



**HAMPDEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
NICHOLAS COCCHI
SHERIFF**

HOUSE OF CORRECTION

RECIDIVISM REPORT

2015 & 2013 Releases

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METHODOLOGY

Lists of individuals released from the House of Correction are drawn monthly by a query of the Jail Management System (JMS) and the TRAX Case Management System. Offenders not released to the street (transferred to other institutions or returned to pretrial status for new charges) are not included. Official criminal records are accessed from the Department of Criminal Justice Information Services (DCJIS) website. Any activity within the criminal court system in Massachusetts is recorded.

Recidivism is reported along four dimensions:

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

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

SECTION ONE

ONE-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES

2015 RELEASES

OVERVIEW OF THE 2015 RELEASE COHORT

- During 2015, 1763 sentenced offenders were released to the street. This represents a decrease of 53 (2.9%) from the previous year.
- Of those released, 28% (487) were females and 72% (1276) were males. One male was reported deceased during the first year post release and has been removed from the cohort.
- 13.4% (236) were paroled and 86.2% (1520) were released via expiration of sentence or payment of fines (“wrapped”). Seven inmates had their sentences revised or revoked by the court. Parolees served 54% of their sentence; those who wrapped served 73%.
- 49% (239) of females and 64% (812) of males were already recidivists by virtue of having at least one prior adult incarceration.
- Of those serving their first adult incarceration, 31% (222) had a juvenile record in Massachusetts.
- Female releases ranged in age from 20 to 69 years of age. The most common age was 28. Males ranged from 19 to 77 years; the most common age was 27.
- 7% of the females released were African American, 11% were Hispanic and 81% were Caucasian. Of the male releases, 16% were African American, 44% were Hispanic and 40% were Caucasian.
- The breakdown of security level at time of release was as follows:
Medium/Maximum 50%, Minimum/PRC 16%, Community Reentry Unit (CRU) 12%, WMCAC 13% and Day Reporting 9%.

- The 2015 release cohort included 69 DOC reentry inmates (5 females, 64 males) and 41 Bureau of Prisons inmates (6 females, 35 males). 93% were released from lower security.
- 71% (1250) of those released served time for a nonviolent offense (property, drugs, MV, prostitution, other), 26% (452) for a violent offense (crime against a person, domestic violence, sex offense, firearms), and 3.5% (61) for a violation of parole or probation.
- 28% served a sentence of 90 days or less, 28% between 90 and 180 days, 15% between 180 and 364 days, and 29% a year or more.
- 143 individuals served sentences part or all of which were mandatory. These mandatory sentences accrued 38,475 bed-days, over 10,000 for MV offenses, 19,000 for firearms and 8400 for drugs.
- 37% of those released were from Springfield, 11% from Holyoke, 7% from Chicopee, 15% from other Hampden County towns, 26% from other counties and 2% from out of state. 40 individuals did not provide an address. Worcester County women accounted for 25% of female releases.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2015 Releases One Year Post Release

- Of the 1763 inmates released in 2015, **213 (12.1%) were re-incarcerated within one year for a new offense and 65 (3.7%) returned for a technical violation of parole or probation.** The new offense rate decreased from 12.3% the previous year. Technical violations, mostly of parole, increased from 2.9% the previous year.
- **The total re-incarceration rate was 15.8%, an increase of less than 1 percentage point from the previous year.** This is the fifth year of success rates of more than 80%.
- 86 individuals (35 women, 51 men) were incarcerated twice within the first year post release, a significant increase from the previous year. Two men were re-incarcerated three times.
- Mean time to recidivate was 139 days. 39% of new arraignments occurred within 90 days of release, and 69% occurred within 180 days of release.
- 259 individuals had new cases awaiting disposition at the end of the first year post release. Disposition of these cases will be reflected in the three-year follow up.
- 135 new arraignments were dismissed, nol pros (not prosecuted) or continued without a finding.
- 167 men and 25 women had new restraining orders filed against them after their release.

- Many new arraignments lead to incarceration for violation of release conditions. This is particularly true of nonviolent offenses, which represented 71% of new arraignments, but only 55% of new incarcerations.
- 37% of those serving time for a violent offense were arraigned for a new violent offense. This group is overwhelmingly young (48% are under 30), minorities (63% African American or Hispanic), with substance abuse, criminal associates, mental health and poor family support the leading risk factors. 55% lack a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Mean sentence for a new offense was 188 days, for a probation violation 232 days and for a parole violation 101 days.
- Those released from lower security have a significantly better outcome than those released from “behind the wall”. Those released from lower security had 47% lower rates of incarceration for new crimes despite the fact that 60% scored 5 or higher on the LSI at intake.
- Offenders with pre-release or work release status had the lowest re-incarceration rate (4.2%). Those paroled from minimum security had the highest rate of technical violations (8%).
- Consistent with previous years, the majority of parole revocations were for reasons related to relapse. Positive urine screen and program failure are the most common violations.
- Adult criminal history (2 or more convictions), substance abuse and criminal associates were most strongly correlated with re-incarceration. Juvenile history and poor family relationships were also significant predictors.

- Special reentry populations included 69 DOC and 41 Bureau of Prisons inmates. Fifteen DOC and 8 BOP inmates have been re-arraigned; only 1 DOC inmate has been re-incarcerated (6 months for a property crime).

2013 Releases Three Years Post Release

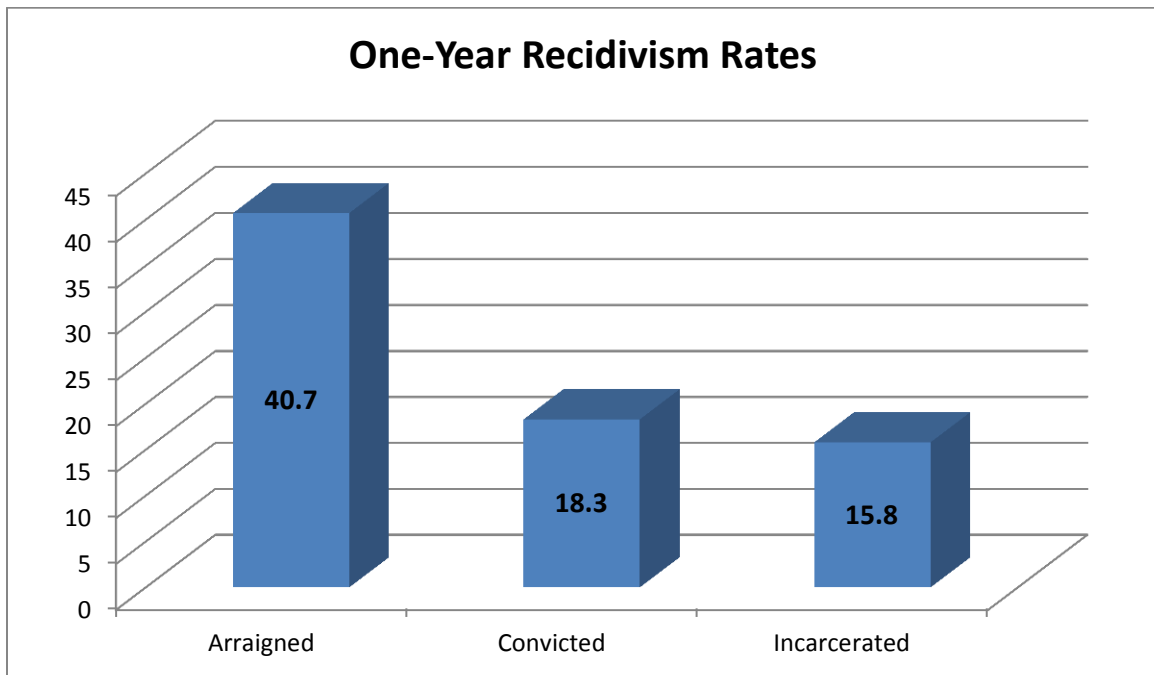
- Three years post-release, 62.9% (1148) of offenders had been arraigned, 44.9% (820) had been convicted and **32.7% (598) had been incarcerated for a new crime**. Another **5% (92) had been incarcerated for a technical violation of probation or parole** (most in the first year).
- **The total three-year reincarceration rate for 2013 releases is 37.7%.**
- Rates of re-offending drop off significantly in the second and third year post-release. 68% of new arraignments occurred in the first year post release, another 21% in the second year and 11% in the third year.
- Participants in WMCAC, Minimum/PRC and Day Reporting commit significantly fewer new offenses that those released from other security levels.
- While the overall reincarceration rate was higher for those who were paroled (41.9%) than for those who completed their sentence (37%), only 22% of parolees committed a new offense compared to 35% of those who wrapped up their sentence. The majority of parolees return for violation of their release conditions.
- Three years after release, 37% of 2013 releases remained crime-free, and 67% had not been reincarcerated for a new crime.

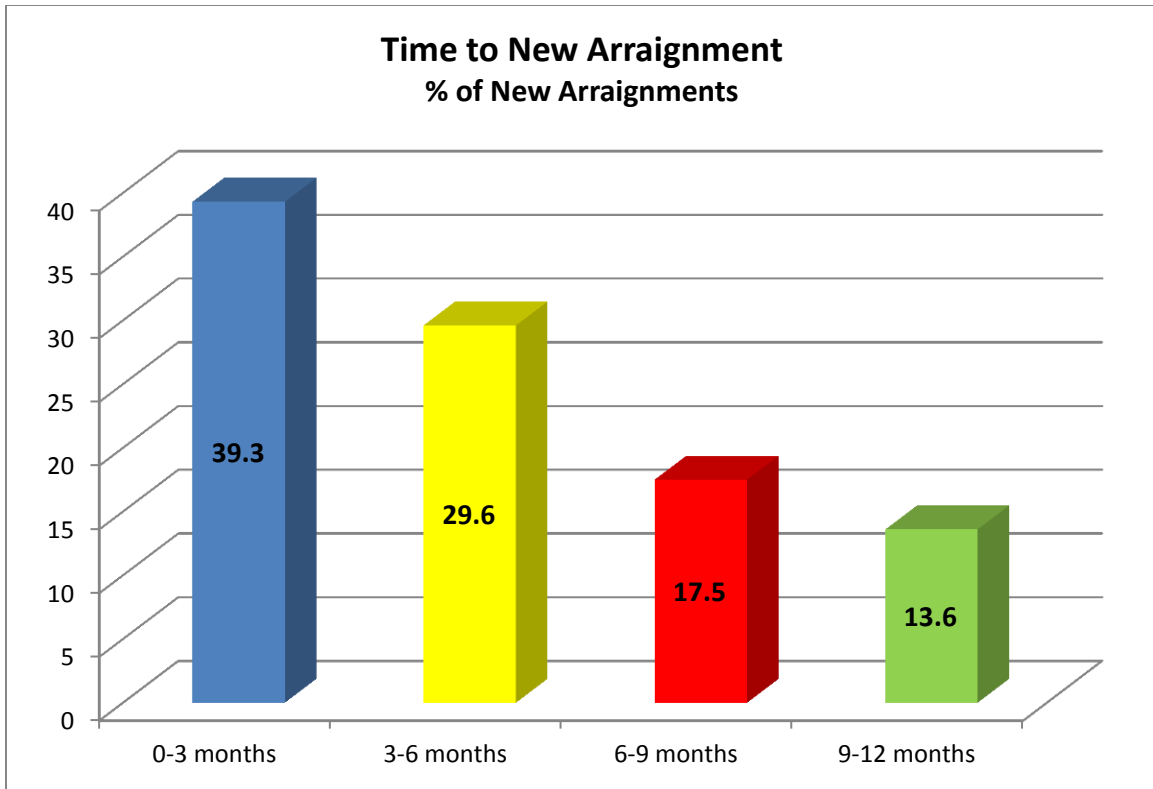
**ONE-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES
2015 RELEASES**

Recidivism Type (% of Total Releases)

	Females		Males		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
New Offense						
Arraignment	197	40.5	520	40.8	717	40.7
Conviction	98	20.1	225	17.6	323	18.3
Incarceration	60	12.3	153	12.0	213	12.1
Technical Violation	25	5.1	40	3.1	65	3.7

The incarceration rate for a new offense decreased slightly from 12.3% to 12.1%. An additional 3.7% returned for a technical violation of parole or probation. The total re-incarceration rate of 15.8% is up less than 1 percentage point from the previous year.





39% of new arraignments occur within 90 days of release, and 69% within 180 days of release. Mean time to recidivate was 139 days.

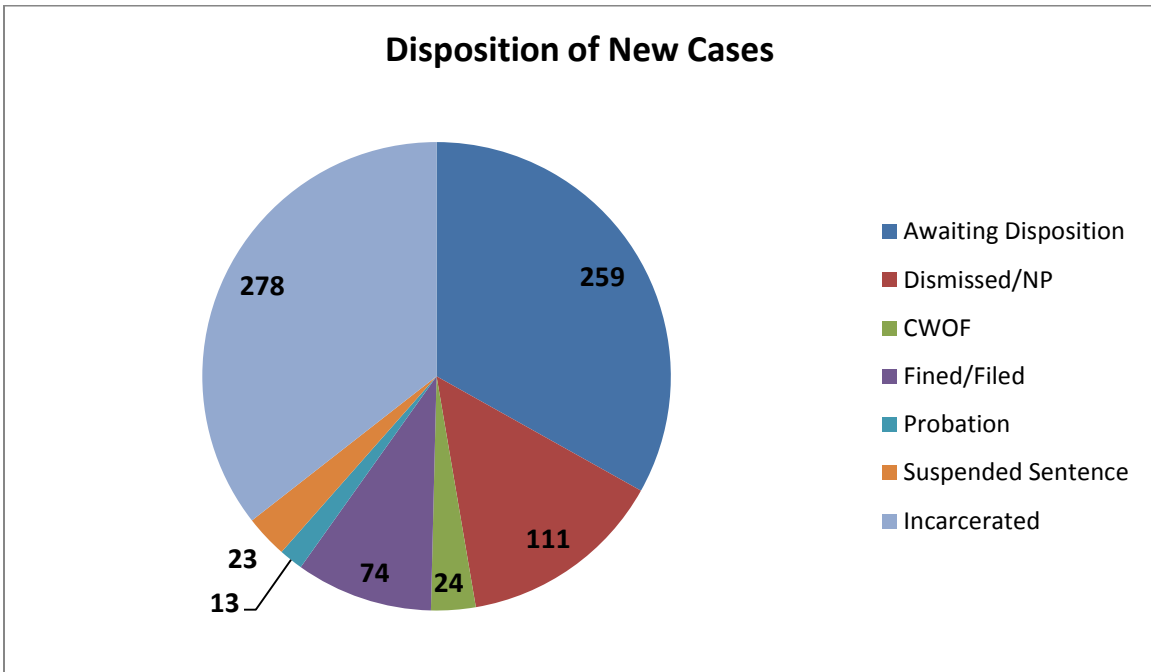
Other Activity	N	Females		Males	
		N	%	N	%
Open Cases-New		60	12.3	199	15.6
Open Cases-Existing		107	22.0	297	23.3
Open Warrants		26	5.3	72	5.6
New Restraining Order		25	5.1	167	13.1

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

Disposition of New Cases

	Females	Males
	N	N
Awaiting Disposition	60	199
Dismissed	28	56
Nol Pros	1	26
Continued w/o Finding	10	14
Fined/Filed	28	46
Probation	5	8
Suspended Sentence	5	18
Committed	85	193

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



New Offense (% of Arraignments)

	Females		Males	
	N	%	N	%
Person	24	10.8	76	13.6
Domestic	8	3.6	39	7.0
Sex Offense	0	0.0	8	1.4
Firearms	1	0.5	7	1.3
Total Violent Offenses	33	14.9	130	23.3
Property	73	32.9	145	25.9
Drugs	46	20.7	118	21.1
Motor Vehicle	20	9.0	117	20.9
Prostitution	15	6.8	0	0.0
Other	10	4.5	10	1.8
Total Nonviolent	164	73.9	390	69.6
Parole Violation	16	7.2	37	6.6
Probation Violation	9	4.1	3	0.5
Total Technical Violations	25	11.3	40	7.1

<u>Original Offense Type</u>	<u>New Offense Type</u>			
	Violent		Nonviolent	
	N	%	N	%
Violent	75	37.1	127	62.9
Nonviolent	88	15.2	492	84.4

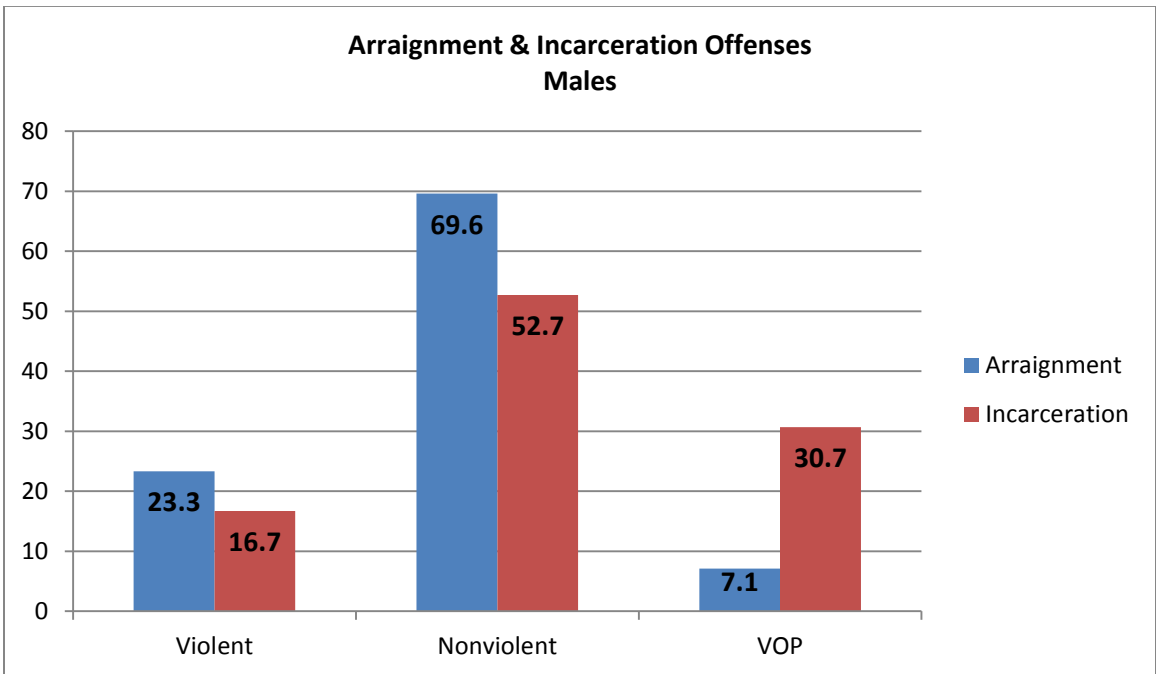
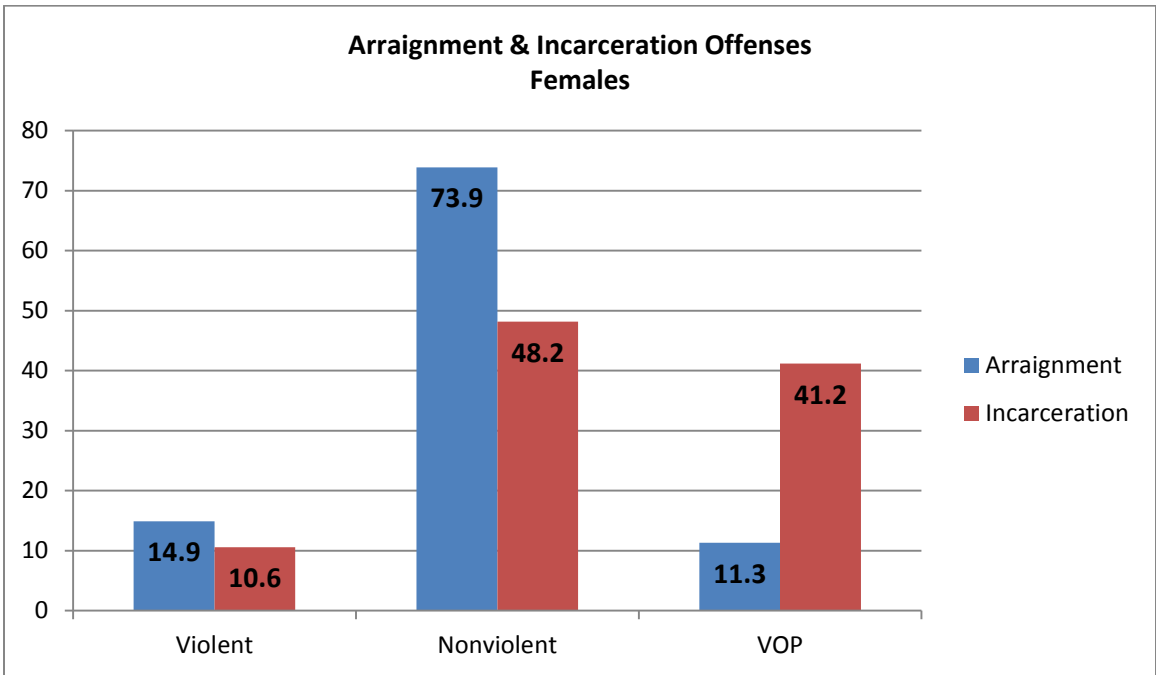
75 violent offenders (61 men and 14 women) were arraigned for a new violent offense. This group is overwhelmingly young, minority offenders who score as high risk, with substance abuse, unemployment, criminal associates, mental health and poor family support the leading risk factors. 55% lack a high school diploma or equivalent. Fifty were released from medium/maximum, 17 from the CRU, 5 from WMCAC and 3 from minimum.

New Incarceration Offense (% of New Incarcerations)

	Females		Males	
	N	%	N	%
Person	9	10.6	19	9.9
Domestic	0	0.0	13	6.8
Sex Offense	0	0.0	0	0.0
Firearms	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total Violent Offenses	9	10.6	32	16.7
Property	20	23.5	56	29.2
Drugs	8	9.4	32	16.7
Motor Vehicle	4	4.7	13	6.8
Prostitution	6	7.1	0	0.0
Other	3	3.5	0	0.0
Total Nonviolent Offense	41	48.2	101	52.7
Parole Violation	17	20.0	38	19.8
Probation Violation	18	21.2	21	10.9
Total Technical Violations	35	41.2	59	30.7

The first offense for which an individual is arraigned is often not what leads to a new incarceration, instead, a new arraignment often leads to a violation of probation or parole. This is particularly true of nonviolent offenses, which account for 71% of new arraignments, but only 51% of incarcerations.

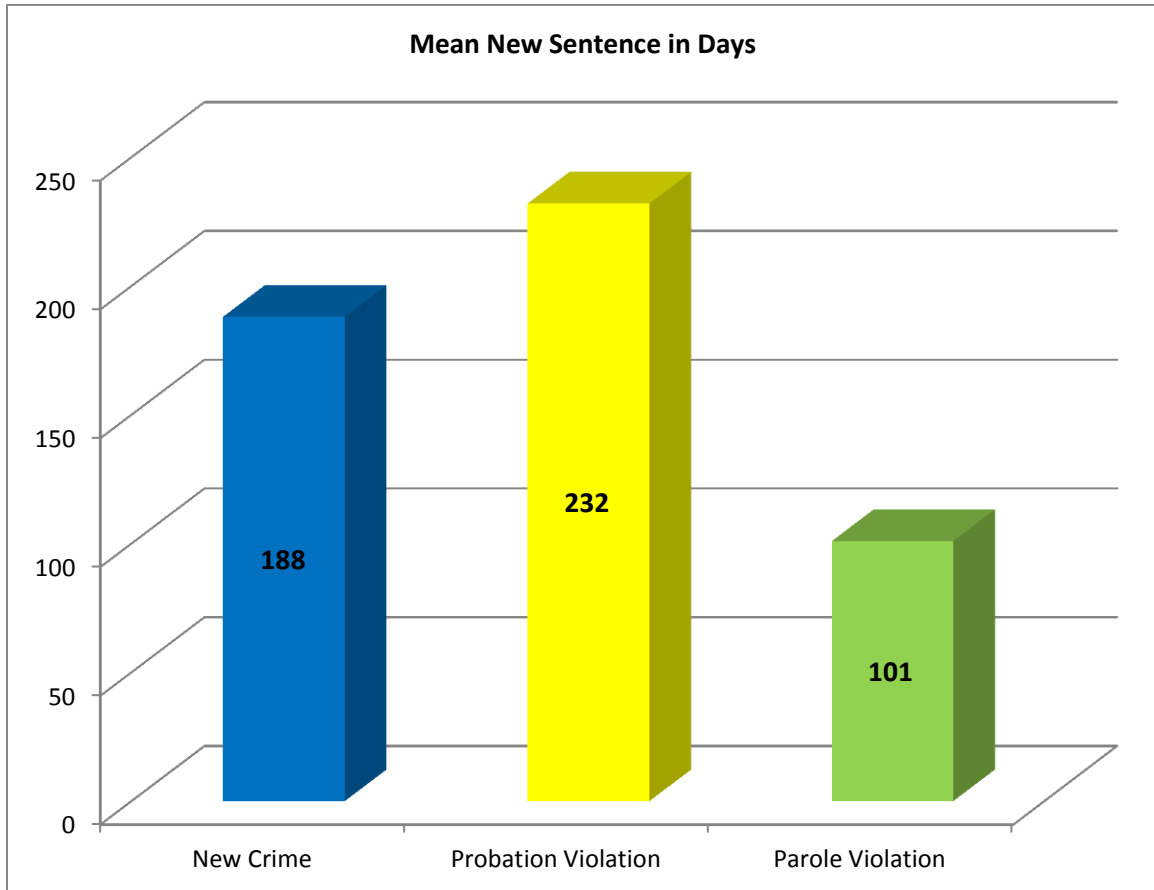
31% of men and 41% of women were re-incarcerated for violating parole or probation.



New Sentence (Days)

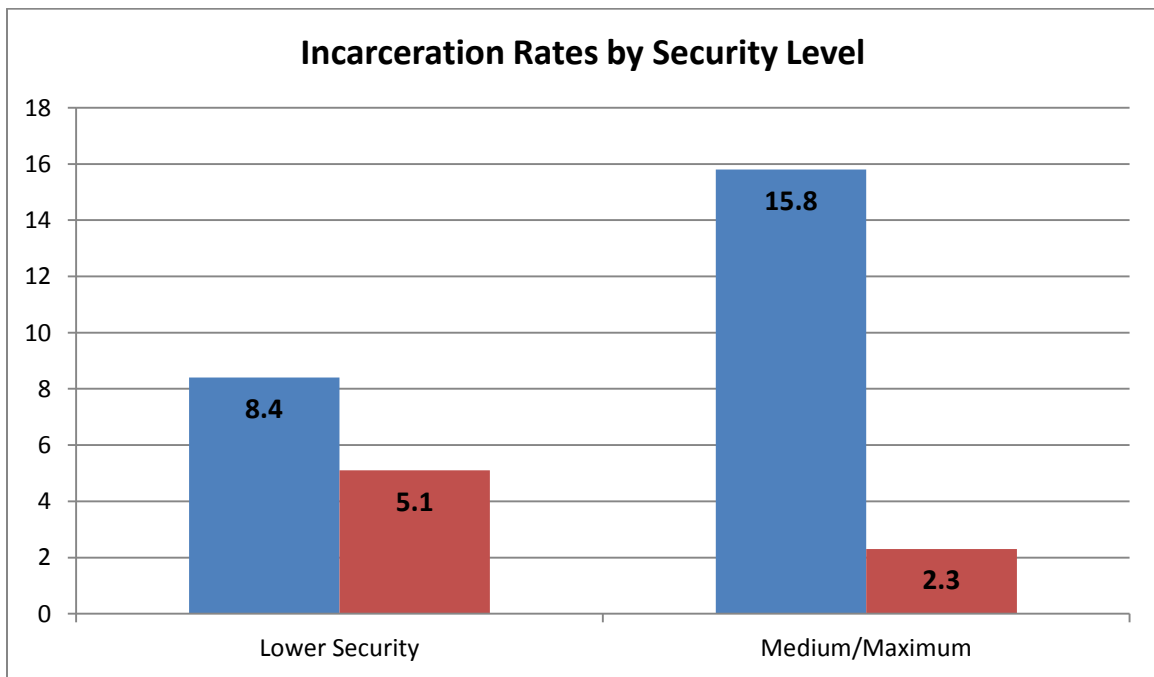
	<u>New Offense</u>	Probation Technical	Parole Technical	All
Mean	188	232	101	178
Median	180	180	72	127
Minimum	3	90	11	3
Maximum	1825	365	663	1825

Mean sentence length can be skewed by an extreme value, therefore it is more accurate to use the *median* when making comparisons. Median sentence for a new offense or probation violation was 180 days, for a parole violation only 72 days. This is because parolees receive credit for time served on parole prior to revocation.



Incarceration Rates by Security Level & Type of Return

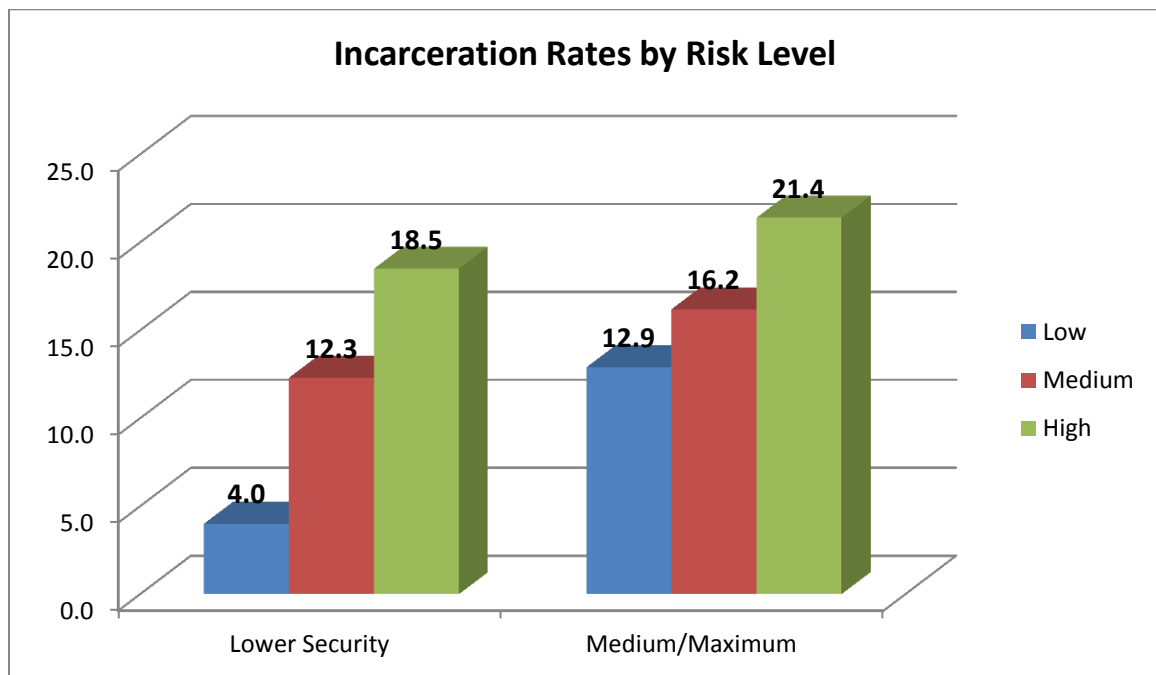
	Technical		New Offense		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Day Reporting (175)	13	7.4	9	5.2	22	12.6
Minimum (188)	15	8.0	11	5.9	26	13.8
Pre/Work Release (96)	96	2.1	2	2.1	4	4.2
CRU (203)	1	0.5	26	12.8	27	13.3
WMCAC (221)	14	6.3	26	11.8	40	18.1
Lower Security Totals	45	5.1	74	8.4	119	13.5
Medium-Gen. Pop. (437)	16	3.7	62	14.2	78	17.9
Medium Reentry (396)	4	1.0	70	17.7	74	18.7
Maximum (47)	0	0.0	7	14.9	7	14.9
Medium/Maximum Totals	20	2.3	139	15.8	159	18.1



Incarceration Rates by Risk and Security Level

	Lower Security		Medium/Maximum	
	N	%	N	%
Low Risk	4	4.0	9	12.9
Medium Risk	52	12.3	60	16.2
High Risk	63	18.5	72	21.4

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



Violations of Release Conditions

	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Total</u>
Parole Violation-Technical	16	37	53
Parole Violation-New Offense	2	4	6
Probation Violation-Technical	9	3	12
Probation Violation-New Offense	10	17	27

<u>Reasons for Parole Violation</u>	<u>N</u>
Crime on Parole	6
Drug or Alcohol Use	36
Program Failure	24
Failure to Report	3
Whereabouts Unknown*	3
Irresponsible Conduct	3
Associate with Person with Criminal Record	10
Failure to Find or Maintain Employment	5
Nonpayment of Supervision Fee	4
Change Residence	3
Other	23

Most revocation forms list more than one reason.

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

Parole Failures	N
Home Plan	33
CHESS Home Plan	1
Beacon House	1
Faith House	1
Foundation House	6
Gandara Residential	4
Honest Beginnings Sober House	1
Keenan House	1
McCreary House	1
My Sister's House	2
Opportunity House	1
Phoenix House	2
Rhode Street House	1
Salvation Army	1
Soldier On	1
Wright House	1

Special Reentry Populations

Doc Reentry Class at Release

	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>
Day Reporting	0	9
Minimum	2	8
Pre/Work Release	1	30
CRU	N/A	8
WMCAC	0	4
Medium	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>
TOTAL	5	64

DOC Recidivism

	Females		Males		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
New Offense						
Arrestment	0	0.0	15	23.4	15	21.7
Conviction	0	0.0	3	4.7	3	4.3
Incarceration	0	0.0	1	1.6	1	1.7

Technical Violations None

Disposition of New Cases

Open-Awaiting Disposition	8	
Dismissed/NoI Pros	4	
Guilty-Filed	2	
Committed	1	(180 days-property offense)

Bureau of Prisons Class at Release

	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>
Day Reporting	4	17
Minimum	1	0
Pre/Work Release	0	15
WMCAC	1	0
Medium	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	6	35

Eight males were arraigned for a new crime. Three cases were dismissed, 5 are awaiting disposition. Only 1 was a violent offense (domestic).

SECTION II
THREE YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES
2013 RELEASES

THREE-YEAR RECIDIVISM RATES

2013 RELEASES

2013 Recidivism Rates	Females		Males		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
New Offense						
Arrestment	249	65.5	899	62.2	1148	62.9
Conviction	179	47.1	641	44.3	820	44.9
Incarceration	111	29.2	487	33.7	598	32.7
Technical Violation	19	5.0	73	5.0	92	5.0

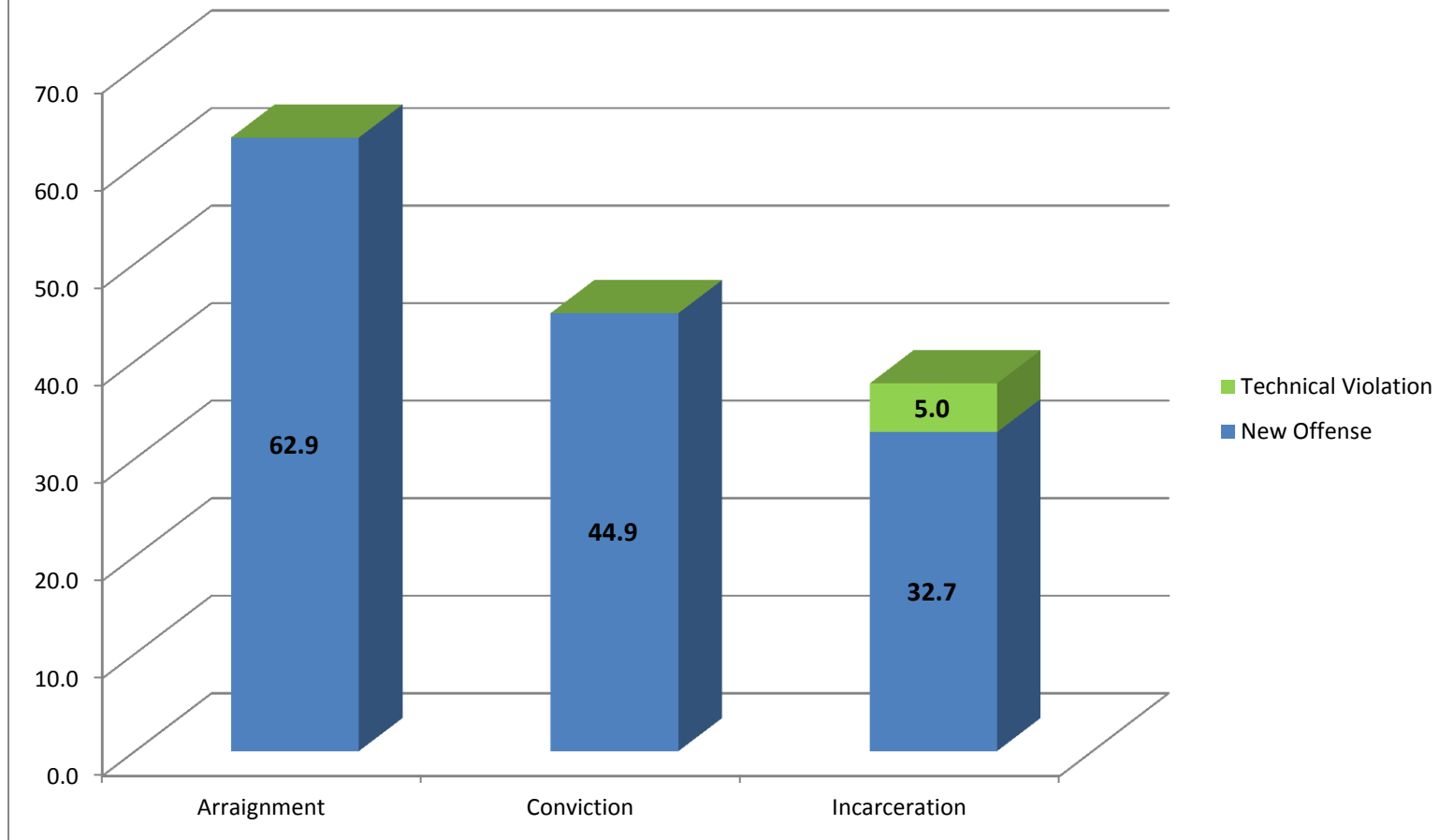
By the end of the third year post-release, 32.7% of offenders had been reincarcerated for a new offense, up significantly from the previous year. The 5.0% technical violation rate is down slightly from the previous year. The total Reincarceration rate after three year was 37.7%.

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

First Year	N	%	Second Year	N	%	Third Year	N	%
0-3 months	304	24.5	12-15 months	76	6.1	24-27 months	39	3.2
3-6 months	236	19.0	15-18 months	65	5.2	27-30 months	41	3.3
6-9 months	183	14.8	18-21 months	65	5.2	30-33 months	35	2.8
9-12 months	<u>117</u>	<u>9.4</u>	21-24 months	<u>57</u>	<u>4.6</u>	33-36 months	<u>22</u>	<u>1.8</u>
Year Totals	840	67.7		263	21.1		137	11.1

68% of new arraignments occur in the first year post-release, another 21% in the second year and 11% in the third year.

2013 Three-Year Recidivism Rates



Reincarceration Rates by Classification & Year of Offense

	# Released	First Year		Second Year		Third Year		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Day Reporting	200	45	22.5	20	10.0	11	5.5	76	38.0
Minimum/PRC	209	23	11.0	16	7.7	17	8.1	56	26.8
Community Reentry Unit	297	48	16.2	42	14.1	28	9.4	118	39.7
Medium/Maximum	718	168	23.4	86	12.0	58	8.1	312	43.5
WMCAC	388	63	16.2	41	10.6	21	5.4	125	32.2

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

Reincarceration Rates by Classification & Return Type

	# Released	New Offense		Technical	
		N	%	N	%
Day Reporting	200	54	27.0	22	11.0
Minimum/PRC	209	47	22.5	9	4.3
Community Reentry Unit	297	106	35.7	12	4.0
Medium/Maximum	718	278	38.7	34	4.7
WMCAC	388	110	28.4	15	3.9

Those released from the MI and the CRU were most likely to be reincarcerated for a new offense by the end of the third year post-release, however, those released from Day Reporting and WMCAC saw significant increases in the rate of return for a new offense. Technical violations did not change significantly from previous years.

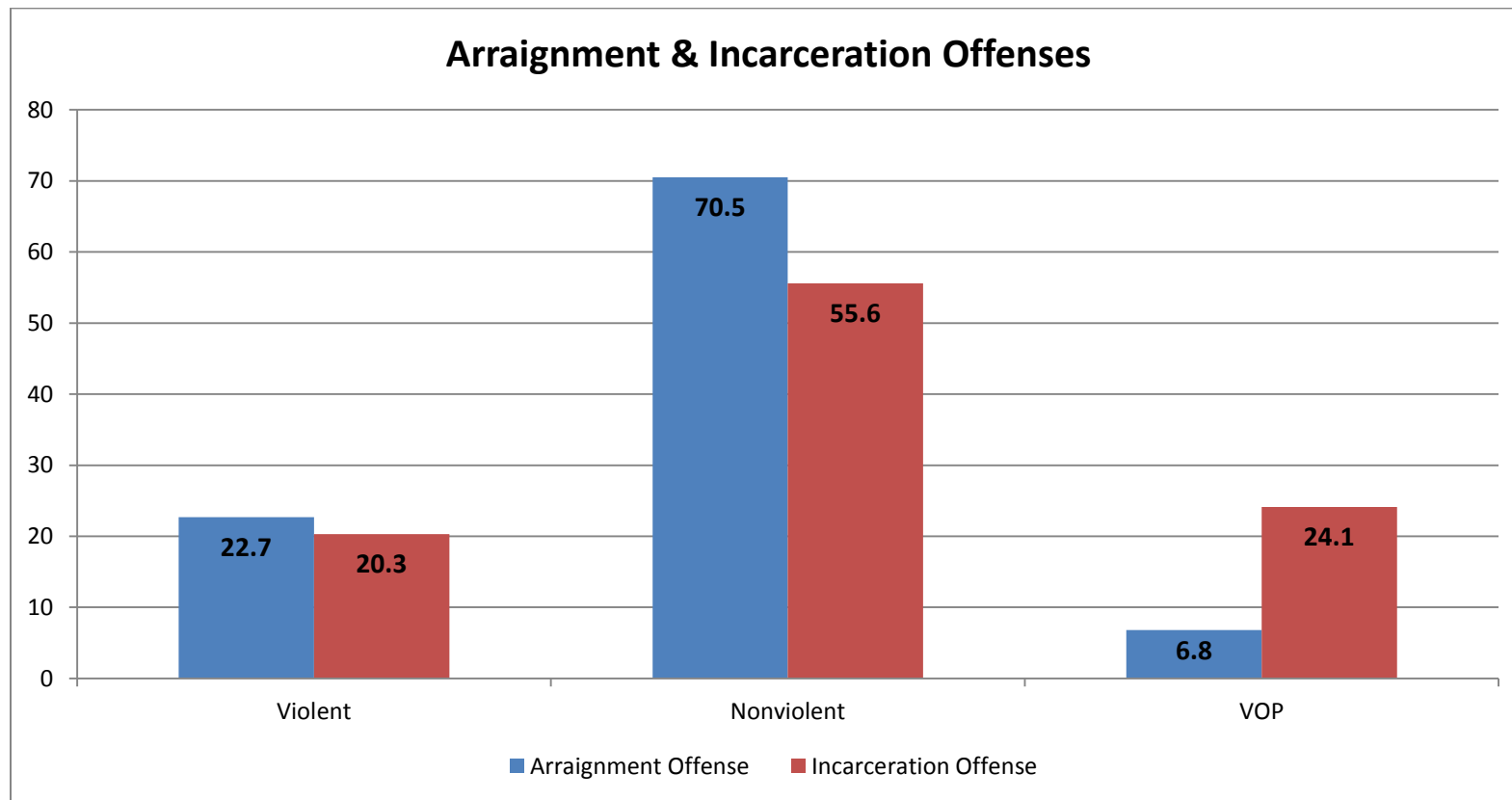
Reincarceration Rates by Release Type & Reason for Return	N	%
Wrapped (N=1544)		
Technical Violation of Probation	33	2.1
Technical Violation of Lifetime Supervision	3	0.2
New Offense	536	34.7
Total	572	37.0
Paroled (N=282)		
Technical Violation of Parole	49	17.4
Technical Violation of Probation	4	1.4
Technical Violation of Lifetime Supervision	3	1.1
New Offense on Parole	9	3.2
New Offense after Parole Supervision	53	18.8
Total	118	41.9

Although their Reincarceration rate is nearly 5 points higher, only 22% of parolees committed a new offense, compared to 35% of those who wrapped up their sentence.

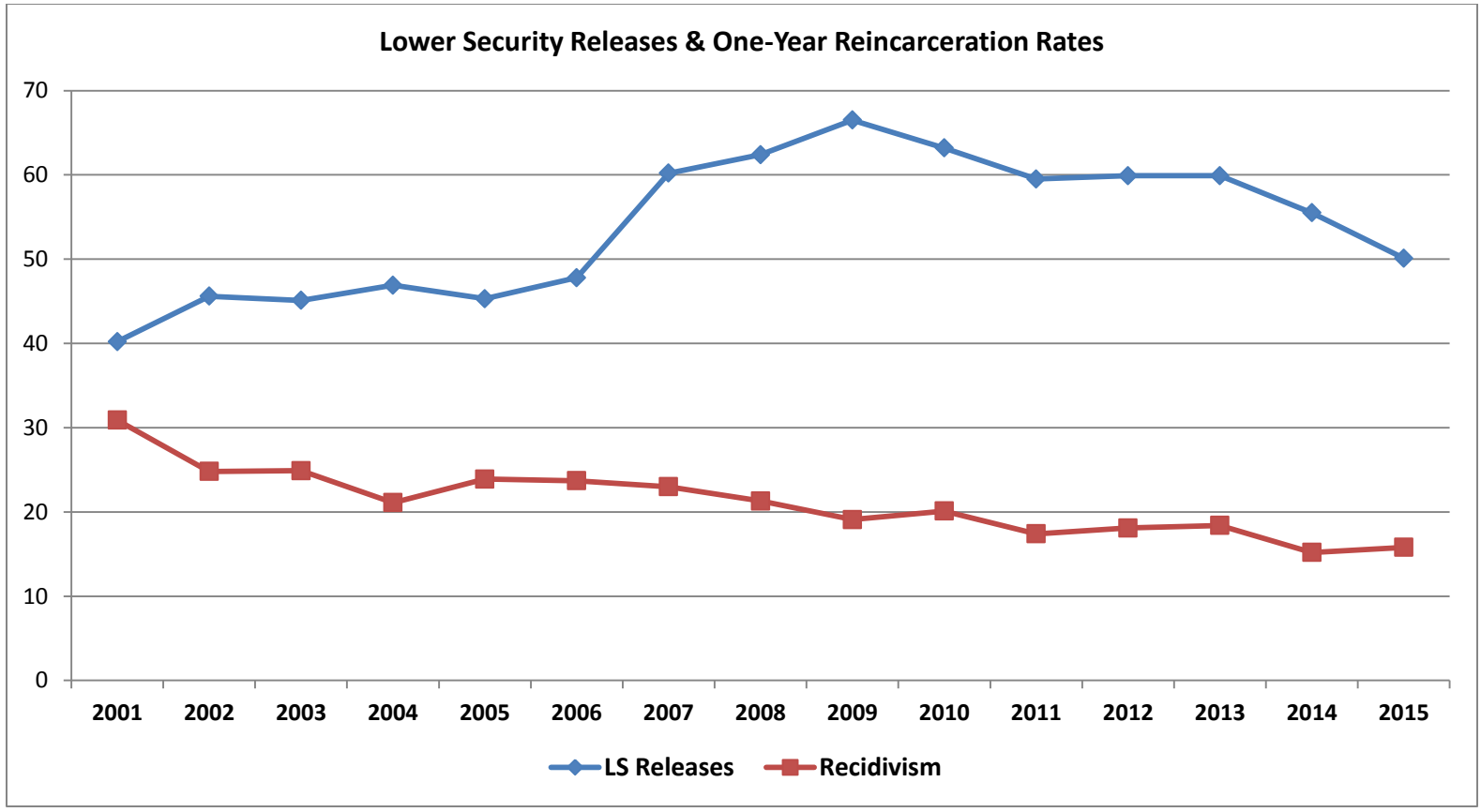
New Arraignment Offense	Females		Males		Totals	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Person	38	14.2	152	15.6		
Domestic	8	3.0	60	6.2		
Sex Offense	0	0.0	9	0.9		
Firearms	0	0.0	15	1.5		
Total Violent Offenses	46	17.2	236	24.2	282	22.7
Property	95	35.4	275	28.3		
Drugs	40	14.9	169	17.4		
Motor Vehicle	32	11.9	199	20.5		
Prostitution	30	11.2	0	0.0		
Other Offenses	10	3.7	24	2.5		
Total Nonviolent Offenses	207	77.1	667	68.7	874	70.5
Parole Violation-Technical	8	3.0	47	4.8		
Probation Violation-Technical	7	2.6	22	2.3		
Total Technical Violations	15	5.6	69	7.1	84	6.8

	Females		Males		Totals	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
New Incarceration Offense						
Person	16	12.3	74	13.2		
Domestic	4	3.1	28	5.0		
Sex Offense	0	0.0	4	0.7		
Firearms	0	0.0	14	2.5		
Total Violent Offenses	20	15.4	120	21.4	140	20.3
Property	37	28.5	161	28.8		
Drugs	20	15.4	106	19.0		
Motor Vehicle	3	2.3	34	6.1		
Prostitution	18	13.8	0	0.0		
Other Offenses	0	0.0	4	0.7		
Total Nonviolent Offenses	78	60.0	305	54.6	383	55.
Parole Violation	9	6.9	54	9.7		
Probation Violation	23	17.7	80	14.3		
Violations of Release Conditions	32	24.6	134	24.0	166	24.1

Those arraigned for a violent offense were most likely to be incarcerated for that offense. A nonviolent offense, however, often resulted in a violation of parole or probation. Over 70% of new arraignments were for nonviolent offenses, but only 56% of new incarcerations. Violations represent only 7% of new arraignments, but 24% of incarcerations.

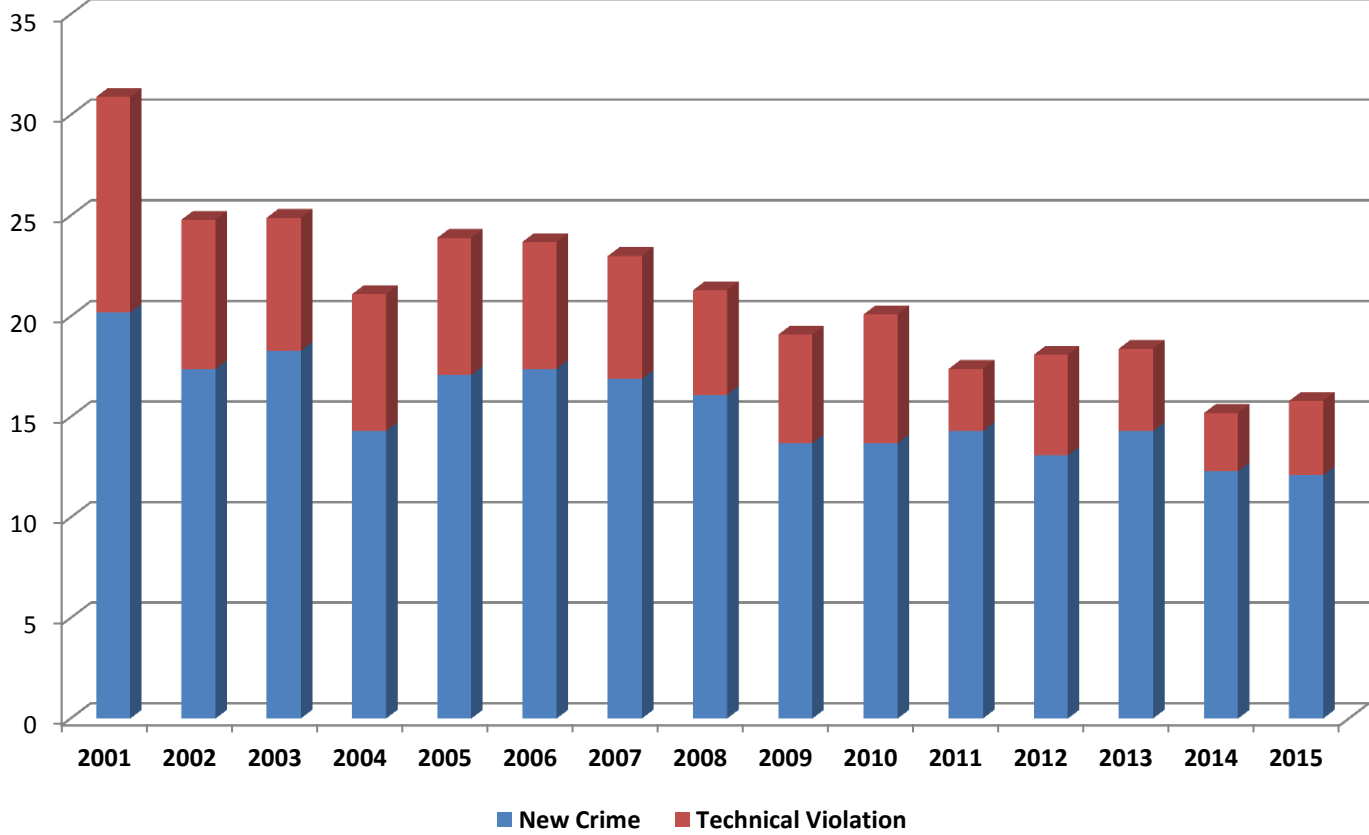


SECTION III
RECIDIVISM SUMMARY



With the implementation of mandatory targeted programs in 2001, the percentage of offenders released from lower security increased steadily, while recidivism rates decreased. The trend began leveling off in 2011, and the gap has begun to close in the last two years, as overall population has decreased and the severity and chronicity of offenders' criminogenic risk factors has increased.

One-Year Reincarceration Rates

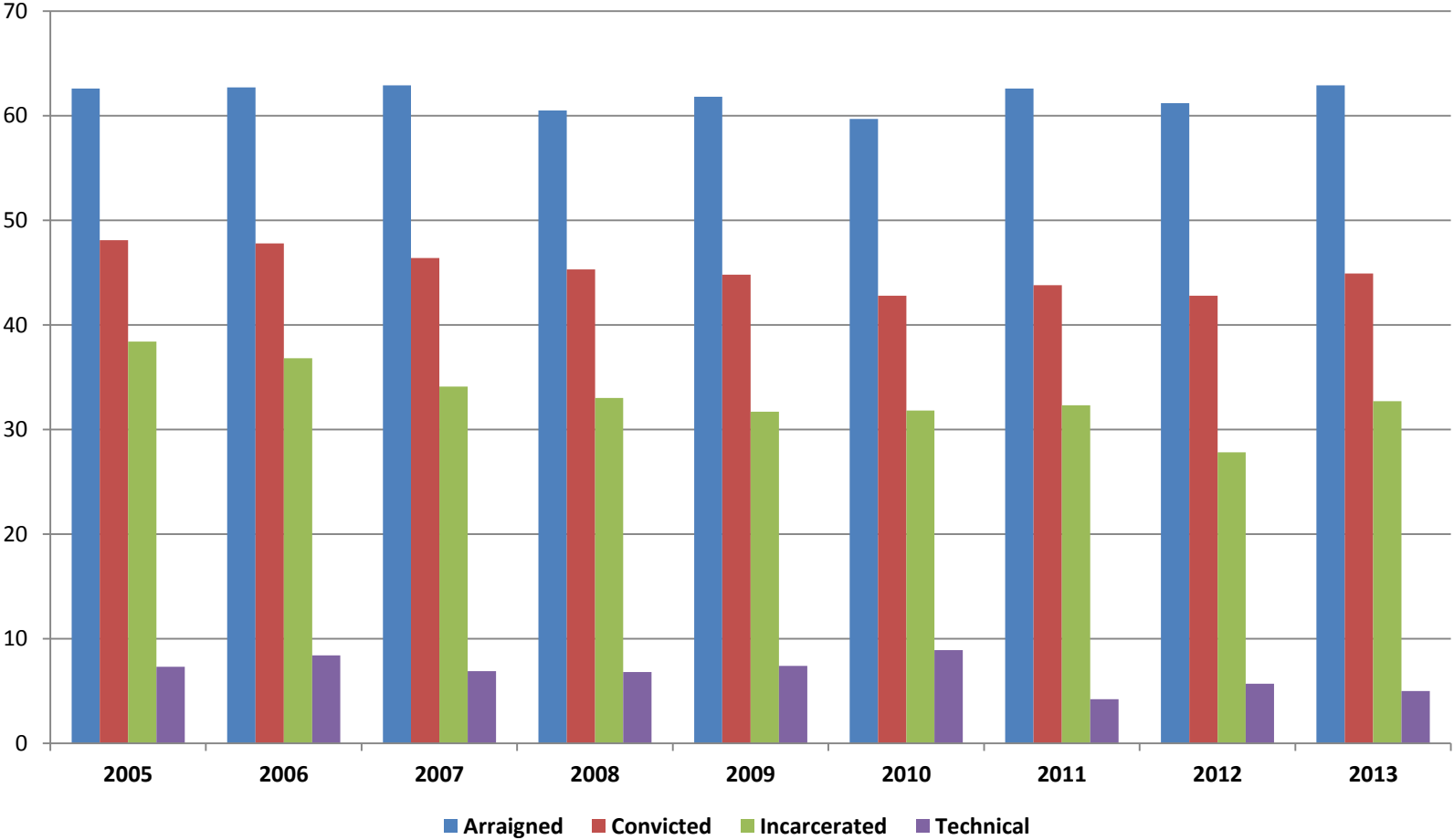


Three-Year Recidivism Rates

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
New Offense									
Arrested	62.6	62.7	62.9	60.5	61.8	59.7	62.6	61.2	62.9
Conviction	48.1	47.8	46.4	45.3	44.8	42.8	43.8	42.8	44.9
Incarceration	38.4	36.8	34.1	33.0	31.7	31.8	32.3	27.8	32.7
Tech. Violation	7.3	8.4	6.9	6.8	7.4	8.9	4.2	5.7	5.0

Three years after release, 37% of 2013 releases remained crime-free, and 67% had not been incarcerated for a new crime. Technical violation rates continue to decline, driven in part by the lower number of parolees. For example, in 2010 over 27% of sentenced releases were paroles, and the reincarceration rate for technical violation (mostly of parole) was 8.9%. By 2015, following the reorganization of the Parole Board, paroles had decreased to only 17% of sentenced releases, and the violation rate was down to 5%.

Three-Year Recidivism Rates



ONE-YEAR REINCARCERATION RATES

YEAR	Number Released	New Offense	Technical Violation	TOTAL
2001	2270	20.2	10.7	30.9%
2002	2470	17.4	7.4	24.8%
2003	2321	18.3	6.6	24.9%
2004	2298	14.3	6.8	21.1%
2005	2434	17.1	6.8	23.9%
2006	2627	17.4	6.3	23.7%
2007	2468	16.9	6.1	23.0%
2008	2362	16.1	5.2	21.3%
2009	2197	13.7	5.4	19.1%
2010	1907	13.7	6.4	20.1%
2011	1720	14.3	3.1	17.4%
2012	1966	13.1	5.0	18.1%
2013	1834	14.3	4.1	18.4%
2014	1816	12.3	2.9	15.2%
2015	1763	12.1	3.7	15.8%

THREE-YEAR REINCARCERATION RATES

YEAR	New Offense	Technical Violation	TOTAL
2001	38.6	10.8	49.4%
2002	38.8	7.5	46.3%
2003	36.9	7.6	44.5%
2004	37.0	7.1	44.1%
2005	38.4	7.4	45.8%
2006	36.8	8.4	45.2%
2007	34.1	6.9	41.0%
2008	33.0	6.8	39.8%
2009	31.7	7.4	39.1%
2010	31.8	8.9	40.7%
2011	32.3	4.2	36.5%
2012	27.8	5.7	33.5%
2013	32.7	5.0	37.7%