



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

HOUSE OF CORRECTION

RECIDIVISM REPORT

2014 & 2012 Releases

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 1: 2014 Releases One Year Post Release

- Of the 1816 inmates released in 2014, **224 (12.3%) were re-incarcerated within one year for a new offense and 53 (2.9%) returned for a technical violation of parole or probation.** The new offense rate decreased from 14.3% the previous year. Technical violations, most of parole, decreased from 4% the previous year.
- **The total reincarceration rate was 15.2, a decrease of over 3 percentage points from the previous year.** This is the fourth consecutive year of success rates of more than 80%.
- 16 individuals (4 women, 12 men) were incarcerated twice within the first year post release, a significant decrease from the previous year. One woman was reincarcerated three times. In 2014, a new protocol for classification and programming was introduced to address these chronic offenders.
- Mean time to recidivate was 146 days. 37% of new arraignments occurred within 90 days of release, and 66% occurred within 180 days of release.
- 282 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.
- 122 new arraignments were dismissed, nol pros (not prosecuted) or continued without a finding.

- **185 men and 38 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 71% of new arraignments, but only 55% of new incarcerations.**
- **40% of those serving time for a violent offense were arraigned for a new violent offense. This group continues to be overwhelmingly 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. 56% lack a high school diploma or equivalent.**
- **Median sentence for a new offense was 180 days, for a probation violation 221 days, and for a parole violation, 83 days.**
- **Those released from lower security have a significantly better outcome than those released from "behind the wall". Those released from lower security had 44% 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 (4%). Those paroled from Minimum had the highest rate of technical violations (9.3%).**

- **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 87 DOC and 45 Bureau of Prisons inmates. Only 1 DOC male was re-incarcerated within one year of release. Five BOP males were arraigned on a new charge, but the cases were dismissed.**

Section II: 2012 Releases Three Years Post Release

- Three years post-release, 61.2% (1204) of offenders had been arraigned, 42.8% (841) had been convicted and **27.8% (546) had been incarcerated for a new crime**. Another **5.7% (113) had been incarcerated for a technical violation of probation or parole** (most in the first year).
- **The total three-year reincarceration rate for 2012 releases is 33.5%.**
- Rates of re-offending drop off significantly in the second and third year post-release. 68% of new arraignments occurred in the first year post release, another 22% in the second year and 10% 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 (42.3%) than for those who completed their sentence (32.2%), only 14% of parolees committed a new offense compared to 30% of those who wrapped up their sentence. The majority of parolees return for violation of their release conditions.
- Conviction and incarceration rates are at a ten-year low. Three years after release, nearly 40% of 2012 releases remained crime-free, and 72% 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 2014 RELEASE COHORT

- **During 2014, 1816 sentenced offenders were released to the street. This represented a decrease of 18 (1%) from the previous year.**
- **Of those released, 24% (439) were females and 76% (1377) were males. Two males were reported deceased during the first year post-release and have been removed from the cohort.**
- **14.6% (265) were paroled and 85.4% (1551) were released via expiration of sentence or payment of fines ("wrapped"). Parolees served 52% of their sentence; those who wrapped served 72%.**
- **45% (198) of females and 64% (880) of males were previous recidivists by virtue of having at least one prior adult incarceration.**
- **Of those serving their first adult incarceration, 34% (251) had a juvenile record.**
- **Female releases ranged in age from 19 to 68 years of age. The most common age was 26. Males ranged from 19 to 78 years; the most common age was 24.**
- **8% of the females released were African American, 15% were Hispanic and 77% were Caucasian. Of the male releases, 21% were African American, 38% were Hispanic and 41% were Caucasian.**
- **The breakdown of security level at time of release was as follows: Medium/Maximum 44%, Minimum/PRC 13%, Community Reentry Unit (CRU) 13%, WMCAC 20% and Day Reporting 10%.**

- **The 2014 release cohort included 87 DOC reentry inmates (7 females, 80 males) and 45 Bureau of Prison inmates (2 females, 43 males). 93% were released from lower security.**
- **69% (1255) of those released served time for a nonviolent offense (property, drugs, MV, prostitution, other), 27% (495) for a violent offense (crime against a person, domestic violence, sex offense, firearms), and 4% (65) for violation of parole or probation.**
- **26% served a sentence of 90 days or less, 30% between 90 and 180 days, 13% between 180 and 364 days, and 31% a year or more.**
- **163 individuals served sentences part or all of which were mandatory. These mandatory sentences accrued 47,196 bed-days, over 19,000 for MV offenses, 16,000 for firearms and 11,000 for drugs.**
- **41% of those released were from Springfield, 9% from Holyoke, 7% from Chicopee, 14% from other Hampden County towns, 23% from other counties and 3% from out of state. 6 individuals provided no address at booking. Worcester County women now account for 34% of female releases.**

SECTION ONE

2014 RELEASES

ONE-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES

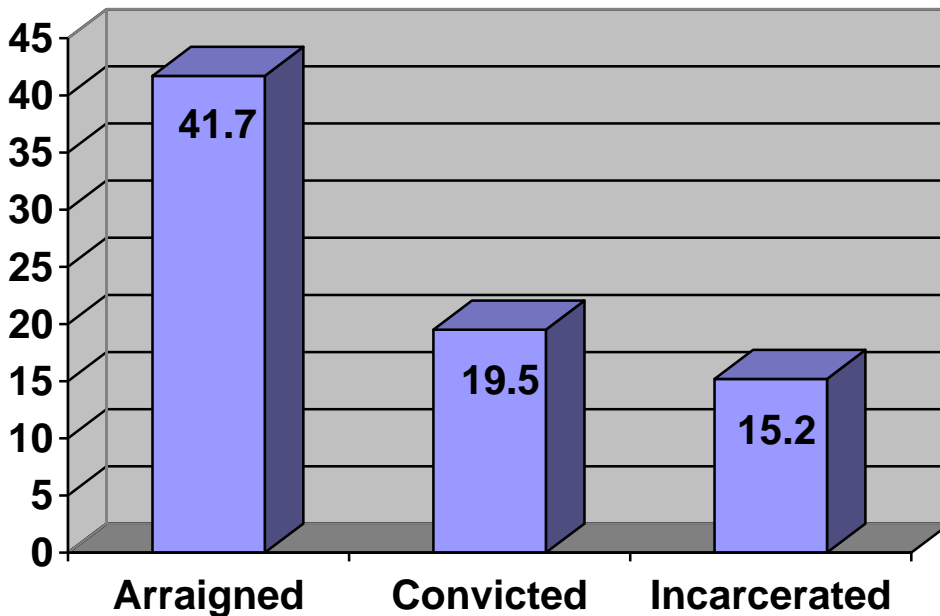
**SECTION I
ONE-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES
2014 RELEASES**

Recidivism Type (% of Total Releases)

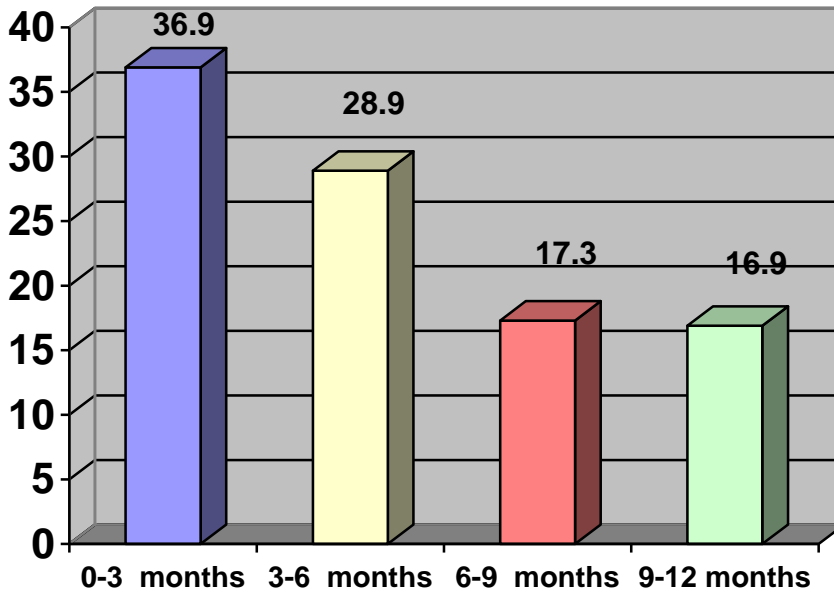
	Females		Males		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
New Offense						
Arraignment	187	42.6	571	41.5	758	41.7
Conviction	91	20.7	263	19.1	354	19.5
Incarceration	46	10.5	178	12.9	224	12.3
Technical Violation	20	4.6	33	2.4	53	2.9

The incarceration rate for a new offense decreased from 14.3% to 12.3%. An additional 2.9% returned for a technical violation of parole or probation. The total reincarceration rate of 15.2 is down over 3 percentage points from the previous year.

One-Year Recidivism Rates



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



37% of new arraignments continue to occur within 90 days of release, and 66% within 180 days of release. Mean time to recidivate was 146 days.

Other Activity	Females		Males	
	N	%	N	%
Open Cases-New	64	14.6	218	15.8
Open Cases-Existing	118	26.9	408	29.6
Open Warrants	45	10.3	88	6.4
New Restraining Order	38	8.7	185	13.4

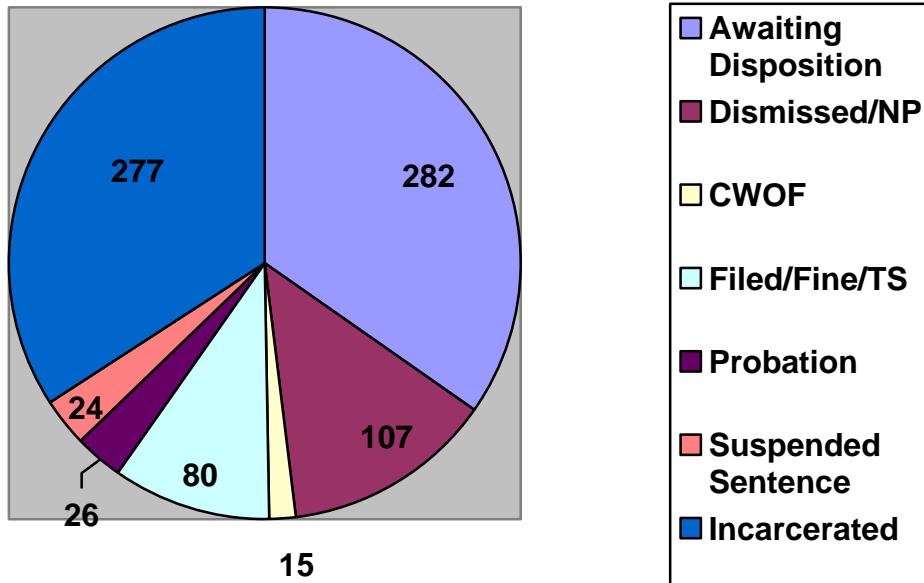
Most existing cases remain open for a period of probation supervision.

Disposition of New Cases

	Females N	Males N
Awaiting Disposition	64	218
Dismissed	26	49
Nol Pros	3	29
Continued W/O Finding	3	12
Fined/Filed	27	53
Probation	7	19
Suspended Sentence	11	13
Committed	66	211

282 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	28	13.5	75	12.4
Domestic	7	3.4	51	8.4
Sex Offense	0	0.0	11	1.8
Firearms	0	0.0	9	1.5
Total Violent Offenses	35	16.9	146	24.1
Property	71	34.3	161	26.7
Drugs	22	10.6	109	18.1
MV	23	11.1	145	24.0
Prostitution	26	12.6	0	0.0
Other	10	4.8	10	1.7
Total Nonviolent Offense	152	73.4	425	70.5
Parole Violation	14	6.8	25	4.1
Probation Violation	6	2.9	8	1.3
Total Tech. Violations	20	9.7	33	5.4

<u>Original Offense Type</u>	<u>New Offense Type</u>			
	Violent		Nonviolent	
	N	%	N	%
Violent	90	39.6	137	60.4
Nonviolent	91	15.6	493	84.4

90 violent offenders (71 men and 19 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, 19 from the Community Re-entry Unit, 13 from WMCAC, 6 from MIN/PRC.

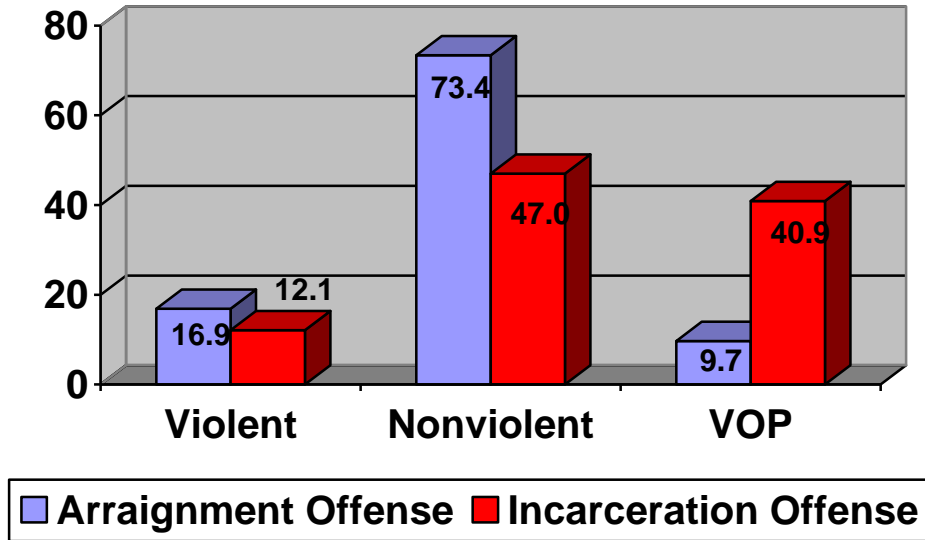
New Incarceration Offense (% of New Incarcerations)

	Females		Males	
	N	%	N	%
Person	6	9.1	27	12.8
Domestic	2	3.0	11	5.2
Sex Offense	0	0.0	3	1.4
Firearms	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total Violent Offenses	8	12.1	41	19.4
Property	14	21.2	72	34.1
Drugs	4	6.1	27	12.8
MV	1	1.5	18	8.5
Prostitution	12	18.2	0	0.0
Total Nonviolent Offense	31	47.0	117	55.4
Parole Violation	15	22.7	35	16.6
Probation Violation	12	18.2	18	8.5
Total Violations	27	40.9	53	25.1

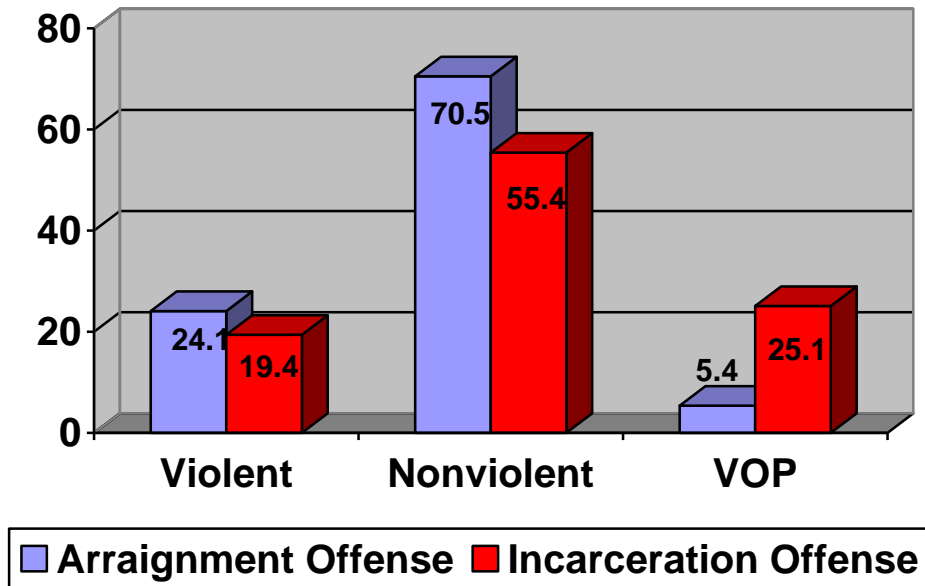
The first offense for which an individual is arraigned is often not what leads to a new incarceration, instead, a new arraignment often leads to violation of probation or parole. This is particularly true of nonviolent offenses, which account for 71% of new arraignments, but only 55% of incarcerations.

25% of men and 41% of women are re-incarcerated for violating parole or probation.

Arrestment & Incarceration Offenses Females



Arrestment & Incarceration Offenses Males



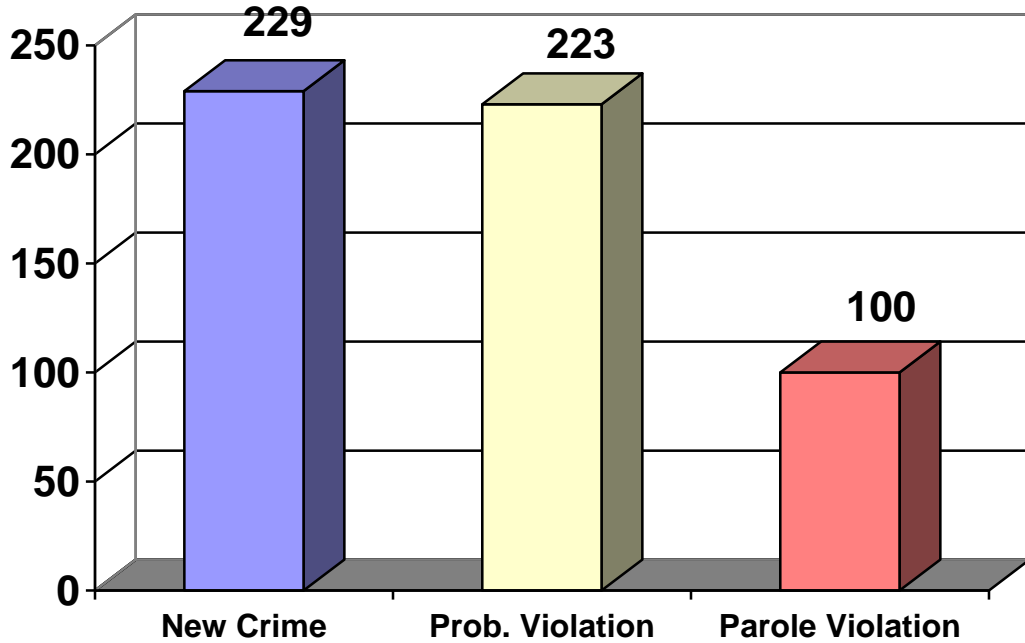
New Sentence (Days)

	<u>New Offense</u>	<u>Probation Technical</u>	<u>Parole Technical</u>	<u>All</u>
Mean	229	223	100	205
Median	180	221	83	180
Minimum	2	21	5	2
Maximum	2921	540	244	2921

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.

Because parolees receive credit for time on the street, the amount of time they must serve after revocation is much shorter than for probationers. Median sentence for a technical violation of probation was 221 days. The parole median decreased from 91 to 83 days.

Mean New Sentence in Days

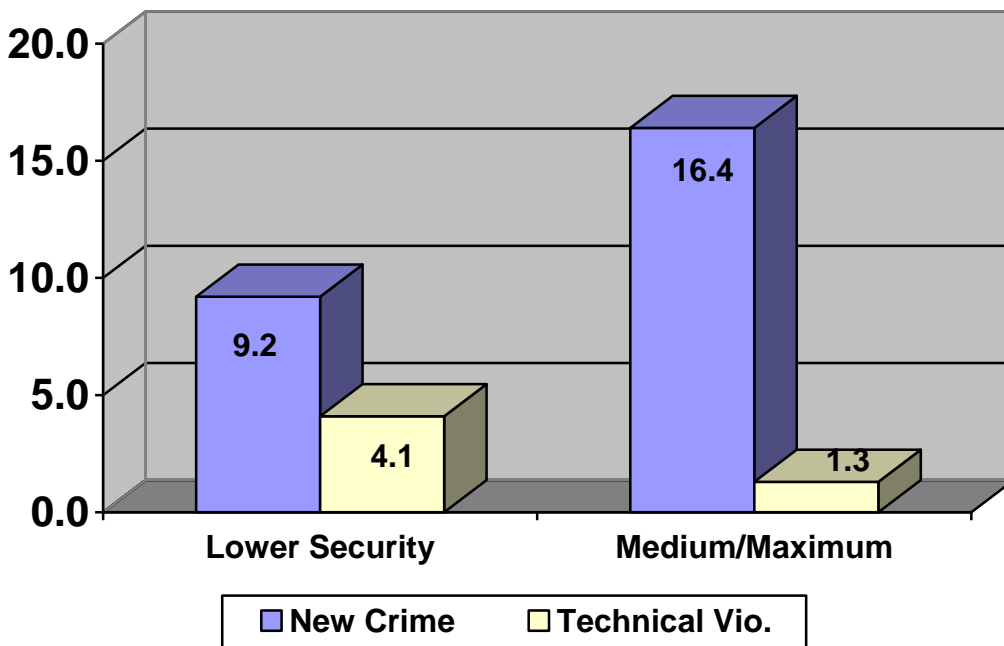


Incarceration Rates by Security Level at Release & Type of Return

	Technical		New Offense		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Day Reporting (187)	6	3.2	17	9.1	23	12.3
Minimum (129)	12	9.3	9	7.0	21	16.3
Pre/Work Release (99)	0	0.0	4	4.0	4	4.0
CRU (223)	2	0.8	36	15.4	38	16.2
WMCAC (358)	21	5.9	27	7.5	48	13.4
Lower Security Total	41	4.1	93	9.2	134	13.3
Medium Gen Pop (382)	10	2.6	52	13.6	62	16.2
Medium-Reentry (364)	0	0.0	67	18.4	67	18.4
Maximum (46)	0	0.0	11	23.9	11	23.9
Medium/Maximum	10	1.3	130	16.4	140	17.7

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

Incarceration Rates by Security Level

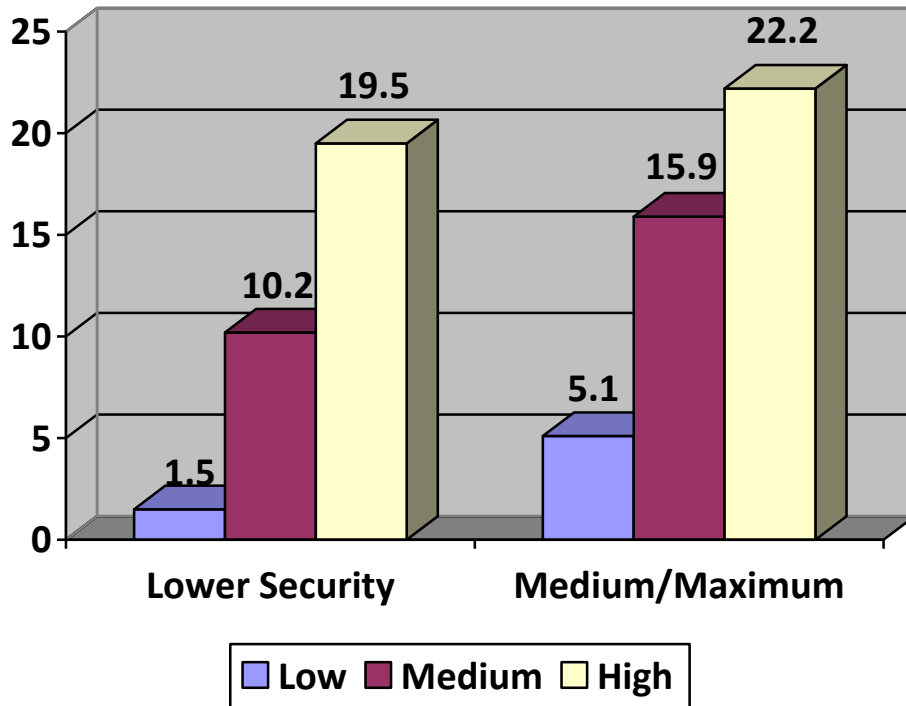


Incarceration Rates by Risk and Security Level

	Lower Security		Medium/Maximum	
	N	%	N	%
Low Risk	1	1.5	2	5.1
Medium Risk	54	10.2	64	15.9
High Risk	78	19.5	76	22.2

Offenders of all risk levels recidivate at lower rates when released from a lower security setting.

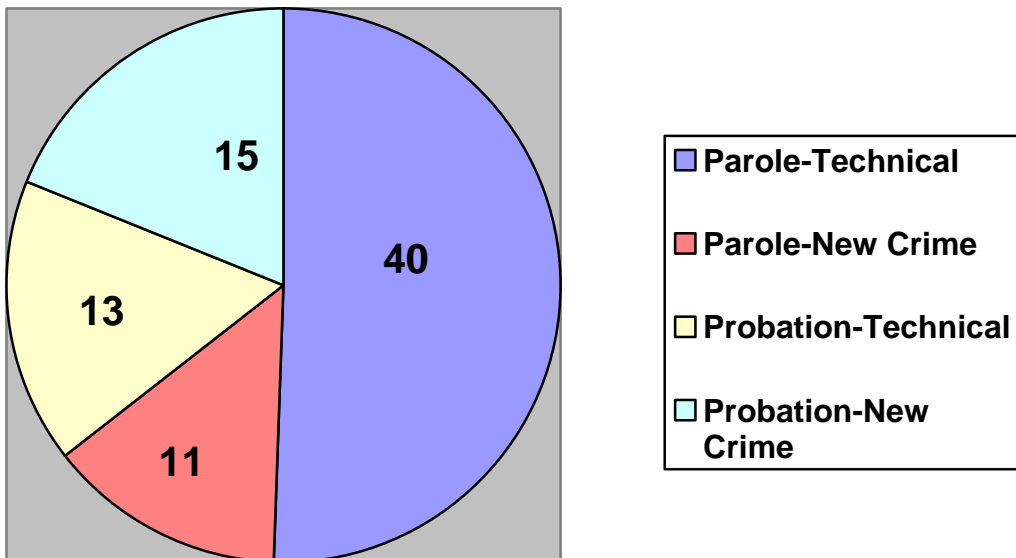
Incarceration Rates by Risk Level



Violations of Release Conditions

	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Total</u>
Parole Violation-Technical	14	26	40
Parole Violation-New Offense	1	10	11
Probation Violation-Technical	6	7	13
Probation Violation-New Offense	6	9	15

Violations of Release Conditions



Reasons for Parole Violation	N
Crime on Parole	11
Drug or Alcohol Use	21
Program Failure	23
Failure to Report	3
Whereabouts Unknown*	6
Irresponsible Conduct	6
Associate with Known Felons	11
Failure to Find or Maintain Employment	6
Other	183

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	26
Foundation House	8
Crozier House	1
Gandara Residential	3
Hairston House	1
Keenan House	1
Opportunity House	2
Oxford House	1
Salvation Army-Worcester	3
Soldier On	2
Watershed Program	2
Wright House	2

Special Reentry Populations

DOC Reentry Class at Release

	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>
Day Reporting	2	15
Minimum	4	5
Pre/Work Release	0	35
CRU	0	14
WMCAC	1	6
Medium	0	5
TOTAL	<u>7</u>	<u>80</u>

DOC Recidivism

	<u>Females</u>		<u>Males</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
New Offense						
Arrestment	3	42.9	17	21.3	20	23.0
Conviction	1	14.3	5	6.3	6	7.0
Incarceration	0	0.0	1	1.3	1	1.1
Technical Violations	None					

Disposition of New Cases

Open-Awaiting Disposition	9
Dismissed/NoI Pros	4
CWOF	1
Guilty-Filed	3
Probation	1
Suspended Sentence	1
Committed	1

Bureau of Prisons Class at Release

	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>
Day Reporting	1	11
Minimum	1	3
Pre/Work Release	0	23
CRU	0	1
WMCAC	0	1
Medium	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL	2	43

Five males were arraigned for a new crime. The cases were dismissed.

**SECTION II
THREE-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES
2012 RELEASES**

**THREE-YEAR RECIDIVISM ANALYSES
2012 RELEASES**

2012 Recidivism Rates	Females		Males		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
New Offense						
Arrestment	238	58.5	966	62.0	1204	61.2
Conviction	176	43.2	665	42.7	841	42.8
Incarceration	96	23.6	450	28.9	546	27.8
Technical Violation	22	5.4	91	5.8	113	5.7

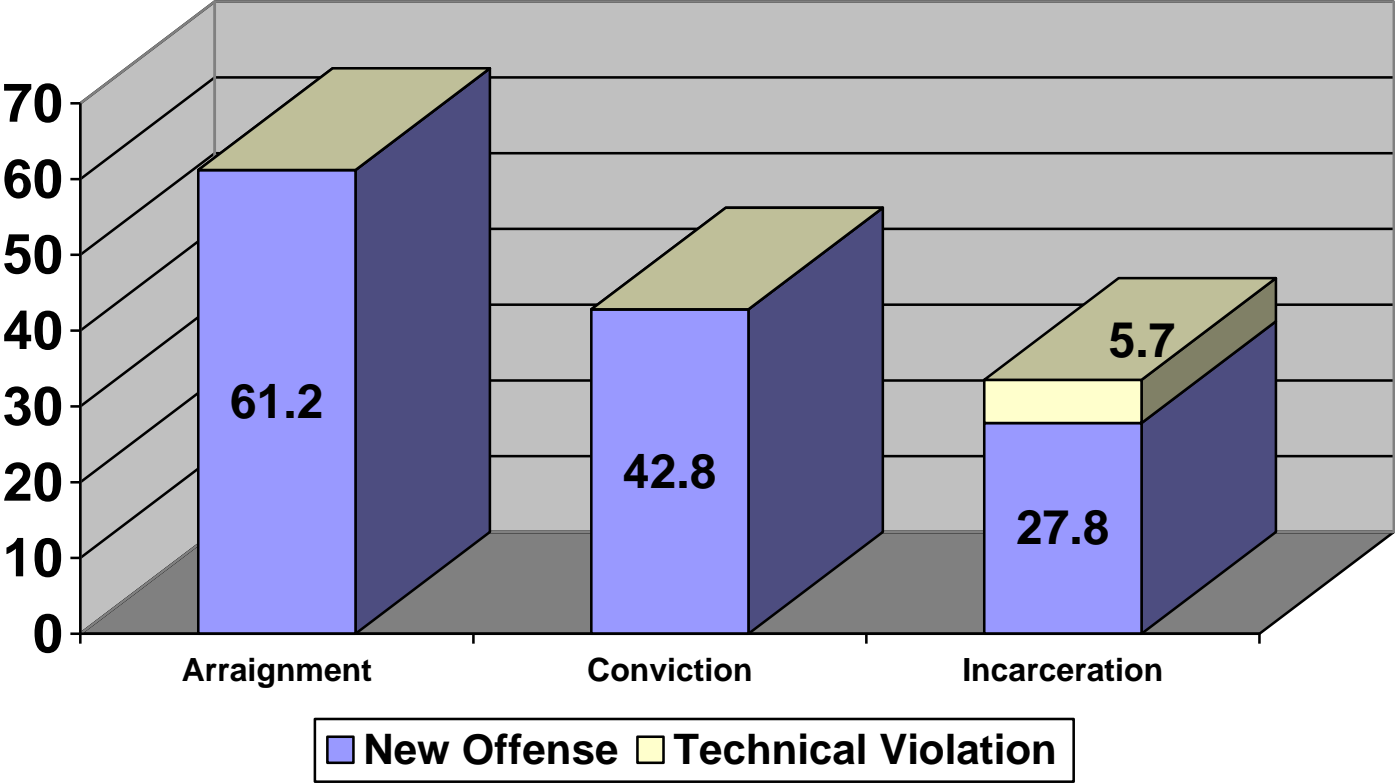
By the end of the third year post-release, 27.8% of offenders had been reincarcerated for a new offense, down significantly from the previous year. The 5.7% technical violation rate is up from the previous year. The total reincarceration rate was 33.5%.

Time to New Arrestment (% of Arrestments & Violation Hearings)

First Year	N	%	Second Year	N	%	Third Year	N	%
0-3 months	313	23.8	12-15 months	79	6.0	24-27 months	43	3.2
3-6 months	265	20.1	15-18 months	81	6.2	27-30 months	41	3.2
6-9 months	183	13.9	18-21 months	71	5.4	30-33 months	18	1.3
9-12 months	<u>135</u>	<u>10.2</u>	21-24 months	<u>58</u>	<u>4.4</u>	33-36 months	<u>30</u>	<u>2.3</u>
Year Totals	896	68.0		289	22.0		132	10.0

68% of new arrestments occur in the first year post release, another 22% in the second year and 10% in the third year.

2012 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	215	37	17.2	19	8.8	9	4.2	65	30.2
Minimum/PRC	236	45	19.1	13	5.5	8	3.4	66	28.0
Community Reentry Unit	351	65	18.5	40	11.4	32	9.1	137	39.0
Medium/Maximum	788	153	19.4	86	10.9	41	5.2	280	35.5
WMCAC	376	65	17.3	29	7.7	17	4.5	111	29.5

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	215	41	19.1	24	11.1
Minimum/PRC	236	48	20.3	18	7.7
Community Reentry Unit	351	126	35.9	11	3.1
Medium/Maximum	788	249	31.6	31	3.9
WMCAC	376	82	21.8	29	7.7

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=1706)		
Technical Violation of Probation	34	2.0
Technical Violation of Lifetime Supervision	5	0.3
New Offense	510	29.9
Total	549	32.2
Paroled (N=206)		
Technical Violation of Parole	70	26.9
Technical Violation of Probation	3	1.2
New Offense on Parole	7	2.7
Technical Violation of Lifetime Supervision	1	0.3
New Offense after Parole	29	11.2
Total	110	42.3

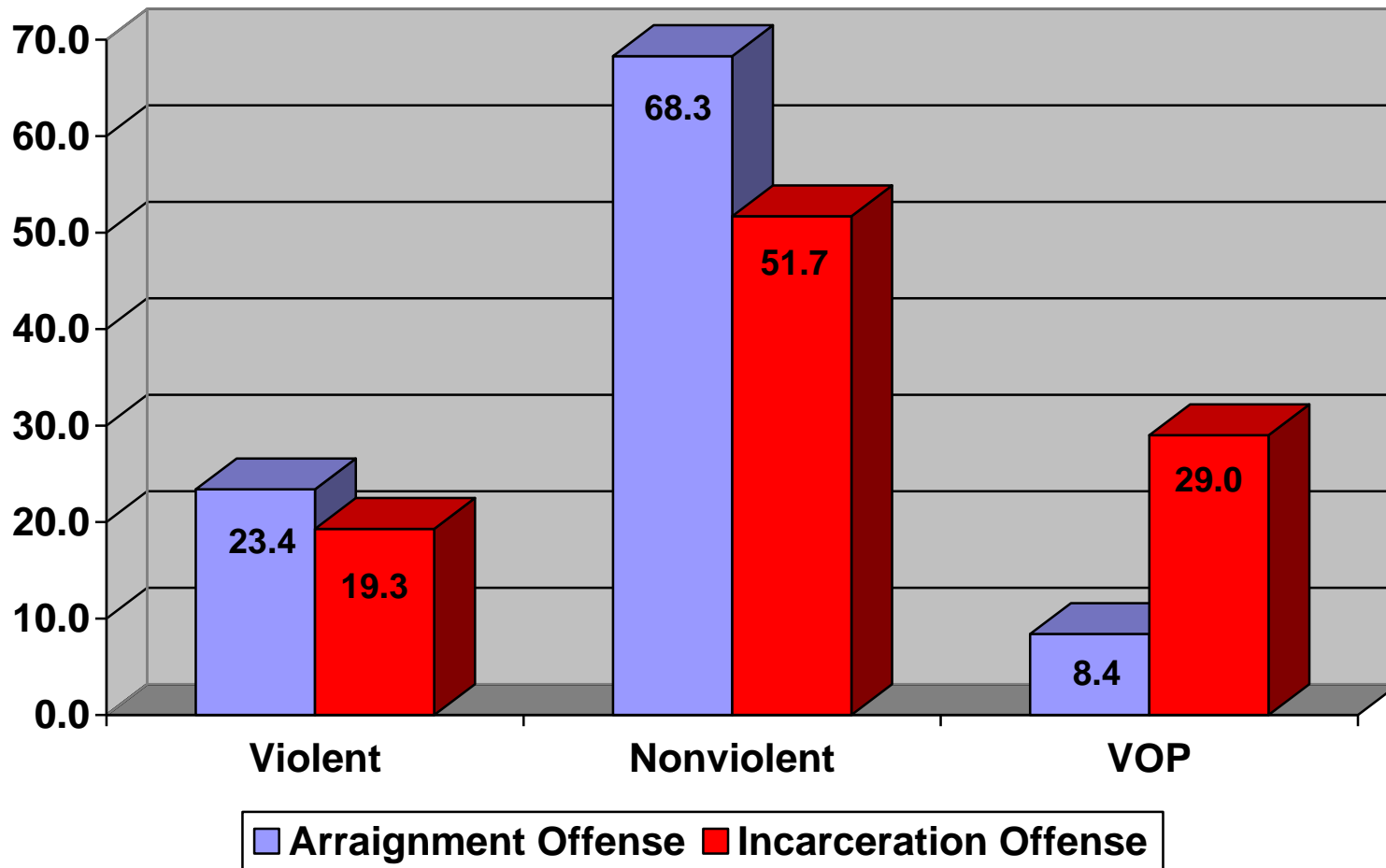
Although their reincarceration rate is 10 points higher, only 14% of parolees committed a new offense compared to 30% of those who wrapped up their sentence.

New Arraignment Offense	Females		Males		Totals	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Person	30	11.5	198	18.7		
Domestic	4	1.5	42	4.0		
Sex Offense	0	0.0	16	1.5		
Firearms	1	0.4	17	1.6		
Total Violent Offenses	35	13.4	273	25.8	308	23.4
Property	87	33.5	261	24.7		
Drugs	42	16.2	174	16.5		
Motor Vehicle	35	13.5	239	22.6		
Prostitution	25	9.6	2	0.2		
Others	15	5.8	19	1.8		
Total Nonviolent Offenses	204	78.6	695	65.8	899	68.3
Parole Violation-Technical	14	5.4	62	5.9		
Probation Violation-Technical	7	2.7	27	2.6		
Total Technical Violations	21	8.1	89	8.5	110	8.4

New Incarceration Offense	Females		Males		Totals	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Person	5	4.2	87	16.1		
Domestic	2	1.7	19	3.5		
Sex Offense	0	0.0	3	0.6		
Firearms	1	0.8	10	1.8		
Total Violent Offenses	8	6.7	119	22.0	127	19.3
Property	31	26.3	146	27.0		
Drugs	18	15.3	90	16.6		
Motor Vehicle	11	9.3	33	6.1		
Prostitution	11	9.3	0	0.0		
Others	0	0.0	1	0.2		
Total Nonviolent Offenses	71	60.2	270	49.9	341	51.7
Parole Violation	16	13.6	68	12.6		
Probation Violation	23	19.5	84	15.5		
Violations of Release Conditions	39	33.1	152	28.1	191	29.0

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-eight percent of new arraignments were for nonviolent offenses, but only 52% of new incarcerations. Violations represent only 8% of arraignments, but 29% of incarcerations.

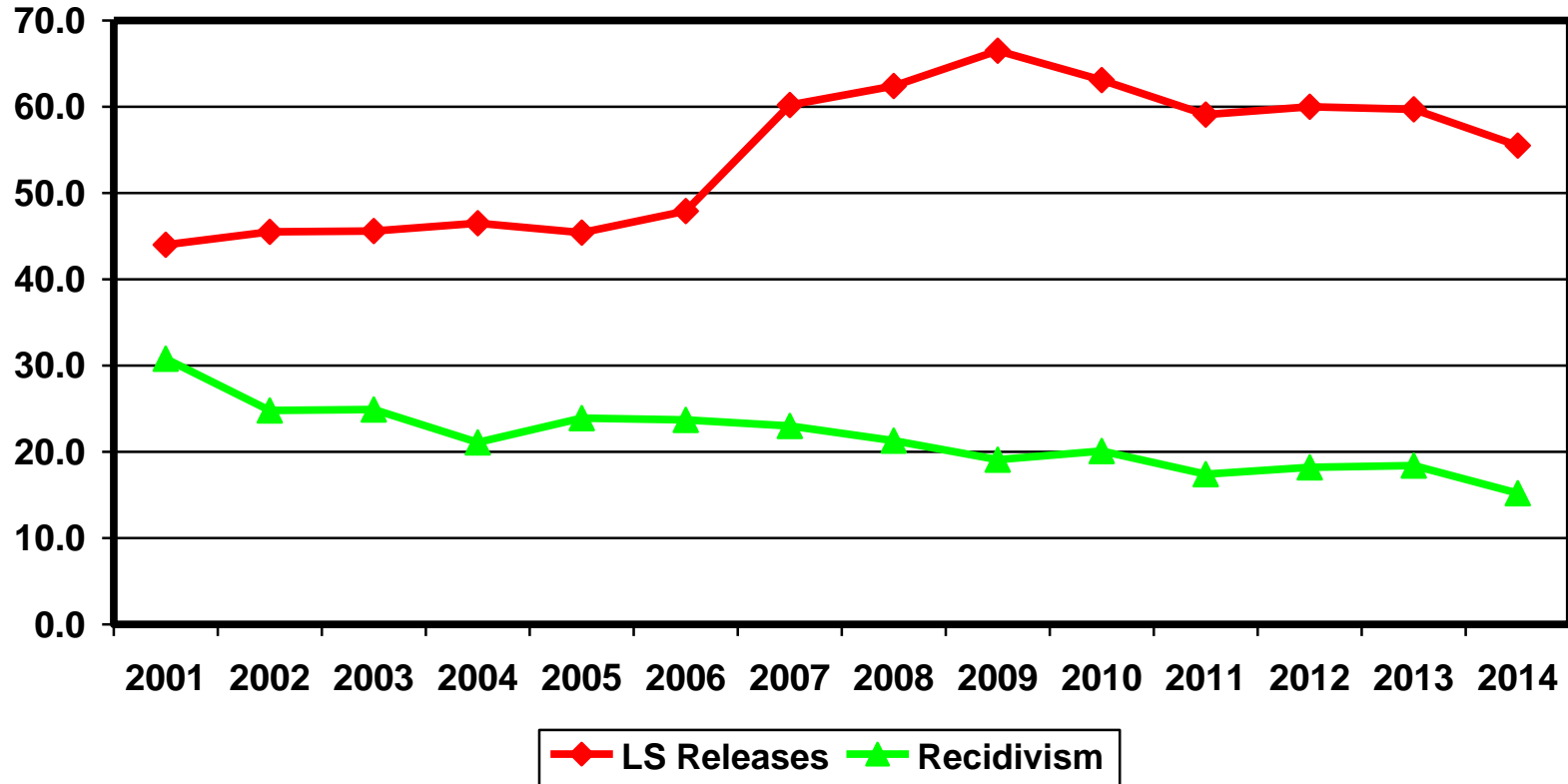
Arrestment & Incarceration Offenses



RECIDIVISM SUMMARY

2001 - 2014

Lower Security Releases & One-Year Reincarceration Rates



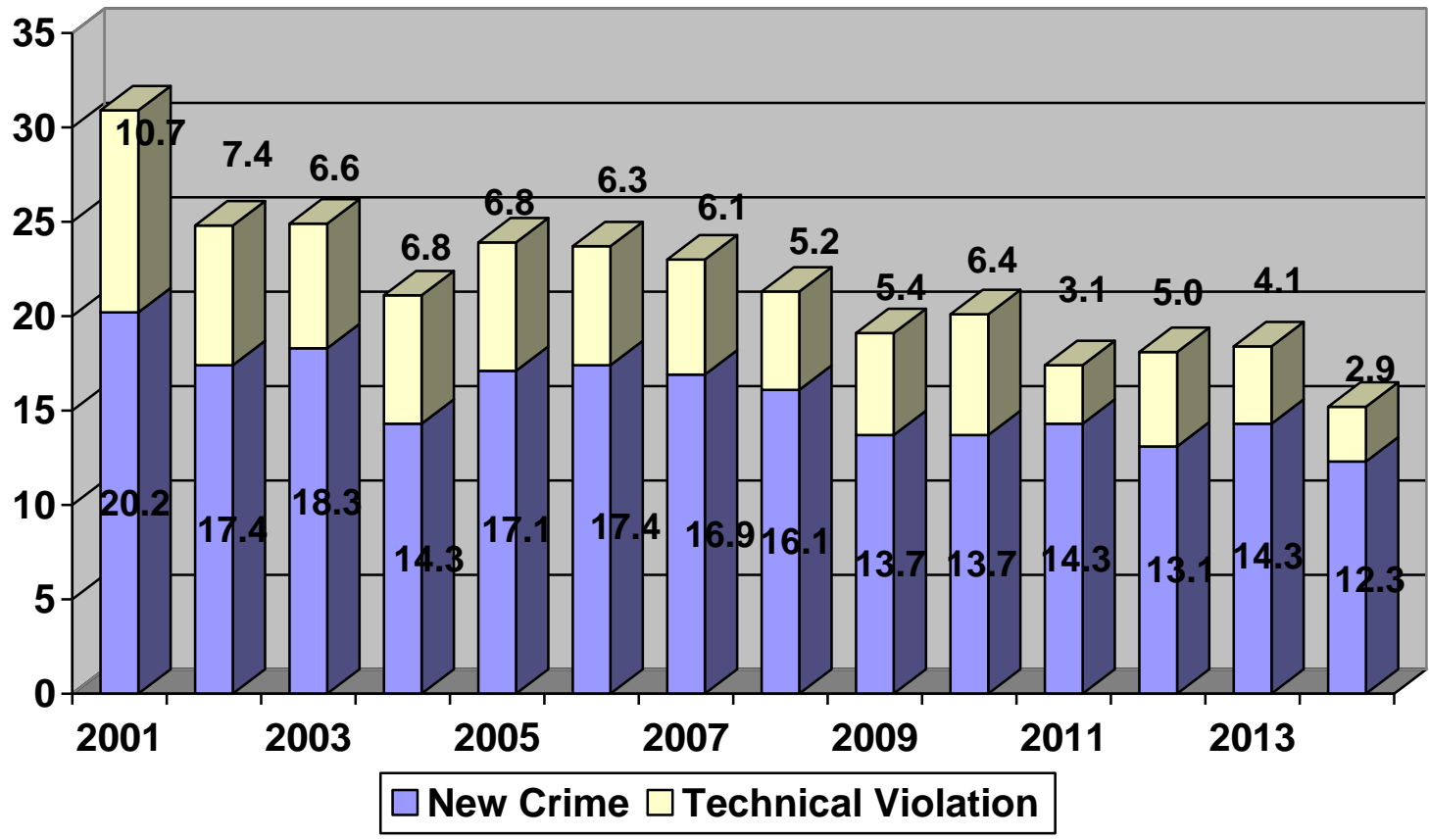
ONE-YEAR RE-INCARCERATION RATES

YEAR	Number Released	New 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%
2014	1816	2.3	2.9	15.2%

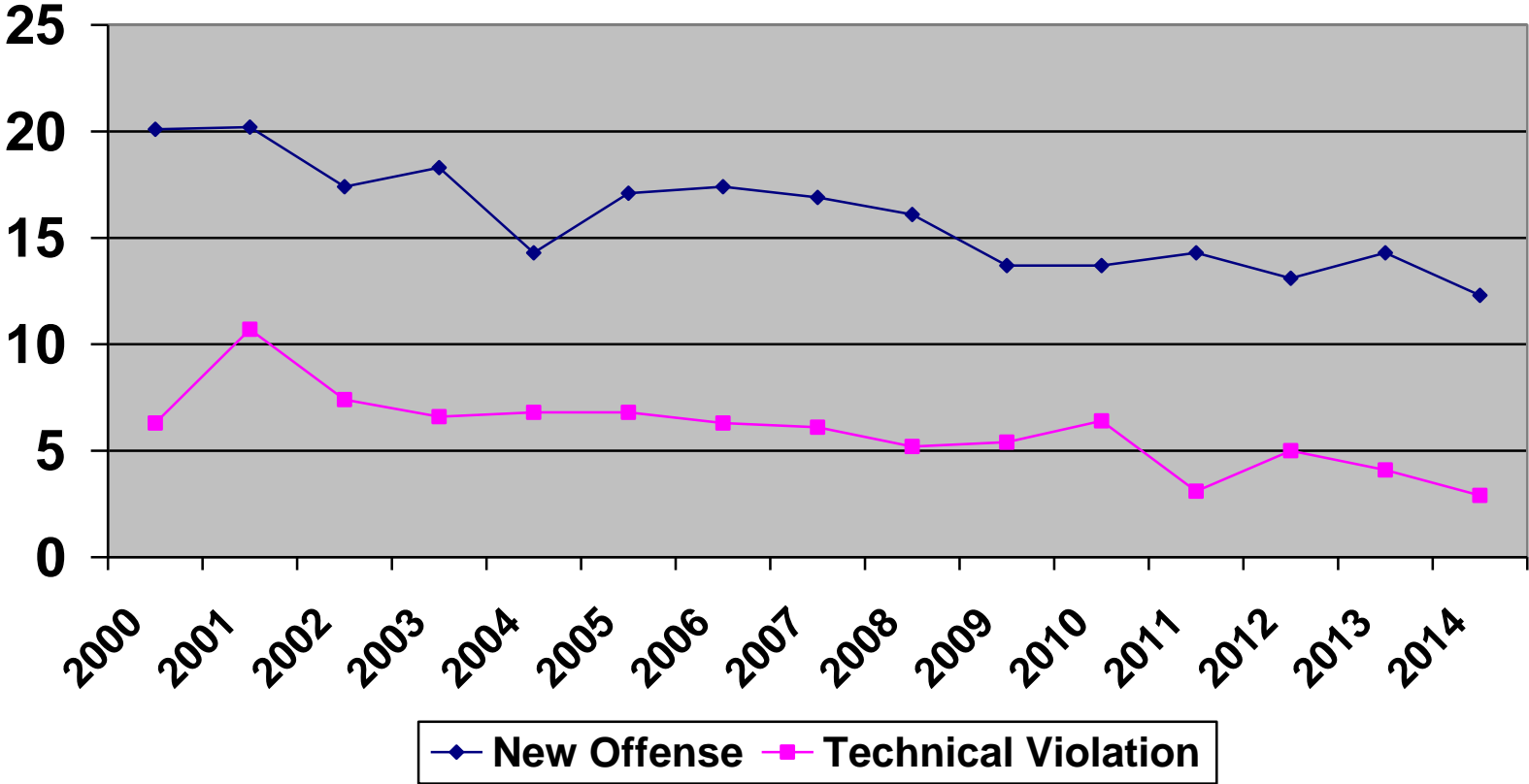
THREE-YEAR RE-INCARCERATION RATES

YEAR	New Offense	Technical Violation	TOTAL
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%
2012	27.8	5.7	33.5%

One-Year Re-incarceration Rates 2001-2014



One-Year New Offense & Technical Violation Rates



Three-Year Recidivism Rates

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
New Offense									
Arraigned	63.3	62.6	62.7	62.9	60.5	61.8	59.7	62.6	61.2
Convicted	47.0	48.1	47.8	46.4	45.3	44.8	42.8	43.8	42.8
Incarcerated	37.1	38.4	36.8	34.1	33.0	31.7	31.8	32.3	27.8
Tech Violation	7.2	7.3	8.4	6.9	6.8	7.4	8.9	4.2	5.7

Recidivism rates for new crimes are at the lowest since tracking began in 1998. Three years after release, ***nearly 40% of 2012 releases remained crime-free***, and ***72% had not been re-incarcerated for a new crime***. Technical violations, mostly of parole, although up somewhat, remain at the lowest rate since 1998.

Three-Year Recidivism Rates 2004-2012

