

# State of New Jersey

# Department of Corrections State Parole Board Jubenile Justice Commission

**RELEASE OUTCOME 2013** 

A THREE-YEAR FOLLOW-UP

CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

KIM GUADAGNO

Lt. Governor

GARY M. LANIGAN

Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Corrections

JAMES T. PLOUSIS

Chairman New Jersey State Parole Board

KEVIN M. BROWN

Executive Director
New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	3
TOTAL (O ) ( DAD OA) (II)	
REPORT HIGHLIGHTS	5
INTRODUCTION	8
AGENCY MISSION STATEMENTS	9
TIGET WINDSTOTT DITTE VIEW	
METHODOLOGY	11
METHODOLOGI	11
RESULTS: New Jersey Department of Corrections and State Parole Board	14
2013 Release Cohort Characteristics	
2013 Release Cohort Recidivism	
Cumulative Rearrest Percentages by Monthly Interval	
Seven-year Comparison of Recidivism Percentages	
Index Incarceration Offense for 2013 Release Cohort	
Breakdown of Original Booking Offense for Community Supervision Violators	
Reincarceration Rates and Readmission Offenses Grouped by Admission Offense for 2013	
Factors Associated with Rearrest	
Logistic Regression Analysis Predicting Rearrest	
Reentry Programming Analyses	21
RCRP Releases	
Drug Treatment Programming	
Education Programming	
RESULTS: Juvenile Justice Commission	27
Overall Recidivism Rates for Youth Released from JJC Custody in 2013	
Recent Trends in Juvenile Recidivism, 2010 to 2013	
Average Time to Recidivate in Days, 2010 to 2013	
Re-Arrest Rates for Departures from Secure Care vs. Residential Placement	
Rehabilitation and Reentry Programming Analyses	
CONCLUSION	33
APPENDICES	37
ENDNOTES	39

# Acknowledgements

# **New Jersey Department of Corrections**

Gary M. Lanigan *Commissioner* 

Judith Lang Chief of Staff

Jennifer Malinowski, Esq. Director, Office of Policy & Planning

Kristen M. Zgoba, Ph.D. Supervising Research Scientist I

Sabrina Haugebrook, MPA, MS Research Scientist II

Laura M. Salerno, Ph.D. *Research Scientist II* 

Jerry D. Harris, Jr. *DP Programmer 1* 

# **New Jersey State Parole Board**

James T. Plousis *Chairman* 

Samuel J. Plumeri, Jr. *Vice Chairman* 

David W. Thomas *Executive Director* 

Deborah Mohammed-Spigner, Ph.D. *Research Scientist II* 

# **New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission**

Kevin M. Brown *Executive Director* 

Jennifer LeBaron, Ph.D.

Deputy Executive Director of Policy, Research & Planning

Robert Montalbano
Deputy Executive Director of Programs

Felix Mickens

Deputy Executive Director of Operations

Patti Mattson
Manager, Research & Evaluation

John E. Vanloan *Administrative Analyst III* 

**New Jersey Office of Information Technology** Jessica Costanzo *OIT Information Architect* 

#### REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

#### OVERALL ADULT RECIDIVISM FINDINGS

- In 2013, the State of New Jersey Department of Corrections (DOC) had lower adult recidivism rates from 2012 for rearrest post-release (i.e., 52.3%), reconviction post-release (38.2%) and reincarceration post-release (29.8%).
- Approximately 70% of adult inmates released in 2013 did not return to prison within the three-year follow-up period of analysis utilized in this report.
- The adult cohort was composed of 9,669 released inmates: 5,785 supervised releases (59.8%) and 3,884 (40.1%) unsupervised offenders.
- The mean time served for the adult cohort was 841.8 days.
- For the index incarceration offense, a drug offense (25.6%) was the most common for adult inmates followed by a violent offense (22.4%).
- The offender's release type (i.e., supervised vs. unsupervised) was a significant predictor of whether the offender was rearrested. Unsupervised releases were rearrested and reconvicted more frequently, while supervised releases were reincarcerated more frequently.

#### REHABILITATION AND REENTRY PROGRAMMING ANALYSES

- Recidivism on three measures of follow-up (reconviction, reincarceration, and reincarceration for a community supervision violation) was lower for inmates who completed RCRPs and released in 2013 compared to those who did not complete a RCRP.
- Rearrests, reconvictions, reincarcerations, and reincarcerations for a community supervision violation were lower for RCRP work program completers than those who did not complete a work release RCRP program.
- The employment rate post-release was higher for inmates who were released from a work house vs. not released from a work house (50.5% vs. 42.9%).
- Reconvictions, reincarcerations, and reincarcerations for a community supervision violation were statistically lower for inmates who completed a drug treatment program in 2013, compared to those who did not.
- Differences in the employment rates post-release were found between vocational education participants and non-participants. Vocational education participants were also more likely to be employed at any time within three years of release compared with non-participants.
- There were 398 inmates released in 2013 who participated in mandatory education programming. Mean scores on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) test for this sample increased by nearly two grades from the first to the last test taken.
- Inmates within the mandatory education group had a 93% pass rate on the High School Equivalency (HSE) exam.

#### **OVERALL JUVENILE FINDINGS**

• In 2013, the Juvenile Justice Commission recidivism rate for all three measures of recidivism continued the downward trend. New court filings decreased by 7.2 percentage points from 2010; new adjudications/convictions decreased by 4.0 percentage points; and new juvenile commitments decreased by 6.7 percentage points.

• Approximately 69.8% of juvenile offenders did not return to a juvenile or adult State facility within three years of release from custody.

#### YOUTH CHARACTERISTICS OF 2013 RELEASE COHORT

- The juvenile cohort was comprised of 450 releases.
- The average age at release from the JJC was 18.1 years.
- The cohort was comprised of 69.1% Black, 20.7% Hispanic, 10.0% White, and 0.2% Asian youth, or 90.0% minority.
- Males comprised 94.9% of the juvenile release cohort and females comprised 5.1%.
- The average time served in custody for the juvenile cohort was 349 days.
- The majority of youth served sentences for persons offenses (44.4%), followed by violations of probation (VOP) (23.8%), property offenses (11.1%), drug offenses (9.1%), weapons offenses (7.6%) and public order offenses (4.0%).

#### TOTAL JUVENILE COHORT RECIDIVISM CHARACTERISTICS

- 78.7% of the cohort had a new court filing/arrest.
- 67.3% of the cohort had a new adjudication/conviction.
- 30.2% of the cohort had a new commitment.
- The average time to re-offend for a new court filing/arrest was 277 days.
- The average time to re-offend for a new adjudication/conviction was 288 days.
- The average time to re-offend for a new commitment to a State facility was 308 days.

#### DIFFERENCES IN RECIDIVISM (REARREST) ACROSS KEY VARIABLES

- Males were more likely to recidivate (80.3% males vs. 52.2% of females).
- Recidivating youth had accumulated a greater number of total adjudications of delinquency in their history than non-recidivists (6.9 vs. 4.5).
- Recidivating and non-recidivating youth had roughly equivalent composite scores (83.2 vs. 83.7) on the Kaufman Brief Intelligence Test (indicating level of functional intelligence).
- Recidivating youth had a higher score on the JJC's Initial Classification & Custody Document than non-recidivists (13.0 vs. 11.5).
- Recidivating youth were found to have higher levels of substance abuse need than non-recidivists, based on the JJC's Comprehensive Information Assessment (CIA) (4.3 vs. 3.4).
- Regarding multiple needs, recidivating youth were found to have a higher number of staff assessed areas of need than non-recidivists, based on the JJC's CIA (5.1 vs. 4.8).
- Youth of color were more likely to recidivate than white youth (80.2% vs. 66.7%).
- Youth residing in the 15 most densely populated cities were more likely to recidivate compared with other youth (83.9% vs. 74.0%).
- Youth committed/admitted on drug charges (as their most serious offense) were most likely to recidivate (95.1%), followed by weapons offenses (91.2%), public order offenses (88.9%), property offenses (86.0%), Violations of Probation (81.3%), and persons offenses (69.5%).

• Juveniles committed/admitted on 3<sup>rd</sup> degree offenses (as their most serious offense) were most likely to recidivate (86.3%), followed by 85.7% for 4<sup>th</sup> degree offenses, 81.2% for Violations of Probation, 79.2% for disorderly persons/or petty disorderly persons offense (DP/PDP), 78.0% for 2<sup>nd</sup> degree offenses, and 66.7% for 1<sup>st</sup> degree offenses.

# REHABILITATION AND REENTRY PROGRAMMING ANALYSES

- Youth who had a GED or high school diploma when leaving the JJC in 2013 were less likely to recidivate than those who did not (76.2% vs. 81%).
- Sex offender specific treatment is provided in both the secure and residential environments. The recidivism rate for those in secure care receiving sex offender treatment was 50.0% and 0.0% for those receiving sex offender treatment in a residential setting.
- Intensive substance abuse treatment is provided in both secure and residential environments. The recidivism rate for those receiving most of their intensive substance abuse treatment in secure care was 86.8%, as compared to 78.1% for those receiving the majority of their intensive substance abuse treatment in a residential setting.
- Youth who departed secure settings recidivated 69 days sooner than youth departing residential settings (235 vs. 304 days).
- Juveniles who spent a majority (51% or more) of their time in custody in secure care recidivated sooner than youth who spent a majority of their time in residential placement (250 vs. 302 days).
- Youth participating in a transitional program had a higher recidivism rate (81.0%) than youth who did not participate in a transitional program (78.6%).

#### INTRODUCTION

This report is the result of a legislative mandate instituted by P.L. 2009, c.329, (C.30: 4-91.15). The law enforcement agencies of the New Jersey Department of Corrections (DOC), New Jersey State Parole Board (SPB) and the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) are tasked by the legislature to compile reports that record and examine annual recidivism rates. This report is also the result of a legislative mandate instituted by P.L. 2015, c. 144 (a4008). The DOC, SPB, and JJC are tasked with measuring the effectiveness of the State's reentry initiatives and programs. This report is the seventh in a series of reports that measures overall recidivism levels, describes adult and juvenile cohort characteristics and analyzes recidivism factors. It is the first report that examines reentry programming consistent with P.L. 2015, c. 144 (a4008).

The initial sections of the report provide an introduction and the various agencies' mission statements. Moreover, the report provides an extensive review of the methodology and definitions used in this report as they may significantly differ between agencies. The following sections address recidivism of the total sample, the supervised and unsupervised adults, the adjudicated delinquent juvenile releases, and the characteristics associated with reoffending for the overall sample. Furthermore, the factors associated with recidivism are examined, as are any patterns that have developed. An exploration of reentry programming follows. The final section focuses on the conclusions from the collaborating agencies.

In New Jersey, while our incarceration and crime rates have decreased and are trending downward, we attempt to prepare inmates who transition from behinds bars to law abiding citizens and back to their families. Law enforcement agencies such as the DOC, SPB, and JJC continue to prepare inmates for release from prison.

Within the mission statement of each agency, rehabilitation of these offenders who will return to society is paramount. Each of the three agencies in this report promote offender rehabilitation and provide services that will boost a successful transition back to the community for adult and juvenile offenders. The recidivism outcome report is one tool that measures the effectiveness of New Jersey's reentry initiatives and programs. The success of these agencies is illustrated in our recidivism rates, as less juveniles are returning to juvenile facilities and less adult offenders are returning to prison.

Offenders start preparing for rehabilitation and reentry immediately upon intake into our system. Inmates receive a comprehensive plan based upon their assessment scores at intake. The plan includes the in-prison programs and treatment that will be beneficial to an offender once released from prison. Programs and treatment, such as education, vocational classes, anger management, and substance abuse classes, lead inmates to better understand their behavior and provide them with skills to assist them once they reenter the community.

For this report, the recidivism levels of offenders released in 2013 are analyzed. They are divided into three groupings: unsupervised adult releases (i.e., max outs) from the DOC; adult offenders supervised with the New Jersey State Parole Board; and juveniles released from the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission. For the juvenile analysis, recidivism is defined as a

new offense that would be a crime if perpetrated by an adult, committed by a previously-adjudicated youth who has been released from a program or returned to the community. Although the DOC defines recidivism in terms of reincarceration only, for the purposes of this report, the analysis is expanded to also include data on rearrest, reconviction, or reincarceration for a community supervision violation that occurs during the follow-up period.

The report also analyzes factors related to reentry for those offenders released in 2013, unless otherwise noted. Specifically, analyses related to RCRP participation, drug treatment programming, vocational education and mandatory education are completed.

#### AGENCY MISSION STATEMENTS

#### **New Jersey Department of Corrections**

The mission of the New Jersey Department of Corrections is to protect the public by operating safe, secure and humane correctional facilities. The mission is realized through effective supervision, proper classification, appropriate treatment of offenders, and by providing services that promote successful re-entry into society. According to the 2018 budget, the department is responsible for managing nearly \$1 billion and employing approximately 8,000 persons, including more than 5,800 in custody positions, to supervise approximately 20,000 offenders. The DOC is responsible for 13 institutions-eight adult male correctional facilities, three youth correctional facilities, one women's correctional institution and a central reception/intake unit. These facilities collectively house inmates in minimum, medium and maximum security levels. In addition, the department contracts with various Residential Community Release Program centers to provide for the transition of minimum security inmates back into the community.

The Department is committed to providing offenders with structured learning experiences, both academic and social, which will enhance their return to the community as productive citizens. The DOC's goal is to provide the offender with the experiences and skills necessary to enter the job market. Comprehensive academic education and career technical training are important elements to a successful transition into society and the workforce. The department also offers an array of institutional and community-based program opportunities for offenders, including community labor assistance, library (lending and law) services and substance abuse treatment. Other specialized services include victim awareness, chaplaincy services, transitional services, Intensive Supervision Program and ombudsman services, which is one of many options available to offenders to seek redress for problems and complaints.

Additionally, the DOC, acting in conjunction with the New Jersey State Parole Board, provides a continuum of treatment services for offenders as they complete their sentences. Public safety is enhanced through the development, coordination, administration and delivery of these institutional and community-based programs and services.

#### **New Jersey State Parole Board**

The New Jersey Parole Act of 1979 places with the New Jersey State Parole Board the authority and responsibility of deciding which inmates of the State's and of the counties' correctional institutions shall be granted release on parole and what the conditions of that release will be. Since 2001, the Board has been charged with the responsibility of overseeing all of the functions, powers and duties of the State's 387 sworn parole officers who supervise and monitor parolees. The Parole Act of 1979 created presumptive parole, meaning that, when an inmate appears before a Board Panel, the assumption, before anything is said or reviewed, is that the inmate has a legitimate expectation of release on his or her parole eligibility date. It is therefore important that the Board make appropriate release decisions based on all relevant information. To assist Board members in this important task, the Board obtains a comprehensive pre-parole package that includes a current psychological evaluation of the inmate as well as a risk and needs assessment tool (the LSI-R) to determine what degree of supervision and what program placement may be appropriate if release is authorized.

The statute provides, as to offenses committed on or after August 19, 1997, that an adult inmate shall be paroled unless he or she has failed to cooperate in his or her own rehabilitation or there is a reasonable expectation that the inmate will violate conditions of parole. This statutory standard implements an important objective of parole---namely, to encourage an inmate to avoid institutional disciplinary infractions and to participate in institutional programs while incarcerated. Once an offender is granted parole release, the Board then has the continuing responsibility of ascertaining and monitoring compliance with the conditions of supervision that have been established by the Board. If the parolee does not comply with the conditions of supervision, the Board has the lawful authority to issue a warrant for the arrest of that parolee. Following an administrative hearing, a Board Panel may either "revoke" the grant of parole and return the parolee to prison, or modify the offender's parole conditions.

The Board is committed to a mission of promoting public safety and fostering rehabilitation of offenders by implementing policies that result in effective parole case management. The Board seeks to accomplish this through the administration of an innovative parole system. The parole system in New Jersey addresses the needs of the community, victims and offenders through responsible decision-making and supervision processes. The implementation of this system results in effective parole case management and serves to attain the important goals of the Board, to increase public safety and decrease recidivism while promoting successful offender reintegration.

#### **New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission**

The New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) is the state agency responsible for providing juvenile rehabilitation and parole services. Established in 1995 by statue, the JJC serves to coordinate services, planning, and policies affecting delinquent youth throughout the

State. From prevention to parole, the JJC is a partner in the entire juvenile justice system, redirecting the lives of young people.

As a partner with communities, the JJC works to identify and address specific issues that face at-risk youth. The JJC awards millions of dollars in state, federal, and private funding each year to communities allowing them to implement programs and services that help at-risk and court-involved youth grow into successful adults. Many youth receive the necessary interventions and rehabilitative assistance in their communities and never enter a JJC facility or program.

For those who require further contact with the juvenile justice system, a comprehensive classification process, which involves in-depth evaluations and assessments, determines each resident's placement in the JJC's continuum of secure-care facilities, residential community homes, and transitional programs. These tools also direct the rehabilitative services each young person receives. Medical needs, education level, mental health diagnosis, substance abuse involvement, suicide risk level, and gang affiliation are also examined and used to guide services. Routine assessments measure progress and direct adjustments to each resident's placement and programming.

The JJC also oversees juvenile parole and reentry services striving to help youth stay on track after they return home. Each juvenile leaves the JJC with a structured reentry plan that includes a monitoring schedule, required services, and goals. JJC Parole Officers document each parolee's success with these plans and help each youth reconnect with their community through education, work, and mentoring.

The JJC has additional significant responsibilities which include: partnering with counties in implementing juvenile justice reforms designed to improve outcomes for young people and communities; coordinating through County Youth Services Commissions the planning and expansion of local services and interventions; establishing standards for county detention facilities and monitoring compliance; overseeing the implementation of education programs in county detention facilities; and, in partnership with the Governor's Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Committee, monitoring compliance with the core requirements of the federal JJDP Act.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

#### **Adult Sample: Department of Corrections**

#### Recidivism Analyses

This portion of the report examines subsequent criminal activity of adult offenders released from the completion of a maximum sentence with the DOC (n=3,884) or released to supervision by the SPB or the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Intensive Supervision Program (n=5,785) in 2013; this resulted in the review of criminal activity for a total sample of 9,669 adults. This study also later examines the release of juveniles (n=450) from the Juvenile Justice Commission in 2013. The subjects were thus placed into one of

the following three categories: the unsupervised cohort (DOC), the supervised cohort (SPB) and the juvenile cohort (JJC).

The adults who are excluded from this study are offenders who were arrested outside of New Jersey, offenders without a State Bureau of Identification (SBI) number, offenders who were deceased, and offenders who were released to other agencies (e.g., released to a law enforcement agency in another state, released to a federal law enforcement agency).

The DOC provides data on all three levels of criminal activity (i.e., rearrest, reconviction, and reincarceration), as well as violations of community supervision:

- 1. Rearrest: Defined as a rearrest on felony charges within the three-year follow-up (i.e., 1095 days) regardless of outcome. This count includes violations for releases placed on parole or other forms of supervision (e.g., Intensive Supervision Program). The rearrest date is tracked for a review of time to failure.
- 2. Reconviction: Defined as a felony reconviction within the three-year follow-up (i.e., 1095 days). This count is collected regardless of whether or not the offender went on to be readmitted to the DOC.
- 3. Reincarceration: Defined as a DOC readmission for a felony conviction within the three-year follow-up period (i.e., 1095 days). This count also includes inmates released to community supervision who are reincarcerated for a new offense only.
- 4. Reincarceration for a community supervision violation: Defined as a DOC readmission for a community supervised offender who returns to a DOC facility within the three-year follow-up for a violation of supervision (e.g., dirty urine, curfew infraction). A community supervised offender with both a supervision violation and an arrest for a new crime is classified under the "rearrest" category only.

The categorizations of the index incarceration offense were separated consistent with the federal government's crime types, including weapons offenses, drug offenses, property offenses, violent offenses, community supervision violations, and "other" offenses. The category of community supervision violation is included to capture offenders who returned to prison on either a technical parole violation or a violation of another form of supervision (e.g., Intensive Supervision Program, supervision under Megan's Law). The category of "other" crimes includes offenses that do not fit into the other typologies, such as crimes against the courts (e.g., contempt, failure to appear) and traffic offenses.

Additional variables are included in an effort to determine whether an association with recidivism exists. These variables include but are not limited to release type, release age, time served on sentence, original index incarceration offense, gender, race/ethnicity, marital status, whether the offender completed a RCRP, disciplinary allegations while incarcerated, education level, and prior criminal history. The SBI number was used to electronically retrieve arrest, conviction and incarceration information for criminal events that occurred within New Jersey both prior and subsequent to their 2013 release. This has allowed researchers to track the number of rearrests, reconvictions, and reincarcerations over the three-year follow-up.

# Reentry Programming Analyses

This portion of the report examines reentry programming in regards to RCRP participation (i.e., RCRP work program participation, drug treatment house participation), drug treatment programming, and education programming. Different analyses are completed for each section and sample sizes are specific to each analysis. Unless otherwise noted, the sample of study includes inmates released from a DOC facility in calendar year 2013. Similar to the recidivism analyses, recidivism in this section is defined as a reincarceration, however, the analysis is expanded to include rearrest, reconviction, a reincarceration for a community supervision violation.

For all DOC analyses, statistical significance is determined when the significance of  $\alpha$  is found to be .05 or lower, indicating a 5% risk or less of concluding that a difference between groups exists when there is no actual difference.

#### **Juvenile Sample: Juvenile Justice Commission**

#### Measures of Recidivism for the Juvenile Cohort

For the JJC analysis, the measures and definitions of recidivism were consistent with the work of the National Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA). Recidivism was defined as "a new offense that would be a crime if perpetrated by an adult, committed by a previously-adjudicated youth who has been released from a program or returned to the community." Measurement of recidivism refers to the type(s) of data used to identify an individual as a recidivist or non-recidivist. While there are various ways that recidivism can be measured, the present study focused on three measures. The three primary measures of recidivism considered in the study address three distinct questions.

- 1. Do youth have a subsequent delinquency court filing or adult arrest for a new offense?
- 2. Do youth have a subsequent adjudication or conviction for a new offense?
- 3. Do youth experience a subsequent commitment to the JJC or to the New Jersey Department of Corrections for a new offense?

The three measures, therefore, are identified as:

- 1. New court filing/arrest (regardless of whether it results in an adjudication of delinquency, or conviction as an adult)
- 2. New adjudication/conviction
- 3. New commitment to the JJC or NJDOC

The date recorded for the recidivism event was the available date most closely representing when the juvenile committed (or allegedly committed) the new offense. The study used this offense date to determine whether a given recidivism event occurred within three, six, 12, 24, or 36 months. The JJC's Information Technology Unit provided a database, based on its Juvenile Information Management System (JIMS), containing youths' names and relevant information to identify youth released from JJC custody during 2013. For each of the releases initially identified, an additional search was conducted with the assistance of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and the Department of Law & Public Safety's (DL&PS) Division of

Criminal Justice. The AOC provided recidivism-related data from its Family Automated Case Tracking System database, while the DL&PS, Division of Criminal Justice provided recidivism-related data from the State Police Criminal Case History database.

Note that the average age at release for youth in the study was 18.1 years. As a result, and as suggested by the three questions noted above, the study reviewed both juvenile and adult records for youth in the study in order to assess recidivism.

#### RESULTS

### **Adult Sample: Department of Corrections**

### Recidivism Analyses

The full demographics of the 2013 releases can be viewed in Table 1. During calendar year 2013, 9,669 inmates were released from DOC custody. Of the final sample, 59.8% were released as supervised and 40.1% were released as unsupervised.

Of the total sample, the majority of inmates were male, black and single. The vast majority of inmates had a high school degree/High School Equivalency (HSE) degree or higher education level (73.6%), and the average age at release for inmates was 35.1 years of age.<sup>2</sup>

The majority of inmates had a previous criminal history; drug offenses were the largest admission offense category, followed by violent offenses. The average amount of time served for the entire sample was 842 days. Finally, more than a quarter of inmates attended a RCRP prior to release from prison and 78.2% successfully completed.

**Table 1. 2013 Release Cohort Characteristics** 

	Supervised Counts (%) Unsupervised Counts (%) Total Counts (%)						
Variable	n=5785	n=3884	N=9669				
Gender***							
Male	5335 (92.2)	3657 (94.2)	8992 (93.0)				
Female	450 (7.8)	227 (5.8)	677 (7.0)				
Race/Ethnicity***	, ,	. ,					
White	1705 (29.8)	1022 (26.5)	2727 (28.5)				
Black	3048 (53.3)	2359 (61.2)	5407 (56.5)				
Hispanic	928 (16.2)	466 (12.1)	1394 (14.6)				
Other	35 (0.6)	10 (0.3)	45 (0.5)				
Marital Status	, ,	,	, ,				
Single	3635 (82.4)	2431 (83.9)	6066 (83.0)				
Married	400 (9.1)	208 (7.2)	608 (8.3)				
Divorced	221 (5.0)	146 (5.0)	367 (5.0)				
Separated	130 (2.9)	95 (3.3)	225 (3.1)				
Widowed	28 (0.6)	17 (0.6)	45 (0.6)				
Education Level***			, ,				
Some schooling, not a HS graduate	1337 (24.2)	1083 (29.8)	2420 (26.4)				
HS graduate/HSE	3591 (65.0)	2279 (62.7)	5870 (64.1)				
Some college and beyond	599 (10.8)	270 (7.4)	869 (9.5)				
Mean Prior Arrests (sd)***	6.1 (6.3)	9.4 (8.3)	7.4 (7.3)				
Mean Prior Convictions (sd)***	3.5 (4.0)	5.6 (5.3)	4.4 (4.7)				
Mean Prior DOC admissions (sd)***	0.8 (1.1)	1.5 (1.5)	1.1 (1.3)				
Prior DOC History***		, ,					
No prior admissions	3372 (58.3)	1201 (30.9)	4573 (47.3)				
1 prior admission	1225 (21.2)	1089 (28.0)	2314 (23.9)				
2 prior admissions	705 (12.2)	665 (17.1)	1370 (14.2)				
3 prior admissions	305 (5.3)	496 (12.8)	801 (8.3)				
4+ prior admissions	178 (3.1)	433 (11.1)	611 (6.3)				
Index Incarceration Offense ***							
Violent	1670 (29.0)	479 (12.4)	2149 (22.4)				
Weapons	399 (6.9)	504 (13.1)	903 (9.4)				
Property	841 (14.6)	656 (17.0)	1497 (15.6)				
Drugs	1631 (28.3)	835 (21.6)	2466 (25.6)				
Community Supervision Violation	864 (15.0)	1121 (29.1)	1985 (20.6)				
Other	353 (6.1)	262 (6.8)	615 (6.4)				
Mean Release Age (sd)***	34.28 (10.4)	36.22 (10.5)	35.1. (10.4)				
Mean Time Served – Days (sd)	853.35 (1103.9)	824.7 (1189.1)	841.8 (1082.2)				
Attended RCRP*	1752 (30.3)	1267 (32.6)	3019 (31.2)				
Completed RCRP ***	1479 (84.4)	883 (69.7)	2362 (78.2)				

*Notes:* \* *p*≤.05; \*\*\**p*≤.001

Percentages may not sum to 100 due to missing information.

Column counts may not sum to supervised and unsupervised totals due to missing information.

HSE is the abbreviation of High School Equivalency.

The completed RCRP variable only includes those offenders who attended a RCRP.

Table 2. 2013 Release Cohort Recidivism

Variable	Supervised Counts (%)	<b>Unsupervised Counts (%)</b>	<b>Total Counts (%)</b>
Variable	n=5785	n=3884	N=9669
Rearrest***			
Yes	2590 (44.8)	2468 (63.5)	5058 (52.3)
No	3195 (55.2)	1416 (36.5)	4611 (47.7)
Reconviction ***			
Yes	1744 (30.1)	1949 (50.2)	3693 (38.2)
No	4041 (69.9)	1935 (49.8)	5976 (61.8)
Reincarceration***			
Yes	2171 (37.5)	713 (18.4)	2884 (29.8)
No	3614 (62.5)	3171 (81.6)	6785 (70.2)
Time to Rearrest ***			
6 months	587 (22.7)	970 (39.3)	1557 (30.8)
12 months	580 (22.4)	605 (24.5)	1185 (23.4)
18 months	482 (18.6)	369 (15.0)	851 (16.8)
24 months	374 (14.4)	220 (8.9)	594 (11.7)
30 months	320 (12.4)	151 (6.1)	471 (9.3)
36 months	247 (9.5)	153 (6.2)	400 (7.9)
Mean Time to Rearrest Days (sd)***	455. 8 (298.4)	337.1 (281.2)	397.8 (296.1)
Mean Time to Parole Violation – Days (sd)*	379.9 (258.2)		

*Note:* \*Time to parole violation has been refined in this year's report. It more closely reflects time to failure for inmates returning to prison for a parole violation and does not include those with pending adjudications. \*\*\*p < .001

As displayed in Table 2, 52.3% of the overall sample was rearrested, 38.2% was reconvicted and 29.8% was reincarcerated in a DOC facility. Of the supervised releases, 44.8% were rearrested and 55.2% were not; of the unsupervised releases, 63.5% were rearrested and 36.5% were not. This pattern is repeated for reconvictions, as 50.2% of the unsupervised releases were reconvicted compared with 30.1% of the supervised offenders. Conversely, 37.5% of the supervised releases were returned to prison, while 18.4% of the unsupervised releases returned to prison.

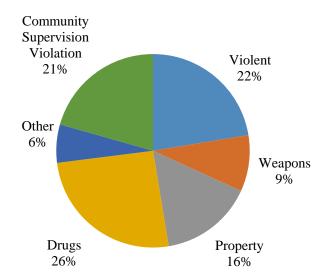
It should be noted that these differences may be attributable to differences in supervision levels. The results of comparative analyses between supervised and unsupervised offenders may be misinterpreted because supervised offenders are subject to greater scrutiny than unsupervised offenders, and thus may be returned to prison with greater frequency due to technical violations or other reasons that would not occur among an unsupervised population.

Table 3. Seven--year Comparison of Recidivism Percentages

, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				
Release Year	Rearrest	Reconviction	Reincarceration	
2007	57%	45%	37%	
2008	54%	42%	35%	
2009	53%	39%	32%	
2010	53%	42%	32%	
2011	53%	40%	31%	
2012	53%	40%	31%	
2013	52%	38%	30%	

Table 3 displays the recidivism percentages for rearrest, reconviction, and reincarceration for the 2013 release cohort, as well as the recidivism percentages for the previous six release cohorts. The 2013 release cohort experienced slight decreases in the rates of rearrest, reconviction and reincarceration from the prior 2012 cohort.

Figure 1. Index Incarceration Offense for 2013 Release Cohort



Graphically displayed in Figure 1 above is the overall sample's index incarceration offense on record; that is, the most severe offense category inmates were serving time and released for in 2013.

Offenses were independently identified as belonging to one of six categories including violent, weapons, property, drug, and other offenses. The "other" category is a general category for offenses not captured by the other four main crime types and may include administrative offenses and public order offenses, among others.

Offenders who returned to prison for a community supervision violation (i.e., technical parole violation, Megan's Law supervision violation, Intensive Supervision Program violation) are also captured here. The chart above indicates that 26% of the released sample was serving time for a drug offense. This is followed closely by violent offenses (22%) and community supervision violations (21%).

Table 4. Breakdown of Original Booking Offense for Community Supervision Violators

Original Booking Offense	n	Percent of Supervision Violators
Violent	750	37.8
Weapons	71	3.6
Property	355	17.9
Drugs	569	28.7
Other	239	12.0
Total	1,984	100.0

Table 4 breaks down the original booking offenses for the 21% of community supervision violators in the pie chart above. The majority of supervision violators originally served sentences for violent and drug offenses (37.8% and 28.7% respectively, totaling 66.5%). Property offenses comprised 17.9% of the sample, while 'other' offenses comprised 12.0%. Only a small portion of the original booking offenses for supervision violators were weapon offenses (3.6%).

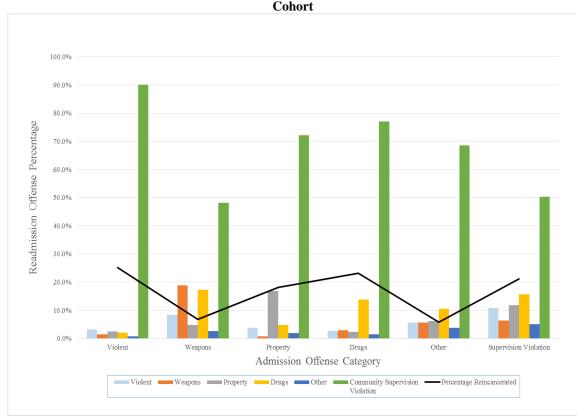


Figure 2. Reincarceration Rates and Readmission Offenses Grouped by Admission Offense for 2013 Release

Readmission rates, as grouped by admission offense, can be viewed in Figure 2. Of inmates with a return to custody on record within three years post-release, individuals initially serving time for a violent or drug offense were most likely to return to prison.

Specifically, released inmates with a violent index offense were reincarcerated at a rate of 25.2% and released inmates with an index drug offense were reincarcerated at a rate of 23.2%. Released inmates initially serving time for a community supervision violation or property offense were next most likely to return to DOC custody, at rates of 21.1% and 18.1%, respectively. Finally, of those inmates who returned to prison within 36 months, 6.7% initially served time for a weapons offense and 5.7% initially served time for an "other" offense.

The types of readmission offenses, as grouped by the original index incarceration offense, are also presented in Figure 2. Overall, released inmates who were reincarcerated within 36 months were predominately readmitted for community supervision violations, regardless of admission offense.

There was little variation in readmission offenses across categories. However, the second most frequent category for readmission tended to be the same offense type the inmate served time for initially. For example, released inmates who initially served time for violent offenses were most frequently readmitted for violent offenses (after community supervision violations).

The same can be said for weapons, property, and drug offenders. The only exception to this rule were "other" offenders (who tended to be readmitted for drug offenses).<sup>3</sup>

#### **Factors Associated with Rearrest**

This outcome study examined differences between those who were and those who were not rearrested on a number of variables often assumed to contribute to recidivistic behavior. Rearrest was explored in place of other metrics of recidivism, such as reincarceration, to create the most robust analyses. A rearrest signifies an individual's first contact with the criminal justice system post-release. Additionally, utilizing a reconviction or reincarceration event often leads to smaller sample sizes for analysis due to the time lag created between a release and a reconviction or reincarceration.

The analysis revealed that for the population released in 2013, nine factors, out of the eleven entered into the model, were associated with rearrest within three years. As can be seen in Appendix B, these factors included gender, race/ethnicity, age at release, release status (supervised vs unsupervised), the number of prior convictions, the number of prior DOC admissions, original admission offense, the amount of time served and the number of disciplinary allegations while incarcerated for the current offense. Both educational attainment and RCRP completion were not found to be significant predictors of rearrest. The factors entered in the model explained 24.4% of the variance in the dependent variable of rearrest; furthermore, the model was significant.<sup>4</sup>

*Gender*. Gender was significantly related to the likelihood of rearrest. Specifically, compared to females, males had 1.3 times the odds of rearrest within the three-year follow-up period.<sup>5</sup>

Race/Ethnicity. The variable of race/ethnicity was significant in bivariate tests of independence and multivariate regression models. Proportionally, black offenders were rearrested more, compared to white and Hispanic offenders. As could be seen earlier in Table 1, 56.5% of the sample was comprised of black offenders, while 62% of offenders who were rearrested were black. Multivariate statistics indicated that race/ethnicity was predictive of rearrest, particularly, compared to white offenders, black offenders had increased odds of a rearrest of 1.2. However, when compared to white offenders, Hispanics had decreased odds of a rearrest (.78).

Age at release. Younger offenders were more likely to be rearrested than older offenders; the differences across age were statistically significant. Offenders who were rearrested were younger than those who were not rearrested (33.4 years<sup>7</sup> vs. 37.0 years<sup>8,9</sup>). Multivariate statistics indicated that age was inversely related to the odds of rearrest; for every one year increase in age, the offender's odds of a new arrest decreased by a factor of almost one (0.93).

*Release Status*. The offender's release type (supervised vs. unsupervised) was a significant predictor of whether the offender was rearrested, with unsupervised releases maintaining statistically higher odds of rearrest.

*Prior Conviction History*. Prior conviction history was significantly related to the likelihood of a rearrest. For every additional prior conviction an inmate had, the odds of rearrest were increased by a factor of 1.1. This pattern shows an expected ratio of one prior conviction to each

subsequent rearrest. The average number of prior convictions for the full sample of offenders was 4.4, <sup>10</sup> indicating the sample of releases had extensive criminal histories. The bivariate results indicated that 47.8% of those with one prior conviction on record were rearrested, 53.2% of those with two prior convictions were rearrested, 56.3% of those with three prior convictions were rearrested, and 62.2% of those with four or more prior convictions were rearrested. <sup>11</sup> Approximately 82% of inmates who were rearrested had a previous conviction on record.

*Prior Correctional History/DOC Admissions*. Prior correctional history was significantly related to the likelihood of rearrest. For every additional prior state incarceration, the odds of rearrest were increased by a factor of 1.2. The average number of prior admissions for the full sample of offenders was 1.2. Twenty four percent of the full sample of released offenders had a minimum of one prior state incarceration and an additional 28.7% had two or more prior state incarceration terms, totaling 52.7% of the sample of inmates. Highlighting the importance of this variable as an indicator of continued offending, the results demonstrate that 57.4% of those with one prior state prison term were rearrested, 60.6% of those with two prior terms were rearrested, 66.3% of those with four or more prior incarcerations were rearrested.<sup>13</sup>

Index Incarceration Offense on Record. The index incarceration offense was significant in bivariate tests of independence and multivariate regression models predicting a new arrest. Offenders who committed property, community supervision offenses, weapon, drug and "other" crimes had an increased probability of a new arrest when compared to violent offenders, with community supervision violations maintaining the highest odds of rearrest (2.2). Specifically, offenders who committed community supervision violations (65.5% rearrest), property (58.5% rearrest), weapon (56.9% rearrest), "other" (53.3% rearrest) and drug (50.5% rearrest) offenses were rearrested proportionally more than offenders who committed a violent offense (35.9% rearrest).<sup>14</sup>

*Time Served.*<sup>15</sup> Time served was significantly associated with rearrest patterns. Compared to those who served sentences up to one year, inmates who served sentences between one and two years had increased odds of a rearrest by a factor of 1.3 compared with inmates serving less than one year.

Disciplinary Allegations. The number of discipline allegations against an inmate while in prison was positively and significantly associated with rearrests. For every additional discipline that an inmate had, the odds of rearrest were increased by a factor of 1.0.

# REHABILITATION, REENTRY AND TREATMENT INITIATIVES AT DOC

DOC offers rehabilitation, re-entry and treatment initiatives at DOC facilities and contracted RCRPs to include education, vocational training, work release, and drug treatment programming.

Taking into account that different inmates will fair differently based on factors discussed above, when assessing overall program effectiveness, the DOC uses three key factors to determine which programs and services allow the offender to achieve the best results. First, the department examines how facility-based programs and services compare to a nationally

recognized evidence-based practice research on "what works." Secondly, there is a continual examination of internal data on those released offenders that return to DOC custody. Third, the department examines the inmate's progress with practicing skills they developed from programming. Lastly, inmates are provided an opportunity to express which departmental programs they believe best assisted them with achieving their fullest potential and their recommendations for program improvement by completing feedback surveys.

# **Education**

Vocational, adult mandatory and youthful offenders education programming are offered at DOC facilities. Analyses of each program are presented below.

#### Adult Mandatory Education

Under N.J.S.A. 30:4-92.1 (P.L. 2009, c.330) inmates who are over the age of 21 who do not have a high school diploma or high school equivalency degree (HSE) and have 18 months or more remaining on their sentence before a mandatory release date are eligible for mandatory education programming to obtain an HSE. Adult mandatory education programming is available at all 13 facility locations.

Data related to inmate Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) scores and High School Equivalency (HSE) obtainment were examined.

There were 398 inmates who participated in mandatory education from the 2013 release cohort. Note: Implementation of N.J.S.A. 30:4-92.1 occurred as a series of incremental stages and participation in educational services increased from 2013 to 2016. The group's mean score for the first TABE test on record for the booking was 6.2. The mean score for the last TABE test on record was 8.6. A significant improvement in average scores was noted between the first test and the last test.

Of the 398 inmates who participated in mandatory education and released in 2013, 44% took a HSE exam while incarcerated. Of those who took an exam, 93.1% passed.

Recidivism information for the cohort of released inmates who participated in mandatory education is found below (Table 5).

**Table 5. Recidivism Details for Mandatory Education Participation** 

	Mandatory Education Participants n=398		Participants		No Manda Educati n=9,27	on
	Mean (sd), Range	Percent	Mean (sd), Range	Percent		
Number of Rearrests	1.3 (1.7), 0-11	54.8	1.3 (1.9), 0-21	52.2		
Number of Reconvictions	0.6 (1.0), 0-6	36.4	0.6 (1.1), 0-12	38.3		
Number of Reincarcerations	0.4 (0.6), 0-3	31.9	0.4 (0.6), 0-4	29.7		
Number of Reincarcerations for a	0.3 (0.6), 0-3	20.4	0.2 (0.5), 0-4	15.7		

Community Supervision Violation**		

<sup>\*\*</sup>p<.01

#### Youthful Offenders Education

DOC provides education programming for youthful offenders as required by the State Facilities Education Act. The State Facilities Education Act (SFEA) of 1979 (N.J.S.A. 18A:7B-1 et seq.) was enacted for the purpose of providing a thorough and efficient education to all eligible students in State facilities. All youth offenders under the age of 20, as well as those under age 21 with an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP), are provided traditional high school coursework. Students earn credits from their home school districts toward the fulfillment of their high school diplomas. Youth students are mandated to attend such coursework until they reach an ineligible age. SFEA programming is available at three DOC locations: Mountainview Youth Correctional Facility, Garden State Youth Correctional Facility, and Edna Mahan Correctional Facility.

One hundred three (103) inmates who were released in 2013 were eligible for SFEA programming. The mean first TABE test on record for the index booking within the cohort was 6.5. The mean score for the last TABE test on record was 7.3<sup>20</sup>. A significant improvement in average scores was noted between the first test and the last test. 21

Of the 103 SFEA inmates released in 2013, 93 (90.3%) had a high school diploma or higher education level listed on record at the time of release.

Table 6 presents the recidivism information for the cohort of released inmates who participated in SFEA programming. The percentages of SFEA inmates who were rearrested, reconvicted, and reincarcerated were found to be 65%, 45%, and 36%, respectively. Approximately 31% of SFEA inmates were returned to prison for a community supervision violation. SFEA inmates are a distinct group who cannot be compared to the general population of inmates on measures of recidivism because of their age.

**Table 6. Recidivism Details for SFEA Inmates** 

	Mean (sd), Range	Percent
Number of Rearrests	1.5 (1.8), 0-11	65.0
Number of Reconvictions	0.61 (0.89), 0-6	44.7
Number of Reincarcerations	0.40 (0.57), 0-2	35.9
Number of Reincarcerations for a Community Supervision Violation	0.34 (0.53), 0-2	31.1

#### Vocational Education

DOC provides vocational education programs to inmates at all facilities. There are 23 courses of study which include cabinetmaking, cosmetology/barbering, plumbing, and graphic arts, among others.

Recidivism for inmates who participated in vocational education (n=1,297) was examined (Table 7). Differences between vocational education participants and non-participants were noted for rearrests, reconvictions, and reincarcerations for the community supervision violations. The average number of rearrests was 1.33<sup>22</sup> for those releases who did not progress through a vocational education program; this represented a statistically significant difference from the vocational education participants. The average number of reconvictions on record were found to be lower for vocational education participants vs. non-participants (0.52 vocational education<sup>24</sup> vs 0.66 non-vocational education<sup>25,26</sup>). A lower percentage of vocational education participants were reincarcerated compared to non-participants. Finally, the average number of reincarcerations for a community supervision violation was statistically higher for inmates who completed vocational education (0.24 vocational education<sup>27</sup> vs. 0.18 non-vocational education<sup>28,29</sup>).

**Table 7. Recidivism Details for Vocational Education Inmates** 

	Vocational Education Participants n=1,297		Non-Partici n=8,37	_
	Mean (sd), Range	Percent	Mean (sd), Range	Percent
Number of Rearrests***	1.08 (1.6), 0-19	50.9	1.3 (2.0), 0-21	52.5
Number of Reconvictions***	0.52 (0.95), 0-10	34.4	0.7 (1.1), 0-12	38.8
Number of Reincarcerations	0.35 (.0.60), 0-3	28.9	0.4 (0.6), 0-4	30.0
Number of Reincarcerations for a Community Supervision Violation***	0.24 (0.52), 0-3	19.8	0.2 (0.5), 0-4	15.3

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>p<.001

Employment rates for all inmates post-release were stratified by vocational education participation (Table 8). Statistically significant differences in the employment rates were found between the vocational education and non-vocational education groups at the one- and three-year follow-up intervals, and for the rates of employment at any time in the totality of the three-year follow-up period.

**Table 8. Vocational Education and Post-Release Employment** 

	<b>Vocational Education</b>	No Vocational
	Sample	Education
	n=626	n=3473
Employed One-Year Post-Release**	48.6%	42.5%
Employed Two-Years Post-Release	44.2%	40.2%
Employed Three-Years Post-Release*	44.7%	40.3%
Employed At Any Time Within Three Years**	73.0%	67.8%

<sup>\*</sup>p<.05; \*\*p<.01

The DOC provides addiction treatment services to its substance use disorder offender population. The DOC has made significant changes to drug treatment services since the 2013 cohort was released which will be reflected in future reports. Licensed drug treatment programs are now available at eight Residential Community Release Program facilities, and, after an extensive planning and renovation process, Mid-State Correctional Facility reopened in April 2017 as the first licensed, clinically driven drug treatment prison operated by the DOC. Living in Balance (LIB) is a research-based, psycho-educational program which provides treatment sessions for persons who abuse or are addicted to alcohol and other drugs of abuse. Participation is dependent on sentence length and hallway house eligibility. LIB programs are available in all DOC facilities. The Engaging the Family (ETF) program engages the spouse/committed partner and children of inmates as allies in the end of the criminal and addictive lifestyle of their loved ones. The goals of the program are to strengthen marriage and family relationships of inmates, enhance the well-being of children of incarcerated fathers, and motivate and prepare incarcerated fathers to maintain drug free and crime free lifestyles. Participation is focused on inmates who will serve the entirety of their sentence behind bars. ETF is available in nine DOC facilities. Alcoholics Anonymous is available in all DOC facilities and Narcotics Anonymous is available in two facilities.

Recidivism for the group of individuals who participated in drug programming (n=2,069) was examined (Table 9). Inmates who participated in drug programming were statistically different from those who did not on two recidivism variables: reconviction and reincarceration due to a community supervision violation. Inmates who participated in drug programming maintained lower reconviction rates (36.2% vs 38.7%), but demonstrated higher return to prison rates for violations (19.6% vs 14.9%).

Table 9. 2013 Release Cohort Drug Program Participants and Recidivism

	Drug Programming Participants n= 2,069	Non-Participants <sup>30</sup> n=7,600
Rearrested	50.7%	52.8%
Reconvicted*	36.2%	38.7%
Reincarcerated***	30.2%	29.7%
Reincarcerated for a Community Supervision Violation***	19.6%	14.9%

#### NJDOC RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY RELEASE PROGRAMS

DOC currently has 15 contracted residential community release program (RCRP) facilities which serve both male and female inmates. Of these 15 programs, two are assessment centers, eight are correctional treatment programs with a work release component, three are work release programs, and one is a special needs program.

RCRP reentry and rehabilitation initiatives include work release, drug treatment, and educational programs. <sup>31</sup> Of the 9,669 inmates who were released in the year 2013, 3,019 (31.2%) were admitted to a RCRP and 2,362 (24.4%) of the full release cohort completed a RCRP. 78% of those admitted to an RCRP then completed an RCRP.

Criminal histories of all inmates within this sample were followed for 36-months post-release. Recidivism on three measures of follow-up (i.e., reconviction, reincarceration, reincarceration for a community supervision violation) were lower for inmates who completed RCRPs in 2013 compared to those who did not complete a RCRP. Of the inmates who completed a RCRP, 1,244 (52.7%) were rearrested. Recidivism details are set forth in Table 10 below.

Table 10. RCRP Completion and Recidivism

	RCRP Program Participants n= 2,362	Non-Participants <sup>32</sup> n=7,307
Rearrested	52.7%	52.2%
Reconvicted***	35.0%	39.2%
Reincarcerated***	23.3%	31.9%
Reincarcerated for a Community Supervision Violation***	13.5%	16.7%

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>p<.001

# Work Release Programs<sup>33</sup>

Recidivism within 36-months of release was examined for inmates participating in work release programs (see Table 11). Recidivism on every measure of follow-up (rearrest, reconviction, reincarceration, reincarceration for a community supervision violation) was lower for inmates who completed a work program in 2013 compared to those who did not complete a work program.

Table 11. Work Release and Recidivism

	Work Program Completers n= 461	Non-Completers n=9,208
Rearrested**	46.0%	52.6%
Reconvicted***	29.5%	38.6%
Reincarcerated***	19.1%	30.4%
Reincarcerated for a Community Supervision Violation**	11.5%	16.2%

<sup>\*\*</sup>p<.01; \*\*\*p<.001

In addition, income data for inmates within the 2013 cohort were requested of the Department of Labor (DOL). Data were available for 4,099 inmates (see Table 8). Nearly 50.4% of inmates in the work release sample were employed compared with 42.9% of inmates in the no work release sample. For the 2013 release cohort, work releases were more likely to be employed within 1 year of release than inmates who did not participate in a work program. The

percentage of inmates employed at both two-years and three-years post-release were slightly higher for the work release sample than the non-work release sample. Overall, nearly 73% of the work release sample was employed at any point during the three year follow-up period compared with 68% of non-work releases.

**Table 12. Work Release and Employment Rates** 

	Work Release	No Work Release
	n= 273	n=3,826
Employed One-Year Post-Release*	50.4%	42.9%
Employed Two-Years Post-Release	41.4%	40.7%
Employed Three-Years Post-Release	45.8%	40.6%
Employed At Any Time Within Three Years	72.5%	68.3%

<sup>\*</sup>p<.05

Correctional Treatment Programs with a Work Release Component<sup>34</sup>

Eight of the 15 contracted RCRP facilities are correctional treatment programs with a work release component. In these facilities, drug treatment is provided for three months and continues throughout an inmate's participation in the work release component. One of these facilities is specialized to serve special needs inmates with mental health issues only.

Recidivism within 36-months of release was examined for inmates participating in correctional treatment programs with a work release component (see Table 13). Recidivism on three measures of follow-up (i.e., reconviction, reincarceration, reincarceration for a community supervision violation) was statistically lower for inmates who completed these facilities in 2013 compared to those who did not complete these facilities.

Table 13. Correctional Treatment Programs with a Work Release Component and Recidivism

	Drug Treatment House Completers n= 1,675	Non-Completers n=7,994
Rearrested	53.0%	52.2%
Reconvicted*	35.6%	38.7%
Reincarcerated***	21.4%	31.6%
Reincarcerated for a Community Supervision Violation***	12.5%	16.6%

<sup>\*</sup>p<.05; \*\*\*p<.001

#### **Juvenile Justice Commission**

#### 2013 Release Cohort: Youth Characteristics

The 2013 cohort was comprised of 450 youth released from JJC facilities. All juveniles were released from a committed (69.6%) or a probationer status (30.4%). More than a third (39.3%) of the cohort left from secure care (100% of those were committed youth), 58.0% left from residential programs (52.1% were committed and 47.9% were probationers), and 2.7% left from day programs (100% probationers). The average length of stay in custody was 349 days.

The average length of stay was 326 days for youth departing residential programs, 396 days for youth departing secure care, and 141 days for youth departing day programs.

Of the youth released, 94.9% were males and 5.1% were females. The average age at release was 18.1 years. The racial breakdown of the cohort was 69.1% Black, 20.7% Hispanic, 10.0% White, and 0.2% Asian (or 10.0% White and 90.0% non-White). The majority of the youth served sentences for persons offenses (44.4%), followed by violations of probation (VOP) (23.8%), property offenses (11.1%), drug offenses (9.1%), weapons offenses (7.6%), and public order offenses (4.0%).

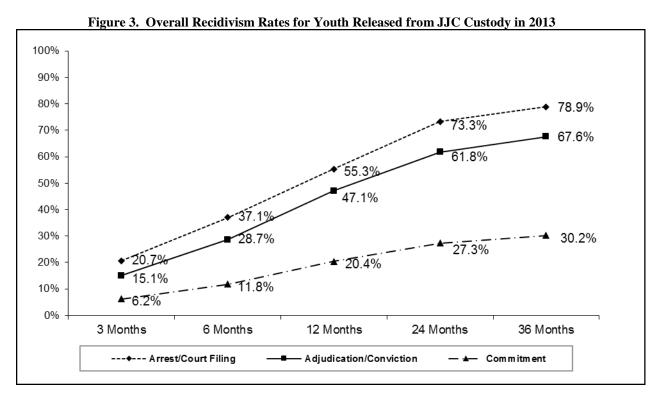
#### 2013 Release Cohort Recidivism Rates

The reporting of results begins with a focus on an examination of the overall recidivism rates for youth released from JJC custody in 2013. As shown in Figure 3, the rate of recidivism increased over time through the three-year period for each of the three measures, although there is a noticeable slowing after 24 months. By one year following release, 55.3% of the youth released in 2013 had a new court filing/arrest. In addition, less than one-half (47.1%) committed a new offense resulting in an adjudication/conviction, while 20.4% re-offended resulting in a new commitment to a State facility. At two years following release, recidivism rates had increased considerably: almost three-quarters (73.2%) had a new court filing/arrest, 61.8% had a new adjudication/conviction, and 27.3% had a new commitment to a State facility. By three years after release almost eight in ten youth had new court filings/arrests (78.9%), 67.6% had new adjudications/convictions, and 30.2% had new commitments, representing 136 of the 450 youth.

The study also examined average time to recidivate (in days) for all youth re-offending within three years. Average time to recidivate was as follows:

- for those with a new court filing/arrest, 277 days;
- for those with a new adjudication/conviction, 288 days; and
- for those with a new commitment, 308 days.

In other words, it took approximately nine months for youth with new court filings/arrests to re-offend, and about nine and a half months for those with new adjudications/convictions to re-offend. Furthermore, those with a new commitment took a bit more than ten months to re-offend.



# Recent Trends in Juvenile Recidivism

As part of the analysis, a comparison was made with the previous years' findings with regard to the three measures of juvenile recidivism. As indicated in the table below, new court filings/arrests have decreased over time, down 7.2 percentage points since 2010. New adjudications/convictions have decreased by 4.0 percentage points since 2010. And, most importantly, the data demonstrate that over time there has been a decrease in the percentage of youth recidivating and returning to the system with a new commitment. This is down 6.7 percentage points from 2010. This positive change means that of the youth in the 2013 cohort, 69.8% were maintained in the community.

Table 14. Recent Trends in Juvenile Recidivism, 2010 to 2013

Tuble 1 ii Recent Hends in Gu veinie Reciai vibin, 2010 to 2010			
Release Year	Court Filing/Arrest	Adjudication/Conviction	Commitment
2010	86.1%	71.6%	36.9%
2011	84.0%	71.9%	32.4%
2012	80.4%	68.0%	32.8%
2013	78.9%	67.6%	30.2%

The JJC also examined changes in the time it took for youth to re-offend, measured in days from the date of a youth's release to the date of re-offense. Since 2010, time to recidivate for court filing/arrest and adjudication/conviction has increased (a positive finding), while time to recidivate for new commitments has decreased.

Table 15. Average Time To Recidivate In Days, 2010 to 2013

Release Year	Court Filings/Arrest	Adjudication/Conviction	Commitment
2010	262	276	327
2011	272	282	304
2012	288	306	342
2013	277	288	308

#### Differences in Recidivism: Youth Characteristics

This recidivism study examined differences between those who did and those who did not recidivate in terms of a limited number of youth characteristics available for examination. The analysis of bivariate relationships revealed that for the released population examined in this report, among the variables having substantial portions of both committed and probationer youth data available, six factors were associated at a statistically significant level with recidivism within three years (on one or more of the three measures).

*Gender*. Released males were more likely to have recidivated than females. The recidivism rate for males was higher for new court filings/arrests within three years of release (80.3% vs. 52.2%\*),<sup>35</sup> for new adjudications/convictions (68.9% vs. 43.5%\*),<sup>36</sup> and for new commitments (30.9% vs. 17.4%).<sup>37</sup>

*Race/Ethnicity*. Released Black youth were most likely to have had a new court filing/arrest (84.9%), followed by White youth (66.7%), and Hispanic youth (65.6%).\*<sup>38</sup> Again, Black youth were most likely to have received a new adjudication/conviction (73.0%), followed by White youth (60.0%), and Hispanic youth (53.8%).\*<sup>39</sup> (Asian youth did not recidivate in this cohort on the arrest/new filings, adjudication/conviction, or the commitment measures.) Finally, Black youth were more likely to have received a new commitment (33.1%) followed by Hispanic youth (32.3%), and White youth (6.7%).\*<sup>40</sup>

As part of the analysis, race/ethnicity was recoded into "minority" and "nonminority" categories (with White as the sole race/ethnicity category coded as nonminority). Minority youth were more likely to have had a new court filing/arrest (80.2% vs. 66.7%\*), 41 a new adjudication/conviction (68.4% vs. 60.0%), 42 as well as a new commitment (32.8% vs. 6.7%\*). 43

*Municipality of Residence*. Released youth were categorized as residing in one of the fifteen most densely populated New Jersey cities (the Urban 15 areas) or not.<sup>44</sup> Those residing in the Urban 15 areas were more likely than those in non-Urban 15 areas to have recidivated based

on new court filings/arrests  $(83.9\% \text{ vs. } 74.0\%^*)$ . Additionally, youth residing in the Urban 15 areas were more likely to have a new adjudication/conviction,  $(72.2\% \text{ vs. } 63.0\%^*)^{46}$  and a new commitment  $(35.9\% \text{ vs. } 24.7\%^*)$ .

*Number of Adjudications*. The average number of adjudications of delinquency accumulated by youth at the time of commitment/admission to the JJC (both prior and current adjudications) was 6.4. The average number of adjudications for youth who experienced a new court filing/arrest within three years of release was higher than for those who did not  $(6.9 \text{ vs. } 4.5^{*})$ . The same was true for new adjudications/convictions  $(7.1 \text{ vs. } 4.9^{*})$ , and for new commitments  $(7.4 \text{ vs. } 6.0^{*})$ .

Type of Offense. Youth committed/admitted to the JJC for drug offenses were most likely to have had a new court filing/arrest within three years (95.1%), followed by those entering with weapons offenses (91.2%), public order offenses (88.9%), property offenses (86.0%), Violations of Probation (VOPs, 81.3%), and then persons offenses (69.5%).\* For new adjudications/convictions, the highest rate was for drug offenses (90.2%), followed by property offenses (78.0%), public order offenses (77.8%), weapons (73.5%), VOPs (68.2%), and finally persons offenses (58.0%).\* Finally, for new commitments, the highest rate was for public order offenses (61.1%), followed by weapons (44.1%), drug offenses (36.6%), VOPs (33.6%), property offenses (30.0%), and then person offenses (22.0%).\*

*Degree of Offense*. Youth committed/admitted to the JJC for 3<sup>rd</sup> degree offenses were more likely to have had a new court filing/arrest within three years (86.3%), followed by those entering with 4<sup>th</sup> degree offenses (85.7%), VOPs (which have no designated degree) (81.2%), disorderly persons or petty disorderly persons offenses (DP/PDP) (79.2%), 2<sup>nd</sup> degree offenses (78.0%), and finally 1<sup>st</sup> degree offenses (66.7%).\*<sup>54</sup> For new adjudications/convictions, the highest rate was for youth with 3<sup>rd</sup> degree offenses (79.4%), followed by 4<sup>th</sup> degree offenses (76.2%), followed by DP/PDP offenses (70.8%), VOPs (68.3%), 2<sup>nd</sup> degree offenses (65.3%), and then 1<sup>st</sup> degree offenses (52.4%).\*<sup>55</sup> Finally, for new commitments, youth with DP/PDP offenses had the highest recidivism rate (41.7%), followed by 4<sup>th</sup> degree offenses (38.1%), 3<sup>rd</sup> degree offenses (36.3%), VOPs (32.7%), 2nd degree offenses (27.1%), and 1<sup>st</sup> degree offenses (19.0%).<sup>56</sup>

Additional Factors. Several additional characteristics of released juveniles were examined, with a primary concern for their relationship with new court filings/arrests within three years. The focus of the further analysis was on areas of youths' functioning, needs, and prior delinquency and placement history. For these additional variables, data is collected either exclusively or largely on JJC's committed youth (rather than on JJC's probationers). As a result, the findings are relevant largely for the JJC's committed population.

- Recidivists were found to score higher on the JJC's Initial Classification & Custody Document (ICCD) which guides placement decisions and serves as a broad measure of prior delinquency and placement history. The average ICCD score for recidivists was 13.0, compared with 11.5 for non-recidivists.<sup>57</sup>
- The Comprehensive Informational Assessment tool assesses levels of need on eight separate life domains along with an overall assessment of total need. The domains include:

family/household; educational/vocational; substance abuse; models: peers/role health: attitudes/behaviors; use of time/leisure activity; medical/physical psychological/mental health. The analysis considered the relationship between four of these needs areas and recidivism. Recidivists were found to have higher need scores than nonrecidivists regarding substance abuse, 4.3 vs. 3.4\*, <sup>58</sup> education/vocation, 3.9 vs. 3.6<sup>59</sup> and peers/role models (3.7 vs. 3.3).\*60 In the family/household domain, recidivists had lower needs scores 3.5 vs. 4.0 than non-recidivists.<sup>61</sup>

- Recidivists were found to have a higher number of staff assessed areas of need (moderate or higher) (5.1 vs. 4.8) than the non-recidivists based on the CIA.<sup>62</sup>
- Recidivists and non-recidivists had roughly similar scores of functional intelligence (83.3 vs. 83.7), based on the Kaufman Brief Intelligence Test (KBIT).<sup>63</sup>

#### REHABILITATION AND REENTRY PROGRAMMING ANALYSES

Youth involved with the JJC receive the same basic curricula in three common programs. New Freedom is a cognitive-behavioral substance abuse curriculum that works with residents' thinking patterns to affect and redirect future behavior through the stages of change. The Phoenix curriculum is built on a motivational enhancement and cognitive-behavioral model, and is specifically targeted toward disentangling youth from gangs. And ART (aggression replacement training) focuses on the underlying philosophy that every act of adolescent aggression, whether in school, at home, or in the community, has both external and internal causes. ART is an evidence-based cognitive behavioral intervention that consists of three components: anger control, behavioral skills, and moral reasoning.

There are a few key intervention strategies that differ significantly based on each youth's needs and risk factors. This recidivism study examined differences between those who did and those who did not recidivate in terms of several key interventions provided by the JJC. This analysis focused on *new court filings/arrests* within three years (unless otherwise noted).

High School Completion. For youth without a high school diploma or GED, the JJC provides a full, year-round academic program aligned to Core Curriculum Content Standards of the Department of Education. Those who came in to the JJC without a high school diploma or GED earned an average of 68.2 credits while in JJC custody. Additionally, while just 8.0% of youth entering the JJC had their GED or diploma prior to intake, 36.9% had their GED or diploma when exiting the JJC. Youth who had a GED or high school diploma when leaving the JJC in 2013 were less likely to recidivate than those who did not (76.2% vs. 81.0%). 64

Sex Offender Treatment. Sex offender specific treatment is provided in both the secure and residential environments. Of the entire cohort, 6.6% of the youth received sex offender treatment. Of that subgroup, 20.0% received the treatment in a residential program and 80.0% received that treatment in a secure care environment. The recidivism rate for those in secure care receiving sex offender treatment was 50.0% and 0.0% for those receiving sex offender treatment in a residential setting.\*

Substance Abuse Treatment. Of the entire cohort, 34.9% received intensive substance abuse treatment. Like sex offender specific treatment, intensive substance abuse treatment is provided in both secure and residential environments. Of the youth receiving intensive substance abuse treatment, 42.7% received treatment in a secure setting and 57.3% received treatment in a residential setting. Some youth received intensive substance abuse treatment in both venues. For the purpose of this analysis, these youth were classified according to the venue in which they received the majority of their substance abuse treatment—secure or residential. The recidivism rate for those receiving most of their intensive substance abuse treatment in secure care was 86.8%, as compared to 78.1% for those receiving the majority of their intensive substance abuse treatment in a residential setting. 66

Transitional Reentry Programs. In 2009, the JJC started transitional programs in certain residential facilities on a small scale. Transitional programs are available for both committed and probationer youth (males). Committed youth attend as a condition of their parole, and probationers attend when they have completed a community residential program and have been granted a release date. This transitional setting allows residents to gain responsibility gradually as they prepare to return to their community, in a facility that is closer to their home. The youth receive education in their home school district or at the transitional program, which follows the Core Curriculum Content Standards of the NJ Department of Education. Each youth receives a myriad of other services that are best suited to meet his release plan, including career exploration, health/wellness, life skills, family reunification or independent living. Residents are permitted to visit their homes, schools, religious services and work sites in accordance with program policies. A resident's stay can range from two weeks to 45 days. Program completion is determined by each resident's behavior, their individual completion of transitional goals and the recommendation of the transitional team.

By 2013, these transitional programs had taken root in two locations. At Essex Residential, starting in 2009, youth from Essex, Hudson and Union counties could be assigned to this transitional setting. In 2010, the Southern Transitional program began for Atlantic County residents. In the 2013 cohort, 14.0% of the youth participated in these programs. Youth participating in a transitional program had a higher recidivism rate (81.0%) than youth who did not participate in a transitional program (78.6%). As the transitional programs expand and achieve full implementation, the goal is to see a higher rate of youth involvement in these programs and better outcomes for youth participating in the fully implemented transitional programs.

Type of Facility. Finally, as mentioned above, youth in JJC custody are housed in either secure or residential settings. This analysis compared recidivism across residential and secure care settings in a more in-depth way, again focusing on rearrest/court filings, but considering additional time frames, including time to recidivism.

As illustrated in Figure 4, youth departing residential programs had lower rates of rearrest/court filings within one-year (50.2%) than youth departing secure settings (63.3%).\*<sup>68</sup> At the three-year mark, the difference in recidivism between residential (77.4%) and secure care youth (81.4%) was smaller, but still observable.<sup>69</sup> Moreover, youth who departed secure settings

recidivated 69 days sooner than youth departing residential settings (235 vs. 304 days).\*<sup>70</sup> Similarly, youth who spent a majority (51% or more) of their time in custody in secure care recidivated sooner than youth who spent a majority of their time in residential placement (250 vs. 302 days).\*<sup>71</sup>

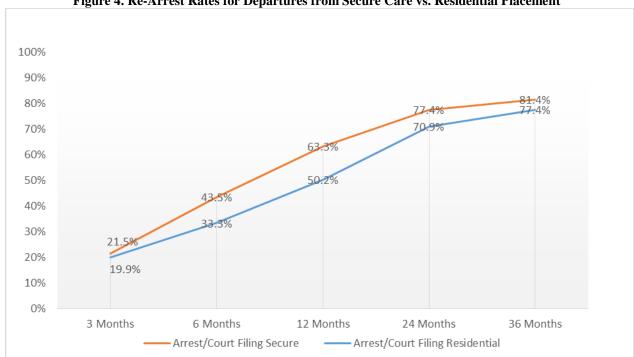


Figure 4. Re-Arrest Rates for Departures from Secure Care vs. Residential Placement

#### **CONCLUSION**

This report is the seventh in a series of reports measuring various outcomes relative to New Jersey's adult and juvenile offender populations and meets a legislative mandate. To this end, the New Jersey Department of Corrections (DOC), the New Jersey State Parole Board (SPB) and the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) examined the recidivism of a select cohort of offenders (juvenile and adult) released from the custody of each respective law enforcement agency in calendar year 2013. In addition to measuring overall recidivism levels, this report describes adult and juvenile cohort characteristics and analyzes those factors associated with recidivism. Both supervised (SPB) and unsupervised (DOC) releases were examined in the analyses.

For the purposes of this report, the DOC defines recidivism in agreement with the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics and the Pew Center on the States, while the JJC defines recidivism in accordance with the National Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJAC). For the adult analysis, the analysis is expanded beyond the usual recidivism measure of reincarceration to also include data on rearrest, reconviction, and reincarceration for a community supervision violation that occurs during the follow-up period. For the juvenile analysis, recidivism was defined as a new offense that would be a crime if perpetrated by an adult, committed by a previously-adjudicated youth who has been released from a program or returned to the community. A three-year follow-up period was utilized for all analyses.

For adult offenders in 2013, the State of New Jersey had lower rates from 2012 for rearrest, reconviction, and reincarceration post-release. Approximately 70% of adult inmates released in 2013 did not return to prison within the three-year follow-up period. These rates are lower than national estimates. A 2014 Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) report analyzing recidivism rates in 30 states found that after a three-year period, 67.8% of inmates were rearrested and 45.2% were reconvicted. Further, 49.7% of inmates experienced a return to prison. The 2013 estimates presented in this report again place New Jersey well below the estimates for the 30 states included in the BJS study.

In a 2015 publication from the Brennan Center for Justice at the New York University School of Law, New Jersey was praised for its crime rate and prison population reduction. From 2011-2014, New Jersey reduced its prison population by 9.5% and the crime rate decreased by 20% during this period. The results of the present analyses support the notion that New Jersey has continued to demonstrate a pattern of simultaneously reducing recidivism and the crime rate while maintaining public protection.

Despite the gains made in recidivism and crime rate deductions, the findings of this report highlight the continued difficulty many inmates face upon re-entry, particularly within 12 months. Nearly 55% of releases are rearrested within the first 12 months of release. After this one-year mark, rearrest rates drop significantly. These rates are consistent with national trends, 74 but are concerning nonetheless. The DOC is firmly committed to providing inmates in its custody with programming and resources that will place them in a better position to succeed at the completion of their sentences. The Department aims to not only protect the public by operating safe, secure and humane correctional facilities, but also providing proper classification, appropriate treatment of inmates and offering programs in the areas of education, behavior modification and substance use treatment that promote successful reentry into society. Specifically, the Department has provided those in DOC custody with licensed substance use disorder treatment and other programming to prevent substance use and relapse. The DOC has worked closely with the Department of Human Services to tailor licensing standards to a correctional setting, thus providing inmates with the same treatment opportunities available in the community. Licensed drug treatment programs are now available at eight Residential Community Release Program facilities, and, after an extensive planning and renovation process, Mid-State Correctional Facility reopened in April 2017 as the first licensed, clinically driven drug treatment prison operated by the DOC.

The Department has also continued its efforts to provide educational services to those in custody with great success. While completing their sentences, large numbers of inmates are earning their high school and equivalency diplomas and associate degrees. The Department also offers a wide range of vocational programming and has issued increasing numbers of industry-based vocational certificates so that inmates are better prepared for meaningful employment once released. Finally, as offenders complete their sentences and prepare to return

to the community, they receive assistance in obtaining necessary identification documents. Assistance is also provided in such areas as family reunification and linkage to housing as well as other important resources.

In this regard, the results of the present analyses support the missions of the DOC. RCRP participation is related to decreased rates of recidivism post-release. RCRP work release participation is related to increased rates of employment in the short-term (i.e., within 12 months of release). Inmates who participate in drug programming have lower rates of reconviction after release and participation in vocational education is related to decreased counts of rearrests and reconvictions post-release. Vocational education participation is related to higher employment rates within 3 years following release. Finally, TABE scores significantly improve between the first and last tests for those who are included in either mandatory education or SFEA populations. The DOC will continue to examine these data to ensure that the Department is making a positive difference in the lives of inmates as they prepare for reentry, resulting in improved public safety in communities throughout New Jersey and beyond.

For the juvenile cohort, the Juvenile Justice Commission followed the justice system activity of its released youth for three full years after each had been released from custody. Specifically, at the three-year point, 78.9% of the youth released had a court filing/arrest, 67.6% had a new offense leading to an adjudication/conviction, and 30.2% had a new offense leading to a new commitment to the JJC or to State prison. Importantly, an examination of juvenile recidivism rates over a four-year period (2010-2013) indicates recidivism rates have decreased for all three measures. New court filings/arrests have decreased by 7.2 percentage points, new adjudications/convictions have decreased by 4.0 percentage points, and new commitments have decreased by 6.7 percentage points. Over the four-year period the number of days youth remained successfully in the community prior to recidivating has increased for all arrest and conviction measures but has decreased for commitments. It is important to note that when examined by secure environment versus residential stays, youth participating in residential programs were generally more successful following release to the community.

To provide context for these results, it is worth noting that the juvenile justice literature reports that juveniles placed in State correctional programs across the country return to offending and to the correctional system at high rates, and often very quickly. The 2014 publication by the Pew Charitable Public Trusts entitled, "Measuring Juvenile Recidivism," notes the difficulties in comparing states' juvenile recidivism rates due to varying data collection techniques. Some correctional agencies do not track recidivism regularly or include detailed measures of recidivism. In addition, the length of time offenders are followed may also vary from state to state. And, some jurisdictions do not track juvenile offenders' involvement with the adult system.

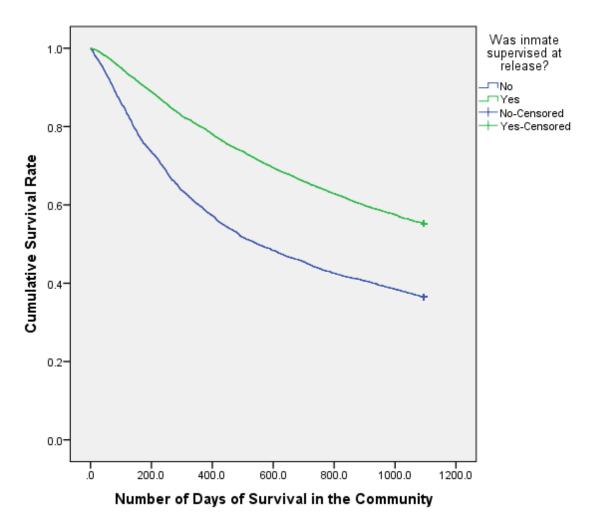
The extent of identified personal, family and community/neighborhood risk factors faced by youth placed with the JJC underscore the challenges to achieving sustained, successful reintegration back to the community. The JJC continues to work to strengthen communities and families.

It is important to note that all juveniles leaving JJC custody receive parole supervision, unlike the adult system. The JJC's Office of Juvenile Parole and Transitional Services begins working with residents early in their stay to prepare an individualized transition-release plan. In addition, while this report focuses solely on the 450 individuals released from the JJC's care in 2013, the JJC serves a total population of more than 15,000 annually including youth served through its Office of Local Programs and Services, and its secure and residential programs. The Office of Local Programs and Services administers funding to develop and implement a coordinated, community-based continuum of programs and services to address the needs of atrisk and court-involved youth in the community. This continuum of services includes delinquency prevention programs, court diversion programs, detention alternatives, dispositional options, and re-entry programs. The juvenile arrest rate in New Jersey, and nationally, has decreased steadily over the past decade. These data demonstrate that the JJC's efforts, including parole services, the Juvenile Detention and Alternatives Initiative, and community-based prevention programs, are having a significant impact on overall public safety. Since the empirical research in the field indicates that placement in a correctional facility is among the strongest predictors of recidivism, the importance of the JJC's work as it relates to serving youth in these community-based settings is clear.

Appendix A

Kaplan-Meier Survival Curves for Days of Survival in Community Before a Rearrest

Event



Appendix B

Logistic Regression Analysis Predicting Adult Rearrest

Predictor Variable	В	ExpB	Significance
Gender (Reference: Female)	.290	1.3	.000
<b>Prior Conviction History</b>	.138	1.1	.010
<b>Prior Incarceration History</b>	.215	1.2	.000
Release Age	-0.08	0.9	.000
Admission Offense (Reference: Violent)			.000
Weapon Offense	.409	1.5	.000
Property Offense	.628	1.9	.000
Drug Offense	.315	1.4	.000
Other Offense	.489	1.6	.000
Supervision Violation Offense	.778	2.2	.000
Race (Reference: White)			.000
Black	.190	1.2	.001
Hispanic	242	.78	.002
Other	-1.86	.16	.000
Release Status (Reference: No Supervision)	393	.68	.000
Time Served: (Reference: Up to 1 Year)			.000
1-2 Years	.259	1.3	.000
2+ Years	003	.99	.969
Disciplinary Allegations	.050	1.1	.000
Education Level (Reference: Some schooling,			.570
not a HS graduate)			
HS graduate/HSE	053	.948	.334
College graduate and above	003	.997	.977
Completed RCRP (Reference: No)	.026	1.0	.661

#### **ENDNOTES**

<sup>1</sup> The DOC has begun phasing out the completion of the LSI-R for eventual adoption and full implementation of an alternative nationally validated risk assessment. As such, the 2013 release cohort did not maintain sufficient numbers to justify inclusion among the other variables. This will change as we proceed with a new risk assessment.

```
<sup>2</sup> sd=10.4; median=33.0.

<sup>3</sup> x^2=548.5, d=25, p\le.001.

<sup>4</sup> x^2=1829.32, d=19, p\le.001.

<sup>5</sup> p\le.001.

<sup>6</sup> x^2=174.41, d=3, p\le.001.

<sup>7</sup> sd=9.6

<sup>8</sup> sd=10.9

<sup>9</sup> t=16.75, d=9,227.4, p\le.001.

<sup>10</sup> d=4.7

<sup>11</sup> d=622.56, d=4, d=4, d=620.

<sup>12</sup> d=622.56, d=4, d=4, d=620.

<sup>13</sup> d=622.56, d=4, d=4, d=620.

<sup>14</sup> d=622.56, d=4, d=620.

<sup>15</sup> d=622.56, d=
```

The amount of time served by the inmates in the sample was originally a continuous variable counted in days. However, this variable had a range of 13,527 days indicating there was a great deal of skewness (also demonstrated by the mean, median and the standard deviation). The variability was negatively effecting the model and was therefore modified. This variable was subsequently categorized into three groups of moderately equivalent sample sizes- under one year, from one year to two years and over two years.  $\frac{16}{s} sd = 2.7.$   $\frac{17}{s} sd = 3.5.$ 

```
16 sd=2.7.

17 sd=3.5.

18 t=-7.95, df=315, p<.001

19 sd=3.6.

20 sd=3.8.

21 t=-2.8, df=97, p<.01

22 sd= 2.0.

23 t=5.0, df=1961.6, p<.001.

24 sd=.95.

25 sd=1.11.

26 t=4.8, df=1887.4, p<.001.

27 sd=0.52

28 sd=0.46

29 t=-3.8, df=1621.35, p<.001
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Non-participants were defined as inmates who attended a drug treatment RCRP and were returned to a DOC facility (i.e. non-completers) or DOC inmates who never attended a drug treatment RCRP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> The results of the analyses in this section cannot be directly compared with those of the recidivism analyses as each includes different samples of inmates.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Non-participants were defined as inmates who attended a RCRP and were returned to a DOC facility (i.e. non-completers) or DOC inmates who never attended a RCRP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> The ten work release programs in 2013 consisted of Ballington, Clinton, Field, Fletcher, Garrett, Kintock Bridgeton and Kintock Newark (Male), Kintock Bridgeton 2 and Urban Renewal 1 and 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> The eight facilities in 2013 consisted of CURA, Fenwick, Harbor, Hope Hall, Kintock Bridgeton, Kintock Newark, Garret House, and Tully House.

<sup>35</sup> Statistically significant relationships are identified using an \*.  $X^2=10.387$ , df=1, p=.001.

 $<sup>^{36}</sup>$   $X^2$ =6.411, df=1, p=.01.

 $<sup>^{37}</sup>$   $X^2$ =1.892, df=1, p=.169.

 $<sup>^{38}</sup>$   $X^2$ =24.367, df=3, p=.000.

 $<sup>^{39}</sup>$   $X^2$ =15.517, df=3, p=.001.

 $<sup>^{40}</sup>$   $X^2$ =13.693, df=3, p=.003.

 $<sup>^{41}</sup>$   $X^2$ =4.485, df=1, p=.034.

 $<sup>^{42}</sup>$   $X^2$ =1.302, df=1, p=.254.

 $<sup>^{43}</sup>$   $X^2$ =13.156, df=1, p=.000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> The Urban 15 Cities are as follows: Bayonne City, Camden City, Clifton City, East Orange City, Elizabeth City, Irvington Town, Jersey City, Newark City, Passaic City, Paterson City, Toms River Township, Trenton City, Union City, Vineland and Woodbridge Township.

 $<sup>^{45}</sup>$   $X^2$ =6.550, df=1, p=.010.

 $<sup>^{46}</sup>$   $X^2$ =4.346, df=1, p=.037.

 $<sup>^{47}</sup>$   $X^2$ =6.697, df=1, p=.01.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> F=27.269, df=1, p=.000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> F=28.520, df=1, p=.000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> F=12.257, df=1, p=.001.

 $<sup>^{51}</sup>$   $X^2 = 23.131$ , df=5, p=.000.

 $<sup>^{52}</sup>$   $X^2$ =21.883, df=5, p=.001.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> X<sup>2</sup>=19.051, df=5, p=.002. <sup>54</sup> X<sup>2</sup>=11.845, df=5, p=.037.

X = 11.845, df=5, p=.037.  $55 X^2 = 16.511$ , df=5, p=.006.

X = 10.511, di=3, p=.000  $56 X^2 = 9.680$ , df=5, p=.085.

F=3.450, df=1, p=.064.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> F=5.65, df=1, p=.018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> F=2.703, df=1, p=.101.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> F=4.473, df=1, p=.035.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> F=1.312, df=1, p=.253.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> F=1.078, df=1, p=.300.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> F=0.063, df=1, p=.802. <sup>64</sup> X<sup>2</sup>=1.547, df=1, p.214.

X = 1.347, di=1, p.214. 65  $X^2 = 5.00$ , df=1, p=.025.

 $X^{2}=5.00$ , df=1, p=.025.  $X^{2}=1.732$ , df=1, p=.188.

X = 1.752, di=1, p=.188.  $67 X^2 = 0.187$ , df=1, p=.665.

 $X^{2}=0.187$ , df=1, p=.665.  $X^{2}=7.449$ , df=2, p=.024.

X = 7.449, df=2, p=.024.  $K^2 = 2.573$ , df=2, p=.276.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> F=3.575, df=2, p=.029.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> F=4.147, df=1, p=.042.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Durose, M., Cooper, A., & Snyder, H. (2014). Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Dept. of Justice, & Office of Justice Programs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Eisen, L-B., & Chettiar, I. (2015). The Reverse Mass Incarceration Act. Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law. Available at:

https://www.brennancenter.org/publication/reverse-mass-incarceration-act 74 Durose, M., Cooper, A., & Snyder, H. (2014). Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Dept. of Justice, & Office of Justice Programs.