



Recidivism of Sex Offenders Released from State Prison: A 9-Year Follow-Up (2005-14)

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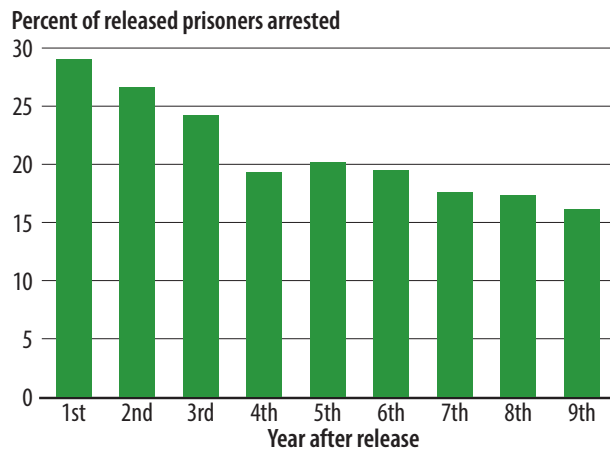
Among persons released from state prisons in 2005 across 30 states after serving a sentence for rape or sexual assault, 8% were arrested for rape or sexual assault during the 9 years after their release. Overall, 67% of sex offenders released in 2005 were arrested at least once for any type of crime during the 9-year follow-up period.¹

About 3 in 10 (29%) sex offenders released in 2005 were arrested during their first year after release (figure 1). About 1 in 5 (20%) were arrested during their fifth year after release, and nearly 1 in 6 (16%) were arrested during their ninth year.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) used criminal-history data and prisoner records to analyze the post-release offending patterns of former prisoners both within and outside of the state where they were imprisoned. This is BJS's first recidivism study on sex offenders with a 9-year follow-up period.

¹For this report, "sex offenders" refers to released prisoners whose most serious commitment offense was rape or sexual assault.

FIGURE 1
Annual arrest percentage of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault



Note: The denominator is the 20,195 prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault. See table 7 for estimates and appendix table 9 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

HIGHLIGHTS

Within 9 years of their release from prison in 2005—

- Rape and sexual assault offenders were less likely than other released prisoners to be arrested, but they were more likely than other released prisoners to be arrested for rape or sexual assault.
- Released sex offenders were more than three times as likely as other released prisoners to be arrested for rape or sexual assault (7.7% versus 2.3%).
- About two-thirds (67%) of released sex offenders were arrested for any crime, compared to about five-sixths (84%) of other released prisoners.
- Half of released sex offenders had a subsequent arrest that led to a conviction.
- Released sex offenders accounted for 5% of releases in 2005 and 16% of arrests for rape or sexual assault during the 9-year follow-up period.
- Less than half of released sex offenders were arrested for any crime within the first 3 years, while more than two-thirds were arrested within 9 years.
- Eleven percent of released sex offenders were arrested at least once for any crime outside the state of release.
- Among released prisoners who had a prior arrest for a sex offense but were serving time for an offense other than a sex offense, 6.7% were subsequently arrested for rape or sexual assault.

This study compares released prisoners whose most serious commitment offense was rape or sexual assault to all other released prisoners, in terms of their characteristics and recidivism patterns. It also compares the characteristics and recidivism patterns of released sex offenders to those of released prisoners whose most serious commitment offense was assault.

Prisoners whose most serious commitment offense was a violent crime of rape, sexual assault, or assault (whether aggravated or simple) were involved in a generally nonfatal attack upon a person, whereas homicide involves a fatality, and robbery involves an attack with the aim of taking property. So, in addition to comparisons with other released prisoners as a whole, this report examines how the recidivism patterns of sex offenders compare to the recidivism patterns of prisoners released after serving time for a non-sexual assault. (See Methodology for offense definitions.)

Separate recidivism rates for prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault against a child were unavailable because a large number of prison records did not distinguish between crimes against children and crimes against adults. Prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault against a child are included with all other rape and sexual assault offenders. Released prisoners whose most serious commitment offense was a non-violent sex offense, such as prostitution or pornography, are included with public-order offenders.

This study was based on a sample of 67,966 released prisoners who were randomly sampled to represent the 401,288 state prisoners released in 30 states in 2005. These 30 states were responsible for 77% of all persons released from state prisons nationwide. (See map on page 15.) A total of 358,398 male prisoners and 42,890 female prisoners were released in the study's 30 states in 2005. These persons may have been serving time for more than one offense and were categorized by the offense with the longest maximum sentence. For instance, prisoners released after serving time for homicide and rape or sexual assault were categorized as homicide offenders if the sentence length for the homicide was longer.

Males accounted for 19,871 (98%) of the 20,195 prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault in 2005 in the study's 30 states (table 1). This report examines the recidivism rates of male and female sex offenders separately in tables 10 to 13.

TABLE 1
Characteristics of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense

Characteristic	All prisoners	Most serious commitment offense		
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault	Offense other than rape/sexual assault
Sex				
Male	89.3%	98.4%	93.0%	88.8%
Female	10.7	1.6	7.0	11.2
Race/Hispanic origin				
White ^a	39.7%	52.1%	36.1%	39.1%
Black/African American ^a	40.1	27.2	38.0	40.8
Hispanic/Latino	17.7	17.2	22.5	17.7
Other ^{a,b}	2.4	3.5	3.4	2.4
Age at release				
24 or younger	17.7%	12.3%	19.4%	18.0%
25–29	19.4	15.9	21.3	19.6
30–34	16.0	14.1	17.1	16.1
35–39	15.7	14.0	14.9	15.8
40 or older	31.2	43.8	27.3	30.6
Median	34 yrs.	38 yrs.	32 yrs.	34 yrs.
Mean	35.0	38.8	34.0	34.8
Type of prison release				
Conditional	74.1%	67.9%	75.3%	74.4%
Unconditional	25.9	32.1	24.7	25.6
Maximum sentence length^c				
1–<2 years	19.2%	10.5%	12.9%	19.6%
2–<5 years	44.7	34.2	56.3	45.3
5–<10 years	22.1	28.0	20.4	21.8
10 years or more	14.0	27.3	10.4	13.3
Median	36 mos.	60 mos.	36 mos.	36 mos.
Number of prior arrests per released prisoner^d				
4 or fewer	24.8%	52.4%	25.0%	23.4%
5–9	30.3	26.6	30.2	30.5
10 or more	44.9	21.0	44.8	46.2
Median	9 arsts.	4 arsts.	9 arsts.	9 arsts.
Mean	11.0	6.3	10.8	11.3
At least one prior arrest for—				
Drug offense	70.7%	30.5%	57.9%	72.8%
Property offense	81.3	55.8	78.0	82.6
Number of released prisoners				
	401,288	20,195	38,468	381,093

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Percentages exclude missing data. Data on prisoners' age at release were reported for 100% of cases; race/Hispanic origin, for 99.86%; type of prison release, for 98.19%; and maximum sentence length, for 99.72%. See appendix table 3 for standard errors.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

^bIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Other Pacific Islanders; American Indians and Alaska Natives; and persons of two or more races.

^cBased on the released prisoners' total maximum sentence length for all commitment offenses. Study excludes prisoners sentenced to less than one year.

^dIncludes arrests for any type of crime prior to the prisoners' date of release in 2005.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

Sex offenders were more likely than other released prisoners to receive longer sentences and to be granted unconditional releases

Rape or sexual assault was the most serious commitment offense for 5% of the 401,288 prisoners released in 30 states in 2005. (See appendix table 1.) In comparison, assault was the most serious commitment offense of 10% (38,468) of released prisoners.

The median sentence length among prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving time for rape or sexual assault (60 months) was longer than the median sentence length among all prisoners (36 months) or prisoners released after serving time for assault (36 months). Twenty-seven percent of prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault were serving a maximum sentence length of 10 years or more, compared to 10% of prisoners released after serving time for assault.

Sex offenders were more likely to be given unconditional releases than other offenders. About 1 in 3 (32%) sex offenders were granted an unconditional release and not placed on parole, probation, or some other form of community supervision, compared to about 1 in 4 (26%) offenders overall and 1 in 4 (25%) assault offenders. Among prisoners who were granted an unconditional release, 96% were released for an expiration of sentence, and the remaining 4% were commutations or other types of unconditional releases (not shown in tables).

The median age at release for sex offenders was 38

The demographic composition of prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault differed from those released after serving time for other offenses. About half (52%) of sex offenders were white, compared to 36% of assault offenders and 40% of all offenders.

Criminal-history data were used to measure recidivism outcomes of former prisoners

This study uses several measures to examine the post-release offending patterns of former state prisoners, including new arrests and returns to prison. The recidivism patterns were examined in terms of post-release arrests for any type of offense and for the same type of offense for which the former prisoner had been serving time. These estimates do not include crimes that were not reported to the police or that did not result in an arrest.

Prisoners released in 2005 may not have been able to commit certain types of crimes for a portion of the 9-year period following their release because they were re-incarcerated. Data on the amount of time that the prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 spent in prison or jail during the 9-year follow-up period were not available for this study. The recidivism estimates include offenses that the released prisoners were charged with while incarcerated during the follow-up period.

The **cumulative arrest percentage** is the percentage of former prisoners who were arrested at least once during the follow-up period. For example, the cumulative arrest percentage for year-3 is the percentage of prisoners who had at least one arrest during the first, second, or third years following their release. This report also examines the cumulative percentage of prisoners who had a subsequent arrest that led to a court conviction and the cumulative percentage who returned to prison following release. Because not all arrests result in a conviction or reimprisonment, recidivism rates based on these measures are lower than those based on an arrest.

The **annual arrest percentage** is the percentage of released prisoners who were arrested at least once during a particular year within the follow-up period. The denominator for each percentage from years 1 through 9 is the total number of prisoners released in the 30 states during 2005. The numerator is the number of former prisoners arrested during the particular year, regardless of whether they had been arrested during a prior year.

The **annual percentage of first arrests** is the percentage of prisoners who had their first arrest following release during a specific year during the follow-up period. The denominator for each annual first-arrest percentage from years 1 through 9 is the total number of prisoners released in the 30 states in 2005. The numerator is the number of former prisoners arrested for the first time during each of those years (i.e., they had not been arrested during a prior year during the follow-up period). The sum of the annual first-arrest percentages during a follow-up period equals the cumulative arrest percentage for the same period.

The **volume of arrest offenses** is the total number of arrest offenses among the released prisoners during the follow-up period. A former prisoner may have had multiple arrests during the follow-up period, and a single arrest may have involved charges for more than one crime.

The median age at the time of release was older for sex offenders (age 38) than for all released prisoners (age 34) and for assault offenders (age 34). Forty-four percent of sex offenders were age 40 or older at release, compared to 27% of assault offenders and 31% of all offenders.

About half of sex offenders had 5 or more prior arrests and about a third had at least 1 prior drug arrest

About half (52%) of prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape or sexual assault had four or fewer arrests for any type of crime in their criminal history prior to their release in 2005, and about half (48%) had five or more prior arrests. On average, sex offenders had fewer prior arrests in their criminal history than assault offenders. The median number of prior arrests among sex offenders was four, compared to nine for assault offenders. Prior to their release, 31% of sex offenders had been arrested at least once for a drug offense and 56% for a property offense.

Sex offenders were less likely than other released prisoners to be arrested during the 9 years following release

An estimated 83% of the 401,288 prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 were arrested for a new crime within 9 years of release (table 2). The percentage of released prisoners arrested within 9 years for any type of crime after serving time for rape or sexual assault was 67%. That was higher than for prisoners released after serving time for homicide (60%) and lower than for prisoners released after serving time for robbery (84%) or assault (83%). Sex offenders (67%) were also less likely to be arrested following release than prisoners released after serving time for property (88%), drug (84%), or public-order (82%) offenses. Among released prisoners who were arrested during the 9-year follow-up period, 96% of sex offenders and 99% of all offenders were arrested for an offense other than a probation or parole violation (not shown in tables).

Among all 401,288 prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, 381,093 (95%) were serving time for offenses other than rape or sexual assault (i.e., their most serious commitment offense was not a violent sex offense). An estimated 84% of prisoners released after serving time for an offense other than rape or sexual assault were arrested for any type of offense during the 9-year follow-up period.

TABLE 2
Percent of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 who were arrested within 9 years following release, by most serious commitment offense and types of post-release arrest charges

Most serious commitment offense	Post-release arrest offense								
	Any offense	Violent			Property	Drug	Public order		
		Total violent ^a	Homicide	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Assault			
All prisoners	83.3%	39.1%	1.2%	2.6%	7.8%	31.3%	48.0%	48.0%	68.4%
Violent ^a	78.1%	43.4%	1.4%	4.0%	9.2%	34.1%	39.6%	36.7%	65.0%
Homicide	60.0	29.5	2.7	1.9	4.3	23.1	24.4	26.1	45.8
Rape/sexual assault	66.9	28.1	0.2	7.7	3.8	18.7	24.2	18.5	58.9
Robbery	84.1	47.2	1.5	3.4	16.8	34.3	47.7	45.3	67.1
Assault	82.9	50.7	1.4	2.8	7.7	44.2	44.3	43.2	69.6
Property	87.8%	40.3%	1.0%	2.5%	9.1%	31.9%	63.5%	48.4%	72.4%
Drug	83.7%	34.0%	1.1%	1.6%	5.8%	28.0%	42.4%	60.4%	66.9%
Public order	81.8%	39.8%	1.3%	2.4%	6.7%	32.5%	42.5%	38.8%	70.1%
Rape/sexual assault*	66.9%	28.1%	0.2%	7.7%	3.8%	18.7%	24.2%	18.5%	58.9%
Offense other than rape/sexual assault ^b	84.1% †	39.6% †	1.2% †	2.3% †	8.0% †	31.9% †	49.2% †	49.6% †	68.9% †

Note: The numerator for each percentage is the number of persons arrested for that offense during the 9-year follow-up period, and the denominator is the number released after serving time for each type of commitment offense. Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Details may not sum to totals because a person may be arrested more than once for different types of offenses and each arrest may involve more than one offense. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group (rape/sexual assault) is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes other miscellaneous violent offenses that are not shown separately.

^bIncludes the 381,093 prisoners whose most serious commitment offense was an offense other than rape or sexual assault.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

Sex offenders were three times as likely as other offenders to be arrested for rape or sexual assault during the 9 years following release

Among all prisoners released across 30 states in 2005, 2.6% were arrested for rape or sexual assault during the 9-year follow-up period. Among prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault, 7.7% were arrested for rape or sexual assault within 9 years of release. Prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault (7.7%) were more than twice as likely to be arrested for rape or sexual assault during the 9-year follow-up period than prisoners released after serving time for robbery (3.4%), assault (2.8%), or homicide (1.9%). Overall, prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault (7.7%) were more than three times as likely as other released prisoners (2.3%) to be arrested for rape or sexual assault during the 9 years following release.

Sex offenders were more likely to be arrested for an assault or a drug, property, or public-order offense than for rape or sexual assault during the 9 years after release. During the 9-year follow-up period, approximately 1 in 5 (19%) sex offenders were arrested at least once for assault, 1 in 4 (24%) were arrested for a property offense, and 1 in 5 (18%) were arrested for a drug offense, while 1 in 13 (7.7%) were arrested for a rape or sexual assault. The majority (59%) of prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault were arrested for a public-order offense within 9 years.

In addition to the 20,195 prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving time for rape or sexual assault, other prisoners released that year had prior arrests for rape or sexual assault in their criminal-history records.

Of the 381,093 prisoners released in 2005 after serving time for offenses other than rape or sexual assault, 25,948 (6.5%) had been arrested at least once for rape or sexual assault in their criminal history prior to being released in 2005 (not shown in tables).

Among the 25,948 prisoners released in 2005 whose most serious commitment offense was not rape or sexual assault but who had at least one prior arrest for rape or sexual assault, 6.7% were arrested for rape or sexual assault during the 9 years following release (not shown in tables). Of those prisoners released after serving time for offenses other than rape or sexual assault who had no prior arrests for rape or sexual assault, 2.0% were arrested for rape or sexual assault during the 9-year follow-up period.

Overall, a combined total of 46,144 prisoners released in 2005 either had been serving time for rape or sexual assault (20,195) or had been serving time for another type offense but had previously been arrested for rape or sexual assault (25,948). Of these 46,144 released prisoners, 7.2% were arrested for rape or sexual assault during the 9 years following release.

18% of sex offenders were arrested for the first time during years 4 through 9 after release

The cumulative arrest percentage among released sex offenders increased 18 percentage points when the follow-up period was extended from 3 to 9 years. About half (49%) of prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault were arrested within 3 years, while 62% were arrested within 6 years (table 3). By the end of the 9-year follow-up period, the percentage

TABLE 3
Cumulative percent of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 who were arrested following release, by year following release and most serious commitment offense

Year after release	Most serious commitment offense							
	All prisoners		Rape/sexual assault		Assault		Offense other than rape/sexual assault	
	Year of first arrest	Cumulative arrest percentage	Year of first arrest	Cumulative arrest percentage	Year of first arrest	Cumulative arrest percentage	Year of first arrest	Cumulative arrest percentage
1	43.8%	43.8%	29.0%	29.0%	43.2%	43.2%	44.5%	44.5%
2	16.2	60.0	12.9	41.9	16.2	59.4	16.4	60.9
3	8.3	68.3	7.0	48.9	8.5	67.9	8.4	69.3
4	5.1	73.4	4.9	53.8	5.6	73.5	5.2	74.4
5	3.5	76.9	4.4	58.2	4.1	77.5	3.5	77.9
6	2.3	79.3	3.6	61.8	2.1	79.6	2.3	80.2
7	1.7	80.9	2.0	63.8	1.5	81.2	1.7	81.8
8	1.3	82.3	1.9	65.7	1.1	82.3	1.3	83.1
9	1.0	83.3	1.2	66.9	0.7	82.9	1.0	84.1

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. See appendix table 5 for standard errors. Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

of sex offenders arrested after release had increased to 67%. Released sex offenders were less likely (49%) than other released prisoners (69%) to be arrested within 3 years but more likely to be arrested for the first time in years 4 through 9 (18% versus 15%).

Among prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault who were arrested during the 9-year follow-up period, 63% were arrested for the first time during the first 2 years. Among prisoners released after serving time for an offense other than rape or sexual assault who were arrested during the 9-year follow-up period, 72% were arrested for the first time during the first 2 years (not shown in tables).

Sex offenders had a lower cumulative arrest percentage than assault offenders. During year-1, 29% of sex offenders were arrested, compared to 43% of assault offenders. By the end of year-9, 67% of sex offenders had been arrested, compared to 83% of assault offenders.

As with released prisoners as a whole, the longer sex offenders went without being arrested after release, the less likely they were to be arrested during the 9-year follow-up period. While 13% of sex offenders were arrested following release for the first time in year-2, that constituted 18% of the 71% who were not arrested in year-1 (not shown in tables). For those not arrested by the end of year-2, 12% were arrested by the end of year-3. Nine percent of those not arrested in years 1 through 5 were arrested in year-6. In year-9, 4% of the released sex offenders who went 8 years without an arrest were arrested.

Half of prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault had an arrest within 9 years that led to a conviction

This study also examines the percentage of prisoners who had an arrest during the 9 years following release that resulted in a conviction. This measure was based on prisoners released from the 29 states in the study (all but Louisiana) that had the necessary data. (See *Methodology*.)

Sex offenders were less likely than all prisoners released in 2005 to have had a new arrest that resulted in a conviction after release. During the first 3 years after release, 28% of prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault had a new arrest that led to a conviction, compared to 49% of all prisoners (table 4). At the end of the 9-year follow-up period, 50% of prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault had a new arrest that led to a conviction, compared to 69% of all prisoners.

The percentage of sex offenders who had an arrest that led to a conviction within 9 years of release (50%) was about three-quarters of the percentage of sex offenders who were arrested within 9 years of release (67%).

TABLE 4
Cumulative arrest percentage of prisoners released in 29 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who had an arrest that led to a conviction after release

Year after release	All prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	25.4%	12.8%	22.4%
2	39.6	22.3	37.7
3	49.0	28.4	46.4
4	55.3	34.2	53.5
5	59.8	38.5	58.3
6	63.1	42.2	62.1
7	65.7	45.2	65.1
8	67.8	48.1	67.7
9	69.2	49.6	68.8

Note: Estimates based on time from release to first arrest that led to a conviction among prisoners released in 29 of the study's 30 states (all but Louisiana). Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

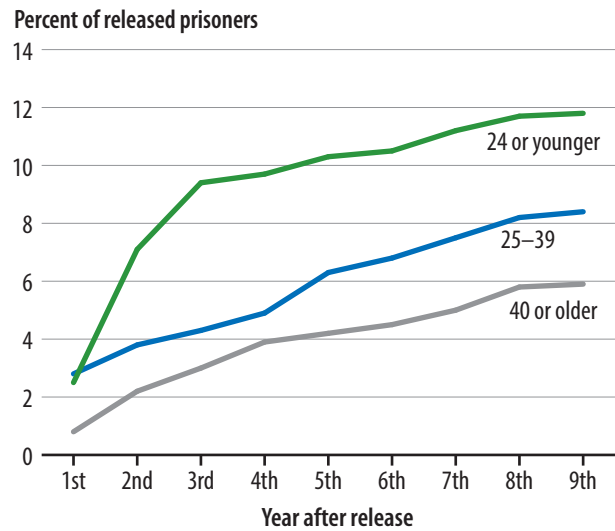
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

Younger sex offenders were more likely than older sex offenders to be arrested for another sex offense post-release

Overall, 4.4% of sex offenders were arrested for another sex offense within 3 years following release (table 5). After 9 years following release, the percentage rose to 7.7%. Younger sex offenders (those age 24 or younger at the time of release) were more likely to be arrested for rape or sexual assault following release than older sex offenders (age 40 or older at the time of release).

Nearly 10% (9.4%) of sex offenders age 24 or younger at the time of their release were arrested for rape or sexual assault within 3 years of release, compared to 3.0% of those age 40 or older (figure 2). About half of those age 24 or younger who were arrested within 3 years of release for rape or sexual assault were arrested in year-2 alone (4.6%). Overall, within 9 years of release, sex offenders age 24 or younger were twice as likely to be arrested for rape or sexual assault (11.8%) as sex offenders age 40 or older (5.9%).

FIGURE 2
Cumulative percent of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault who were arrested for rape/sexual assault after release, by age and year after release



Note: Age groups are based on prisoners' age at time of release after serving a sentence for rape or sexual assault. See table 5 for estimates and appendix table 7 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

TABLE 5
Cumulative percent of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault who were arrested for rape/sexual assault after release, by age and year after release

Most serious commitment offense	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
All prisoners	0.5%	0.9%	1.2%	1.5%	1.8%	2.0%	2.2%	2.4%	2.6%
Prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault	1.9	3.5	4.4	5.1	5.9	6.3	6.9	7.6	7.7%
Age at release									
24 or younger	2.5	7.1	9.4	9.7	10.3	10.5	11.2	11.7	11.8
25–39	2.8	3.8	4.3	4.9	6.3	6.8	7.5	8.2	8.4
40 or older	0.8	2.2	3.0	3.9	4.2	4.5	5.0	5.8	5.9
Race/Hispanic origin									
White ^a	1.6	2.6	3.2	3.9	4.6	5.1	5.5	5.8	6.2
Black/African American ^a	1.7	4.4	4.6	6.0	6.5	6.8	7.7	9.7	9.7
Hispanic/Latino	3.3	4.9	7.5	7.5	8.1	8.1	8.6	8.6	8.6
Other ^{a,b}	1.0	2.6	3.8	4.1	4.5	4.7	6.7	6.7	6.9

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Data on prisoners' sex and age at release were known for 100% of cases, and race/Hispanic origin was known for 99.86%. See appendix table 7 for standard errors.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

^bIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Other Pacific Islanders; American Indians and Alaska Natives; and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

Measuring recidivism as a return to prison

In addition to arrests, returns to prison are another measure that can be used when studying prisoner recidivism. The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) relies on a combination of criminal-history records from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and state repositories, along with prisoner records obtained from state departments of corrections through the National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP), to estimate the percentage of released state prisoners who returned to prison.

BJS published a report in 2014 on state prisoners released in 2005 that used a 5-year follow-up period to examine offending patterns based on other recidivating events, including a conviction and return to prison.² The return-to-prison analysis for that report was based on prisoners released from the 23 states that could provide the necessary data. (See *Methodology*.) BJS used the annual 2005-10 NCRP files to supplement the criminal-history records with information on released prisoners who returned to prison for a probation or parole violation or a sentence for a new crime.

When BJS extended the follow-up period from 5 to 9 years, only 17 states could provide the

prison-admission data needed to identify returns to prison for the entire time frame. As a result, this report provides return-to-prison rates for only the first 5 years following release for the prisoners released in the 23 states with the necessary data. The 5-year return-to-prison rates of released sex offenders were not included in prior reports on prisoners released in 2005.

Prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault had a lower 5-year return-to-prison rate than released prisoners overall. Among prisoners serving time for rape or sexual assault who were released in 2005 in the 23 states with available data on returns to prison, 35% had a parole or probation violation or an arrest for a new offense that led to imprisonment within 3 years, while 40% had one within 5 years. In comparison, 55% of all prisoners released in 2005 had a parole or probation violation or an arrest for a new offense that led to imprisonment within 5 years.

Due to limitations with the prison-admission data used for this study, it is not possible to distinguish between returns to prison for parole or probation violations and returns to prison for sentences for new crimes. It is also not possible to determine how many of the returns to prison were for rape or sexual assault (or other types of crimes).

²*Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010*, NCJ 244205, BJS web, April 2014.

Within 3 years of release, sex offenders with 10 or more prior arrests for any crime (5.7%) were not statistically significantly more likely to be arrested for rape or sexual assault than those with 5 to 9 prior arrests (4.5%) and those with 4 or fewer prior arrests (3.7%) (not shown in tables). Within 9 years of release, sex offenders with 10 or more prior arrests for any crime (10.4%) were not statistically significantly more likely to be arrested for rape or sexual assault than those with 5 to 9 prior arrests (8.3%) and those with 4 or fewer prior arrests (6.4%) (not shown in tables).

11% of prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault were arrested at least once outside the state that released them

Five percent of prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault were arrested outside of the state that released them, for any type of crime, during the first 3 years after release (table 6). During years 4 through 9, the out-of-state cumulative arrest rate increased to 11%. Among prisoners released after serving time for assault, 8% were arrested in another state within 3 years and 17% were arrested within 9 years. Fewer than 1% of sex offenders were arrested in another state for rape or sexual assault during the

9 years following release (not shown in tables). Of the released sex offenders arrested for a new crime during the 9-year follow-up period, 17% had been arrested out-of-state and 83% had been arrested only within the state that released them (not shown in tables).

TABLE 6
Cumulative percent of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who were arrested outside the state of release, by year after release

Year after release	All prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	3.3%	2.1%	3.6%
2	5.7	3.4	6.4
3	7.7	5.2	8.4
4	9.3	6.7	10.2
5	10.8	8.2	11.9
6	12.1	9.4	13.1
7	13.3	10.1	14.4
8	14.4	10.6	15.6
9	15.4	11.4	16.7

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. See appendix table 8 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005* data collection, 2005–2014.

Annual arrest percentages among sex offenders declined during the 9 years following their release

Overall, 84% of sex offenders who were age 24 or younger at release were arrested for any type of crime within 9 years after release, compared to 72% of those ages 25 to 39 and 57% of those age 40 or older (table 7). Twenty-nine percent of all sex offenders were arrested during their first year after release, compared to 16% during their ninth year. Among sex offenders who were age 24 or younger at release, the annual arrest percentage declined from 43% in year-1 to 19%

in year-9. Roughly a third (33%) of sex offenders ages 25 to 39 were arrested during their first year after release, compared to about a sixth (17.5%) during their ninth year.

Thirty-five percent of sex offenders who were Hispanic were arrested in year-1, while the annual arrest rate declined by more than two-thirds to 11% in year-9. This decrease was larger than the decrease between years 1 and 9 for sex offenders who were white (from 24% to 13%) or who were black (from 35% to 26%).

TABLE 7
Annual arrest percentage of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault, by prisoner characteristics

Characteristic	Number of released prisoners	Total arrested within 9 years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
All prisoners	401,288	83.3%	43.8%	37.6%	34.2%	31.9%	30.0%	27.9%	27.2%	25.9%	24.0%
Prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault	20,195	66.9%	29.0%	26.6%	24.2%	19.3%	20.2%	19.5%	17.6%	17.3%	16.1%
Age at release											
24 or younger	2,486	83.8	42.9	37.5	29.7	21.2	26.9	21.9	25.5	27.5	18.7
25–39	8,867	72.0	32.7	30.4	27.5	21.7	23.1	22.5	19.3	17.5	17.5
40 or older	8,842	57.1	21.3	19.7	19.2	16.3	15.3	15.7	13.7	14.3	14.0
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	10,499	61.3	23.8	22.0	20.1	16.7	16.4	17.2	14.0	15.9	12.8
Black/African American ^a	5,482	78.6	35.0	34.1	30.1	24.8	27.4	21.6	26.0	25.3	25.7
Hispanic/Latino	3,459	64.9	34.9	26.6	27.1	16.4	20.9	22.4	15.1	9.2	11.2
Other ^{a,b}	713	66.9	25.4	31.7	19.7	24.3	11.6	17.2	13.6	11.5	9.8
Prisoners released after serving a sentence for assault	38,468	82.9%	43.2%	38.1%	34.0%	32.4%	31.3%	29.0%	29.0%	28.4%	24.8%
Age at release											
24 or younger	7,468	87.3	50.9	43.5	35.4	31.0	35.5	29.1	25.8	29.1	27.4
25–39	20,511	85.2	44.1	39.1	36.1	33.8	32.2	30.0	32.1	30.8	26.7
40 or older	10,489	75.4	35.9	32.4	28.9	30.7	26.5	27.1	25.3	23.4	19.2
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	13,841	80.3	38.8	34.5	32.5	29.7	30.9	29.7	27.5	26.6	23.1
Black/African American ^a	14,562	86.4	45.2	41.4	35.7	35.0	31.2	30.3	29.9	28.9	25.6
Hispanic/Latino	8,629	80.6	46.0	37.5	32.8	33.0	31.7	24.9	28.8	28.7	25.4
Other ^{a,b}	1,312	85.0	47.0	44.6	34.6	29.5	34.0	32.6	33.1	37.6	24.8

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Percentages exclude missing data. Data on prisoners' age at release were reported for 100% of cases, and race/Hispanic origin was known for 99.86%. See appendix table 9 for standard errors.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

^bIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Other Pacific Islanders; American Indians and Alaska Natives; and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

During the first year following release, 7% of sex offenders were arrested for a violent offense, 6% for a property offense, 4% for a drug offense, and 23% for a public-order offense (table 8). During the ninth year, these percentages fell to 3% each for a violent, property, or drug offense, and 13% for a public-order offense. During the 9 years after release, 28% of prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual

assault were arrested for a violent crime at least once, compared to 59% arrested for a public-order crime, 24% for a property crime, and 18% for a drug crime. Sex offenders were arrested for a violent offense less often than assault offenders during each year after release. This pattern was also observed for arrests for property, drug, and public-order offenses.

TABLE 8

Annual arrest percentage of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault, by types of post-release arrest offenses

Most serious commitment offense and type of post-release arrest offense	Total arrested within 9 years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Commitment offense: Rape or sexual assault										
Post-release arrest offense										
Violent	28.1%	6.6%	6.4%	5.3%	5.4%	5.3%	3.7%	4.1%	3.0%	2.6%
Property	24.2	5.7	5.7	4.7	4.0	4.7	3.8	4.2	4.5	3.1
Drug	18.5	4.2	4.5	3.8	1.9	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.3
Public order	58.9	23.4	20.9	19.5	15.3	14.7	14.7	13.9	13.4	13.0
Commitment offense: Assault										
Post-release arrest offense										
Violent	50.7%	12.9%	13.1%	10.4%	11.1%	11.6%	8.1%	8.6%	8.6%	7.5%
Property	44.3	12.5	10.7	11.1	8.8	7.9	8.0	8.7	8.9	8.3
Drug	43.2	11.5	12.1	7.8	9.2	8.7	8.1	8.7	9.0	8.0
Public order	69.6	30.9	25.1	23.2	22.4	20.0	19.3	19.2	19.6	16.3

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. See appendix table 10 for standard errors.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

Prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault accounted for 16% of arrests for rape or sexual assault during the follow-up period

Prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 were arrested an estimated 2 million times during the 9 years after release. An arrest may involve charges for more than one offense. For instance, one arrest could include charges for a violent crime and a drug crime. These arrests included an estimated 2.9 million different types of offenses (table 9).

The majority of arrests for a specific type of crime did not involve those who had been in prison for the same type of offense. During the 9-year follow-up period, prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault made up 16% of the approximately 12,000

arrests for rape or sexual assault that occurred among all prisoners released in 2005 in the study’s 30 states. Prisoners released after serving time for other offenses accounted for the remaining 84% of the arrests for rape or sexual assault during the 9-year follow-up period. Although sex offenders accounted for 16% of the post-release arrests for rape or sexual assault, they represented 5% of all those released from prison in 30 states in 2005. (See appendix table 1.)

During the 9 years after release, prisoners released after serving time for assault made up 15% of the 232,000 arrests for assault, and prisoners released after serving time for other offenses accounted for the remaining 85% of the assault arrests. Prisoners released after serving time for assault accounted for 10% of all released prisoners.

TABLE 9
Types of offenses for which prisoners were arrested within 9 years following release in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense

Post-release arrest offense	Number of post-release arrest offenses	Most serious commitment offense								
		Total	Violent					Property	Drug	Public order
			Homicide	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Assault	Other violent			
Any offense	2,900,000	100%	0.9%	2.8%	6.6%	9.8%	1.9%	35.1%	31.8%	11.2%
Violent										
Total*	347,000	100%	1.3%	3.3%	8.8%	14.2%	2.8%	30.0%	26.5%	13.2%
Homicide	5,000	100%	4.5	1.2	8.2	10.6	5.4	27.6	28.1	14.5
Rape/sexual assault	12,000	100%	1.4	15.6	10.4	10.1	3.0	27.7	19.9	11.9
Robbery	40,000	100%	1.0	2.2	16.3	9.4	1.8	35.1	23.8	10.4
Assault	232,000	100%	1.3	2.7	7.5	15.5	2.6	29.9	27.1	13.6
Property	688,000	100%	0.7%	1.8%	7.0%	7.4%	1.5%	47.0%	24.6%	10.0%
Drug	673,000	100%	0.8%	1.5%	5.7%	7.7%	1.1%	29.4%	44.6%	9.2%
Public order	1,193,000	100%	1.0%	3.9%	6.1%	11.1%	2.3%	33.0%	30.3%	12.3%
Percent of all released prisoners		100%	1.9%	5.0%	7.2%	9.6%	2.1%	29.7%	31.9%	12.7%

Note: An arrest may involve charges for more than one type of offense. Each unique offense category included in an arrest is counted once. There were an estimated 1,990,000 post-release arrests of the 401,288 prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, and these included approximately 2,900,000 different offenses. Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Number of post-release arrest offenses for each sub-category was rounded to the nearest 1,000. See appendix table 11 for standard errors.

*Includes other miscellaneous violent offenses, not shown separately.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

Almost 6% of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 were serving time for rape or sexual assault

Rape or sexual assault was the most serious commitment offense for 5.5% (19,871) of the 358,398 male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 (table 10). The median age at the time of release in 2005 was older for male sex offenders (age 38) than for all male prisoners released in the 30 states (age 34) and male assault offenders (age 32). Forty-four percent of male sex offenders were age 40 or older at release, compared to 27% of male assault offenders and 31% of all male offenders.

TABLE 10
Characteristics of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense

Characteristic	All male prisoners	Most serious commitment offense		Offense other than rape/sexual assault
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault	
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Race/Hispanic origin				
White ^a	38.4%	51.7%	36.1%	37.6%
Black/African American ^a	40.9	27.4	37.2	41.7
Hispanic/Latino	18.4	17.3	23.2	18.4
Other ^{a,b}	2.4	3.6	3.4	2.3
Age at release				
24 or younger	18.3%	12.3%	19.6%	18.7%
25–29	19.7	15.9	21.7	20.0
30–34	15.9	14.0	17.1	16.0
35–39	15.2	13.9	14.7	15.3
40 or older	30.8	44.0	26.9	30.1
Median	34 yrs.	38 yrs.	32 yrs.	34 yrs.
Mean	34.9	38.9	34.0	34.6
Type of prison release				
Conditional	74.3%	68.0%	76.0%	74.7%
Unconditional	25.7	32.0	24.0	25.3
Maximum sentence length^c				
1–<2 years	18.1%	10.4%	12.4%	18.6%
2–<5 years	44.6	34.4	56.4	45.2
5–<10 years	22.5	27.8	20.5	22.2
10 years or more	14.7	27.4	10.7	14.0
Median	39 mos.	60 mos.	36 mos.	36 mos.
Number of prior arrests per released prisoner^d				
4 or fewer	24.5%	52.0%	24.2%	22.8%
5–9	30.4	26.8	30.2	30.6
10 or more	45.2	21.2	45.6	46.6
Median	9 arsts.	4 arsts.	9 arsts.	9 arsts.
Mean	11.0	6.4	10.9	11.3
At least one prior arrest for—				
Drug offense	70.5%	30.6%	58.5%	72.9%
Property offense	81.2	56.1	78.6	82.7
Number of released prisoners	358,398	19,871	35,771	338,527

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Percentages exclude missing data. Data on male prisoners' age at release were reported for 100% of cases; race/Hispanic origin, for 99.85%; type of prison release, for 98.21%; and maximum sentence length, for 99.72%. See appendix table 12 for standard errors.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

^bIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Other Pacific Islanders; American Indians and Alaska Natives; and persons of two or more races.

^cBased on the released prisoners' total maximum sentence length for all commitment offenses. Study excludes prisoners sentenced to less than one year.

^dIncludes arrests for any type of crime prior to the prisoners' date of release in 2005.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

Fewer than 1% of female prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 were serving time for rape or sexual assault

Fewer than 1% (324) of the 42,890 female prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 were serving time for rape or sexual assault (table 11). The median age at release for female sex offenders was 34, four years younger than the median age for male sex offenders. The median maximum sentence length for female sex offenders was 5 years, the same as for male sex offenders. Seventy-six percent of female sex offenders were white, compared to 52% of male sex offenders.

On average, female sex offenders had fewer prior arrests in their criminal history than male sex offenders. The median number of prior arrests among male sex offenders was four, compared to two for female sex offenders.

Nearly 8 in 10 (79%) female sex offenders had fewer than five arrests for any type of crime prior to their release in 2005, compared to about half (52%) of male sex offenders.

TABLE 11
Characteristics of female prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense

Characteristic	All female prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
Total	100%	100%	100%
Race/Hispanic origin			
White ^a	51.0%	75.9%	35.5%
Black/African American ^a	33.9	14.3	47.9
Hispanic/Latino	12.3	8.6	13.0
Other ^{a,b}	2.9	1.2	3.6
Age at release			
24 or younger	12.0%	15.0%	17.2%
25–29	16.6	15.9	16.0
30–34	17.1	20.1	17.4
35–39	19.7	16.1	17.6
40 or older	34.6	32.8	31.8
Median	36 yrs.	34 yrs.	35 yrs.
Mean	36.0	35.7	34.8
Type of prison release			
Conditional	71.9%	62.7%	66.8%
Unconditional	28.1	37.3	33.2
Maximum sentence length^c			
1–<2 years	27.8%	17.8%	19.8%
2–<5 years	45.8	21.6	55.2
5–<10 years	18.3	36.6	18.3
10 years or more	8.1	24.0	6.7
Median	36 mos.	60 mos.	36 mos.
Number of prior arrests per released prisoner^d			
4 or fewer	28.0%	78.9%	35.5%
5–9	29.3	12.6	30.7
10 or more	42.7	8.5	33.8
Median	8 arsts.	2 arsts.	6 arsts.
Mean	10.8	3.8	9.0
At least one prior arrest for—			
Drug offense	72.0%	27.4%	49.8%
Property offense	81.8	36.4	69.8
Number of released prisoners	42,890	324	2,697

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Percentages exclude missing data. Data on female prisoners' age at release were reported for 100% of cases; race/Hispanic origin, for 99.97%; and maximum sentence length, for 99.68%. See appendix table 13 for standard errors.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

^bIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Other Pacific Islanders; American Indians and Alaska Natives; and persons of two or more races.

^cBased on the released prisoners' total maximum sentence length for all commitment offenses. Study excludes prisoners sentenced to less than one year.

^dIncludes arrests for any type of crime prior to the prisoners' date of release in 2005.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

67% of male prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault were arrested within 9 years

About half (49%) of male prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault were arrested for any type of crime within 3 years, while 62% were arrested within 6 years (table 12). By the end of the 9-year follow-up period, the percentage of male sex offenders arrested after release had increased to 67%. At the end of the 9-year follow-up period, male sex offenders had a lower cumulative arrest percentage than all male prisoners (84%).

Four percent of male prisoners released after serving time for rape or sexual assault were arrested for rape or sexual assault within 3 years, while 8% were arrested for rape or sexual assault within 9 years (appendix table 18). Additional recidivism statistics on male sex offenders are available in appendix tables 16 to 22.

Among the 324 females released from state prisons after serving time for rape or sexual assault in 30 states in 2005, an estimated 29% were arrested for any type of crime at least once during the first year after release (table 13). Forty percent were arrested within 3 years of their release, while 50% were arrested within 6 years. By the end of the 9-year follow-up period, 54% of female sex offenders had been arrested after release. Female sex offenders had a lower 9-year cumulative arrest percentage than all female prisoners (77%). The sample of female sex offenders in this study included too few cases to provide reliable estimates on the percentage arrested for rape or sexual assault following release.

TABLE 12
Cumulative arrest percentage of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who were arrested after release, by year after release

Year after release	All male prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	44.8%	29.0%	44.1%
2	61.1	42.0	60.3
3	69.4	49.1	68.9
4	74.4	53.9	74.5
5	77.9	58.4	78.5
6	80.2	62.0	80.6
7	81.8	64.0	82.1
8	83.1	65.9	83.1
9	84.0	67.1	83.8

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. See appendix table 14 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

TABLE 13
Cumulative arrest percentage of female prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who were arrested after release, by year after release

Year after release	All female prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	35.1%	28.8%	31.5%
2	50.8	38.1	47.0
3	59.2	40.2	54.9
4	64.7	44.6	60.3
5	68.9	47.0	64.4
6	71.4	50.0	67.1
7	73.6	53.8	69.0
8	75.3	53.8	70.9
9	76.7	54.4	71.7

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. See appendix table 15 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

Methodology

Sampling

This study estimates the recidivism patterns of persons released in 2005 from state prisons in 30 states. States were included in this study if the state departments of corrections (DOCs) could provide the prisoner records and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) or state identification numbers on persons released from prison during 2005, through the National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP), which is administered by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS).

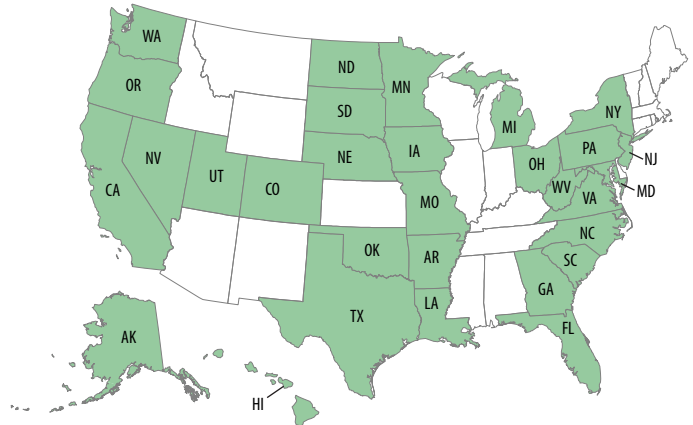
The fingerprint-based identification numbers were required to obtain the criminal-history records on released prisoners. Prisoner records also included each prisoner's sex, race, Hispanic origin, date of birth, confinement offenses, sentence length, type of prison release, and date of release. The 30 states with DOCs that submitted the NCRP data on prisoners released in 2005 were Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia ([map 1](#)).

Across the 30 states in 2005, a total of 412,731 prisoners were released and were eligible for this study. That number excludes 131,997 prisoners (for a total of 544,728) who were sentenced to less than one year, were transferred to the custody of another authority, died in prison, were released on bond, were released to seek or participate in an appeal of a case, or escaped from prison or were absent without official leave. When a prisoner was released multiple times during the year, the first release during 2005 was used.

From the universe of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 in this study, all males and females who were in prison for homicide were selected with certainty into the study. Analyses were completed to determine the number of prisoners released after serving time for non-homicide offenses that would be needed from each state's universe of released prisoners to yield a statistically sound estimate of that state's recidivism rates.

MAP 1

States included in the BJS recidivism study of prisoners released in 2005



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

As a result, states contributed different numbers of records to the final sample. To achieve the desired state-level samples, lists of all males and females imprisoned for a non-homicide offense were sorted separately by race, Hispanic origin, age, most serious commitment offense, and the country in which the sentence was imposed. The within-state sampling rate for female prisoners was double that of males to improve the precision of female recidivism estimates. The combined number of persons in the 30 state samples totaled 70,878 individuals. (This number dropped to 67,966 after accounting for those who died during the subsequent 9 years, lacked criminal-history records, or had invalid release records.) Each prisoner in the sample was assigned a weight based on the probability of selection within the state.

Collecting and processing criminal-history data for recidivism research

BJS used the state and FBI identification numbers to collect the criminal-history records on the released prisoners through the FBI's Interstate Identification Index (III) via the International Justice and Public Safety Network (Nlets). These records contained arrests, from state and federal criminal-justice agencies across the 50 states and the District of Columbia, prior to and following prison releases in 2005. Nlets parsed

fields from individual criminal-history records into a relational database with a uniform record layout consisting of state- and federal-specific numeric codes and text descriptions (e.g., criminal statutes and case-outcome information).

NORC at the University of Chicago helped BJS standardize the content of the relational database into a uniform coding structure to support the national-level recidivism research. With the exception of vehicular manslaughter, driving under the influence or driving while intoxicated (DUI/DWI), and hit-and-run offenses, BJS excluded traffic violations from the study due to the variation in coverage of these events in state criminal-history records.

This study used the death information from the FBI's III and the Social Security Administration's public Death Master File to identify individuals who died during the 9-year follow-up period. BJS documented that 2,173 of the 70,878 sampled prisoners died during the 9-year follow-up period and removed these cases from the recidivism analysis along with four additional cases that were determined to be invalid release records.

Missing criminal-history records

Among the 68,701 sampled prisoners not identified as deceased during the follow-up period, BJS did not receive criminal-history records on a total of 735 prisoners (involving 27 of the study's 30 states) because either the state DOCs were unable to provide the prisoners' FBI or state identification number or the prisoner had an identification number that did not link to a criminal-history record either in the FBI or a state record repository. To account for the missing criminal-history records and to ensure the recidivism statistics were representative of all 68,701 prisoners in the analysis, BJS developed weighting-class adjustments to account for those prisoners without criminal-history information to reduce non-response bias.

To create the statistical adjustments, the 68,701 sampled prisoners were stratified into groups by crossing two categories of sex (male or female), five categories of age at release (24 or younger, 25 to 29, 30 to 34, 35 to 39, or 40 or older), four categories of race and Hispanic origin (non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, Hispanic, or other race), and four categories of the most serious commitment offense (violent, property,

drug, or public order). Within each subgroup, statistical weights were applied to the data of the 67,966 prisoners with criminal-history information to allow their data to represent the 735 prisoners without criminal-history information.

Conducting tests of statistical significance

This study was based on a sample, not a complete enumeration, so the estimates are subject to sampling error. One measure of the sampling error associated with an estimate is the standard error. The standard error can vary from one estimate to the next. In general, an estimate with a smaller standard error provides a more accurate approximation of the true value than an estimate with a larger standard error. Estimates with relatively large standard errors should be interpreted with caution. BJS conducted tests to determine whether differences in the estimates were statistically significant once the sampling error was taken into account.

All differences discussed in this report are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level unless otherwise stated. Standard errors were generated using Stata, a statistical software package that calculates sampling errors for data from complex sample surveys.

Other measures of recidivism

In addition to new arrests, this study examined the recidivism patterns of former prisoners based on arrests within 9 years of exiting prison in 2005 that resulted in a subsequent court conviction. This measure is based on the time from release to the first date of arrest that led to a conviction, not the date of the conviction. The arrests that occurred within the follow-up period were tracked for 6 more months after year-9 to determine whether the case outcomes led to a subsequent conviction. This measure included prisoners released in 29 of the study's 30 states. Prisoners released in Louisiana were excluded because the disposition information from that state was generally not linked to the associated arrest.

The return-to-prison rates were based on prisoners released from 23 of the 30 states. The criminal-history data provided information on arrests that resulted in imprisonment during the follow-up period either within or outside of the state that released the prisoner, while the NCRP data provided

information on returns to prison for probation or parole violations or sentences for new crimes within the state that released them. Prisoners released in Maryland, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia were excluded from the return-to-prison analysis because the complete prison-admission data needed to locate returns to prison during the first 5 years following release were unavailable. Prisoners released in Louisiana were also excluded from the return-to-prison analysis because the sentencing information in the criminal-history records was generally not linked to the associated arrest.

Comparing recidivism rates in this report to those from prior BJS studies

Given the increases in the number of states in the study and the length of the follow-up period, as well as improvements to the nation's criminal-history records over time, direct comparisons of the recidivism estimates from this study should not be made to those from BJS recidivism studies of previously released cohorts of prisoners.

Direct comparisons of the 9-year recidivism rates from this study on prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 to the 3-year rates from the previous BJS recidivism study on prisoners released in 15 states in 1994 should not be made due to differences in the two samples of prisoners. To control for the differences in the number of states in the studies and follow-up period lengths, BJS conducted analyses that limited the comparison to the 3-year cumulative arrest percentages among the prisoners released in the 11 states that provided the data for both studies (California, Florida, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, and Virginia).

Among the prisoners released in these 11 states in 1994 after serving time for rape or sexual assault, 5% of the prisoners were arrested for rape or sexual assault within 3 years. Of those released in these 11 states in 2005 after serving time for rape or sexual assault, 4% of the prisoners were arrested for rape or sexual assault within 3 years. The difference between these percentages was not statistically significant.

Due to efforts by the FBI and individual states to improve their criminal-history record systems, national criminal-history data may now capture more information on offenders' criminal activities than in the past. However, the potential effects of these improvements of the nation's criminal-history records on the observed recidivism rates are difficult to quantify.

For the 2005 study, BJS first used the prisoner records and criminal-history data to analyze the 5-year recidivism patterns. BJS extended the original 5-year follow-up period to 9 years to assess how recidivism patterns change with longer follow-up periods. Findings from this study were published in *2018 Update on Prisoner Recidivism: A 9-Year Follow-up Period (2005-2014)* (NCJ 250975, BJS web, May 2018). Recidivism estimates in this report may differ slightly from previously published estimates on prisoners released in 2005 based on updates to the data used for the study.

Offense definitions

Violent offenses include homicide, rape or sexual assault, robbery, assault, and other miscellaneous or unspecified violent offenses.

Homicide includes murder, non-negligent and negligent manslaughter, and unspecified homicide offenses.

Rape or sexual assault includes (1) forcible intercourse (vaginal, anal, or oral) with a female or male; (2) forcible sodomy or penetration with a foreign object (sometimes called "deviate sexual assault"); (3) forcible or violent sexual acts not involving intercourse; (4) non-forcible sexual acts with a minor (such as statutory rape or incest with a minor); and (5) non-forcible sexual acts with someone unable to give legal or factual consent due to mental or physical defect or intoxication.

Robbery is the unlawful taking of property that is in the immediate possession of another, by force or the threat of force. Includes forcible purse-snatching but excludes non-forcible purse-snatching.

Assault includes aggravated, simple, and unspecified assault. Aggravated assault includes (1) intentionally and without legal justification causing serious bodily injury, with or without a deadly weapon; or (2) using a deadly or dangerous weapon to threaten, attempt, or cause bodily injury, regardless of the degree of injury, if any. It also includes attempted murder, aggravated battery, felonious assault, and assault with a deadly weapon. Simple assault includes intentionally and without legal justification causing less-than-serious bodily injury without a deadly or dangerous weapon, or attempting or threatening bodily injury without a dangerous or deadly weapon.

Property offenses include burglary, fraud or forgery, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and other miscellaneous or unspecified property offenses.

Drug offenses include possession, trafficking, and other miscellaneous or unspecified drug offenses.

Public-order offenses include violations of the peace or order of the community or threats to the public health or safety through unacceptable conduct, interference with a governmental authority, or the violation of civil rights or liberties. This category includes weapons offenses, DUI/DWI, probation and parole violations, obstruction of justice, commercialized vice, disorderly conduct, and other miscellaneous or unspecified offenses.

Arrests for probation and parole violations

In this report, arrests for probation and parole violations were included as public-order offenses. Excluding arrests for probation and parole violations from the analysis would have had only a small impact on the recidivism rates. Excluding arrests for probation and parole violations, 64.2% of state prisoners released in 2005 in 30 states after serving time for rape or sexual assault were arrested at least once within 9 years. By comparison, 66.9% of such released offenders were arrested within 9 years when including these arrests. In other words, 96% of the released sex offenders who were arrested during the 9-year follow-up period were arrested for an offense other than a probation or parole violation.

APPENDIX TABLE 1**Most serious commitment offense of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, by sex of offender**

Most serious commitment offense	All prisoners		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	401,288	100%	358,398	100%	42,890	100%
Violent	103,197	25.7%	96,879	27.0%	6,317	14.7%
Homicide	7,569	1.9	6,869	1.9	700	1.6
Rape/sexual assault	20,195	5.0	19,871	5.5	324	0.8
Robbery	28,717	7.2	27,046	7.5	1,671	3.9
Assault	38,468	9.6	35,771	10.0	2,697	6.3
Other violent	8,247	2.1	7,323	2.0	924	2.2
Property	119,323	29.7%	103,013	28.7%	16,310	38.0%
Drug	127,890	31.9%	111,565	31.1%	16,325	38.1%
Public order	50,879	12.7%	46,940	13.1%	3,939	9.2%

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 2**Standard errors for appendix table 1: Most serious commitment offense of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, by sex of offender**

Most serious commitment offense	All prisoners		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	44	~	42	~	13	~
Violent	1,053	0.26%	1,043	0.29%	149	0.35%
Homicide	1	--	3	--	3	0.01
Rape/sexual assault	535	0.13	534	0.15	36	0.08
Robbery	592	0.15	587	0.16	81	0.19
Assault	781	0.19	773	0.22	109	0.25
Other violent	361	0.09	354	0.10	68	0.16
Property	1,108	0.28%	1,086	0.30%	215	0.50%
Drug	1,116	0.28%	1,096	0.31%	214	0.50%
Public order	740	0.18%	732	0.20%	107	0.25%

--Less than 0.005%.

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 3

Standard errors for table 1: Characteristics of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense

Characteristic	Most serious commitment offense			
	All prisoners	Rape/sexual assault	Assault	Offense other than rape/sexual assault
Sex				
Male	0.003%	0.18%	0.30%	0.02%
Female	0.003	0.18	0.30	0.02
Race/Hispanic origin				
White	0.28%	1.37%	1.02%	0.29%
Black/African American	0.27	1.17	0.99	0.28
Hispanic/Latino	0.27	1.28	1.07	0.27
Other	0.09	0.52	0.41	0.09
Age at release				
24 or younger	0.22%	0.83%	0.84%	0.23%
25–29	0.24	0.98	0.90	0.24
30–34	0.22	0.93	0.83	0.23
35–39	0.22	0.95	0.78	0.23
40 or older	0.28	1.37	0.96	0.28
Mean	0.06 yrs.	0.32 yrs.	0.20 yrs.	0.06 yrs.
Type of prison release				
Conditional	0.17%	1.11%	0.74%	0.17%
Unconditional	0.17	1.11	0.74	0.17
Maximum sentence length				
1–<2 years	0.23%	0.86%	0.61%	0.24%
2–<5 years	0.29	1.38	1.02	0.29
5–<10 years	0.22	1.21	0.80	0.23
10 years or more	0.14	1.06	0.45	0.13
Number of prior arrests per released prisoner				
4 or fewer	0.20%	1.37%	0.80%	0.20%
5–9	0.26	1.23	0.97	0.27
10 or more	0.28	1.31	1.10	0.28
Mean	0.06 arsts.	0.22 arsts.	0.21 arsts.	0.06 arsts.
At least one prior arrest for—				
Drug offense	0.25%	1.36%	1.04%	0.25%
Property offense	0.20	1.34	0.80	0.20
Number of released prisoners	44	535	781	537

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 4

Standard errors for table 2: Percent of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 who were arrested within 9 years following release, by most serious commitment offense and types of post-release arrest charges

Most serious commitment offense	Post-release arrest offense								
	Any offense	Violent				Property	Drug	Public order	
		Total violent	Homicide	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery				Assault
All prisoners	0.20%	0.29%	0.07%	0.10%	0.18%	0.28%	0.30%	0.30%	0.24%
Violent	0.45%	0.59%	0.13%	0.24%	0.36%	0.57%	0.59%	0.59%	0.52%
Homicide	0.06	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06
Rape/sexual assault	1.24	1.25	0.06	0.72	0.61	1.07	1.21	1.12	1.30
Robbery	0.74	1.07	0.18	0.44	0.80	1.01	1.07	1.08	0.93
Assault	0.76	1.09	0.25	0.36	0.62	1.08	1.09	1.09	0.91
Property	0.33%	0.56%	0.12%	0.18%	0.36%	0.53%	0.54%	0.56%	0.45%
Drug	0.35%	0.51%	0.12%	0.14%	0.28%	0.48%	0.53%	0.51%	0.45%
Public order	0.56%	0.76%	0.20%	0.19%	0.46%	0.72%	0.77%	0.77%	0.66%
Rape/sexual assault	1.24%	1.25%	0.06%	0.72%	0.61%	1.07%	1.21%	1.12%	1.30%
Offense other than rape/sexual assault	0.20%	0.30%	0.07%	0.09%	0.18%	0.29%	0.31%	0.30%	0.24%

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 5

Standard errors for table 3: Cumulative percent of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 who were arrested following release, by year following release and most serious commitment offense

Year after release	Most serious commitment offense							
	All prisoners		Rape/sexual assault		Assault		Offense other than rape/sexual assault	
	Year of first arrest	Cumulative arrest percentage	Year of first arrest	Cumulative arrest percentage	Year of first arrest	Cumulative arrest percentage	Year of first arrest	Cumulative arrest percentage
1	0.29%	0.29%	1.36%	1.36%	1.10%	1.10%	0.29%	0.29%
2	0.21	0.27	0.90	1.38	0.78	1.02	0.22	0.27
3	0.15	0.25	0.64	1.37	0.57	0.95	0.15	0.25
4	0.11	0.23	0.47	1.35	0.45	0.88	0.12	0.23
5	0.09	0.22	0.57	1.31	0.38	0.82	0.09	0.22
6	0.07	0.21	0.49	1.28	0.24	0.80	0.07	0.21
7	0.06	0.21	0.32	1.26	0.17	0.78	0.06	0.21
8	0.05	0.20	0.26	1.25	0.17	0.77	0.06	0.20
9	0.05	0.20	0.28	1.24	0.12	0.76	0.05	0.20

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 6

Standard errors for table 4: Cumulative arrest percentage of prisoners released in 29 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who had an arrest that led to a conviction after release

Year after release	All prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	0.28%	1.00%	0.94%
2	0.30	1.18	1.08
3	0.31	1.25	1.09
4	0.30	1.32	1.08
5	0.29	1.34	1.05
6	0.29	1.36	1.03
7	0.28	1.36	1.00
8	0.28	1.36	0.97
9	0.27	1.36	0.96

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 8

Standard errors for table 6: Cumulative percent of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who were arrested outside the state of release, by year after release

Year after release	All prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	0.09%	0.27%	0.38%
2	0.11	0.37	0.49
3	0.13	0.54	0.56
4	0.15	0.62	0.62
5	0.16	0.69	0.67
6	0.17	0.74	0.70
7	0.18	0.75	0.73
8	0.19	0.76	0.76
9	0.19	0.79	0.79

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 7

Standard errors for table 5 and figure 2: Cumulative percent of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault who were arrested for rape/sexual assault after release, by age and year after release

Most serious commitment offense	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
All prisoners	0.04%	0.06%	0.07%	0.07%	0.08%	0.09%	0.09%	0.09%	0.10%
Prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault	0.37%	0.47%	0.56%	0.63%	0.67%	0.67%	0.69%	0.72%	0.72%
Age at release									
24 or younger	0.75	1.92	2.44	2.45	2.46	2.46	2.46	2.50	2.50
25–39	0.77	0.82	0.85	0.87	1.01	1.02	1.04	1.06	1.07
40 or older	0.27	0.43	0.64	0.90	0.90	0.91	0.93	1.04	1.04
Race/Hispanic origin									
White	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.68	0.71	0.72	0.74	0.75	0.76
Black/African American	0.48	0.78	0.80	1.11	1.13	1.14	1.19	1.41	1.41
Hispanic/Latino	1.47	1.87	2.44	2.44	2.46	2.46	2.48	2.48	2.48
Other	0.39	0.95	1.16	1.19	1.25	1.28	1.67	1.67	1.69

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 9

Standard errors for table 7: Annual arrest percentage of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault, by prisoner characteristics

Characteristic	Number of released prisoners	Total arrested within 9 years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
All prisoners	44	0.20%	0.29%	0.29%	0.29%	0.29%	0.28%	0.28%	0.28%	0.27%	0.27%
Prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault	535	1.24%	1.36%	1.31%	1.30%	1.12%	1.14%	1.17%	1.12%	1.09%	1.10%
Age at release											
24 or younger	176	2.25	3.61	3.55	3.34	2.71	3.41	2.92	3.41	3.31	2.67
25–39	355	1.75	2.08	2.05	1.99	1.70	1.78	1.78	1.71	1.62	1.71
40 or older	374	2.07	2.01	1.88	1.98	1.77	1.59	1.80	1.62	1.62	1.67
Race/Hispanic origin											
White	356	1.63	1.68	1.56	1.57	1.38	1.32	1.45	1.30	1.35	1.26
Black/African American	267	1.79	2.48	2.46	2.46	2.16	2.31	2.05	2.34	2.37	2.45
Hispanic/Latino	295	4.01	4.24	4.13	4.08	3.26	3.55	3.78	3.35	2.63	2.85
Other	106	7.03	6.97	7.81	5.53	7.05	2.67	5.46	2.70	2.32	1.85
Prisoners released after serving a sentence for assault	781	0.76%	1.10%	1.09%	1.06%	1.05%	1.05%	1.03%	1.04%	1.04%	1.01%
Age at release											
24 or younger	351	1.49	2.37	2.40	2.31	2.20	2.35	2.18	2.06	2.22	2.23
25–39	599	1.01	1.53	1.51	1.50	1.48	1.46	1.45	1.49	1.49	1.43
40 or older	425	1.66	2.10	2.04	1.95	2.02	1.96	1.98	1.94	1.90	1.78
Race/Hispanic origin											
White	465	1.27	1.75	1.69	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.69	1.63	1.64	1.56
Black/African American	435	0.89	1.55	1.55	1.52	1.51	1.49	1.47	1.51	1.50	1.45
Hispanic/Latino	483	2.16	2.89	2.85	2.76	2.75	2.73	2.58	2.67	2.72	2.66
Other	159	4.28	6.07	6.17	5.80	5.15	5.80	5.79	5.79	6.01	5.01

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 10

Standard errors for table 8: Annual arrest percentage of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault, by types of post-release arrest offenses

Most serious commitment offense and type of post-release arrest offense	Total arrested within 9 years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Commitment offense: Rape or sexual assault										
Post-release arrest offense										
Violent	1.25%	0.76%	0.69%	0.67%	0.71%	0.65%	0.46%	0.53%	0.42%	0.41%
Property	1.21	0.72	0.65	0.65	0.59	0.66	0.56	0.62	0.65	0.47
Drug	1.12	0.67	0.66	0.59	0.30	0.49	0.53	0.56	0.54	0.55
Public order	1.30	1.31	1.26	1.25	1.06	1.02	1.08	1.08	1.00	1.06
Commitment offense: Assault										
Post-release arrest offense										
Violent	1.09%	0.74%	0.76%	0.66%	0.70%	0.73%	0.57%	0.61%	0.64%	0.60%
Property	1.09	0.75	0.69	0.71	0.62	0.57	0.61	0.66	0.68	0.66
Drug	1.09	0.77	0.78	0.58	0.68	0.68	0.65	0.71	0.72	0.71
Public order	0.91	1.09	1.03	1.00	0.99	0.96	0.95	0.95	0.97	0.90

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 11

Standard errors for table 9: Types of offenses for which prisoners were arrested within 9 years following release in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense

Post-release arrest offense	Number of post-release arrest offenses	Most serious commitment offense							
		Homicide	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Assault	Other violent	Property	Drug	Public order
Any offense	24,074	0.01%	0.17%	0.25%	0.39%	0.16%	0.57%	0.55%	0.34%
Violent									
Total	4,212	0.02%	0.24%	0.34%	0.57%	0.28%	0.65%	0.60%	0.44%
Homicide	335	0.29	0.32	1.08	1.87	2.04	3.25	2.75	2.28
Rape/sexual assault	504	0.06	1.53	1.38	1.20	0.66	1.86	1.80	1.25
Robbery	1,086	0.03	0.37	0.91	0.86	0.30	1.38	1.27	0.81
Assault	3,082	0.02	0.21	0.32	0.64	0.34	0.68	0.63	0.47
Property	7,651	0.01%	0.18%	0.30%	0.34%	0.15%	0.65%	0.55%	0.33%
Drug	8,728	0.01%	0.16%	0.30%	0.42%	0.13%	0.73%	0.77%	0.45%
Public order	12,873	0.01%	0.26%	0.30%	0.54%	0.22%	0.68%	0.68%	0.44%
Percent of all released prisoners		--	0.13	0.15	0.19	0.09	0.28	0.28	0.18

--Less than 0.005%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 12**Standard errors for table 10: Characteristics of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense**

Characteristic	All male prisoners	Most serious commitment offense		Offense other than rape/sexual assault
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault	
Race/Hispanic origin				
White	0.31%	1.39%	1.09%	0.32%
Black/African American	0.30	1.18	1.06	0.31
Hispanic/Latino	0.29	1.30	1.14	0.30
Other	0.10	0.52	0.43	0.10
Age at release				
24 or younger	0.25%	0.84%	0.89%	0.26%
25–29	0.26	1.00	0.96	0.27
30–34	0.24	0.94	0.89	0.25
35–39	0.24	0.96	0.83	0.25
40 or older	0.31	1.38	1.02	0.31
Mean	0.07 yrs.	0.33 yrs.	0.21 yrs.	0.07 yrs.
Type of prison release				
Conditional	0.18%	1.12%	0.78%	0.19%
Unconditional	0.18	1.12	0.78	0.19
Maximum sentence length				
1–<2 years	0.25%	0.88%	0.64%	0.26%
2–<5 years	0.32	1.40	1.09	0.32
5–<10 years	0.25	1.23	0.86	0.25
10 years or more	0.15	1.07	0.48	0.15
Number of prior arrests per prisoner				
4 or fewer	0.23%	1.39%	0.84%	0.22%
5–9	0.29	1.25	1.03	0.30
10 or more	0.31	1.33	1.17	0.31
Mean	0.07 arsts.	0.23 arsts.	0.23 arsts.	0.07 arsts.
At least one prior arrest for—				
Drug offense	0.28%	1.38%	1.11%	0.28%
Property offense	0.23	1.35	0.85	0.22
Number of released prisoners	42	534	773	536

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 13

Standard errors for table 11: Characteristics of female prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense

Characteristic	All female prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
Race/Hispanic origin			
White	0.50%	4.64%	1.95%
Black/African American	0.47	3.29	2.07
Hispanic/Latino	0.41	3.77	1.78
Other	0.15	0.36	0.69
Age at release			
24 or younger	0.32%	4.17%	1.46%
25–29	0.38	3.25	1.56
30–34	0.38	4.28	1.62
35–39	0.41	4.24	1.61
40 or older	0.49	5.40	1.95
Mean	0.09 yrs.	1.04 yrs.	0.36 yrs.
Type of prison release			
Conditional	0.30%	5.29%	1.79%
Unconditional	0.30	5.29	1.79
Maximum sentence length			
1–<2 years	0.46%	4.14%	1.44%
2–<5 years	0.50	3.80	2.00
5–<10 years	0.34	5.70	1.48
10 years or more	0.17	4.56	0.73
Number of prior arrests per released prisoner			
4 or fewer	0.35%	4.96%	1.85%
5–9	0.45	3.87	1.94
10 or more	0.47	3.73	2.09
Mean	0.11 arsts.	0.50 arsts.	0.38 arsts.
At least one prior arrest for—			
Drug offense	0.40%	5.96%	2.08%
Property offense	0.34	5.19	1.78
Number of released prisoners			
	13	36	109

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 14

Standard errors for table 12: Cumulative arrest percentage of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who were arrested after release, by year after release

Year after release	All male prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	0.32%	1.37%	1.17%
2	0.29	1.40	1.09
3	0.27	1.38	1.00
4	0.26	1.36	0.93
5	0.24	1.33	0.87
6	0.23	1.30	0.84
7	0.23	1.28	0.83
8	0.22	1.27	0.81
9	0.22	1.25	0.81

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 15

Standard errors for table 13: Cumulative arrest percentage of female prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who were arrested after release, by year after release

Year after release	All female prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	0.49%	5.64%	2.04%
2	0.49	5.68	2.09
3	0.47	5.66	2.04
4	0.45	5.62	1.98
5	0.43	5.58	1.92
6	0.42	5.53	1.87
7	0.41	5.49	1.83
8	0.40	5.49	1.79
9	0.39	5.48	1.78

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 16

Percent of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 who were arrested within 9 years following release, by most serious commitment offense and types of post-release arrest offenses

Most serious commitment offense	Post-release arrest offense								
	Any offense	Violent					Property	Drug	Public order
		Total violent ^a	Homicide	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Assault			
All male prisoners	84.0%	40.9%	1.3%	2.9%	8.3%	32.8%	48.0%	48.6%	69.6%
Violent^a	78.8%	44.2%	1.4%	4.3%	9.5%	34.7%	39.6%	37.2%	65.8%
Homicide	61.9	30.7	2.9	2.1	4.5	23.9	25.2	27.3	47.6
Rape/sexual assault	67.1	28.4	0.2	7.9	3.9	18.8	24.4	18.7	59.0
Robbery	84.5	48.1	1.5	3.6	17.1	34.8	47.4	45.6	67.6
Assault	83.8	51.9	1.4	3.0	8.1	45.1	44.4	44.2	70.8
Property	88.8%	43.1%	1.1%	2.9%	9.8%	34.2%	64.1%	49.5%	74.0%
Drug	84.9%	36.1%	1.2%	1.8%	6.3%	29.8%	42.6%	61.5%	68.4%
Public order	82.3%	41.0%	1.4%	2.6%	7.0%	33.3%	42.5%	39.1%	71.0%
Rape/sexual assault*	67.1%	28.4%	0.2%	7.9%	3.9%	18.8%	24.4%	18.7%	59.0%
Offense other than rape/sexual assault^b	85.0% †	41.7% †	1.3% †	2.6% †	8.5% †	33.6% †	49.3% †	50.3% †	70.2% †

Note: The numerator for each percentage is the number of persons arrested for that offense during the 9-year follow-up period, and the denominator is the number released after serving time for each type of commitment offense. Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Details may not sum to totals because a person may be arrested more than once for different types of offenses and each arrest may involve more than one offense. See appendix table 1 for the number of released male prisoners by most serious commitment offense. See appendix table 23 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group (rape/sexual assault) is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes other miscellaneous violent offenses, not shown separately.

^bIncludes the 338,527 male prisoners whose most serious commitment offense was an offense other than rape or sexual assault.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 17

Cumulative percent of male prisoners released in 29 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who had an arrest that led to a conviction after release

Year after release	All male prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	26.0%	12.9%	23.1%
2	40.3	22.4	38.7
3	49.9	28.7	47.5
4	56.2	34.5	54.7
5	60.8	38.9	59.4
6	64.1	42.5	63.4
7	66.7	45.3	66.4
8	68.7	48.3	69.1
9	70.1	49.7	70.0

Note: Estimates based on time from release to first arrest that led to a conviction among prisoners released in 29 of the study's 30 states (all but Louisiana). Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. See appendix table 24 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 18

Cumulative percent of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault who were arrested for rape/sexual assault after release, by age and year after release

Most serious commitment offense	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
All male prisoners	0.6%	1.0%	1.4%	1.7%	1.9%	2.2%	2.5%	2.7%	2.9%
Male prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault	1.9%	3.5%	4.4%	5.1%	6.0%	6.4%	7.0%	7.7%	7.9%
Age at release									
24 or younger	2.5	7.2	9.5	9.9	10.4	10.6	11.4	11.9	12.0
25–39	2.9	3.9	4.4	5.0	6.4	7.0	7.6	8.3	8.6
40 or older	0.8	2.2	3.0	4.0	4.3	4.6	5.0	5.9	6.0
Race/Hispanic origin									
White ^a	1.6	2.7	3.3	4.0	4.7	5.2	5.6	6.0	6.3
Black/African American ^a	1.7	4.4	4.6	6.0	6.6	6.9	7.8	9.7	9.7
Hispanic/Latino	3.4	5.0	7.6	7.6	8.2	8.2	8.6	8.7	8.7
Other ^{a,b}	0.8	2.4	3.7	3.9	4.3	4.6	6.5	6.5	6.8

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Data on prisoners' sex and age at release were known for 100% of cases; and race/Hispanic origin, for 99.96%. See appendix table 25 for standard errors.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

^bIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Other Pacific Islanders; American Indians and Alaska Natives; and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 19

Cumulative percent of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who were arrested outside the state of release, by year after release

Year after release	All male prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	3.4%	2.1%	3.8%
2	5.9	3.5	6.5
3	7.9	5.3	8.6
4	9.6	6.8	10.4
5	11.1	8.3	12.2
6	12.5	9.5	13.4
7	13.7	10.2	14.7
8	14.8	10.8	15.9
9	15.8	11.5	17.1

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. See appendix table 26 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 20

Annual arrest percentage of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault, by prisoner characteristics

Characteristic	Number of released prisoners	Total arrested within 9 years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
All male prisoners	358,398	84.0%	44.8%	38.2%	34.7%	32.3%	30.4%	28.3%	27.6%	26.3%	24.3%
Male prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault	19,871	67.1%	29.0%	26.6%	24.3%	19.4%	20.4%	19.6%	17.7%	17.5%	16.3%
Age at release											
24 or younger	2,437	83.7	42.4	37.4	29.7	21.2	27.1	22.1	25.8	27.8	18.9
25–39	8,698	72.3	32.8	30.5	27.8	21.9	23.4	22.6	19.4	17.7	17.7
40 or older	8,736	57.3	21.5	19.7	19.3	16.4	15.4	15.9	13.8	14.4	14.1
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	10,253	61.5	23.7	21.9	20.2	16.9	16.6	17.5	14.2	16.1	13.0
Black/African American ^a	5,435	78.9	35.2	34.1	30.3	24.9	27.6	21.6	26.0	25.5	25.8
Hispanic/Latino	3,431	65.1	34.8	26.7	27.3	16.2	21.0	22.4	15.1	9.2	11.3
Other ^{a,b}	709	66.7	25.2	31.7	19.7	24.1	11.3	17.1	13.5	11.4	9.7
Male prisoners released after serving a sentence for assault	35,771	83.8%	44.1%	38.7%	34.4%	32.8%	31.9%	29.7%	29.7%	29.0%	25.2%
Age at release											
24 or younger	7,005	88.2	52.2	45.2	36.3	31.0	36.1	29.8	25.9	29.9	28.0
25–39	19,134	85.9	44.7	39.3	36.3	34.3	32.8	30.5	32.8	31.1	27.1
40 or older	9,631	76.3	36.9	32.6	29.5	31.3	27.2	28.0	26.3	24.1	19.5
Race/Hispanic origin											
White ^a	12,884	81.1	39.5	34.7	32.9	29.8	31.5	30.3	27.9	26.9	23.3
Black/African American ^a	13,270	87.6	46.4	42.5	36.4	36.0	32.0	31.1	30.9	29.6	26.3
Hispanic/Latino	8,278	81.2	46.5	37.8	33.0	33.1	32.0	25.4	29.5	29.1	25.9
Other ^{a,b}	1,215	86.1	48.6	45.6	35.7	29.7	35.3	33.9	34.4	39.4	25.0

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Percentages exclude missing data. Data on male prisoners' age at release were reported for 100% of cases; and race/Hispanic origin, for 99.85%. See appendix table 27 for standard errors.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic whites and "black" refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

^bIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Other Pacific Islanders; American Indians and Alaska Natives; and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 21

Annual arrest percentage of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault, by types of post-release arrest offenses

Most serious commitment offense and type of post-release arrest offense	Total arrested within 9 years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Male prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault										
Violent	28.4%	6.7%	6.4%	5.4%	5.4%	5.3%	3.8%	4.1%	3.0%	2.6%
Property	24.4	5.7	5.7	4.7	4.0	4.7	3.9	4.3	4.5	3.1
Drug	18.7	4.3	4.6	3.9	1.9	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3
Public order	59.0	23.4	20.9	19.6	15.3	14.8	14.8	14.0	13.5	13.1
Male prisoners released after serving a sentence for assault										
Violent	51.9%	13.3%	13.6%	10.7%	11.5%	12.1%	8.3%	8.9%	8.9%	7.5%
Property	44.4	12.6	10.7	11.1	8.9	7.8	7.9	8.7	8.8	8.5
Drug	44.2	11.9	12.3	7.9	9.4	9.0	8.3	8.9	9.2	8.2
Public order	70.8	31.6	25.6	23.6	22.7	20.4	19.9	19.8	20.2	16.7

Note: Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. See appendix table 28 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 22

Types of offenses for which male prisoners were arrested within 9 years following release in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense

Most serious commitment offense	Arrest offense								
	Any offense	Total*	Violent						
			Homicide	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Assault	Property	Drug	Public order
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Violent	22.9%	30.9%	29.9%	40.7%	31.4%	29.9%	19.3%	17.7%	25.3%
Homicide	0.9	1.3	4.4	1.4	1.1	1.3	0.7	0.8	1.0
Rape/sexual assault	3.0	3.4	1.2	15.8	2.3	2.8	2.0	1.6	4.2
Robbery	6.8	8.9	8.2	10.4	16.5	7.6	7.4	6.0	6.3
Assault	10.2	14.4	10.6	10.1	9.7	15.6	7.7	8.2	11.5
Other violent	1.9	2.8	5.5	3.0	1.8	2.6	1.5	1.1	2.3
Property	34.5%	29.6%	27.5%	27.5%	34.5%	29.6%	46.2%	28.8%	32.5%
Drug	31.2%	26.2%	28.0%	19.8%	23.5%	26.9%	24.1%	43.9%	29.6%
Public order	11.5%	13.4%	14.7%	12.0%	10.6%	13.6%	10.4%	9.6%	12.6%
Number of arrest offenses during the 9 years following release	2,644,000	329,000	5,000	12,000	38,000	219,000	613,000	606,000	1,096,000

Note: An arrest may involve charges for more than one type of offense. Each unique offense category included in an arrest is counted once. There were an estimated 1,809,000 post-release arrests of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, and these included approximately 2,644,000 different offenses. Persons could have been in prison for more than one offense, the most serious of which is reported. Number of post-release arrest offenses was rounded to the nearest 1,000. See appendix table 29 for standard errors.

*Includes other miscellaneous violent offenses, not shown separately.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 23

Standard errors for appendix table 16: Percent of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 who were arrested within 9 years following release, by most serious commitment offense and types of post-release arrest offenses

Most serious commitment offense	Post-release arrest offense								
	Any offense	Violent					Property	Drug	Public order
		Total violent	Homicide	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Assault			
All male prisoners	0.22%	0.32%	0.08%	0.11%	0.20%	0.31%	0.33%	0.33%	0.26%
Violent	0.47%	0.63%	0.14%	0.26%	0.38%	0.60%	0.62%	0.62%	0.55%
Homicide	0.19	0.18	0.06	0.06	0.08	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.19
Rape/sexual assault	1.25	1.27	0.06	0.74	0.62	1.09	1.22	1.14	1.32
Robbery	0.78	1.12	0.19	0.47	0.84	1.06	1.12	1.13	0.98
Assault	0.81	1.16	0.26	0.39	0.66	1.15	1.16	1.16	0.97
Property	0.37%	0.63%	0.14%	0.21%	0.41%	0.60%	0.61%	0.63%	0.50%
Drug	0.39%	0.57%	0.14%	0.16%	0.32%	0.54%	0.60%	0.57%	0.50%
Public order	0.59%	0.82%	0.22%	0.20%	0.50%	0.78%	0.83%	0.82%	0.70%
Rape/sexual assault	1.25%	1.27%	0.06%	0.74%	0.62%	1.09%	1.22%	1.14%	1.32%
Offense other than rape/sexual assault	0.22%	0.33%	0.08%	0.11%	0.20%	0.32%	0.34%	0.33%	0.27%

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 24

Standard errors for appendix table 17: Cumulative percent of male prisoners released in 29 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who had an arrest that led to a conviction after release

Year after release	All male prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	0.31%	1.03%	1.01%
2	0.33	1.21	1.16
3	0.34	1.29	1.17
4	0.33	1.36	1.15
5	0.32	1.38	1.13
6	0.32	1.40	1.10
7	0.31	1.40	1.07
8	0.30	1.41	1.04
9	0.30	1.40	1.03

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 26

Standard errors for appendix table 19: Cumulative percent of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault who were arrested outside the state of release, by year after release

Year after release	All male prisoners	Most serious commitment offense	
		Rape/sexual assault	Assault
1	0.10%	0.27%	0.41%
2	0.13	0.38	0.52
3	0.15	0.55	0.60
4	0.16	0.63	0.66
5	0.18	0.70	0.71
6	0.19	0.75	0.75
7	0.20	0.76	0.78
8	0.20	0.77	0.81
9	0.21	0.80	0.85

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 25

Standard errors for appendix table 18: Cumulative percent of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault who were arrested for rape/sexual assault after release, by age and year after release

Most serious commitment offense	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
All male prisoners	0.05%	0.06%	0.07%	0.08%	0.09%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.11%
Male prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault	0.38%	0.48%	0.57%	0.64%	0.68%	0.68%	0.70%	0.73%	0.74%
Age at release									
24 or younger	0.76	1.95	2.49	2.50	2.50	2.51	2.51	2.55	2.55
25–39	0.78	0.83	0.86	0.89	1.03	1.04	1.06	1.08	1.09
40 or older	0.28	0.44	0.64	0.91	0.92	0.92	0.94	1.05	1.05
Race/Hispanic origin									
White	0.47	0.54	0.57	0.70	0.72	0.74	0.76	0.77	0.78
Black/African American	0.49	0.79	0.80	1.12	1.14	1.15	1.20	1.42	1.42
Hispanic/Latino	1.48	1.88	2.46	2.46	2.48	2.48	2.50	2.50	2.50
Other	0.37	0.94	1.16	1.18	1.24	1.27	1.66	1.66	1.69

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 27

Standard errors for appendix table 20: Annual arrest percentage of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault, by prisoner characteristics

Characteristic	Number of released prisoners	Total arrested within 9 years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
All male prisoners	42	0.22%	0.32%	0.32%	0.32%	0.32%	0.31%	0.31%	0.31%	0.30%	0.30%
Male prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault	534	1.25%	1.37%	1.33%	1.32%	1.14%	1.16%	1.18%	1.14%	1.11%	1.11%
Age at release											
24 or younger	176	2.29	3.68	3.61	3.40	2.76	3.48	2.97	3.47	3.37	2.72
25–39	354	1.78	2.11	2.09	2.02	1.73	1.82	1.82	1.74	1.65	1.74
40 or older	373	2.09	2.03	1.90	2.00	1.79	1.61	1.82	1.64	1.64	1.69
Race/Hispanic origin											
White	354	1.66	1.71	1.59	1.60	1.41	1.35	1.48	1.33	1.38	1.29
Black/African American	267	1.80	2.50	2.48	2.48	2.17	2.33	2.07	2.36	2.38	2.47
Hispanic/Latino	295	4.04	4.27	4.16	4.11	3.29	3.58	3.81	3.37	2.66	2.87
Other	106	7.07	7.01	7.85	5.56	7.10	2.66	5.49	2.70	2.32	1.85
Male prisoners released after serving a sentence for assault	773	0.81%	1.17%	1.16%	1.13%	1.12%	1.12%	1.10%	1.11%	1.11%	1.07%
Age at release											
24 or younger	348	1.57	2.50	2.53	2.45	2.33	2.48	2.32	2.18	2.35	2.37
25–39	593	1.07	1.62	1.61	1.59	1.57	1.55	1.54	1.58	1.59	1.52
40 or older	420	1.78	2.26	2.19	2.10	2.18	2.11	2.13	2.09	2.05	1.92
Race/Hispanic origin											
White	461	1.34	1.85	1.79	1.77	1.78	1.78	1.80	1.73	1.75	1.66
Black/African American	429	0.95	1.66	1.68	1.64	1.63	1.61	1.59	1.64	1.62	1.57
Hispanic/Latino	480	2.24	2.99	2.95	2.86	2.85	2.83	2.68	2.77	2.82	2.76
Other	157	4.54	6.50	6.59	6.23	5.51	6.23	6.22	6.22	6.44	5.38

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 28

Standard errors for appendix table 21: Annual arrest percentage of male prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault or assault, by types of post-release arrest offenses

Most serious commitment offense and type of post-release arrest offense	Total arrested within 9 years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Male prisoners released after serving a sentence for rape/sexual assault										
Violent	1.27%	0.78%	0.70%	0.68%	0.72%	0.66%	0.47%	0.54%	0.43%	0.42%
Property	1.22	0.73	0.66	0.66	0.60	0.67	0.57	0.63	0.66	0.48
Drug	1.14	0.68	0.67	0.60	0.30	0.50	0.54	0.57	0.55	0.55
Public order	1.32	1.33	1.28	1.27	1.08	1.03	1.10	1.09	1.01	1.08
Male prisoners released after serving a sentence for assault										
Violent	1.16%	0.79%	0.81%	0.71%	0.75%	0.79%	0.61%	0.66%	0.69%	0.64%
Property	1.16	0.80	0.74	0.75	0.66	0.61	0.64	0.70	0.72	0.71
Drug	1.16	0.83	0.83	0.62	0.73	0.73	0.70	0.76	0.76	0.75
Public order	0.97	1.16	1.10	1.07	1.05	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.04	0.96

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

APPENDIX TABLE 29

Standard errors for appendix table 22: Types of offenses for which male prisoners were arrested within 9 years following release in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense

Most serious commitment offense	Arrest offense								
	Any offense	Total	Homicide	Violent Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Assault	Property	Drug	Public order
Violent	0.52%	0.70%	2.82%	2.07%	1.29%	0.75%	0.53%	0.59%	0.69%
Homicide	0.01	0.02	0.31	0.07	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01
Rape/sexual assault	0.19	0.25	0.33	1.55	0.39	0.23	0.21	0.18	0.28
Robbery	0.27	0.35	1.10	1.39	0.95	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.33
Assault	0.42	0.60	1.91	1.21	0.90	0.67	0.37	0.46	0.58
Other violent	0.17	0.30	2.09	0.67	0.31	0.35	0.17	0.14	0.23
Property	0.61%	0.68%	3.34%	1.88%	1.44%	0.72%	0.72%	0.79%	0.73%
Drug	0.60%	0.63%	2.82%	1.82%	1.32%	0.66%	0.60%	0.84%	0.74%
Public order	0.38%	0.46%	2.34%	1.26%	0.85%	0.50%	0.37%	0.49%	0.47%
Number of arrest offenses during the 9 years following release	23,699	4,181	334	504	1,075	3,053	7,501	8,551	12,707

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Jeffrey H. Anderson is the director.

This report was written by Mariel Alper and Matthew R. Durose. Joshua Markman, a former BJS statistician, assisted with developing this study. Stephanie Mueller verified the report.

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