



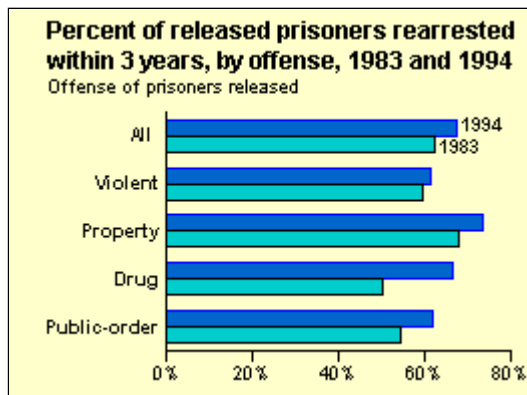
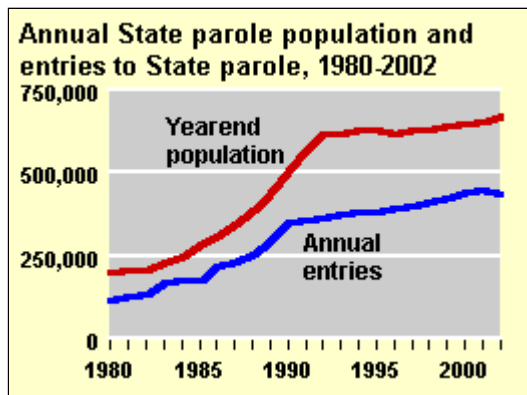
Reentry Trends in the United States

Inmates returning to the community after serving time in prison

by Timothy Hughes and Doris James Wilson, BJS Statisticians

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Highlights



- At least 95% of all State prisoners will be released from prison at some point; nearly 80% will be released to parole supervision.
- At yearend 2002, 1,440,655 prisoners were under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities.
- In 2001, about 592,000 State prison inmates were released to the community after serving time in prison.
- Nearly 33% of State prison releases in 1999 were drug offenders, 25% were violent offenders and 31% were property offenders.
- 670,169 adults were under State parole supervision at yearend 2002.
- By the end of 2000, 16 States had abolished discretionary release from prison by a parole board for all offenders.
- Among State parole discharges in 2000, 41% successfully completed their term of supervision; relatively unchanged since 1990.

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- **Growth in State prison and parole populations**
- **Releases from State prison**
(number of releases, releases by county, method of release, most serious offense/time served)
- **Entries to State parole**
- **Success rates for State parolees**
(number of discharges, parole violators returning to State prison)
- **Recidivism**
- **Characteristics of releases**
(for releases from State prison, entries to State parole, and success rates on parole)

Federal reentry trends:

- **Federal supervised release**

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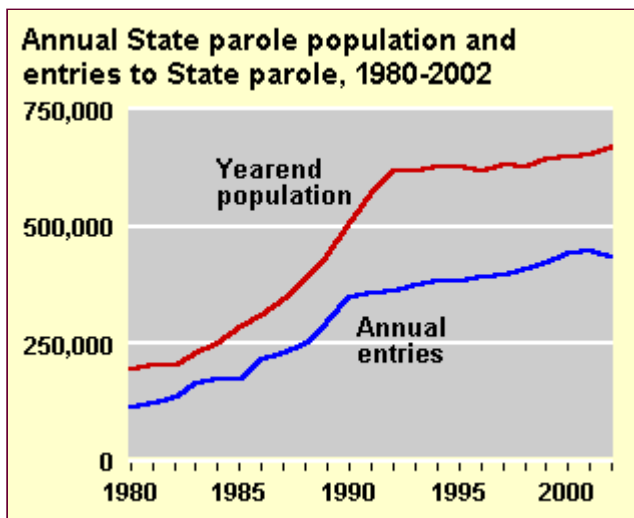
Reentry Trends in the U.S.

Growth in State prison and parole population

From 1990 to 2002, the State parole population grew at a slower rate than the State prison population

Since 1990, the State prison population nearly doubled, increasing from 708,393 in 1990 to 1,277,127 at yearend 2002. The rate of growth in the prison population slowed between 1999 and 2001, due in part to a rise in the number of releases from prison (592,000 in 2001). Relative to the prison population, the growth in the State parole population was much more modest, increasing from 502,134 in 1990 to 670,169 by 2002. However, the State parole and prison populations each grew 2.4% during 2002, the largest annual growth rate for each group since 1992 and 1999 respectively.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

- At least 95% of all State prisoners will be released from prison at some point; nearly 80% will be released to parole supervision.
- On average, from 1990 to 2001 the prison population increased 5.3% per year, while the State parole population rose 2.4% per year. However, since 1999 the rate of growth in State prisons has nearly stabilized.
- The low rate of growth in parole supervision relative to the growth in the prison population reflects changes in sentencing and parole release policies that have resulted in increasing lengths of stay in prison and declining prison release rates.
- 1,277,127 adults were under the jurisdiction of State correctional authorities at yearend 2002, up from 708,393 at yearend 1990.
- 670,169 adults were under State parole supervision at yearend 2002, up from 502,134 in 1990.

BJS Sources:

[Prisoners 2002](#), July 2003

[Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2002](#), April, 2003

[Probation and Parole in the United States, 2002](#), August, 2003

[Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000](#), October, 2001.

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Reentry Trends in the U.S.
Growth in State prison and parole population

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Annual State parole population and entries to State parole, 1980-2002

	State parole population	Annual Entries
1980	196,786	113,383
1981	203,418	123,132
1982	203,331	133,858
1983	230,115	166,833
1984	250,138	171,607
1985	283,139	175,490
1986	308,763	214,433
1987	343,902	229,796
1988	387,145	250,510
1989	435,381	294,686
1990	502,134	349,030
1991	568,887	355,748
1992	618,689	362,466
1993	620,390	372,823
1994	628,941	382,999
1995	627,960	381,878
1996	620,498	390,537
1997	631,275	396,651
1998	629,216	409,922
1999	643,452	423,850
2000	647,829	441,605
2001	654,220	445,622
2002	670,169	436,306

Sources: BJS, **Probation and Parole in the United States, 2002**, August, 2003
Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000, October, 2001.

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Reentry Trends in the U.S. **Releases from State prison**

At least 95% of all State prisoners will be released from prison at some point; nearly 80% will be released to parole supervision

[Number of releases](#) | [Method of release](#) | [Releases by county of jurisdiction](#) | [Most serious offense and time served](#)

Number of releases

Despite a decline in prison release rates from 1990 to 2000, the number of prisoners released each year continued to grow.

In 2001, 592,000 offenders were released from State prison, a 46% increase over the 405,400 offenders that were released in 1990. In 2002, a projected 595,000 State inmates will be released to the community.

The release rate of State prisoners declined from 37% in 1990 to 31% in 1994. Since 1994, the rate of release has remained stable and was 33% in 2001.

Release rate: the number of releases per 100 sentenced prisoners at the beginning of each year, plus the number admitted during the year.

Five States (California, Florida, Illinois, New York, and Texas) accounted for nearly half of all releases from State prison in 2001.

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Releases by county of jurisdiction

- The top 50 counties in participating NCRP States accounted for 38% of all releases from State prison in 2001.
- In 2001, Los Angeles County, CA, had the largest number of releases from prison (37,080), followed by Cook County, IL, (17,480), and San Bernardino, CA, (10,183).
- California had 18 counties in the top 50, followed by Florida (5), New Jersey (4), New York (4), and Texas (4). These 35 counties accounted for 29% of all releases from State prisons during 2001.

[▶ To table of releases in the top 50 counties](#)

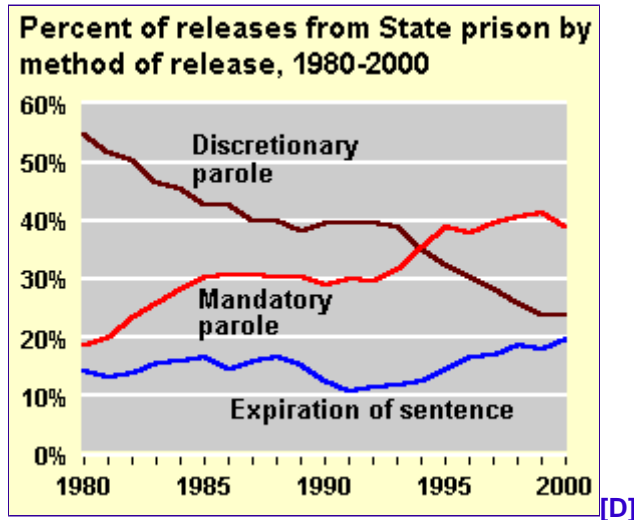
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Method of release

Since 1990, mandatory parole releases have increased, while discretionary releases

have decreased.

To view data, click on the chart.



Discretionary releases to parole dropped from 39% of releases in 1990 to 24% in 2000.

Discretionary parole exists when a parole board has authority to conditionally release prisoners based on a statutory or administrative determination of eligibility.

Mandatory releases to parole have steadily increased from 116,857 in 1990 to 221,414 in 2000 (from 29% of all State prison releases to 39%).

Mandatory parole generally occurs in jurisdictions using determinate sentencing statutes in which inmates are conditionally released from prison after serving a specified portion of their original sentence minus any good time earned.

About 112,000 State prisoners were released unconditionally through an expiration of their sentence in 2000, up from 51,288 in 1990.

16 States have abolished discretionary parole for all offenders

States that have abolished discretionary parole, 2000

All offenders		Certain violent offenders
Arizona	Minnesota	Alaska
California ^a	Mississippi	Louisiana
Delaware	North Carolina	New York
Florida ^b	Ohio ^d	Tennessee
Illinois	Oregon	
Indiana	Virginia	
Kansas ^c	Washington	
Maine	Wisconsin	

^aIn 1976 the Uniform Determinate Sentencing Act abolished discretionary parole for all offenses except some violent crimes with a long sentence of a sentence to life.

^bIn 1995 parole eligibility was abolished for offenses with a life sentence and a 25-year mandatory term.

^cExcludes a few offenses, primarily 1st-degree murder and intentional 2nd-degree murder.

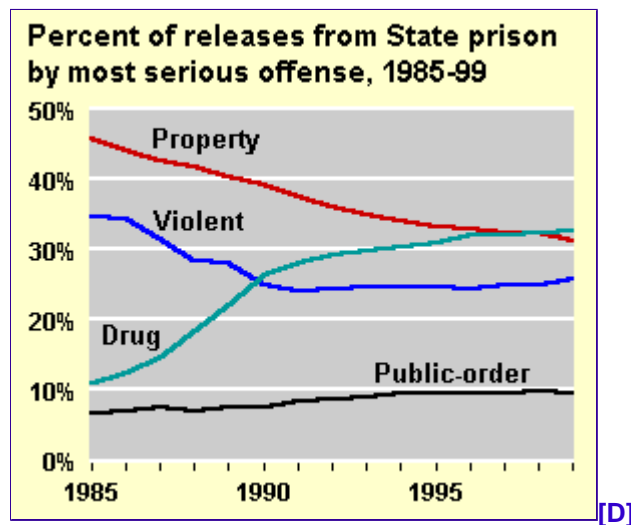
^dExcludes murder and aggravated murder.

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Most serious offense and time served

Since 1990, drug offenders have comprised an increasing percentage of prison releases.

To view data, click on the chart.



- Nearly 33% of State prison releases in 1999 were drug offenders (up from 26% in 1990), 25% were violent offenders (same as 1990), and 31% were property offenders (down from 39% in 1990).
- Inmates released by parole boards in 1999 served 35 months in prison and jail while those released through mandatory parole had served 33 months. Also see [Characteristics of releases to State Parole](#).
- By 2000, 30 States and the District of Columbia had adopted the Federal truth-in-sentencing standard that requires Part 1 violent offenders to served not less than 85% of their sentence in prison before becoming eligible for release.
- All offenders released for the first time in 1999 served on average 49% of their sentence up from 38% in 1990.

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BJS Sources:

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[Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000](#), October, 2001

[Truth in Sentencing in State Prisons](#), January, 1999.

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Method of release

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Percent of releases from State prison by method, 1980-2000

	Discretionary parole	Mandatory parole	Expiration of sentence
1980	54.76%	18.63%	14.25%
1981	51.44%	20.15%	13.06%
1982	50.28%	23.63%	13.92%
1983	46.32%	25.86%	15.50%
1984	45.23%	28.25%	16.03%
1985	42.55%	30.36%	16.66%
1986	42.65%	30.68%	14.65%
1987	40.07%	30.78%	16.00%
1988	39.82%	30.26%	16.58%
1989	38.36%	30.28%	15.25%
1990	39.40%	28.83%	12.65%
1991	39.72%	29.94%	10.83%
1992	39.54%	29.48%	11.38%
1993	38.82%	31.61%	11.88%
1994	34.99%	35.61%	12.47%
1995	32.33%	38.98%	14.50%
1996	30.35%	37.95%	16.74%
1997	28.19%	39.67%	16.80%
1998	25.98%	40.45%	18.67%
1999	23.71%	41.13%	18.09%
2000	23.87%	38.78%	19.60%

Sources: BJS, [Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000](#), October, 2001, and National Corrections Reporting Program.

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Releases by county of jurisdiction for participating National Correctional Reporting Program States, 2001

County/a	State	All releases		Violent releases	
		Number released	Rank	Number released	Rank
All States/b		591,837		145,000	
NCRP States		517,314		126,713	
Top 50 NCRP counties/cities		222,205		57,745	
Los Angeles	CA	37,080	1	9,480	1
Cook	IL	17,480	2	3,287	2
San Bernardino	CA	10,183	3	2,306	4
San Diego	CA	9,557	4	2,154	5
Harris	TX	8,794	5	2,434	3
Orange	CA	8,178	6	1,439	13
Riverside	CA	7,170	7	1,847	6
New York	NY	7,006	8	1,480	11
Alameda	CA	6,453	9	1,469	12
Dallas	TX	5,802	10	1,586	8
Sacramento	CA	5,666	11	1,487	10
Santa Clara	CA	5,251	12	1,728	7
Kern	CA	4,917	13	869	24
Baltimore City	MD	4,788	14	1,361	14
Bronx	NY	4,312	15	1,068	18
Fresno	CA	4,079	16	1,284	16
Philadelphia	PA	3,481	17	1,564	9
Wayne	MI	3,349	18	1,120	17
Tarrant	TX	3,347	19	1,005	20
Kings	NY	3,340	20	1,311	15
San Francisco	CA	3,318	21	843	26
Milwaukee	WI	2,986	22	1,002	21
Broward	FL	2,870	23	869	24
Shelby	TN	2,807	24	916	22
Essex	NJ	2,690	25	841	27
Clark	NV	2,525	26	612	32
Bexar	TX	2,517	27	678	29
San Joaquin	CA	2,425	28	647	30
Queens	NY	2,410	29	767	28
Oklahoma	OK	2,284	30	301	65
Camden	NJ	2,235	31	524	37
Dade	FL	2,202	32	1,068	18
Hillsborough	FL	2,090	33	633	31
Orleans	LA	2,070	34	395	49

Contra Costa	CA	1,944	35	459	40
Davidson	TN	1,911	36	588	33
Orange	FL	1,737	37	586	34
Solano	CA	1,729	38	540	35
King	WA	1,727	39	423	44
Tulsa	OK	1,706	40	245	84
Tulare	CA	1,691	41	401	48
San Mateo	CA	1,683	42	430	41
Hudson	NJ	1,627	43	395	49
Ventura	CA	1,603	44	411	45
Atlantic	NJ	1,591	45	327	59
Stanislaus	CA	1,561	46	325	60
Cuyahoga	OH	1,543	47	884	23
Pinellas	FL	1,531	48	526	36
Jefferson	KY	1,525	49	489	39
Jackson	MO	1,434	50	341	58

Note: Data are from 37 States that participated in the 2001 National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP). In 2001, these States accounted for 86% of all releases. The following States did not report data on Prisoner releases: Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Massachusetts, Montana, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wyoming.

a/ Data based on county where the sentence was imposed.

b/ All releases based on data from the National Prisoner Statistics (NPS) collection and include prisoners with a sentence of more than one year. Violent releases estimated using NPS and NCRP data.

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Reentry trends in the U.S. **Releases from State prison**

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Percent of releases from State prison by most serious offense, 1985-99

	Violent	Property	Drug	Public-order
1985	35%	46%	11%	7%
1986	34%	44%	12%	7%
1987	32%	43%	15%	8%
1988	28%	42%	19%	7%
1989	28%	40%	22%	8%
1990	25%	39%	26%	8%
1991	24%	38%	28%	9%
1992	24%	36%	29%	9%
1993	25%	35%	30%	9%
1994	25%	34%	30%	10%
1995	25%	33%	31%	10%
1996	24%	33%	32%	10%
1997	25%	32%	32%	10%
1998	25%	32%	32%	10%
1999	26%	31%	33%	10%

Sources: BJS, [Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000](#), October, 2001.

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Reentry Trends in the U.S. **Entries to State parole**

The number of State parole entries grew at an average annual rate of 1.9% from 1990 to 2002

- During 2002, there were 436,306 entries to State parole, a 25% increase over the number that entered parole in 1990. However, the number of entries in 2002 declined by nearly 10,000 from 2001.
- Among those entering parole, the percentage who had been re-released from State prison rose from 27% in 1990 to 45% in 1999.

Re-releases are persons leaving prison after having served time either for a violation of parole or other conditional release or for a new offense committed while under parole supervision.

- Among parole entries in 1999, 35% had been convicted of a drug offense (up from 27% in 1990).
- The average age of parole entries increased from 31 years in 1990 to 34 years in 1999. In 1999, an estimated 109,300 State prisoners age 40 or older were paroled – 26% of all entries to parole. This was more than double the number that entered parole among that age group in 1990.

BJS Sources:

Probation and Parole in the United States, 2002, August, 2003
Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000, October, 2001.

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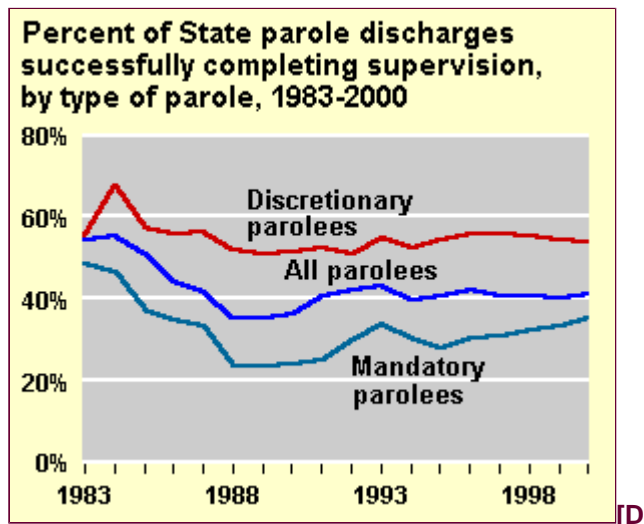
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Reentry Trends in the U.S. Success rates for State parolees

State parole success unchanged since 1990

To view data, click on the chart.



- Among State parole discharges in 2000:
 - 41% successfully completed their term of supervision (relatively unchanged since 1990)
 - 42% were returned to prison or jail
 - 9% absconded

Discharge refers to individuals exiting parole supervision.

Successful discharges include persons who have completed the term of conditional supervision.

Unsuccessful discharges include revocations of parole, returns to prison or jail, and absconders. Parolees who are transferred to other jurisdictions and those who die while under supervision are not included in the calculation of success/failure rates.

- In every year during the 1990's, first releases were more likely to have been successful on parole than re-releases.

Re-releases are persons leaving prison after having served time either for a violation of parole or other conditional release or for a new offense committed while under parole supervision.

- In every year between 1990 and 2000, State prisoners released by a parole board had higher success rates than those released through mandatory parole. Among parole discharges in 2000, 54% of discretionary parolees were successful compared to 35% of those who had received mandatory parole.

Discretionary parole exists when a parole board has authority to conditionally release prisoners based on a statutory or administrative determination of eligibility.

Mandatory parole generally occurs in jurisdictions using determinate sentencing statutes in which inmates are conditionally released from prison after serving a specified portion of their original sentence minus any good time earned.

See also [Characteristics of releases to State parole](#)

BJS Sources:

[Probation and Parole in the United States, 2002](#), August, 2003
[Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000](#), October, 2001.

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Reentry Trends in the U.S.
Success rates for State parolees

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Percent of parole discharges successfully completed, by type, 1983-2000

	All parole exits	Discretionary	Mandatory
1983	54 %	55 %	48 %
1984	56	68	47
1985	51	57	37
1986	44	56	35
1987	42	56	33
1988	35	52	23
1989	35	51	24
1990	36	52	24
1991	41	53	25
1992	42	51	30
1993	43	55	34
1994	40	52	30
1995	41	54	28
1996	42	56	30
1997	41	56	31
1998	41	55	32
1999	40	54	33
2000	41	54	35

Sources: BJS, **Probation and Parole in the United States, 2002**, August, 2003
Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000, October, 2001.

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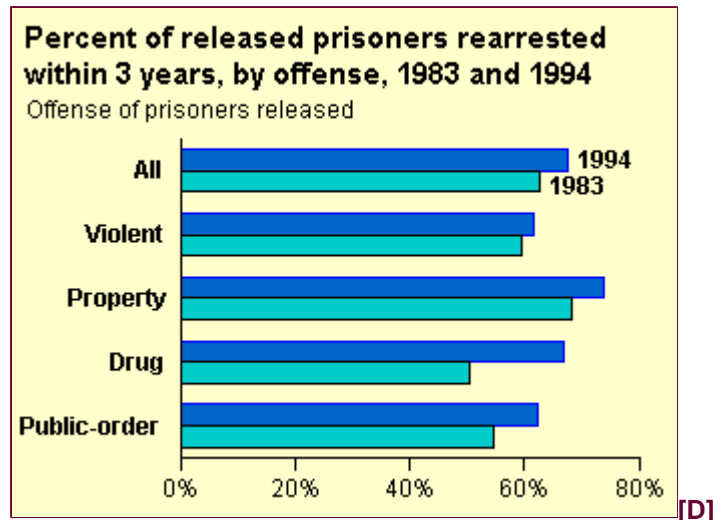
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Reentry Trends in the U.S. Recidivism

In a 15 State study, over two-thirds of released prisoners were rearrested within three years

[Rearrest of releases](#) | [Reconviction](#) | [Returned to prison](#)

To view data, click on the chart.



Two studies come closest to providing "national" recidivism rates for the United States. One tracked 108,580 State prisoners released from prison in 11 States in 1983. The other tracked 272,111 prisoners released from prison in 15 States in 1994. The prisoners tracked in these studies represent two-thirds of all the prisoners released in the United States for that year.

Rearrest within 3 years

- 67.5% of prisoners released in 1994 were rearrested within 3 years, an increase over the 62.5% found for those released in 1983
- The rearrest rate for property offenders, drug offenders, and public-order offenders increased significantly from 1983 to 1994. During that time, the rearrest rate increased:
 - from 68.1% to 73.8% for property offenders
 - from 50.4% to 66.7% for drug offenders
 - from 54.6% to 62.2% for public-order offenders
- The rearrest rate for violent offenders remained relatively stable (59.6% in 1983 compared to 61.7% in 1994).

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Reconviction within 3 years

- Overall, reconviction rates did not change significantly from 1983 to 1994. Among, prisoners released in 1983, 46.8% were reconvicted within 3 years compared to 46.9% among those released in 1994. From 1983 to 1994, reconviction rates remained stable for released:
 - violent offenders (41.9% and 39.9%, respectively)
 - property offenders (53.0% and 53.4%)
 - public-order offenders (41.5% and 42.0%)
- Among drug offenders, the rate of reconviction increased significantly, going from 35.3% in 1983 to 47.0% in 1994.

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Returned to prison within 3 years

- The 1994 recidivism study estimated that within 3 years, 51.8% of prisoners released during the year were back in prison either because of a new crime for which they received another prison sentence, or because of a technical violation of their parole. This rate was not calculated in the 1983 study.

BJS Sources:

[Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 1983](#), April, 1989

[Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 1994](#), June, 2002.

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Reentry Trends in the U.S. Recidivism

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Percent of released prisoners rearrested within 3 years, by offense, 1983 and 1994

	All released prisoners	Violent	Property	Drug	Public-order
1983	62.5%	59.6%	68.1%	50.4%	54.6%
1994	67.5	61.7	73.8	66.7	62.2

Sources: BJS, [Recidivism of Prisoners released in 1994](#), June, 2002

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Reentry Trends in the U.S.
Characteristics of releases

Persons entering State parole in 1999 were older than those who entered parole in 1990 (31 to 34 years) while the racial and ethnic composition of entries was unchanged

- [Demographic characteristics of State parole entries](#)
- [Background characteristics of prisoners](#)
- [Demographic characteristics of successful State parolees](#)

Demographic characteristics of State parole entries

- The racial and ethnic distributions of persons entering parole remained nearly stable from 1990 to 1999. In 1999, 35% of parole entries were white, 47% were black, and 16% were Hispanic.
- In 1999, 10% of entries to State parole were female, up from 8% in 1990.
- The average age of prisoners released to parole increased from 31 years in 1990 to 34 years in 1999. In 1999, an estimated 109,300 State prisoners age 40 or older were paroled – 26% of all entries to parole.

Demographic characteristics of State parole entries, 1990 and 1999

Characteristics	Percent of entries	
	1990	1999
Gender		
Male	92.1 %	90.1 %
Female	7.9	9.9
Race/Hispanic origin		
White non-Hispanic	34.2 %	35.4 %
Black non-Hispanic	48.8	47.3
Hispanic	16.3	16.1
Other	0.7	1.2
Age at prison release		
17 or younger	0.2 %	0.1 %
18-24	23.4	16.3

25-29	26.6	19.0
30-34	22.2	19.7
35-39	13.9	19.2
40-44	7.3	13.5
45-54	4.9	10.2
55 or older	1.5	2.1
Mean age	31 yrs	34 yrs

Note: Based on prisoners with a sentence or more than 1 year who were released from State prison. Data are from the National Corrections Reporting Program.

- Among discretionary and mandatory parole releases from State prison in 1999, black non-Hispanic offenders served longer in prison than white non-Hispanics or Hispanics. Overall, black non-Hispanic offenders released by discretionary parole in 1999 served 37 months in prison; white non-Hispanics served 34 months; and Hispanics 33 months. Black offenders released by mandatory parole served 7 months longer than whites (38 months compared to 31 months). Hispanics served 30 months.

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Background characteristics of prisoners expected to be released

Among State prisoners expected to be released to the community by yearend 1999:

- 56% had one or more prior incarcerations and 25% had 3 or more prior incarcerations.
- 84% reported being involved in drugs or alcohol at the time of the offense which led to their incarceration.
- Nearly 25% were determined to be alcohol dependent.
- 21% had committed the offense to obtain money for drugs.
- 14% were determined to be mentally ill.
- 12% reported being homeless at the time of the arrest.

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Demographic characteristics of successful State parolees

- Between 1990 and 1999, the success rates among State parole discharges increased from 33% to 39% among blacks and increased from 31% to 51% among Hispanics, but dropped from 44% to 41% among whites.
- Among discharges from State parole in 1999, 39% of males successfully completed parole supervision compared to 48% of females.

- Success rates were higher among discharges that were age 55 or older (54%) than among those who were under age 25 (36%).
- Accounting for 2.1% of discharges in 1999, parolees age 55 or older had the highest rate of successful completion (55%).

Discharge refers to individuals exiting parole supervision.

Successful discharges include persons who have completed the term of conditional supervision.

Unsuccessful discharges include revocations of parole, returns to prison or jail, and absconders. Parolees who are transferred to other jurisdictions and those who die while under supervision are not included in the calculation of success/failure rates.

BJS Sources:

[Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000](#), October, 2001.

["State and Federal prisoners returning to the community: Findings from the Bureau of Justice Statistics"](#) (PDF file, 30K), by Allen J. Beck, presented at the First Reentry Courts Initiative Cluster Meeting, Washington, D.C., April 13, 2000.

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Reentry Trends in the U.S. **Federal supervised release**

During 2000, 99,300 offenders convicted of a Federal offense were on community supervision

- The success rate of offenders discharged from Federal supervised release in 2000 was 64% compared to 55% among those discharged from Federal parole

Federal Supervised Release established by the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 (SRA), is a term of conditional community supervision set by the court at the time of sentencing. The SRA also abolished release by a parole board, required a determinate sentence term, and limited the amount of good time that can be credited toward the sentence.

- Nearly all prisoners (approximately 93%) released from Federal prison in 2000 were subject to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.
- During 2000 the Federal Bureau of Prisons received 49,678 inmates from U.S. district courts; an additional 15,240 inmates were received from other sources such as supervision violations; 55,876 inmates were released. As of September 30, 2000, 129,329 sentenced offenders were under the jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Prisons.
- Offenders entering Federal prison during 2000 could expect to serve about 87% of the sentence imposed, compared to 58% for those who entered during 1986. Time to be served by those entering Federal prison increased to 44 months for those entering during 2000 from 27 months for those entering during 1988.
- During 2000, almost two-thirds of Federal offenders on community supervision were serving a term of supervised release; 31% were serving a term of probation; and 5% were serving a term of parole on a sentence that was not imposed pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.

BJS Sources:

[Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 2000](#), August, 2002

[Federal Criminal Case Processing, 2000](#), January, 2002

[Federal Drug Offenders, 1999 with Trends 1984-99](#), August, 2001

[Federal Offenders under Community Supervision, 1987-96](#), September, 1998

[Offenders Returning to Federal Prison, 1986-97](#), September, 2000

[Time Served in Prison by Federal Offenders, 1986-97](#), June, 1999

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Definitions

Discharge refers to individuals exiting parole supervision. Successful discharges include persons who have completed the term of conditional supervision. Unsuccessful discharges include revocations of parole, returns to prison or jail, and absconders. Parolees who are transferred to other jurisdictions and those who die while under supervision are not included in the calculation of success/failure rates.

Federal Supervised Release established by the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 (SRA), is a term of conditional community supervision set by the court at the time of sentencing. The SRA also abolished release by a parole board, required a determinate sentence term, and limited the amount of good time that can be credited toward the sentence.

Parole is a period of conditional community supervision following a prison term. If the conditions of supervision are violated, the parolee can be returned to prison to serve any of the remaining portion of the sentence.

- **Discretionary parole** exists when a parole board has authority to conditionally release prisoners based on a statutory or administrative determination of eligibility.
- **Mandatory parole** generally occurs in jurisdictions using determinate sentencing statutes in which inmates are conditionally released from prison after serving a specified portion of their original sentence minus any good time earned.

Parole violators are offenders returned to prison for violating the conditions of their release or for a new offense committed while under parole supervision.

Part 1 violent crimes, as defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports, include murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault.

Prison releases

- **Expiration of sentence** includes inmates whose maximum court sentence minus credits has been served and are released without any term of community supervision.
- **First releases** are inmates released from prison for the first time on their current offense.
- **Re-releases** are inmates leaving prison after having served time either for a violation of parole or other conditional release or for a new offense committed while under parole supervision.

Recidivism is measured by criminal acts that resulted in the rearrest, reconviction, or return to prison with or without a new sentence during a three-year period following the

prisoner's release.

Reentry is a broad term used to refer to issues related to the transition of offenders from prison to community supervision. Reentry on this site refers to persons released from State or Federal prisons or discharged from State parole, Federal parole, or Federal Supervised Release. Persons released from local jails are not included.

State parole includes the conditional release of offenders under the jurisdiction of a State agency or authority.

Truth-in-sentencing refers to release policies that require offenders to serve a certain percentage of their sentence before becoming eligible for release from prison.

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About the Data

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BJS reentry data sources

- **Annual Parole Survey (APS)** collects counts of the total number of persons supervised in the community on January 1 and December 31, and a count of the number entering and leaving supervision during the collection year.
- **Federal Justice Statistics Program (FJSP)** is constructed from source data files provided by the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the United States Sentencing Commission, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.
- **National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP)** collects individual level data on persons admitted to and released from State prisons, those in custody at yearend, and persons discharged from State parole supervision.
- **National Prisoners Statistics (NPS-1)** obtains yearend and midyear counts of prisoners from departments of correction in each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.
- **Survey of Inmates in Local Jails**, based on a national representative sample of inmates about every 5 years, provides self-reported data on information about the current and past offenses of inmates, their sentences, prior use of drugs and alcohol, medical and mental health conditions, family background, use of firearms, and characteristics of the victims of their crimes.
- **Survey of Inmates in Adult State Correctional Facilities**, based on a national representative sample of inmates about every 5 years, provides self-reported data on information about the current and past offenses of inmates, their sentences, prior use of drugs and alcohol, medical and mental health conditions, family background, use of firearms, and characteristics of the victims of their crimes.

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Relevant BJS reports

[Census of State and Federal Adult Correctional Facilities, 1995](#), August, 1997
[Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 2000](#), August, 2002
[Correctional Populations in the United States, 1997](#), November, 2000
[DWI Offenders under Correctional Supervision](#), June, 1999
[Federal Criminal Case Processing, 2000](#), November 2001
[Federal Drug Offenders, 1999 with Trends 1984-99](#), August, 2001
[Federal Offenders under Community Supervision, 1987-96](#), August, 1998
[HIV in Prisons and Jails, 1999](#), July, 2001
[Incarcerated Parents and their Children](#), August, 2000
[Medical Problems of Inmates, 1997](#), January, 2001
[Mental Health and Treatment of Inmates and Probationers](#), July, 1999
[Mental Health Treatment in State Prisons, 2000](#), July, 2001

[Offenders Returning to Federal Prison, 1986-97](#), September, 2000
[Prior Abuse Reported by Inmates and Probationers](#), April, 1999
[Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2002](#), April, 2003
[Prisoners in 2002](#), July, 2003
[Probation and Parole in the United States, 2002](#), August, 2003
[Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 1983](#), April, 1998
[Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 1994](#), June, 2002
[Substance Abuse and Treatment, State and Federal Prisoners, 1997](#), January, 1999
[Time Served in Prison by Federal Offenders](#), 1986-97, June, 1999
[Trends in State Parole, 1990-2000](#), October, 2001
[Truth in Sentencing in State Prisons](#), January, 1999
[Veterans in Prison or Jail](#), January, 2000
[Women in Prison](#), March, 1994
[Women Offenders](#), December, 1999

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