

Table 6.49

Recidivism rates of prisoners released in 1994 from prisons in 15 States

By selected prisoner characteristics

Prisoner characteristics	Percent of all released prisoners	Percent of released prisoners who, within 3 years, were:			
		Rearrested	Reconvicted ^a	Returned to prison with new prison sentence ^b	Returned to prison with or without a new prison sentence ^c
Total	100%	67.5%	46.9%	25.4%	51.8%
Sex					
Male	91.3	68.4	47.6	26.2	53.0
Female	8.7	57.6	39.9	17.3	39.4
Race					
White	50.4	62.7	43.3	22.6	49.9
Black	48.5	72.9	51.1	28.5	54.2
Other	1.1	55.2	34.2	13.3	49.5
Ethnicity					
Hispanic	24.5	64.6	43.9	24.7	51.9
Non-Hispanic	75.5	71.4	50.7	26.8	57.3
Age at release					
17 years and younger	0.3	82.1	55.7	38.6	56.6
18 to 24 years	21.0	75.4	52.0	30.2	52.0
25 to 29 years	22.8	70.5	50.1	26.9	52.5
30 to 34 years	22.7	68.8	48.8	25.9	54.8
35 to 39 years	16.2	66.2	46.3	24.0	52.0
40 to 44 years	9.4	58.4	38.0	18.3	50.0
45 years and older	7.6	45.3	29.7	16.9	40.9

Note: See Note, table 6.47. Of 272,111 released prisoners, data on sex were reported for 100%, race for 97.6%, Hispanic origin for 81.9%, and age at release for 99.9%.

^aBecause of missing data, prisoners released in Ohio were excluded from the calculation of percent reconvicted.

^bIncludes new sentences to State or Federal prisons but not to local jails. Because of missing data, prisoners released in Ohio and Virginia were excluded from the calculation of percent returned to prison with new sentence.

^cIncludes both prisoners with new sentences to State or Federal prisons plus prisoners returned for technical violations. Because of missing data, prisoners released in Arizona, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, and Virginia were excluded from the calculation of percent returned to prison with or without a new prison sentence. New York State custody records did not always distinguish prison returns from jail returns. Consequently, some persons received in New York jails were probably mistakenly classified as prison returns. Also, California, with a relatively high return-to-prison rate, affects the overall rate of 51.8%. When California is excluded, the return-to-prison rate falls to 40.1%.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 1994*, Special Report NCJ 193427 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, June 2002), p. 7.