

# JUVENILE RECIDIVISM 2015



**The Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) defines recidivism as a return to incarceration within three years of the offender's date of release from a state correctional institution.**

This study looks at Juvenile offenders released in 2012 and follows the offender for three years from their release date to determine if the offender returned to incarceration in either a Juvenile or Adult Facility.

## 2015 Juvenile Recidivism Rate: **35.3%**

- 1,013 Releases ■ 358 Returns (169 as a juvenile, 189 as an adult)
- 79.1% of juvenile releases had not been incarcerated in an Adult facility within 3 years of their 2012 release from a Juvenile institution

- Of all juveniles released in 2012 37.9% of males returned to IDOC, while only 21.1% of females returned.
- Approximately 43.9% of African American juvenile offenders returned to the Department of Correction, a higher rate than any other major race or ethnicity.
- Nearly 87% of juveniles who recidivated were returned to IDOC for the commission of a new crime, compared to 13% of returns which were for a technical violation of post-release supervision.
- Juvenile offenders whose offense severity level was classified as 'Serious' were most likely to return to incarceration.
- Juvenile offenders released in 2012 who were identified as a sex offender, returned to IDOC less frequently than the overall rate.
- Only 2.0% of identified juvenile sex offenders released in 2012 returned to IDOC for the commission of a **new** sex offense.

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## **Recidivism Methodology**

The Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) defines recidivism as a return to incarceration within three years of the juvenile's date of release from a state correctional institution. This particular study followed all students released from IDOC during calendar year 2012 to determine if they returned to incarceration, in either a juvenile or adult facility, within three years of their respective release date.

Chronological order was followed to determine how to accurately assess each student. To that effect, if a juvenile was returned to a juvenile facility, for purposes of the recidivism rate, he/she was counted as a recidivist to a juvenile facility and not researched any further.

## **Success Rate Methodology**

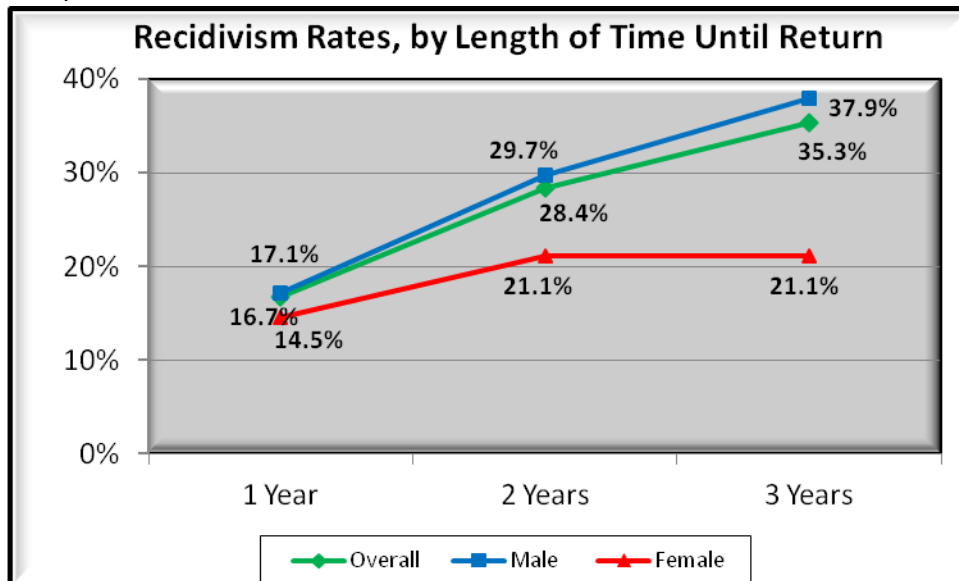
The rate of success for each student is established by determining if each juvenile released in 2012 was subsequently returned to incarceration *in an adult facility only*. Students released from a state correctional facility who remained free of adult incarceration three years after their release, were deemed as successfully re-entering society.

## Overall Recidivism Rates

In 2012, the number of students released from the Indiana Department of Correction was 1,013. Of those juveniles released, 35.3% were re-incarcerated with the Indiana Department of Correction within three years of their release date. Table 1 details recidivism rates by the length of time until a student returns to incarceration in either a juvenile or adult facility.

Table 1	2012 Releases		
	OVERALL	MALE	FEMALE
# Released	1,013	861	152
Recidivism Rates within 1 year of release	16.7%	17.1%	14.5%
Recidivism Rates within 2 years of release	28.4%	29.7%	21.1%
Recidivism Rates within 3 years of release	35.3%	37.9%	21.1%

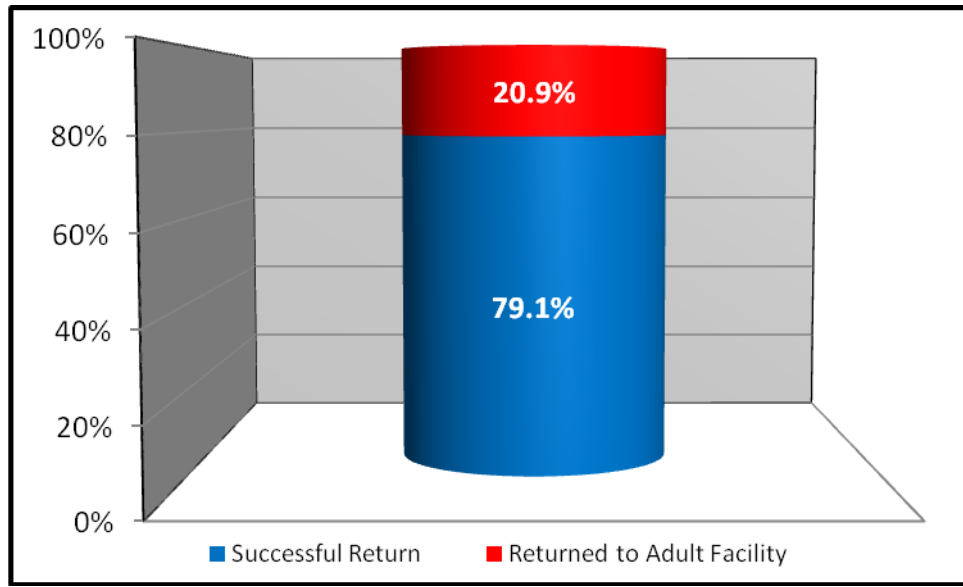
Graph 1



## Success Rate

The ultimate goal of any juvenile who has been released from a juvenile correctional setting is for them to remain crime free and not become incarcerated as an adult. The Indiana Department of Correction is obligated to serve all youth incarcerated in the State of Indiana and prepare them to re-enter their communities, in hope that they will become successful law-abiding citizens. Of the 1,013 juveniles released in 2012, 79.1% (801) were successfully re-integrated into their communities and were not incarcerated in an adult correctional facility within three years of their release.

Graph 2

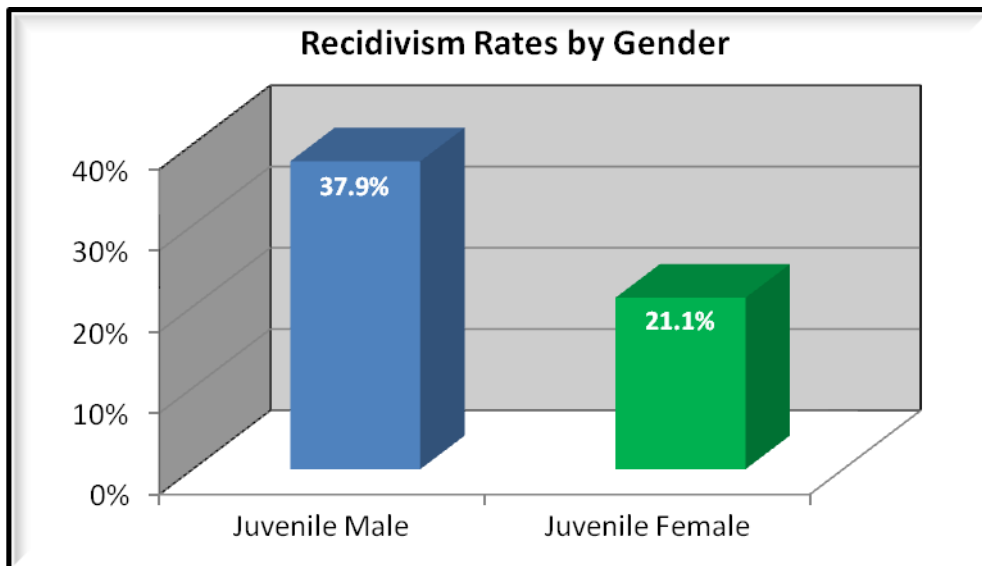


## Recidivism Rates by Gender

The figures in Table 2 indicate that recidivism rates for male and female students are considerably different. Of those students released in 2012, males (37.9%) are approximately one and three-quarters times more likely to recidivate, compared to females (21.1%). Interestingly, the majority of female students who were re-incarcerated with IDOC returned as a juvenile, while more than half of all juvenile male students who recidivated, returned to IDOC as an adult.

Table 2	OVERALL	MALE	FEMALE
<b>2012 Juvenile Releases</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>152</b>
<b>Returned as a Juvenile</b>	169	141	28
<b>Returned as an Adult</b>	189	185	4
<b>Total # Returned</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Recidivism Rate</b>	<b>35.3%</b>	<b>37.9%</b>	<b>21.1%</b>

Graph 3



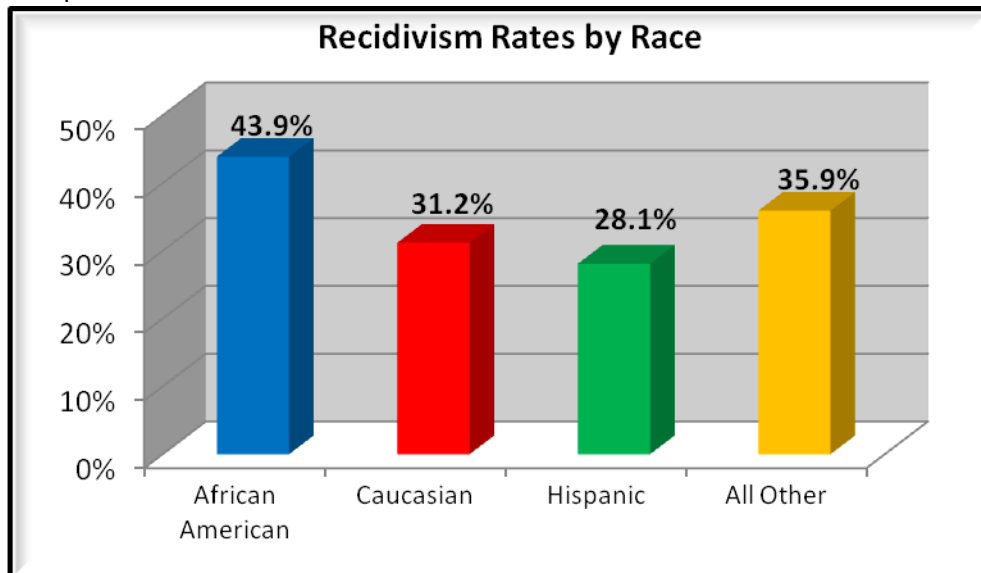
## Recidivism Rates by Race

When analyzing the race of each student released, the recidivism rate for African American students was 43.9%, Hispanic juveniles had a rate of 28.1%, and Caucasian juveniles returned to incarceration at a rate of 31.2%. As used in Graph 4 below, the ‘All Other’ category includes students who are American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, and students whose race was unidentified at the time of reporting.

Table 3

Race	2012 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
African American	328	144	43.9%
American Indian	3	2	0.0%
Asian/Pacific	0	0	0.0%
Caucasian	532	166	31.2%
Hispanic	89	25	28.1%
Unidentified	61	21	34.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>35.3%</b>

Graph 4



## Recidivism Rates by Type of Release

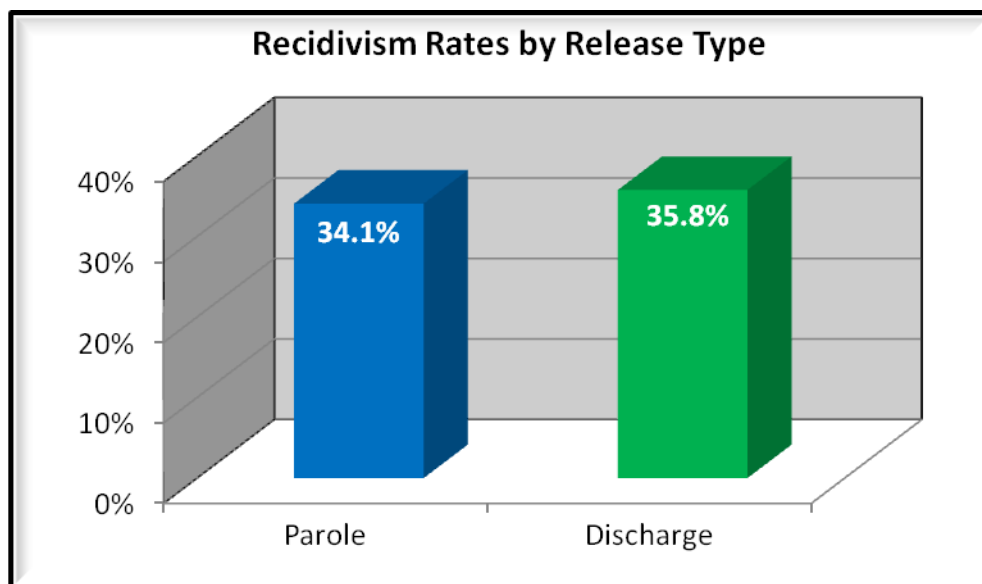
Students who are released to Parole are more likely to recidivate, than those students who are discharged from a juvenile facility. Of the 1,013 students released to Parole in 2012, 35.8% returned to IDOC within three years. Conversely, 34.1% of juvenile students who were discharged from incarceration, returned within three years.

Anecdotally, this difference may be attributed to the likelihood that students on Parole have increased supervision and specific Parole stipulations that must be followed or they risk being re-incarcerated for a Parole violation. To the contrary, those who are discharged have no post-release supervision guidelines, as they have completed the adjudication requirements imposed by their sentencing court.

Table 4

Release Type	2012 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Parole	273	93	34.1%
Discharge	740	265	35.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>35.3%</b>

Graph 5



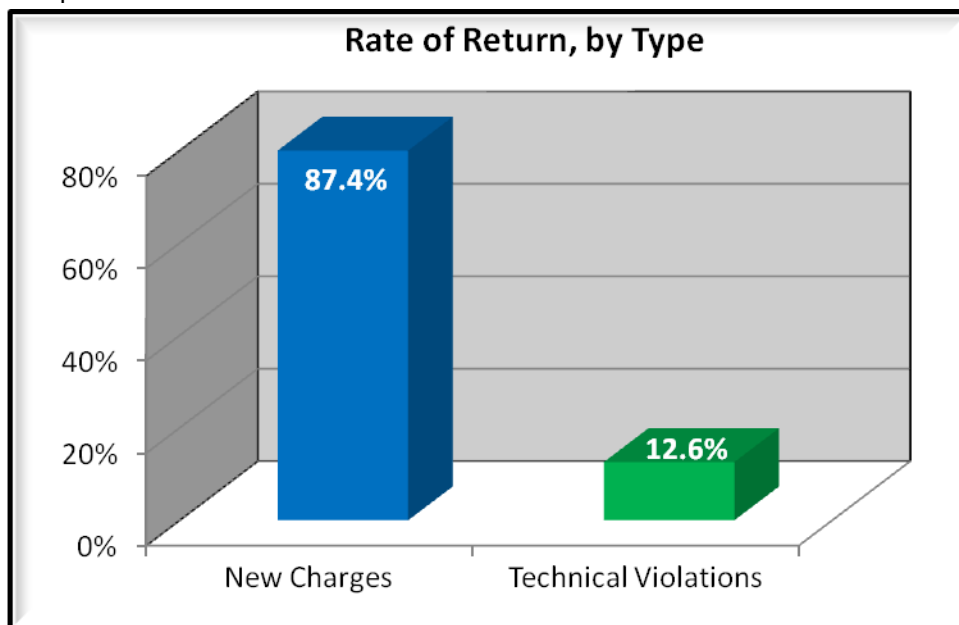


## Recidivism Rates by Type of Return

Table 5 details the percentage of students who returned to IDOC by type of return. For the 2012 juvenile release cohort, the proportion of returns for new charges in comparison to technical violation returns is significant. New charges comprised 87.4% of all returns, opposed to 12.6% of returns for technical violations.

Return Type	2012 Releases	
	Number of Recidivists	% of Return
Probation Violation	45	12.6%
New Charge	310	86.6%
Parole Violation - New	3	0.8%
Parole Violation - Tech	0	0.0%
Community Transition Program-Violation	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
New charges	313	87.4%
Technical violations	45	12.6%

Graph 6



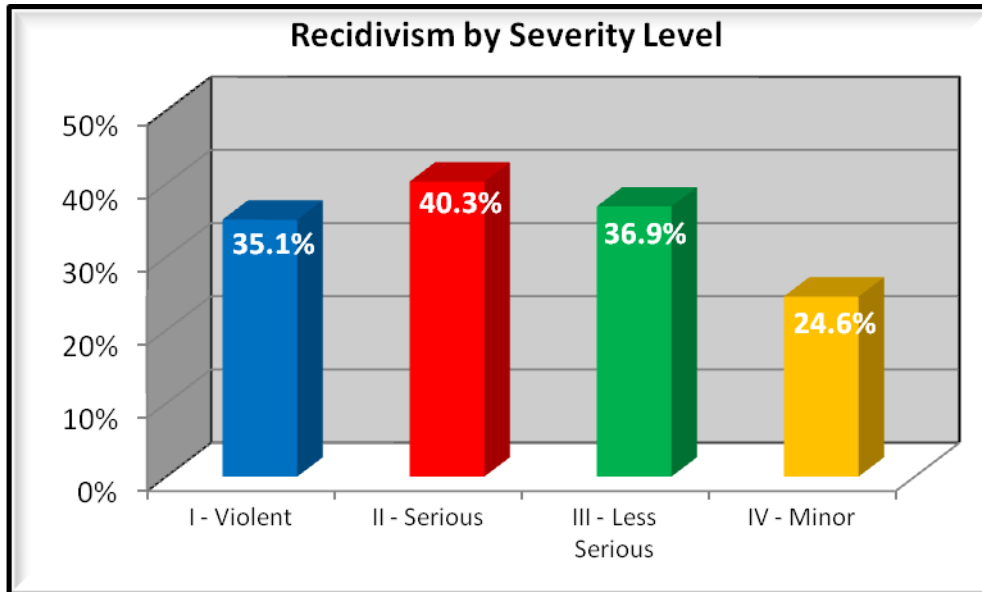
## Recidivism Rates by Severity Level\*

When comparing students released in 2012 by the severity level of their most serious committing offense, students with a severity level II, “serious” offense, were most likely to return to incarceration.

Table 6

Severity Level	2012 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
I - Violent	208	73	35.1%
II - Serious	77	31	40.3%
III - Less Serious	610	225	36.9%
IV - Minor	118	29	24.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>35.3%</b>

Graph 7



\* Severity Level is determined by the student’s most serious committing offense.

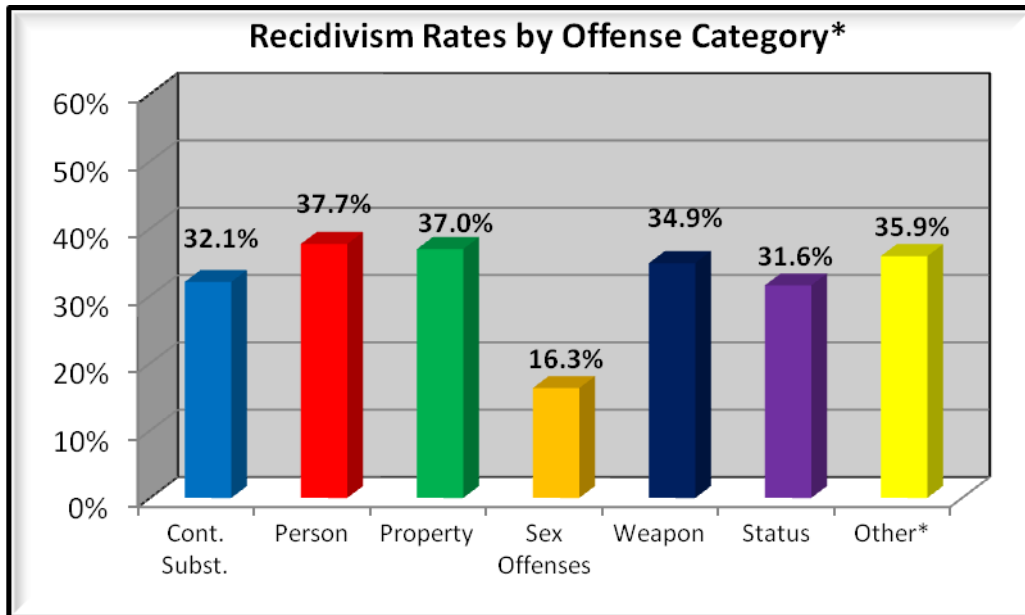
### Recidivism Rates by Offense Category\*

Approximately 38% of students released in 2012, whose most serious offense was a person crime were re-incarcerated within three years of their release. Recidivism rates for the remaining categories ranked as follows: property, other offenses (as defined below Graph 8), weapon, controlled substance offenses, status offenses, and lastly sex offenses.

Table 7

Offense Category*	2012 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Controlled Substance	81	26	32.1%
Person	212	80	37.7%
Property	403	149	37.0%
Sex Offenses	49	8	16.3%
Weapon	43	15	34.9%
Status	19	6	31.6%
Other**	206	74	35.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>35.3%</b>

Graph 8



\* Offense Category is determined by the student’s most serious committing offense.

\*\* Other - includes offenses such as, but not limited to: Resisting Law Enforcement, Driving Intoxicated/Suspended, Non-Support Child, Conspiracy, Aiding an Offense, Attempt to Commit a Felony, and Missing Data.

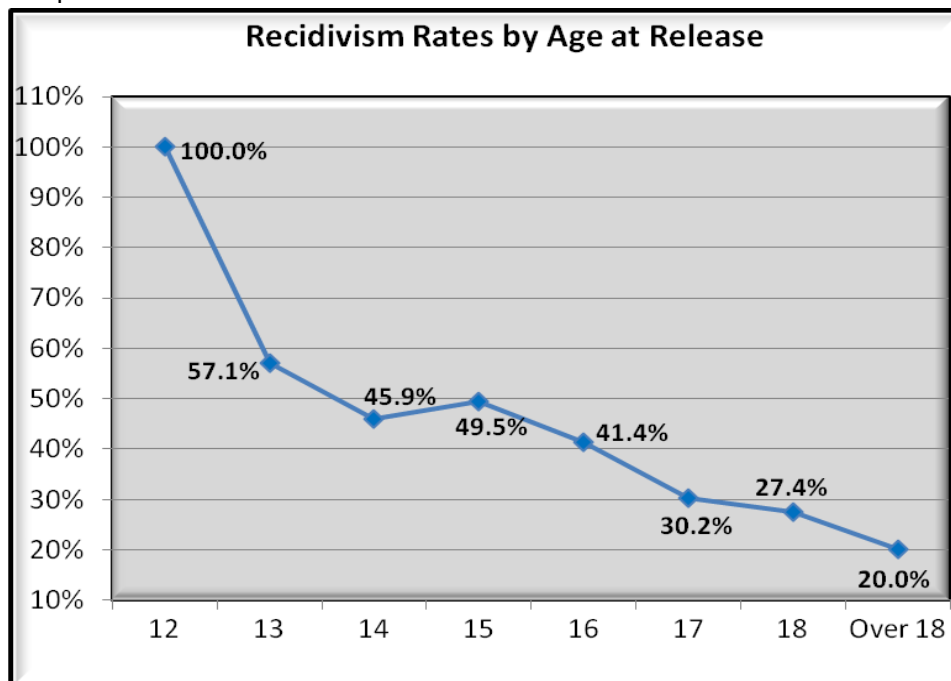
## Recidivism Rates by Age at Release

Recidivism rates by the age of each student at the time of their release from IDOC are illustrated in Table 8. It is clearly evident, as highlighted below in Graph 9, that the age of a student and the rate at which they return to incarceration are directly correlated. The younger the student is at the time he/she is released, the more likely they are to return to IDOC. Students 17, 18, or over 18 at the time of their release were found to have recidivism rates that are lower than the IDOC overall juvenile rate for 2015.

Table 8

Release Age	2012 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
12	4	4	100.0%
13	7	4	57.1%
14	37	17	45.9%
15	109	54	49.5%
16	239	99	41.4%
17	404	122	30.2%
18	208	57	27.4%
Over 18	5	1	20.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>35.3%</b>
<b>Average Age at Release</b>		<b>16.0 Years</b>	

Graph 9



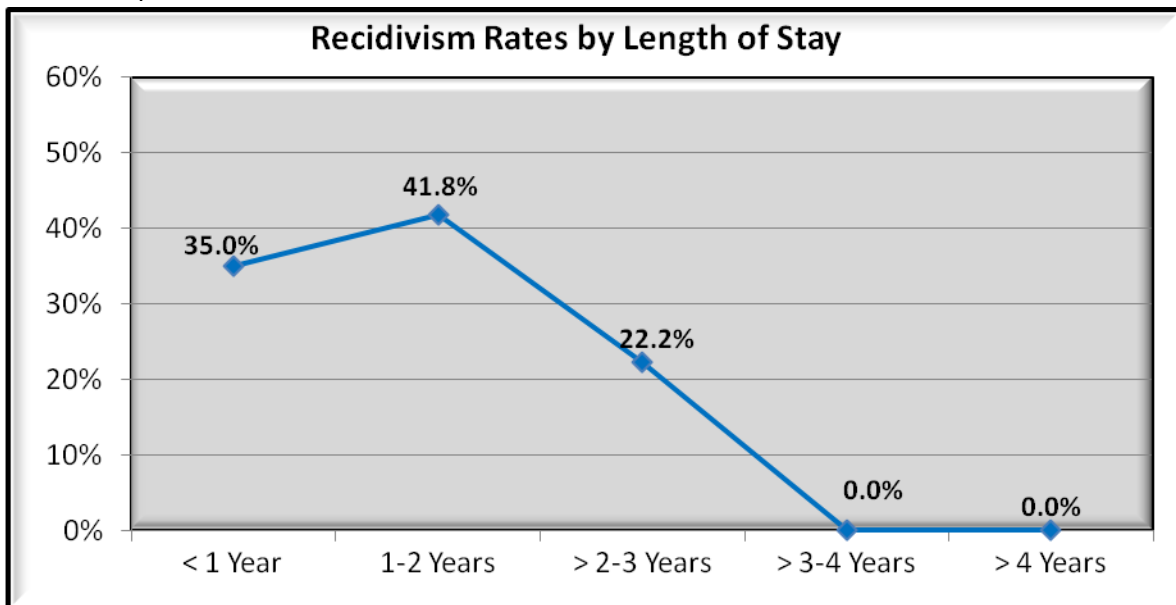
### Recidivism Rates by Length of Stay\*

Students who were incarcerated between one and two years had recidivism rates higher than the 2015 overall juvenile recidivism rate of 35.3%. Conversely, students who were with IDOC for less than one-year, (approximately 90% of all releases), demonstrated return rates lower than the overall recidivism rate.

Table 9

Length of Stay	2012 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
< 1 year	924	323	35.0%
1 - 2 years	79	33	41.8%
> 2 - 3 years	9	2	22.2%
> 3 - 4 years	1	0	0.0%
> 4 years	0	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>35.3%</b>
<b>Average Length of Stay</b>		<b>271.5 Days</b>	

Graph 10



\* Length of Stay is calculated by taking the difference between a student’s intake date and release date.

## Recidivism Rates for Students Adjudicated for a Sex Offense\*

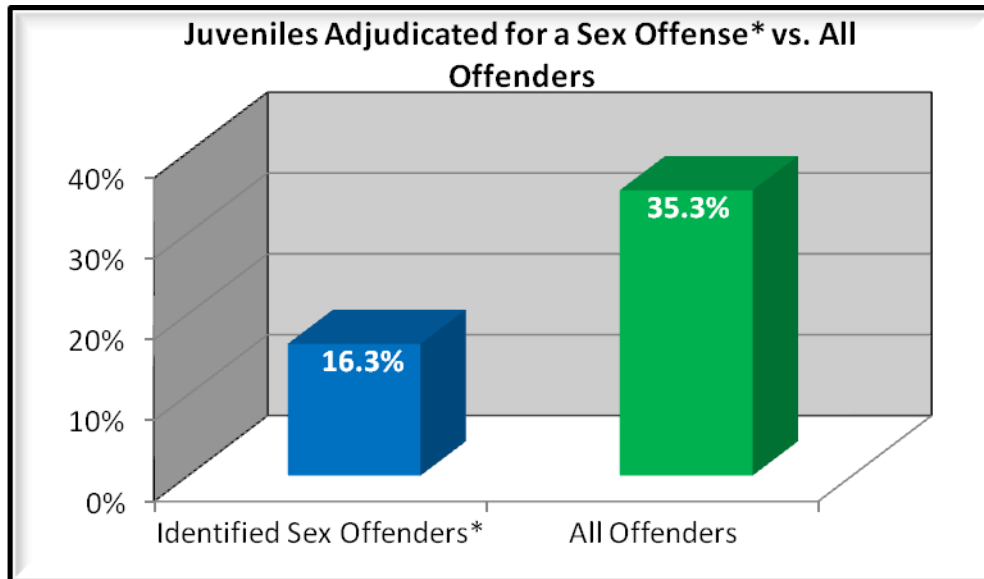
Graph 11 illustrates the disparity of recidivism rates for students identified with at least one sex crime, versus the entire IDOC juvenile population. Those juveniles identified as having been adjudicated for a sex offense have a lower rate of return than the total IDOC juvenile population. Return rates are based upon return for **any** new offense or technical violation.

\*Identified students adjudicated for a sex offense were determined to have at least one adjudication for any of the following during the commitment period resulting in their 2012 release: Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification.

Table 10

Gender	2012 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Female	2	0	0.0%
Male	47	8	17.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16.3%</b>

Graph 11



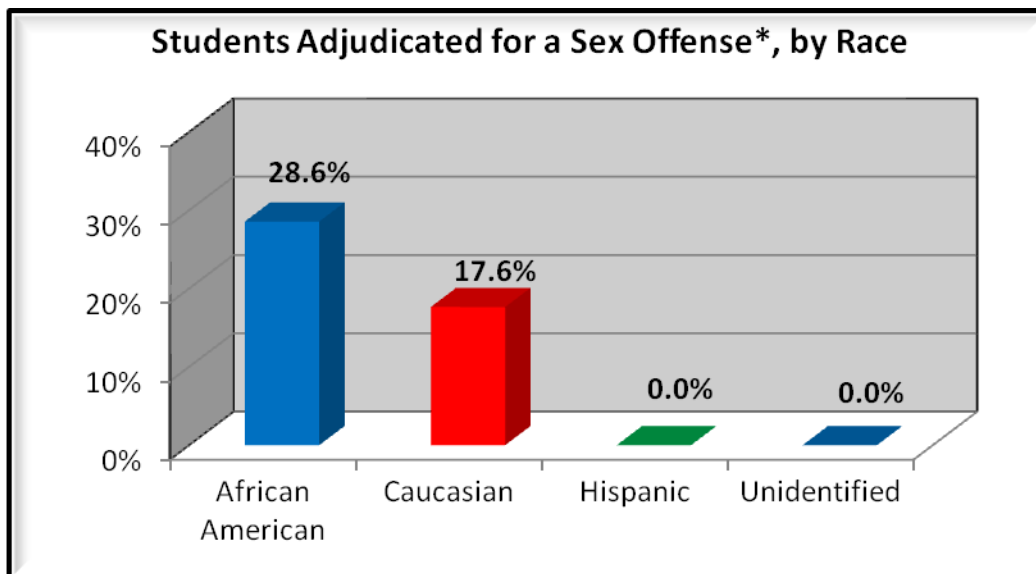
## Recidivism Rates for Students Adjudicated for a Sex Offense\* by Race

Recidivism rates by the race of identified juvenile sex offenses are detailed in Table 11. 28.6% of those students, identified as being adjudicated with a sex offense, with a race of African American were re-incarcerated within three years of release, representing the highest rate of return for any race of students adjudicated for a sex offense. In comparison, none of the Hispanic students or those whose race was unidentified, adjudicated for a sex offense, were returned to the institutional custody of IDOC.

Table 11

Race	2012 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
African American	7	2	28.6%
Caucasian	34	6	17.6%
Hispanic	4	0	0.0%
Unidentified	4	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16.3%</b>

Graph 12



\* Students Adjudicated for a Sex Offense - Students with at least one adjudication for Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification during the commitment period ending in 2012.

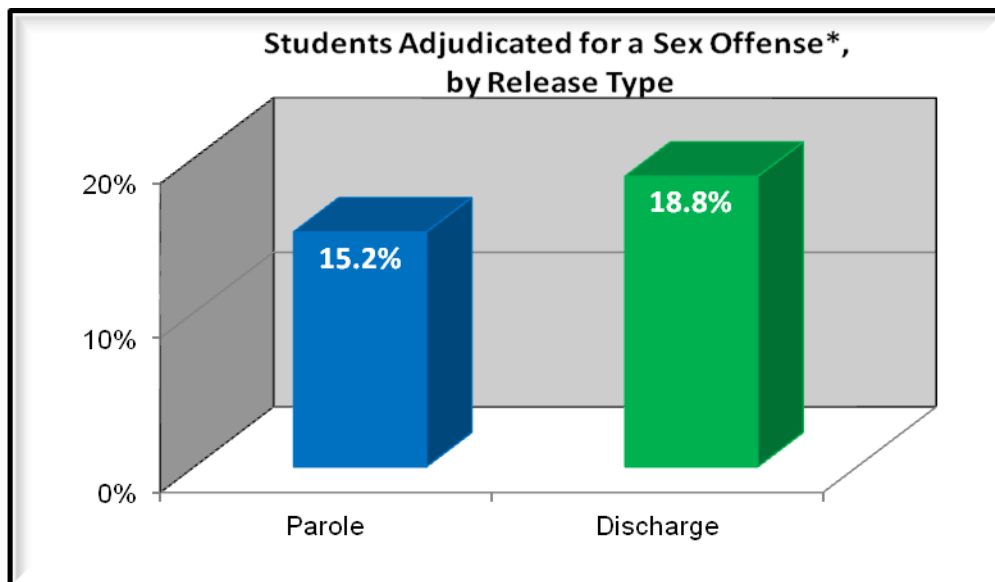
## Recidivism Rates for Students Adjudicated for a Sex Offense\* by Type of Release

The graph below displays the comparison of recidivism rates for students adjudicated for a sex offense, by type of release. Identified students adjudicated for a sex offense discharged from supervision were found to return to incarceration at a higher rate, 18.8%, than those students adjudicated for a sex offense who were released to parole, 15.2%. This disparity is most likely attributed to the fact that students discharged without aftercare do not have resources to properly transition into society.

Table 12

Release Type	2012 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Parole	33	5	15.2%
Discharge	16	3	18.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16.3%</b>

Graph 13



\* Juveniles Adjudicated for a Sex Offense- Students with at least one adjudication for Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification during the commitment period ending in 2012.



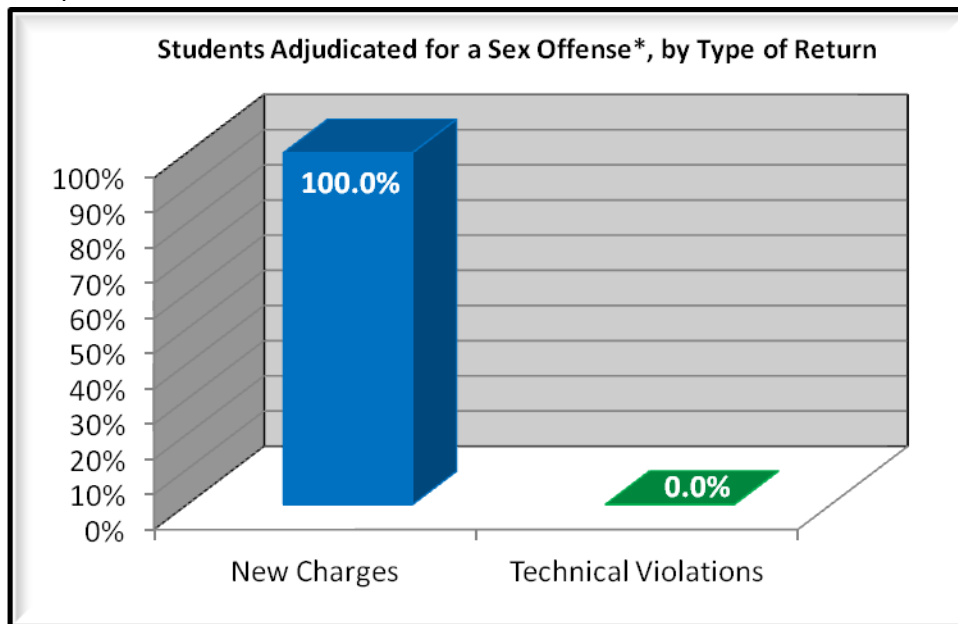
## Recidivism Rates for Juveniles Adjudicated for a Sex Offense\* by Type of Return

Students adjudicated for a sex offense released in 2012 are re-incarcerated for new charges at a much higher rate than those juveniles adjudicated for a sex offense who were returned for a technical violation.

Table 13

Return Type	2012 Releases	
	Number of Recidivists	% of Return
Probation Violation	0	0.0%
New Charge	8	100.0%
Parole Violation - New	0	0.0%
Parole Violation - Tech	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
New Charges	8	100.0%
Technical Violations	0	0.0%

Graph 14



\* Students Adjudicated for a Sex Offense - Students with at least one adjudication for Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification during the commitment period ending in 2012.

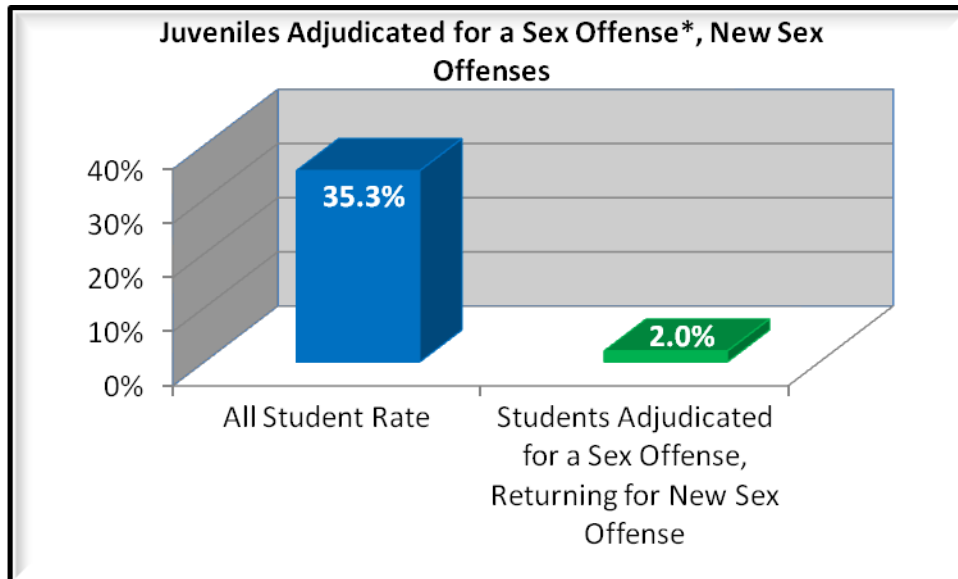
## Recidivism Rates for Students Adjudicated for a Sex Offense\* by New Sex Offense

The percentage of students adjudicated for a sex offense that return to incarceration within three years of their release for a **new** identified sex offense is significantly low. Graph 15 shows that 2.0% of all students adjudicated for a sex offense who were released in 2012, returned to the Indiana Department of Correction for the conviction of a new sex offense.

Table 14

Identified Sex Offender Returns	2012 Releases
Sex Offenders Released	49
Sex Offenders Returned	8
Sex Offenders Returned for New Sex Offense	1
<b>% of Returns</b>	<b>12.5%</b>
<b>Recidivism Rate</b>	<b>2.0%</b>

Graph 15



\* Students Adjudicated for a Sex Offense - Students with at least one adjudication for Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification during the commitment period ending in 2012.



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**This report may be found at:**

**<http://www.in.gov/idoc/files/2015JuvRecidivismRpt.pdf>**



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