

JUVENILE RECIDIVISM 2008



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 2005 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.

2008 Juvenile Recidivism Rate: **35.9%**

■ 1,493 Releases ■ 536 Returns (273 as a juvenile, 263 as an adult)

■ 79.2% of juvenile releases had not been incarcerated in an Adult facility within 3 years of their 2005 release from a Juvenile institution

- Of all juveniles released in 2005, 39.6% of males returned to IDOC, while only 21.3% of females returned.
- Approximately 38% of African American juvenile offenders returned to the Department of Correction, a higher rate than any other race or ethnicity.
- Nearly 71% of juveniles who recidivated were returned to IDOC for the commission of a new crime, compared to 29% 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 2005 who were identified as a sex offender, returned to IDOC less frequently than the overall rate.
- Only 3.6% of identified juvenile sex offenders released in 2005 returned to IDOC for the commission of a **new** sex offense.

TABLE
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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 juvenile offenders released from IDOC during calendar year 2005 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 offender. 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

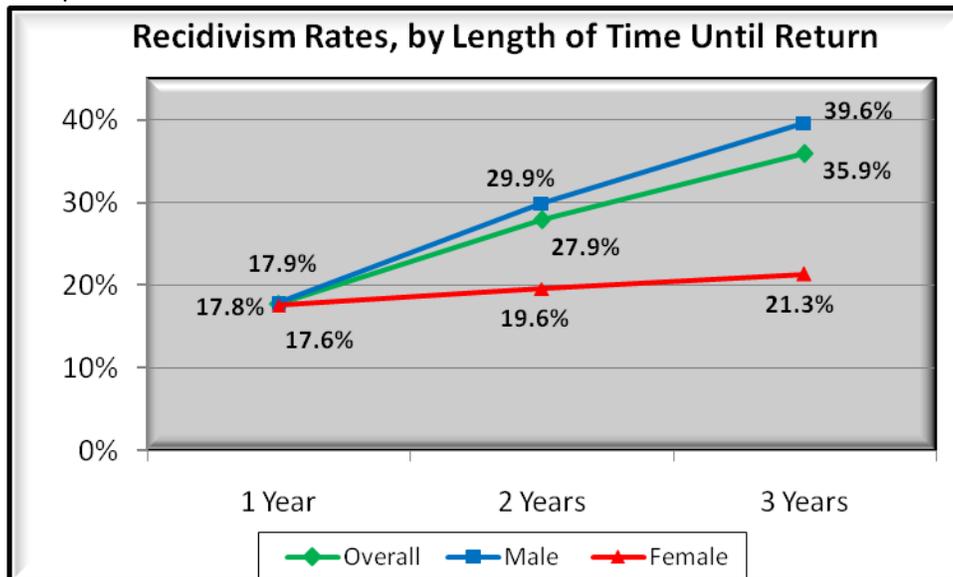
The rate of success for each juvenile offender is established by determining if each juvenile released in 2005 was subsequently returned to incarceration *in an adult facility only*. Juvenile offenders released from a state correctional facility who remained free of adult incarceration three years after their release, were deemed as successfully re-entering society.

Overall Recidivism Rates

In 2005, the number of juvenile offenders released from the Indiana Department of Correction was 1,493. Of those juveniles released, 35.9% 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 in either a juvenile or adult facility.

Table 1	2005 Releases		
	OVERALL	MALE	FEMALE
# Released	1,493	1,192	301
Recidivism Rates within 1 year of release	17.8%	17.9%	17.6%
Recidivism Rates within 2 years of release	27.9%	29.9%	19.6%
Recidivism Rates within 3 years of release	35.9%	39.6%	21.3%

Graph 1

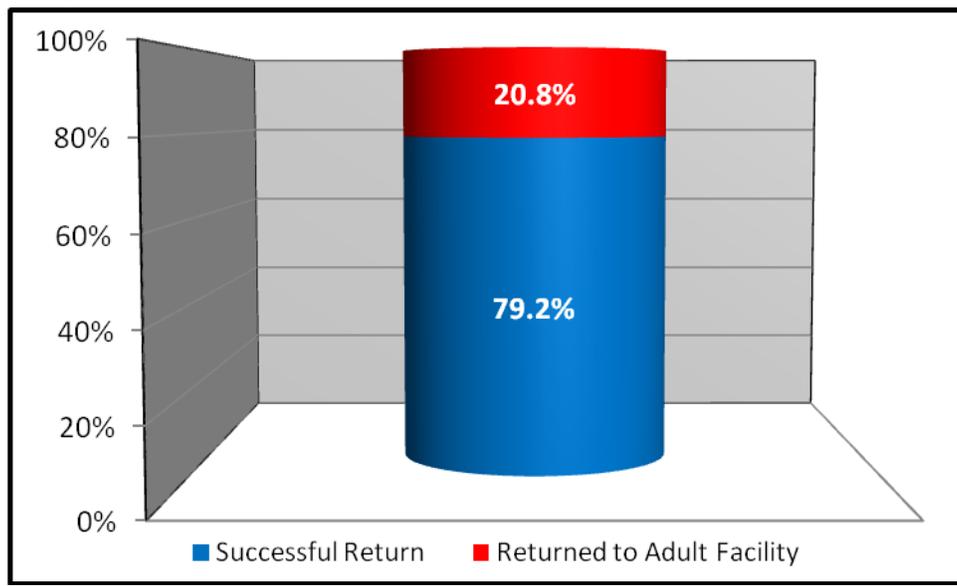


The mission of the Division of Youth Services is focused on community protection, accountability, beliefs that foster responsible community living and competency development.

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 1,493 juveniles released in 2005, 79.2% (1,182) were successfully re-integrated into their communities and were not incarcerated in an adult correctional facility within three years of their release.

Graph 2

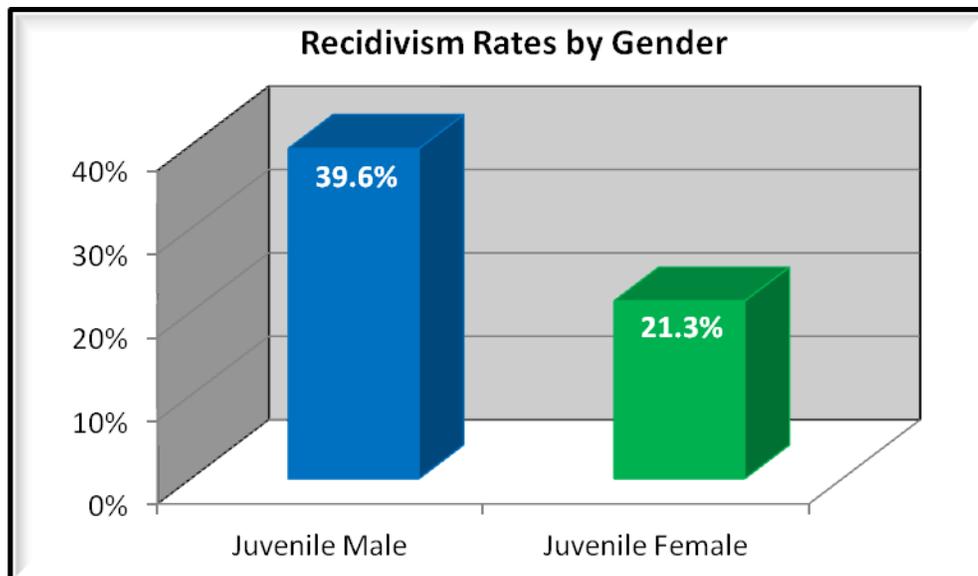


Recidivism Rates by Gender

The figures in Table 2 indicate that recidivism rates for male and female juvenile offenders are considerably different. Of those juvenile offenders released in 2005, juvenile males (39.6%) are almost twice as likely to recidivate, compared to juvenile female offenders (21.3%). Interestingly, the majority of female offenders who were re-incarcerated with IDOC returned as a juvenile, while more than half of all juvenile male offenders who recidivated, returned to IDOC as an adult.

Table 2	OVERALL	MALE	FEMALE
2005 Juvenile Releases	1,493	1,192	301
Returned as a Juvenile	273	216	57
Returned as an Adult	263	256	7
Total # Returned	536	472	64
Recidivism Rate	35.9%	39.6%	21.3%

Graph 3



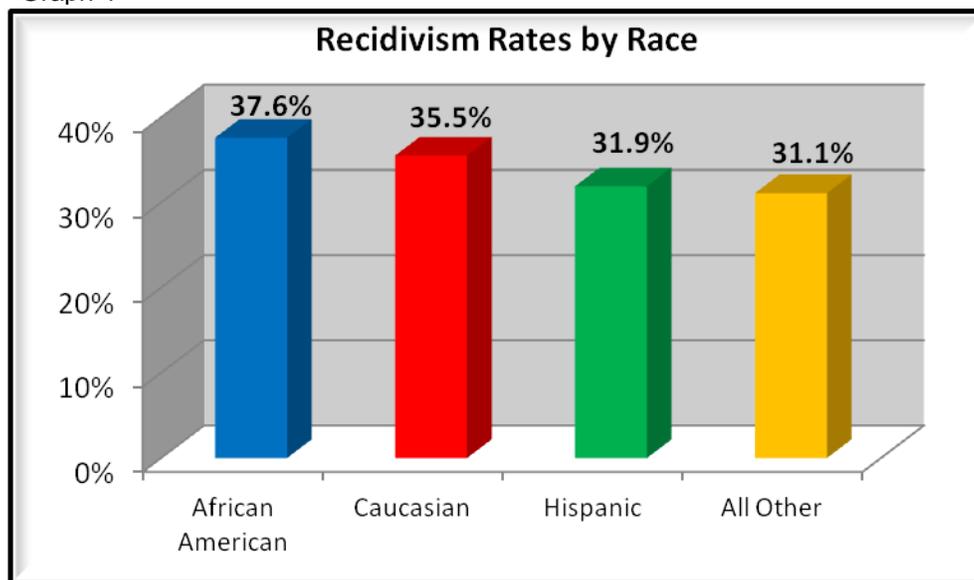
Recidivism Rates by Race

When analyzing the race of each juvenile offender released, the recidivism rate for African American offenders was 37.6%, Caucasian juveniles had a rate of 35.5% and Hispanic juveniles returned to incarceration at a rate of 31.9%. As used in Graph 4 below, the ‘All Other’ category includes offenders who are American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, and offenders whose race was unidentified at the time of reporting.

Table 3

Race	2005 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
African American	498	187	37.6%
American Indian	2	0	0.0%
Asian/Pacific	1	0	0.0%
Caucasian	881	313	35.5%
Hispanic	69	22	31.9%
Unidentified	42	14	33.3%
Total	1,493	536	35.9%

Graph 4



Recidivism Rates by Type of Release

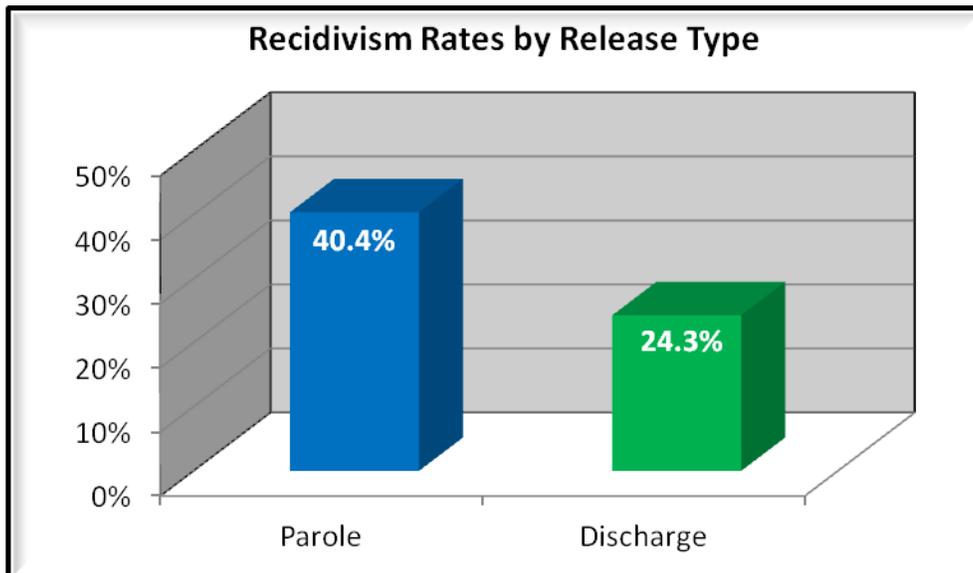
Juvenile offenders who are released to Parole are much more likely to recidivate, than those offenders who are discharged from a juvenile facility. Of the 1,078 juvenile offenders released to Parole in 2005, 40.4% returned to IDOC within three years. Conversely, only 24.3% of juvenile offenders who were discharged from incarceration, returned within three years.

Anecdotally, this may be attributed to the likelihood that offenders on Parole have increased supervision and specific Parole stipulations that must be followed or they risk being reincarcerated 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	2005 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Parole	1,078	435	40.4%
Discharge	415	101	24.3%
Total	1,493	536	35.9%

Graph 5

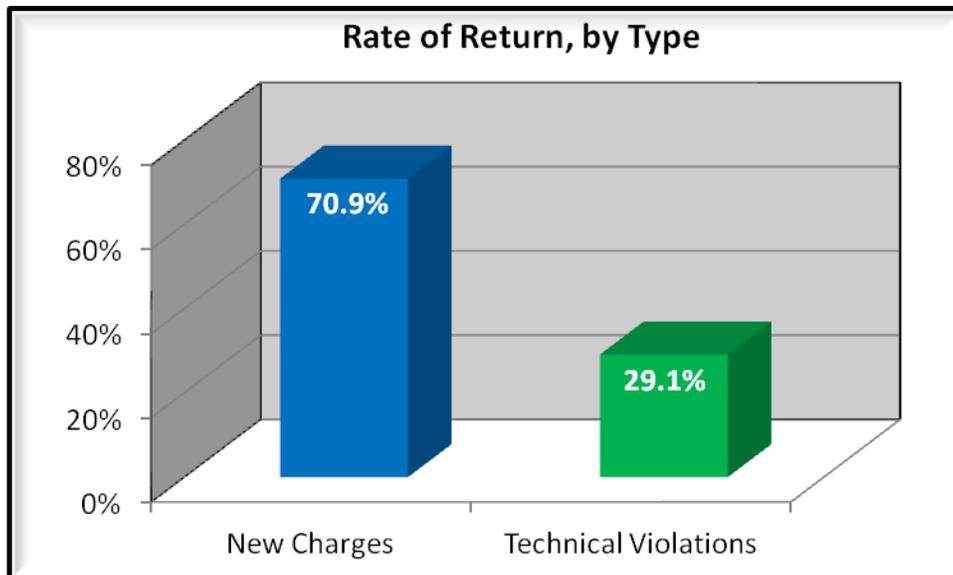


Recidivism Rates by Type of Return

Table 5 details the percentage of offenders who returned to IDOC by type of return. For the 2005 juvenile release cohort, the proportion of returns for new charges in comparison to technical violation returns is significant. New charges comprised nearly 71% of all returns, opposed to 29% of returns for technical violations.

Return Type	2005 Releases	
	Number of Recidivists	% of Returns
Probation Violation - New	4	0.7%
Probation Violation - Tech	5	0.9%
New Charge	365	68.1%
Parole Violation - New	11	2.1%
Parole Violation - Tech	151	28.2%
Total	536	100.0%
New charges	380	70.9%
Technical violations	156	29.1%

Graph 6



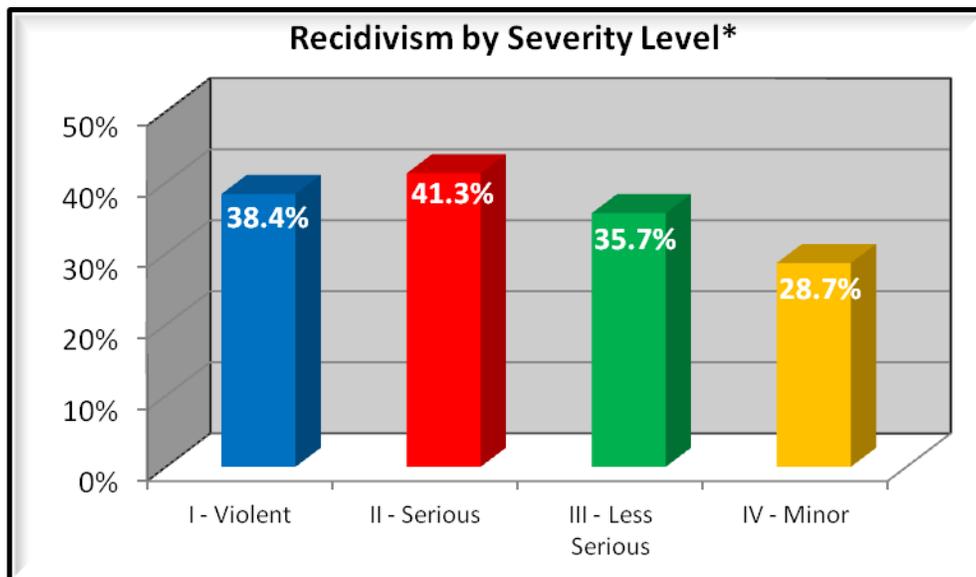
Recidivism Rates by Severity Level*

When comparing juvenile offenders released in 2005 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. 41.3% of juvenile offenders adjudicated for crimes such as possession or dealing illegal substances, intimidation, or resisting law enforcement, were found to return to incarceration within three years of their release.

Table 6

Severity Level*	2005 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
I - Violent	281	108	38.4%
II - Serious	143	59	41.3%
III - Less Serious	888	317	35.7%
IV - Minor	181	52	28.7%
Total	1,493	536	35.9%

Graph 7



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

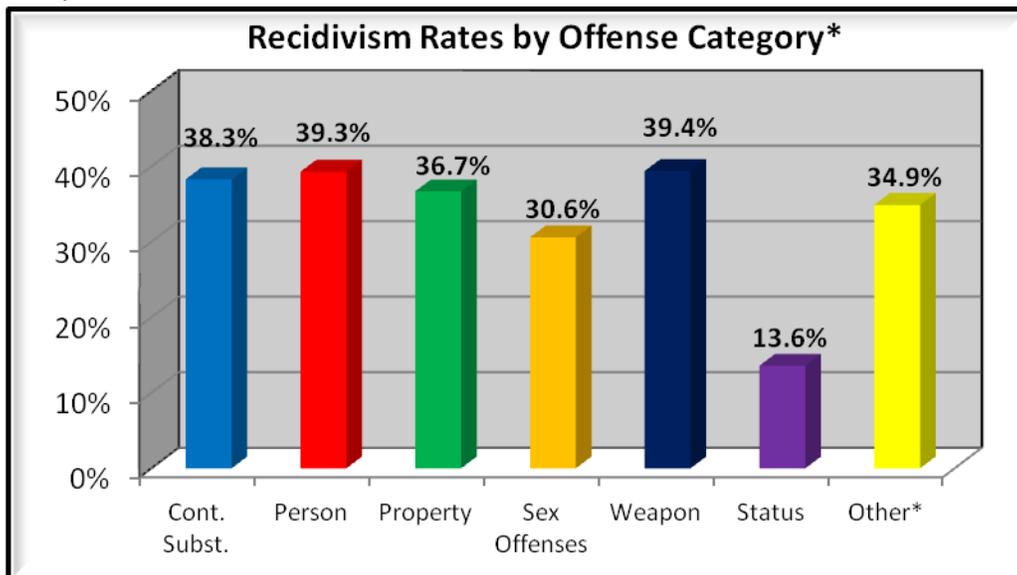
Recidivism Rates by Offense Category*

Approximately 40% of juvenile offenders released in 2005, whose most serious offense was either weapons-related or involved a crime against a person, were re-incarcerated within three years of their release. Recidivism rates for the remaining categories ranked as follows: controlled substance offenses, property offenses, other offenses (as defined below Graph 8), sex offenses, and lastly, status offenses.

Table 7

Offense Category*	2005 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Controlled Substance	115	44	38.3%
Person	280	110	39.3%
Property	615	226	36.7%
Sex Offenses	108	33	30.6%
Weapon	33	13	39.4%
Status	44	6	13.6%
Other**	298	104	34.9%
Total	1,493	536	35.9%

Graph 8



* 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.

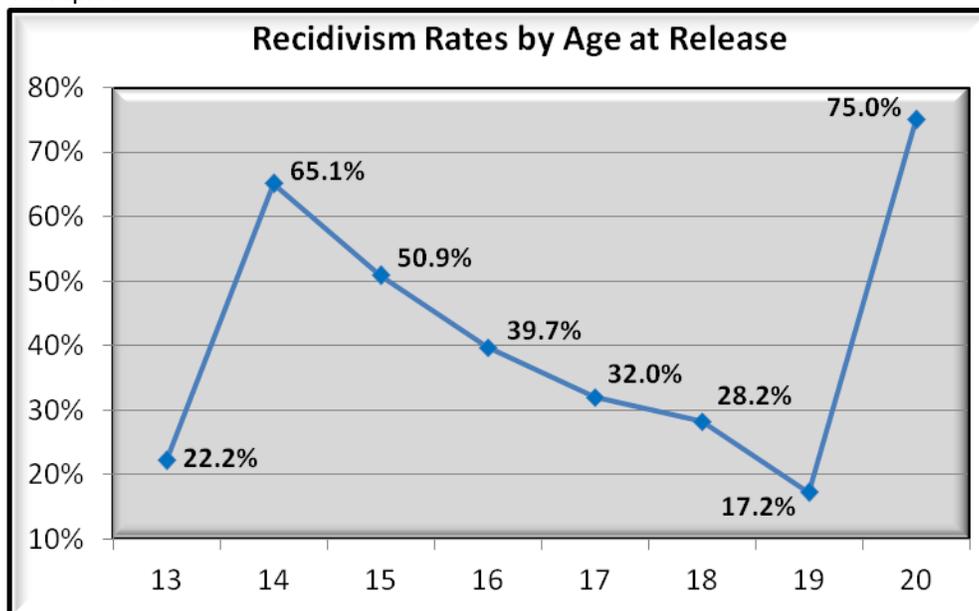
Recidivism Rates by Age at Release

Recidivism rates by the age of each offender 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 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 2008.

Table 8

Release Age	2005 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
13	9	2	22.2%
14	43	28	65.1%
15	165	84	50.9%
16	383	152	39.7%
17	506	162	32.0%
18	354	100	28.2%
19	29	5	17.2%
20	4	3	75.0%
Total	1,493	536	35.9%
Average Age at Release		17.2 Years	

Graph 9



The mission of the Division of Youth Services is focused on community protection, accountability, beliefs that foster responsible community living and competency development.

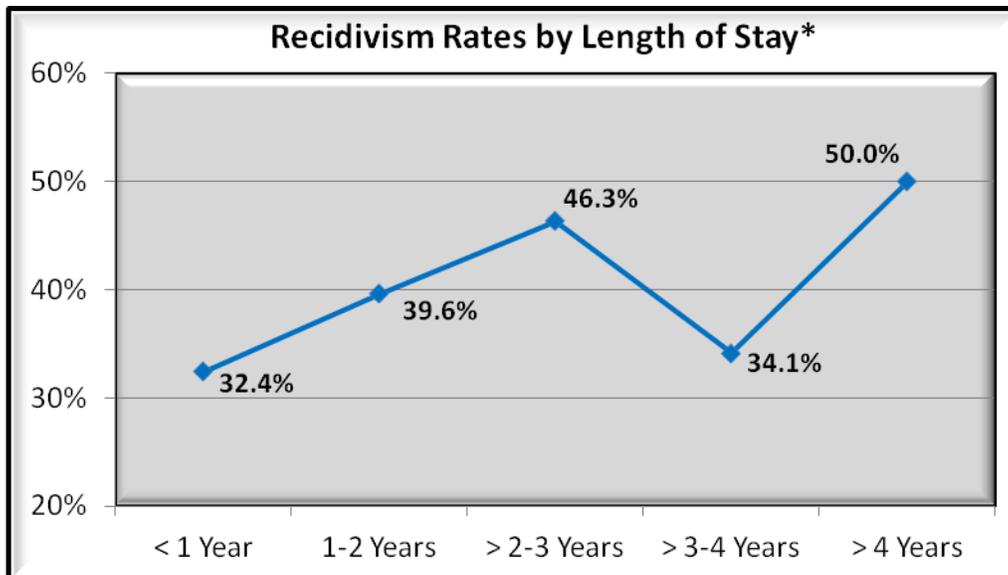
Recidivism Rates by Length of Stay*

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. Juvenile offenders who were incarcerated between one and three years, had a recidivism rate higher than the 2008 overall juvenile recidivism rate of 35.9%. Conversely, offenders who were with IDOC for less than one-year, (approximately 60% of all releases), demonstrated the lowest return rates.

Table 9

Length of Stay*	2005 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
< 1 year	894	290	32.4%
1 - 2 years	394	156	39.6%
> 2 - 3 years	160	74	46.3%
> 3 - 4 years	41	14	34.1%
> 4 years	4	2	50.0%
Total	1,493	536	35.9%
Average Length of Stay	403 Days		

Graph 10



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

Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders*

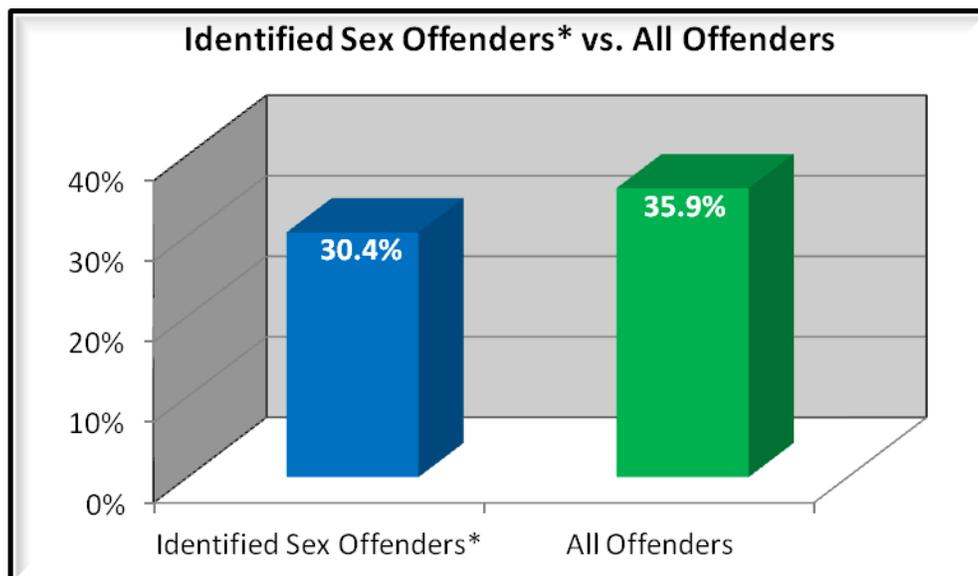
Graph 11 illustrates the disparity of recidivism rates for juvenile offenders identified with at least one sex crime, versus the entire IDOC juvenile population. Those juveniles identified as sex offenders have a lower rate of return than the total IDOC juvenile population. Return rates are based upon 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 the commitment period resulting in their 2005 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	2005 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Female	5	0	0.0%
Male	107	34	31.8%
Total	112	34	30.4%

Graph 11



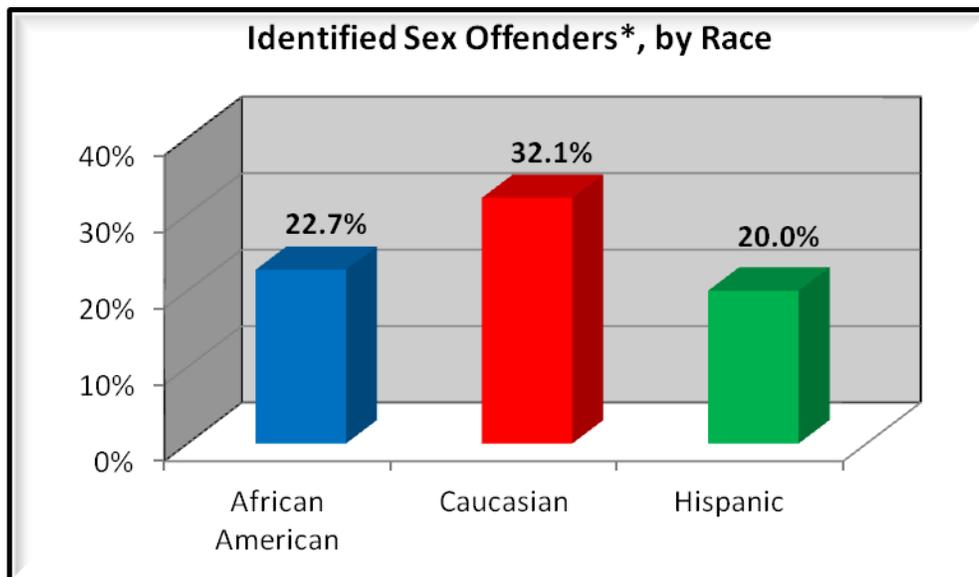
Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by Race

Recidivism rates by the race of identified juvenile sex offenders are detailed in Table 11. Over 32% of Caucasian juvenile sex offenders were re-incarcerated within three years of release, representing the highest rate of return for any race of identified juvenile sex offenders. In comparison, African American juvenile sex offenders were returned to the institutional custody of IDOC less than 23% of the time.

Table 11

Race	2005 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
African American	22	5	22.7%
Caucasian	84	27	32.1%
Hispanic	5	1	20.0%
Unidentified	1	1	100.0%
Total	112	34	30.4%

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 2005.

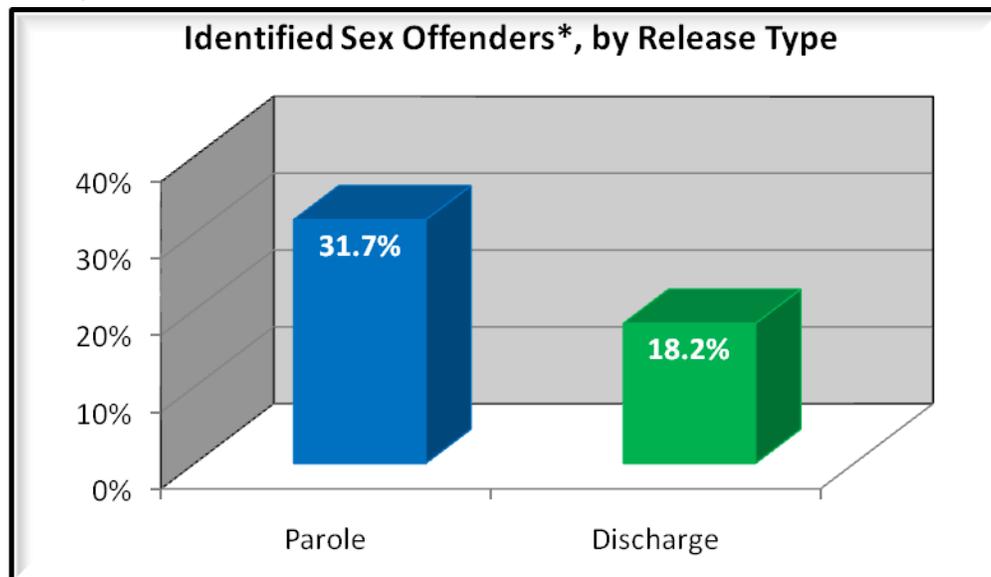
Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by Type of Release

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, 31.7%, than those juvenile offenders who were discharged, 18.2%. 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	2005 Releases	# Returned	Recidivism Rate
Parole	101	32	31.7%
Discharge	11	2	18.2%
Total	112	34	30.4%

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 2005.

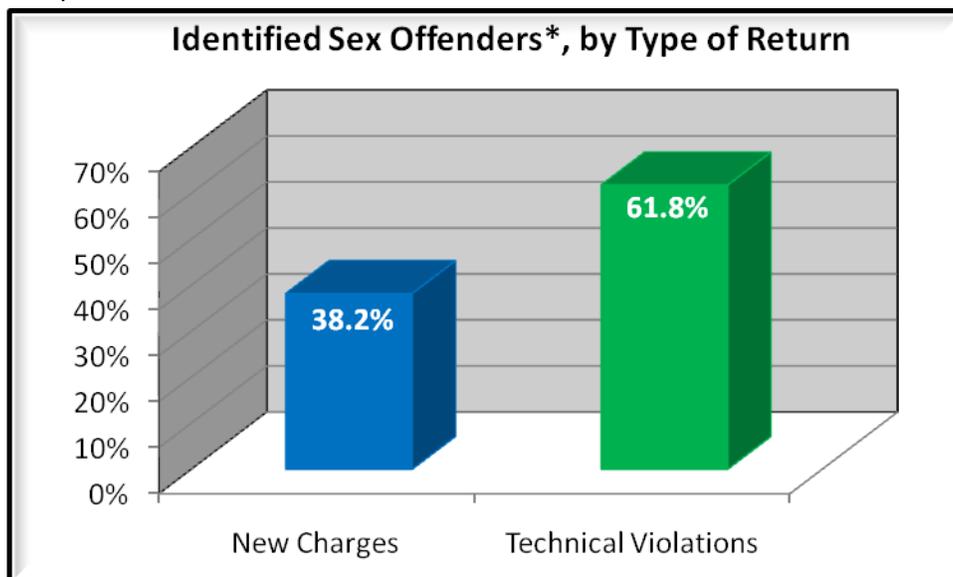
Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by Type of Return

Identified juvenile sex offenders released in 2005 are re-incarcerated for technical violations at a much higher rate than those identified juvenile sex offenders who were returned for a new charge. This difference can be attributed to the number of juvenile offenders released to Parole in 2005 who returned to DOC as a result of a technical violation of Parole requirements.

Table 13

Return Type	2005 Releases	
	Number of Recidivists	% of Return
Probation Violation - New	0	0.0%
Probation Violation - Tech	0	0.0%
New Charge	13	38.2%
Parole Violation - New	0	0.0%
Parole Violation - Tech	21	61.8%
Total	34	100.0%
New Charges	13	38.2%
Technical Violations	21	61.8%

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 2005.

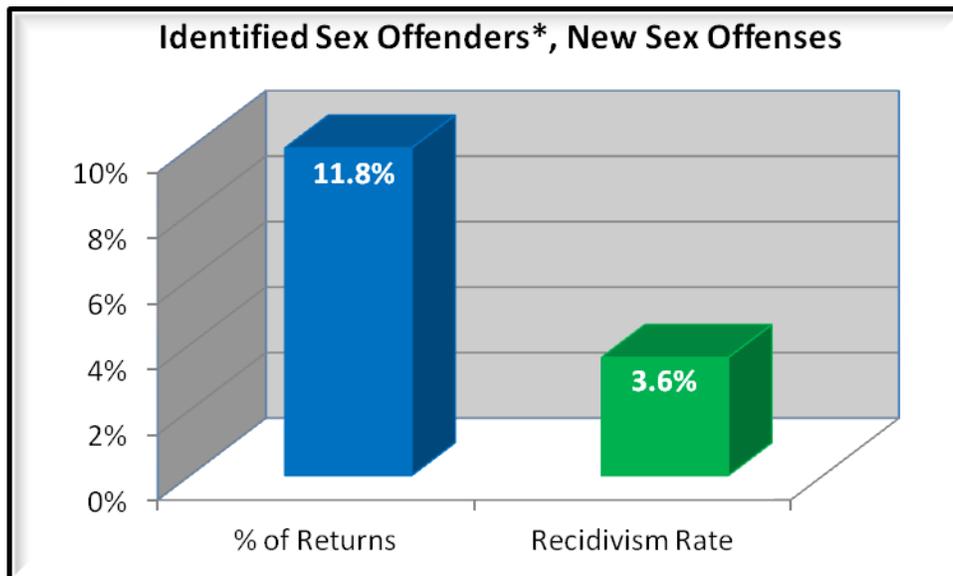
Recidivism Rates for Identified Sex Offenders* by New Sex Offense

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 15 shows that 3.6% of all identified juvenile sex offenders who were released in 2005, returned to the Indiana Department of Correction for the conviction of a new sex offense.

Table 14

Identified Sex Offender Returns	2005 Releases
Sex Offenders Released	112
Sex Offenders Returned	34
Sex Offenders Returned for New Sex Offense	4
% of Returns	11.8%
Recidivism Rate	3.6%

Graph 15



* 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 2005.



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DIVISION of YOUTH SERVICES

MISSION STATEMENT:

Our DYS mission is focused on community protection, accountability, beliefs that foster responsible community living and competency development.

