



JUVENILE RECIDIVISM

2007

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 2004 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.

2007 Juvenile Recidivism Rate: **34.0%**

- 1,543 Juvenile Releases in 2004 • 525 Returns, (276 as a juvenile, 249 as an adult)
- Male offenders had a higher recidivism rate when compared to female offenders. 37.8% of male juveniles released in 2004 returned to IDOC, versus 19.9% of female juveniles
- Nearly 38% of African American juvenile offenders returned to the Department of Correction, a higher rate than both Caucasian and Hispanic offenders.
- Juvenile offenders who recidivate are returned to IDOC for the commission of a new crime 74% of the time, compared to 26% of returns for a technical violation of post-release supervision.
- Approximately 46% of juvenile offenders released in 2004 for a Weapons related crime as their most serious offense returned to incarceration, a higher rate than all other offense categories.
- Juvenile offenders identified as a sex offender who were released in 2004, returned to IDOC at a *lower* rate than all other offenders. Furthermore, less than 2% of sex offenders released returned for the commission of a new sex offense.
- Juvenile offenders whose severity level of their most serious offense was '*Serious*' were most likely to return to incarceration within three years of release.

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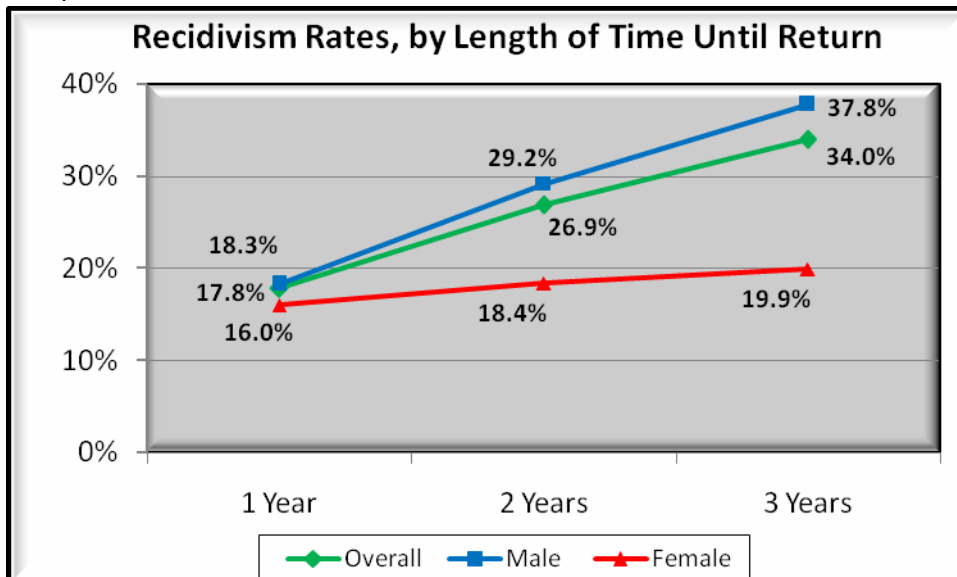


Overall Recidivism Rates

In 2004, the number of juvenile offender releases from the Indiana Department of Correction was 1,543. Of those juveniles released, 34.0% 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 juvenile offender returns to incarceration for those released in 2004.

Table 1	OVERALL	MALE	FEMALE
	2004		
# Released	1,543	1,217	326
Recidivism Rate within 1 year of release	17.8%	18.3%	16.0%
Recidivism Rate within 2 years of release	26.9%	29.2%	18.4%
Recidivism Rate within 3 years of release	34.0%	37.8%	19.9%

Graph 1

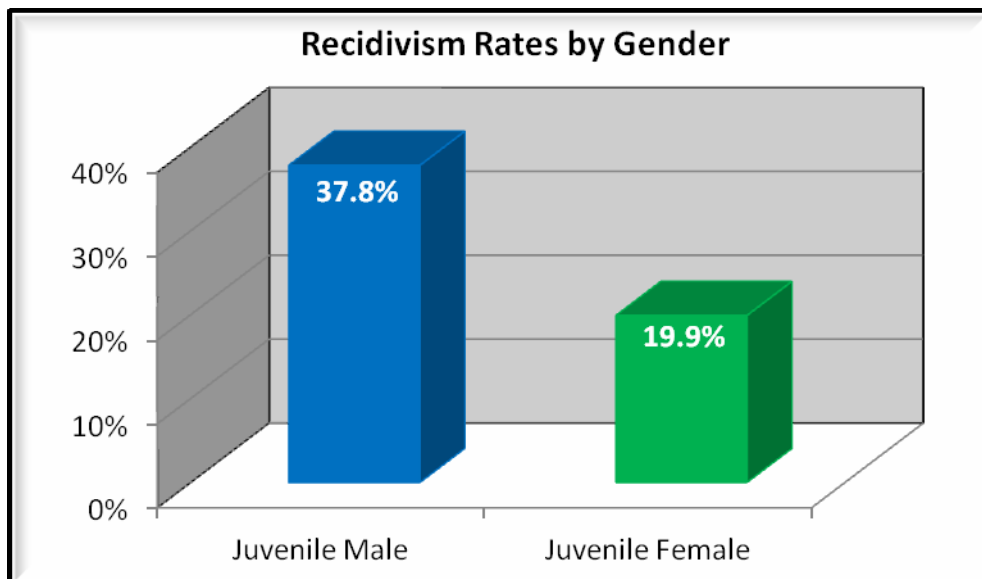


Recidivism Rates by Gender

The figures in Table 2 indicate that recidivism rates for male and female juvenile offenders are considerably different. Of those juvenile offenders released in 2004, juvenile males (37.8%) are almost twice as likely to recidivate, compared to juvenile female offenders (19.9%). Interestingly, the majority of female offenders who were re-incarcerated with IDOC returned as a juvenile, while slightly more than half of all juvenile male offenders who recidivated, were returned to IDOC as an adult.

Table 2	OVERALL	MALE	FEMALE
2004 Juvenile Releases	1,543	1,217	326
# Returned as a Juvenile	276	217	59
Recidivists as a Juvenile	17.9%	17.8%	18.1%
# Returned as an Adult	249	243	6
Recidivists as an Adult	16.1%	20.0%	1.8%
Total # Returned	525	460	65
Recidivism Rate	34.0%	37.8%	19.9%

Graph 2



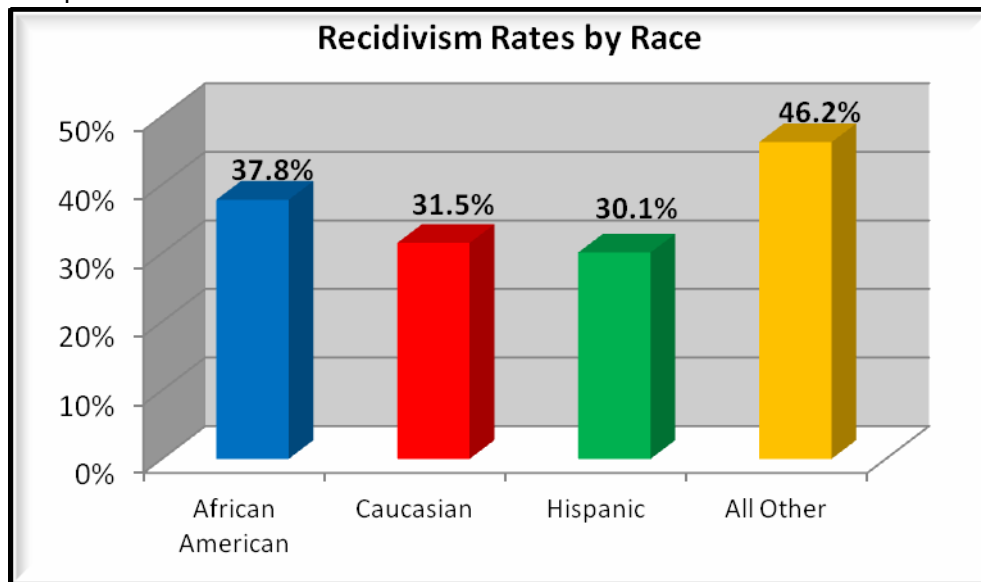
Recidivism Rates by Race

When controlling for the race of each juvenile offender released, the recidivism rate for African American offenders is 37.8%, more than 6% higher than that of Caucasian juveniles and greater than 7% higher than Hispanic juveniles. As used in Graph 3 below, the ‘All Other’ category includes offenders who are American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, and offenders whose race was unidentified.

Table 3

Race	2004 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
African American	542	205	37.8%
American Indian	1	0	0.0%
Asian/Pacific	1	0	0.0%
Caucasian	889	280	31.5%
Hispanic	73	22	30.1%
Unidentified	37	18	48.6%
Total	1,543	525	34.0%

Graph 3



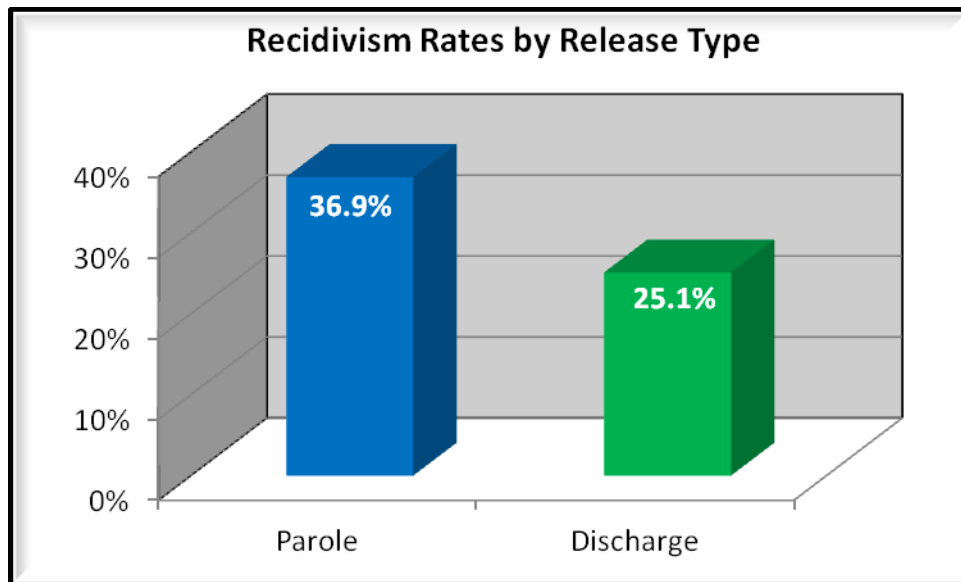
Recidivism Rates by Type of Release

Juvenile offenders who are released to Parole are much more likely to recidivate, than those offenders who are discharged from a juvenile facility. 36.9% of the 1,164 juvenile offenders released to Parole in 2004 returned to IDOC within three years. Conversely, only 25.1% of juvenile offenders who were discharged from incarceration, returned within three years. Anecdotally, this may be attributed to the likelihood that those offenders on Parole have increased supervision and specific Parole stipulations that must be followed or they risk being re-incarcerated for a Parole Violation.

Table 4

Release Type	2004 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Parole	1,164	430	36.9%
Discharge	379	95	25.1%
Total	1,543	525	34.0%

Graph 4

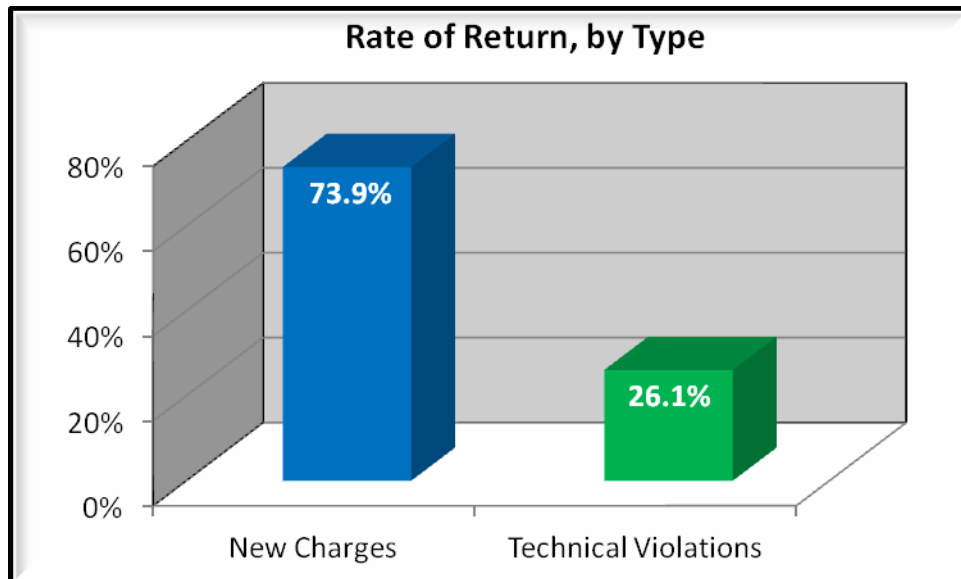


Recidivism Rates by Type of Return

Table 5 details the percentage of offenders who returned to IDOC by type of return. For the 2004 juvenile release cohort, the proportion of returns for new charges in comparison to technical violation returns is significant. New charges comprised nearly 74% of all returns, opposed to 26% of returns for technical violations.

Return Type	2004 Releases	
	# Returned	% of Return
Probation Violation - New	15	2.9%
Probation Violation - Tech	1	0.2%
New Charge	359	68.4%
Parole Violation - New	14	2.7%
Parole Violation - Tech	136	25.9%
Total	525	100.0%
New Charges	388	73.9%
Technical Violations	137	26.1%

Graph 5



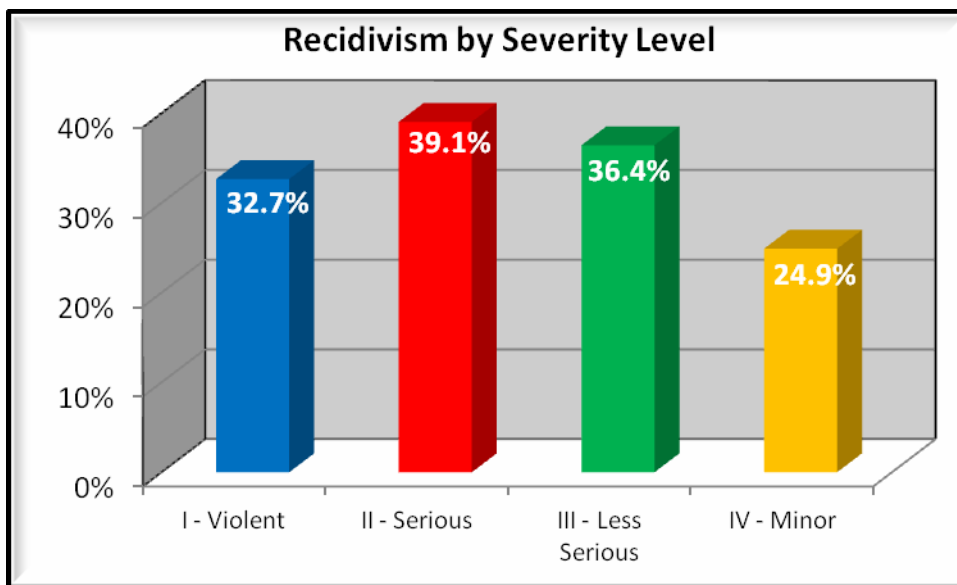
Recidivism Rates by Severity Level*

When comparing juvenile offenders released in 2004 by the severity level of their most serious committing offense, offenders with a severity level II, “serious” offense were most likely to return to incarceration. 39.1% of juvenile offenders adjudicated for crimes such as possession or dealing illegal substances, intimidation and resisting law enforcement, were found to return to incarceration within three years of their release.

Table 6

Severity Level	2004 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
I - Violent	257	84	32.7%
II - Serious	128	50	39.1%
III - Less Serious	889	324	36.4%
IV - Minor	269	67	24.9%
Total	1,543	525	34.0%

Graph 6



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

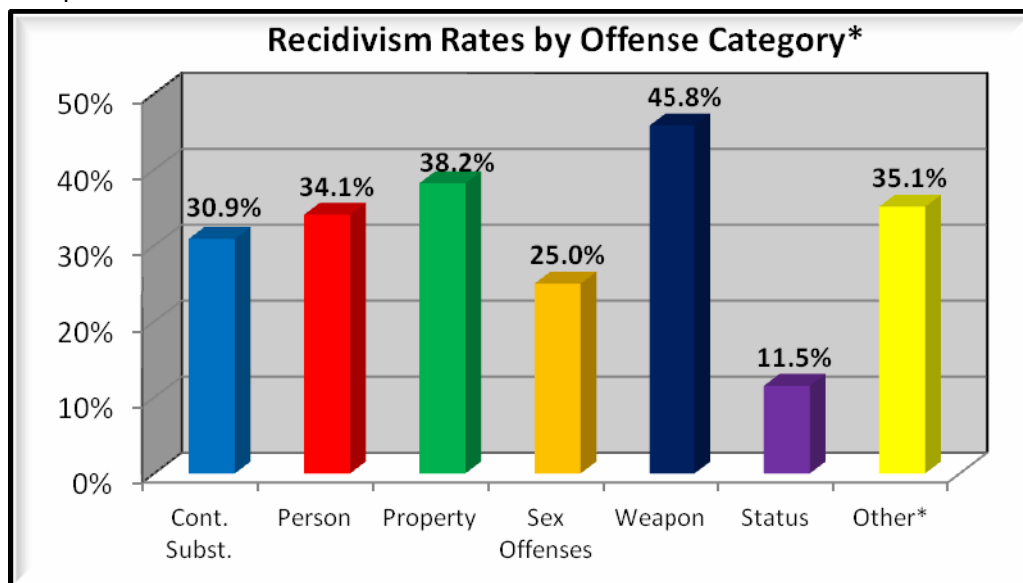
Recidivism Rates by Offense Category*

Approximately 46% of juvenile offenders released in 2004, who had an offense involving a weapon as their most serious conviction, were re-incarcerated within three years of their release. Of the remaining categories, property offenses had the second highest recidivism rates with over 38% of offenders returning to incarceration, followed by other offenses (as defined beneath Graph 7), crimes against the person, controlled substance offenses, sex offenses, and lastly, status offenses.

Table 7

Offense Category*	2004 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Controlled Substance	123	38	30.9%
Person	317	108	34.1%
Property	581	222	38.2%
Sex Offenses	104	26	25.0%
Weapon	24	11	45.8%
Status	78	9	11.5%
Other**	316	111	35.1%
Total	1,543	525	34.0%

Graph 7



* Offense Category is determined by the offender’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.

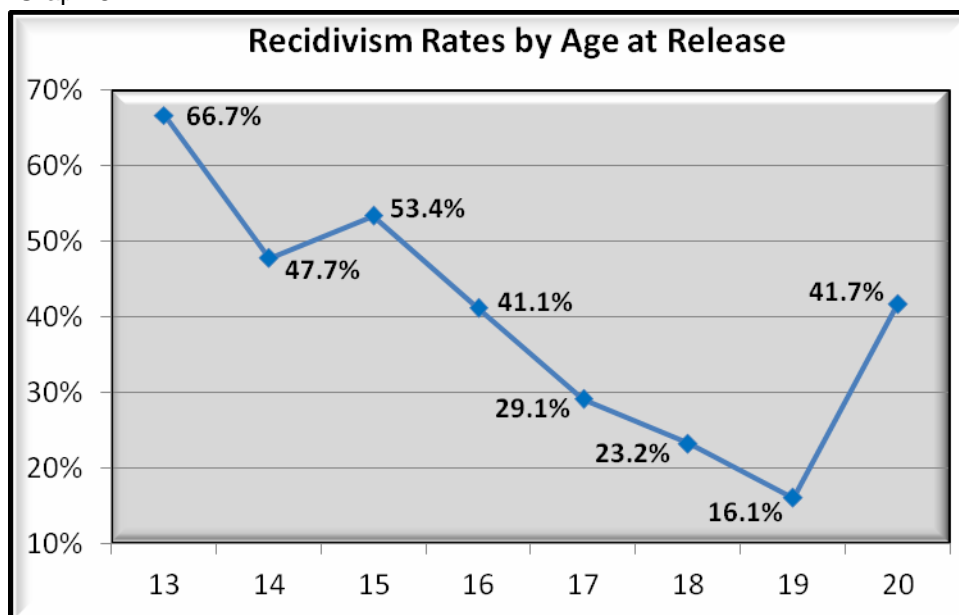
Recidivism Rates by Age at Release

Recidivism rates of each offender’s age at the time of their release from IDOC are illustrated in Table 8. It is clearly evident, as highlighted below in Graph 8, that the age of a juvenile offender and the rate at which they return to incarceration are directly correlated. The younger the offender is at the time he/she is released, the more likely they are to return to IDOC. Offenders 17 to 19 at the time of their release were found to have recidivism rates that are lower than the IDOC overall juvenile rate for 2007.

Table 8

Release Age	2004 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
12	1	1	100.0%
13	6	4	66.7%
14	44	21	47.7%
15	178	95	53.4%
16	406	167	41.1%
17	478	139	29.1%
18	362	84	23.2%
19	56	9	16.1%
20	12	5	41.7%
Total	1,543	525	34.0%
Average Age at Release		17.2 Years	

Graph 8



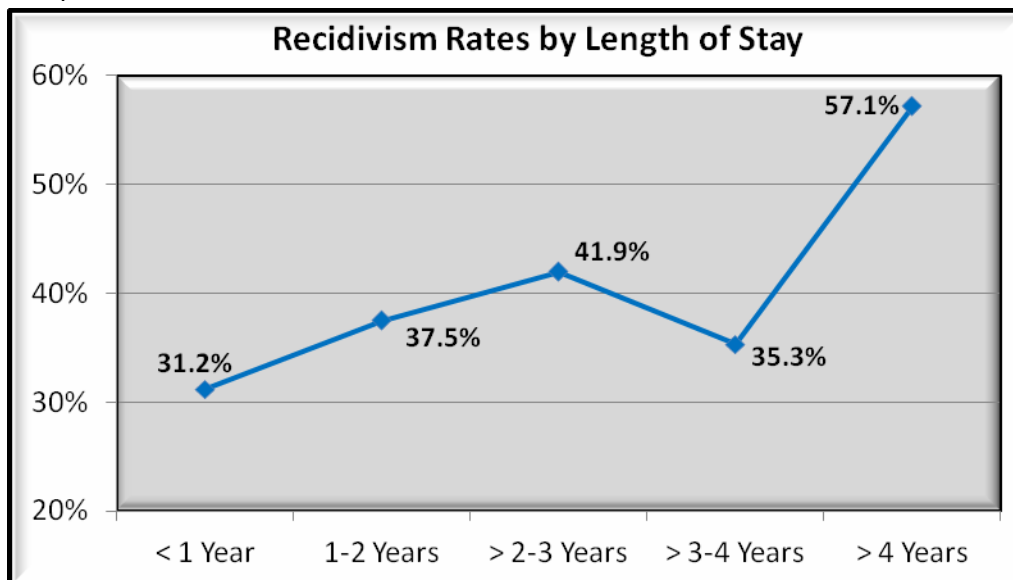
Recidivism Rates by Length of Stay*

The longer a juvenile offender is incarcerated with the Department of Correction, the more likely they are to return to incarceration within three years of their release date. Only those juvenile offenders who were incarcerated for less than one year, which comprises over 60% of the offenders released in 2004, had a recidivism rate lower than the 2007 overall juvenile recidivism rate of 34.0%.

Table 9

Length of Stay	2004 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
< 1 year	954	298	31.2%
1 - 2 years	424	159	37.5%
> 2 - 3 years	124	52	41.9%
> 3 - 4 years	34	12	35.3%
> 4 years	7	4	57.1%
Total	1,543	525	34.0%
Average Length of Stay		382.1 Days	

Graph 9



* Length of Stay is calculated by taking the difference between an offender’s intake date and release date.

Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders*

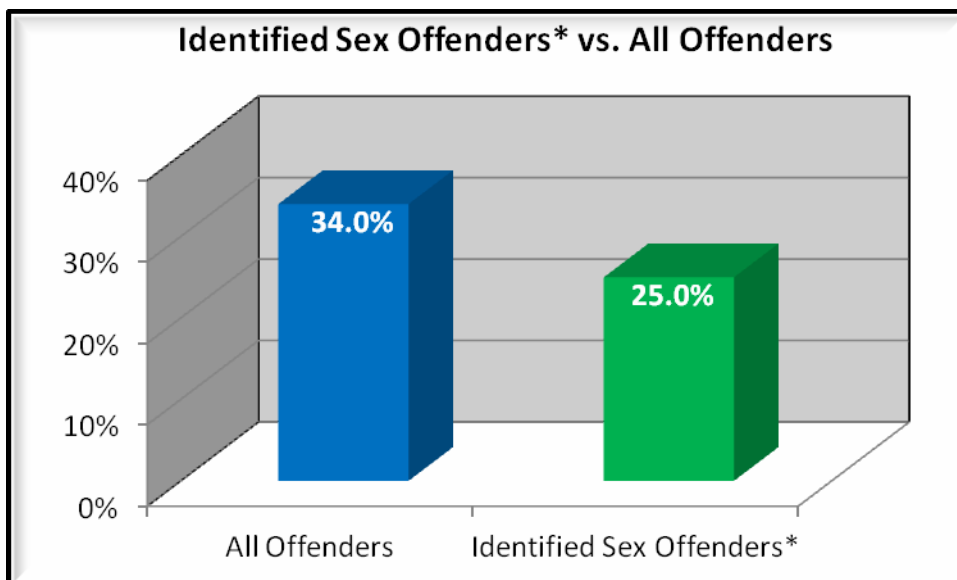
Graph 10 below illustrates the disparity of recidivism rates for juvenile offenders identified with at least one sex crime, versus the entire IDOC juvenile population. Those juveniles identified as sex offenders have a lower rate of return than the total IDOC juvenile population. Return rates are based upon return for **any** new offense or technical violation.

*Identified Sex Offenders were determined to have at least one conviction for any of the following during their commitment period resulting in their release in 2004: 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	2004 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Female	1	0	0.0%
Male	103	26	25.2%
Total	104	26	25.0%

Graph 10



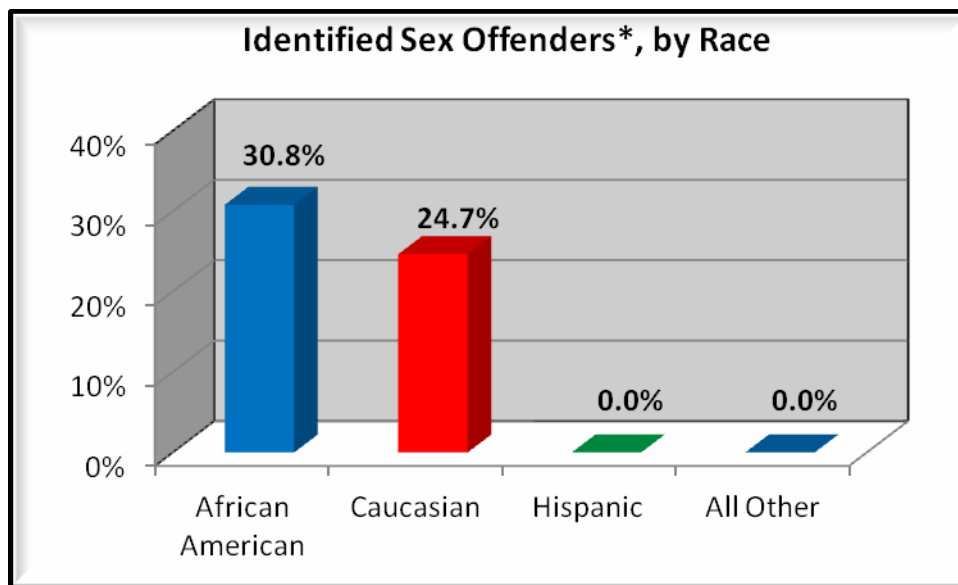
Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by Race

Recidivism rates by the race of identified juvenile sex offenders are detailed in Table 11. Nearly 31% of African American juvenile sex offenders are re-incarcerated within three years of release, representing the highest rate of return for any race of identified juvenile sex offenders. In comparison, Caucasian juvenile sex offenders are returned to the institutional custody of IDOC approximately 25% of the time.

Table 11

Race	2004 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
African American	26	8	30.8%
Caucasian	73	18	24.7%
Hispanic	2	0	0.0%
Unidentified	3	0	0.0%
Total	104	26	25.0%

Graph 11



* Identified Sex Offenders - Offenders with at least one conviction 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 2004.

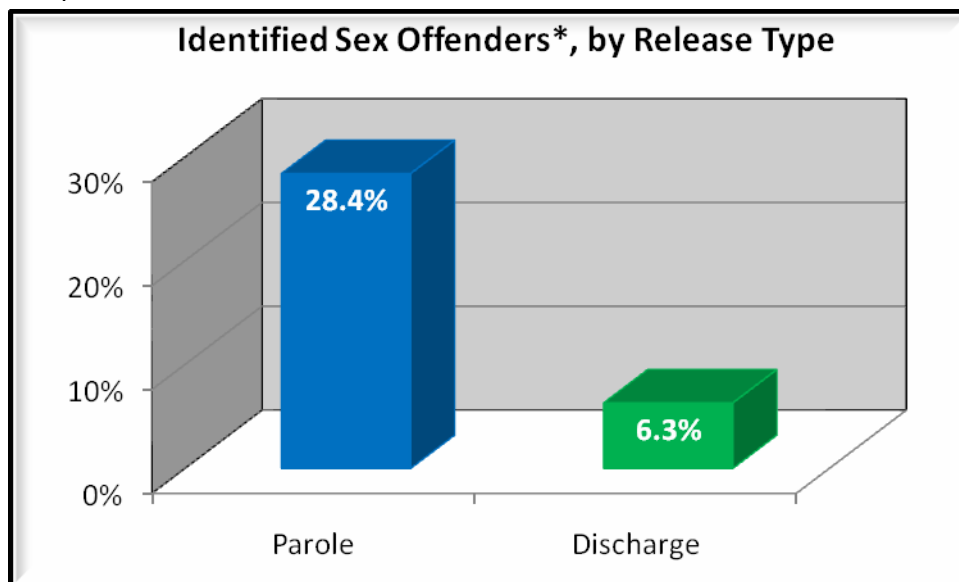
Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by Type of Release

The graph below displays the comparison of recidivism rates for identified juvenile sex offenders, by type of release. Identified juvenile sex offenders released to Parole were found to return to incarceration at a substantially higher rate, 28.4%, than those juvenile offenders who were discharged, 6.3%. This disparity is most likely attributed to the fact that offenders on Parole have increased supervision and sex offender specific Parole stipulations that must be followed or they risk being re-incarcerated for a Parole Violation.

Table 12

Release Type	2004 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Parole	88	25	28.4%
Discharge	16	1	6.3%
Total	104	26	25.0%

Graph 12



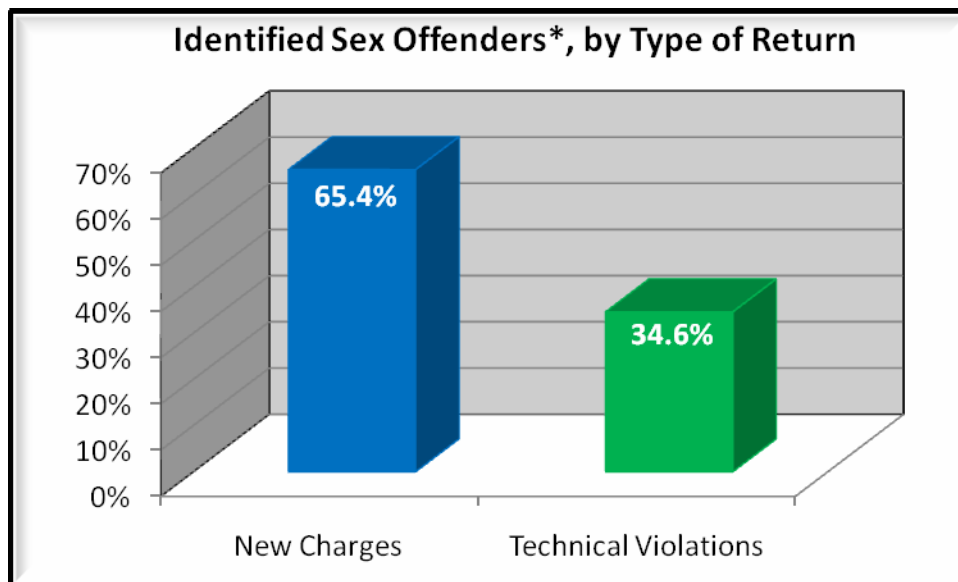
* Identified Sex Offenders - Offenders with at least one conviction for Rape, Child Molesting, Child Exploitation, Child Seduction, Child Solicitation, Criminal Deviate Conduct, Incest, Sexual Battery, Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, or Vicarious Sexual Gratification during the commitment period ending in 2004.

Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by Type of Return

Identified juvenile sex offenders are re-incarcerated for new charges at a much higher rate than those identified juvenile sex offenders who were returned for a technical violation. This difference can be attributed to the number of juvenile offenders released in 2004 who returned to DOC as an adult offender on new charges.

Return Type	2004 Releases	
	# Returned	% of Return
Probation Violation - New	1	3.8%
Probation Violation - Tech	0	0.0%
New Charge	15	57.7%
Parole Violation - New	1	3.8%
Parole Violation - Tech	9	34.6%
Total	26	100.0%
New Charges	17	65.4%
Technical Violations	9	34.6%

Graph 13



* Identified Sex Offenders - Offenders with at least one conviction 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 2004.

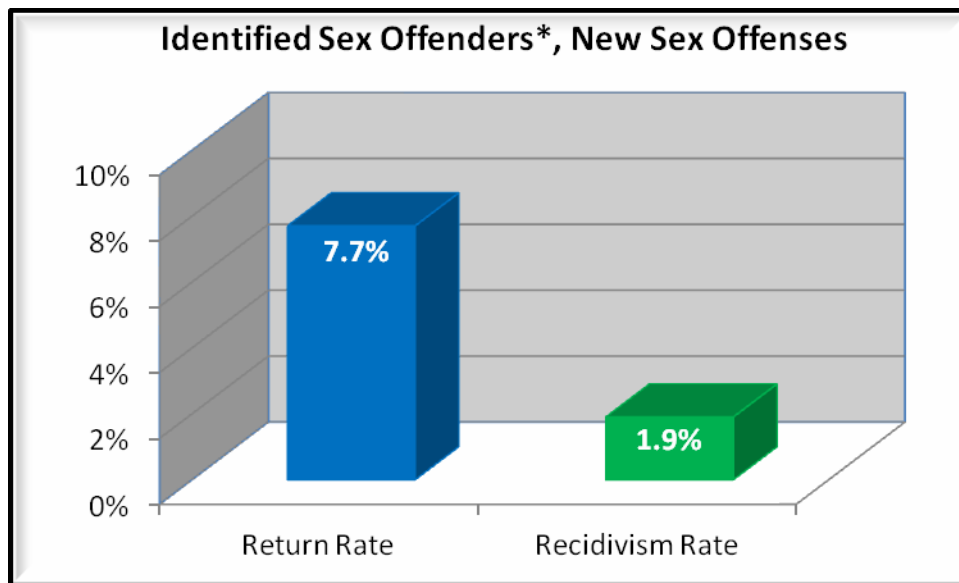
Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by New Sex Offense

The percentage of identified juvenile sex offenders that return to incarceration within three years of their release for a new identified sex offense is significantly low. Graph 14 below shows that less than 8% of all identified juvenile sex offenders who return to the Indiana Department of Correction do so for the conviction of a new sex offense. This equates to a 1.9% recidivism rate for all sex offenders released in 2004 who returned to IDOC for the conviction of a new sex offense.

Table 14

Identified Sex Offender Returns	2004 Releases
Sex Offenders Released	104
Sex Offenders Returned	26
Sex Offenders Returned for New Sex Offense	2
Return Rate	7.7%
Recidivism Rate	1.9%

Graph 14



* Identified Sex Offenders - Offenders with at least one conviction 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 2004.



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This report may be found at:
<http://www.in.gov/idoc/files/2007JuvRecidivismRpt.pdf>



The mission of the Indiana Department of Correction is to empower the agency's staff of correctional professionals to increase public safety and reduce recidivism through successful re-entry programs that allow offenders the opportunity to positively contribute to Indiana communities.

