Recidivism Rates Compared 2005-2007



Indiana Department of CORRECTION

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from the **COMMISSIONER**

The Indiana Department of Correction's mission statement is "to empower the agency's staff of correctional professionals to increase public safety and reduce recidivism through successful re-entry programs that allow offenders the opportunity to positively contribute to Indiana communities."

Since I was appointed in January 2005 by Governor Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., the Department of Correction has strived to accomplish the goals outlined in our agencies mission statement. Governor Daniels has charged me with increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department, and to that end, there is no better indicator of the success of this Department than the reduction in the return rates of offenders who are released from our custody.

The rate at which an offender returns to incarceration after being committed and released from the Department of Correction is referenced throughout this report as Recidivism. Recidivism is the ultimate measurable when we want to identify the extent to which we are improving an offender's life and subsequently increasing public safety.

The findings of this comparative report are extremely exciting; recidivism rates are decreasing in the State of Indiana. I personally propose that the results of this report are attributed to the dedicated professionals of the Indiana Department of Correction and their continued support of the mission of this agency. Through our continued commitment to re-entry, coupled with the innovative programs we have implemented over the last few years, I firmly believe this is just the beginning.

Sincerely,

J. David Donahue, Commissioner Indiana Department of Correction

foreword

Recidivism Rates Compared, 2005 – 2007, is the first comprehensive report published by the Indiana Department of Correction that details the recidivism rates of offenders released from incarceration in Indiana. This report presents recidivism rates for offenders released from the custody of the Indiana Department of Correction for the time period 2002 through 2004. This report defines recidivism as a return to incarceration in the Indiana Department of Correction within three years of the offenders release date. For example, offenders released in calendar year 2004, who returned to prison for either a new conviction or technical violation during 2004, 2005, 2006, or 2007, but within three years of release, would be counted in the recidivism rate for 2007.

Across the United States, definitions of recidivism vary, making comparisons on a state or national level difficult to ascertain. There has been no national standard created that would unify the definition of recidivism throughout. Therefore, the Indiana Department of Correction has relied on its own definition, further detailed on page five, which happens to be in line with the definition used by the Association of State Correctional Administrators.

Over time, the Research and Planning Division of the Indiana Department of Correction will continue to track recidivism rates for offenders released each year and subsequently produce and publish a report that details the results of each recidivism study.

recidivism methodology

The Indiana Department of Correction defines Recidivism as an offender's return to incarceration within three (3) years of their release date from a state correctional institution.

An offender is included in this study when they are released via one of the following avenues: Community Transition Program (CTP), Probation, Parole, or Discharged.

Once released, an offender is verified as a Recidivist if they return to the institutional custody of the Indiana Department of Correction for a new conviction or a technical violation of post-incarceration supervision. In instances where offenders have multiple releases within the same year, the earliest release date is used to determine the offender's recidivism status. Therefore, the statistics listed throughout this report reflect the number of unique releases per year.

variable definitions

1. Felony Level and Offense Category are based off of the Most Serious Offense listed in the Offender Information System for the commitment period in which the offender was released from incarceration.

2. Offense Category Descriptions:

A. Controlled Substance - Dealing and Possession of Cocaine, Marijuana, and Schedule Drugs, etc.

B. Person - Murder, Manslaughter, Robbery, Battery, Carjacking, etc.

C. Property – Burglary, Residential Entry, Theft, Auto Theft, Forgery, etc.

D. Sex Offenses – Rape, Child Molesting, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, etc.

E. Weapon – Carry Handgun w/o License, Felon in Possession of Firearm, Pointing a Firearm, Possession of Firearm within 1 mile of School, etc.

F. **Other**- Resisting Law Enforcement, Driving Intoxicated/Suspended, Non-Support Child, Conspiracy, Aiding an Offense, Attempt to Commit a Felony, Missing Data, etc.

3. Medical Code Definitions:

A. Free of illness or injury;

B. Illness that requires skilled nursing care or any chronic physical or emotional disability which requires ongoing nursing care;

C. Renal failure requiring hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis;

E. Mental illness or emotional condition whereby an individual is unable to function in a standard prison environment;

F. Chronic physical or medical condition requiring frequent monitoring/surveillance and the on-site availability of licensed health care personnel twenty-four hours per day;

G. Any stabilized, permanent or chronic physical or medical condition in which:

1) Frequent monitoring/surveillance is not needed;

2) The offender demonstrates an appropriate degree of knowledge and motivation and is able to perform self care;

3) A twenty (20) pound or greater weight lifting restriction is needed.

4) Tuberculosis prophylactic medication is being administered;

H. Mental illness or emotional condition requiring the use of major tranquilizers or injectable psychotropic medications and/or requires frequent monitoring/surveillance by a psychiatrist;

I. Short term self limiting conditions of 31 to 180 days' duration; conditions which may require a placement in an observation/short stay infirmary bed;

J. Pregnancy;

K. Any acute or stable mental or emotional condition which requires the services of a psychiatrist limited to:

- 1) an evaluation to determine the presence of serious mental illness;
- 2) requires infrequent psychiatric monitoring

executive summary

Findings:

In 2007, recidivism rates decreased for the second consecutive year, resulting in 37.8% of offenders being re-committed to the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) within 3 years of their release date. Rates for 2005 and 2006 were 39.2% and 38.6% respectively.

Male offenders had a higher recidivism rate when compared to female offenders across all three years. 38.6% of male offenders released in 2004 returned to IDOC, versus 32.6% of female releases.

On average throughout all 3 years, 46% of African American offenders returned to the Department of Correction, a higher rate than any other race.

Nearly 50% of all offenders released in 2002, 2003, or 2004 for a Weapons related crime as their most serious offense, returned to incarceration within three years of release.

Offenders released in 2002, 2003, or 2004 with a Class C Felony as their most serious offense were most likely to return to incarceration within three years of release.

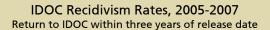
Offenders who recidivate are returned to IDOC for the commission of a new crime at a slightly higher rate than those returned for a technical violation of post-release supervision.

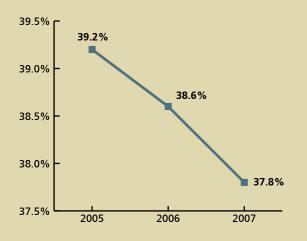
Overall, offenders identified as a sex offender who were released in 2002, 2003, or 2004, returned to IDOC at a higher rate than all other offenders.

overall rates

As rates of incarceration have continued to increase over the years, release trends have continued to increase as well. From 2002 to 2004, the overall number of releases from the Indiana Department of Correction increased nearly 16%, from 11,809 to 13,651. While the number of offenders released yearly has substantially increased, the overall recidivism rates for those offenders has shown to decrease over the same time period.

Of those released in 2002, 39.2% of offenders returned to incarceration with the Indiana Department of Correction within three years of their release date. Subsequently, the overall recidivism rate decreased to 37.8% for offenders released in 2004. The table below details recidivism rates by length of time until return to incarceration for each respective year.



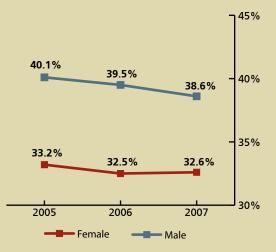


	2002	2003	2004
Number Released	11,809	12,969	13,651
Recidivism rates within 1 year of release	17.0%	16.9%	16.7%
Recidivism rates within 2 years of release	31.1%	31.1%	30.4%
Recidivism rates within 3 years of release	39.2%	38.6%	37.8%

recidivism rates by **gender**

In line with the overall recidivism trends, the numbers below indicate that recidivism rates for both male and female offenders are decreasing. Across the years, rates for male offenders are approximately 6% higher than female offenders. However, the recidivism rate for male offenders is decreasing at a quicker rate.

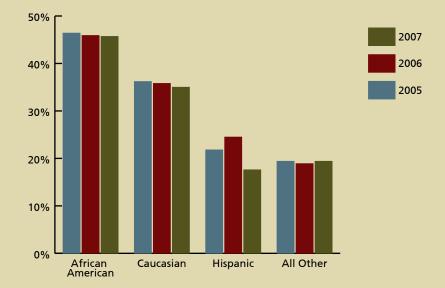
Recidivism Rates by Gender, 2005-2007



	Male			Female		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
Number Released	10,385	11,330	11,846	1,424	1,639	1,805
Recidivism rates within 1 year of release	17.3%	17.2%	17.0%	15.0%	14.9%	14.6%
Recidivism rates within 2 years of release	31.8%	31.7%	31.1%	25.9%	26.4%	25.9%
Recidivism rates within 3 years of release	40.1%	39.5%	38.6%	33.2%	32.5%	32.6%

recidivism rates by

When controlling for the race of each offender released, the recidivism rate for all known races has decreased from 2005 to 2007. However, the rate of return for African American offenders is, on average, more than 10% higher than that of Caucasian offenders. As used in the graph below, the All Other category includes offenders who are American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, and offenders whose race was unidentified.



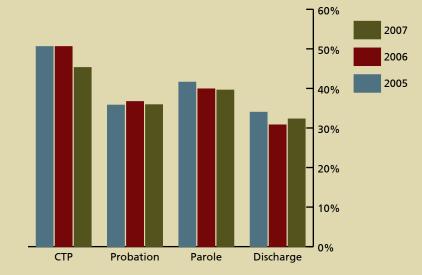
Recidivism Rates by Race, 2005-2007

	2002 Releases		2003 F	2003 Releases		Releases
Race	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate
African American	4,221	46.4%	4,542	45.9%	4,557	45.7%
American Indian	23	56.5%	25	36.0%	20	55.0%
Asian/Pacific	12	16.7%	12	16.7%	14	14.3%
Caucasian	7,120	36.2%	7,787	35.8%	8,449	35.0%
Hispanic	293	21.8%	359	24.5%	408	17.6%
Unidentified	140	13.6%	244	17.2%	203	16.3%
Total	11,809	39.2%	12,969	38.6%	13,651	37.8%

recidivism rates by type of release

Offenders released from the Indiana Department of Correction to the Community Transition Program* (CTP) had the highest rate of return for all three years studied. Conversely, those offenders who were discharged from IDOC without any form of post-incarceration supervision consistently had the lowest recidivism rates over the three year time frame.

This may be due to the fact that offenders who are discharged are not supervised once released, therefore making them unable to return to incarceration for a violation of post-incarceration supervision. Although the number of offenders released to Probation and Parole closely rival each other, Paroled offenders have a slightly higher recidivism rate across all three years.



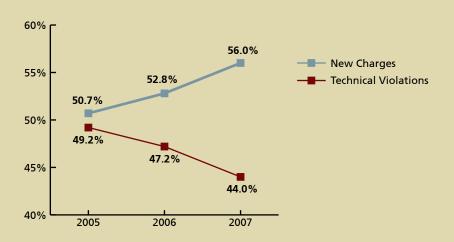
Recidivism Rates by Type of Release, 2005-2007

*The Community Transition Program is a community corrections program supervised at the county level where eligible offenders are released to their home communities between 60 – 180 days prior to their IDOC release date for programming aimed at community reintegration.

	2002	Releases	2003 F	Releases	2004 Releases	
Release Type	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate
СТР	940	50.6%	1,224	50.6%	1,440	45.3%
Probation	4,806	35.8%	5,105	36.7%	5,250	35.9%
Parole	4,901	41.6%	5,222	39.9%	5,137	39.6%
Discharge	1,162	34.0%	1,418	30.8%	1,824	32.3%
Total	11,809	39.2%	12,969	38.6%	13,651	37.8%

recidivism rates by type of return

The table below depicts the percentage of offenders who returned to IDOC in each respective year, by type of return. As illustrated in the graph below, 2002 releases who returned for new charges were very similar to the number of offenders who returned for technical violations of post-release supervision. However, for the 2004 release cohort, the proportion of returns for new charges in comparison to technical violation returns increased significantly. New charges comprised 56% of all returns, opposed to 44% of returns for technical violations.

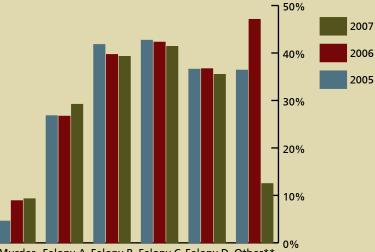


Recidivism Rates by Type of Return, 2005-2007

	2002 Releases		2003 R	2003 Releases		eleases
Return Type	# Returned	% of Return	# Returned	% of Return	# Returned	% of Return
Probation Violation-New	271	5.8%	250	5.0%	200	3.9%
Probation Violation-Tech	1,039	22.4%	1,145	22.8%	1,113	21.6%
CTP Return-New	19	0.4%	18	0.4%	10	0.2%
CTP Return-Tech	159	3.4%	216	4.3%	170	3.3%
Escape Return	10	0.2%	0	0.0%	16	0.3%
New Charge	1,652	35.6%	1,980	39.5%	2,243	43.5%
Parole Violation-New	409	8.8%	397	7.9%	435	8.4%
Parole Violation-Tech	1,075	23.2%	1,005	20.1%	971	18.8%
Total	4,634	100.0%	5,011	100.0%	5,158	100.0%
New Convictions	2,351	50.7%	2,645	52.8%	2,888	56.0%
Technical Violations	2,283	49.2%	2,366	47.2%	2,270	44.0%

recidivism rates by felony level

When comparing released offenders by the felony level of their most serious committing offense, offenders with a Class C Felony were most likely to return to incarceration within three years of release. Offenders released for Murder, had the lowest recidivism rates for all offenders released from IDOC in 2002, 2003, or 2004. Generally speaking, those incarcerated for Murder serve longer commitment periods, therefore lowering the likelihood of returning to incarceration.



Recidivism Rates by Felony Level, 2005-2007

Murder Felony A Felony B Felony C Felony D Other**

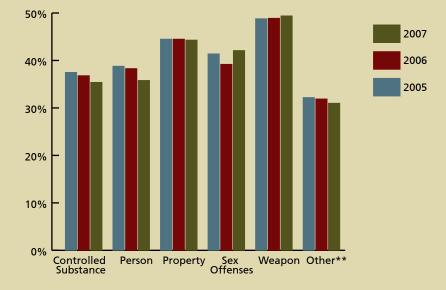
	2002 Releases		2003 Releases		2004 Releases	
Felony Level*	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate
Murder	65	4.6%	56	8.9%	54	9.3%
Felony A	287	26.8%	322	26.7%	322	29.2%
Felony B	2,650	41.8%	2,769	39.7%	2,906	39.3%
Felony C	3,628	42.7%	3,799	42.3%	4,055	41.4%
Felony D	5,168	36.6%	6,006	36.7%	6,290	35.5%
Other**	11	36.4%	17	47.1%	24	12.5%
Total	11,809	39.2%	12,969	38.6%	13,651	37.8%

* Felony Level is determined by the offender's most serious committing offense.

** Other - Habitual offenders, Misdemeanants, Contempt of Court, Expunged charges or **Missing Data**

recidivism rates by offense category

Approximately 50% of offenders released in 2002, 2003 or 2004, who had an offense involving a weapon as their most serious conviction, were re-incarcerated to IDOC within three years of their release. Of the remaining categories, Property offenses had the second highest recidivism rates with over 44% of offenders returning in each respective year, followed by sex offenses, crimes against the person, controlled substance offenses, and lastly, all other offenses.



Recidivism Rates by Offense Category, 2005-2007

	2002 Releases		2003 F	2003 Releases		Releases
Offense Category*	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate
Controlled Substance	2,451	37.5%	2,729	36.8%	3,060	35.4%
Person	2,144	38.8%	2,228	38.3%	2,232	35.8%
Property	3,558	44.5%	3,766	44.5%	4,012	44.3%
Sex Offenses	764	41.4%	893	39.2%	845	42.1%
Weapon	320	48.8%	348	48.9%	312	49.4%
Other**	2,572	32.2%	3,005	31.9%	3,190	31.0%
Total	11,809	39.2%	12,969	38.6%	13,651	37.8%

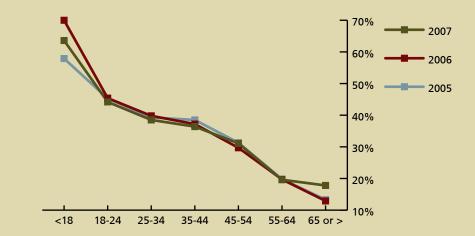
* Offense Category is determined by the offender's most serious committing offense.

** Other - includes offenses such as, but not limited to, Resisting Law Enforcement, Driving

Intoxicated/Suspended, Non-Support Child, Conspiracy, Aiding an Offense, Attempt to Commit a Felony, and Missing Data.

recidivism rates by age at release

The table below details the recidivism rates of each offender's age at the time of their release from IDOC. It is clearly evident, as highlighted in the graph, that the age of an offender and the rate at which they return to incarceration are directly correlated. The younger the offender is at the time he/she is released, the more likely they are to return to IDOC. Offenders 35 and older demonstrate recidivism rates that are lower than the IDOC overall rate, for each respective year.

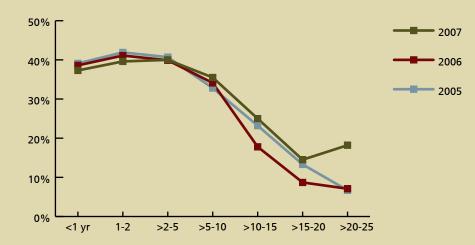


Recidivism Rates by Age at Release, 2005-2007

	2002 F	Releases	2003 Releases		2004 Releases	
Release Age Group	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate
Under 18	19	57.9%	10	70.0%	11	63.6%
18-24	2,866	45.3%	2,955	45.4%	2,984	44.2%
25-34	4,000	39.3%	4,440	39.8%	4,792	38.5%
35-44	3,389	38.5%	3,747	37.2%	3,892	36.4%
45-54	1,268	31.3%	1,476	29.7%	1,626	31.1%
55-64	222	19.8%	279	19.7%	301	19.6%
65 and above	45	13.3%	62	12.9%	45	17.8%
Total	11,809	39.2%	12,969	38.6%	13,651	37.8%
Average Age at Release	32.2 Years		32.5 Years		32.8 Years	

recidivism rates by length of stay

Offenders who have a length of stay with IDOC of 5 years or less consistently have higher recidivism rates than the overall IDOC rates. Subsequently, offenders who stay with IDOC for more than 5 years have lower recidivism rates than the yearly IDOC overall rates. Furthermore, of those offenders who were incarcerated for more than 5 years, the longer each offender served, the lower their recidivism rates.



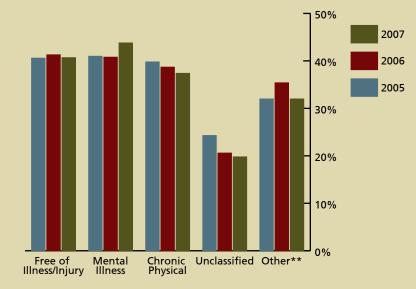
Recidivism Rates by Length of Stay, 2005-2007

	2002 Releases		2003 Releases		2004 Releases	
Length of Stay*	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate
< 1 year	7,313	39.1%	8,157	38.6%	8,659	37.3%
1-2 years	2,049	41.9%	2,263	41.1%	2,324	39.6%
> 2-5 years	1,783	40.7%	1,881	39.9%	1,933	40.0%
>5-10 years	467	32.8%	451	34.1%	533	35.5%
>10-15 years	120	23.3%	129	17.8%	124	25.0%
> 15-20 years	60	13.3%	69	8.7%	55	14.5%
> 20-25 years	15	6.7%	14	7.1%	22	18.2%
> 25 years	2	0.0%	5	0.0%	1	0.0%
Total	11,809 39.2%		12,969	38.6%	13,651	37.8%
Average Length of Stay	491.3 Days		466.8	3 Days	486.7 Days	

*Length of Stay is calculated by taking the difference between an offender's intake date and release date.

recidivism rates by medical condition

Of those offenders released in 2002, 2003, or 2004, on average, individuals diagnosed with a mental illness had a slightly higher recidivism rate than offenders who were diagnosed as either free of illness/injury or offenders who were diagnosed with a chronic physical condition.



Recidivism Rates by Medical Condition, 2005-2007

	2002 Releases		2003 F	Releases	2004 Releases	
Medical Condition*	# Recidivism Released Rate		# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate
Free of Illness/Injury	7,728	40.6%	7,799	41.3%	7,885	40.7%
Mental Illness	1,042	41.0%	1,103	40.8%	1,065	43.8%
Chronic Physical Condition	1,912	39.8%	2,396	38.7%	2,666	37.4%
Unclassified	818	24.3%	1,205	20.6%	1,376	19.8%
Other**	309	35.0%	466	35.4%	659	32.0%
Total	11,809	39.2%	12,969	38.6%	13,651	37.8%

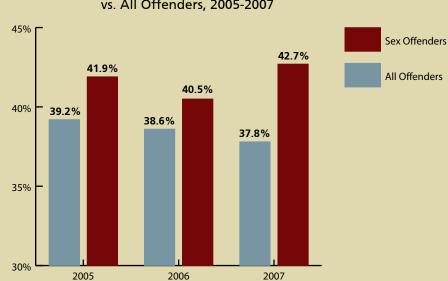
* Medical Condition is determined by the Medical Code definition as detailed in the Variable Definitions, Page 6.

** Other – offenders diagnosed as needing an inpatient bed, dialysis, 24 hrs/day supervision from licensed health care personnel, short term conditions requiring an infirmary bed, or pregnancy.

recidivism rates for identified sex offenders

The graph below illustrates the disparity of recidivism rates for offenders identified with at least one sex crime, versus the entire IDOC population. Those identified as sex offenders have a slightly higher rate of return than the total IDOC population, for each respective year. Return rates are based upon return for any new offense or technical violation.

*Identified Sex Offenders were determined to have at least one conviction for any of the following during their commitment period resulting in their release in 2002, 2003, or 2004: Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification.

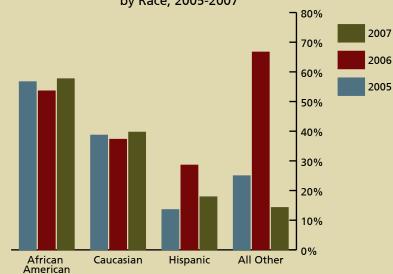


Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* vs. All Offenders, 2005-2007

	2002	Releases	2003 F	Releases	2004 Releases		
Gender	# Recidivism Released Rate		# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate	
Female	10	10.0%	13	38.5%	10	30.0%	
Male	799	42.3%	930	40.5%	897	42.8%	
Total	809 41.9%		943 40.5%		907	42.7%	

recidivism rates for identified sex offenders by race

As outlined in the table below, recidivism rates by the race of identified sex offenders closely parallel those of the total IDOC population, as shown on page 10. On average, nearly 55% of African Americans are re-incarcerated within three years of release, representing the highest rate of return for any race of identified sex offenders. In comparison, Caucasian sex offenders are returned to the institutional custody of IDOC approximately 38% of the time.



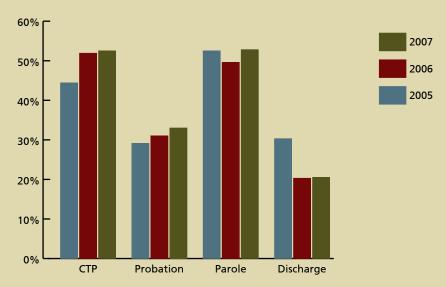
Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by Race, 2005-2007

	2002 Releases		2003 Releases		2004 Releases	
Race	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate
African American	178	56.7%	196	53.6%	194	57.7%
American Indian	2	0.0%	3	66.7%	1	100.0%
Asian/Pacific	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%
Caucasian	605	38.7%	699	37.3%	678	39.7%
Hispanic	22	13.6%	42	28.6%	28	17.9%
Unidentified	1	0.0%	3	66.7%	5	0.0%
Total	809	41.9%	943	40.5%	907	42.7%

* Identified Sex Offenders - Offenders with at least one conviction for Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification during the commitment period ending in 2002, 2003, or 2004.

recidivism rates for identified sex offenders by type of release

The graph below displays the yearly comparison of recidivism rates for identified sex offenders, by type of release. Identified sex offenders released to the Community Transition Program (CTP) and Parole are shown to return to incarceration at a substantially higher rate, across all three years, than those offenders released to probation or discharged.



Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by Type of Release, 2005-2007

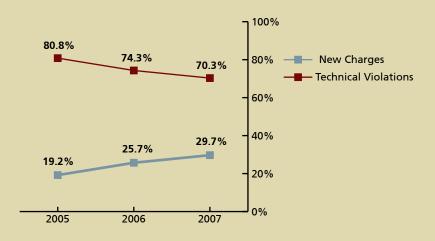
	2002 Releases		2003 Releases		2004 Releases	
Release Type	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate	# Released	Recidivism Rate
СТР	36	44.4%	54	51.9%	61	52.5%
Probation	323	29.1%	365	31.0%	345	33.0%
Parole	417	52.5%	460	49.6%	428	52.8%
Discharge	33	30.3%	64	20.3%	73	20.5%
Total	809	41.9%	943	40.5%	907	42.7%

* Identified Sex Offenders - Offenders with at least one conviction for Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification during the commitment period ending in 2002, 2003, or 2004.

recidivism rates for identified sex offenders by type of return

Identified sex offenders are re-incarcerated for technical violations at a much larger rate than the total IDOC population, as shown on page 12. Across all three years, on average, around 75% of identified sex offenders recidivate for a technical violation, in comparison to nearly 25% of sex offenders returning to IDOC for a new conviction within three years of release.

> Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by Type of Return, 2005-2007



	2002 Releases		2003 Releases		2004 Releases	
Return Type	# Returned	% of Return	# Returned	% of Return	# Returned	% of Return
Probation Violation-New	6	1.8%	4	1.0%	14	3.6%
Probation Violation-Tech	81	23.9%	95	24.9%	86	22.2%
CTP Return-New	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	2	0.5%
CTP Return-Tech	6	1.8%	11	2.9%	11	2.8%
New Charge	37	10.9%	70	18.3%	66	17.1%
Parole Violation-New	21	6.2%	24	6.3%	33	8.5%
Parole Violation-Tech	187	55.2%	178	46.6%	175	45.2%
Total	339	100.0%	382	100.0%	387	100.0%
New Convictions	65	19.2%	98	25.7%	115	29.7%
Technical Violations	274	80.8%	284	74.3%	272	70.3%

* Identified Sex Offenders - Offenders with at least one conviction for Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification during the commitment period ending in 2002, 2003, or 2004.

recidivism rates for identified sex offenders by **New Sex offense**

The percentage of identified sex offenders that return to incarceration within three years of their release, for a new identified sex offense, remains comparatively consistent over all three years. The graph below shows that slightly more than 5% of all identified sex offenders who return to the Indiana Department of Correction, do so for the conviction of a new sex offense.

Identified Sex Offenders* Returned



* Identified Sex Offenders - Offenders with at least one conviction for Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification during the commitment period ending in 2002, 2003, or 2004.



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This report may be found at: <u>http://www.in.gov/indcorrection/news/05_07RecidivismRpt.pdf</u>



The mission of the Indiana Department of Correction is to empower the agency's staff of correctional professionals to increase public safety and reduce recidivism through successful re-entry programs that allow offenders the opportunity to positively contribute to Indiana communities.

