



# State Recidivism Comparison

RESEARCH—EVALUATION UNIT

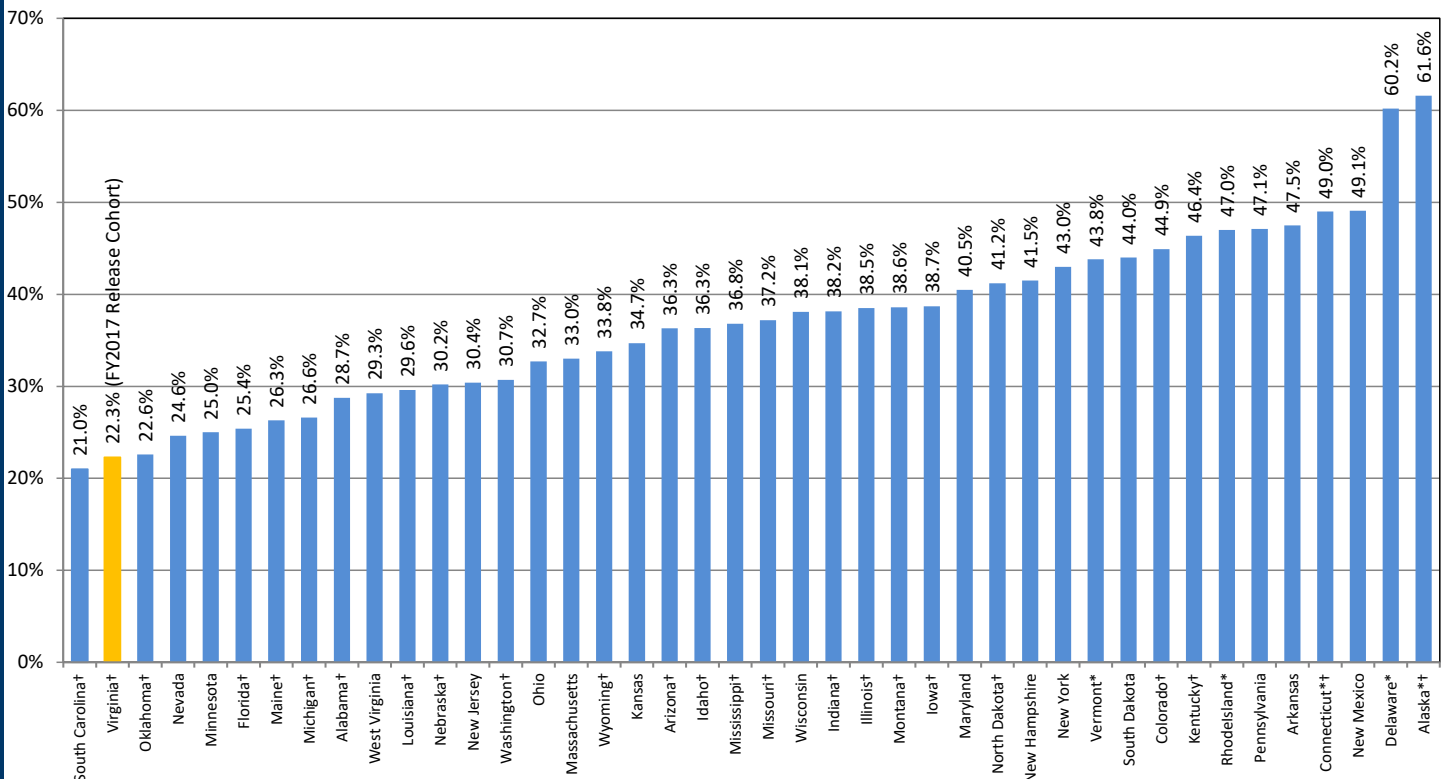
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## Virginia's Recidivism Rate Among the Lowest in the Country

At 22.3%, Virginia's recidivism rate remains among the lowest of the states that report three-year State Responsible (SR) re-incarceration rates. VADOC waits at least four years to calculate the three year re-incarceration rate of SR releases in order to allow all court information to be received and entered into VirginiaCORIS. Without waiting for the data to fully mature, the FY2017 recidivism rate in July 2020 would have been 20.5%. Of the 12,376 SR inmates released from incarceration in Virginia in FY2017 who had an opportunity to recidivate, 2,755 were re-incarcerated within three years. Virginia's low rate is attributable to the effective re-entry and educational programming and treatment offered by the Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) during an inmate's incarceration and its effective supervision in the community after release. The VADOC tailors its programming and supervision to address each inmate's criminogenic risk and needs. This aligns with the agency's mission to enhance the quality of life in the Commonwealth by improving public safety through the successful reintegration of sentenced men and women in its custody and care by providing effective supervision, programs, and re-entry services in safe environments. From this, the agency fosters positive change and growth consistent with research-based evidence, fiscal responsibility, and constitutional standards.

Virginia's FY2017 rate is second to South Carolina's (SC) FY2018 rate. SC's FY2017 rate was 21.9%.

### Three-Year Re-Incarceration Rates: A State Comparison

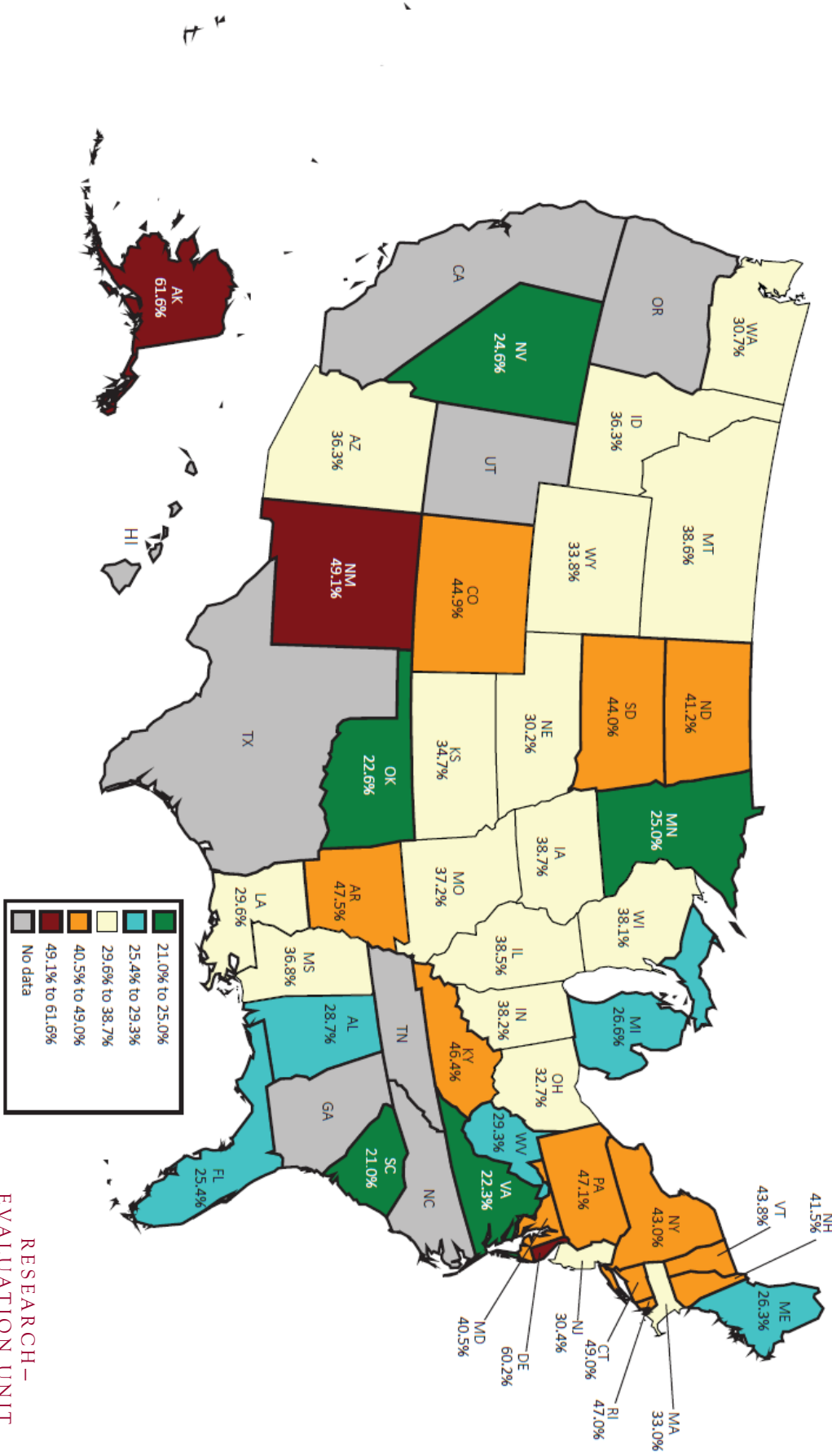


\*Unified state, rate includes both state and local responsible inmates

† States reporting recidivism data from 2017 releases onward; rates may be lower than previous years due to sentencing delays related to COVID-19

NOTES: Virginia (VA) waits at least 4 years to compute the 3 year re-incarceration rate to assure all court orders are accounted for. All SR sentences after release are counted as recidivism in VA, including technical violations and sentences for offenses that occurred prior to release. SC computes an additional rate that excludes re-incarcerations for offenses committed prior to the initial incarceration. Recidivism rates for each state are the most recent three-year re-incarceration rates produced and made publicly available by each state (as of October 29, 2021); please contact each state with any questions about that particular state's recidivism figures; the following states are excluded from this analysis for the reasons given: California's rate excludes parole violations; Georgia only reports re-conviction information; Hawaii only reports re-arrest information; Oregon's rate is based on a six-month release cohort and includes releases from prison and felons released from jails; Tennessee's rate includes those who are arrested and placed in jail who are not convicted of a crime as well as those who are convicted of committing a new crime; Texas's rate was calculated separately from seven different populations including both felons and misdemeanants; Utah's rate only includes releases to parole; North Carolina solely produces 2-year follow-up rates.

# Virginia Compared to Other States Three-year Re-incarceration Rates Across the United States



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