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. A recent study by the IDOC calculated the 2022 recidivism rate for offenders released from IDOC during 2019. This study found that:

- Of those offenders released in 2019, 29.79% were recommitted to the IDOC within three years of their release date, for either a new conviction or a violation of post-release supervision.

- Of all offenders who recidivated, approximately 35.4% returned to IDOC for the commission of a new crime, compared to approximately 64.6% for a technical rule violation of post-release supervision.

- Male offenders had a higher recidivism rate when compared to female offenders. Of male offenders released in 2018, 31.7% returned to the IDOC, versus 18.5% of female releases.

- The recidivism rates for offenders released in 2019 broken down by race are as follows:
  - African American: 33.6%.
  - Caucasian: 28.5%.
  - Hispanic: 20.4%.

- The younger the offender is at the time they are released, the more likely they are to return to the IDOC. Moreover, offenders serving less than 5 years with IDOC represent approximately 61.54% of all recidivists.

- Offenders who had zero conduct violations during their incarceration period were 36.79% less likely to recidivate when compared to offenders who had at least one conduct violation.

- Offenders who received visits from family or friends while incarcerated were 22.68% less likely to recidivate compared to those offenders who did not receive any visits.

- Those offenders who participated in a work release program were 47.72% less likely to return to prison when compared to offenders who did not partake in a work release program.