

Five in 6 (83%) state prisoners released in 2005 across 30 states were arrested at least once during the 9 years following their release. The 9-year follow-up period shows a much fuller picture of offending patterns and criminal activity of released prisoners than prior studies that used a 3- or 5-year follow-up period.

Long-term patterns

Overall, released state prisoners were arrested an estimated 2 million times within the 9 years following release in 2005. Extending the follow-up period to 9 years captured more than twice as many post-release arrests as were captured during a 3-year study. Six in 10 (60%) arrests occurred during years 4 through 9.

The percentage of prisoners who were arrested following release declined each year during the follow-up period. Forty-four percent of prisoners were arrested at least once during their first year after release, 34% were arrested during their third year, and 24% were arrested during their ninth year.

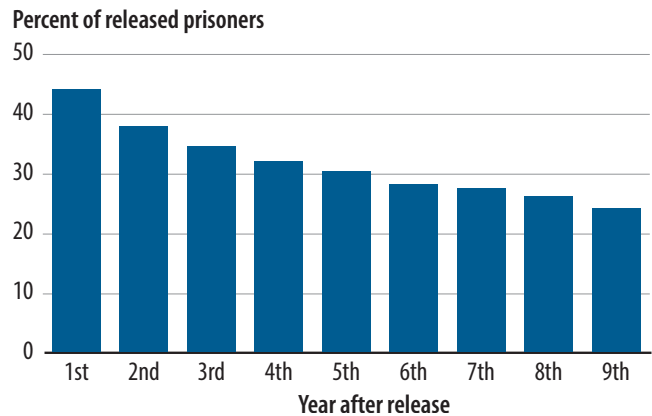
Type of offense of state prisoners arrested after release

Released property and drug offenders were more likely to be arrested than released violent offenders; however, released violent offenders were more likely to be arrested for a violent crime. More than three-quarters (77%) of released drug offenders were arrested for a non-drug crime within nine years, and more than a third (34%) were arrested for a violent crime.

Other key findings

The percentage of prisoners who were arrested following release in another state increased each year during the follow-up period. Eight percent of prisoners arrested during the first year following release were arrested outside of the state from which they were released. In comparison, 14% of prisoners who were arrested during the ninth year following release were arrested outside of their state of release.

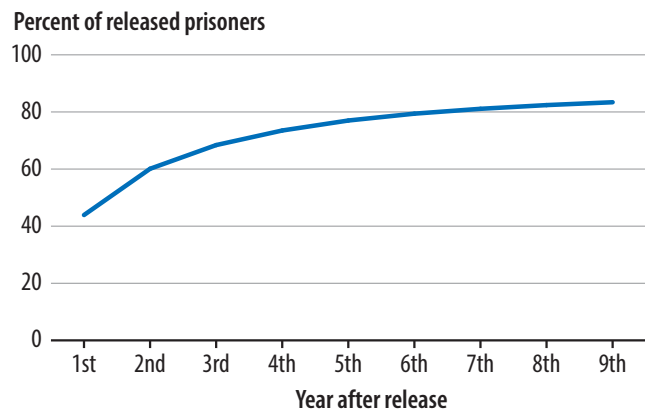
Annual arrest percentage of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005



Note: The denominator for annual percent is 401,288 (total state prisoners released in 30 states in 2005).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

Cumulative percentage of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 who were arrested since release, by year after release



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005 data collection, 2005–2014.

The full report (*2018 Update on Prisoner Recidivism: A 9-Year Follow-up Period (2005-2014)*, NCJ 250975), related documents, and additional information about the Bureau of Justice Statistics can be found at www.bjs.gov.