5%	70	286	24.5%	74	277	26.7%
St. Johns	77	305	25.2%	82	311	26.4%	90	331	27.2%
St. Lucie	148	627	23.6%	103	540	19.1%	133	549	24.2%
Santa Rosa	45	231	19.5%	51	224	22.8%	47	230	20.4%
Sarasota	127	427	29.7%	107	448	23.9%	122	454	26.9%
Seminole	119	397	30.0%	116	426	27.2%	115	414	27.8%
Sumter	23	94	24.5%	23	100	23.0%	24	108	22.2%
Suwannee	47	158	29.7%	41	150	27.3%	42	154	27.3%
Taylor	24	101	23.8%	38	89	42.7%	21	95	22.1%
Union	6	29	20.7%	7	21	33.3%	13	32	40.6%
Volusia	248	845	29.3%	254	872	29.1%	285	960	29.7%
Wakulla	19	82	23.2%	11	51	21.6%	15	49	30.6%
Walton	19	85	22.4%	22	68	32.4%	17	99	17.2%
Washington	18	86	20.9%	19	80	23.8%	16	54	29.6%
All	7,551	29,675	25.4%	7,288	29,763	24.5%	7,275	29,446	24.7%

Appendix C: Recidivism Rates – 5 Year Follow-Up

According to the recidivism rates in the table below, more than one third of inmates released have returned to Florida prisons within five years of their prison release date. However, the overall return rates have decreased from 38.7% for Cohort 2007 to 34.4% for Cohort 2013. It appears that most of returns happen within the first three years of the prison release date. Within the fourth and fifth year of the release date, the return rate has decreased to 5% and 4% respectively.

Year of Release	12 Months	24 Months	36 Months	48 Months	60 Months
2007	11.9%	23.1%	30.5%	35.4%	38.7%
2008	10.2%	20.5%	27.6%	32.4%	36.0%
2009	9.6%	19.3%	26.3%	31.4%	35.3%
2010	8.9%	18.4%	25.7%	30.9%	34.7%
2011	8.3%	18.4%	26.2%	31.5%	35.2%
2012	8.1%	17.7%	25.2%	30.5%	34.2%
2013	8.7%	18.0%	25.4%	30.6%	34.4%
2014	8.0%	17.5%	24.5%	29.6%	
2015	8.5%	17.6%	24.7%		