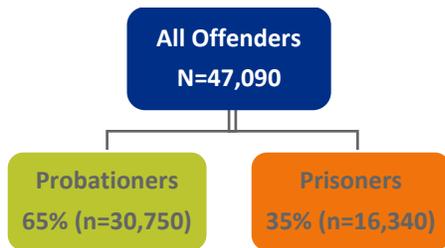


FISCAL YEAR 2019 SAMPLE

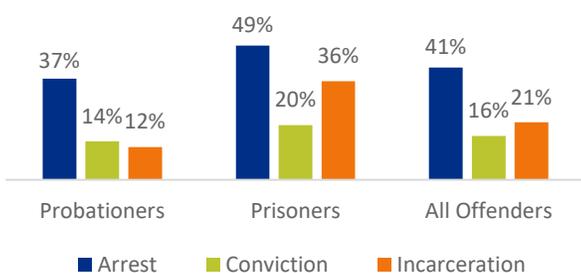
- ⇒ The sample is comprised of offenders sentenced under Structured Sentencing who were either placed on supervised probation or released from prison during FY 2019; the follow-up period for recidivism is two years.
- ⇒ The COVID-19 pandemic, which began in March 2020, affected the follow-up period (ranging from 4 to 15 months) for offenders, depending on when they entered the sample.
- ⇒ Criminal justice outcomes examined included recidivist arrests, convictions, and (state prison) incarcerations.



Offender Profile

- Offenders averaged 35 years of age. The majority were male (78%), 51% were white, 44% were black, 88% were not married, 58% dropped out of high school, 56% were employed, and 76% had a possible substance use problem.
- All prisoners had a felony conviction, while the majority of probationers had a misdemeanor conviction (58%).
- Compared to probationers, prisoners had more extensive prior criminal histories and higher recidivism rates.
- Over half of the offenders were employed during the two-year follow-up with Accommodation and Food Services being the most common industry of work.
- Nearly three-fourths of offenders with a recidivist arrest were arrested within the first 12 months of follow-up.
- Probationers and prisoners assessed as extreme risk and extreme need had the highest recidivism rates.

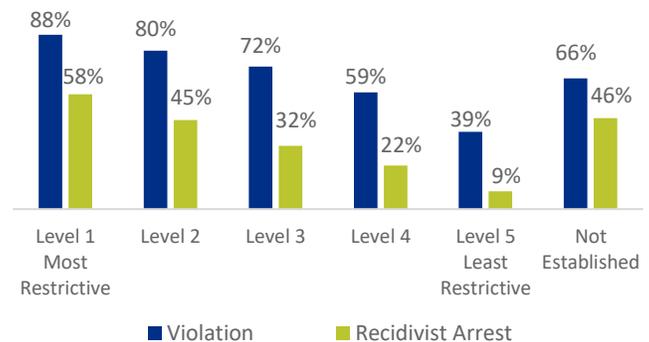
Recidivism Rates



Probationers

- Felons had more extensive prior criminal histories and higher recidivist arrest rates compared to misdemeanants (40% and 35% respectively).
- While misdemeanants and felons had similar rates of quick dips, misdemeanants had higher rates of revocation.
- Interim and 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.

Outcomes by Supervision Level



Prisoners

- Class B1 – D prisoners had the lowest recidivism rates. Class H - I prisoners had the highest recidivism rates.
- Prisoners who entered prison due to a Post Release Supervision (PRS) revocation, who had infractions, who were placed in restrictive housing, or who were classified as close custody at release had the highest recidivism rates.
- 84% of prisoners were subject to PRS upon release; two-thirds exited PRS with a satisfactory termination followed by one-quarter due to revocation.

Recidivism Rates

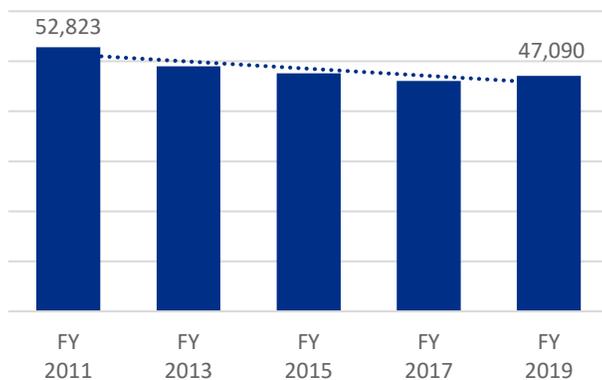


QUICK FACTS: ADULT RECIDIVISM

FISCAL YEAR 2011 – FISCAL YEAR 2019 SAMPLES

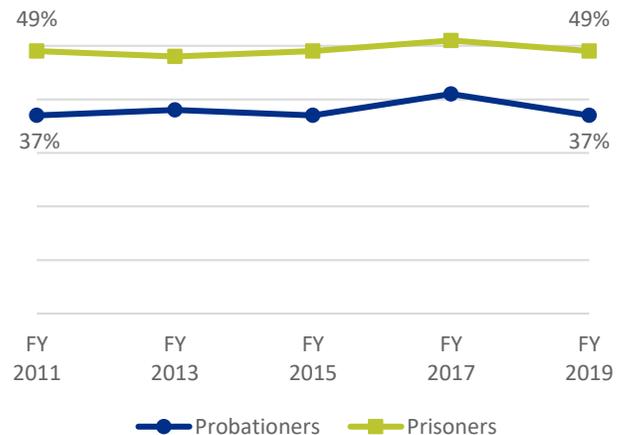
From FY 2011 to FY 2019, the number of offenders in the recidivism sample decreased by 11%. The overall sample size for the current study increased following a methodological change to add probationers with a most serious conviction for a Class 2 or Class 3 traffic offense to the sample.

Sample Size



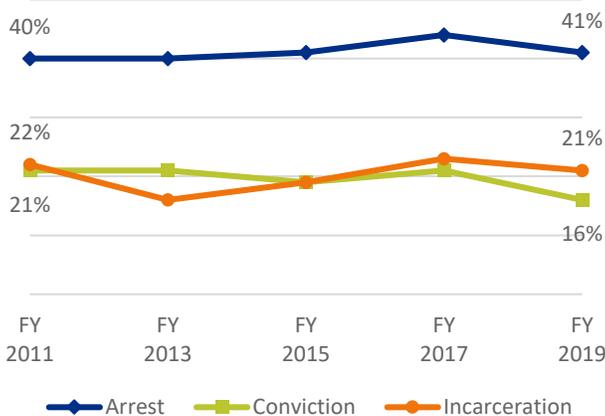
Consistent findings over time point to the relative success of probationers compared to prisoners. For probationers, recidivist arrest rates ranged from 37% to 41% compared to 48% to 51% for prisoners from FY 2011 to FY 2019.

Recidivist Arrest Rates



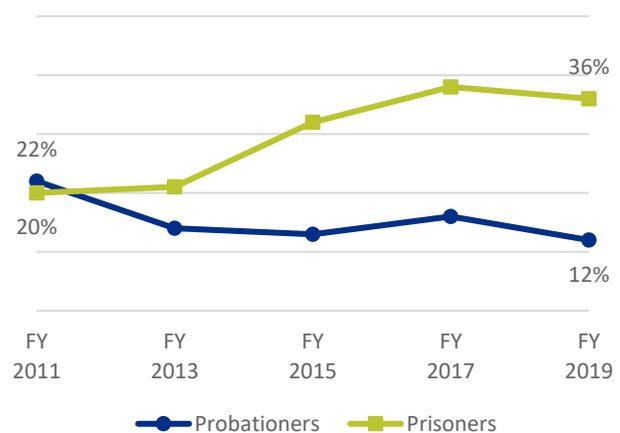
The COVID-19 pandemic affected the follow-up period and, correspondingly, recidivism rates. Noticeable reductions in all three measures of recidivism for the current sample were observed when compared to the FY 2017 sample.

Recidivism Rates



While the recidivist incarceration rate for prisoners has increased 16 percentage points since FY 2011 (as a result of expanding PRS to lower-level felons and the corresponding increase in revocations of PRS due to violations of supervision), there was a 2 percentage-point decrease in FY 2019. Compared to the previous year, the recidivist incarceration rate for probationers also decreased (by 4 percentage points) in FY 2019.

Recidivist Incarceration Rates



An examination of recidivism rates by sample entry and follow-up months revealed that measures declined over the course of the follow-up compared to those in FY 2017, which were stable over the course of the follow-up.

SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2011 – FY 2019 Correctional Program Evaluation Data

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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 2019* and all other publications, see the Commission's website: www.NCSPAC.org.