



**HAMPDEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
MICHAEL J. ASHE, JR.
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HOUSE OF CORRECTION

RECIDIVISM REPORT

2013 & 2011 Releases

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 1: 2013 Releases One Year Post Release

- Of the 1834 inmates released in 2013, **263 (14.3%) were re-incarcerated within one year for a new offense and 75 (4.1%) returned for a technical violation of parole or probation.** The new offense rate increased from 13.1% the previous year. Technical violations, most of parole, decreased from 5% the previous year.
- **The total reincarceration rate was 18.4, and increase of only 3/10 of a percent from the previous year.** This is the third consecutive year of success rates of more than 80%.
- 84 individuals (23 women, 61 men) were incarcerated twice within the first year post release, a significant increase from the previous year. One man and one woman were reincarcerated three times and one man four times.
- These chronic recidivists commit drug, property, domestic, motor vehicle or prostitution offenses, or violate probation or parole. Many have unaddressed substance abuse and/or mental health issues that perpetuate criminal behavior. In 2014, a new protocol for classification and programming was introduced to address these chronic offenders.
- Mean time to recidivate was 146 days. 36% of new arraignments occurred within 90 days of release, and 64% occurred within 180 days of release.

- **249 individuals had new cases awaiting disposition at the end of the first year post release. Disposition of these cases will be reflected in the three-year follow up.**
- **123 new arraignments were dismissed, nol pros (not prosecuted) or continued without a finding.**
- **215 men and 33 women had new restraining orders filed against them after their release.**
- **Many new arraignments lead to incarceration for violation of release conditions. This is particularly true for nonviolent offenses, which represented 70% of new arraignments, but only 50% of new incarcerations.**
- **35% of those serving time for a violent offense were arraigned for a new violent offense. This group continues to be overwhelmingly male, young (52% are under 30), minorities (70% African American or Hispanic), with substance abuse, unemployment, criminal associates, mental health and poor family support the leading risk factors. 55% lack a high school diploma or equivalent.**
- **Median sentence for a new offense was 180 days, for a probation violation 239 days, and for a parole violation, 91 days. Parole violators received credit for more than 3,000 days on the street before revocation. Probationers on a split sentence do not receive credit, and must serve the entire suspended portion of their sentence for a violation.**
- **Those released from lower security have a significantly better outcome than those released from "behind the wall". Those released**

from lower security had 42% lower rates of incarceration for new crimes despite the fact that nearly 65% scored as medium to high risk to recidivate at intake.

- **Offenders with Pre-Release or Work Release status had the lowest re-incarceration rates (7.8%). They had higher rates of return for technical violation than for new crimes.**
- **Consistent with previous years, the majority of parole revocations were for reasons related to relapse. Positive urine test and program failure are the most common violations.**
- **Unemployment, substance abuse, criminal history and personal-emotional problems were the predominant risk factors for re-offending.**
- **Special Reentry Populations included 79 DOC and 21 Bureau of Prisons inmates. Only 3 DOC inmates (all males) were re-incarcerated within one year of release. One BOP male was arraigned on a new charge, but the case was dismissed.**

Section II: 2011 Releases Three Years Post Release

- The 2011 release cohort of 1720 is 10% smaller than the previous year.
- Three years post-release, 62.6% (1076) of offenders had been arraigned, 43.8% (754) had been convicted and **32.3% (555) had been incarcerated for a new crime**. Another **4.2% (72) had been incarcerated for a technical violation of probation or parole** (most in the first year).
- **The total three-year reincarceration rate for 2011 releases is 36.5%.**
- Rates of re-offending drop off significantly in the second and third year post-release. 67% of new arraignments occurred in the first year post release, another 21% in the second year and 12% in the third year.
- Participants in WMCAC, Minimum/PRC and Day Reporting commit significantly fewer new offenses than those released from other security levels.
- While the overall reincarceration rate was higher for those who were paroled (39.3%) than for those who completed their sentence (36.1%), only 20% of parolees committed a new offense compared to 34% of those who wrapped up their sentence. The majority of parolees return for violation of their release conditions.

- **Conviction and incarceration rates remain at an eight-year low. Three years after release, nearly 40% of 2011 releases remained crime-free, and 68% had not been reincarcerated for a new crime.**

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METHODOLOGY

Lists of individuals released from the House of Correction are drawn monthly from the facility's Jail Management System (JMS). Offenders not released to the street (transferred to other institutions or returned to pretrial status for new charges) are deleted. Edited lists are produced from which official criminal records (BOPs) are run and processed. Any activity within the criminal court system in Massachusetts is recorded.

Recidivism is reported along four dimensions:

- **New Arraignment** –arraignment in any Massachusetts court for *new offense*.
- **New Conviction** – any guilty finding on a *new case*. Dispositions range from guilty-filed to commitment.
- **New Incarceration** – sentence of any length to a federal, state or county correctional facility in Massachusetts for a *new offense*.
- **Technical Violation** - return to custody for violation of either parole or probation for any reason other than a new offense.

Several data sources are utilized in preparing the recidivism report. Information relative to gender, race, age, residence, current charges, sentence, release type and classification are obtained from JMS. Parole violations are tracked through JMS and the Notice of Preliminary Hearing (Form A) from the Institutional Parole Office. Data on probation violations are recorded from the BOP.

OVERVIEW OF THE 2013 RELEASE COHORT

- **During 2013, 1834 sentenced offenders were released to the street. This represented a decrease of 132 (6.7%) from the previous year.**
- **Of those released, 21% (383) were females and 79% (1451) were males. One male and one female were reported deceased during the first year post-release and have been removed from the cohort.**
- **15.5% (284) were paroled and 84.5% (1550) were released via expiration of sentence or payment of fines ("wrapped"). Parolees served 54% of their sentence; those who wrapped served 73%.**
- **43% (163) of females and 58% (848) of males were previous recidivists by virtue of having at least one prior adult incarceration.**
- **Of those serving their first adult incarceration, 37% (305) had a previous juvenile record.**
- **Female releases ranged in age from 18 to 63 years of age. The most common ages were 25 and 26. Males ranged from 17 to 78 years; the most common age was 25.**
- **8% of the females released were African American, 13% were Hispanic and 78% were Caucasian. Of the male releases, 16% were African American, 35% were Hispanic and 49% were Caucasian.**
- **The breakdown of security level at time of release was as follows: Medium/Maximum 40%, Minimum/PRC 11%, Community Reentry Unit (CRU) 16%, WMCAC 21% and Day Reporting 11%.**

- **The 2013 release cohort included 79 DOC reentry inmates (6 females, 73 males) and 21 Bureau of Prison inmates (1 female, 20 males). 81 (81%) were released from lower security.**
- **66% (1186) of those released served time for a nonviolent offense (property, drugs, MV, prostitution, other), 30% (541) for a violent offense (crime against a person, domestic violence, sex offense, firearms), and 4% (68) for violation of parole or probation.**
- **29% served a sentence of 90 days or less, 30% between 90 and 180 days, 12% between 180 and 364 days, and 30% a year or more.**
- **157 individuals served sentences part or all of which were mandatory. These mandatory sentences accrued 53,595 bed-days, over 18,000 for drug offenses.**
- **40% of those released were from Springfield, 10% from Holyoke, 7% from Chicopee, 16% from other Hampden County towns, 20% from other counties and 3% from out of state. 45 individuals provided no address at booking. Worcester County women now account for 40% of female releases.**

SECTION ONE

2013 RELEASES

ONE-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES

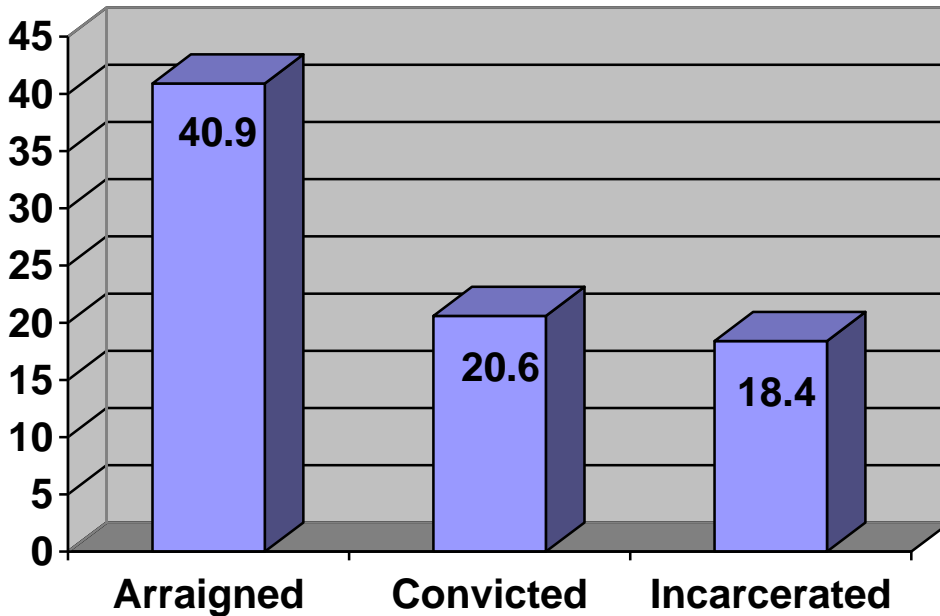
**SECTION I
ONE-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES
2013 RELEASES**

Recidivism Type (% of Total Releases)

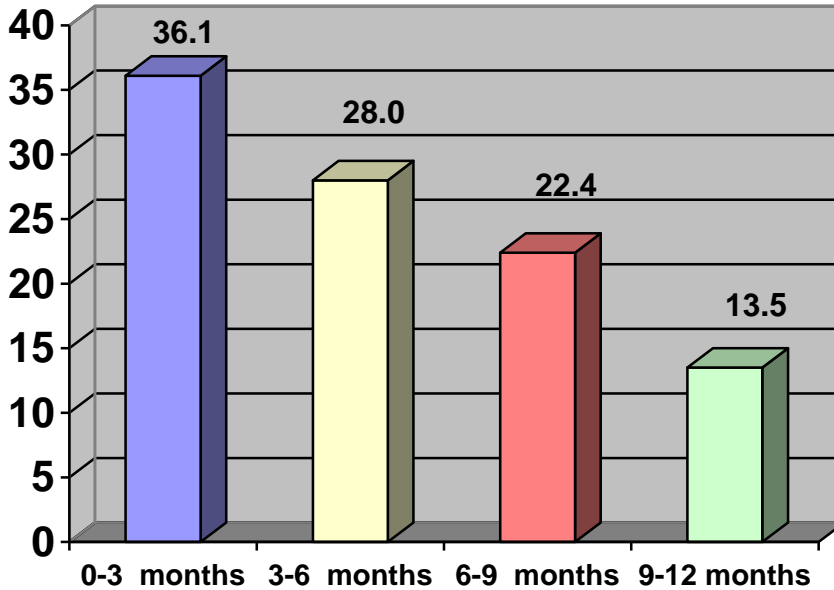
	Females		Males		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
New Offense						
Arraignment	174	45.4	576	39.7	750	40.9
Conviction	95	24.8	283	19.5	378	20.6
Incarceration	59	15.4	204	14.1	263	14.3
Technical Violation	12	3.1	63	4.3	75	4.1

The incarceration rate for a new offense increased from 13.1% to 14.3%. An additional 4% returned for a technical violation of parole or probation. The total reincarceration rate of 18.4% is up just 3/10 of a percent from the previous year.

One-Year Recidivism Rates



**Time to New Arraignment
(% of New Arraignments)**



36% of new arraignments continue to occur within 90 days of release, and 64% within 180 days of release. Mean time to recidivate was 146 days.

Other Activity	Females		Males	
	N	%	N	%
Open Cases-New	48	12.5	201	13.9
Open Cases-Existing	104	27.2	407	28.0
Open Warrants	22	5.7	85	5.9
New Restraining Order	33	8.6	215	14.8

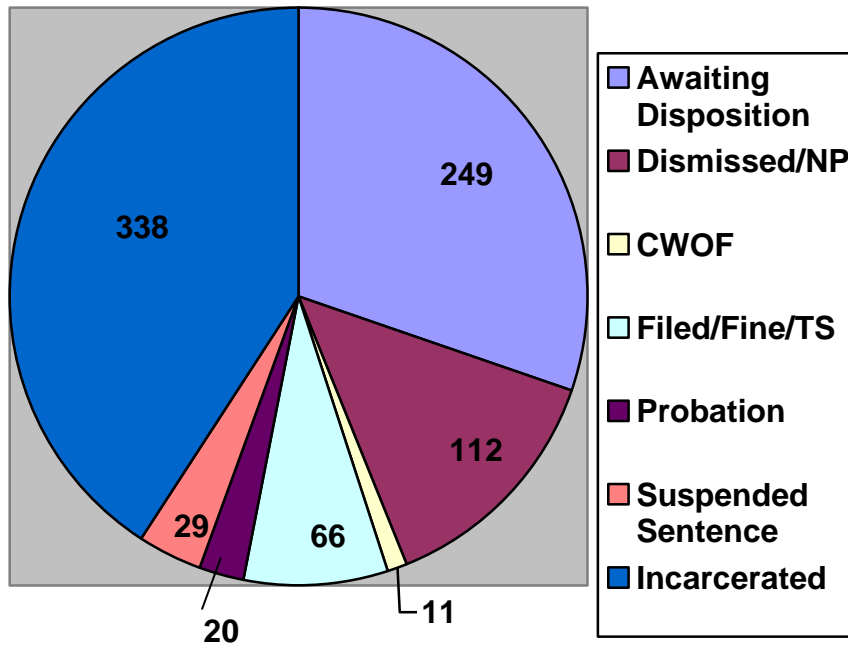
Most existing cases remain open for a period of probation supervision.

Disposition of New Cases

	Females N	Males N
Awaiting Disposition	48	201
Dismissed	25	68
Nol Pros	2	17
Continued W/O Finding	4	7
Fined/Filed	19	47
Probation	11	9
Suspended Sentence	6	23
Committed	71	267

249 individuals had new cases awaiting disposition at the end of their first year post release. Disposition of these cases will be reflected in the three-year follow up.

Disposition of New Cases



New Offense (% of New Arraignments)

	Females		Males	
	N	%	N	%
Person	27	14.5	105	16.4
Domestic	4	2.2	27	4.2
Sex Offense	0	0.0	5	0.8
Firearms	0	0.0	8	1.3
Total Violent Offenses	31	16.7	145	22.7
Property	64	34.4	200	31.3
Drugs	32	17.2	108	16.9
MV	14	7.5	113	17.7
Prostitution	26	14.0	0	0.0
Other	7	3.8	10	1.6
Total Nonviolent Offense	143	76.9	431	67.5
Parole Violation	8	4.3	47	7.4
Probation Violation	4	2.2	16	2.5
Total Tech. Violations	12	6.5	63	9.9

<u>Original Offense Type</u>	<u>New Offense Type</u>			
	Violent		Nonviolent	
	N	%	N	%
Violent	89	34.8	167	65.2
Nonviolent	87	15.3	482	84.7

89 violent offenders (80 men and 9 women) were arraigned for a new violent offense. This group continues to be overwhelmingly young minority offenders who score as high risk, with substance abuse, unemployment, criminal associates, mental health and poor family support the leading risk factors. 56% lack a high school diploma or GED.

Fifty-two were released from the Main Institution, 21 from the Community Re-entry Unit, 11 from WMCAC, 4 from MIN/PRC and 1 from DRP.

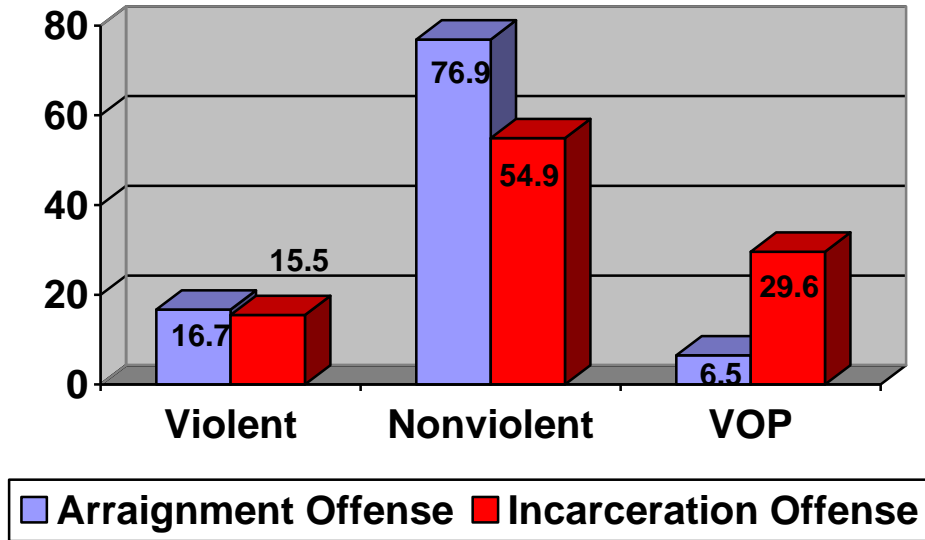
New Incarceration Offense (% of New Incarcerations)

	Females		Males	
	N	%	N	%
Person	9	12.7	31	11.6
Domestic	2	2.8	7	2.6
Sex Offense	0	0.0	3	1.1
Firearms	0	0.0	1	0.4
Total Violent Offenses	11	15.5	42	15.7
Property	15	21.1	88	33.0
Drugs	10	14.1	28	10.5
MV	0	0.0	12	4.5
Prostitution	14	19.7	0	0.0
Other	0	0.0	1	0.4
Total Nonviolent Offense	39	54.9	129	48.4
Parole Violation	10	14.9	53	19.9
Probation Violation	11	15.5	43	16.1
Total Violations	21	29.6	96	36.0

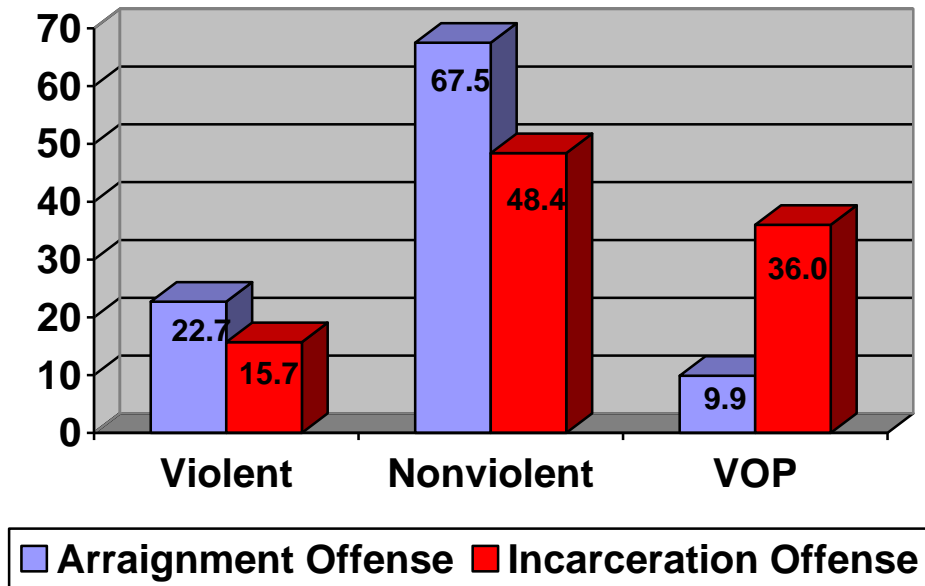
The first offense for which an individual is arraigned is often not what leads to a new incarceration, instead, a new arraignment often leads to violation of probation or parole. This is particularly true of nonviolent offenses, which account for 70% of new arraignments, but only 50% of incarcerations.

36% of men and 30% of women are re-incarcerated for violating parole or probation.

Arrestment & Incarceration Offenses Females



Arrestment & Incarceration Offenses Males



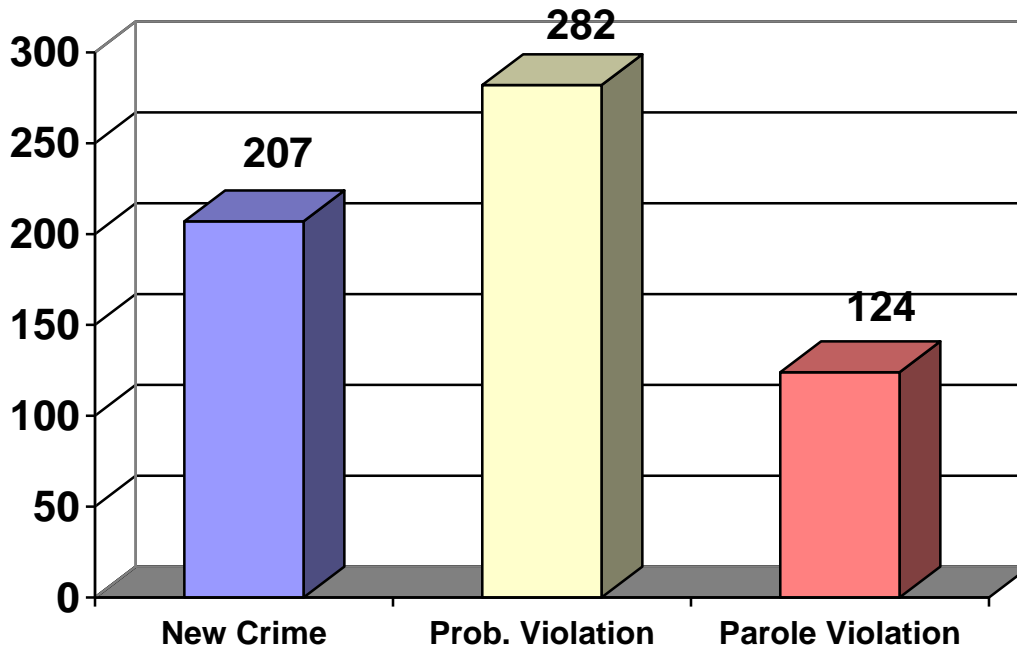
New Sentence (Days)

	<u>New Offense</u>	<u>Probation Technical</u>	<u>Parole Technical</u>	<u>All</u>
Mean	207	282	124	205
Median	180	239	91	180
Minimum	1	90	5	1
Maximum	1825	730	637	1825

Mean sentence length can be skewed by one extreme value therefore it is more accurate to use the *median* when making comparisons to the previous year. Median sentence for a new offense was 180 days, for a technical violation of probation was 239 days. The parole median increased from 82 to 91 days.

Because parolees receive credit for time on the street, the amount of time they must serve after revocation is much shorter than for probationers. 49 technical parole violators had 6,095 days to serve after revocation, while only 20 technical probation violators tallied 5,632 days. Parole violators received credit for 3,072 days on the street prior to revocation.

Mean New Sentence in Days

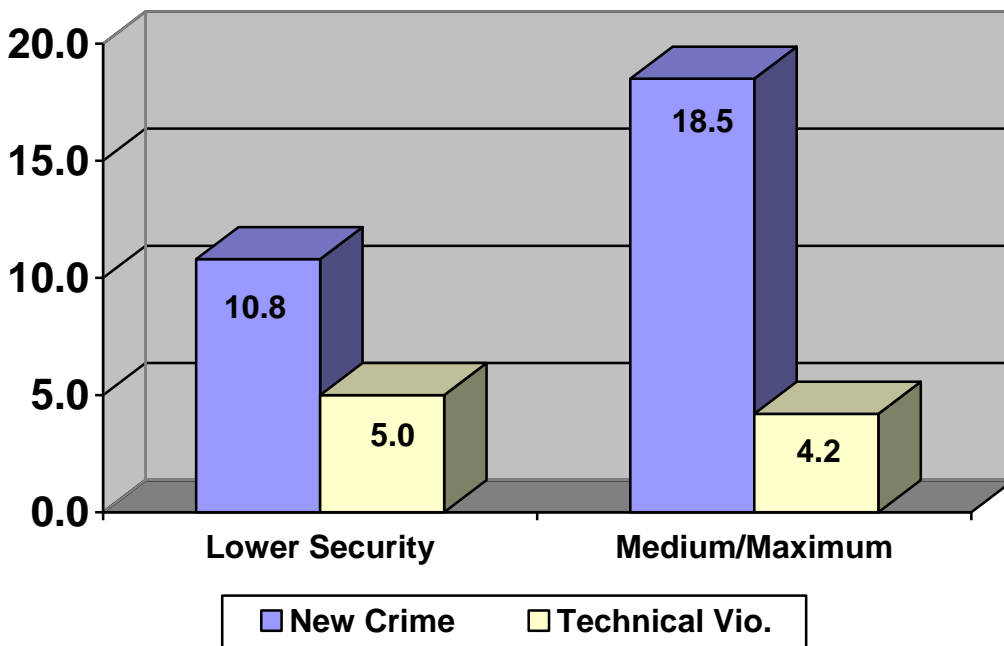


Incarceration Rates by Security Level at Release & Type of Return

	Technical		New Offense		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Day Reporting (200)	19	9.5	25	12.5	44	22.0
Minimum (132)	7	5.3	10	7.6	17	12.9
Pre/Work Release (77)	4	5.2	2	2.6	6	7.8
CRU (297)	11	3.7	34	11.4	45	15.2
WMCAC (388)	14	3.6	47	12.1	61	15.7
Lower Security Total	55	5.0	118	10.8	173	15.8
Medium Gen Pop (321)	17	5.3	58	18.1	75	23.4
Medium-Reentry (340)	11	3.2	62	18.2	73	21.5
Maximum (59)	2	3.4	13	22.0	15	25.4
Medium/Maximum	30	4.2	133	18.5	163	22.6

Note: DOC, BOP & Probates are included in security level at time of release.

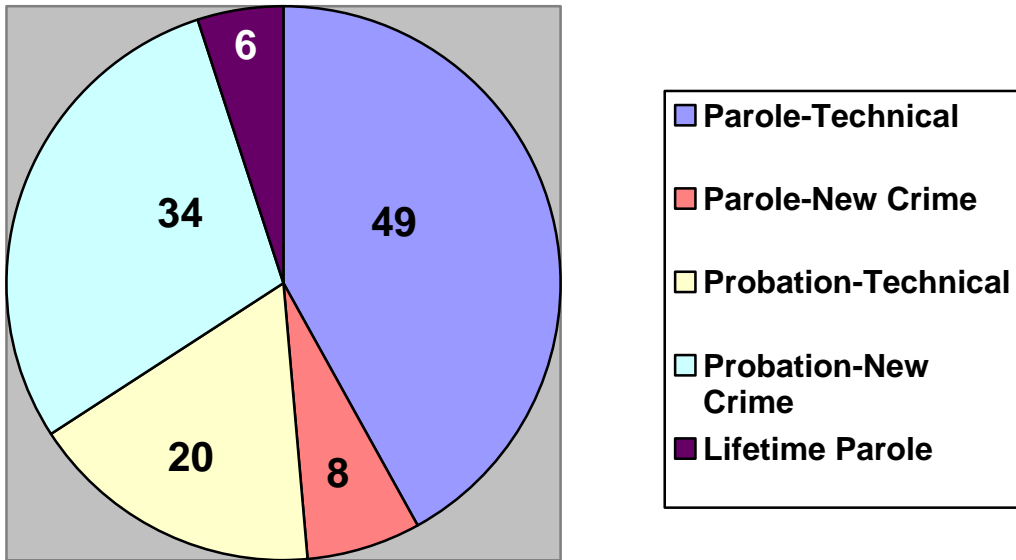
Incarceration Rates by Security Level



Violations of Release Conditions

	Females	Males	Total
Parole Violation-Technical	8	41	49
Parole Violation-New Offense	1	7	8
Lifetime Parole-Technical	0	6	6
Probation Violation-Technical	4	16	20
Probation Violation-New Offense	7	27	34

Violations of Release Conditions



Reasons for Parole Violation	N
Crime on Parole	8
Drug or Alcohol Use	38
Program Failure	16
Failure to Report	7
Whereabouts Unknown*	3
Irresponsible Conduct	9
Associate with Known Felons	12
Failure to Find or Maintain Employment	6
Change Residence	4
Nonpayment of Supervision Fee	3
Other	18

Most revocation forms list more than one reason.

***Note: Parolees do not receive credit for time they were "whereabouts unknown".**

Parole Failures	N
Home Plan	34
Foundation House	9
Phoenix House	3
Gandara Residential	2
Spectrum Residential	2
Salvation Army	1
Elizabeth House	1
Loreto House	1
Opportunity House	1
Sumner House	1
My Sister's House	1
LTRP (unspecified)	1

Special Reentry Populations

DOC Reentry Class at Release

	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>
Foundation House	0	1
Day Reporting	0	11
Minimum	3	6
Pre/Work Release	1	19
CRU	0	15
WMCAC	0	4
Medium	<u>2</u>	<u>17</u>
TOTAL	6	73

DOC Recidivism

	<u>Females</u>		<u>Males</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
New Offense						
Arrestment	0	0.0	24	32.9	24	30.4
Conviction	0	0.0	4	5.5	4	5.1
Incarceration	0	0.0	3	4.1	3	3.8

Technical Violations None

Disposition of New Cases

Open-Awaiting Disposition	13
Dismissed/NoI Pros	6
CWOF	1
Guilty-Filed	1
Committed	3

Bureau of Prisons Class at Release

	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>
Day Reporting	1	12
Minimum	0	1
CRU	0	1
Pre/Work Release	<u>0</u>	<u>6</u>
TOTAL	1	20

One male was arraigned for a new crime. The case was dismissed.

**SECTION II
THREE-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES
2011 RELEASES**

**THREE-YEAR RECIDIVISM ANALYSES
2011 RELEASES**

2011 Recidivism Rates	Females		Males		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
New Offense						
Arraignment	119	53.4	957	63.9	1076	62.6
Conviction	86	38.6	668	44.6	754	43.8
Incarceration	54	24.2	501	33.5	555	32.3
Technical Violation	8	3.6	64	4.3	72	4.2

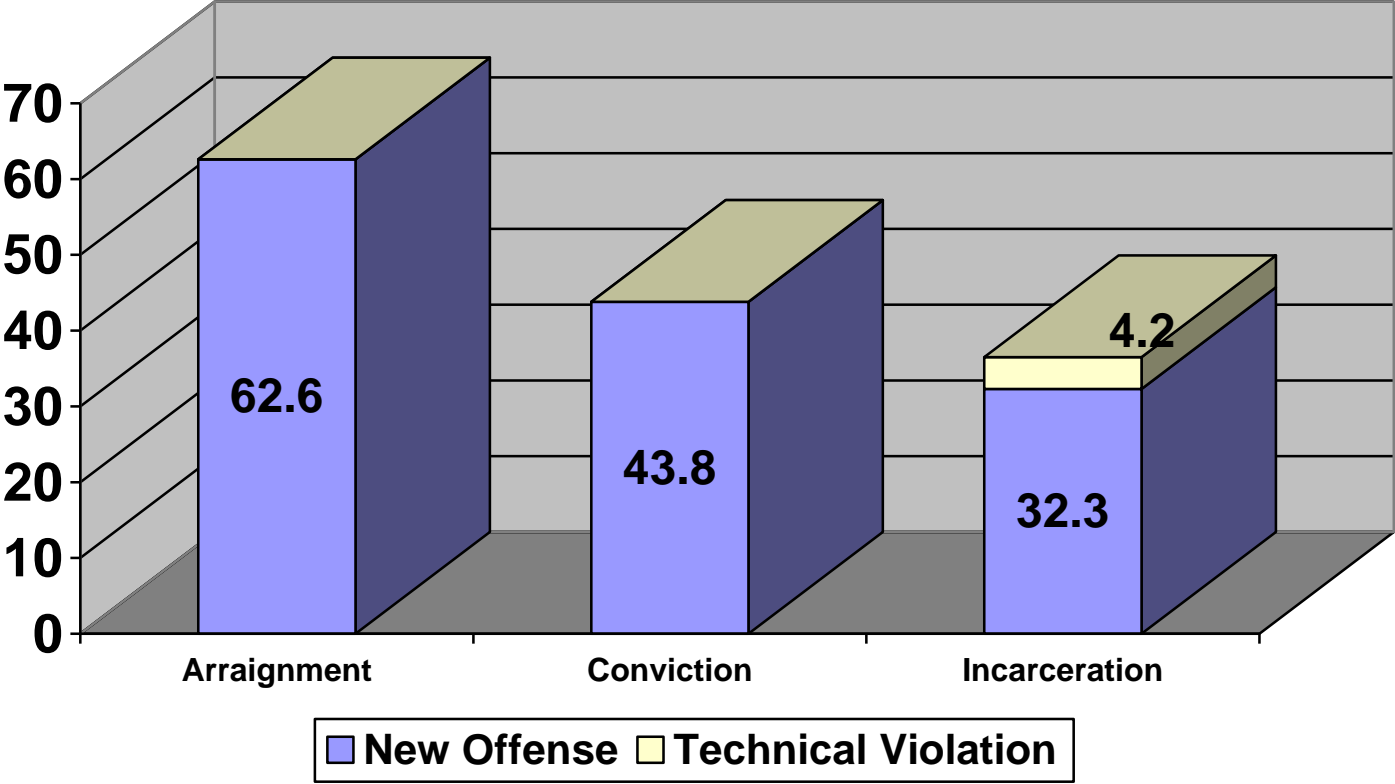
By the end of the third year post-release, 32.3% of offenders had been reincarcerated for a new offense, up slightly from the previous year. The 4.2% technical violation rate is less than half the rate of the previous year. The total reincarceration rate was 36.5%.

Time to New Arraignment (% of Arraignments & Violation Hearings)

First Year	N	%	Second Year	N	%	Third Year	N	%
0-3 months	259	22.6	12-15 months	78	6.8	24-27 months	42	3.7
3-6 months	216	18.8	15-18 months	59	5.1	27-30 months	36	3.1
6-9 months	163	14.2	18-21 months	58	5.1	30-33 months	31	2.7
9-12 months	<u>131</u>	<u>11.4</u>	21-24 months	<u>49</u>	<u>4.3</u>	33-36 months	<u>26</u>	<u>2.3</u>
Year Totals	769	67.0		244	21.3		135	11.8

67% of new arraignments occur in the first year post release, another 21% in the second year and 12% in the third year.

2011 Three-Year Recidivism Rates



Re-incarceration Rates by Classification & Year of Offense

	# Released	First Year*		Second Year		Third Year		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Day Reporting	187	38	20.3	17	9.1	13	7.0	68	36.4
Minimum/PRC	158	25	15.8	10	6.3	7	4.4	42	26.6
Community Reentry Unit	361	74	20.5	34	9.4	31	8.6	139	38.5
Medium/Maximum	697	133	19.1	95	13.6	64	9.2	292	41.9
WMCAC	317	39	12.3	27	8.5	20	6.3	86	27.1

Rates of re-offending drop off significantly in the second and third years post-release. Those released from the Main Institution had the highest recidivism rate and Minimum/PRC had the lowest.

Re-incarceration Rates by Classification & Return Type

	# Released	New Offense		Technical	
		N	%	N	%
Day Reporting	187	45	24.1	23	12.3
Minimum/PRC	158	31	19.6	11	7.0
Community Reentry Unit	361	134	37.1	5	1.4
Medium/Maximum	697	275	39.5	17	2.4
WMCAC	317	70	22.1	16	5.0

Those released from the MI and the CRU were most likely to be re-incarcerated for a new offense by the end of the third year post release. Those released from WMCAC, Day Reporting and PRC had higher parole rates, which lead to higher reincarceration rates for technical violations.

Re-incarceration Rates by Release Type & Reason for Return	N	%
Wrapped (N=1514)		
Technical Violation of Probation	30	2.0
Technical Violation of Lifetime Supervision	3	0.2
New Offense	513	33.9
Total	546	36.1
Paroled (N=206)		
Technical Violation of Parole	36	17.4
Technical Violation of Probation	2	1.0
New Offense on Parole	8	3.9
Technical Violation of Lifetime Supervision	2	1.0
New Offense after Parole	33	16.0
Total	81	39.3

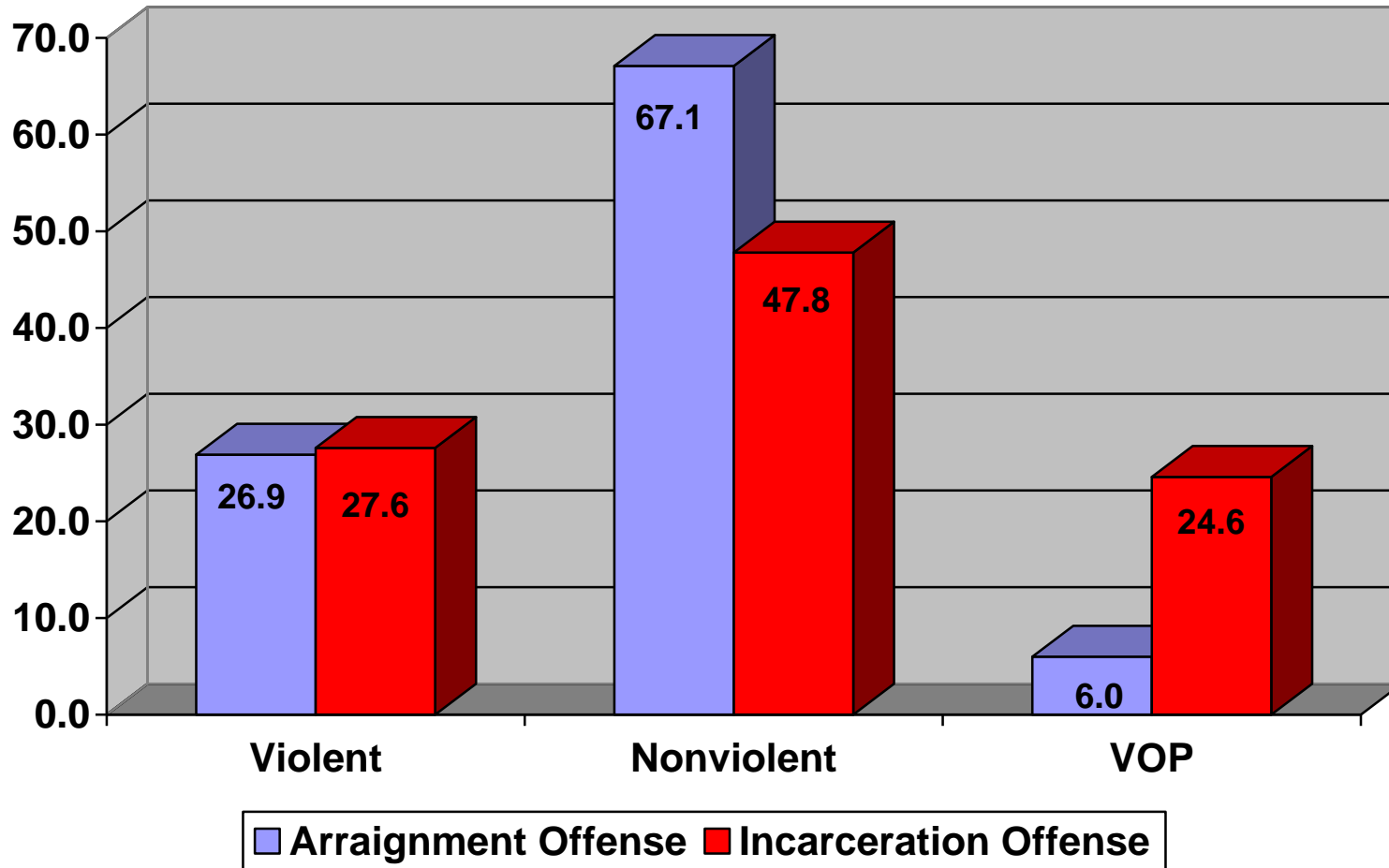
Only 20% of parolees committed a new offense compared to 34% of those who wrapped up their sentence.

New Arraignment Offense	Females		Males		Totals	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Person	22	17.3	214	21.0		
Domestic	3	2.4	34	3.3		
Sex Offense	1	0.8	14	1.4		
Firearms	0	0.0	21	2.1		
Total Violent Offenses	26	20.5	283	27.8	309	26.9
Property	37	29.1	234	22.9		
Drugs	14	11.0	146	14.3		
Motor Vehicle	19	15.0	254	24.9		
Prostitution	17	13.4	1	0.1		
Others	7	5.5	41	4.0		
Total Nonviolent Offenses	94	74.0	676	66.2	770	67.1
Parole Violation-Technical	5	3.9	35	3.4		
Probation Violation-Technical	2	1.6	27	2.6		
Total Technical Violations	7	5.5	62	6.0	69	6.0

New Incarceration Offense	Females		Males		Totals	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Person	11	17.7	114	20.2		
Domestic	2	3.2	19	3.4		
Sex Offense	0	0.0	10	1.8		
Firearms	0	0.0	17	3.0		
Total Violent Offenses	13	20.9	160	28.4	173	27.6
Property	15	24.2	133	23.5		
Drugs	6	9.7	69	12.2		
Motor Vehicle	3	4.8	60	10.6		
Prostitution	9	14.5	0	0.0		
Others	1	1.6	4	0.7		
Total Nonviolent Offenses	34	54.8	266	47.0	300	47.8
Parole Violation	5	8.1	43	7.6		
Probation Violation	10	16.1	96	17.0		
Violations of Release Conditions	15	24.2	139	24.6	154	24.6

Those arraigned for a violent offense were most likely to be incarcerated for that offense. A nonviolent offense, however, often resulted in a violation of parole or probation. Sixty-seven percent of new arraignments were for nonviolent offenses, but only 48% of new incarcerations. Violations represent only 6% of arraignments, but 25% of incarcerations.

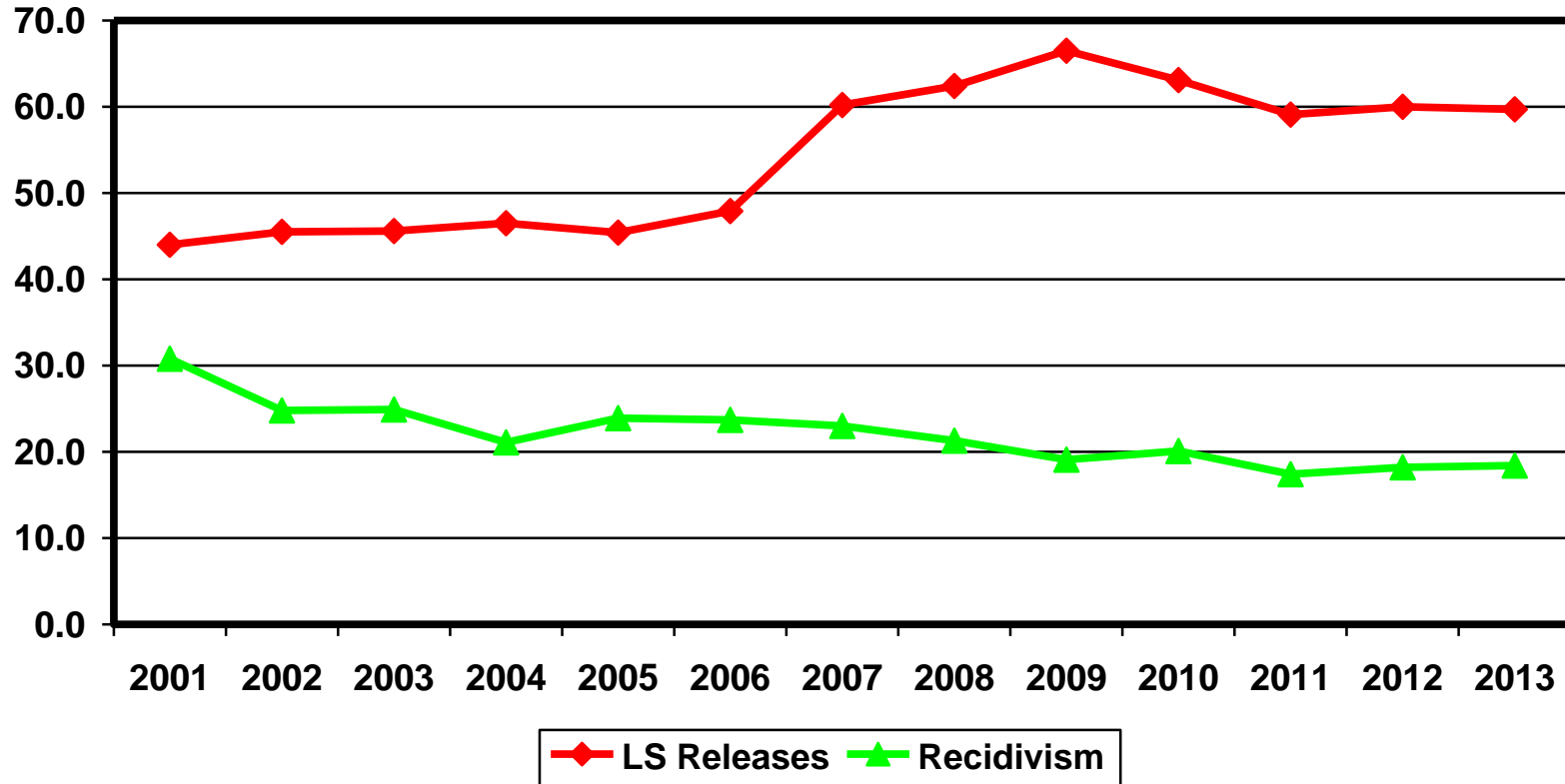
Arrestment & Incarceration Offenses



RECIDIVISM SUMMARY

2000 - 2013

Lower Security Releases & One-Year Reincarceration Rates



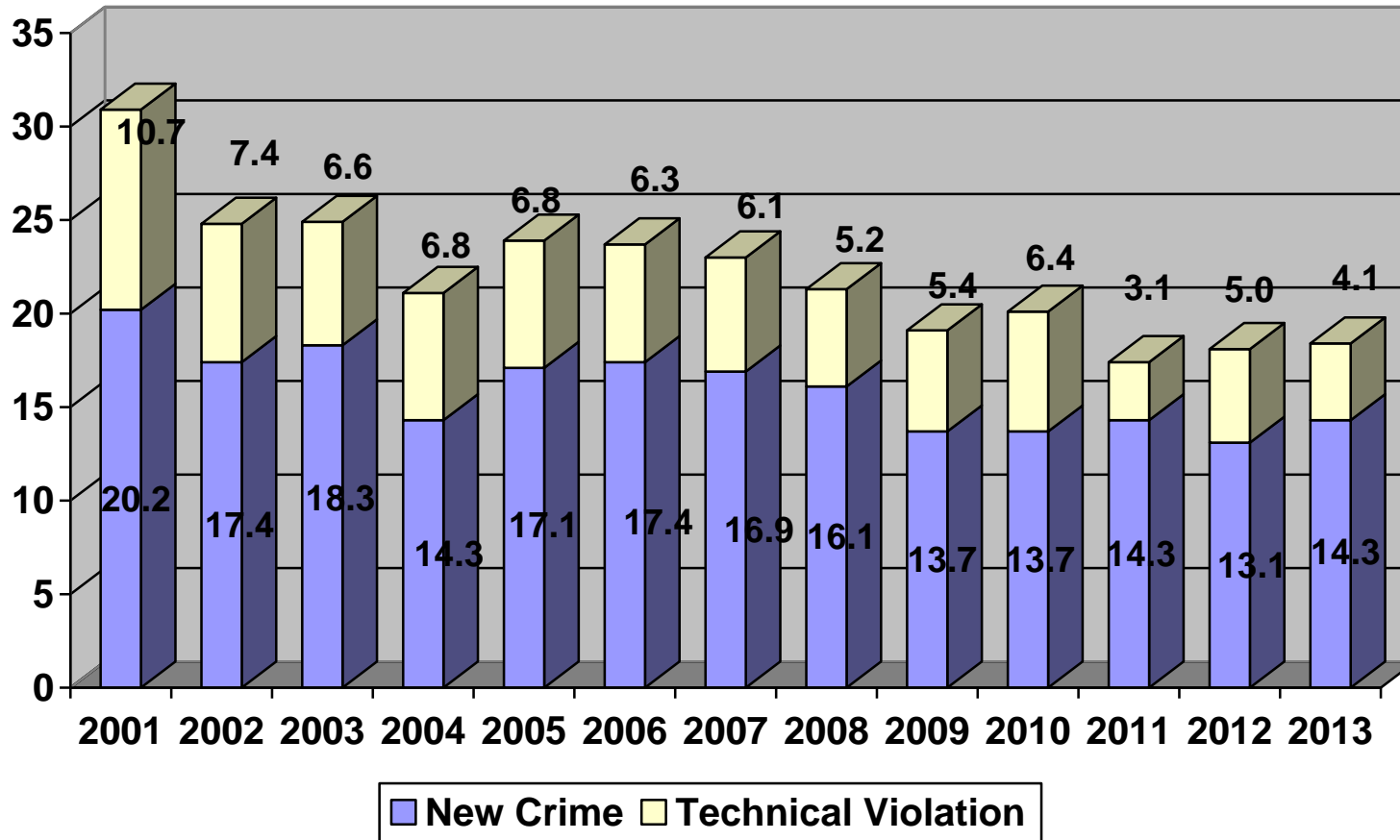
ONE-YEAR RE-INCARCERATION RATES

YEAR	Number New Released	Offense	Technical Violation	TOTAL
2001	2270	20.2	10.7	30.9%
2002	2470	17.4	7.4	24.8%
2003	2321	18.3	6.6	24.9%
2004	2298	14.3	6.8	21.1%
2005	2434	17.1	6.8	23.9%
2006	2627	17.4	6.3	23.7%
2007	2468	16.9	6.1	23.0%
2008	2362	16.1	5.2	21.3%
2009	2197	13.7	5.4	19.1%
2010	1907	13.7	6.4	20.1%
2011	1720	14.3	3.1	17.4%
2012	1966	13.1	5.0	18.1%
2013	1834	14.3	4.1	18.4%

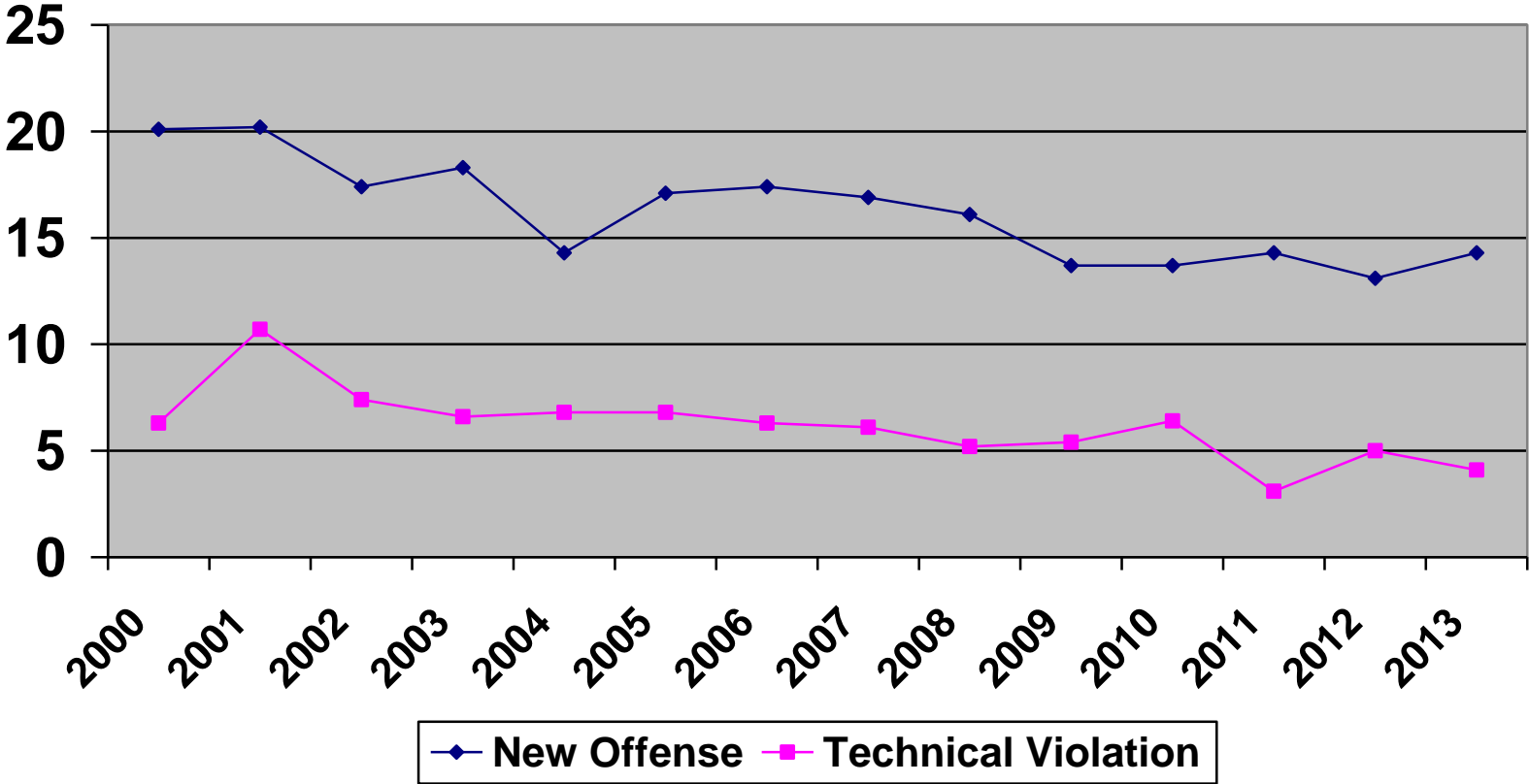
THREE-YEAR RE-INCARCERATION RATES

YEAR	New Offense	Technical Violation	TOTAL
2000	42.5	6.3	48.8%
2001	38.6	10.8	49.4%
2002	38.8	7.5	46.3%
2003	36.9	7.6	44.5%
2004	37.0	7.1	44.1%
2005	38.4	7.4	45.8%
2006	36.8	8.4	45.2%
2007	34.1	6.9	41.0%
2008	33.0	6.8	39.8%
2009	31.7	7.4	39.1%
2010	31.8	8.9	40.7%
2011	32.3	4.2	36.5%

One-Year Re-incarceration Rates 2001-2013



One-Year New Offense & Technical Violation Rates



Three-Year Recidivism Rates

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
New Offense									
Arraigned	63.9	63.3	62.6	62.7	62.9	60.5	61.8	59.7	62.6
Convicted	47.5	47.0	48.1	47.8	46.4	45.3	44.8	42.8	43.8
Incarcerated	36.9	37.1	38.4	36.8	34.1	33.0	31.7	31.8	32.3
Tech Violation	7.6	7.2	7.3	8.4	6.9	6.8	7.4	8.9	4.2

Recidivism rates for new crimes remain close to the ten-year low. Three years after release, ***nearly 40% of 2011 releases remained crime-free***, and ***68% had not been re-incarcerated for a new crime***. Technical violations, mostly of parole, dropped by over 50% from the previous year to the lowest rate since 1998.

Three-Year Recidivism Rates 2003-2011

