

Quarterly Recidivism Report

as required by

945.041(2), F.S.

For Quarter

October 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of Strategic Initiatives

Bureau of Research and Data Analysis

Section 945.041 F.S. requires the Florida Department of Corrections (FDC) to publish on its website and make available to the public the following information, updated on a quarterly basis:

(2) The recidivism rate. As used in this subsection, the term "recidivism" means an inmate's re-arrest, reconviction, reincarceration, or probation revocation in the state within a 3-year time period following the inmate's release from incarceration.

Methodology

The FDC provided data on inmate releases and probation admissions to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Statistical Analysis Center (FDLE SAC) under the long-standing data sharing agreement between the agencies. The records were matched to the criminal history database maintained by FDLE SAC and information was returned to FDC. This information was used to determine if the offender had been arrested or convicted within three years (through December 31, 2020). Incarceration was determined from FDC's own database.

Although not explicitly required in statute, the report includes a community supervision admission cohort as well as the inmate release cohort. This provides similar metrics for a different group of offenders. This method was suggested by external stakeholders as a useful metric for the community corrections system.

Note that the statutory definition of recidivism is different from how the FDC typically calculates recidivism. Other FDC reports define recidivism as a **return to prison**, as the result of either a new conviction or a violation of post-prison supervision, within three years of their prison release date. Those reports also omit records of inmates with a detainer at time of release, as well as omitting any multiple releases for a specific inmate that occurred during the year of release. The follow-up periods are calculated from prison release date to the date of readmission to prison. The most recent recidivism rate, utilizing this methodology is 25.4% for inmates released in 2016.

Recidivism Rate for Follow-up Quarter Ending December 31, 2020

	Quarter from 10/1/17 to 12/31/17	(1) Arrested within 3 years	(2) Convicted within 3 years	(3) Incarcerated within 3 years	(4) Revocation within 3 years	Any Failure (1),(2),(3), or (4) within 3 years
Inmates Released	7,479	4,363 (58.3%)	2,823 (32.8%)	1,715 (22.9%)	1,160 (15.5%)	4,555 (60.9%)
Offenders Admitted to Community Supervision	17,988	10,717 (59.6%)	9,684 (53.8%)	3,385 (18.8%)	7,184 (39.9%)	11,632 (64.7%)

Notes:

Inmates Released- This represents the number of inmates released from prison during the quarter. Deaths and executions are not included. If more than one release occurred during the quarter for a specific inmate, only the first such release is recorded.

Offenders Admitted to Community Supervision-This represents the number of offenders admitted to probation or post-prison supervision during the quarter. Pending interstate compact transfers and pre-trial intervention (PTI) cases are excluded. An inmate with post-prison supervision will appear in both the **Inmates Released** and **Offenders Admitted to Community Supervision** rows of the table.

- (1) **Arrested**- The number of offenders fingerprint-arrested in Florida. Data from FDLE SAC.
- (2) **Convicted**- The number of offenders convicted based on judicial disposition data from FDLE SAC.
- (3) **Incarcerated**-The number of offenders that came to prison in Florida. It does not include county jail incarceration. Data from FDC.
- (4) **Revocation** -The number of offenders that were revoked while on community supervision. The revocation could be for a new felony offense, new misdemeanor offense, or technical violation of conditions of supervision. Data from FDC.
- (1) (2) (3) and (4) **Any Failure**- The number of offenders who appear in at least one of the four categories: Arrested, Convicted, Incarcerated, Revocation. For example, an inmate released may be arrested and convicted within three years of his release from prison. He/she will appear in the Arrested and Convicted columns, as well as the Any Failure column.

For questions about this report, please contact the Bureau of Research and Data Analysis at co.dcresearch@fdc.myflorida.com.