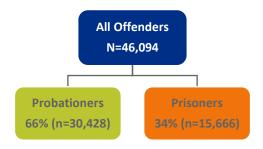


Quick Facts: Adult Recidivism

April 2020

FISCAL YEAR 2017 SAMPLE

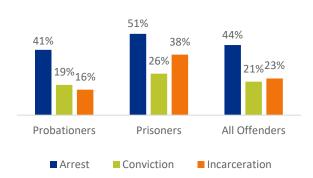
- → The sample is comprised of offenders sentenced under Structured Sentencing who were either placed on supervised probation or were released from a NC prison during FY 2017 with a two-year follow-up period.
- ⇒ Criminal justice outcomes examined for all offenders included recidivist arrests, convictions, and (state prison) incarcerations.
- ⇒ All probationers and 80% of prisoners were subject to the provisions of the Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA).



Offender Profile

- Offenders averaged 33 years of age. The majority were male (78%), 49% were white, 46% were black, 88% were not married, 59% were high school dropouts, 51% were employed, and 71% had a possible substance use problem.
- All prisoners had a felony conviction, while the majority of probationers had a misdemeanor conviction (56%).
- Compared to probationers, prisoners tended to have more extensive prior criminal histories and higher recidivism rates for all measures.
- Nearly three-fourths of those with a recidivist arrest were arrested within the first 12 months of follow-up.





Probationers

- Felons tended to have more extensive prior criminal histories and slightly higher recidivism arrest rates compared to misdemeanants (42% and 40% respectively).
- Criminal justice outcomes varied by supervision level, with probationers in Level 1 having the highest rates and those in Level 5 having the lowest rates. This pattern was also found for other interim outcomes (e.g., quick dips).

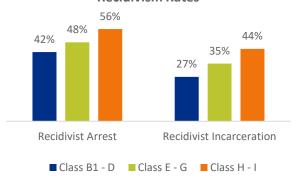
Criminal Justice Outcomes



Prisoners

- Class H I prisoners had the highest recidivism rates.
- Prisoners who entered prison due to a Post Release Supervision (PRS) revocation, who had infractions, or who were classified as close custody at release had the highest recidivism rates.
- 83% were subject to PRS upon release and nearly twothirds exited PRS with a satisfactory termination. Of the remainder, most exited due to revocation.

Recidivism Rates



Quick Facts: Adult Recidivism

FISCAL YEAR 2009 - FISCAL YEAR 2017 SAMPLES

From FY 2009 to the current study, the number of offenders in the recidivism sample has decreased by 19%, primarily due to decreases in the probation population.

Sample Size

60,000

50,000

40,000

30,000

20,000

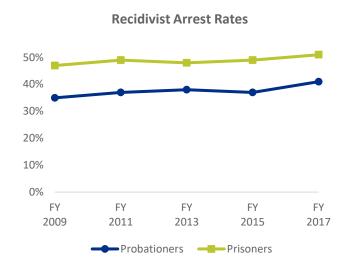
10,000

FY FY FY FY FY FY FY 2009 2011 2013 2015 2017

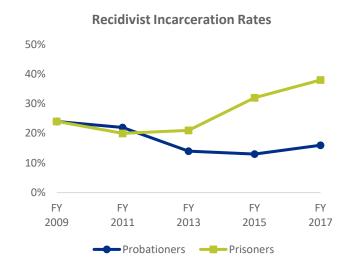
Recidivist arrest rates remained stable from FY 2011 to FY 2015 but experienced an increase in FY 2017. No external factors emerged as plausible reasons for this increase. Recidivist convictions have remained steady. The JRA initially contributed to a decline in the recidivist incarceration rate in NC. The first uptick in recidivist incarceration rates following the JRA occurred in FY 2015.

Recidivism Rates 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% FΥ FΥ FΥ FΥ FΥ 2009 2011 2013 2015 2017 Conviction Incarceration

Consistent findings over time point to the relative success of probationers compared to prisoners. For probationers, recidivist arrest rates ranged from 35% to 41% compared to 47% to 51% for prisoners from FY 2009 to FY 2017.



The recidivist incarceration rate for prisoners has increased 17 percentage points since FY 2013. This primarily results from the expansion of PRS to lower-level felons, and the corresponding increase in revocations of PRS in response to violations of supervision conditions. The rate for probationers increased for the first time since FY 2009 (3 percentage points).



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2009 - FY 2017 Correctional Program Evaluation Data

NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission PO Box 2448 | Raleigh, NC 27602 (919) 890-1470 The Honorable Charlie Brown, Chairman Michelle Hall, Executive Director

For the NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission's *Correctional Program Evaluation: Offenders Placed on Probation or Released from Prison in Fiscal Year 2017* and all other publications, see the Commission's website: www.NCSPAC.org.