

Florida Prison Recidivism Report: Releases from 2008 to 2020

July 2022

Florida Department of Corrections

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Office of Strategic Initiatives



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Executive Summary

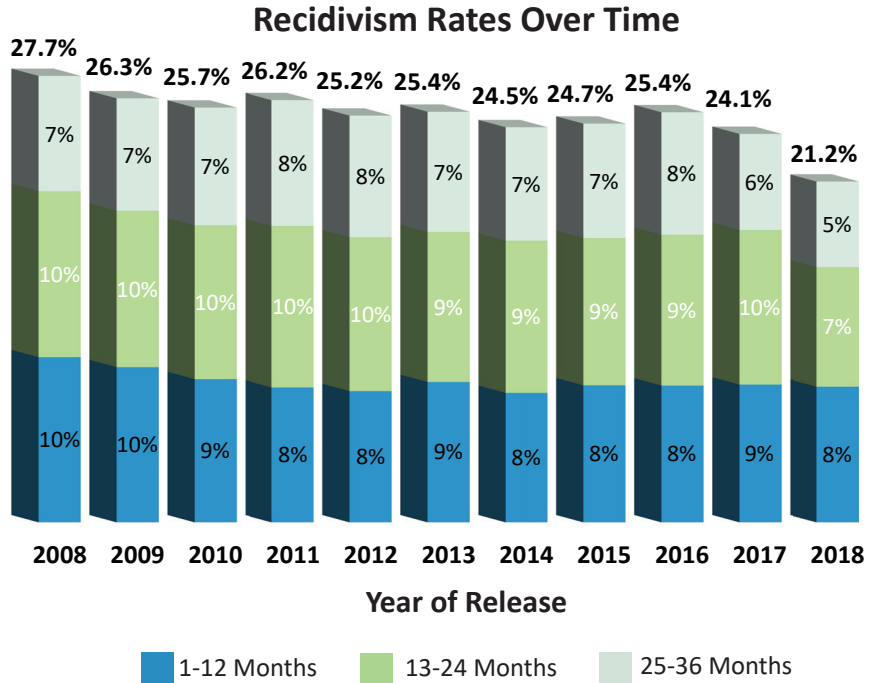
Defining Recidivism

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 27.7% in 2008 to 21.2% in 2018, a 23.5% decrease. The recidivism rates have ranged over the prior five years between 24-25%.

- Males (22.5%) were more likely to recidivate than females (11.5%).
- An inmate’s likelihood to recidivate decreases with age at release.
- Inmates convicted of burglary (25.0%), followed by sexual/lewd offenses (24.7%) and robbery (24.4%), were more likely to recidivate.



Major Factors

For 2018 releases, some factors found to influence an inmate’s likelihood of recidivism include (both male and female):

- Whether the inmate has a term of supervision following release: *Supervised* → higher likelihood of recidivating;
- Number of prior prison commitments: *More priors* → higher likelihood of recidivating;
- Inmate’s age at first offense: *older first time inmates* → less likelihood of recidivating;
- The number of criminal associates: *More criminal associates* → higher likelihood of recidivating;
- The inmate’s homeless status upon release: *homeless inmates* → 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 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 Additionally, a 2019 report, based on data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics National Corrections Reporting Program, showed an overall three-year recidivism rate, for inmates released in 2011, of 38% (32 states reporting).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 2018 releases, about 37% 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.



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 Abt Associates, *Event- and Offender-Based Recidivism Methodology Using the National Corrections Reporting Program* (Cambridge, MA: Abt Associates, Feb. 2019) <https://www.abtassociates.com/insights/publications/report/event-and-offender-based-recidivism-methodology-using-the-national>

Methodology

Recidivism: 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.

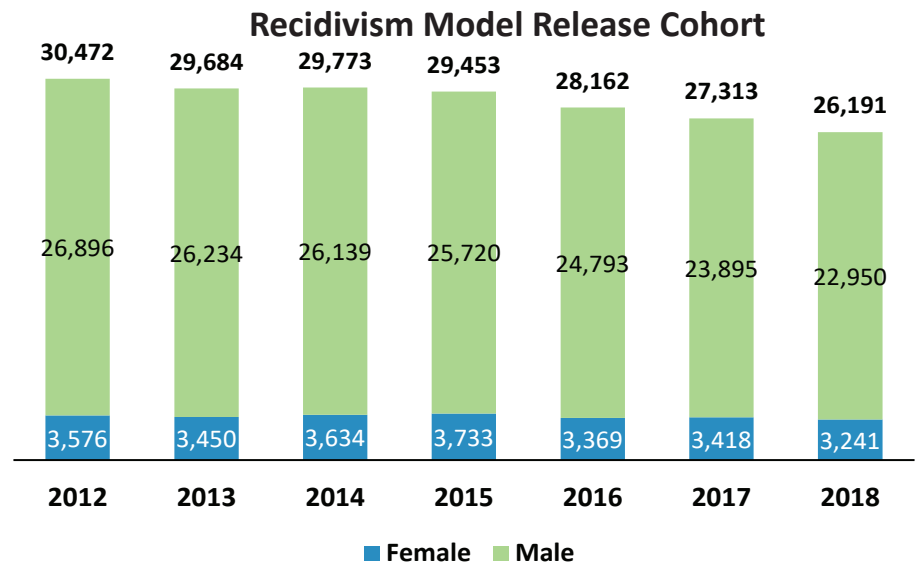
The basic rates for tables and graphs are computed from Kaplan-Meier estimates of the survival curve using right-censored data. The analyses of factor significance are conducted using Cox models (proportional hazards regression) of the same data. The analysis used a 5% level of significance to determine 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.

Area under the curve (AUC) is an established measure to evaluate the goodness of fit of the predictive model. Typically AUC measurements range from 0.5 to 1.0, with measurements having better predictive fit the closer they move to 1.0. The resulting models built on the Florida prison releases from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018 have area under the curve (AUC) statistics of 0.726 for males and 0.794 for females.

All inmates released from Florida prisons from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018 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.
- Inmates who were not released directly from the custody of the Department of Corrections were omitted.



Methodology (continued)

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
- 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 Custody)
- 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 had a positive drug test result in their criminal history prior to their release - Yes/No

Inmate Education/Program Information

- Has inmate obtained a GED/HS certificate – Yes/No
- Has inmate received a vocational/industrial 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
- Has inmate participated in faith-based 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)

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 13 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.)

Social Cognitive Factors

These factors are measured by the following domain scores (scale: 1-5)

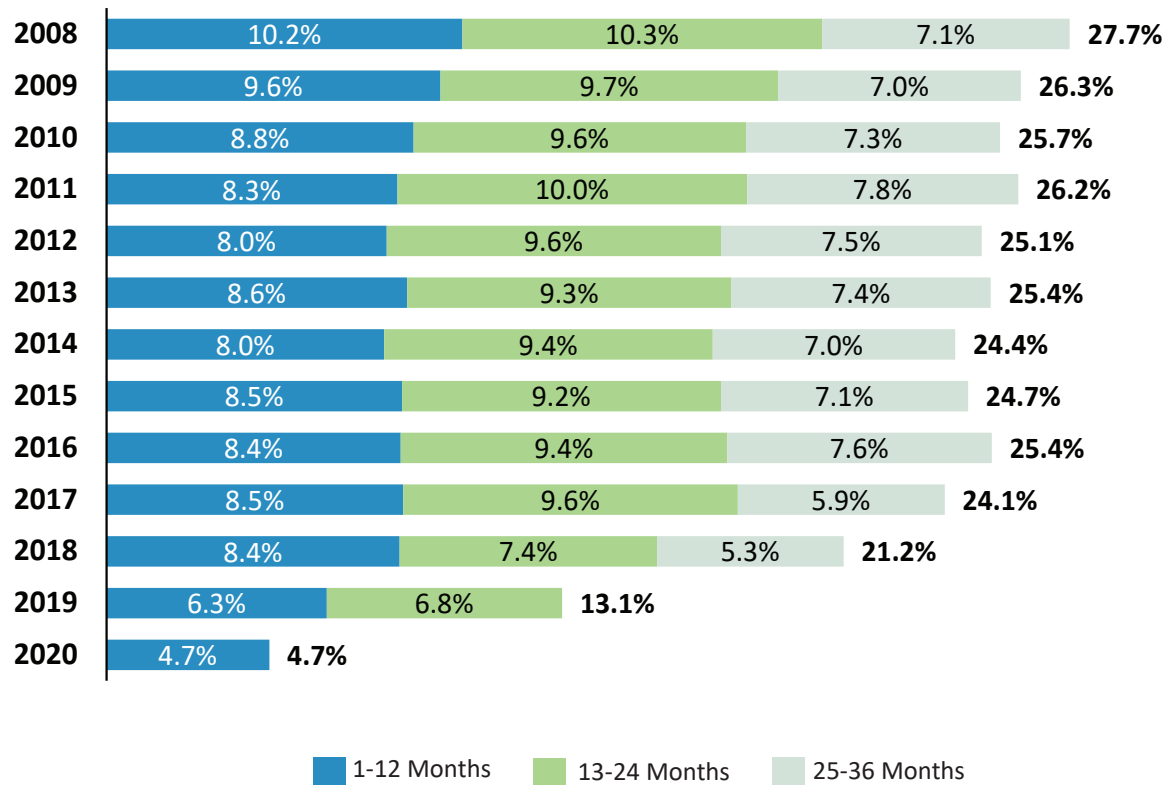
- Education & Employment Score – This domain considers the social achievement of a significant academic milestone and employment history
- Criminal Thinking Score - This domain considers how a person's behavior reflects his/her thinking, and whether their mental orientation is prosocial or supports their 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

Recidivism Rates Over Time

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 the inmate ever receives a prison sentence and long after the inmate is released.

Recidivism Rates Over Time



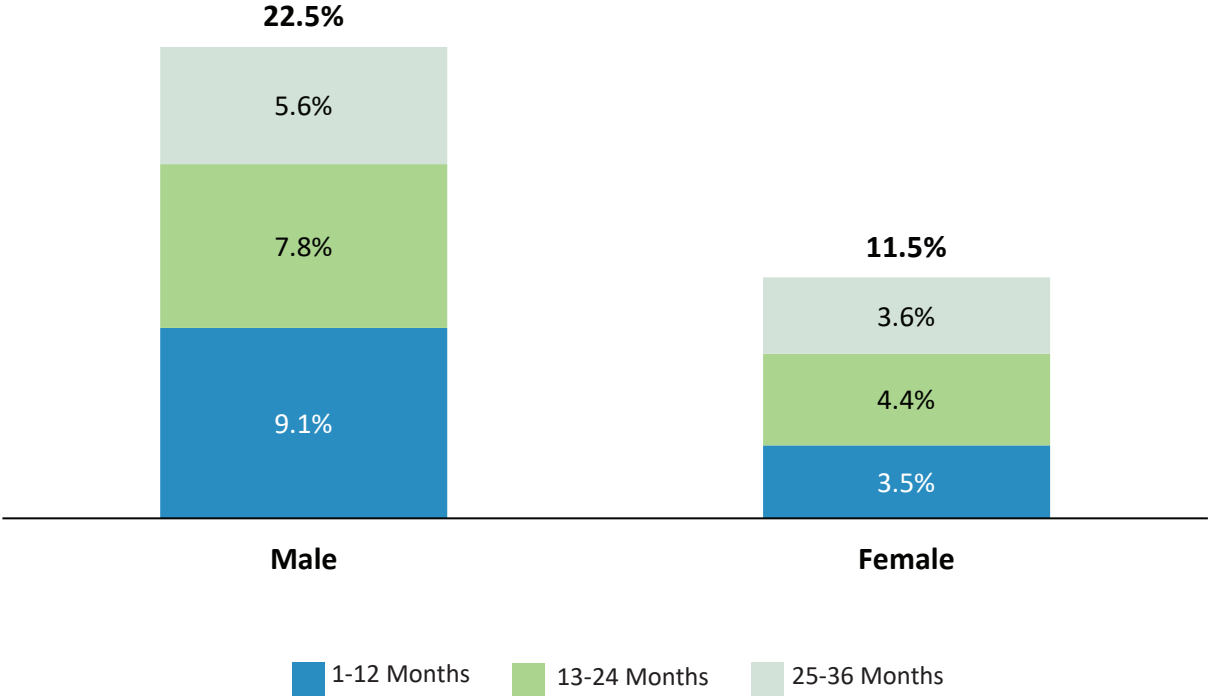
*As of the 2022 report, 3-year recidivism rates cannot yet be computed for 2019 and 2020 releases, so only one and two-year rates are provided in the chart.

Recidivism Rates by Gender for Inmates Released in 2018

Female inmates' recidivism rates are much lower than male inmates' rates. At three years, the male recidivism rate is 22.5% while the female rate is only 11.5%, a decrease for both compared to the previous release cohort. Other factors could account for

the observed difference. The average time served for males is 48 months, while the average time served for females is only 29 months. Additionally, approximately 33% of female releases have some type of supervision to follow compared to 38% of males.

Recidivism Rates By Gender

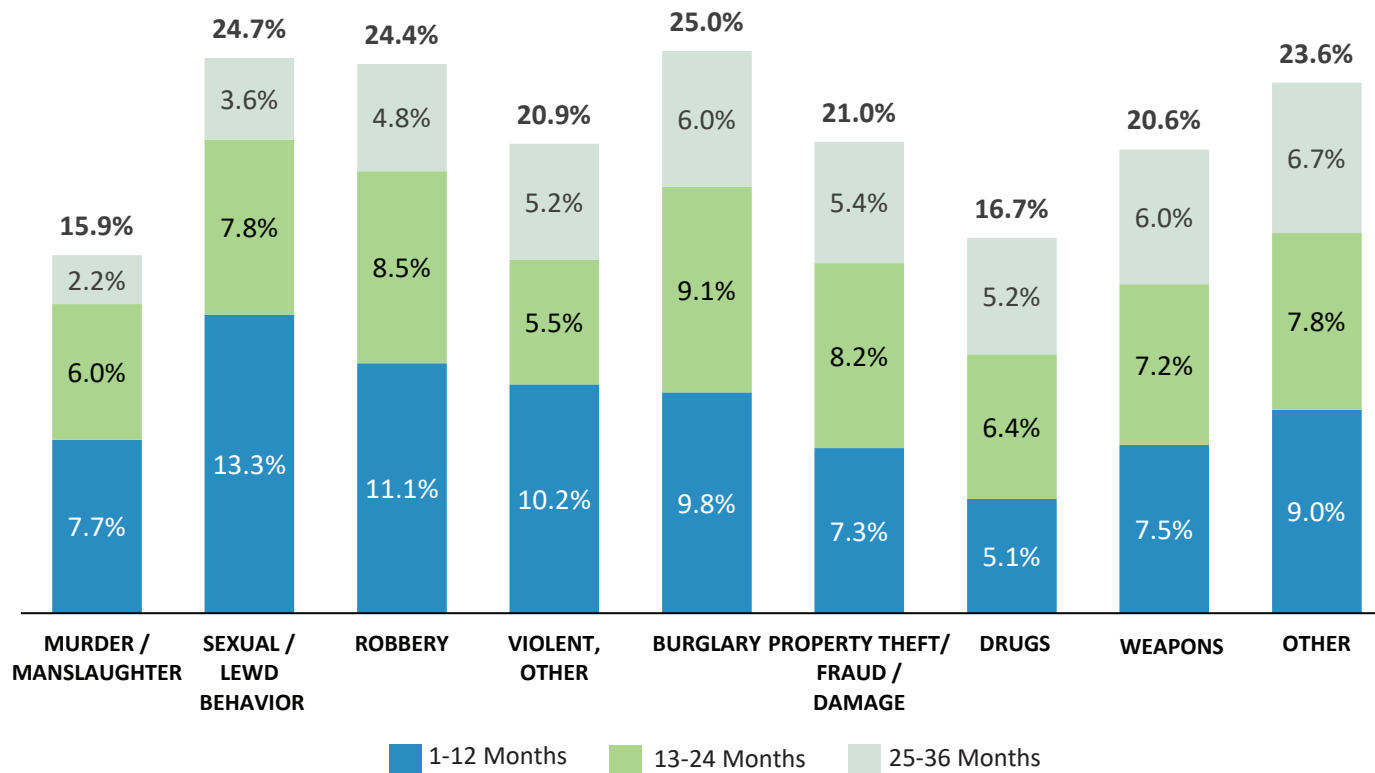


Recidivism Rates by Primary Offense for Inmates Released in 2018

The graph below shows that inmates serving a prison sentence for murder/manslaughter offenses have the lowest recidivism rate of 15.9%, followed by inmates with drugs offenses (16.7%). Inmates with burglary offenses have the highest recidivism rate of 25.0%, followed closely by sexual/lewd behavior (24.6%) and robbery (24.4%). There is not much difference in the recidivism rates for the inmates serving property/theft/fraud/damage offenses,

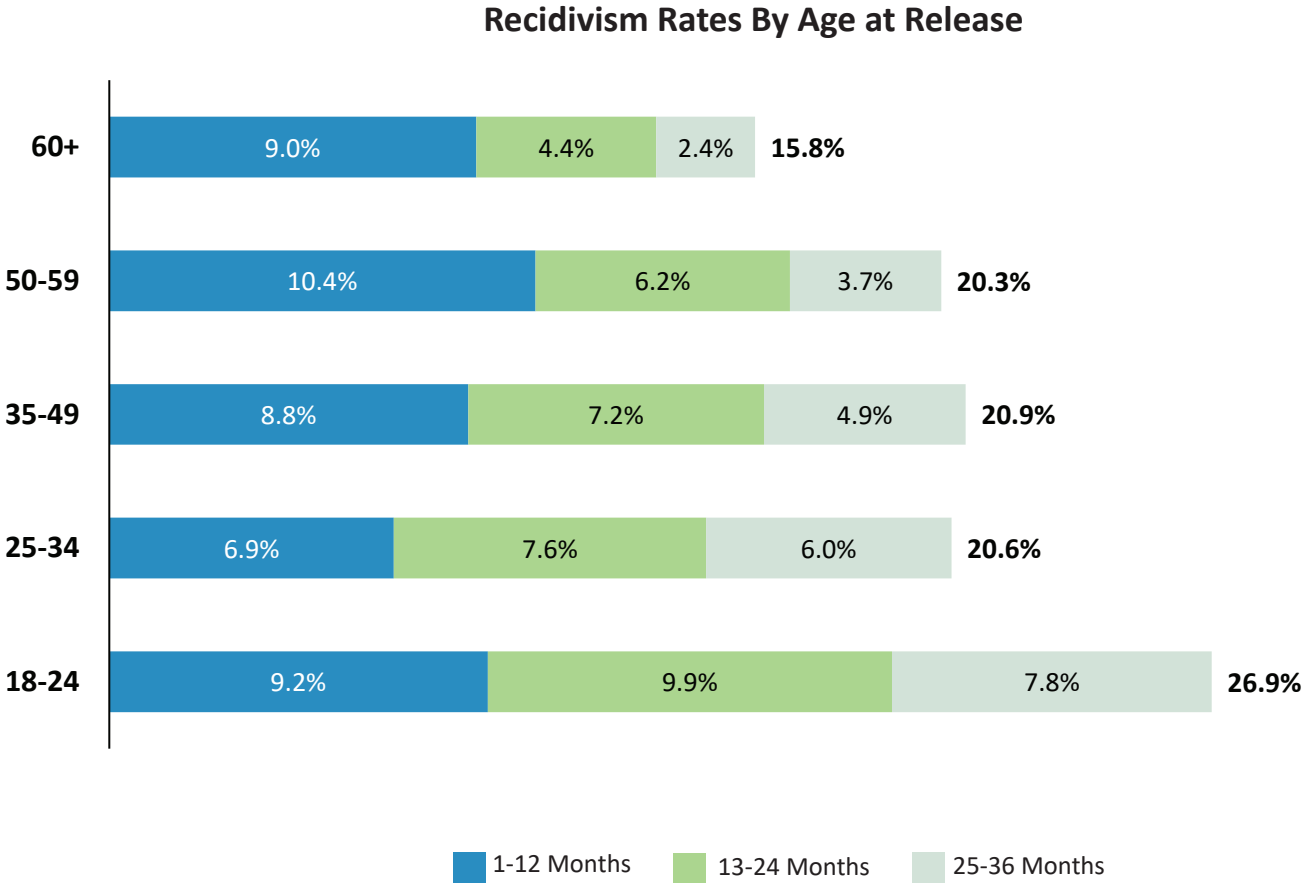
weapons, and violent other (e.g. aggravated assault, battery, kidnapping, arson) offenses. Other non-violent (e.g. DUI, driving with suspended or revoked license, failure to register) offenses were in the middle at 23.6%. Additional breakdown of drug offenses found that inmates convicted of possession had the higher recidivism rate (19.1%), than manufacture/sale/purchase of illegal drugs (17.4%), or drug trafficking (10.6%).

Recidivism Rates by Primary Offense



Recidivism Rates by Age for Inmates Released in 2018

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 , 35-49, and 50-59.



Recidivism Rates - Model Factor Table for Inmates Released in 2018

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

Factors	Values	Overall Releases 2018 (Available Data Only)	Percent of Release Cohort	Recidivism Rate	Hazard Ratio ¹
Supervision to Follow	Yes	8,719	38.0%	33.4%	2.369**
	No	14,231	62.0%	15.8%	
Gang Membership	Yes	3,787	16.5%	35.8%	1.592**
	No	19,163	83.5%	19.9%	
Homeless Residence Status at Release	Yes	1,234	5.4%	37.7%	1.455**
	No	21,716	94.6%	21.7%	
Positive Drug Test	Yes	8,610	37.5%	25.9%	1.201**
	No	14,340	62.5%	20.5%	
Murder/Manslaughter Offense within 15 years of Admission	Yes	628	2.7%	18.3%	0.623**
	No	22,322	97.3%	22.6%	
Custody at Release	Low (Community or Minimum)	10,705	46.6%	17.8%	0.869**
	Yes	3,848	16.8%	25.8%	0.816**
Worst Offense Serving: Robbery	No	19,102	83.2%	21.9%	
	Yes	6,744	29.4%	23.4%	0.836**
Worst Offense Serving: Other Violent	No	16,206	70.6%	22.2%	
	Yes	2,124	9.3%	15.7%	0.868 ^{NS}
Employment Upon Release	No	20,826	90.7%	23.2%	

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 1.583. This ratio means that a male inmate who is a gang member is $(1.592-1=0.592)$ 59.2% more likely to fail than

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

Factors	Value	Median	Mean	Hazard Ratio ¹
Criminal History	Number of Prior Prison Commitments (0-7)	0.0	0.6	1.231**
Age at First Offense	Age at First Offense (13-84)	20.0	23.6	0.976**
Criminal Associates	Inmate Criminal Associate Score (1-5)	2.0	2.1	1.077**
Number of Visits Inmate Receives within 12 Months prior to Release	Number of Visits (0-105)	0.0	3.0	0.988**
Education Level	Most Recent Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE) Score (Grade Equivalents of 0.1-12.9) before release	7.0	†	0.977**
Institutional Behavior	Number of Disciplinary Reports Inmate Receives during the Current Incarceration (0-195)	1.0	3.4	1.012**
Total Number of Months Served	Time Served in Months (2-583)	31.0	48.2	0.999**
Inmate History of Alcohol and Drug Use	Inmate Substance Abuse Severity Score (0-14)	3.0	4.9	1.011**
Offense History	Number of Theft Offenses before Release (0-86)	1.0	2.1	1.018**
	Number of Other Non-Violent Offenses within 5 Years Prior to Admission (0-14)	0.0	0.3	1.039 ^{NS}

1**: p-value ≤ 0.01; NS: Not significant at a p=0.01; † : An average cannot be calculated for grade equivalent TABE scores since these were not interval scale.

Recidivism Rates - Model Factor Table for Inmates Released in 2018

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 inmate who was in low custody at release is $(1 - 0.869 = 13.1)$ 13.1% less likely to recidivate than a male inmate not in low custody at release with all other factors held constant.

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

Factors	Values	Overall Releases 2018 (Available Data Only)	Percent of Release Cohort	Recidivism Rate	Hazard Ratio ²
Supervision to Follow	Yes	1,083	33.4%	18.2%	3.335**
	No	2,158	66.6%	8.2%	
Homeless Residence Status at Release	Yes	11	0.3%	36.4%	3.611 ^{NS}
	No	3,230	99.7%	11.4%	
Mental Health Status at Release	Requires Ongoing Treatment	1,371	42.3%	13.0%	1.515 ^{NS}
	Does Not Require Ongoing Treatment	1,870	57.7%	10.4%	

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 4 for each additional prior prison commitments a female inmate has

in their criminal history, her likelihood of recidivating increases by $(1.771 - 1 = .771)$ 77.1%. Additionally, for every year older a female is at age of first offense, her likelihood of recidivating decreases by $(1 - 0.947 = 0.053)$ 5.3%.

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

Factors	Value	Median	Mean	Hazard Ratio ²
Criminal History	Number of Prior Prison Commitments (0-4)	0.0	0.4	1.771**
Age at First Offense	Age at First Offense (14-66)	25.0	26.7	0.947**
Criminal Associates	Inmate Criminal Associate Score (1-5)	2.0	2.2	1.227 ^{NS}
Offense History	Number of Theft within 5 Years Prior to Admission (0-39)	0.0	1.4	1.068**
	Number of Weapons within 5 years Prior to Admissions (0-5)	0.0	0.04	1.709**
	Number of Drug Offenses within 5 years Prior to Admissions (0-13)	0.0	1.1	1.119 ^{NS}

2**: p-value ≤ 0.01 ; NS: Not significant at $\alpha = 0.01$;

Recidivism Rates - Model Factor Table for Inmates Released in 2018

Table 5. Factors Not Included in the Model

Factor	Value	Overall Releases 2018	Percent of Release Cohort	Recidivism Rate
Release Types	Expiration of Sentence (No Supervision to Follow)	16,315	62%	15%
	Conditional Release (mandatory supervision for serious offenders as specified in F.S. 947.1405)	4,725	18%	38%
	Expiration of Sentence to Probation or Community Control (Split Sentence)	3,994	15%	28%
	Program Supervision (Addiction Recovery)	930	4%	17%
	Other	227	0.9%	28.6%
Release Facility	Major Correctional Institution or Facility	20,705	79.1%	23.1%
	Work/Forestry Camp	1,139	4.3%	18.5%
	Work Release (State or Contracted)	3,817	14.6%	11.2%
	Re-Entry Center	399	1.5%	20.1%
	Contract Drug	34	0.1%	20.6%
	Other (BTU, Road Prison)	97	0.4%	26.8%

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:

MALE: 'H' - a higher likelihood of recidivism; 'L' - a lower likelihood of recidivism (Male)		
	H	L
1. Supervision Following Prison	X	
2. Number of Prior Prison Commitments	X	
3. Gang Member Suspected or Confirmed	X	
4. Age at First Offense		X
5. Inmates with Homeless Residence Status at Release	X	
6. Inmate Criminal Associate Score	X	
7. Number of Visits Inmates Receives within 12 months Prior to Release		X
8. Positive Drug Test result in Criminal History Prior to Release	X	
9. Number of Theft Offenses before Release	X	
10. Most Recent TABE (Education Level) Score before Release		X
11. Number of Disciplinary Reports Inmate Receives during the Current Incarceration	X	
12. Murder / Manslaughter offenses within 15 years prior		X
13. Total Number of Months Served		X
14. Inmate Substance Abuse Severity Score	X	
15. Low Custody at Release		X
16. Worst Offense Serving: Robbery		X
17. Worst Offense Serving: Other Violent		X
18. Inmate with Employment at Release		X
19. Number of Other Non-Violent Offenses within 5 Years Prior to Admission	X	
FEMALE: '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 First Offense		X
4. Number of Theft Offenses within 5 Years Prior to Admission	X	
5. Inmate Criminal Associate Score	X	
6. Number of Weapon Offenses within 5 Years Prior to Admission	X	
7. Inmates with Homeless Residence Status at Release	X	
8. Number of Drug Offenses within 5 Years Prior to Admission	X	
9. Mental Health Status at Release	X	

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

1. Gang Member Suspected or Confirmed
2. Number of Visits Inmate Receives within 12 Months Prior to Release
3. Positive Drug Test Result in Criminal History Prior to Release
4. Most Recent TABE (Education Level) Score before Release
5. Number of Disciplinary Reports Inmate Receives during the Current Incarceration
6. Total Number of Months Served
7. Inmate Substance Abuse Severity Score
8. Low Custody at Release
9. Inmate with Employment at Release

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

1. Supervision Following Prison
2. Number of Prior Prison Commitments
3. Age at First Offense
4. Inmate Criminal Associate Score
5. Homeless Residence Status
6. Offense History

Inmate's mental health status affected female recidivism, but had no significant impact 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.

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.

Release Year	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
2013	11,200	29,684	37.7%	15,878	29,684	53.5%	18,213	29,684	61.4%
2014	10,883	29,773	36.6%	15,515	29,773	52.1%	17,910	29,773	60.2%
2015	10,743	29,453	36.5%	15,337	29,453	52.1%	17,725	29,453	60.2%
2016	10,276	28,162	36.5%	14,896	28,162	52.9%	17,174	28,162	61.0%
2017	10,425	27,313	38.2%	14,785	27,313	54.1%	16,691	27,313	61.1%
2018	10,249	26,191	39.1%	14,079	26,191	53.8%	15,849	26,191	60.5%

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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 re-

cidivate 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 26,000 inmates who were released from public and private prisons from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018.

Custody Type	Male Inmates		Female Inmates	
	Recidivism Rate	Number and Percent of Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number and Percent of Releases
Close Custody	31.9%	n = 3,735 16.3% of all males released	17.5%	n = 166 5.1% of all females released
Medium Custody	24.3%	n = 8,468 36.9% of all males released	14.7%	n = 667 20.6% of all females released
Minimum Custody	21.5%	n = 5,325 23.2% of all males released	11.8%	n = 937 28.9% of all females released
Community Custody (Excluding Work Release / Transition Centers)	17.4%	n = 2,216 9.7% of all males released	9.9%	n = 778 24.0% of all females released
Community Custody (Work Release / Transition Centers Only)	11.9%	n = 3,130 13.6% of all males released	8.4%	n = 687 21.2% of all females released

Note: Inmates released from work release/transition centers have lower recidivism rates compared with those released from major institutions.

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
Prison Commitment History								
First-time Offender	2,396	13,349	17.9%	58.2%	203	2,342	8.7%	72.3%
Repeat Offender	2,773	9,601	28.9%	41.8%	170	899	18.9%	27.7%
Total	5,169	22,950	22.5%	100.0%	373	3,241	11.5%	100.0%
Post-Prison Supervision to Follow								
No	2,253	14,231	15.8%	62.0%	176	2,158	8.2%	66.6%
Yes	2,916	8,719	33.4%	38.0%	197	1,083	18.2%	33.4%
Total	5,169	22,950	22.5%	100.0%	373	3,241	11.5%	100.0%
Gang Association								
No	3,815	19,163	19.9%	83.5%	350	3,149	11.1%	97.2%
Yes	1,354	3,787	35.8%	16.5%	23	92	25.0%	2.8%
Total	5,169	22,950	22.5%	100.0%	373	3,241	11.5%	100.0%
Sentence Length								
5 Years or Less	3,977	18,098	22.0%	78.9%	347	2,946	11.8%	90.9%
Between 5-10 Year	738	3,101	23.8%	13.5%	23	222	10.4%	6.8%
More Than 10 Year	454	1,751	25.9%	7.6%	3	73	4.1%	2.3%
Total	5,169	22,950	22.5%	100.0%	373	3,241	11.5%	100.0%
Age at Release								
Under 25	766	2,770	27.7%	12.1%	41	229	17.9%	7.1%
25-34	1,732	7,888	22.0%	34.4%	156	1,297	12.0%	40.0%
35-49	1,797	8,037	22.4%	35.0%	147	1,263	11.6%	39.0%
50-59	693	3,174	21.8%	13.8%	27	372	7.3%	11.5%
60+	181	1,081	16.7%	4.7%	2	80	2.5%	2.5%
Total	5,169	22,950	22.5%	100.0%	373	3,241	11.5%	100.0%

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
Mental Health Status at Release								
Inmate does not require on-going treatment	4,278	19,761	21.6%	86.1%	195	1,870	10.4%	57.7%
Inmate Requires on-going treatment	891	3,189	27.9%	13.9%	178	1,371	13.0%	42.3%
Total	5,169	22,950	22.5%	100.0%	373	3,241	11.5%	100.0%
Substance Abuse Treatment Needed								
No	1,472	6,932	21.2%	30.2%	50	680	7.4%	21.0%
Yes	3,697	16,018	23.1%	69.8%	323	2,561	12.6%	79.0%
Total	5,169	22,950	22.5%	100.0%	373	3,241	11.5%	100.0%
Primary Offense								
Murder/Manslaughter	93	525	17.7%	2.3%	2	72	2.8%	2.2%
Sexual/Lewd behavior	327	1,329	24.6%	5.8%	6	20	30.0%	0.6%
Robbery	461	1,819	25.3%	7.9%	16	135	11.9%	4.2%
Violent, Other	793	3,561	22.3%	15.5%	56	508	11.0%	15.7%
Burglary	1,040	3,994	26.0%	17.4%	43	340	12.6%	10.5%
Property Theft/Fraud/Damage	776	3,288	23.6%	14.3%	93	858	10.8%	26.5%
Drugs	888	5,020	17.7%	21.9%	117	1,004	11.7%	31.0%
Weapons	314	1,479	21.2%	6.4%	6	73	8.2%	2.3%
Other	477	1,935	24.7%	8.4%	34	231	14.7%	7.1%
Total (excluding missing)	5,169	22,950	22.5%	100.0%	373	3,241	11.5%	100.0%

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
Custody at Release								
Community	764	5,380	14.2%	23.4%	135	1,465	9.2%	45.2%
Minimum	1,146	5,325	21.5%	23.2%	111	937	11.8%	28.9%
Medium	2,060	8,468	24.3%	36.9%	98	667	14.7%	20.6%
Close	1,191	3,735	31.9%	16.3%	29	166	17.5%	5.1%
Total (excluding missing)	5,161	22,908	22.5%	99.8%	373	3,235	11.5%	99.8%
Risk of Recidivating								
1	269	3,054	8.8%	13.3%	49	970	5.1%	29.9%
2	544	3,905	13.9%	17.0%	69	665	10.4%	20.5%
3	638	3,206	19.9%	14.0%	66	591	11.2%	18.2%
4	2,053	7,853	26.1%	34.2%	117	654	17.9%	20.2%
5	1,308	3,191	41.0%	13.9%	43	162	26.5%	5.0%
Total (excluding missing)	4,812	21,209	22.7%	92.4%	344	3,042	11.3%	93.9%
TABE Score at Release								
0.1-5.9	2,129	8,586	24.8%	37.4%	99	846	11.7%	26.1%
6.0-8.9	1,258	5,456	23.0%	23.8%	90	787	11.4%	24.3%
9.0-12.9	1,579	8,063	19.6%	35.1%	172	1,532	11.2%	47.3%
Total (excluding missing)	4,966	22,110	22.5%	96.3%	361	3,165	11.4%	97.7%

Appendix B: Recidivism Rates Tables - County Level Recidivism

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

County of Conviction (Primary Offense)	2016			2017			2018		
	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	188	543	34.6%	179	596	30.0%	175	600	29.2%
Baker	18	56	32.1%	27	87	31.0%	28	117	23.9%
Bay	191	796	24.0%	205	863	23.8%	157	704	22.3%
Bradford	29	98	29.6%	20	62	32.3%	16	74	21.6%
Brevard	261	946	27.6%	216	880	24.5%	201	940	21.4%
Broward	409	1,995	20.5%	356	1,923	18.5%	262	1,605	16.3%
Calhoun	15	54	27.8%	9	36	25.0%	10	40	25.0%
Charlotte	62	263	23.6%	46	249	18.5%	40	227	17.6%
Citrus	74	274	27.0%	70	263	26.6%	61	288	21.2%
Clay	64	301	21.3%	63	273	23.1%	59	248	23.8%
Collier	67	280	23.9%	65	271	24.0%	43	261	16.5%
Columbia	66	276	23.9%	75	247	30.4%	93	310	30.0%
Miami-Dade	320	1,528	20.9%	315	1,391	22.6%	226	1,255	18.0%
Desoto	38	95	40.0%	32	117	27.4%	35	104	33.7%
Dixie	14	46	30.4%	16	36	44.4%	18	54	33.3%
Duval	429	1,758	24.4%	422	1,821	23.2%	406	1,648	24.6%
Escambia	180	741	24.3%	187	731	25.6%	166	791	21.0%
Flagler	35	123	28.5%	25	88	28.4%	33	98	33.7%
Franklin	9	34	26.5%	14	38	36.8%	9	49	18.4%
Gadsden	31	112	27.7%	30	110	27.3%	23	85	27.1%
Gilchrist	9	31	29.0%	6	35	17.1%	11	37	29.7%
Glades	14	33	42.4%	5	20	25.0%	6	20	30.0%
Gulf	9	49	18.4%	5	54	9.3%	8	40	20.0%
Hamilton	1	13	7.7%	4	18	22.2%	0	24	0.0%
Hardee	22	72	30.6%	21	81	25.9%	14	59	23.7%
Hendry	12	53	22.6%	11	57	19.3%	14	59	23.7%

Appendix B: Recidivism Rates Tables - County Level Recidivism

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

County of Conviction (Primary Offense)	2016			2017			2018		
	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)
Hernando	76	286	26.6%	85	301	28.2%	70	331	21.1%
Highlands	63	211	29.9%	42	181	23.2%	38	182	20.9%
Hillsborough	538	1,925	27.9%	521	1,908	27.3%	366	1,825	20.1%
Holmes	16	78	20.5%	18	82	22.0%	9	68	13.2%
Indian River	54	152	35.5%	56	204	27.5%	50	205	24.4%
Jackson	40	150	26.7%	30	146	20.5%	30	154	19.5%
Jefferson	8	35	22.9%	6	27	22.2%	6	22	27.3%
Lafayette	2	14	14.3%	3	12	25.0%	3	16	18.8%
Lake	89	413	21.5%	75	363	20.7%	60	334	18.0%
Lee	188	790	23.8%	164	686	23.9%	120	651	18.4%
Leon	174	654	26.6%	162	616	26.3%	153	682	22.4%
Levy	21	86	24.4%	28	78	35.9%	24	103	23.3%
Liberty	7	32	21.9%	9	27	33.3%	8	29	27.6%
Madison	8	29	27.6%	6	31	19.4%	12	39	30.8%
Manatee	120	461	26.0%	103	409	25.2%	99	486	20.4%
Marion	216	829	26.1%	171	734	23.3%	143	644	22.2%
Martin	52	273	19.0%	47	269	17.5%	30	230	13.0%
Monroe	34	155	21.9%	43	173	24.9%	21	148	14.2%
Nassau	25	110	22.7%	22	119	18.5%	25	91	27.5%
Okaloosa	114	384	29.7%	80	355	22.5%	68	368	18.5%
Okeechobee	49	141	34.8%	39	162	24.1%	40	156	25.6%
Orange	287	1,223	23.5%	269	1,204	22.3%	187	1,071	17.5%
Osceola	82	331	24.8%	75	346	21.7%	76	399	19.0%
Palm Beach	270	1,066	25.3%	261	1,129	23.1%	218	1,028	21.2%
Pasco	166	731	22.7%	146	666	21.9%	100	602	16.6%
Pinellas	416	1,626	25.6%	386	1,516	25.5%	333	1,433	23.2%

Appendix B: Recidivism Rates Tables - County Level Recidivism

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

County of Conviction (Primary Offense)	2016			2017			2018		
	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)
Polk	395	1,469	26.9%	337	1,370	24.6%	319	1,475	21.6%
Putnam	57	238	23.9%	44	217	20.3%	67	215	31.2%
St. Johns	76	274	27.7%	77	233	33.0%	83	253	32.8%
St. Lucie	138	613	22.5%	119	565	21.1%	102	592	17.2%
Santa Rosa	52	218	23.9%	42	212	19.8%	31	177	17.5%
Sarasota	123	465	26.5%	87	407	21.4%	74	389	19.0%
Seminole	113	441	25.6%	104	461	22.6%	79	412	19.2%
Sumter	20	93	21.5%	17	82	20.7%	13	104	12.5%
Suwannee	43	125	34.4%	42	155	27.1%	52	164	31.7%
Taylor	44	119	37.0%	30	119	25.2%	23	107	21.5%
Union	15	32	46.9%	13	42	31.0%	8	25	32.0%
Volusia	316	1,041	30.4%	313	1,088	28.8%	237	968	24.5%
Wakulla	18	53	34.0%	15	39	38.5%	8	50	16.0%
Walton	26	102	25.5%	33	121	27.3%	19	106	17.9%
Washington	23	80	28.8%	20	70	28.6%	18	92	19.6%
All	7,141	28,123	25.4%	6,564	27,277	24.1%	5,536	26,170	21.2%

Appendix B: Recidivism Rates Tables - Circuit Level Recidivism

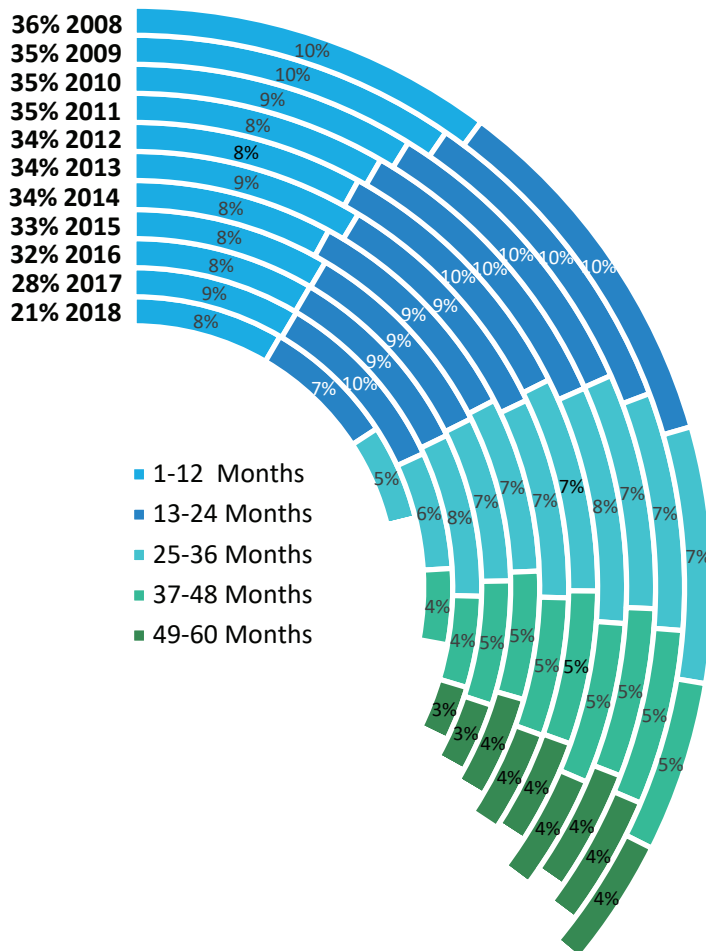
Please use the calculated return rate with caution if the total releases to that circuit are less than 50

Circuit of Conviction (Primary Offense)	2016			2017			2018		
	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)	Total Returned	Total Released	Return Rate (36 Month)
1	372	1,445	25.7%	342	1,419	24.1%	284	1,442	19.7%
2	247	920	26.8%	236	857	27.5%	207	917	22.6%
3	178	622	28.6%	176	618	28.5%	201	714	28.2%
4	518	2,169	23.9%	507	2,213	22.9%	490	1,987	24.7%
5	475	1,895	25.1%	418	1,743	24.0%	347	1,701	20.4%
6	582	2,357	24.7%	532	2,182	24.4%	433	2,035	21.3%
7	484	1,676	28.9%	459	1,626	28.2%	420	1,534	27.4%
8	280	846	33.1%	273	900	30.3%	262	956	27.4%
9	369	1,554	23.7%	344	1,550	22.2%	263	1,470	17.9%
10	480	1,752	27.4%	400	1,632	24.5%	371	1,716	21.6%
11	320	1,528	20.9%	315	1,391	22.6%	226	1,255	18.0%
12	281	1,021	27.5%	222	933	23.8%	208	979	21.2%
13	538	1,925	27.9%	521	1,908	27.3%	366	1,825	20.1%
14	294	1,207	24.4%	287	1,251	22.9%	232	10,98	21.1%
15	270	1,066	25.3%	261	1,129	23.1%	218	1,028	21.2%
16	34	155	21.9%	43	173	24.9%	21	148	14.2%
17	409	1,995	20.5%	356	1,923	18.5%	262	1,605	16.3%
18	374	1,387	27.0%	320	1,341	23.9%	280	1,352	20.7%
19	293	1,179	24.9%	261	1,200	21.8%	222	1,183	18.8%
20	343	1,419	24.2%	291	1,283	22.7%	223	1,218	18.3%
All	7,141	28,123	25.4%	6,565	27,278	24.1%	5,542	26,191	21.2%

Appendix C: Recidivism Rate - 5 Year Follow Up

According to the recidivism rates in the table below, approximately 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 36.1% for Cohort 2008 to 21.2% for Cohort 2018. 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 4% and 3% respectively.

Recidivism Rates Over Time



Year of Release	12 Months	24 Months	36 Months	48 Months	60 Months
2008	10.2%	20.5%	27.7%	32.4%	36.1%
2009	9.6%	19.3%	26.3%	31.4%	35.3%
2010	8.8%	18.4%	25.7%	30.9%	34.7%
2011	8.3%	18.4%	26.2%	31.5%	35.2%
2012	8.0%	17.6%	25.1%	30.5%	34.1%
2013	8.6%	17.9%	25.4%	30.5%	34.3%
2014	8.0%	17.4%	24.4%	29.5%	33.5%
2015	8.5%	17.6%	24.7%	30.1%	33.1%
2016	8.4%	17.8%	25.4%	29.6%	32.2%
2017	8.5%	18.1%	24.1%	27.9%	
2018	8.4%	15.8%	21.2%		