Recidivism in New Hampshire

A Study of Offenders Returned to Prison Within Three Years of their Release

FY 2006 Cohort



New Hampshire Department of Corrections

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Executive Summary

This study represents the fourth study of recidivism in New Hampshire conducted on state felony sentenced inmates released from the New Hampshire state prison system. The study follows inmates released between the dates of July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006 (FY 2006) for purposes of determining the number and percentage of these offenders who returned to prison within three years of their release. The following is a summary of findings for this group of offenders.

- There were a total of 1,271 releases from a New Hampshire state prison in FY 2006.
- Of the 1,271 releases in FY 2006, 198 (15.6%) cases were eliminated from the study because they were not a New Hampshire state felony sentenced inmate, or did not otherwise meet the criteria for inclusion in the study.
- The remaining 1,073 offenders constitute the "release cohort" that forms the basis of this study.
- Of the FY 2006 release cohort, 967 (90%) were male and 106 (10%) were female.
- Of the FY 2006 release cohort,
 - 519 (48.4%) had been admitted (booked) as a newly sentenced inmate;
 - 408 (38%) had been admitted (booked) as a parole violator;
 - 141 (13.1%) had been admitted (booked) as a probation violator for whom a felony prison sentence was imposed due to probation revocation, and
 - 5(0.5%) were serving a concurrent sentence in another state.
- Of the FY 2006 release cohort,
 - 808 (75.3%) were released on parole;
 - 188 (17.5%) "maxed-out"¹;
 - 21 (2.9%) were released by court order, with supervision;
 - 14 (1.3%) were released by court order, without supervision; and
 - 42 (3.9%) were released by the Parole Board as "violator released."
- The primary crime categories for which the FY 2006 release cohort had been incarcerated are as follows:
 - 345 (32.2%) were convicted of a violent crime;
 - 323 (30.1%) were convicted of a property crime;
 - 200 (18.6%) were convicted of a drug-related crime; and
 - 205 (19.1%) were convicted of a crime of public-order.
- Males were more likely to have been convicted of a violent crime, and females were more likely to have been convicted of a property crime.
- The average age for males at the time of their release was 34.5 years of age, compared to 35 yrs. of age for females.
- The overall recidivism rate for offenders released in FY 2006 was 48.8%. The recidivism rate for males was 48.5%, and the recidivism rate for females was 51.9%.
- Half of the offenders released in FY 2006 (50.7%) had no prior prison incarcerations. Female offenders were 11% more likely than males to have had no prior prison incarcerations.
- Offenders with no prior prison incarcerations had a recidivism rate of 44.7%, compared to 53.1% for offenders who had one or more prior prison incarcerations.
- Male offenders between the ages of 17 and 19 at the time of their release had the highest rate of recidivism for males, at 83.3%, while females between the ages of 26 and 29 had the highest recidivism rate for females, at 69.2%.
- Offenders convicted of violent crimes had the lowest overall rate of recidivism, at 43.2%. Offenders with the highest rates of recidivism were those convicted of property crimes, at 56.3%.
- The average length of time offenders who returned to prison were in the community before being returned to prison was 9.6 months, with 50% of all recidivists returning to prison in 7.2 months or less after their release.
- Offenders with multiple incarcerations prior to their release who recidivated returned to prison more rapidly than those with no prior incarcerations.

¹ "Maxed-out" refers to offenders who were released as a result of having completed the maximum length of their prison sentence.

Introduction

This report represents the fourth study of recidivism on New Hampshire's prison population. The term "recidivism" refers to the re-incarceration of an offender in the New Hampshire state prison system within three years of their release from prison. This study reports on the rates at which offenders released from prison between the dates of July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006 (FY 2006) were returned to prison within three years of their release after having served all or a portion of their state prison sentence for a felony conviction.

Offenders convicted and sentenced to a prison term at a New Hampshire state prison facility are given a "booking status" upon admission that reflects the reason for which they are admitted for incarceration. The booking status is called the "booking type." The booking type is used to differentiate offenders by jurisdiction, as well as the reason for which they are incarcerated.

Booking types for offenders serving a prison sentence for conviction of a felony offense under a NH statute include the following:

- <u>Sentenced</u> ~ inmates admitted under a new state prison sentence
- <u>Parole Revocation</u> ~ inmates admitted to prison due to a violation of parole conditions
- <u>Probation Revocation</u> ~ inmates admitted to prison to serve a prison sentence imposed as a result of a violation of their conditions of probation
- <u>Concurrent Sentence</u> ~ New Hampshire state sentenced inmates who are serving a NH sentence while also serving felony sentence in another state

The New Hampshire prison system serves a variety of individuals incarcerated for reasons other than a state sentence. These offenders are not included in this study, and include the following:

- <u>County</u> ~ inmates serving a sentence of less than one year who would otherwise be incarcerated at a county house of corrections
- <u>Interstate Compact</u> ~ inmates convicted and sentenced for a crime in a state other than New Hampshire who are serving their sentence in a New Hampshire prison under an interstate compact agreement²
- <u>Federal</u> ~ inmates who have been convicted of a federal crime who would otherwise be serving their sentence in a federal facility
- <u>Trial</u> ~ persons awaiting trial who would otherwise be housed at a county house of corrections or local jail
- <u>Secure psychiatric patients</u> ~ patients admitted to the Secure Psychiatric Unit (SPU), located at the New Hampshire State Prison in Concord, due to a severe mental illness and are in need of a highly secure environment

² Interstate Compact is an agreement between states to exchange inmates, primarily for safety reasons.

TERMINOLOGY

Terminologies used in this study that may be unfamiliar to many readers are defined below:

- **Cohort** refers to a group that meets specific criteria for being included in a study. In this case, the "release cohort" consists of all state felony sentenced inmates released from prison between the dates of July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006 (FY 2006).
- **Recidivist** refers to an offender who was released from prison during the cohort year under study and is returned to prison for reasons related to a new sentence, a parole revocation or a probation revocation.
- **Recidivism rate** refers to the percentage of a cohort, or sub-group, of offenders who are reincarcerated in the state's prison system as a result of a new sentence, a parole revocation or a probation revocation, within three years of their release.

TIMEFRAME FOR THE STUDY

Most studies of prisoner recidivism track a cohort of offenders three years past the date of their release. This study represents the findings of the cohort of offenders released from the New Hampshire state prison system in FY 2006 (July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006), and their rates of return within three years of their release.

STRUCTURE OF THIS REPORT

Section I ~ All Releases

This section of the report provides a description of all releases from the New Hampshire State prison system in FY 2006. The analysis provided in this section serves to define the offender population that constitutes the release cohort.

Section II ~ Demographic Profile of the Release Cohort

This section of the report provides a demographic profile of offenders who meet the criteria for inclusion in the study of recidivism, referred to as the release cohort. This profile includes a description of the release cohort by booking and release type, gender, age at release, type of crime for which the offender was incarcerated, number of previous incarcerations, and length of stay.

Section III ~ Rates of Recidivism

This section of the report provides an analysis of recidivism rates for the release cohort based upon the same demographic factors as those provided in Section II and includes recidivism rates by booking and release types, gender, age at release, type of crime for which the offender was incarcerated, number of previous incarcerations, and length of stay.

Section IV ~ Recidivists: Time Out Before Return

This section of the report contains an analysis of the length of time offenders who recidivated spent in the community prior to their return to prison to determine if there are differences in the return rates of offenders on the basis of booking type, gender, crime type, age category and number of previous incarcerations.

SECTION I

All Releases

There were a total of 1,271 releases from prison in FY 2006, representing 1,245 individual offenders. These releases included: state sentenced inmates; offenders admitted for a parole or probation revocation; county and federal inmates; persons awaiting trial; Secure Psychiatric Unit (SPU) patients; inmates serving a concurrent sentence in another state; and inmates housed under interstate compact.

A. Total Releases by Booking Type

The term "booking type" refers to the reason for which an inmate is admitted to prison. The largest percentage of releases from prison in FY 2006 was for sentenced inmates (42.8%), followed by those released after serving time for a parole revocation (37.5%). Offenders who had been admitted to prison on a probation revocation (n=143) represented 11.3% of all releases in FY 2006.

Booking type	#	%
Sentenced	544	42.8
Parole Revocation	477	37.5
Probation Revocation	143	11.3
Awaiting Trial	9	0.7
Secure Psychiatric Unit (SPU) Patient	10	0.8
County Inmate	23	1.8
Federal Inmate	33	2.6
Compact From Other State	17	1.3
Concurrent In Other State	15	1.2
Total Releases	1,271	100%

Table 1. Total Releases in FY 2006, by Booking type

A total of 15 offenders (1.2%) were New Hampshire state sentenced offenders serving time in another state (concurrent). The remaining 92 releases (7.2%) consisted of offenders booked as a county or federal inmate, offenders awaiting trial, SPU patients, or an out-of- state inmate housed in a New Hampshire state prison under interstate compact.

B. Total Releases, by Release Type

The term "release type" refers to the type of release for which an offender is released from prison. Offenders released on parole represented the largest number and percentage of total releases from prison in FY 2006 (n=861; 67.7%). The second largest number and percentage of offenders released were individuals released in FY 2006 as a result of "maxing out" their sentence (n=205; 16.1%).³

The third largest group of offenders released consisted of offenders who were "returned to another jurisdiction" (n=88; 6.9%). An offender may be released to another jurisdiction for reasons including: i) an outstanding warrant; ii) illegal immigration status; or iii) return to the custody of the jurisdiction for which the prison had agreed to house and care for the offender (e.g. county or federal inmate).

³ Offenders who "max out" may have been released on parole one or more times prior to completing their sentence.

Of the remaining 117 releases, 70 (5.5%) were released as a result of having their parole revocation overturned by the Parole Board (referred to as "violator released"). Twenty-one (1.7%) were released by court order with supervision, and 21 (1.7%) were released by court order without supervision. In addition, five (5) offenders died while incarcerated.

Release Type	#	%
Paroled	861	67.7%
Maxed Out	205	16.1%
Released to Other Jurisdiction	88	6.9%
Court Order w/ Supervision	21	1.7%
Court Order w/ No Supervision	21	1.7%
Violator Released	70	5.5%
Died	5	0.4%
Total Releases	1,271	100.0%

Table 2. All Releases in FY 2006, by Release Type

C. Cases Dropped from the Study

For purposes of this study, only those offenders admitted to prison to serve a state sentence for a felony conviction, parole revocation or probation revocation were tracked to see if they returned to prison within three years of their release. The following cases have been dropped from the study.

Reason Dropped	Number Dropped	Percent of Releases	Percent of Dropped
County Inmate	23	1.8%	11.6%
Trial	9	0.7%	4.5%
Secure Psychiatric Patient (SPU)	10	0.8%	5.1%
Federal Inmate	33	2.6%	16.7%
Released to Other Jurisdiction	37	2.9%	18.7%
Compact from Other State	17	1.3%	8.6%
Died	4	0.3%	2.0%
Multiple Releases	65	5.1%	32.8%
Total Cases Dropped	198	15.6%	100%

Offenders booked as a county, trial or federal inmate, a secure psychiatric patient (SPU) and inmates housed for other state jurisdictions through the "interstate compact" are not included in this study. In addition, this study does not track the recidivism of inmates released from a New Hampshire prison facility to another jurisdiction (e.g. immigration, US Marshall). Finally, it was determined that 37 of the releases represented a change in the offender's location or jurisdiction status and not an actual release to the community. Also not included are offenders who died while in custody. A total of 65 releases represented a release subsequent to the offender's initial release in 2006, in which case the release is not considered a release for purposes of determining recidivism.

A total of 198 releases in FY 2006 (15.6%) were dropped from the study, representing a total of 172 individuals. The remaining 1,073 offenders (84.7%) represent the release cohort that is the subject of this study.

Section II Demographic Profile of the Release cohort

"Release cohort" is the term used to refer to the population released from a state prison in FY 2006 after serving time for a felony conviction for purposes of measuring recidivism. The release cohort for purposes of this study consists of all 1,073 offenders released between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006 who meet the inclusion criteria described in Section I.

The demographic profile of these offenders is important key to guiding an understanding of recidivism among these offenders. This section provides a demographic profile of the release cohort for FY 2006, on factors known to be associated with rates of recidivism.

A. Release Cohort, by Booking type

There are four "booking types" for which the offenders represented in this study may be admitted to prison. If an offender is admitted to prison as a result of a new state sentence, they are booked as a "sentenced" inmate. This may or may not be the first time an offender is admitted to prison. It simply means they are being released for the first time from the most recent sentence for which they were incarcerated.

Offenders who have been released from prison to serve the remaining portion of their sentence under supervision in the community may have their parole revoked as a result of violating the conditions of their parole, including being arrested for a new crime. Offenders who are returned to prison from parole status are given the booking type "parole violator." Offenders who return to prison on a parole revocation may be re-released on parole after serving additional prison time as a result of their parole revocation.

Similarly, offenders may be admitted to prison as a result of having their probation revoked. Offenders admitted to prison on a probation revocation are inmates who have been convicted of a felony offense and given a suspended prison sentence on the condition they comply with the conditions of probation. Probation is similar to parole in that the offender is under supervision in the community.

Finally, offenders may be serving a prison sentence in another state concurrent to a New Hampshire state sentence. The booking type for these offenders is "concurrent." Offenders released from a concurrent sentence are also included in this study.

Table 4. Release Cohort, by Booking Type

	Relea	ised
Booking type	#	%
Sentenced	519	48.4
Parole Revocation	408	38.0
Probation Revocation	141	13.1
Concurrent	5	0.5
Total Cohort	1,073	100%

Of the 1,073 offenders released in FY 2006, almost half (n=519; 48.4 %) had been admitted to prison to begin serving a new felony sentence. Almost 40% (n=408; 38%) of the offenders released in FY 2006 had been admitted to prison as a result of having their parole revoked (parole revocation). A total of 141 offenders (13.1%) had been admitted to prison on a probation revocation, and the remaining half of 1% were released from serving a concurrent sentence in another state (n=5).

B. Release Cohort, by Release Type

There are five ways an offender may be released from prison. While most offenders released from prison are released on parole, offenders may also be released by an order of the court or by order of the parole board. An offender may also "max out" their sentence, which means they were released from prison as a result of reaching their "maximum sentence date." The majority of offenders released from prison however, serve time on parole before maxing out.

Permission to be released on parole is granted by the New Hampshire Adult Parole Board. The Parole Board weighs many factors in deciding whether an inmate will be granted parole, including but not limited to the following:

- the offender has reached the minimum parole date;
- the offender has completed treatment (e.g. sex offender, drug and alcohol treatment), or other programs recommended by the DOC or mandated by the court as a condition of parole;
- the offender has been on good behavior;
- testimony from the victim or representatives of the victim, and
- the offender has secured a job and an appropriate place to live upon release.

Approximately 90% of all offenders admitted to prison in New Hampshire will be released prior to serving the maximum length of their sentence, the majority of whom are granted parole prior to serving their entire prison sentence.

Of the 1,073 offenders released in FY 2006, 808 (75.3%) were released from prison to parole supervision. This group represents the largest single group of offenders by release type. The second largest group of offenders by release type (n. 188; 17.5%) maxed out⁴, followed by offender released as a result of having their parole revocation overturned by the Parole Board (referred to as "violator released"). Violators released represented 3.9% of all releases in FY 2006.

Table 5. Release Cohort by Release Type

	Rel	eased
Release Type	#	%
Paroled	808	75.3
Maxed Out	188	17.5
Violator Released	42	3.9
Court Order w/Supervision	21	2.0
Court Order w/no Supervision	14	1.3
Total Cohort	1,073	100%

⁴ Of the 188 offenders who maxed out their sentence in FY 2006, 148 (79%) had been released on parole at least once prior to maxing out their sentence.

B. Release Cohort, by Booking Type and Release Type

The two tables below provide summaries of the release cohort by booking type and release type.

		Release Type with Row Summaries										
	Paroled		Maxed Out		Violator Released		Court Order w/ Supervision		Court Order w/No Supervision		Total Cohort	
Booking type	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Sentenced	453	87.3	40	7.7	0	0.0	17	3.3	9	1.7	519	100
Parole Revocation	241	59.1	125	30.6	42	10.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	408	100
Probation Revocation	109	77.3	23	16.3	0	0.0	4	2.8	5	3.5	141	100
Concurrent	5	100	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	5	100
Total	808	75.3%	188	17.5%	42	3.9%	21	2.0%	14	1.3%	1,073	100%

Table 6a. Releases Summarized by Booking Type (Row Summaries)

Table 6a. above provides an analysis of releases by booking type and release type, summarized by booking type. This analysis reveals that of the 519 offenders released in FY 2006 that had been booked as a sentenced inmate, 87.3% (n=453) were released on parole, 7.7% (n=40) maxed out, and the remaining 26 (5.2%) were released by court order either with or without supervision.

Of the 408 offenders released in FY 2006 that had been admitted to prison on a parole revocation, 59.2% (n=241) were re-released on parole, and 30.6% (n=125) maxed out. None were released by court order. The remaining 10.3% (n=42) were released as a result of the Parole Board overturning their revocation (referred to as "violator released").

Of the 141 offenders released in FY 2006 that had been admitted to prison on a probation revocation, 77.3% (n=109) were released on parole; 16.3% (n=23) maxed out, and the remaining 6.3% (n=9) were released by court order. All five offenders released from a concurrent sentence were released to parole status.

		Release Type with Row Summaries										
	Paroled		Maxed Out		Violator Released		Court Order w/ Supervision		Court Order w/out Supervision		Total Cohort	
Booking type	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Sentenced	453	56.1	40	21.3	0	0	17	81.0	9	64.3	519	48.4
Parole Revocation	241	29.8	125	66.5	42	100	0	0.0	0	0.0	408	38.0
Probation Revocation	109	13.5	23	12.2	0	0	4	19.0	5	35.7	141	13.1
Concurrent	5	0.6	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	5	0.5
Total	808	100%	188	100%	42	100%	21	100%	14	100%	1,073	100%

 Table 6b.
 Releases Summarized by Release Type (Column Summaries)

Table 6b. provides a summary of the release cohort by booking type and release type, summarized by release type. This analysis reveals that of the 808 offenders released on parole in FY 2006, 56.1% (n=453) were released on parole from their original sentence, 29.8% (n=241) were re-released on parole

after serving time for a parole revocation, and 13.5% (n=109) were paroled after serving a portion of their sentence for a probation revocation.

Of the 188 offenders released as a result of maxing out their sentence, 21.3% (n=40) served their entire sentence without having been released on parole, 66.5% maxed out their sentence after having been returned on a parole violation, and 12.2% (n=23) served their entire sentence after having been admitted on a probation revocation.

All of the 42 offenders released as violator released (100%) had been admitted on a parole violation. A total of 21 offenders were released in FY 2006 were released by court order with supervision in the community. Of these, 81% (n=17) were released from their original sentence, while the remaining 4 (19%) were released by court order from their parole revocation. A total of 14 offenders were released by court order in FY 2006 with no supervision in the community. Of these, 9 were released from their original sentence (64.3%), and the remaining 5 (35.7%) were released from a probation revocation.

D. Release Cohort, by Age and Gender

Of the 1,073 offenders released in FY 2006, 967 (90%) were males, and 106 (10%) were females. An analysis of the distribution of age at the time of their release by gender reveals only slight differences between male and female offenders.

The average age of males at the time of their release was 34.5 years of age, while the average age of females was 35 years of age. The youngest male and youngest female released in 2006 were both 19 years of age, while the oldest male released in 2006 was 71 years of age and the oldest female released that year was 67 years of age.

The distribution of male and female inmates by age categories reveals that male offenders released in 2006 were much more likely than female offenders to be in their 20's (40.5% vs. 31.1%), whereas females are more likely than males to be in their thirties (38.7% vs. 26.4%).

	Μ	ale	Fen	nale	Total		
Age Group	#	%	#	%	#	%	
17-19	6	0.6	1	0.9	7	0.7	
20-25	229	23.7	20	18.9	249	23.2	
26-29	163	16.9	13	12.3	176	16.4	
30-39	255	26.4	41	38.7	296	27.6	
40-49	234	24.2	26	24.5	260	24.2	
50-59	56	5.8	2	1.9	58	5.4	
60 and older	24	2.5	3	2.8	27	2.5	
TOTAL	967	100%	106	100%	1,073	100%	

Table 7. Release Cohort by Age at Time of Release and Gender

Males and females were equally as likely to be in their 40's at the time of their release, but males were over twice as likely to be in their 50's at the time of their release (5.8% vs. 1.9%). Among the oldest category of offenders, males and females were equally as likely to be 60 or older at the time of their release.

E. Release Cohort, by General Crime Category and Gender

There are four general crime categories used to organize offenders by the type of crime for which they were incarcerated. They are a) violent crimes; b) property crimes; c) drug crimes; and, d) public order crimes. Since many offenders are serving more than one sentence for multiple crimes, the crime for which they are reported for these purposes is the crime for which they received the longest sentence.

Violent Crimes include crimes such as murder, rape, sexual assault, kidnapping, aggravated assault, and robbery. *Property Crimes* include crimes such as burglary, arson, fraud, theft, and receiving stolen property. *Drug Crimes* include possession, sale, manufacturing and distribution of illegal drugs. *Public Order Crimes* include such crimes as driving under the influence (DUI), habitual offender (e.g. multiple motor vehicle violations, or repeated arrests for driving while intoxicated), and resisting arrest.

An analysis of the distribution of the offenders by the four major crime categories for which male and female offenders released in 2006 were incarcerated reveals that male offenders were almost 3 times more likely than females to have been serving sentences for a violent crime (34.3% vs. 12.3%), whereas females were over twice as likely as males to have been serving a sentence for a drug crime (39.6% vs. 16.3%). Males were twice as likely as females to have been serving a sentence for a crime of public order (20.1% vs. 10.4%), and females were 30% more likely to have been convicted of a property crime than were males (37.7% vs. 29.3%).

Crime	M	ale	Fen	nale	Entire Cohort		
Category	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Violent	332	34.3	13	12.3	345	32.2	
Property	283	29.3	40	37.7	323	30.1	
Drug	158	16.3	42	39.6	200	18.6	
Public Order	194	20.1	11	10.4	205	19.1	
Total	967	100%	106	100%	1,073	100%	

Table 8. Release Cohort by Crime Category and Gender

Overall, males were more likely to have been incarcerated for a violent or property crime ~ with offenders in these two crime categories representing almost 64% of all males released in FY2006. The third largest percentage of males was incarcerated for crimes of public order, at 20%. Males were less likely to have been released from serving a sentence for a drug conviction than any of the other crime categories.

The distribution of female offenders by crime category is more pronounced than males, with drug and property crimes representing over 77% of the crimes for which females were sentenced. Only about 10% of females were incarcerated for a violent crime or crime of public order, respectively.

F. Release Cohort by Specific Crime Category and Gender

While there are some notable differences between males and females with regard to specific crimes for which they were incarcerated, breakdowns by specific crimes for females result in very small numbers, rendering comparisons of males and females by percentages unreliable. A table containing the breakdown of offenders released in FY 2006 by specific crime appears in Appendix A. A narrative analysis of these breakdowns appears below.

A total of 332 male offenders were released from a *violent crime* in 2006, representing 34.3% of all male releases. The greatest percentage of males convicted of a violent crime and released in FY 2006 had been convicted of assault and aggravated assault (10.5% and 2.9%), followed by those convicted of robbery (7.5%). Convictions for assault and robbery accounted for over 60% of all male offenders released for a violent crime.

Over 30% of male offenders (32.8%) released in FY 2006 for a violent crime had been convicted of a crime of sexual violence, including felonious sexual assault, aggravated felonious sexual assault, other sexual crime, and statutory rape. The remaining violent male offenders released in 2006 had been convicted of homicide and kidnapping, and represented only 2% of all males released that year.

As noted earlier, violent crimes represented only 12.3% of the crimes for which females were released in 2006. Of the 106 females released in 2006, only 13 had been convicted of a violent crime. Similar to males, females convicted of violent crimes were more likely to have been convicted of assault (2.8% and 1.9%) and robbery (3.7%). Together, these three crimes represented 69% of the violent crimes for which women released that year had been convicted. Of the remaining 4 females, one had been convicted of a sexual offense and 3 had been convicted of homicide.

As cited earlier, within the general crime category of *property crimes*, females were almost 30% more likely than males to have been convicted of a property crime (37.7% vs. 29.3%). The largest percentages of property crimes for which all offenders released for a property crime had been convicted were larceny, theft, and receiving stolen property (39%) and burglary (35.9%). Females were less than half as likely as males to be convicted of burglary (4.7% vs. 11.5%), but over three times more likely to have been convicted of fraud (16% vs. 4.7%). Females were about 40% more likely than males to have been convicted of larceny, theft and receiving stolen property (16% and 11.4%).

With regard to *drug-related crimes*, females released in FY 2006 were over twice as likely as males to have been incarcerated for a drug-related crime (39.6% vs. 16.3%). Females released in FY 2006 for a conviction of drug possession represented almost one-third of all females released that year, compared to only 10% of males. Females were also 40% more likely than males to have been convicted of drug sales (9.3% vs. 6.3%).

With regard to *crimes of public-order*, males were twice as likely to have been serving time for a crime of public order (20.1% vs. 10.4%). Twelve percent of all males released in FY 2006 had been convicted for being a "habitual offender," compared to 7.5% of females. An additional 7.9% of males and 2.8% of females were released from "other public order" offenses.

G. Release Cohort by Gender and Number of Previous Incarcerations

This portion of the report provides an analysis of the release cohort by number of previous incarcerations. The number of previous incarcerations refers to the number of times an offender was incarcerated in the New Hampshire state prison system prior to the booking for which they were released in 2006. The number of previous incarcerations for these offenders, therefore, <u>does not include</u> any prior incarcerations in the state's county house of corrections, and/or county or state facilities outside of New Hampshire.

Of the 1,073 offenders released in FY 2006, half (n=544; 50.8%) had no previous prison incarcerations in the state's prison system, and approximately one-fourth (24.6%) had only one prior prison incarceration. Slightly less than 15% had two prior prison incarcerations, and approximately 10% had three or more prior incarcerations.

Number of	Μ	ale	Fer	nale	Total Cohort		
Previous Prison Incarcerations	#	%	#	%	#	%	
0	485	50.2	59	55.7	544	50.7	
1	239	24.7	26	24.5	265	24.7	
2	136	14.1	14	13.2	150	14.0	
3 or more	107	11.1	7	6.6	114	10.6	
Total	967	100%	106	100%	1,073	100%	

Table 9. Release Cohort by Gender and Number of Previous Prison Incarcerations

Females were only 10% more likely than males to have had no prior prison incarcerations, and only about half as likely to have had three or more prison incarcerations. Aside from this, the number of previous prison incarcerations among males and females approached parity.

H. Release Cohort by Length of Stay

The length of stay refers to the length of time an offender was incarcerated from the date they were admitted to prison to the date of their release. The primary factor affecting an offender's length of stay is the crime for which they have been convicted and the resulting prison sentence.

Violent crimes tend to have longer sentences, as do multiple convictions. Shorter lengths of stay are associated with less severe crimes, but may also be affected by a court-ordered release, and credit applied for time served in county corrections while awaiting trial. In addition, admissions for parole revocations are also associated with shorter lengths of stay.

Tables 10 and 11 below provide an analysis for the average lengths of stay for offenders released in FY 2006 according to their booking type, in months and years. The tables also provide an analysis of the minimum and maximum lengths of stay for each booking type, the median length of stay, and the standard deviation for the group (as a measure of dispersion).

Booking type	Mean	Min.	Max.	Median	Std. Dev.
Sentence	32.5	.1	303.5	22.1	36.20
Parole Revocation	11.7	.2	132.4	7.8	14.33
Probation Revocation	23.8	.3	102.2	17.3	19.58
Combined	23.4	.1	303.5	15.3	29.22

Table 10. Length of Stay by Booking Type (in months)

Booking Type	Mean	Min.	Max.	Median	Std. Dev.
Sentence	2.7	.01	25.3	1.8	3.02
Parole Revocation	.98	.02	11.0	.7	1.19
Probation Revocation	1.98	.03	8.5	1.4	1.63
Combined	1.95	.01	25.3	1.3	2.43

Table 11. Length of Stay, by Booking Type (in years)

The average length of stay for sentenced offenders released in 2006 was 32.49 months (2.7 years). However, 50% of sentenced offenders spent 22.1 months in prison (1.8 yrs) prior to their release. The longest length of stay for sentenced offenders was 303.5 months (25.3 yrs.). Offenders admitted on a parole violation stayed an average of 11.75 months. However, 50% of these offenders were re-released in just less than 8 months.

Probation violators tend to have longer lengths of stay than offenders admitted on a parole revocation since a probation revocation results in the imposition of the prison sentence for which they were under probation. The average length of stay for offenders admitted on a probation revocation was 23.83 months (1.98 yrs.). However, 50% of these offenders were released within 17.3 months (1.44 yrs.). The longest length of stay for an offender released from a probation revocation was 102 months (8.5 yrs.).

Tables 12 and 13 below provide an analysis of length of stay by booking type and gender for offenders released in FY 2006. Caution should be exercised when interpreting differences in lengths of stay by gender. As noted earlier, lengths of stay are largely driven by the type of crime for which the offender has been convicted. Males released in FY 2006 were more likely than females to have been convicted of a violent crime which draw longer sentences, while females were more likely to have been convicted of a property or drug-related crime, which tend to draw shorter sentences.

		Males Females						
Booking Type	Mean	Median	Max	Mean	Median	Max		
Sentenced	34.0	23.2	303.5	17.5	12.9	49.3		
Parole Revocation	12.1	7.9	132.4	8.3	7.0	24.0		
Probation Revocation	25.6	19.3	102.2	13.1	11.6	30.1		
Combined	24.5	16.1	303.5	13.3	11.2	49.3		

Table 12	Length of Sta	v hv Booking	Type and (Gender (i	n months)
Table 12.	Length of Sta	y by booking	j i ypt anu v	Genuer (I	n monus <i>j</i>

The average length of stay for sentenced males released in FY 2006 was 34 mos. (2.8 yrs.), while the average length of stay for sentenced females released in FY 2006 was almost half that at 17.5 months (1.5 yrs.). Similarly, the average length of stay for male offenders admitted on a parole revocation was about 50% greater than that of females admitted on a parole violation, with males spending slightly over a year in prison vs. 8.3 months for females. Differences in the length of stay for males and females admitted for a probation revocation were similarly disparate, with males serving an average of 25.6 months compared to 13.1 months for women.

		Males		Females				
Booking type	Mean Median Max Mea		Mean	Median	Max			
Sentenced	2.8	1.9	25.3	1.5	1.2	4.1		
Parole Revocation	1.0	.7	11.0	.7	.6	2.0		
Probation Revocation	2.1	1.6	8.5	1.1	1.0	2.5		
Combined	2.0	1.3	25.3	1.1	.9	4.1		

Table 13. Length of Stay by Booking Type and Gender (in years)

An analysis of median lengths of stay may provide a better measure of "average" length of stay, since it represents the "50% mark" for length of stay and is therefore not influenced by statistical outliers. Using the median length of stay as the reference point reveals that the differences between males and females for lengths of stay by booking type remain stable with the exception of offenders admitted on a parole revocation. For offenders booked for a parole revocation, the difference between males and females was only 11% less than males, whereas the difference between male and female sentenced offenders was almost 60% for sentenced inmates and those serving a probation revocation ~ with females spending less time in prison than their male counterparts.

Overall, the combined average length of stay for all males released in FY 2006 was 2 yrs., while the average length of stay for females was almost half that at 1.1 year.

SUMMARY

Section II: Demographic Profile of <u>The Release Cohort</u>

- The release cohort for FY 2006 is comprised of 1,073 individuals, representing 84.7% of all offenders released from the NH state prison system between the dates of July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006.
- Ninety percent of the release cohort was male (n=967), and 10% were female (n=106).
- Slightly less than 50% of the release cohort had been booked as sentenced inmates (48.4%), and slightly less than 40% (38%) had been booked on a parole revocation. Thirteen percent were released from a probation revocation and the remaining 1% had been serving concurrent sentences in another state.
- Of the 1,073 offenders released in FY 2006, 75.3% were released on parole (n=808).
- A total of 188 offenders (17.5%) maxed out their sentence. Of these, 79% had served time on parole prior to returning to prison and maxing out their sentence.
- The average age of male offenders at the time of their release was 34.5 years of age, and the average age of females at the time of their release 35 years of age.
- Males were more likely than females to be in their twenties at the time of their release, whereas females were more likely to be in their thirties at the time of their release.
- Male offenders released in FY 2006 were almost 3 times more likely than females to have been serving time for a violent crime, while females were twice as likely to have been convicted of a drug crime, and almost 30% more likely than males to have been convicted of a property crime.
- Half of all offenders released in FY 2006 (n=544) had no prior prison incarcerations previous to the prison stay for which they were released. Females were 12% more likely than males to have had no prior prison incarceration, and males were almost twice as likely to have had 3 or more prior prison incarcerations.
- The average length of stay for offenders released in FY 2006 was 2 years. However, 50% of offenders released in FY 2006 served 15.3 months or less.
- Sentenced offenders had an average length of stay of 32.5 months, while offenders booked on a parole revocation had an average length of stay of slightly less than one year, and offenders booked on a probation revocation had an average length of stay of 2 years.
- The average length of stay for female offenders was, on average, almost half that of males.

SECTION III

Rates of Recidivism

This section of the report provides an analysis of the recidivism rates of offenders released in FY 2006. Of the 1,076 offenders released in FY 2006, a total of 527 returned to prison within three years of their release, representing an overall recidivism rate of 48.8%.

A. Recidivism Rates by Booking Type

Recidivism rates for offenders released in FY 2006 vary by booking type, with the lowest recidivism rate observed for offenders released from having served a concurrent sentence in another state. Of the five offenders released from a concurrent sentence, none returned to prison within three years.

Table 14. Recidivism Rates by Booking Type

	Re	leased	Retu	rned	% of
Booking type	#	%	#	%	Recidivists
Sentenced	519	48.4%	238	45.9%	45.4%
Parole Revocation	408	38.0%	204	50.0%	38.9%
Probation Revocation	141	13.1%	82	58.2%	15.6%
Concurrent	5	0.5%	0	0.0%	0.0%
Total	1,073	100%	524	48.8%	100%

Aside from offenders released from a concurrent sentence, the group with the lowest rate of recidivism by booking type was sentenced offenders, at 45.9%. While this group represented almost 48.4% of all offenders released in FY 2006, they represented only 45.4% of all recidivists.

The group with the highest recidivism rate by booking type was offenders admitted on a probation revocation \sim with a recidivism rate of 58.2%. These offenders represented only 13.1% of releases that year, and 15.6% of all returns.

Offenders released from a parole revocation had a recidivism rate of 50.4%. With a recidivism rate only slightly higher than the overall average, offenders released from a parole revocation represented 38% of all releases and 38.9% of all returns.

B. Recidivism Rates by Release Type

As mentioned in Section II, offenders released on parole represent the largest proportion of offenders released from prison. Of the 808 offenders released on parole in 2006, 461 returned to prison within three years of their release ~ representing a recidivism rate of 57.1%. Offenders released on parole represented 75.3% of all releases, but 88% of all returns. This population had the highest recidivism rate of all offenders, by release type.

The group with the second highest recidivism rate was offenders released by the Parole Board as a "violator released" ~ at 50%. Offenders released by court order, with and without supervision, had a recidivism rate of 33.3% and 35.7%, respectively.

	Rele	ased	Retu	rned	% of
Release Type	#	%	#	%	Recidivists
Paroled	808	75.3	461	57.1	88.0%
Maxed Out	188	17.5	30	16.0	5.7%
Violator Released	42	3.9	21	50.0	4.0%
Court Order w/ Supervision	21	2.0	7	33.3	1.3%
Court Order w/No Supervision	14	1.3	5	35.7	1.0%
Total	1,073	100%	524	48.8%	100%

Table 15. Recidivism Rates by Release Type

Offenders with the lowest recidivism rate were offenders who were released by maxing out their sentence, with a recidivism rate of 16%.

C. Recidivism Rates by Age and Gender

Historically, age and gender have been significant predictors of recidivism, with males typically exhibiting higher recidivism rates than females, and rates of recidivism declining with age. However, for the second year in a row, the recidivism rate of females is greater than that of males, with 51.9% of females returning to prison within three years compared to 48.5% for males.

		Ma	ales			Fem	ales		Entire Cohort				
Age	Re	leased	Retu	irned	Re	Released		Returned		Released		Returned	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
17-19	6	0.6	5	83.3	1	0.9	0	0.0	7	0.7	5	71.4	
20-25	229	23.6	128	55.9	20	18.9	12	60.0	249	23.2	140	56.2	
26-29	163	16.8	89	54.6	13	12.3	9	69.2	176	16.4	98	55.7	
30-39	255	26.3	124	48.6	41	38.7	23	56.1	296	27.6	147	49.7	
40-49	234	24.1	97	41.5	26	24.5	10	38.5	260	24.2	107	41.2	
50-59	56	5.8	21	37.5	2	1.9	1	50.0	58	5.4	22	37.9	
60 and over	24	2.5	5	20.8	3	2.8	0	0.0	27	2.5	5	18.5	
Total	967	99.8%	469	48.5%	106	100%	55	51.9%	1,073	100%	524	48.8%	

Table 16. Recidivism Rates by Age and Gender

Females also exhibited differences from males in their return rates by age. Females exhibited higher recidivism rates than males for all age groups except for offenders aged 40-49.

Recidivism rates for both males and females declined with age. This was particularly true for males, who exhibited a steady and precipitous decline in recidivism with an increase in the age at which they were released.

The recidivism rate for females in their late twenties approached 70%, and females in their forties returned to prison at a rate of over 55%. With the exception of the 5 males in their teens that returned to prison, male offenders in their twenties had the highest recidivism rate for male offenders, with the recidivism rate for males in their forties consistent with the statewide average and falling below the statewide average for offenders 50 years of age and older at the time of their release.

D. Recidivism Rates by Crime Category

An analysis of recidivism rates for offenders by crime category reveals that, overall, offenders convicted of property crimes are the most likely to return to prison, with a recidivism rate of 56.3%, while offenders convicted of a violent crime are the least likely to return to prison, with a recidivism rate of 43.2%.

Crime	Total I	Released	Total	Returned	% of all
Category	#	%	#	%	Recidivists
Violent	345	32.2	149	43.2	28.4
Property	323	30.1	182	56.3	34.7
Drug	200	18.6	99	49.5	18.9
Public Order	205	19.1	94	45.9	17.9
Total	1,073	100.0%	524	48.8%	100%

 Table 17. Recidivism Rates by Crime Category

Offenders convicted of property crime represented 30.1% of the offenders released in FY 2006, but represented 34.7% of all recidivists. Violent offenders, on the other hand, represented 43.2% of all offenders released in 2006, but only 28.4% of all recidivists. The second highest recidivism rate by crime category was for drug offenders, at 49.5%, followed by offenders convicted of crimes of public order, at 45.9%.

E. Recidivism Rates by Crime Category and Gender

An analysis of recidivism rates by crime category and gender reveals different patterns in recidivism rates among male and female offenders. While the highest recidivism rate for males is for offenders convicted of property crimes (57.2%), the highest rates of recidivism for females was among those released from prison after having served time for a drug crime (54.8%) or a violent crime (53.8%).

Table 18.	Recidivism	Rates by	Crime	Category	and Gender
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		Ma	ales	Females			Total Cohort					
Crime Type	Released Ret		urned	urned Rele		eased Returned		Released		Returned		
erinie rype	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Violent	332	34.3	142	42.8	13	12.1	7	53.8	345	32.2	149	43.2
Property	283	29.3	162	57.2	40	37.4	20	50.0	323	30.1	182	56.3
Drug	158	16.3	76	48.1	42	39.3	23	54.8	200	18.6	99	49.5
Public Order	194	20.1	89	45.9	11	10.3	5	45.5	205	19.1	94	45.9
Total	967	100%	469	48.5%	106	99.1%	55	51.9%	1,073	100%	524	48.8%

The lowest recidivism rate for males was for offenders who had served time for violent crimes (42.8%), while the lowest recidivism rate for female offenders was for crimes of public order (45.5%). In fact, the

recidivism rate for females was higher than that of males for all crime categories with the exception of crimes of public order, where the difference was only slight.

The overall average recidivism rate for males was 48.5%. However, this recidivism rate is largely driven by the high recidivism rate for males convicted of property crimes, as the recidivism rate for the three remaining crime categories fall below 48.1%. While males convicted of property crimes represented less than 30% of all males released in 2006, they represented almost 35% of all male recidivists.

Females convicted of drug crimes represented the largest proportion of females released in 2006, at 39.3%. With a recidivism rate of 54.8%, females convicted of drug crimes represented almost 42% of all female recidivists. And while male offenders convicted of violent crimes had the lowest rate of recidivism at 42.8%, the recidivism rate for females convicted of a violent crime was over 25% greater than their male peers, at 53.8%.

F. Recidivism Rates by Specific Crime and Gender

With regard to recidivism rates by specific crimes, among the crimes for which males had higher than average rates of recidivism were: robbery, aggravated assault, drug sale, and all property crimes. Among the violent crimes, offenders released for aggravated assault and robbery accounted for 30% of all males released but almost 39% of all violent crime recidivists.

The highest rates of recidivism for males were found among males convicted of property crimes, with an overall recidivism rate of 57.2%. Males convicted of larceny, theft or receiving stolen property had the highest recidivism rate, at 59.6%. The second highest recidivism rate for males was for offenders convicted of drug sale, with a recidivism rate of 57.4%.

Due to the small number of females represented in the cohort when broken down by specific crime, recidivism rates for females are less reliable. Among the specific crimes for which females exhibited higher recidivism rates were: robbery, assault, fraud, drug possession and public order crimes other than DWI/Habitual Offender.

When comparing male and female recidivism rates, we find that when it comes to violent crimes, both males and females convicted of robbery are more likely to return to prison than offenders convicted of other violent crimes. When it comes to property crimes, we find that female property offenders are more likely to return to prison if they have been convicted of fraud, whereas males convicted of larceny, theft or receiving stolen property are more likely to return to prison.

Females were both more likely to have been convicted of a drug crime than males (39.6% vs. 16.3%), and more likely to return to prison for a drug crime (54.8% vs. 48.1%). Males convicted of drug sale were more likely to return to prison than females convicted of drug sales (57.4% vs. 50%), while females convicted of drug possession were more likely to return to prison than males convicted of the same crime (56.3% vs. 42.3%).

Females were half as likely to have been serving time for a crime of public order (10.3% vs. 20.1%) but were only slightly less likely than males to be returned to prison, with recidivism rates of 45.9% and 45.5%, respectively. Both males and females convicted of a crime of public order were more likely to return to prison if they had been convicted of "other public order" crimes than if they had been convicted of DWI/Habitual Offender (50.6% and 66.7%, respectively).

G. Recidivism Rates by Number of Prior Prison Incarcerations

The number of prior prison incarcerations is often a predictor of whether or not an offender will return to prison. Of the 1,073 offenders released in 2006, 544 (50.7%) had no prior prison incarcerations previous

to the prison stay for which they were released that year. Offenders with no prior prison incarcerations had the lowest recidivism rate of all offenders by number of previous incarcerations, at 44.7%. The combined recidivism rate for offenders with one or more previous prison incarcerations was 53.1%.

While the recidivism rate of offenders with no prior prison incarcerations was 16% less than offenders with one or more prior incarcerations, due to the size of this group, offenders with no prior prison incarcerations that returned to prison represented almost half (46.4%) of the offenders who returned to prison within three years of their release.

Number of Previous	Total	Cohort	Total I	Returns	% of all
Incarcerations	#	%	#	%	Recidivists
0	544	50.7	243	44.7	46.4
1	265	24.7	149	56.2	28.4
2	150	14.0	70	46.7	13.4
3 or more	114	10.6	62	54.4	11.8
Total	1,073	100%	524	48.8%	100%

Table 19. Recidivism Rates by Number of Previous Prison Incarcerations

The recidivism rate of offenders with one prior incarceration had the highest recidivism rate by number of previous prison incarcerations, at 56.2%. This group represented 24.7% of all releases and 28.4% of all recidivists. The recidivism rate for offenders with two prior incarcerations was 46.7%, representing 13.4% of all recidivists for the cohort year, and offenders with three or more prior prison incarcerations had the second highest recidivism rate ~ at 54.4%, but represented only slightly more than 10% of all recidivists.

Number of		Ma	ales		Females					
Previous	Released		Ret	Returned		eased	Returned			
Incarcerations	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%		
0	485	50.2%	214	44.1%	59	55.7%	29	49.2%		
1	239	24.7%	137	57.3%	26	24.5%	12	46.2%		
2	136	14.1%	61	44.9%	14	13.2%	9	64.3%		
3 or more	107	11.1%	57	53.3%	7	6.6%	5	71.4%		
Total	967	100%	469	48.5%	106	100%	55	51.9%		

Table 20. Recidivism Rates by Gender and Number of Previous Incarcerations

An analysis of the recidivism rates of males and females by number of prior incarcerations reveals that the likelihood of returning to prison for females increases rather dramatically with the number of prior prison incarcerations, whereas this relationship is less linear for males. Males with no prior prison incarceration were the least likely to return to prison (44.1%), with the likelihood of returning to prison increasing to 57.3% with one prior prison incarceration, then falling to 44.9% with two prior prison incarcerations and then going up again to 53.3% for those with three or more prison incarcerations.

While females in the 2006 release cohort were 11% more likely than males to have had no prior prison incarcerations, their recidivism rate was 11.4% greater than that of males with no prior prison

incarcerations (44.1% vs. 49.2%). However, the recidivism rate for females went down slightly for those with one prior prison incarceration while the recidivism rate for males went up. The recidivism rate for females exceeded that of males by almost 20% for those with two or more prior prison incarcerations, and by 18% for those with three or more prior prison incarcerations. These data indicate that the number of prior prison incarcerations places females at a statistically greater risk of recidivating than their male peers.

H. Recidivism and Average Length of Stay

This subsection of the report compares differences in the average lengths of stay of offenders for recidivists vs. non-recidivists.

As noted in Section II, the average length of stay for offenders varies by booking type, with offenders who were released from a sentence in FY 2006 having (on average) the longest lengths of stay, followed by offenders admitted to prison on a probation revocation. Parole violators had (on average) the shortest lengths of stay overall. An analysis of lengths of stay for recidivists vs. non-recidivists, by gender, is provided below.

Booking Type	Male Non-Recidivists			ale livists	% Difference	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Sentenced	38.1	25.9	28.9	20.6	-31.8%	-25.3%
Parole Revocation	12.3	7.7	11.9	8.1	-3.8%	4.7%
Probation Revocation	27.0	21.6	24.0	17.3	-12.6%	-25.0%

Table 21. Lengths of Stay (LOS) for Males, Non-Recidivists vs. Recidivists

For male offenders released from a sentence in FY 2006, the average length of stay for non-recidivists was 38.1 mos. vs. 28.9 mos. for recidivists ~ a difference in means of 31.8%. However, the median length of stay for sentenced inmates who did not recidivate was 25.9 mos. vs. 20.6 mos. for 50% of sentenced offenders who returned to prison ~ a difference of 25.3%. Regardless of the measure of center (average) used, sentenced inmates that were recidivists spent, on average, between 30 to 25% less time in prison than did their non-recidivist peers.

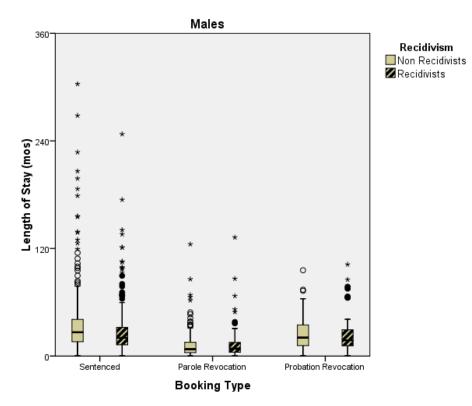
Male offenders released from prison from a parole revocation who did not recidivate had an average length of stay of 12.3 mos. vs. 11.9 mos. for their recidivating peers ~ a difference of only 3.8%. However, the median length of stay for offenders admitted on a parole revocation that did not recidivate was 4.7% less than the median length of stay for offenders released from parole that did recidivate (7.7 mos. vs. 8.1 mos.). That is, while on average non-recidivists tend to have longer lengths of stay in prison than did their peers who returned to prison, 50% of non-recidivists had shorter lengths of stay than the length of stay of 50% of recidivists.

For offenders released from a probation revocation, the differences in the lengths of stay for recidivists vs. non-recidivists was more consistent, with non-recidivists spending an average of 27 months in prison compared to 24 months for their peers who returned ~ a difference of 12.6%. The median length of stay for probation violators who did not return was 21.6 months compared to 17.3 months for probation violators who recidivated ~ a difference of 25%. Regardless of the measure of average length of stay, in both cases offenders admitted on a probation revocation that did not recidivate spent between 12 and 25 percent more time in prison than did their peers who did recidivate.

The statistics for sentence offenders and probation violators suggest that there is a positive relationship between the length of time spent in prison and the likelihood a male offender will recidivate.

Graph 1. Lengths of Stay (LOS) for Males, Non-Recidivists vs. Recidivists

The diagram below utilizes box plots to graph the length of stay by booking type for male recidivists and non-recidivists. The box plot for non-recidivists appears on the left and recidivists to the right.



The shaded center of the box plot represents the length of stay for the middle 50% of inmates, while the upper and lower tails of the box plot represent the range of the remaining 20% of cases that lie below and above the middle 50%. The dots that appear above the upper tail represent "outliers," which are individual lengths of stay that were much longer than the majority of offenders in that group.

As the diagram above illustrates, non-recidivists released from a sentence had a wider range of lengths of stay than did recidivists. The diagram also illustrates how this is less true for the other booking types, as demonstrated by the size of the boxes that represent the lengths of stay for the middle 50% of offenders admitted to prison on a parole and/or probation revocation.

Another fact illustrated by the diagram above is that the majority of offenders have relatively short lengths of prison stay, with only a small percentage of offenders released each year having spent more than three years in prison.

Booking Type	Female Non-Recidivists			nale livists	% Difference		
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Median Mean		
Sentenced	18.5	12.0	15.6	13.6	-18.8%	11.7%	
Parole Revocation	6.1	5.3	10.0	10.2	38.9%	48.0%	
Probation Revocation	11.8	11.6	13.6	11.6	13.3%	0.0%	

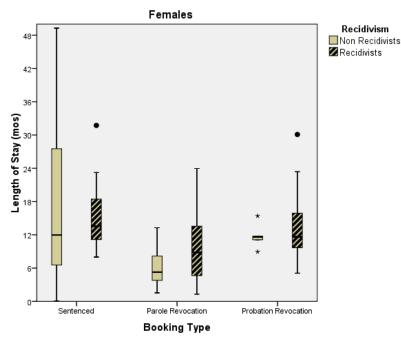
Table 22. I	Lengths of Stay	(LOS) in Months	for Females, Non-Re	cidivists vs. Recidivists
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An analysis of differences in the average lengths of stay for recidivist and non-recidivist female offenders released from a sentence in FY 2006 suggests that, unlike their male counterparts, shorter lengths of stay may reduce the likelihood an offender will return to prison.

While sentenced females that did not recidivate spend almost 19% more time in prison than did their non-recidivist peers (12 mos. vs. 15.6 mos.), this was the only measure that would suggest longer lengths of stay might have a positive influence on recidivism. All other measures of center for length of stay for female offenders suggests that shorter lengths of stay reduce the likelihood an offender will return to prison. The median length of stay for sentenced female offenders was almost 12% greater than that of their non-recidivist peers (13.6 mos. vs. 12 months).

Differences in the lengths of stay of females between non-recidivists and recidivists admitted on a parole revocation were both more and dramatic, with the average lengths of stay for non-recidivists almost 40% less than that of recidivists (6.1 mos. vs. 10 mos.). The difference in median length of stay for recidivists vs. non-recidivists admitted on a parole revocation were more dramatic, with the median length of stay for recidivists 48% greater than their non-recidivist peers (10.2 mos. vs. 5.3 mos.).





Differences between the lengths of stay of female recidivists vs. non-recidivists released in FY 2006 who served time for a probation revocation were less remarkable, and may be attributed to the small number of offenders represented. While the average length of stay among non-recidivists of 11.8 months is 13% shorter than the average length of stay for recidivists of 13.6 months ~ the total number of non-recidivists for this group is only 5, and there was no difference in the median length of stay for non-recidivists and recidivists.

SUMMARY

Section III: Recidivism Rates of FY 2006 Cohort

- The overall recidivism rate for offenders released in FY 2006 was 48.8%. The recidivism rate for males was 48.5%, while the recidivism rate for females was 51.9%.
- Recidivism rates by booking type are summarized as follows:
 - Sentenced ~ 45.9% recidivism rate, representing 45.4% of all prison returns
 - Parole Revocations ~ 50% recidivism rate, representing 38.9% of all returns
 - Probation Revocations ~ 58.2% recidivism rate, representing 15.6% of all returns
 - \circ Concurrent ~ 0% recidivism rate (n=7), representing zero percent of returns.
- Recidivism rates by release type are summarized as follows:
 - Paroled ~ 57.1% recidivism rate, representing 88% of all returns
 - Maxed Out ~ 16% recidivism rate, representing 5.7% of all returns
 - Court Ordered w/ Supervision ~ 33% recidivism rate, representing 1.3 % of all returns
 - Court Ordered w/no Supervision ~ 35.7% recidivism rate, representing 1% of all returns
 - Violator Released ~ 50% recidivism rate, representing 4% of all returns
- Male offenders ages 17-19 at the time of their release had the highest recidivism rate for males, at 83.3% (n=5 of 6), followed by males ages 20-25, at 55.9%.
- Female offenders in their late twenties had the highest rate of recidivism, at 69.2% (n=9 of 13), followed by women in their early 20's, at 60% (n=12 of 20).
- Males convicted of a violent crime had the lowest recidivism rates by crime category, at 42.8%, however this was largely due to lower recidivism rates for sex offenders (34.9%).
- The highest rate of recidivism for males was for offenders convicted of a property crime, at 57.2%, followed by those convicted of a drug crime, at 48.1%.
- The lowest recidivism rate by crime category for females was for those convicted of a crime of public order, at 45.5%.
- The highest recidivism rate for females by crime category was for those convicted of a drug crime, at 54.8%, followed by those convicted of a violent crime, at 53.8%.
- Offenders with no prior incarcerations had the lowest recidivism rate by number of previous prison incarcerations, at 44.1%.
- Recidivism rates for males were the highest among those with one prior prison incarceration, at 57.3%.
- Recidivism rates for females increased with the number of prior prison incarcerations, with the recidivism rate growing from 49.2% for those with no prior prison incarcerations to 71.4% (n=5 of 7) for those with three or more prior prison incarcerations.
- The lowest recidivism rates were found among the following demographic groups:

Demographic Factor	<u>Group</u>	Recidivism Rate
Booking Type	Sentenced Inmates	45.9%
Release Type	Maxed Out	16.0%
Gender	Male Offenders	48.5%
Age	Offenders age 60 and older	18.5%
Crime Category	Violent Offenders	43.5%
Number of Prev. Incar.	No Prior Incarcerations	44.4%

• Male recidivists tend to have shorter lengths of prison stay than non-recidivists, whereas female recidivists tend to have longer lengths of stay than non-recidivists.

SECTION IV

Recidivists: Time Out Before Return to Prison

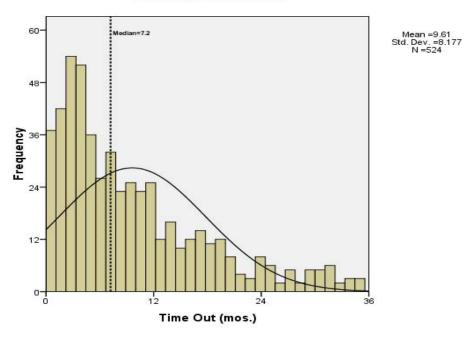
A. Time Out Before Return to Prison

This section of the report provides an analysis of the length of time offenders who returned to prison (recidivists) spent in the community prior to being returned to prison.

A total of 524 offenders returned to prison within three years of their release. The average (mean) length of time offenders spent in the community prior to returning to prison was 9.6 months. The median length of time offenders spent in the community before returning to prison was 7.2 months. The median refers to the fifty percent mark. This means that the first 50% of the offenders that returned to prison returned within 7.2 months of their release.

The graph below illustrates the number of recidivists that returned to prison within three years of their release by length of time they spent in the community prior to their return to prison.

Graph 3. Time Out Before Return to Prison



Time Out Before Return

This graph illustrates that offenders are at the greatest risk of returning to prison within the first few months after their release from prison, with the likelihood of returning to prison decreasing over time. The vertical line to the right of the 6 month mark that extends to the top of the graph indicates the median amount of time recidivists spent in the community prior to returning to prison, which was 7.2 months.

Table 23. below provides an analysis of differences in the average lengths of time spent in the community prior to return to prison by gender. This analysis reveals that female recidivists, on average, return to prison sooner than their male counterparts.

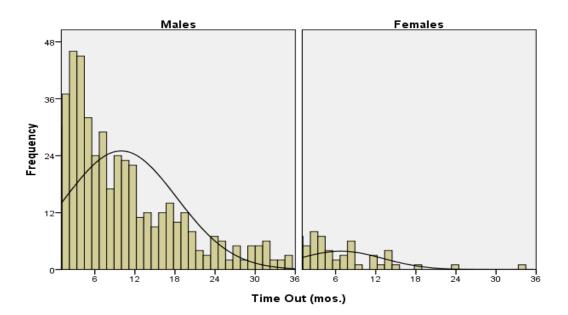
	Mean	10% of Returns	25% of Returns	50% of Returns	75% of Returns	90% of Returns
Males	9.9	1.6	3.4	7.5	14.4	22.1
Females	6.8	.9	2.5	5.1	8.8	14.3
Combined	9.6	1.6	3.2	7.2	13.76	21.85

Table 23.	Time Out Before	Return to Prison	bv Gender	(in months)
			. ~	(

For males, the average length of time out in the community before returning to prison was 9.9 months, while the average length of timeout for female offenders was almost one third less, at 6.8 months. Ten percent of females that recidivated had returned to prison in less than one month after being released, compared to a month and a half for males.

Twenty-five percent of the females that returned to prison returned within 2.5 months, compared to 3.4 months for their male peers, and a full 50% of female recidivists had returned to prison in less than 6 months, compared to 7.5 months for their male peers. Overall, females returned at a rate almost twice that of their male peers, with 90% of female recidivists returning in just over one year, compared to almost 2 years for males.

Graph 4. Time Out Before Return to Prison for Male and Female Offenders



Time Out Before Return

The graph above provide a visual display of differences in the rate at which male and female recidivists released in FY2006 were returned to prison.

B. Time Out Before Return to Prison, by Booking Type

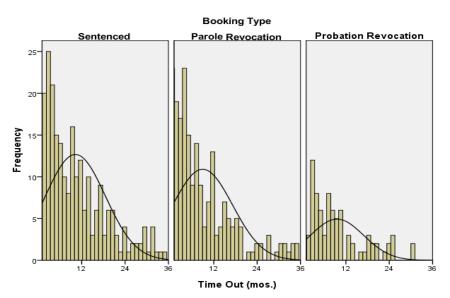
An analysis of timeout of prison before return by booking type reveals that offenders who had been admitted on a parole violation return to prison much sooner than offenders released from their initial sentence or a probation violation.

Booking Type	Mean	10% of Returns	25% of Returns	50% of Returns	75% of Returns	90% of Returns
Sentenced	10.2	1.8	3.6	8.0	14.6	22.9
Parole Revocation	8.9	1.0	2.8	6.1	12.3	19.7
Probation Revocation	9.5	2.6	3.8	7.6	13.1	22.0
Combined	9.6	1.6	3.2	7.2	13.8	21.9

The average length of time spent in the community for sentenced offenders before returning to prison was 10.2 months, while for parole violators the average was 8.9 months, and for probation revocators it was 9.5 months. Fifty percent of offenders who had served time for a parole violation returned to prison within 6 months, while 50% of sentenced offenders returned within 8 months. The median length of time spent in the community for those booked on a probation revocation was 7.6 months.

Of the 524 offenders who return to prison within 3 years after their release, 10% were back in prison in less than 3 months, 25% are back in less than four months, and 50% are back in slightly more than 7 months from the time of their release. Seventy-five percent of recidivists who returned to prison within 3 years of their release had returned in just over one year, and a full 90% who returned to prison returned in less than 2 years. While sentenced offenders who returned to prison spent the greatest amount of time in the community prior to returning to prison, differences in the amount of time spent in the community before returning to prison by booking type were not dramatic.

Graph 5. Time Out Before Returns to Prison, by Booking Type



C. Time Out Before Return to Prison by Crime Category

The table below provides an analysis of the amount of time spent in the community after release from prison prior to returning to prison, by crime category. These data indicate that offenders released from serving sentences for property and drug offenses returned to prison spent almost 1/3 less time in the community prior to returning to prison than did those serving sentences for violent or public order offenses.

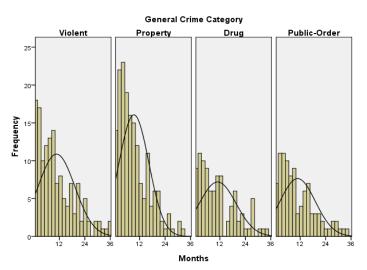
Crime Category	Mean	10% of Returns	25% of Returns	50% of Returns	75% of Returns	90% of Returns
Violent	11.1	1.8	3.7	8.3	16.2	25.9
Property	8.3	.9	2.6	5.6	11.5	19.9
Drug	8.4	1.7	3.0	6.7	11.3	20.1
Public Order	11.1	2.0	4.9	9.1	17.5	22.1
Combined	9.6	1.6	3.2	7.2	13.8	21.9

 Table 25. Time Out Before Return to Prison, by Crime Category (in months)

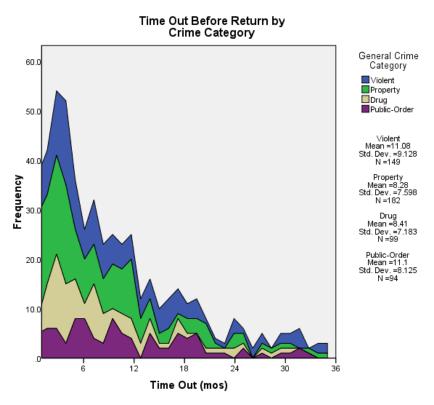
Offenders convicted of property offenses returned to prison the most quickly, with 10% returning in less than one month, 25% returning in less than 3 months, and 50% returning in less than 6 months. Second to offenders convicted of property crimes in the speed at which they returned were drug offenders, with 50% returning within 6.7 months, compared to 8.3 months and 9.1 months for offenders convicted of violent and public order offenses.

Overall, offenders convicted of public order offenses spent more time in the community prior to returning to prison than did other offenders, with 25% returning in just under 5 months, 50% returning in just over 9 months, and 75% returning in 17.5 months. The average length of time spent in the community was the same for violent and public order offenders, as 11.1 months, and the pattern of a slower return to prison on the part of violent offenders was similar to that of public order offenders.

Graph 6. Time Out Before Return to Prison, by Crime Category



The graph below illustrates that for all offenders, regardless of their crime type, the time for which offenders are at the greatest risk of recidivating is the first three months after their release, followed by 8 months after their release. The data also reveal spikes in return rates at 15 and 28 months.



Graph 7. Time Out Before Return to Prison by Crime Category

D. Time Out Before Return to Prison by Age at Release

An analysis of timeout of prison before return by age of offenders at time of release reveals interesting differences in the rate at which recidivists of different ages return to prison. In this particular cohort, the youngest offenders ~ those ages 17 -19 ~ returned at the fastest rate, spending an average length of time in the community of less than 3 months before returning to prison. It should be noted, however, that there were only 5 individuals in this age group.

The group with the second shortest length of time spent in the community before returning to prison was offenders in their 30's at the time of their release. While the average length of time spent in the community for offenders aged 30-39 that recidivated (n=147) was 8.2 months, 10% of recidivists in this age group returned to prison in less than one month, and 50% returned within 6.4 months. A full 75% of offenders in their 30's that returned to prison returned in less than one year, and 90% returned in only 18.3 months. This group represented 27.6% of all releases that year, and had a recidivism rate of 49.7% ~ thereby representing 28% of recidivists for the cohort year.

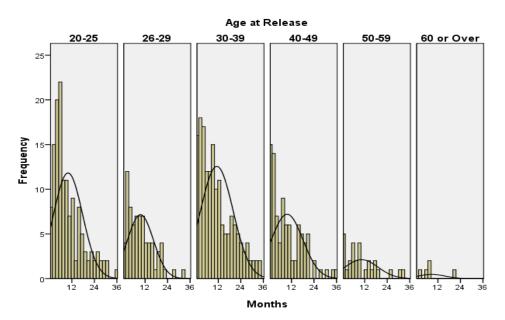
Age at Release	Ν	Mean	10% of Returns	25% of Returns	50% of Returns	75% of Returns	90% of Returns
17 - 19	5	2.7	.7	1.3	2.7	4.1	-
20 - 25	140	9.6	2.2	3.9	6.8	14.0	21.7
26 - 29	98	11.6	2.1	4.4	9.1	17.5	28.6
30 - 39	147	8.2	.9	2.6	6.4	11.9	18.3
40 - 49	107	9.6	1.4	3.1	6.7	14.0	23.1
50 – 59	22	9.3	1.0	2.5	7.2	13.8	19.9
60 and over	5	18.9	7.8	12.0	19.0	25.6	-
Total	524	9.6	1.6	3.2	7.2	13.8	21.9

Table 26. Time Out Before Return to Prison, by Age at Release

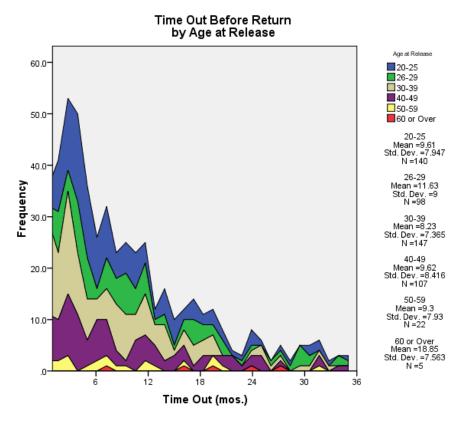
The only other age group to return to prison more quickly than the overall average was offenders aged 50-59. While the mean length of time spent in the community before return was 9.3, 10% had returned in one month or less, 25% had returned in 2.5 months. However, this age group had the second lowest recidivism rate by age category, at 37.9%, and represented only 4% of recidivists for the cohort year.

Aside from the five offenders who returned to prison aged 60 and over, offenders with the longest lengths of stay in the community prior to their return to prison were offenders aged 26-29. While this group had the second highest recidivism rate, at 55.7%, the average length of time spent in the community prior to returning to prison for this group was almost a full two months longer than the overall average. However, offenders in this age group represented only 16% of offenders released in 2006, and 18% of all recidivists that year.

Graph 8. Time Out Before Return to Prison, by Age at Release



Report on Recidivism FY 2005 Cohort Section IV: Timeout Before Return to Prison The graph above illustrates the number and rate of return to prison by length of time from release for all age categories with the exception of 17-19 year olds⁵. Offenders in the age groups of 20-25, 30-39 and 40-49 represent the largest proportion of offenders by age category, and total 70.9% of all releases and 75.2% of all recidivists for the cohort year.



Graph 9. Time Out Before Return to Prison, by Age Category

The graph above illustrates the same data that appears in Graph 8. but in a format that shows the cumulative number of offenders that return to prison, by age and length of time spent in the community prior to their return. This graph clearly illustrates that offenders who return to prison are at the greatest risk of returning within 3-4 months following their release, with spikes in the risk of returning at 8 months and 15-20 months, but with the likelihood of returning to prison decreasing over time.

E. Time Out Before Return to Prison by Number of Prior Prison Incarcerations

As noted in Section I, fifty percent (50.7%) of offenders released in FY 2006 had no prior prison incarcerations in New Hampshire prior to their release that year. While these offenders had a recidivism rate of 44.7%, compared to a recidivism rate of 53.1% among their peers with at least one prior prison incarceration, this group represents almost half (46.4%) of all recidivists for the 2006 cohort year.

Offenders with no prior prison incarcerations represents the largest group by number of prior incarcerations, and shows the slowest rate of return to prison over time, spending on average 10.3 months in the community prior to their return to prison.

 $^{^{5}}$ This group is not represented due to the small number of cases (n=5).

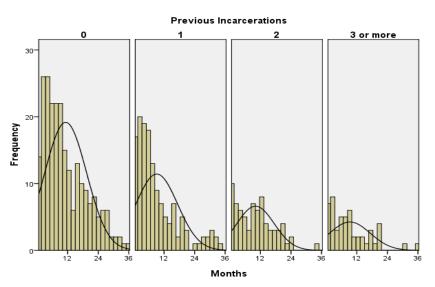
Number of Previous Incarcerations	Ν	Mean	10% of Returns	25% of Returns	50% of Returns	75% of Returns	90% of Returns
0	243	10.3	2.1	3.6	8.0	14.6	23.8
1	149	8.7	1.1	3.0	6.1	11.5	20.0
2	70	9.8	.9	2.8	8.4	14.2	20.0
3 or more	62	9.0	1.2	2.7	6.9	12.9	20.3
Total	524	9.6	1.6	3.2	7.2	13.8	21.9

Table 27. Time Out Before Return to Prison, by Number of Previous Incarcerations

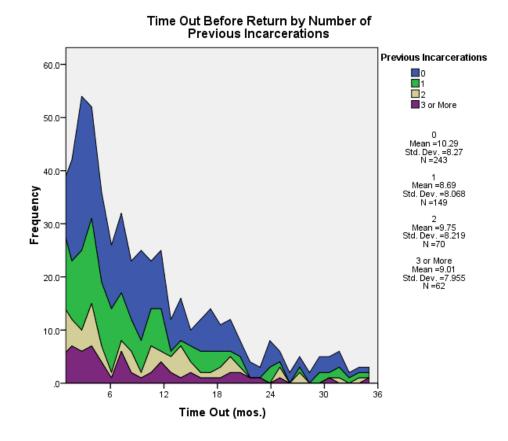
In fact, offenders with no prior prison incarcerations who returned to prison spent more time in the community by percentage of returns across the board. Offenders with one or more prior incarcerations returned to prison, on average, at a faster rate than the overall average for the entire cohort.

While the group with the lowest mean amount of time spent in the community was offenders with one prior prison incarceration, at 8.7 months, 25% of offenders with two or more prior incarcerations returned at a faster rate initially. Fifty percent of offenders with one prior incarceration returned within 6.1 months, followed by 50% of those with three or more incarcerations that returned within 6.9 months. A full 75% of the offenders with one prior prison incarceration that returned to prison had returned in less than one year, and 90% had returned within 20 months.

Graph 10. Time Out Before Return to Prison, by Number of Prior Prison Incarcerations



The graph above and the graph below illustrate the number of offenders that returned to prison by number of prior prison incarcerations. Both graphs demonstrate the volume of offenders by number of previous incarcerations and the rate at which recidivists returned to prison by length of time spent in the community following their release.



Graph 11. Time Out Before Return to Prison by Number of Previous Incarcerations

While offenders with no prior prison incarcerations return at a slower rate than those with prior incarcerations, this group accounts for almost half of all recidivists.

SUMMARY

Section IV Recidivists: Time Out Before Return to Prison

- The average amount of time spent in the community on the part of recidivists before returning to prison was 9.6 months. Ten percent returned within 2 months, 50% returned within 7.2 months, and 90% of those that returned returned in less than 2 years.
- An analysis of time recidivists spend in the community prior to returning to prison indicates that offenders are at greatest risk of returning to prison the first 3-6 months after their release.
- The length of time female offenders that recidivated spent in the community prior to returning to prison was almost half that of their male counterparts. While 50% of female recidivists had returned to prison within 5.1 months, compared to 7.5 months for males, 90% of female recidivists had returned in slightly over one year, compared to 22.1 months for 90% of male recidivists.
- Offenders returning to prison after being released from a parole revocation return faster than those released from a sentence or probation revocation. The average amount of time spent in the community before returning to prison for parole revocators was 8.9 months, with 50% returning in 6.1 months.
- Offenders admitted to prison for a property crime that recidivated spent the least amount of time in the community before returning to prison than did offenders convicted of other crimes, with 10% of these recidivists returning in less than one month, 50% returning in less than 6 months, and 90% returning in less than 20 months.
- Offenders convicted of crimes of pubic order that recidivated returned more slowly than their property and drug offending peers, with 50% returning in just over 9 months.
- Offenders aged 17-19 returned the fastest of any other age category, but this group was represented by only 5 cases. The age group of recidivists with second fastest rate return was offenders aged 30-39, with 50% returning to prison within 6.4 months of their release and 90% returning in less than one year.
- Offenders with no prior prison incarcerations that recidivated spent the greatest amount of time in the community before returning to prison, with average length of time in the community of 10.3 months, with 50% returning within 8 months, and 75% returning in 14.6 months.
- Offenders with one prior prison incarceration that recidivated spent the least amount of time in the community prior to returning to prison, with an average length of time in the community of 8.7 months, with 50% returning within 6.1 months and 75% returning in less than one year.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

FY 2006 COHORT RELEASES BY CRIME AND GENDER

APPENDIX B

FY 2006 COHORT RECIDIVISM RATES BY CRIME AND GENDER

Appendix A

FY 2006 Cohort Releases by Specific Crime and Gender

Specific Crime	Μ	ale	Fer	nale	E	ntire Col	nort
Violent	#	%	#	%	#	% of Total	% w/in Crime Category
Assault	102	10.5	3	2.8	105	9.8	30.4
Aggravated Assault	28	2.9	2	1.9	30	2.8	8.7
Robbery	73	7.5	4	3.8	77	7.2	22.3
Felonious Sexual Assault	48	5.0	0	0.0	48	4.5	13.9
Aggravated FSA*	50	5.2	1	0.9	51	4.8	14.7
Other Sexual Offense	10	1.0	0	0.0	10	0.9	2.9
Statutory Rape	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1	0.2
Kidnapping	2	0.2	0	0.0	2	0.2	0.5
Homicide	18	1.9	3	2.8	21	2.0	6.1
Total Violent	332	34.3%	13	12.3%	345	32.2%	100%
Property Crime		-		-			
Burglary	111	11.5	5	4.7	116	10.8	35.9
Larceny/Theft/Receiving Stolen Property	109	11.3	17	16.0	126	11.7	39.0
Fraud	45	4.7	17	16.0	62	5.8	19.2
Other Property	18	1.9	1	0.9	19	1.8	5.9
Total Property	283	29.3%	40	37.7%	323	30.1%	100%
Drug							
Drug Sale	61	6.3	10	9.4	71	6.6	35.5
Drug Possession	97	10.0	32	30.2	129	12.0	64.5
Total Drug Crime	158	16.3%	42	39.6%	200	18.6%	100%
Public Order		-				-	
Habitual Offender	118	12.2	8	7.5	126	11.7	61.5
Other Public Order	76	7.9	3	2.8	79	7.4	38.5
Total Public Order	194	20.1%	11	10.4%	205	19.1%	100%
TOTAL	967	100%	106	100%	1,073	100%	

* FSA = Felonious Sexual Assault

Appendix **B**

FY 2006 Cohort Recidivism Rates by Crime and Gender

Crime Category	Males				Females				Total Cohort			
	Released		Returned		Released		Returned		Released		Returned	
Violent	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Assault	102	10.5	43	42.2	3	2.8	2	66.7	105	9.8	45	42.9
Aggravated Assault	28	2.9	15	53.6	2	1.9	1	50.0	30	2.8	16	53.3
Robbery	73	7.5	40	54.8	4	3.8	3	75.0	77	7.2	43	55.8
Felonious Sexual												
Assault (FSA)	48	5.0	15	31.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	48	4.5	15	31.3
Aggravated FSA	50	5.2	19	38.0	1	0.9	1	100.0	51	4.7	20	39.2
Other Sexual	10	1.0		10.0	0	0.0			10			40.0
Offense	10	1.0	4	40.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	0.9	4	40.0
Statutory Rape	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0
Kidnapping	2	0.2	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.2	1	50.0
Homicide	18	1.9	5	27.8	3	2.8	0	0.0	21	2.0	5	23.8
Total Violent	332	34.3%	142	42.8%	13	12.3%	7	53.8%	345	32.1%	149	43.2%
Property	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Burglary	111	11.5	62	55.9	5	4.7	2	40.0	116	10.8	64	55.2
Larceny/Theft												
Receiving Stolen												
Property	109	11.3	65	59.6	17	16.0	6	35.3	126	11.7	71	56.3
Fraud	45	4.7	25	55.6	17	16.0	12	70.6	62	5.8	37	59.7
Other Property	18	1.9	10	55.6	1	0.9	0	0.0	19	1.8	10	52.6
Total Property	283	29.3%	162	57.2%	40	37.7%	20	50.0%	323	30.0%	182	56.3%
Drug	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Sale	61	6.3	35	57.4	10	9.4	5	50.0	71	6.6	40	56.3
Possession	97	10.0	41	42.3	32	30.2	18	56.3	129	12.0	59	45.7
Total Drug	158	16.3%	76	48.1%	42	39.6%	23	54.8%	200	18.6%	99	49.5%
Public-Order	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
DWI/Hab.Off.	118	12.2	51	43.2	8	7.5	3	37.5	126	11.7	54	42.9
Other Public Order	76	7.9	38	50.0	3	2.8	2	66.7	79	7.3	40	50.6
Total Public Order	194	20.1%	89	45.9%	11	10.4%	5	45.5%	205	19.1%	94	45.9%
TOTAL	967	100%	469	0.0%	106	100%	55	0.0%	1,073	100%	524	48.8%