

# Recidivism of Arkansas Inmates

FINDINGS FROM THE **2012** RELEASE COHORT



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## Study Overview

- The Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC) is a vital part of the criminal justice system and recidivism is one of the most fundamental concepts in criminal justice. Recidivism is the act of reengaging in criminal offending, after being released from a correctional facility. This study examines the recidivism rate of Arkansas' inmates released in 2012 to determine how many of them were re-incarcerated (i.e., a recidivist) within three years of their release.
- The 2012 Recidivism Study is a continuation of the original 1997-1999 study and of Recidivism Addendums produced in subsequent years. This addendum was prepared by the Arkansas Department of Correction's Research and Planning Division. This addendum reviews the return rates of inmates released from custody in CY 2012, as compared to prior years. The data for this research was obtained from the ADC electronic Offender Management Information System (eOMIS).
- For the purposes of this report, 'recidivism' is defined as a parole violation resulting in an additional sentence, a technical violation of the terms of early release, or a new sentence resulting in incarceration subsequent to a discharge. Recidivism rates are calculated using the nationwide correctional standard timeframes of 6-, 12-, and 36-month follow-up periods. However, supplemental analyses examining rates calculated with no time parameters are also included ([Supp. Table. 1](#)), along with an alternative measure of recidivism, operationalized as any arrest occurring subsequent to release ([Supp. Table. 8](#))\*.
- Research suggests that three years represent a reliable and consistent ending (validation) point for tracking recidivism, where an inmate's first three years in the community represent the period of greatest risk for reoffending.
- When discussing recidivism rates, there are many factors that influence recidivism that must be considered. For example, recidivism rates vary across age groups, racial/ethnic groups, gender, employment, housing, transportation, health care, parole policies, education levels, etc.
- Unless otherwise noted, the number of releases reported reflects the number of unduplicated inmate releases (i.e., only inmates that released from ADC, returned, and were released again within the 2012 calendar year are counted more than once). There were 8 inmates who had multiple releases during 2012, accounting for 16 total releases.
- The intent of this report is not to investigate *why* recidivism occurs nor infer causal connections between certain variables and continued criminal behavior. Rather, the data provided here should be interpreted as exploratory and descriptive in nature. Any substantive causal

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\*SB 260 of the 2013 Regular Session defines recidivism as a criminal act that results in the rearrest, reconviction or return to incarceration of a person with or without a new sentence during a three-year period following the person's release from custody.

## Highlights

- This study shows that the ADC's 3-year recidivism rate increased from 48.2% of those inmates released during CY2011 to 51.82% of those inmates released during CY2012 ([Table 1](#)). This high volume is a reflection of the tremendous growth in the number of parole revocations in the state of Arkansas.
- The recidivism rate for inmates released on parole was 53.1% over three years, while inmates who flattened their sentence at ADC recidivated at a much lower rate of 27.71% ([Table 2](#)).
- Of the 6,254 inmates released in 2012, 35.34% violated their parole and received a new sentence while 15.09% violated their parole due to a technical violation ([Table 3](#)).
- Overall, males exhibited consistently higher recidivism patterns than females. For the 2012 release cohort, male inmates showed a three-year return rate of 53.26%, as compared to 39.45% for female inmates ([Table 4](#)).
- 54.24% of the 2,266 Black inmates and 51.89% of the 3,721 White inmates returned to prison three years after release ([Table 5](#)). Alternatively, Black inmates represented 37.92% (1,229) of all 3-year returns while White inmates comprised 59.58% (1,931) of all returns.
- For those released in 2012, inmates between the ages of 25 and 34 demonstrated the highest recidivism rates along with those 18-24 years of age. ([Table 6](#)).
- [Fig. 5](#) illustrates the return rate of violent vs. non-violent inmates.
- Recidivism rates are reported for various offense characteristics including: [offense](#), [offense group](#), [violent offenders](#), and [sex offenders](#).
- Recidivism rates by county of conviction are shown in [Fig. 7](#).

For previous years' recidivism reports, agency annual reports, statistical brochures, and more, go to:  
[adc.arkansas.gov/reports-and-forms](http://adc.arkansas.gov/reports-and-forms)

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## Ten-Year Overall Recidivism

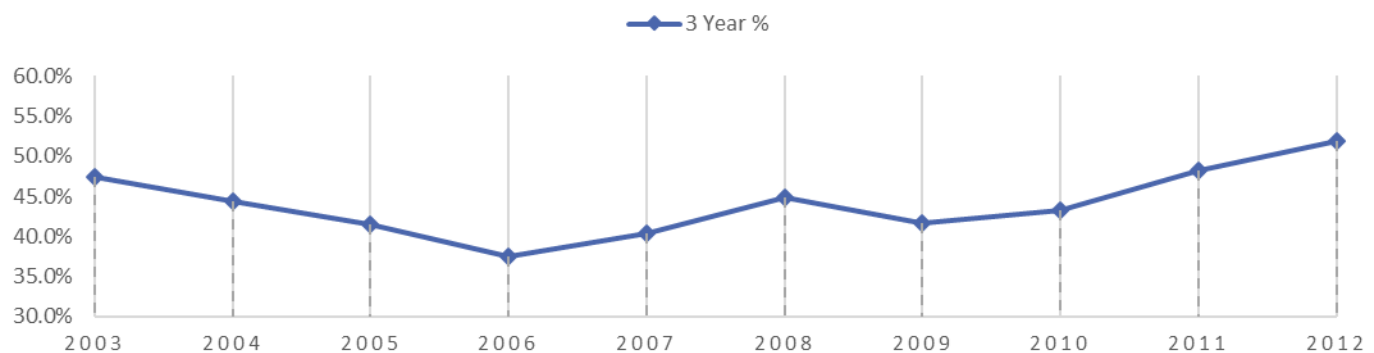
**Table 1** shows the overall 10-year trends in ADC recidivism rates. The post-release periods consist of six months, one year and three years, from 2003 through 2012. In 2012, there were a total of 6,254 inmates released from ADC. Within six months of release, 7.7% of inmates returned to prison. Within one year, 22.48% of inmates returned and within three years, 51.82% had returned to prison. The average three-year recidivism rate for ADC, over the ten-year period was 44.06%.

**TABLE 1. OVERALL RECIDIVISM RATES: 2003 – 2012**

Year	Total Releases	6 Mo. Returns	6 Mo. %	1 Year Returns	1 Year %	3 Year Returns	3 Year %
2003	6,135	792	12.9%	1,586	25.9%	2,905	47.4%
2004	6,244	698	11.2%	1,377	22.1%	2,772	44.4%
2005	5,657	418	7.4%	1,036	18.3%	2,344	41.4%
2006	5,505	355	6.4%	943	17.1%	2,060	37.4%
2007	5,783	359	6.2%	881	15.2%	2,330	40.3%
2008	6,305	475	7.5%	1,275	20.2%	2,831	44.9%
2009	6,585	547	8.3%	1,343	20.4%	2,742	41.6%
2010	6,198	572	9.2%	1,213	19.5%	2,680	43.2%
2011	6,859	440	6.4%	1,200	17.5%	3,308	48.2%
<b>2012</b>	<b>6,254</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>1,406</b>	<b>22.48%</b>	<b>3,241</b>	<b>51.82%</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>5,527</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>8.32%</b>	<b>1,226</b>	<b>19.87%</b>	<b>2,721</b>	<b>44.06%</b>

**Figure 1** shows the overall trend for recidivism rates of inmates released between 2003 and 2012. Since CY03, a number of policy changes have potentially impacted recidivism trends. ADC recidivism rates have fluctuated since 2003, with 2012 demonstrating the highest recidivism rate (51.82%) over the 10-year period.

**FIG. 1. 10-YEAR RECIDIVISM TREND**



## Recidivism by Release Type

**Table 2** demonstrates recidivism rates by type of release. ADC inmates are released back into the community by two ways: (1) parole with supervision, which is granted by the Parole Board and (2) discharge (full completion of sentence). Over the past 10 years, parole has been the primary method of release for ADC inmates. In 2012, there were 5,940 inmates released by parole or another form of conditional release and 314 inmates discharged. Results indicate that within six months of release in 2012, 464 inmates or 7.81% of the inmates released on parole had returned, while 20 or 6.37% of the inmates discharged returned with a new sentence. For the 36-month follow-up period, parolees recidivated at a rate of 53.10%, while discharged inmates recidivated at a rate of 27.71%.

**TABLE 2. RECIDIVISM RATES BY RELEASE TYPE: 2003 – 2012**

Year	Release Type	Total Releases	6 Mo. Returns	6 Mo. %	1 Year Returns	1 Year %	3 Year Returns	3 Year %
2003	Parole	5,958	788	13.2%	1,577	26.5%	2,861	48.0%
	Discharge	177	4	2.3%	9	5.1%	43	24.3%
2004	Parole	6,075	693	11.4%	1,368	22.5%	2,735	45.0%
	Discharge	169	5	3.0%	9	5.3%	37	21.9%
2005	Parole	5,505	413	7.5%	1,025	18.6%	2,317	42.1%
	Discharge	152	5	3.3%	11	7.2%	27	17.8%
2006	Parole	5,358	350	6.5%	931	17.4%	2,020	37.7%
	Discharge	147	5	3.4%	12	8.2%	40	27.2%
2007	Parole	5,623	357	6.3%	872	15.5%	2,293	40.8%
	Discharge	160	2	1.3%	9	5.6%	37	23.1%
2008	Parole	6,160	469	7.6%	1,262	20.5%	2,808	45.6%
	Discharge	145	6	4.1%	13	9.0%	23	15.9%
2009	Parole	6,421	543	8.5%	1,329	20.7%	2,694	42.0%
	Discharge	164	4	2.4%	15	9.1%	34	20.7%
2010	Parole	6,047	568	9.4%	1,202	19.9%	2,646	43.8%
	Discharge	151	4	2.6%	11	7.3%	34	22.5%
2011	Parole	6,719	436	6.5%	1,190	17.7%	3,280	48.8%
	Discharge	140	4	2.9%	10	7.1%	28	20.0%
2012	Parole	5,940	464	7.81%	1,373	23.11%	3,154	53.10%
	Discharge	314	20	6.37%	33	10.51%	87	27.71%
Average	Parole	5,981	508	8.47%	1,213	20.24%	2,681	44.69%
	Discharge	172	6	3.17%	13	7.44%	39	22.11%

## Recidivism by Return Type

**Table 3** illustrates return rates by type of release. Return categories include parole violators with a new sentence (i.e., parolee who acquires a new conviction while under parole supervision), a technical violator (violation of parole as a result of a technical condition) and discharged-reconviction (a discharged inmate who has been convicted of a new criminal offense). Over the 10-year period examined here, inmates who returned to ADC after release most often did so pursuant a new sentence.

**TABLE 3. RECIDIVISM RATES BY RETURN TYPE: 2003 – 2012**

Year	Return Type	Total Releases	6 Mo. Returns	6 Mo %	1 Year Returns	1 Year %	3 Year Returns	3 Year %
2003	PV/New Sent.	6,135	785	12.80%	1558	25.40%	2668	43.49%
	Discharge - Reconviction		7	0.11%	28	0.46%	237	3.86%
2004	PV/New Sent.	6,244	686	10.99%	1341	21.48%	2535	40.60%
	Discharge - Reconviction		12	0.19%	36	0.58%	237	3.80%
2005	PV/New Sent.	5,657	407	7.19%	999	17.66%	2120	37.48%
	Discharge - Reconviction		11	0.19%	37	0.65%	224	3.96%
2006	PV/New Sent.	5,505	346	6.29%	918	16.68%	1868	33.93%
	Discharge - Reconviction		9	0.16%	25	0.45%	192	3.49%
2007	PV/New Sent.	5,783	352	6.09%	850	14.70%	1708	29.53%
	PV/Technical		1	0.02%	10	0.17%	454	7.85%
	Discharge - Reconviction		6	0.10%	21	0.36%	168	2.91%
2008	PV/New Sent.	6,305	345	5.47%	818	12.97%	1732	27.47%
	PV/Technical		122	1.93%	427	6.77%	925	14.67%
	Discharge - Reconviction		8	0.13%	30	0.48%	174	2.76%
2009	PV/New Sent.	6,585	403	6.12%	911	13.83%	1665	25.28%
	PV/Technical		138	2.10%	404	6.14%	916	13.91%
	Discharge - Reconviction		6	0.09%	28	0.43%	161	2.44%
2010	PV/New Sent.	6,198	445	7.18%	835	13.47%	1700	27.43%
	PV/Technical		123	1.98%	367	5.92%	946	15.26%
	Discharge - Reconviction		4	0.06%	11	0.18%	34	0.55%
2011	PV/New Sent.	6,859	293	4.27%	675	9.84%	2,065	30.11%
	PV/Technical		143	2.08%	515	7.51%	1,215	17.71%
	Discharge - Reconviction		4	0.06%	10	0.15%	28	0.41%
2012	PV/New Sent.	6,254	241	3.85%	818	13.08%	2,210	35.34%
	PV/Technical*		223	3.57%	555	8.87%	944	15.09%
	Discharge - Reconviction		20	0.32%	33	0.53%	87	1.39%
AVG	PV/New Sent.	6,153	430	7.04%	972	15.92%	2,027	33.06%
	PV/Technical		125	1.91%	380	5.57%	900	13.38%
	Discharge - Reconviction		9	0.16%	26	0.47%	154	2.79%

\*Although all technical violations are reported here to maintain consistency with reporting from previous years, it is important to note that only 562 (9.13%) of these inmates moved beyond a technical violator center to return to an actual ADC facility.

## Recidivism by Return Type - Figures

**Figures 2a, 2b and 2c** also illustrate the recidivism rates by return type (parolees and discharges). CY03-06 do not reflect inmates returning to the ADC with technical violations because they were being sentenced to the Omega Technical Parole Violators Center. For ADC, a return to prison for a parole violation with a new sentence is the most prevalent form of recidivism, while a technical violation while on parole is secondary. While a new conviction may also have a technical violation attached, the new conviction will supersede the technical violation in most cases, making the new conviction the primary reason for returning to prison.

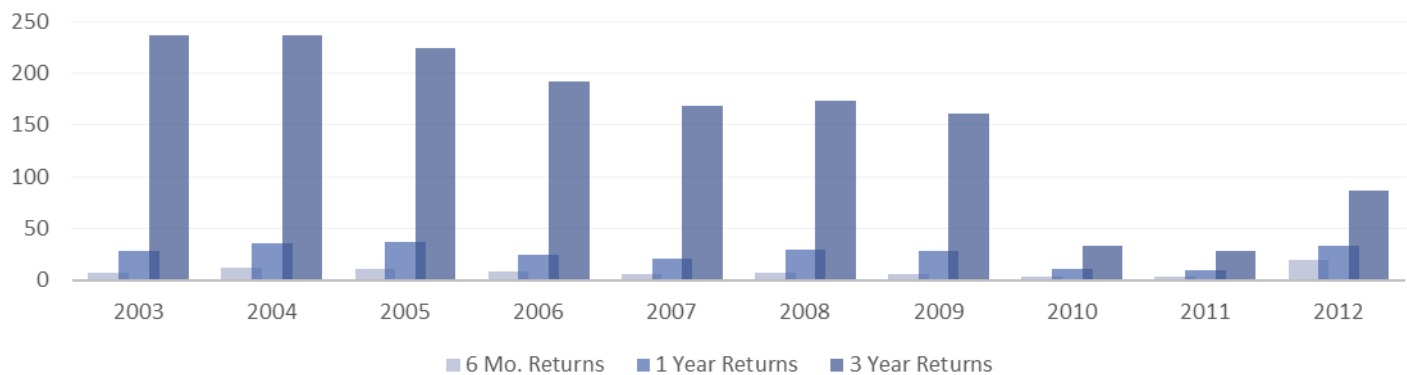
**Fig. 2a. Parole Violators w/ New Sentences**



**Fig. 2b. Parolees w/ Technical Violations**



**Fig. 2c. Discharges w/ New Sentences**





## Recidivism by Gender

**Table 4** displays recidivism rates by gender (also see [Figure 3](#)). Table 4 shows that increases in releases for both genders have occurred over the past 10 years. Male inmates have consistently returned to prison at a higher rate than female inmates in Arkansas. 53.26% of male inmates released in 2012 returned to the ADC versus 39.45% of female inmates. From six months to one year, data demonstrated equivalent return rates for males and females; however, the three-year recidivism rate shows a significantly larger percentage of males returning to prison as compared to females. While male inmates have demonstrated higher recidivism rates than females overall, recidivism for female inmates has seen greater growth over the years.

**TABLE 4. RECIDIVISM RATES BY GENDER: 2003 – 2012<sup>a</sup>**

Year	Gender	Total Releases	6 Mo. Returns	6 Mo. %	1 Year Returns	1 Year %	3 Year Returns	3 Year %
2003	Female	616	54	8.8%	111	18.0%	215	34.9%
	Male	5,519	738	13.4%	1,475	26.7%	2,690	48.7%
2004	Female	551	31	5.6%	56	10.2%	139	25.2%
	Male	5,693	667	11.8%	1,321	23.2%	2,633	46.2%
2005	Female	534	15	2.8%	44	8.2%	123	23.0%
	Male	5,124	403	7.9%	992	19.4%	2,221	43.3%
2006	Female	614	18	2.9%	57	9.3%	137	22.3%
	Male	4,891	337	6.9%	886	18.1%	1,923	39.3%
2007	Female	675	21	3.1%	53	7.9%	158	23.4%
	Male	5,783	338	5.8%	828	14.3%	2,172	37.6%
2008	Female	735	27	3.7%	87	11.8%	211	28.7%
	Male	5,570	448	5.0%	1,188	21.3%	2,620	47.0%
2009	Female	755	41	5.4%	99	13.1%	210	27.8%
	Male	5,830	506	8.7%	1,245	21.4%	2,533	43.4%
2010	Female	687	32	4.7%	74	10.8%	214	31.1%
	Male	5,511	540	9.8%	1,139	20.7%	2,466	44.7%
2011	Female	760	24	3.2%	93	12.2%	265	34.9%
	Male	6,099	416	6.8%	1,107	18.2%	3,043	49.9%
2012	Female	649	36	5.55%	146	22.50%	256	39.45%
	Male	5,605	448	7.99%	1,294	23.09%	2,985	53.26%
Average	Female	658	30	4.58%	82	12.40%	193	29.08%
	Male	5,563	484	8.41%	1,148	20.64%	2,529	45.34%

<sup>a</sup> All percentages represent the proportion of inmates released within each sub-group (i.e., gender) who returned in the given timeframe (e.g., 448, or 7.99%, of the 5,605 males released in 2012 recidivated within 6 months while 23.09%, or 2,985 returned within 36 months).

## Recidivism by Race

**Table 5** illustrates recidivism rates by race. Recidivism rates were based on five racial groups: Black, White, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American Indian. The ADC population consists primarily of Black and White inmates, while Hispanic, Asian, and Native American Indian inmates account for only a small percentage of the overall population. In this report, inmates who reported being Asian and Native American Indian were collapsed into one group, 'other'. For those released in 2012, 54.24% of Black inmates returned to prison within 3 years, compared to 51.89% of White inmates, 25.85% of Hispanic inmates and 45.16% of inmates in the 'other' category.

**TABLE 5. RECIDIVISM RATES BY RACE: 2003 – 2012**

Year	Race	Total Releases	6 Mo. Returns	6 Mo. %	1 Year Returns	1 Year %	3 Year Returns	3 Year %
2003	Black	2,768	321	11.6%	691	25.0%	1,349	48.7%
	White	3,304	467	14.1%	883	26.7%	1,531	46.3%
	Hispanic	50	4	8.0%	11	22.0%	20	40.0%
	Other	13	0	0.0%	1	7.7%	5	38.5%
2004	Black	2,711	255	9.4%	573	21.1%	1,260	46.5%
	White	3,450	432	12.5%	786	22.8%	1,483	43.0%
	Hispanic	64	10	15.6%	14	21.9%	24	37.5%
	Other	19	1	5.3%	4	21.1%	5	26.3%
2005	Black	2,285	167	7.3%	455	19.9%	1,064	46.6%
	White	3,273	241	7.4%	563	17.2%	1,248	38.1%
	Hispanic	70	6	8.6%	11	15.7%	22	31.4%
	Other	30	4	13.3%	7	23.3%	10	33.3%
2006	Black	2,304	144	6.3%	396	17.2%	925	40.1%
	White	3,064	200	6.5%	533	17.4%	1,102	36.0%
	Hispanic	115	10	8.7%	12	10.4%	29	25.2%
	Other	22	1	4.5%	2	9.1%	4	18.2%
2007	Black	2,374	159	6.7%	403	17.0%	1,057	44.5%
	White	3,216	185	5.8%	453	14.1%	1,223	38.0%
	Hispanic	155	12	7.7%	18	11.6%	34	21.9%
	Other	38	3	7.9%	7	18.4%	16	42.1%
2008	Black	2,607	200	7.7%	535	20.5%	1,235	47.4%
	White	3,419	259	7.6%	702	20.5%	1,524	44.6%
	Hispanic	247	11	4.5%	26	10.5%	53	21.5%
	Other	32	5	15.6%	12	37.5%	19	59.4%
2009	Black	2,641	207	7.8%	509	19.3%	1,128	42.7%
	White	3,694	319	8.6%	795	21.5%	1,553	42.0%
	Hispanic	213	15	7.0%	27	12.7%	41	19.2%
	Other	37	5	13.5%	12	32.4%	20	54.1%
2010	Black	2,540	205	8.1%	464	18.3%	1,101	43.3%
	White	3,402	345	10.1%	711	20.9%	1,513	44.5%
	Hispanic	210	17	8.1%	29	13.8%	46	21.9%
	Other	46	5	10.7%	10	21.7%	20	43.5%
2011	Black	2,656	158	5.9%	431	16.2%	1,311	49.4%
	White	3,924	264	6.7%	728	18.6%	1,906	48.6%
	Hispanic	225	11	4.9%	30	13.3%	65	28.9%
	Other	54	7	13.0%	11	20.4%	26	48.1%
2012	Black	2266	148	6.53%	484	21.36%	1229	54.24%
	White	3721	317	8.52%	881	23.68%	1931	51.89%
	Hispanic	205	12	5.85%	26	12.68%	53	25.85%
	Other	62	7	11.29%	15	24.19%	28	45.16%

## Recidivism by Age

**Table 6** displays recidivism rates as they varied by age group for inmates released from the ADC in 2012. Prior research has consistently found an inverse relationship between age and recidivism, and the data reported here are consistent with those findings. As the age of the inmate increased, the prevalence of recidivism decreased. As one of the strongest predictors of recidivism, and criminal behavior more generally, it is helpful to examine the effects of age as a function of other important variables, such as gender. Tables 7 reports variations in recidivism by age and by gender, and points to different trajectories in the age ↔ recidivism relationship between genders. These differences may be more clearly seen in Figure 3 below, as males appear to consistently recidivate at higher rates and desist at slower rate than females.

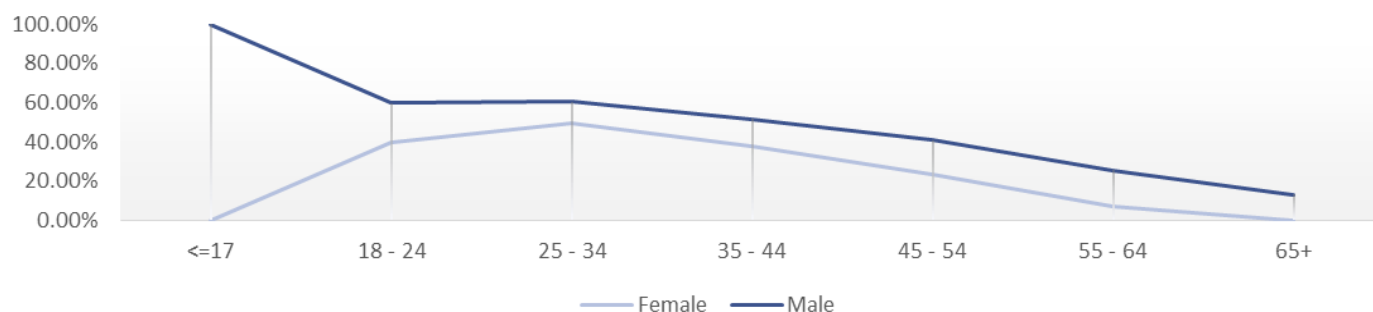
**TABLE 6. RECIDIVISM RATES BY AGE: 2012**

Age Group	Total Releases	6 Mo. Returns	6 Mo. %	1 Year Returns	1 Year %	3 Year Returns	3 Year %
<=17	2	1	50.00%	1	50.00%	2	100.00%
18 – 24	922	93	10.09%	248	26.90%	538	58.35%
25 – 34	2425	221	9.11%	651	26.85%	1440	59.38%
35 – 44	1572	120	7.63%	332	21.12%	784	49.87%
45 – 54	1050	36	3.43%	145	13.81%	413	39.33%
55 – 64	242	11	4.55%	27	11.16%	59	24.38%
65+	41	2	4.88%	2	4.88%	5	12.20%

**TABLE 7. RECIDIVISM RATES BY GENDER BY AGE: 2012**

Age Group	Gender	Total Rel.	6 Mo. Returns	6 Mo. %	1 Yr. Returns	1 Yr. %	3 Yr. Returns	3 Yr. %
<=17	Male	2	1	50.00%	1	50.00%	2	100.00%
	Female	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
18 – 24	Male	847	91	10.74%	235	27.74%	508	59.98%
	Female	75	2	2.67%	13	17.33%	30	40.00%
25 – 34	Male	2176	201	9.24%	590	27.11%	1316	60.48%
	Female	249	20	8.03%	61	24.50%	124	49.80%
35 – 44	Male	1367	109	7.97%	299	21.87%	707	51.72%
	Female	205	11	5.37%	33	16.10%	77	37.56%
45 – 54	Male	948	33	3.48%	140	14.77%	389	41.03%
	Female	102	3	2.94%	5	4.90%	24	23.53%
55 – 64	Male	227	11	4.85%	27	11.89%	58	25.55%
	Female	15	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	6.67%
65+	Male	38	2	5.26%	2	5.26%	5	13.16%
	Female	3	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%

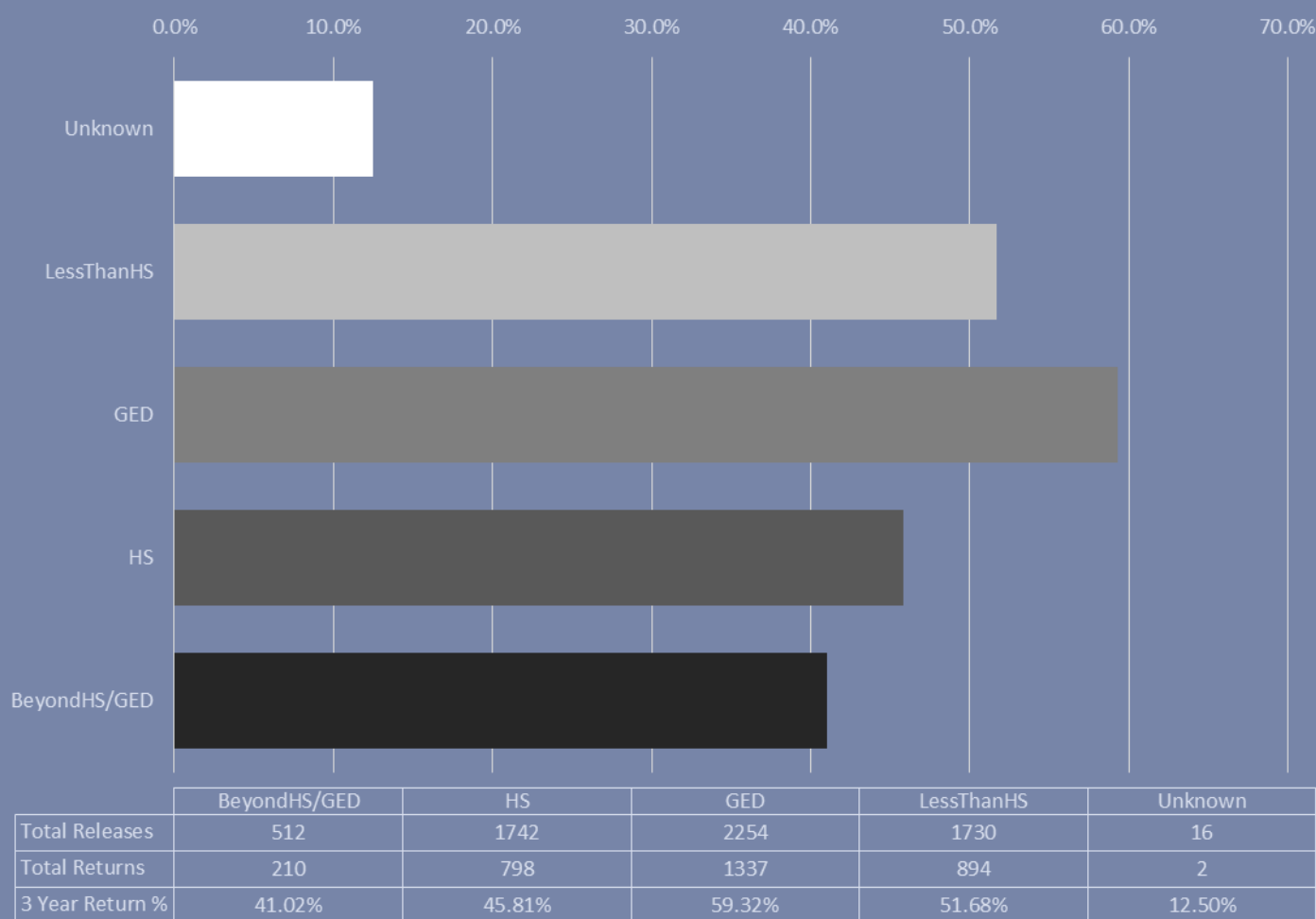
**Fig. 3. Recidivism by Gender by Age**



## Recidivism by Education Level

**Figure 4** illustrates recidivism rates by education level of inmates released in 2012. As it applies to inmates leaving correctional facilities, greater educational attainment has been associated with lower recidivism rates. The results of this study indicate differently. For ADC inmates released in 2012, those with a GED demonstrated the highest rate of recidivism at 59.32%, followed by those with less than a high school degree or GED equivalent (51.68%). This seemingly contradictory finding may be due to the ADC policy requiring that inmates who enter the agency with less than a high school education work towards the completion of their GED while they are incarcerated, resulting in a greater number of inmates being released with GED than with a high school education. Other factors that have a stronger influence on the likelihood of recidivism may be responsible for a greater number of inmates returning to prison from this larger subgroup of the release cohort. It is also possible that certain negative stigma associated with the GED in society create barriers to employment in the community, and by extension, successful reentry. Findings of reduced recidivism rates for those with a high school education and beyond are concordant with previous research.

**Fig. 4. Recidivism Rates by Education Level**



## Recidivism by Offense Characteristics

This section examines variation in recidivism rates by offense characteristics. Findings indicate that recidivism patterns differ between specific offenses, offense types, violent and non-violent offenders, and for those convicted of sex offenses.

### Offense

**Table 8** displays 3-year recidivism rates by offense of conviction in descending order by 3-year recidivism rate. There are important operationalization details to note with regard to the data displayed here. Displayed in Table 8 is the recidivism data associated with the various offenses for which offenders were incarcerated at the time they were released in 2012. These data represent unique offenses, not unique offenders, who may have been incarcerated for multiple offenses. An offender who was incarcerated on both burglary (i.e., 1301 – Burglary) and theft (i.e., 1001 – Theft of Property), for example, would be counted once under each offense. An offender who was incarcerated on two counts of aggravated assault, on the other hand, would be counted once under 0403 – Aggravated Assault. In order to examine comparable recidivism rates as they vary by offense, offenses represented by fewer than 20 releases are omitted from the table below.

TABLE 8. RECIDIVISM RATES BY OFFENSE OF INCARCERATION: 2012							
Release Offense	Releases	6 Mo.	6Mo%	1 Yr.	1Yr%	3 Yr.	3Yr%
2912 - Possession Of Defaced Firearm	41	3	7.32%	13	31.71%	32	78.05%
1706 - Escape-2nd Degree	90	11	12.22%	23	25.56%	70	77.78%
2902 - Criminal Use Prohibited Weapon	37	6	16.22%	12	32.43%	27	72.97%
1268 - Theft of Property >= \$1k < \$5k	48	4	8.33%	17	35.42%	35	72.92%
1207 - Criminal Mischief 2nd Degree	23	6	26.09%	7	30.43%	16	69.57%
1713 - Fleeing	291	36	12.37%	95	32.65%	201	69.07%
1302 - Breaking And Entering	820	95	11.59%	280	34.15%	563	68.66%
1711 - Furnishing Prohib. Articles	86	11	12.79%	29	33.72%	59	68.60%
1715 - Filing A False Report	22	2	9.09%	4	18.18%	15	68.18%
0659 - Commercial Burglary	548	54	9.85%	163	29.74%	371	67.70%
0658 - Residential Burglary	1007	117	11.62%	321	31.88%	681	67.63%
1004 - Theft By Receiving	903	92	10.19%	287	31.78%	603	66.78%
0202 - False Imprisonment-1st Degree	36	8	22.22%	13	36.11%	24	66.67%
6503 - Fail To Stop Acc. W/Inj/Death	55	6	10.91%	14	25.45%	36	65.45%
0301 - Robbery	460	48	10.43%	132	28.70%	298	64.78%
1101 - Forgery	774	77	9.95%	223	28.81%	493	63.70%
1001 - Theft Of Property	1804	183	10.14%	533	29.55%	1149	63.69%
0702 - Domestic Battering-1st Degree	33	5	15.15%	8	24.24%	21	63.64%
1104 - Fraudulent Use Of Credit Card	162	16	9.88%	53	32.72%	103	63.58%
0403 - Aggravated Assault	397	41	10.33%	111	27.96%	252	63.48%
1712 - Failure To Appear	428	51	11.92%	127	29.67%	271	63.32%
1205 - Criminal Mischief-1st Degree	277	29	10.47%	72	25.99%	175	63.18%
0708 - Domestic Battering-3rd Degree	202	29	14.36%	63	31.19%	126	62.38%
0830 - Sexual Indecency With A Child	37	4	10.81%	12	32.43%	23	62.16%
3001 - Criminal Attempt	487	38	7.80%	120	24.64%	300	61.60%
1342 - Poss Cont Sub. Meth Coc. < 2g	97	9	9.28%	36	37.11%	59	60.82%
1286 - Theft by Receiving > \$1k <= \$5k	33	5	15.15%	9	27.27%	20	60.61%
1301 - Burglary	246	19	7.72%	73	29.67%	149	60.57%

**TABLE 8. RECIDIVISM RATES BY OFFENSE OF INCARCERATION: 2012**

Release Offense	Releases	6 Mo.	6Mo%	1 Yr.	1Yr%	3 Yr.	3Yr%
0237 - Tampering With Physical Evid.	30	3	10.00%	7	23.33%	18	60.00%
2901 - Poss. Firearm Certain Person	856	83	9.70%	244	28.50%	513	59.93%
0404 - Terroristic Threatening	312	37	11.86%	101	32.37%	185	59.29%
0405 - Terroristic Act	56	4	7.14%	11	19.64%	33	58.93%
1461 - Poss Drug Para. Meth Coc.	80	9	11.25%	25	31.25%	47	58.75%
0402 - Battery-2nd Degree	517	51	9.86%	144	27.85%	301	58.22%
1118 - Financial Identity Fraud	31	4	12.90%	8	25.81%	18	58.06%
2215 - Possession Of Ephedrine	39	5	12.82%	8	20.51%	22	56.41%
0704 - Agg. Aslt On Family/Household	73	6	8.22%	18	24.66%	41	56.16%
2202 - Advertise Drug Paraphernalia	1303	115	8.83%	322	24.71%	724	55.56%
0401 - Battery-1st Degree	166	9	5.42%	44	26.51%	91	54.82%
0801 - Endanger Welfare Minor-1st Dg	44	3	6.82%	11	25.00%	24	54.55%
0703 - Domestic Battering-2nd Degree	104	8	7.69%	29	27.88%	55	52.88%
1113 - Hot Check Violation	231	16	6.93%	50	21.65%	122	52.81%
3003 - Criminal Conspiracy	252	22	8.73%	51	20.24%	132	52.38%
2203 - Manu/Delv/Poss Control Subs.	2734	201	7.35%	604	22.09%	1430	52.30%
2214 - Poss W/I To Manufacture	79	4	5.06%	14	17.72%	41	51.90%
1720 - Fail To Register Child/Sex Off	212	21	9.91%	51	24.06%	108	50.94%
0513 - Sexual Assault	217	28	12.90%	54	24.88%	110	50.69%
1462 - Poss Drug Para. Man Meth Coc.	20	2	10.00%	5	25.00%	10	50.00%
8005 - Use Of Anothers Prop For Crime	24	1	4.17%	4	16.67%	12	50.00%
0705 - Non-Support	59	2	3.39%	5	8.47%	29	49.15%
1203 - Arson	55	5	9.09%	12	21.82%	27	49.09%
0201 - Kidnapping	41	6	14.63%	13	31.71%	20	48.78%
0302 - Aggravated Robbery	176	12	6.82%	29	16.48%	81	46.02%
0504 - Sexual Abuse-1st Degree	65	4	6.15%	13	20.00%	29	44.62%
0501 - Rape	101	10	9.90%	19	18.81%	45	44.55%
2301 - Viol Of Omb DWI Act 4th Offens	135	14	10.37%	30	22.22%	60	44.44%
1263 - Theft of Property >=\$5k < \$25k	23	1	4.35%	6	26.09%	10	43.48%
0102 - Murder-1st Degree	38	3	7.89%	6	15.79%	16	42.11%
0103 - Murder-2nd Degree	50	2	4.00%	9	18.00%	21	42.00%
8001 - Discharge Firearm From Vehicle	29	3	10.34%	6	20.69%	12	41.38%
1702 - Hindering Apprehension Or Proc	22	1	4.55%	4	18.18%	9	40.91%
2201 - Fail. To Keep Records Dist Drg	158	6	3.80%	19	12.03%	62	39.24%
0104 - Manslaughter	39	4	10.26%	8	20.51%	15	38.46%
8004 - Simul. Poss Of Drugs/Firearm	123	4	3.25%	16	13.01%	46	37.40%

## Offense Group

**Table 9** provides an alternative examination of recidivism variation by offense category. This examination considers broad categories of offense rather than specific offenses. Again, these are presented in ascending order by 3-year recidivism rate and represent unique offenses, not unique offenders. This study found that offenders with homicide convictions recidivated at the lowest rates while those with theft and burglary rates recidivated at the highest rates. These findings are similar to previous studies that have found higher rates of recidivism among property offenders.

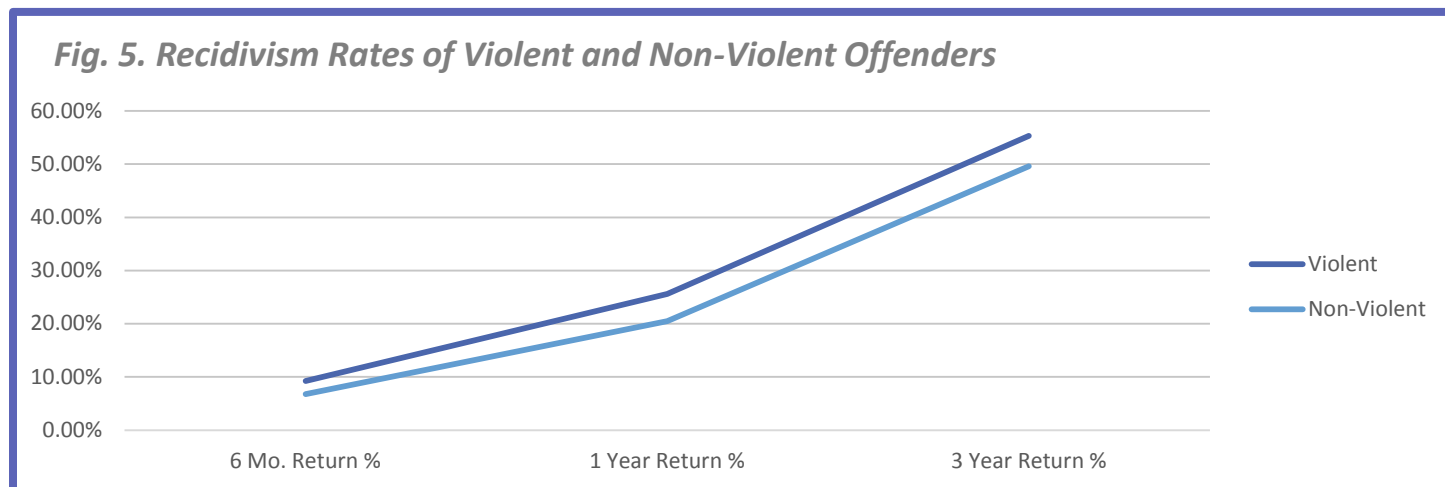
Year	Total Releases	6 Mo. Returns	6 Mo. %	1 Yr Returns	1 Yr %	3 Yr Returns	3 Yr %
Homicide	99	6	6.06%	17	17.17%	39	39.39%
DWI	137	14	10.22%	31	22.63%	62	45.26%
Sex	457	49	10.72%	103	22.54%	222	48.58%
Drug Sale	2818	204	7.24%	621	22.04%	1475	52.34%
Crime Conspiracy	252	22	8.73%	51	20.24%	132	52.38%
Other Property	171	11	6.43%	31	18.13%	91	53.22%
Drug Possession	1447	130	8.98%	368	25.43%	801	55.36%
Battery	919	92	10.01%	259	28.18%	528	57.45%
Other Non-Violent	758	77	10.16%	195	25.73%	437	57.65%
Other Violent	1321	139	10.52%	354	26.80%	780	59.05%
Weapons	926	90	9.72%	258	27.86%	548	59.18%
Robbery	613	57	9.30%	156	25.45%	367	59.87%
Fraud	1007	94	9.33%	275	27.31%	617	61.27%
Criminal Attempt	487	38	7.80%	120	24.64%	300	61.60%
Assault	478	49	10.25%	131	27.41%	298	62.34%
Theft	2308	225	9.75%	673	29.16%	1446	62.65%
Burglary	1941	215	11.08%	596	30.71%	1265	65.17%

The reader should use caution when considering the previous two tables, as they do not necessarily represent the recidivism patterns attributable to any *specific* offense or *specific* offense group. Because offenders may be charged with any number of offenses, reported rates should not be interpreted as direct relationships (4,280 of the inmates releases in 2012 had convictions in more than one offense group). Although parsing out the intricate connections between individual offenses and offense groups is beyond the scope of this study, supplemental analyses that follow this report may provide useful insights into the offense ↔ recidivism relationship ([pgs. 19 – 23](#)).



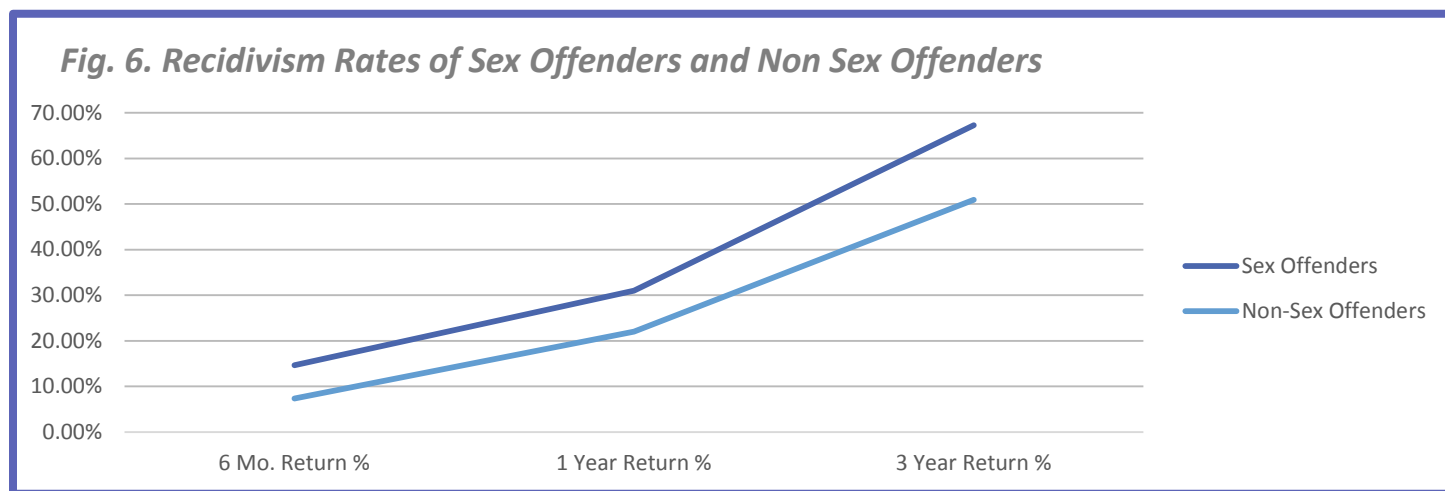
## Violent vs. Non-Violent Offenders

**Figure 5** illustrates recidivism patterns for inmates convicted of violent crimes as compared to those convicted of non-violent crimes. The most frequently identified non-violent crimes involve drug trafficking, drug possession, theft, hot checks, forgery and non-support. Of the 6,254 inmates that were released in 2012, 2,427 had committed a violent offense and 3,827 had committed a non-violent offense. **1,343 (55.34%)** of those convicted of a violent offense returned within three years and **1,898 (49.59%)** of those convicted of a non-violent offense returned within three years.



## Sex Offenders

**Figure 6** demonstrates the 6-, 12-, and 36-month recidivism rates for sex offenders\*, as compared to those convicted of non-sex-related offenses. Those convicted of sex crimes exhibited higher rates of recidivism during all follow-up periods. **243** of the 342 sex offenders released from the ADC in 2012 recidivated within 3 years.



\*It should be noted that these inmates are those identified as sex offenders by the Sex Offender Screening and Risk Assessment (SOSRA), as opposed to those convicted of sex-related offenses reported in Table 9.



## Programming

**Table 10** displays recidivism rate variation by program incarceration. Similar to offense reporting, these data reflect unique program completions, not unique offenders (e.g., an inmate who completed Anger Management twice and Pre Release once is counted once in the statistics for Anger Management and once in the statistics for Pre Release). Furthermore, in order to narrow the examination to program completions with the most likelihood of influencing recidivism, only completions that occurred within the 36 months prior to release were counted. Programs are displayed in descending order by recidivism rate.

**TABLE 10. RECIDIVISM RATES BY PROGRAM COMPLETION\***

Program	Total Releases	6 Mo. Returns	6 Mo. %	1 Yr Returns	1 Yr %	3 Yr Returns	3 Yr %
Pre Release	353	34	9.63%	88	24.93%	203	57.51%
Substance Abuse Treatment	933	63	6.75%	209	22.40%	527	56.48%
Thinking Errors Group	1406	119	8.46%	349	24.82%	791	56.26%
Graduate Equival. Diploma (GED)	658	63	9.57%	156	23.71%	359	54.56%
Domestic Violence	290	31	10.69%	72	24.83%	158	54.48%
Anger Management	3172	247	7.79%	735	23.17%	1712	53.97%
Parenting	864	61	7.06%	194	22.45%	463	53.59%
Sub. Abuse Education Pgm	1505	127	8.44%	352	23.39%	800	53.16%
Therapeutic Community	228	12	5.26%	52	22.81%	119	52.19%
Communication Skills	103	6	5.83%	16	15.53%	48	46.60%
Stress Management	270	16	5.93%	51	18.89%	125	46.30%
Reduce Sex Victimization Pgm	139	10	7.19%	22	15.83%	57	41.01%
Principal Application	54	3	5.56%	9	16.67%	19	35.19%
Interchange Freedom Initiative	31	2	6.45%	5	16.13%	10	32.26%
Pathway To Freedom	7	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	14.29%

\*It is important to note that while the operationalization used for this analysis was consistent with that used throughout this study, different programs define recidivism in different ways.

Once again, it is important not to interpret these figures as direct relationships, as offenders often complete multiple programs while incarcerated. Furthermore, recidivism outcomes may be influenced by the sequencing or timing of programming, in addition to the characteristics of program participants. Additional recidivism rates for treatment programs are calculated by program staff to examine returns for convictions related to program-specific targeted behaviors.

**Figure 7** illustrates 3-year recidivism patterns across counties within the state of Arkansas for inmates released in 2012. Counties are color-coded from lightest to darkest with quartile breakpoints (e.g., counties with the lightest shading are those in the lowest 25% of recidivism rates across the state). Recidivism rates in Fig. 9 are only reported for those counties in the highest 25%. It is important to note, however, that three of these counties (Woodruff, Sharp, and Newton) had recidivism rates calculated based on release cohorts of less than 10 inmates.

A map of Arkansas showing the 77 counties and their respective voter turnout percentages. The map is color-coded based on turnout, with darker shades of blue representing higher turnout. The counties and their turnout percentages are as follows:

County	Turnout Percentage
Benton	
Carroll	
Boone	
Marion	
Baxter	
Fulton	
Randolph	
Clay	
Washington	
Madison	58.33%
Newton	62.5%*
Searcy	
Stone	62.07%
Sharp	77.78%*
Lawrence	
Greene	69.23%
Crawford	
Franklin	
Johnson	
Pope	
Van Buren	
Cleburne	65.22%
Independence	
Jackson	67.86%
Poinsett	
Mississippi	
Sebastian	
Logan	
Conway	
Faulkner	
White	
Cross	
Crittenden	
Scott	
Yell	
Perry	
Saline	
Pulaski	
Lonoke	
Prairie	
Monroe	
St. Francis	
Lee	
Phillips	
Polk	62.5%
Montgomery	63.64%
Garland	57.89%
Hot Spring	60.56%
Grant	
Jefferson	57.93%
Arkansas	
Howards	
Pike	
Clark	
Dallas	68.75%
Cleveland	
Lincoln	*
Desha	60%
Sevier	
Little River	
Hempstead	
Nevada	
Ouachita	
Calhoun	
Bradley	62.5%
Drew	
Miller	
Lafayette	
Columbia	59.52%
Union	
Ashley	
Chicot	63.33%
Woodruff	100%*

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

## Conclusion

Research has consistently shown that there are certain characteristics common among those who recidivate. The goal of this study was to provide insight on the factors that contribute to the recidivism rate in Arkansas. There were a total of 6,254 inmates released in 2012 and 3,241 inmates returned within three years of release. On average, recidivists spent 15 ½ months in the community before returning to prison.

In addition to demographic characteristics that are common among recidivists, these inmates also tended to have the same types of criminal backgrounds. Research has shown that inmates who commit a violent offense are more likely to recidivate. Consistent with this research, this study found that ADC inmates whose original conviction was for a violent offense returned to prison at a higher percentage (55%) than non-violent offenders (49%) within three years of release.

Lastly, prior research has shown that there are some community-level characteristics that affect the likelihood of recidivism for inmates. This study tapped into characteristics of the community by examining recidivism rates by county of conviction. Inmates who returned to prison within three years of release most often did so pursuant to an original conviction in counties that were rural and less densely populated; however, there were also highly populated counties that exhibited high recidivism rates.

Overall, the results of this study confirm that inmates released back into the community exhibit certain attributes that may increase the probability of recidivism. For these inmates, the reintegration process can be more difficult as a result of both individual and community characteristics. Inmates, especially parolees, are likely to return to the same impoverished neighborhoods that substantially increase criminal opportunities, limit educational, vocational, and social support services, and attenuate personal support networks. This study also found that parole violators returned to prison most often due to a new sentence (70%), as compared to parolees returning on a technical violation (30%)<sup>1</sup>.

At some point, nearly 87% of all prisoners will return to their communities. Re-entry, a vital component of any successful reintegration process, can include all the activities and programming conducted to prepare inmates to return to society as law-abiding citizens. The success of any program is often dependent upon the willingness of the inmates to capitalize on the opportunities afforded them and their desire to improve their situation; however, some will inevitably end up back in prison. This report demonstrates the importance, and in some cases, large effects of certain factors on re-incarceration rates. These factors must be accounted for when measuring and comparing recidivism rates.

In an effort to reduce recidivism rates, the Arkansas Department of Correction provides various treatment programs, work opportunities, educational programs, and vocational training all while providing for public safety and carrying out the mandates of the courts. However, it is important to note that the successful rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders is a process dependent on collaboration and efforts by all justice system stakeholders.

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<sup>1</sup> These rates based on total 3-year *parolee* returns ( $n=3,154$ ).

## Supplemental Analyses

### All-Time Recidivism Rates

**Supplemental Table 1** reports traditional 3-year recidivism rates for a variety of the variables examined previously, alongside a non-time-exclusive recidivism rate (i.e., the 36-month upper limit is removed and any return to-date is counted). These data reflect any return as of March, 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016.

<b>SUPP. TABLE 1. ALL-TIME RECIDIVISM RATES</b>						
Variable	Category	Total Releases	3 Year Returns	3 Year %	All Returns	All Returns %
Primary		6,254	3241	51.82%	3453	<b>55.21%</b>
Release Type	Parole	6,254	3154	53.1%	3346	<b>56.33%</b>
	Discharge		87	27.71%	107	<b>34.08%</b>
Return Type	PV/New Sent.	6,254	2210	35.34%	2383	<b>38.1%</b>
	PV/Technical		944	15.09%	963	<b>15.4%</b>
	Discharge - Reconviction		87	1.39%	107	<b>1.71%</b>
Gender	Female	649	256	39.45%	276	<b>42.53%</b>
	Male	5605	2985	53.26%	3177	<b>56.68%</b>
Race	Black	2266	1229	54.24%	1316	<b>58.08%</b>
	White	3721	1931	51.89%	2052	<b>55.15%</b>
	Hispanic	205	53	25.85%	56	<b>27.32%</b>
	Other	62	28	45.16%	29	<b>46.77%</b>
Age Group	<=17	2	2	100%	2	<b>100%</b>
	18 – 24	922	538	58.35%	575	<b>62.36%</b>
	25 – 34	2425	1440	59.38%	1515	<b>62.47%</b>
	35 – 44	1572	784	49.87%	843	<b>53.63%</b>
	45 – 54	1050	413	39.33%	450	<b>42.86%</b>
	55 – 65	242	59	24.38%	63	<b>26.03%</b>
	65+	41	5	12.2%	5	<b>12.2%</b>
Education Level	Unknown	16	2	12.5%	2	<b>12.5%</b>
	Less Than HS	1730	894	51.68%	951	<b>54.97%</b>
	GED	2254	1337	59.32%	1423	<b>63.13%</b>
	HS Deg.	1742	798	45.81%	853	<b>48.97%</b>
	Beyond HS	512	210	41.02%	224	<b>43.75%</b>
Violence	Violent	2427	1343	55.34%	1416	<b>58.34%</b>
	Non-Violent	3827	1898	49.59%	2037	<b>53.23%</b>
SOSRA Offender	Sex Offender	342	230	67.25%	243	<b>71.05%</b>
	Non-Sex Offender	5912	3011	50.93%	3210	<b>54.3%</b>

## Offense

In an effort to further examine the relationship between offense and recidivism, several supplemental analyses were conducted. Following from the discussion above in regards to the difficulties of interpreting findings due to the majority of inmates having convictions for multiple offenses, our first supplemental analysis looked at recidivism rates among inmates charged with only **one unique offense** (these inmates may have been convicted of multiple counts of the same offense). **Supplemental Table 2** reports 3-year and all-time recidivism rates for all offenses for which at least 20 inmates released in 2012 were convicted.

**SUPP. TABLE 2. RECIDIVISM RATES FOR OFFENDERS WITH SINGLE UNIQUE OFFENSES**

Release Offense	Releases	3 Yr. Ret.	3 Yr. %	All-Time Ret.	All-Time %
1004 - Theft By Receiving	37	22	59.46%	24	64.86%
3001 - Criminal Attempt	29	17	58.62%	18	62.07%
1302 - Breaking And Entering	56	32	57.14%	34	60.71%
0658 - Residential Burglary	93	55	59.14%	56	60.22%
0659 - Commercial Burglary	25	13	52.00%	14	56.00%
0301 - Robbery	57	29	50.88%	30	52.63%
1101 - Forgery	54	21	38.89%	26	48.15%
0402 - Battery-2nd Degree	74	33	44.59%	34	45.95%
0403 - Aggravated Assault	37	17	45.95%	17	45.95%
1113 - Hot Check Violation	31	13	41.94%	14	45.16%
0708 - Domestic Battering-3rd Degree	38	17	44.74%	17	44.74%
1001 - Theft Of Property	103	38	36.89%	42	40.78%
2203 - Manu/Delv/Poss Control Subs.	525	196	37.33%	212	40.38%
2202 - Advertise Drug Paraphernalia	45	17	37.78%	18	40.00%
0401 - Battery-1st Degree	31	11	35.48%	12	38.71%
1720 - Fail To Register Child/Sex Off	60	20	33.33%	22	36.67%
2901 - Poss. Firearm Certain Person	42	12	28.57%	15	35.71%
0501 - Rape	49	15	30.61%	16	32.65%
0513 - Sexual Assault	113	33	29.20%	35	30.97%
3003 - Criminal Conspiracy	41	11	26.83%	12	29.27%
0302 - Aggravated Robbery	24	6	25.00%	7	29.17%
2301 - Viol Of Omb DWI Act 4th Offens	36	9	25.00%	10	27.78%
0703 - Domestic Battering-2nd Degree	21	5	23.81%	5	23.81%
0404 - Terroristic Threatening	28	6	21.43%	6	21.43%

## Offense Group

**Supplemental Table 3** reports findings from a similar analysis of offenders convicted in only one unique offense group.

<b>SUPP. TABLE 3. RECIDIVISM RATES FOR SINGLE UNIQUE OFFENSE GROUP CONVICTIONS</b>					
<b>Offense Group</b>	<b>Total Releases</b>	<b>3 Yr Ret.</b>	<b>3 Yr %</b>	<b>All-Time Ret.</b>	<b>All-Time Ret. %</b>
Criminal Attempt	29	17	58.62%	18	62.07%
Burglary	175	100	57.14%	104	59.43%
Theft	161	71	44.10%	78	48.45%
Assault	47	21	44.68%	22	46.81%
Robbery	81	35	43.21%	37	45.68%
Fraud	94	36	38.30%	42	44.68%
Battery	171	69	40.35%	71	41.52%
Other Property	29	11	37.93%	12	41.38%
Drug Sale	553	206	37.25%	223	40.33%
Weapons	49	15	30.61%	18	36.73%
Other Violent	176	59	33.52%	63	35.80%
Drug Possession	70	22	31.43%	23	32.86%
Sex	211	60	28.44%	63	29.86%
Crime Conspiracy	41	11	26.83%	12	29.27%
Other Non-Violent	21	5	23.81%	6	28.57%
DWI	36	9	25.00%	10	27.78%
Homicide	23	2	8.70%	2	8.70%

## Offending Variety

A final interesting finding with regard to the relationship between offense and recidivism relates to the amount of variation in an offender's criminal history. Supplemental Tables 4 & 5 report 3-yr and all-time recidivism rates by the number of unique offenses or convictions in unique offense groups. The figures that follow illustrate that as the amount of variation in either offense or offense group goes up, so too does the recidivism rate.

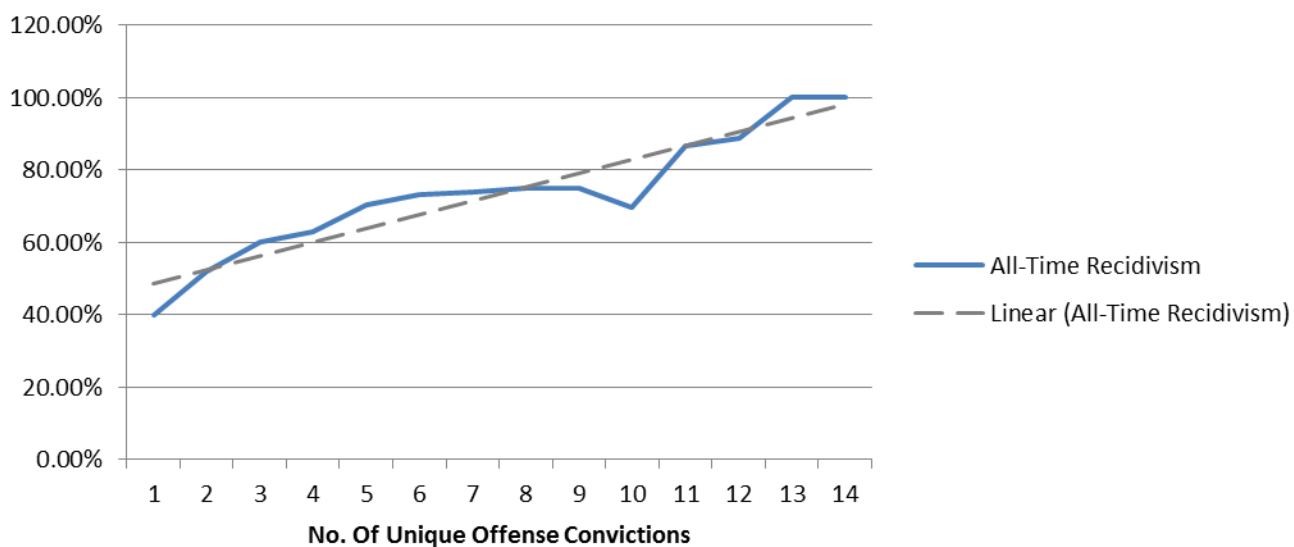
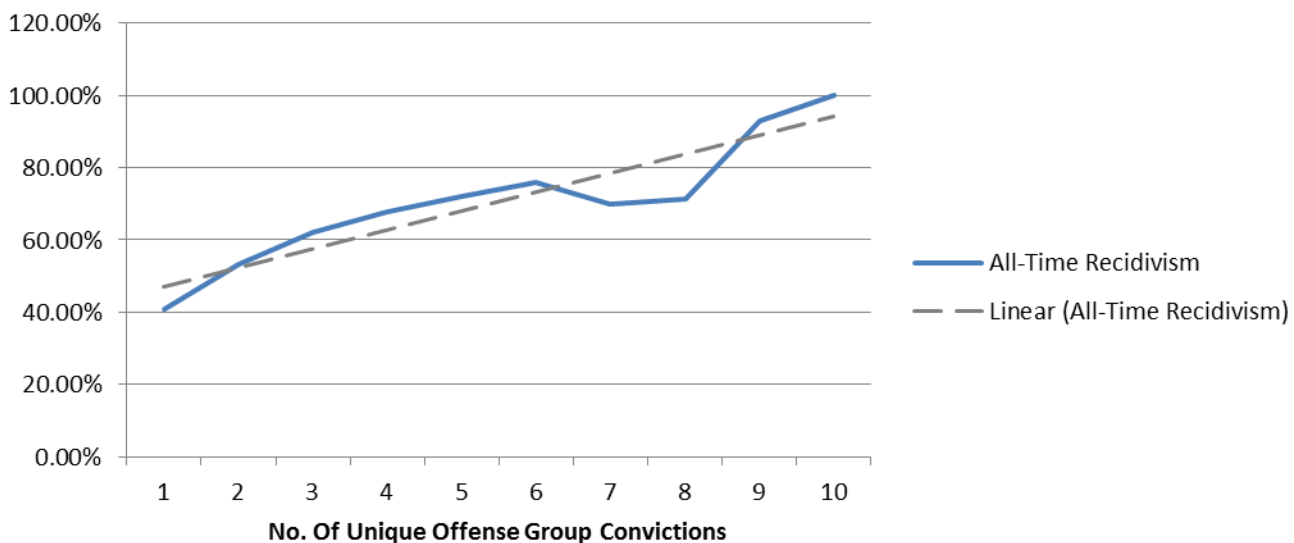
**SUPP. TABLE 4. RECIDIVISM RATES BY OFFENSE VARIATION**

No. of Unique Offenses	Total Releases	3 Yr Ret.	3 Yr %	All-Time Ret.	All-Time Ret. %
1	1827	678	37.11%	729	39.90%
2	1419	696	49.05%	738	52.01%
3	996	564	56.63%	600	60.24%
4	763	449	58.85%	480	62.91%
5	509	331	65.03%	359	70.53%
6	323	223	69.04%	237	73.37%
7	193	139	72.02%	143	74.09%
8	100	73	73.00%	75	75.00%
9	64	45	70.31%	48	75.00%
10	33	23	69.70%	23	69.70%
11	15	12	80.00%	13	86.67%
12	9	8	88.89%	8	88.89%
13	2	2	100.00%	2	100.00%
14	1	1	100.00%	1	100.00%

**SUPP. TABLE 5. RECIDIVISM RATES BY OFFENSE GROUP VARIATION**

No. of Unique Offense Group Convictions	Total Releases	3 Yr Ret.	3 Yr %	All-Time Ret.	All-Time Ret. %
1	1967	749	38.08%	804	40.87%
2	1609	806	50.12%	856	53.23%
3	1118	652	58.48%	692	62.06%
4	771	483	62.73%	521	67.66%
5	420	285	68.18%	300	71.77%
6	228	165	72.37%	173	75.88%
7	97	64	65.98%	68	70.10%
8	28	18	64.29%	20	71.43%
9	14	13	92.86%	13	92.86%
10	2	2	100.00%	2	100.00%



**Supp. Fig. 1. All-Time Recidivism Rates by Offense Variation****Supp. Fig. 2. All-Time Recidivism Rates by Offense Group Variation**



## Military History

**Supplemental Table 6** reports findings from an analysis of recidivism rate variation as a function of military background characteristics. In recognition of the special needs of this population, the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs' Health Care for Reentry Veterans (HCRV) program is designed to promote success and prevent homelessness among veterans returning to the community after incarceration. The Arkansas Department of Correction has partnered with the VA and currently has a HCRV program specialist who provides services to veterans who are nearing release.

**SUPP. TABLE 6. RECIDIVISM RATES BY MILITARY HISTORY\***

Attribute	Releases	6 Mo. Ret.	6 Mo. %	1 Yr. Ret.	1 Yr. %	3 Yr. Ret.	3 Yr. %
<b>Military</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1.70%</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>10.23%</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>34.94%</b>
Veteran	74	1	1.35%	4	5.41%	22	29.73%
Non-Veteran	278	5	1.80%	32	11.51%	101	36.33%
Positive Separation	327	5	1.53%	30	9.17%	113	34.56%
Negative Separation	25	1	4.00%	6	24.00%	10	40.00%
Coast Guard	4	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Army Reserve	6	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Air Force	17	0	0.00%	1	5.88%	5	29.41%
Marine Reserve	6	0	0.00%	1	16.67%	2	33.33%
Army	166	3	1.81%	17	10.24%	56	33.73%
Marines	35	0	0.00%	3	8.57%	12	34.29%
Navy	57	1	1.75%	6	10.53%	20	35.09%
Army National Guard	55	2	3.64%	8	14.55%	25	45.45%
Air National Guard	4	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	50.00%
Navy Reserve	2	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	50.00%
<b>Non-Military</b>	<b>5902</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>8.10%</b>	<b>1370</b>	<b>23.21%</b>	<b>3118</b>	<b>52.83%</b>

\*It is important when interpreting the results presented in this table that the reader take note of the relatively small number of releases in certain categories, which can result in non-generalizable recidivism rates. For example, there were only 2 inmates with prior service in the Navy Reserves released in 2012, and 1 returned, resulting in a 50% recidivism rate.

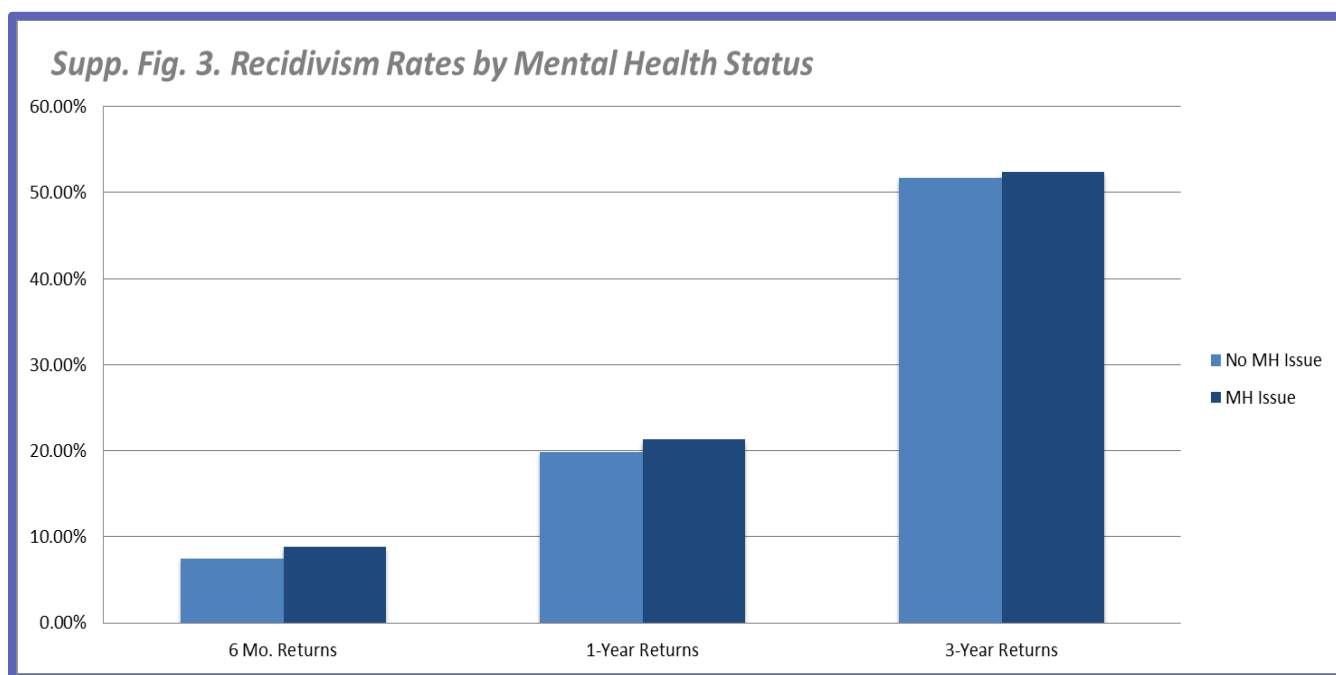
## Mental Health

**Supplemental Table 7** reports findings from an analysis of recidivism rate variation as a function of mental health status.

<b>SUPP. TABLE 7. RECIDIVISM RATES BY MENTAL HEALTH STATUS*</b>							
MH Status	Releases	6 Mo. Ret.	6 Mo. %	1 Year Ret.	1 Year %	3 Year Ret.	3 Year %
<b>None</b>	<b>5283</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>7.53%</b>	<b>1051</b>	<b>19.89%</b>	<b>2732</b>	<b>51.71%</b>
<b>MH Issue</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>8.86%</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>21.32%</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>52.42%</b>
Minimal	907	81	8.93%	199	21.94%	481	53.03%
Mild	46	2	4.35%	4	8.70%	21	45.65%
Moderate	10	1	10.00%	2	20.00%	4	40.00%
Severe	8	2	25.00%	2	25.00%	3	37.50%

\*Mental health rating as determined by an ADC mental health or otherwise qualified staff member within 2 years of release date. Any mental health determinations made 2 years or longer prior to the release date were recoded as 'None'.

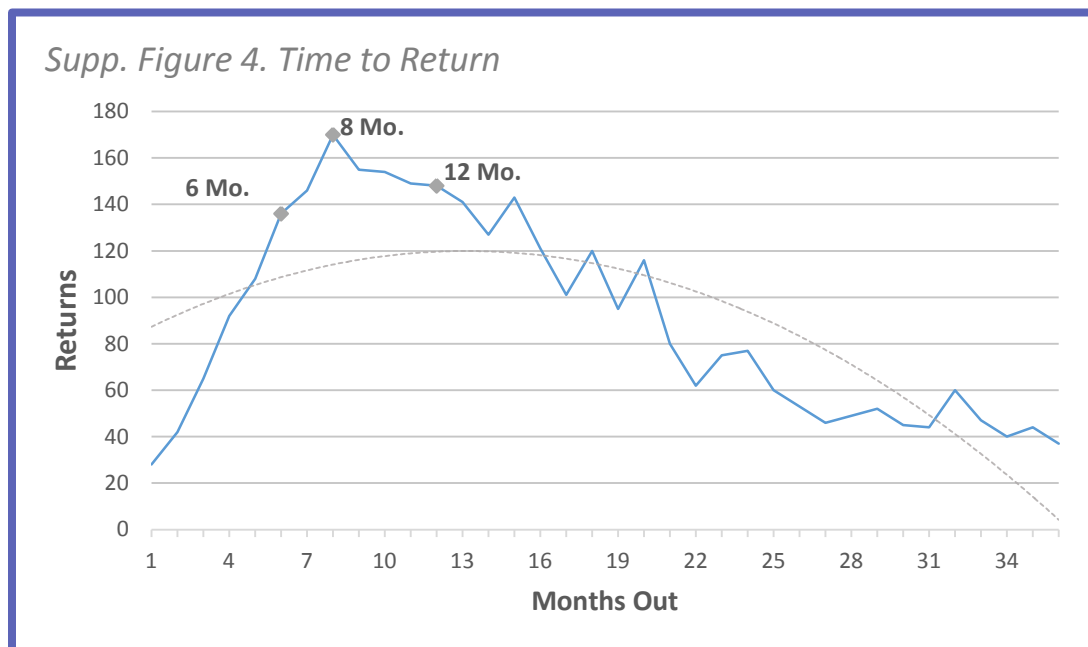
Although lower recidivism rates were detected at higher severity levels of mental health issues, this is likely due to small release cohort sizes and differences in case management plans, not to suggest that those with more severe mental disorders are inherently better able to desist from criminal behavior or avoid re-incarceration. Overall, those with mental health issues recidivated at a slightly higher rate than those without, illustrated below in **Supplemental Figure 3**.



## Time to Return

In addition to the traditional binary examination of recidivism (i.e., yes/no), analyses were also conducted of the length of time between the date of release and the date of return\*. This results of this cursory examination suggest that the early stages of post-release present the greatest challenges for inmates attempting to successfully negotiate the reentry process.

Specifically, the rate of return grows steadily from the first month through month five, and then displays the greatest growth between months 6 and 8, with the highest 3-month average rate of return between months 8 and 10. The monthly average rate of return then begins to decline around month 16. Overall, recidivists spent 15 ½ months in the community, on average, before being re-incarcerated\*\*.



\*Please note that this chart only displays data for recidivists from the CY12 release cohort ( $n=3,241$ ).

\*\*These figures represent re-incarceration in an ADC facility.

## Re-Arrest

**Supplemental Table 8\*** reports findings from an analysis of arrests occurring subsequent to release from an ADC facility. It is important to note that these statistics reflect only that an arrest occurred, and are not necessarily directly representative of the volume or characteristics of post-release criminal activity. In addition to the traditional 6-month, 12-month, and 36-month follow-up period, these analyses also provide a 90-day re-arrest rate.

<b>SUPP. TABLE 8. RE-ARREST RATES</b>				
<b>Releases</b>	<b>6254</b>			
	<b>90-Day</b>	<b>6-Month</b>	<b>12-Month</b>	<b>36-Month</b>
<b>Re-Arrests</b>	<b>2703</b>	<b>3031</b>	<b>3381</b>	<b>3874</b>
	<b>43.03%</b>	<b>48.25%</b>	<b>53.82%</b>	<b>61.67%</b>

These data represent only those arrests that occurred subsequent to a CY12 releases from an ADC facility and that occurred in the state of Arkansas. These figures also exclude offenders who were released to detainees.

An examination of the timing and frequency of the charges indicated in these arrest records is informative. As seen below, the top 10 most frequently cited offenses indicated in the arrests of inmates released from the ADC in CY12 were primarily either related to a failure to comply with a court order, or drug or property crime.

<b>SUPP. TABLE 9. RE-ARREST RATES BY OFFENSE</b>								
<b>Offense</b>	<b>90-Day</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>6Mo.</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>12Mo.</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>36Mo.</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>FAILURE TO APPEAR ON CLASS A MISD.</b>	58	2.15%	131	4.32%	262	7.75%	682	17.60%
<b>THEFT OF PROPERTY &lt;= \$1,000</b>	34	1.26%	94	3.10%	220	6.51%	562	14.51%
<b>DOMESTIC BATTERING - 3RD DEG</b>	32	1.18%	111	3.66%	220	6.51%	525	13.55%
<b>FAILURE TO APPEAR</b>	17	0.63%	39	1.29%	65	1.92%	516	13.32%
<b>FAIL TO PAY FINE OR COSTS (FTP/TP)</b>	54	2.00%	117	3.86%	187	5.53%	464	11.98%
<b>FLEEING</b>	44	1.63%	118	3.89%	217	6.42%	431	11.13%
<b>THEFT OF PROPERTY</b>	34	1.26%	88	2.90%	177	5.24%	399	10.30%
<b>POSS DRUG PARAPHERNALIA</b>	37	1.37%	101	3.33%	179	5.29%	390	10.07%
<b>POSS. DRUG PARA. METH COCAINE</b>	15	0.55%	75	2.47%	145	4.29%	370	9.55%
<b>CRIMINAL CONTEMPT</b>	37	1.37%	80	2.64%	135	3.99%	362	9.34%

\*These re-arrest recidivism measures are the first of their kind reported by this agency, and for that, the Arkansas Department of Correction would like to extend a special thank you to the Arkansas Crime Information Center (ACIC) for their assistance in providing the arrest data necessary to complete these analyses. The continued improvement of collaboration and information-sharing between state criminal justice agencies will yield more accurate, insightful, and actionable data in the future.