

Recidivism Crime Type over Time

Introduction

The Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) tracks recidivism rates of state responsible (SR) releases and community starters to assess the success of those released from incarceration and starting community supervision. The official recidivism metric of the VADOC is the three-year re-incarceration rate. Re-incarceration is defined as any new SR term of incarceration within three years, including those for technical violators and those for offenses committed prior to release or community start. In order to capture all new SR sentences, VADOC typically waits at least four years after the conclusion of a fiscal year to calculate the recidivism rate to ensure information is received from the courts and entered into VirginiaCORIS. The most recent reports are for the FY2017 SR releases and community starters and are posted on the [VADOC website](#).

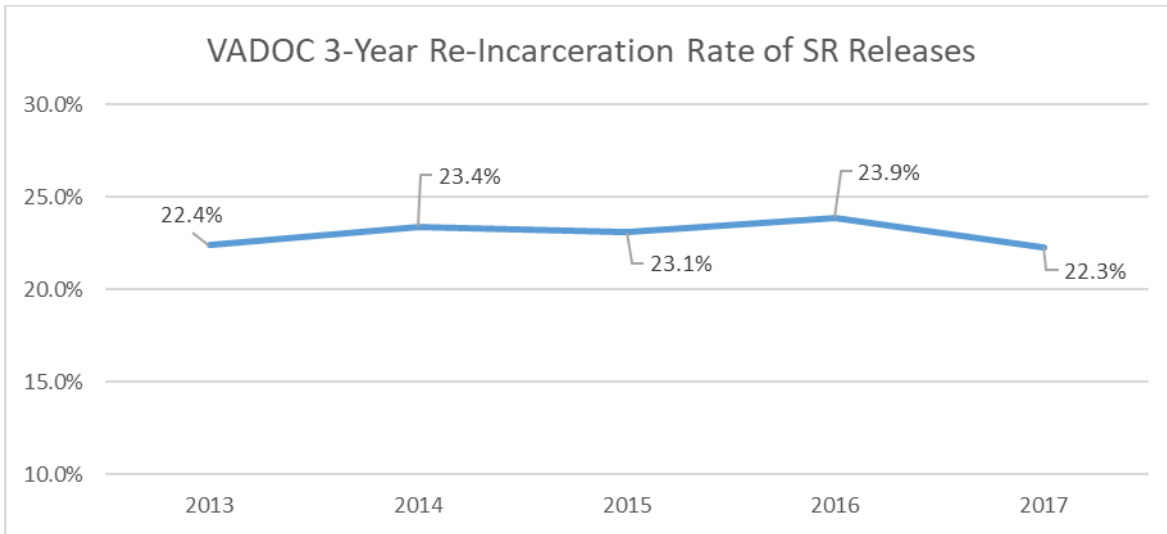
Previous reports have examined the characteristics of SR releases during their release term or the characteristics of supervisees during their time under community supervision. This report looks at the crime type of the most serious offense (MSO) for the recidivist term. Examining the recidivist term allows one to examine trends in the type of offenses committed resulting in incarceration. This report shows the rate and characteristics of recidivists by crime type.

Over the past several years, the quality of data and the methodology used to track recidivism have improved. Due to this, some of the characteristics available for recent cohorts are unavailable for earlier cohorts and will be greyed out in the tables.

SR Releases

FY2013-FY2017 Recidivism Trends

SR release cohorts from FY2013 through FY2017 had comparable data available for this analysis. As shown in the chart below, the recidivism rates of SR releases between the FY2013 and FY2017 cohorts have remained fairly consistent ranging from 22.3% to 23.9%. The FY2017 cohort had the lowest recidivism rate (22.3%). The following SR Release sub-sections will look at the crime type of the MSO of the re-incarceration term for those SR releases who returned to DOC custody within three years of release.



Violent Most Serious Recidivist Offense

Violent Most Serious Recidivist Offense								
Most Serious Offense of Release Term								
Year of Release	% of SR Releases who return with a violent MSO	Violent		Property/ Public Order		Drug		Total
		#	%	#	%	#	%	
FY2013	4.9%	317	56%	179	32%	69	12%	565
FY2014	4.3%	291	56%	169	33%	57	11%	517
FY2015	4.7%	321	55%	194	33%	66	11%	581
FY2016	4.7%	335	56%	184	31%	77	13%	596
FY2017	4.9%	355	58%	179	29%	75	12%	609

Among the FY2013-FY2017 cohorts, less than 5% of SR releases had a new SR incarceration for a violent offense within three years of release. Of those that did recidivate with a violent offense, slightly over one-half had a release term violent MSO and about one-third had a release term Property/Public order (PPO) MSO.

SR Releases who Returned with a Violent MSO					
	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Number	565	517	581	596	609
Most Serious Offense (MSO) Recidivist Term					
Capital Murder, Homicide 1st, Homicide 2nd	4%	5%	4%	3%	3%
Manslaughter	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Abduction	6%	5%	4%	4%	7%
Rape/Sexual Assault	18%	17%	20%	15%	20%
Robbery	18%	14%	13%	13%	14%
Assault	39%	43%	44%	46%	34%
Weapons	12%	15%	14%	18%	22%

Of those who returned with a violent MSO, the largest percentage returned with a MSO of assault (34%-46%).

Characteristics of SR releases who returned with a violent MSO are shown in the table below. Most violent recidivists were male. The most common MSO at release was assault, comprising approximately one-quarter of all violent recidivists each year. The largest percent of violent recidivists were released from their first SR incarceration. For cohorts released in FY2013, FY2014, FY2015, and FY2017, more than one-half of violent recidivists were released from DOC facilities. For the cohort released in FY2016, the number of violent recidivists released from DOC facilities dropped to 47%. The proportion of violent recidivists in each cohort that had a prior violent offense as defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805 increased from 73% among the FY2013 cohort to 93% among the FY2017 cohort. Roughly one-quarter of these recidivists scored 'High' on the COMPAS risk of general recidivism scale and 'High' on the COMPAS risk of violent recidivism scale. Across all cohorts, about one-quarter of violent recidivists had a known mental health impairment and the majority of violent recidivists who were released between the FY2015 and FY2017 cohorts and were tested for opioids and/or cocaine had no history of testing positive for opioids and/or cocaine. History of opioid and/or cocaine use was not analyzed for the FY2013 cohort. History of opioid and/or cocaine use was analyzed for the FY2014 cohorts but used a different methodology compared to the FY2015-FY2017, so it was not included in the current report. Almost 20% of the FY2017 release cohort had a known gang affiliation at release.

SR Releases who Returned with a Violent MSO*						
Number		FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
		565	517	581	596	609
Gender						
	Male	96%	97%	95%	95%	95%
	Female	4%	3%	5%	5%	5%
Release Age						
	Under 30	51%	41%	45%	44%	44%
	30-49	43%	50%	45%	44%	47%
	50-59	5%	7%	9%	11%	8%
	60+	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Most Serious Offense (MSO) at Release						
	Capital Murder, Homicide 1st, Homicide 2nd	<1%	1%	<1%	1%	<1%
	Manslaughter	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Abduction	4%	3%	2%	2%	4%
	Rape/Sexual Assault	10%	9%	11%	10%	12%
	Robbery	15%	12%	13%	12%	13%
	Assault	20%	25%	23%	27%	22%
	Weapons	6%	6%	5%	5%	7%
	Arson	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
	Burglary/B&E	6%	9%	7%	7%	8%
	Larceny/Fraud	15%	14%	17%	16%	13%
	Conspiracy	--	--	<1%	<1%	--
	Sex Offense**	3%	3%	5%	4%	4%
	DUI	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Habitual Offender	1%	<1%	1%	2%	2%
	Other Non-Violent	4%	4%	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Drug Sales	6%	5%	7%	6%	6%
	Drug Possession	6%	6%	4%	7%	6%
Previous SR Incarcerations						
	No Previous SR Terms	52%	45%	45%	48%	46%
	1 Previous SR Term	23%	26%	29%	26%	27%
	2 Previous SR Terms	12%	16%	15%	14%	14%
	3 Previous SR Terms	7%	8%	6%	8%	7%
	4 Previous SR Terms	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%
	5 or more Previous SR Terms	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Location History						
	DOC Facility Release	61%	58%	58%	47%	55%
	Jail Only Release	39%	42%	42%	53%	45%
Violent by §17.1-805†						
	No	27%	23%	10%	10%	7%
	Yes	73%	77%	90%	90%	93%
COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism‡						
	Low	14%	14%	11%	11%	12%
	Medium	22%	18%	23%	16%	20%
	High	26%	28%	24%	21%	26%
	Not Reported	38%	40%	42%	52%	43%
COMPAS Risk of Violent Recidivism‡						
	Low	14%	13%	13%	11%	11%
	Medium	23%	20%	21%	18%	22%
	High	25%	27%	25%	19%	24%
	Not Reported	38%	40%	42%	52%	43%
Gang Affiliation at Time of Release						
	No					81%
	Yes					19%
Mental Health Impairment						
	Mental Health Impairment	29%	23%	23%	23%	25%
	No Known Mental Health Impairment	71%	77%	51%	45%	50%
	Not Reported			26%	32%	25%
History of Testing Positive for Opioids and Cocaine***						
	Negative both Opioids and Cocaine			62%	62%	57%
	Positive Only Cocaine			17%	18%	22%
	Positive Only Opioids			13%	11%	10%
	Positive both Opioids and Cocaine			9%	9%	11%
*Information presented here is for the release term of incarceration.						
**Sex offenses are non-violent sex related offenses such as: indecent exposure, failure to register, etc.						
†§17.1-805 outlines the adoption of initial discretionary guideline midpoints.						
‡The last COMPAS assessment prior to release from this release term. Inmates who spent their entire SR term in jail were included in the 'Not Reported' category.						
***Drug test history was examined before release until recidivist date.						

Recidivism Crime Type over Time
VADOC Research - Evaluation Unit, June 2022

Property Public Order Most Serious Recidivist Offense

Property/Public Order (PPO) Most Serious Recidivist Offense								
Most Serious Offense of Release Term								
Year of Release	% of SR Releases who return with a PPO MSO	Violent		Property/ Public Order		Drug		Total
		#	%	#	%	#	%	
FY2013	9.1%	139	13%	821	78%	99	9%	1,059
FY2014*	9.0%	133	12%	838	78%	108	10%	1,080
FY2015*	8.7%	126	12%	850	79%	101	9%	1,078
FY2016	8.5%	141	13%	824	78%	96	9%	1,061
FY2017	7.4%	113	12%	721	78%	88	10%	922

*One SR Release with an unknown MSO.

Among the FY2013-FY2017 cohorts, less than 10% of SR releases had a new SR incarceration for a PPO offense within three years of release. The percentage gradually declined between the FY2013 and FY2017 cohorts. That percentage dropped to under 9% among FY2015 and FY2016 cohorts. The declining trend continued with the FY2017 cohort, decreasing by another full percentage point to reach the lowest percentage of 7.4%. Over three-fourths of those who recidivated with a PPO offense also had a release term PPO MSO. This is the offense category that most SR releases recidivate with.

SR Releases who Returned with a Property/Public Order MSO						
	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	
Number	1,059	1,080	1,078	1,061	922	
Most Serious Offense (MSO) Recidivist Term						
Arson	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	
Burglary/B&E	18%	15%	14%	14%	17%	
Larceny/Fraud	66%	67%	70%	69%	65%	
Conspiracy	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	--	
Sex Offense*	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	
DUI	4%	6%	5%	6%	6%	
Habitual Offender	10%	9%	9%	9%	10%	
Other Non-Violent	<1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	

*Sex offenses are non-violent sex related offenses such as: indecent exposure, failure to register, etc.

Of those who returned with a PPO offense, the majority had a MSO offense of Larceny/Fraud (65%-70%).

Characteristics of SR releases who recidivated with a PPO MSO are shown in the table below. Most PPO recidivists were male and between the ages of 30 and 49 at release. Across the FY2013 to FY2017 cohorts, about one-half of all PPO recidivists had a release term MSO that was for larceny/fraud. Roughly 40% of PPO recidivists had no previous SR terms. The proportion

of PPO recidivists who spent at least some time in a DOC facility was relatively consistent each year at approximately 50%. The proportion of PPO recidivists who had a prior violent offense as defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805 ranged from 43% to 55%. About one-quarter of these recidivists scored 'High' on the COMPAS risk of general recidivism scale and slightly under one-quarter scored 'Medium' on the COMPAS risk of violent recidivism scale. About one-quarter of PPO recidivists had a known mental health impairment

SR Releases who Returned with a Property/Public Order MSO*						
Number		FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
		1,059	1,080	1,078	1,061	922
Gender						
	Male	89%	88%	87%	86%	88%
	Female	11%	13%	13%	14%	12%
Release Age						
	Under 30	32%	32%	30%	32%	28%
	30-49	56%	53%	56%	53%	55%
	50-59	10%	13%	12%	14%	15%
	60+	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%
Most Serious Offense (MSO) at Release						
	Capital Murder, Homicide 1st, Homicide 2nd	<1%	<1%	--	--	--
	Manslaughter	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Abduction	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Rape/Sexual Assault	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Robbery	3%	4%	4%	4%	3%
	Assault	6%	5%	5%	6%	7%
	Weapons	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	Arson	1%	1%	1%	<1%	<1%
	Burglary/B&E	16%	19%	18%	16%	19%
	Larceny/Fraud	51%	48%	52%	52%	51%
	Conspiracy	--	--	--	<1%	--
	Sex Offense**	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	DUI	3%	4%	4%	3%	3%
	Habitual Offender	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%
	Other Non-Violent	2%	2%	1%	<1%	<1%
	Drug Sales	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%
	Drug Possession	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%
	Unknown	--	<1%	<1%	--	--
Previous SR Incarcerations						
	No Previous SR Terms	40%	38%	37%	39%	35%
	1 Previous SR Term	23%	24%	25%	23%	24%
	2 Previous SR Terms	16%	15%	16%	16%	18%
	3 Previous SR Terms	10%	11%	9%	10%	11%
	4 Previous SR Terms	6%	6%	5%	6%	6%
	5 or more Previous SR Terms	5%	6%	7%	7%	6%
Location History						
	DOC Facility Release	53%	53%	53%	45%	48%
	Jail Only Release	47%	47%	47%	55%	52%
Violent by §17.1-805†						
	No	57%	52%	47%	49%	45%
	Yes	43%	48%	53%	51%	55%
COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism‡						
	Low	11%	10%	11%	8%	9%
	Medium	19%	18%	18%	17%	15%
	High	24%	27%	25%	21%	25%
	Not Reported	46%	45%	46%	53%	51%
COMPAS Risk of Violent Recidivism‡						
	Low	17%	16%	16%	14%	13%
	Medium	20%	21%	22%	18%	19%
	High	17%	17%	16%	15%	17%
	Not Reported	46%	45%	46%	53%	51%
Gang Affiliation at Time of Release						
	No					92%
	Yes					8%
Mental Health Impairment						
	Mental Health Impairment	28%	23%	26%	21%	24%
	No Known Mental Health Impairment	72%	77%	49%	49%	47%
	Not Reported			25%	30%	29%
History of Testing Positive for Opioids and Cocaine***						
	Negative both Opioids and Cocaine			52%	48%	45%
	Positive Only Cocaine			19%	21%	20%
	Positive Only Opioids			15%	14%	17%
	Positive both Opioids and Cocaine			14%	17%	17%

*Information presented here is for the release term of incarceration.
**Sex offenses are non-violent sex related offenses such as: indecent exposure, failure to register, etc.
†§17.1-805 outlines the adoption of initial discretionary guideline midpoints.
‡The last COMPAS assessment prior to release from this release term. Inmates who spent their entire SR term in jail were included in the 'Not Reported' category.
***Drug test history was examined before release until recidivist date.

Recidivism Crime Type over Time
VADOC Research - Evaluation Unit, June 2022

Drug Order Most Serious Recidivist Offense

Drug Most Serious Recidivist Offense								
Most Serious Offense of Release Term								
Year of Release	% of SR Releases who return with a drug MSO	Violent		Property/ Public Order		Drug		Total
		#	%	#	%	#	%	
FY2013	3.9%	92	20%	111	24%	251	55%	454
FY2014*	4.3%	91	18%	140	27%	281	55%	513
FY2015	4.0%	89	18%	139	28%	264	54%	492
FY2016	4.1%	90	18%	156	30%	266	52%	512
FY2017	3.9%	87	18%	152	32%	240	50%	479

*One SR Release with an unknown MSO.

The percentage of SR releases who returned with a drug offense remained consistent over the five years, at approximately 4%. Of those who recidivated with a drug offense, around one-half had a release term MSO of drugs.

SR Releases who Returned with a Drug MSO					
	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Number	454	513	492	512	479
Most Serious Offense (MSO) Recidivist Term					
Drug Sales	51%	50%	50%	48%	41%
Drug Possession	49%	50%	50%	52%	59%

Of those who returned with a drug offense, an increasing proportion returned with a drug possession offense. In FY2013 49% of those who returned with a MSO of drugs were for possession of drugs which increased to 59% in FY2017.

Characteristics of SR releases who returned with a drug MSO are shown in the table below. Most recidivists returning with a drug MSO were male and between the ages of 30 and 49 at release. Over half of those recidivists had a release term MSO of drug sales (25-30%) or drug possession (22-29%). Around 39% to 47% of recidivists had no prior SR terms of incarceration. The proportion of those recidivists who spent some time in a DOC facility versus jail only was relatively consistent each year, ranging from 42% to 54%. More than one-half of recidivists in each cohort did not have any prior history of a violent offense as defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805. Roughly one-quarter of these recidivists scored 'High' on the COMPAS risk of general recidivism scale and 40% or less scored 'Medium' to 'High' on the COMPAS risk of violent recidivism scale. About 14-19% of these recidivists had a known mental health impairment and about 20% tested positive for both opioids and cocaine between the FY2015 and FY2017 cohorts.

SR Releases who Returned with a Drug MSO*						
Number		FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
		454	513	492	512	479
Gender						
	Male	92%	88%	89%	90%	88%
	Female	8%	12%	11%	10%	12%
Release Age						
	Under 30	41%	35%	37%	39%	34%
	30-49	50%	57%	54%	54%	58%
	50-59	8%	8%	8%	6%	7%
	60+	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Most Serious Offense (MSO) at Release						
	Capital Murder, Homicide 1st, Homicide 2nd	<1%	<1%	--	--	1%
	Manslaughter	1%	<1%	1%	--	--
	Abduction	<1%	1%	<1%	1%	<1%
	Rape/Sexual Assault	1%	1%	1%	1%	<1%
	Robbery	6%	5%	4%	6%	4%
	Assault	7%	7%	9%	7%	9%
	Weapons	5%	3%	4%	3%	4%
	Arson	<1%	<1%	1%	--	<1%
	Burglary/B&E	5%	7%	4%	7%	7%
	Larceny/Fraud	16%	16%	18%	20%	22%
	Conspiracy	--	--	--	<1%	--
	Sex Offense**	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	1%
	DUI	1%	1%	<1%	1%	1%
	Habitual Offender	1%	1%	3%	2%	1%
	Other Non-Violent	1%	2%	1%	--	<1%
	Drug Sales	29%	26%	29%	30%	25%
	Drug Possession	26%	29%	25%	22%	25%
	Unknown	--	<1%	--	--	--
Previous SR Incarcerations						
	No Previous SR Terms	46%	39%	46%	47%	42%
	1 Previous SR Term	28%	28%	27%	26%	27%
	2 Previous SR Terms	13%	15%	15%	14%	17%
	3 Previous SR Terms	6%	10%	8%	8%	7%
	4 Previous SR Terms	3%	6%	3%	3%	3%
	5 or more Previous SR Terms	4%	3%	1%	2%	4%
Location History						
	DOC Facility Release	53%	54%	47%	42%	48%
	Jail Only Release	47%	46%	53%	58%	52%
Violent by §17.1-805†						
	No	63%	61%	58%	57%	55%
	Yes	37%	39%	42%	43%	45%
COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism‡						
	Low	10%	8%	9%	7%	7%
	Medium	20%	16%	16%	15%	16%
	High	25%	31%	23%	21%	26%
	Not Reported	45%	45%	52%	56%	51%
COMPAS Risk of Violent Recidivism‡						
	Low	15%	14%	15%	13%	13%
	Medium	20%	20%	17%	17%	19%
	High	20%	20%	16%	14%	18%
	Not Reported	45%	45%	52%	56%	51%
Gang Affiliation at Time of Release						
	No					88%
	Yes					12%
Mental Health Impairment						
	Mental Health Impairment	17%	19%	14%	14%	19%
	No Known Mental Health Impairment	83%	81%	54%	48%	48%
	Not Reported			32%	37%	33%
History of Testing Positive for Opioids and Cocaine***						
	Negative both Opioids and Cocaine			44%	42%	40%
	Positive Only Cocaine			16%	19%	20%
	Positive Only Opioids			22%	18%	18%
	Positive both Opioids and Cocaine			18%	21%	23%
*Information presented here is for the release term of incarceration.						
**Sex offenses are non-violent sex related offenses such as: indecent exposure, failure to register, etc.						
†§17.1-805 outlines the adoption of initial discretionary guideline midpoints.						
‡The last COMPAS assessment prior to release from this release term. Inmates who spent their entire SR term in jail were included in the 'Not Reported' category.						
***Drug test history was examined before release until recidivist date.						

Recidivism Crime Type over Time
VADOC Research - Evaluation Unit, June 2022

Technical Violation Most Serious Recidivist Offense

Technical Violations/Not Reported* Most Serious Recidivist Offense								
Most Serious Offense of Release Term								
Year of Release	% of SR Releases who return with a technical violation	Violent		Property/ Public Order		Drug		Total
		#	%	#	%	#	%	
FY2013	4.4%	177	35%	237	46%	96	19%	510
FY2014	5.9%	243	34%	317	45%	145	21%	705
FY2015	5.7%	216	30%	348	49%	147	21%	711
FY2016	6.6%	268	32%	360	43%	200	24%	828
FY2017	6.0%	238	32%	359	48%	148	20%	745

*If all sentences listed were associated with a revocation or the new crime, not associated with the revocation, was not a felony or had yet to be entered into VirginiaCORIS.

Releases who recidivated due to technical violations only or who had technical violations along with new misdemeanor offenses were analyzed together. The percentage of SR releases who returned with technical violations has increased during the last five years. The FY2013 cohort had the lowest percentage (4.4%) and the FY2016 cohort had the highest percentage (6.6%). The percentage for the FY2017 cohort slightly decreased compared to the FY2016 cohort. Of those who recidivated with a technical violation, the largest percentage had a release term MSO of PPO.

Characteristics of SR releases who returned with a technical violation MSO are shown in the table below. Most technical violation recidivists were male and between the ages of 30 and 49 at release. Across cohorts, the most common release term MSO was larceny/fraud. The largest percentage of technical violation recidivists had no previous SR terms. Over one-half of technical violation recidivists in each year had a prior violent offense as defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805. About one-quarter of these recidivists scored 'High' on the COMPAS risk of general recidivism scale and about 20% scored 'High' on the COMPAS risk of violent recidivism scale. About one-quarter of these recidivists had a known mental health impairment. Less than one-half of recidivists between the FY2015 and FY2017 cohorts tested negative for opioids and/or cocaine and about one-quarter had a history of testing positive for cocaine only.

SR Releases who Returned with a Technical Violation/Not Reported MSO*						
Number		FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
		510	705	711	828	745
Gender						
	Male	91%	89%	89%	90%	89%
	Female	9%	11%	11%	10%	11%
Release Age						
	Under 30	40%	37%	36%	37%	33%
	30-49	48%	50%	54%	52%	55%
	50-59	11%	12%	9%	9%	11%
	60+	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Most Serious Offense (MSO) at Release						
	Capital Murder, Homicide 1st, Homicide 2nd	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%
	Manslaughter	<1%	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Abduction	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%
	Rape/Sexual Assault	10%	8%	6%	8%	8%
	Robbery	10%	9%	8%	9%	9%
	Assault	10%	12%	12%	12%	10%
	Weapons	2%	3%	3%	2%	1%
	Arson	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Burglary/B&E	13%	11%	12%	11%	12%
	Larceny/Fraud	24%	26%	29%	24%	28%
	Conspiracy	<1%	--	--	<1%	--
	Sex Offense**	2%	2%	4%	4%	4%
	DUI	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%
	Habitual Offender	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%
	Other Non-Violent	2%	3%	--	<1%	<1%
	Drug Sales	9%	10%	10%	13%	11%
	Drug Possession	10%	10%	10%	11%	9%
Previous SR Incarcerations						
	No Previous SR Terms	46%	44%	43%	46%	41%
	1 Previous SR Term	25%	30%	28%	24%	28%
	2 Previous SR Terms	14%	13%	15%	14%	15%
	3 Previous SR Terms	9%	8%	8%	8%	8%
	4 Previous SR Terms	3%	3%	3%	5%	5%
	5 or more Previous SR Terms	3%	1%	2%	4%	4%
Location History						
	DOC Facility Release	55%	54%	51%	44%	50%
	Jail Only Release	45%	46%	49%	56%	50%
Violent by §17.1-805†						
	No	42%	45%	41%	40%	36%
	Yes	58%	55%	59%	60%	64%
COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism‡						
	Low	14%	10%	12%	9%	10%
	Medium	18%	19%	17%	16%	18%
	High	25%	26%	23%	21%	24%
	Not Reported	43%	45%	47%	55%	48%
COMPAS Risk of Violent Recidivism‡						
	Low	17%	16%	15%	12%	15%
	Medium	20%	21%	19%	17%	18%
	High	20%	18%	19%	16%	18%
	Not Reported	44%	45%	47%	55%	48%
Gang Affiliation at Time of Release						
	No					87%
	Yes					13%
Mental Health Impairment						
	Mental Health Impairment	24%	23%	23%	22%	25%
	No Known Mental Health Impairment	76%	77%	47%	44%	48%
	Not Reported			30%	33%	28%
History of Testing Positive for Opioids and Cocaine***						
	Negative both Opioids and Cocaine			44%	41%	37%
	Positive Only Cocaine			22%	25%	24%
	Positive Only Opioids			16%	13%	14%
	Positive both Opioids and Cocaine			18%	21%	25%

*Information presented here is for the release term of incarceration.

**Sex offenses are non-violent sex related offenses such as: indecent exposure, failure to register, etc.

†§17.1-805 outlines the adoption of initial discretionary guideline midpoints.

‡The last COMPAS assessment prior to release from this release term. Inmates who spent their entire SR term in jail were included in the 'Not Reported' category.

***Drug test history was examined before release until recidivist date.

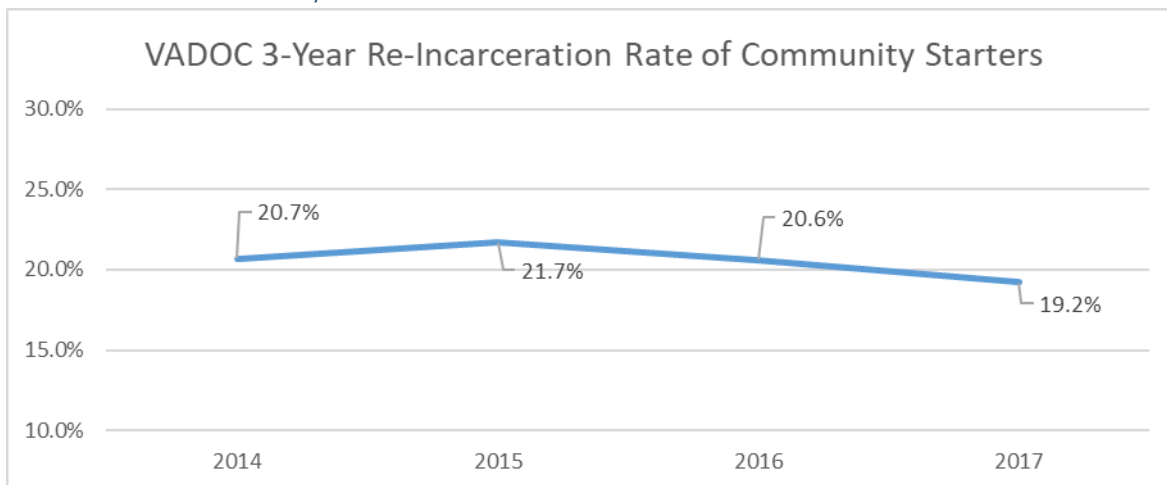
Recidivism Crime Type over Time
VADOC Research - Evaluation Unit, June 2022

Community Supervision Starters

Along with recidivism trends among SR releases, VADOC also tracks the recidivism trends of community starters. Community starters achieved lower recidivism rates than SR releases, with recidivism rates among FY2014 to FY2017 community starters ranging from 19.2% to 21.7% and recidivism rates among FY2013 to FY2017 SR releases ranging from 22.3% to 23.9%.

Data for community starters was consistently examined starting with the FY2013 cohort of supervisees and the methodology was improved and standardized with the FY2014 cohort. In the community recidivism analysis of the FY2016 cohort, the drug test history methodology was modified to track opioid and cocaine testing results data and to examine methamphetamine testing results. In the current report, drug history data for the FY2014 cohort was excluded for consistency in the tables as it employed a different methodology than the subsequent cohorts. Data for known gang affiliation was examined beginning with the FY2017 cohort. A “No Drug Test History” category was added to the methodology beginning with the FY2016 cohort to account for individuals who do not have any history of drug tests in VirginiaCORIS, which may account for the difference in negative test history between the FY2015 and FY2016/FY2017 cohorts.

FY2014-FY2017 Community Starter Recidivism trends



As shown in the chart above, the recidivism rate of community starters between the FY2014 and FY2017 cohorts has remained fairly consistent. Recidivism among community starters is defined as any SR incarceration that occurs after their community start date. For some community recidivists, it will be their first term of incarceration. The following sub-sections breaks down the characteristics and percentage of community starters by crime types resulting in an SR incarceration. While the MSO information of the release term of incarceration is typically available, information about the offense leading to their time on supervision is not

always available. Therefore, supervisees whose offense history is unknown will fall into the category of 'Not Reported'.

Violent Most Serious Recidivist Offense

Violent Most Serious Recidivist Offense										
Most Serious Offense of Community Supervision										
Year of Community Start	% of community starters who return with a violent MSO	Violent		Property/ Public Order		Drug		Not Reported		Total
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
FY2014	3.5%	506	51%	297	30%	100	10%	85	9%	988
FY2015	3.8%	518	51%	350	35%	121	12%	25	2%	1,014
FY2016	3.4%	517	51%	328	32%	142	14%	29	3%	1,016
FY2017	3.4%	614	59%	272	26%	138	13%	21	2%	1,045

The rate of community starters incarcerated with a violent offense remained consistent over the four years analyzed. Between the FY2014 and FY2017 cohorts, the percent of community starters incarcerated for a violent offense was consistently under 4%. At least one-half of those who recidivated with a violent offense also had a violent community supervision MSO.

Community Starters who Returned with a Violent MSO				
	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Number	988	1,014	1,016	1,045
Most Serious Offense (MSO) Recidivist Term				
Capital Murder, Homicide 1st, Homicide 2nd	4%	4%	2%	2%
Manslaughter	2%	1%	1%	1%
Abduction	6%	4%	4%	5%
Rape/Sexual Assault	14%	17%	15%	15%
Robbery	16%	14%	12%	13%
Assault	43%	44%	47%	39%
Weapons	16%	16%	19%	24%

The largest percentage of community starters who returned with a violent MSO within three years of community start returned with an assault MSO (39%-47%).

Characteristics of community starters who recidivated with a violent MSO are shown in the table below. Most of those recidivists were male and under the age of 30 when starting community supervision. The most common supervision MSO was assault, at about one-quarter of all recidivists with violent MSOs across each cohort. Most of those whose recidivating MSO was violent had no previous terms of incarceration or one previous term of incarceration. Roughly 65% of recidivists with violent MSOs in each cohort had a prior violent offense as defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805. Approximately 40% of these recidivists scored 'High' on the COMPAS risk of general recidivism scale and less than 40% scored 'Medium' on the COMPAS

risk of violent recidivism scale. The majority (85%) of recidivists with violent MSOs in the FY2015 cohort tested negative for both opioids and cocaine compared to roughly 60% of recidivists in the FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts. The majority of recidivists with violent MSOs among the FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts were not tested for methamphetamines. Gang affiliation was tracked beginning with the FY2017 cohort. The majority (85%) of recidivists with violent MSOs had no known gang affiliation and 15% of recidivists with violent MSOs had a known gang affiliation.

Community Starters who Returned with a Violent MSO*					
Number		FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
		988	1,014	1,016	1,045
Gender					
	Male	95%	94%	93%	92%
	Female	5%	6%	7%	8%
Age at Community Start Date					
	29 and Younger	50%	50%	49%	47%
	30 to 44	35%	34%	34%	37%
	45 to 54	12%	13%	13%	12%
	55 and Older	3%	3%	4%	3%
Most Serious Offense (MSO) of Supervision					
	Capital Murder, Homicide 1st, Homicide 2nd	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Manslaughter	1%	<1%	1%	1%
	Abduction	3%	2%	2%	4%
	Rape/Sexual Assault	8%	10%	9%	13%
	Robbery	12%	10%	10%	10%
	Assault	22%	23%	25%	25%
	Weapons	6%	5%	5%	6%
	Arson	1%	1%	1%	<1%
	Burglary/B&E	7%	6%	8%	6%
	Larceny/Fraud	15%	19%	16%	15%
	Conspiracy	<1%	<1%	<1%	--
	Sex Offense**	4%	4%	3%	<1%
	DUI	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Habitual Offender	1%	1%	1%	2%
	Other Non-Violent	2%	1%	2%	1%
	Drug Sales	5%	6%	6%	4%
	Drug Possession	5%	6%	8%	9%
	Not Reported	9%	2%	3%	2%
Previous SR Incarcerations					
	No Previous SR Terms	26%	32%	29%	29%
	1 Previous SR Term	35%	32%	35%	35%
	2 Previous SR Terms	18%	19%	18%	19%
	3 Previous SR Terms	21%	17%	17%	17%
Violent by §17.1-805†					
	No	35%	36%	35%	36%
	Yes	65%	64%	65%	64%
COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism†					
	Low	22%	22%	24%	21%
	Medium	34%	35%	32%	36%
	High	42%	40%	41%	40%
	Not Reported	3%	3%	3%	3%
COMPAS Risk of Violent Recidivism†					
	Low	30%	32%	33%	33%
	Medium	38%	37%	34%	36%
	High	29%	28%	31%	28%
	Not Reported	3%	3%	3%	3%
History of Testing Positive for Opioids and Cocaine***					
	No Drug Test History		--	6%	6%
	Negative both Opioids and Cocaine		85%	59%	55%
	Positive Only Opioids		5%	10%	11%
	Positive Only Cocaine		8%	17%	19%
	Positive both Opioids and Cocaine		3%	9%	9%
History of Testing Positive for Methamphetamines					
	No Drug Test History			6%	6%
	Not Tested for Methamphetamines			84%	83%
	Negative Methamphetamines			10%	9%
	Positive Methamphetamines			1%	1%
Known Gang Affiliation					
	No				85%
	Yes				15%

*Information presented here is for community supervision.
**Sex offenses are non-violent sex related offenses such as: indecent exposure, failure to register, etc.
†§17.1-805 outlines the adoption of initial discretionary guideline midpoints that enhances sentence lengths.
‡The first COMPAS assessment after community start date.
***Drug test history was examined before community start date to recidivist date.

Property/Public Order Most Serious Recidivist Offense

Property/Public Order (PPO) Most Serious Recidivist Offense										
Most Serious Offense of Community Supervision										
Year of Community Start	% of community starters who return with a PPO MSO	Violent		Property/ Public Order		Drug		Not Reported		Total
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
FY2014	8.0%	237	11%	1,672	74%	180	8%	167	7%	2,256
FY2015	8.3%	232	10%	1,770	79%	207	9%	38	2%	2,247
FY2016	7.3%	244	11%	1,663	78%	199	9%	36	2%	2,142
FY2017	6.4%	219	11%	1,540	78%	169	9%	40	2%	1,968

The percentage of community starters who were incarcerated with a PPO offense remained consistent between FY2014 and FY2015 cohorts, then decreased among FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts. Among FY2014 and FY2015 cohorts, the percentage was approximately 8.0%. Among the FY2016 cohort, the percentage who were incarcerated with a PPO offense decreased by a full percentage point to 7.3%. Then among the FY2017 cohort, the percentage decreased almost a full percentage point to 6.4%. Of those who recidivated with a PPO offense, the majority had a supervision PPO MSO.

Community Starters who Returned with a Property/Public Order MSO					
		FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Number		2,256	2,247	2,142	1,968
Most Serious Offense (MSO) Recidivist Term					
	Arson	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%
	Burglary/B&E	17%	14%	14%	15%
	Larceny/Fraud	70%	73%	71%	71%
	Conspiracy	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Sex Offense*	1%	1%	1%	1%
	DUI	5%	5%	6%	6%
	Habitual Offender	6%	7%	7%	6%
	Other Non-Violent	1%	1%	1%	1%
*Sex offenses are non-violent sex related offenses such as: indecent exposure, failure to register, etc.					

The majority of community starters, who returned with a PPO MSO, returned with a Larceny/Fraud offense (70%-73%).

Characteristics of community starters who returned with a PPO MSO are shown in the table below. Most PPO recidivists were male and under 45 years old. The most common supervision MSO was larceny/fraud, at about one-half of all PPO recidivists each year. More than half of PPO recidivists had either no previous SR terms of incarceration or one previous SR term of incarceration. Over 60% of PPO recidivists in each cohort did not have a prior violent offense as

defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805. Around 40% scored 'High' on the COMPAS risk of general recidivism scale and just over 40% scored 'Low' on the COMPAS risk of violent recidivism scale. Just under one-half of PPO recidivists tested negative for both opioids and cocaine within the FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts. The majority PPO recidivists among the FY2015 cohort tested negative for opioids and cocaine. The majority of PPO recidivists in the FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts were not tested for methamphetamines. Gang affiliation was only tracked starting with the FY2017 cohort. Over 90% of PPO recidivists within the FY2017 cohort had no known gang affiliation.

Community Starters who Returned with a Property/Public Order MSO*					
Number		FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
		2,256	2,247	2,142	1,968
Gender					
	Male	81%	81%	80%	80%
	Female	19%	19%	20%	20%
Age at Community Start Date					
	29 and Younger	40%	38%	37%	37%
	30 to 44	40%	42%	42%	44%
	45 to 54	16%	15%	16%	14%
	55 and Older	4%	4%	5%	5%
Most Serious Offense (MSO) of Supervision					
	Capital Murder, Homicide 1st, Homicide 2nd	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Manslaughter	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Abduction	<1%	<1%	1%	1%
	Rape/Sexual Assault	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Robbery	3%	3%	3%	2%
	Assault	5%	5%	5%	6%
	Weapons	1%	1%	2%	1%
	Arson	1%	1%	<1%	<1%
	Burglary/B&E	16%	15%	15%	16%
	Larceny/Fraud	48%	54%	52%	54%
	Conspiracy	<1%	--	<1%	--
	Sex Offense**	1%	1%	1%	1%
	DUI	3%	3%	4%	4%
	Habitual Offender	3%	3%	3%	2%
	Other Non-Violent	4%	3%	2%	2%
	Drug Sales	3%	3%	4%	3%
	Drug Possession	5%	6%	6%	5%
	Not Reported	7%	2%	2%	2%
Previous SR Incarcerations					
	No Previous SR Terms	27%	35%	33%	36%
	1 Previous SR Term	33%	26%	28%	26%
	2 Previous SR Terms	18%	17%	17%	15%
	3 Previous SR Terms	23%	21%	22%	23%
Violent by §17.1-805†					
	No	62%	64%	62%	64%
	Yes	38%	36%	38%	36%
COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism†					
	Low	19%	18%	17%	19%
	Medium	34%	33%	36%	32%
	High	42%	44%	43%	45%
	Not Reported	5%	5%	5%	4%
COMPAS Risk of Violent Recidivism†					
	Low	43%	41%	43%	42%
	Medium	32%	33%	31%	33%
	High	20%	21%	21%	21%
	Not Reported	5%	5%	5%	4%
History of Testing Positive for Opioids and Cocaine***					
	No Drug Test History		--	9%	9%
	Negative both Opioids and Cocaine		77%	44%	42%
	Positive Only Opioids		10%	15%	17%
	Positive Only Cocaine		8%	17%	17%
	Positive both Opioids and Cocaine		5%	16%	16%
History of Testing Positive for Methamphetamines					
	No Drug Test History			9%	9%
	Not Tested for Methamphetamines			79%	78%
	Negative Methamphetamines			11%	11%
	Positive Methamphetamines			1%	2%
Known Gang Affiliation					
	No				94%
	Yes				6%
*Information presented here is for community supervision.					
**Sex offenses are non-violent sex related offenses such as: indecent exposure, failure to register, etc.					
†§17.1-805 outlines the adoption of initial discretionary guideline midpoints that enhances sentence lengths.					
‡The first COMPAS assessment after community start date.					
***Drug test history was examined before community start date to recidivist date.					

Drug Most Serious Recidivist Offense

Drug Most Serious Recidivist Offense										
Most Serious Offense of Community Supervision										
Year of Community Start	% of community starters who return with a drug MSO	Violent		Property/ Public Order		Drug		Not Reported		Total
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
FY2014	3.9%	137	13%	324	30%	521	48%	102	9%	1,084
FY2015	3.8%	152	15%	319	31%	521	51%	28	3%	1,020
FY2016	3.9%	158	14%	342	30%	607	53%	30	3%	1,137
FY2017	3.9%	162	14%	358	30%	635	54%	28	2%	1,183

The percentage of community starters who were incarcerated during the follow-up period with a drug offense was consistently under 4% across all four cohorts. Of those that recidivated with a drug offense, about one-half had a previous drug offense and about one-third had a previous PPO offense.

Community Starters who Returned with a Drug MSO				
	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Number	1,084	1,020	1,137	1,183
Most Serious Offense (MSO) Recidivist Term				
Drug Sales	49%	49%	46%	39%
Drug Possession	51%	51%	54%	61%

The largest percentage of community starters who returned with a drug MSO, returned with a drug possession offense (51%-61%).

Characteristics of community starters who recidivated with a drug MSO are shown in the table below. Most drug recidivists were male. The proportion of drug recidivists under the age of 29 and drug recidivists between 30 and 44 years old was almost identical. Approximately half of drug recidivists had either a drug possession (26-32%) or sales (21-25%) supervision MSO. The proportion of drug recidivists with no previous SR term history steadily increased over the four cohorts while the proportion of recidivists with one previous SR term steadily decreased. Approximately three-quarters of drug recidivists in each year did not have a prior violent offense as defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805. Slightly under one-half of these recidivists scored 'High' on the COMPAS risk of general recidivism scale and just over 40% scored 'Low' on the COMPAS risk of violent recidivism scale. The proportion of drug recidivists in the FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts with positive opioid and/or cocaine drug test history is almost double the proportion of drug recidivists with positive history in the FY2015 cohort. Slightly more than one-half of drug recidivists tested positive for opioids and/or cocaine in both the FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts. The majority drug recidivists within the FY2015 cohort tested negative for opioids and cocaine. The majority of drug recidivists within the FY2016 and F20Y17 cohorts was not tested for methamphetamines. Of those that were tested for methamphetamines, 2-3% tested positive. Over 90% of drug recidivists within the FY2017 cohort had no known gang affiliation.

Community Starters who Returned with a Drug MSO*				
Number	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
	1,084	1,020	1,137	1,183
Gender				
Male	84%	83%	83%	78%
Female	16%	17%	17%	22%
Age at Community Start Date				
29 and Younger	44%	43%	44%	40%
30 to 44	43%	44%	45%	48%
45 to 54	10%	11%	10%	10%
55 and Older	3%	3%	2%	3%
Most Serious Offense (MSO) of Supervision				
Capital Murder, Homicide 1st, Homicide 2nd	<1%	--	--	<1%
Manslaughter	<1%	<1%	--	<1%
Abduction	1%	<1%	1%	<1%
Rape/Sexual Assault	1%	<1%	1%	1%
Robbery	3%	3%	4%	3%
Assault	6%	8%	6%	6%
Weapons	2%	3%	3%	3%
Arson	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Burglary/B&E	1%	5%	4%	6%
Larceny/Fraud	16%	18%	18%	20%
Conspiracy	<1%	--	<1%	--
Sex Offense**	<1%	<1%	1%	--
DUI	1%	<1%	1%	1%
Habitual Offender	3%	3%	1%	1%
Other Non-Violent	6%	4%	4%	3%
Drug Sales	22%	25%	24%	21%
Drug Possession	26%	27%	29%	32%
Not Reported	9%	3%	3%	2%
Previous SR Incarcerations				
No Previous SR Terms	29%	37%	41%	44%
1 Previous SR Term	31%	32%	29%	26%
2 Previous SR Terms	18%	16%	15%	15%
3 Previous SR Terms	21%	15%	15%	15%
Violent by §17.1-805†				
No	74%	72%	71%	73%
Yes	22%	28%	29%	27%
COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism‡				
Low	15%	18%	17%	17%
Medium	35%	33%	36%	32%
High	47%	47%	44%	48%
Not Reported	3%	2%	3%	3%
COMPAS Risk of Violent Recidivism‡				
Low	44%	43%	45%	46%
Medium	31%	34%	32%	31%
High	22%	21%	19%	20%
Not Reported	3%	2%	3%	3%
History of Testing Positive for Opioids and Cocaine***				
No Drug Test History		--	6%	6%
Negative both Opioids and Cocaine		73%	38%	39%
Positive Only Opioids		12%	21%	19%
Positive Only Cocaine		8%	15%	14%
Positive both Opioids and Cocaine		7%	21%	21%
History of Testing Positive for Methamphetamines				
No Drug Test History			6%	6%
Not Tested for Methamphetamines			81%	76%
Negative Methamphetamines			11%	14%
Positive Methamphetamines			2%	3%
Known Gang Affiliation				
No				94%
Yes				6%

*Information presented here is for community supervision.
**Sex offenses are non-violent sex related offenses such as: indecent exposure, failure to register, etc.
†§17.1-805 outlines the adoption of initial discretionary guideline midpoints that enhances sentence lengths.
‡The first COMPAS assessment after community start date.
***Drug test history was examined before community start date to recidivist date.

Technical Violation Most Serious Recidivist Offense

Technical Violations/Not Reported* Most Serious Recidivist Offense										
Most Serious Offense of Community Supervision										
Year of Community Start	% of community starters who return with a technical violation	Violent		Property/ Public Order		Drug		Not Reported		Total
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
FY2014	5.3%	382	25%	745	50%	289	19%	84	6%	1,500
FY2015	5.8%	395	25%	824	52%	327	21%	25	2%	1,571
FY2016	6.0%	478	27%	875	49%	404	23%	15	1%	1,772
FY2017	5.5%	510	30%	759	45%	400	24%	19	1%	1,688

*If all sentences listed were associated with a revocation or the new crime not associated with a revocation was not a felony or had yet to be entered into VirginiaCORIS.

The percentage of community starters who were incarcerated with a technical violation offense remained consistent over all four cohorts at 5-6%. Of those that recidivated with a technical violation offense, about one-half had a supervision PPO offense and about one-quarter had a drug or violent offense.

Characteristics of community starters who returned with a technical violation MSO are shown in the table below. Most technical violation recidivists were male and under the age of 45. The most common supervision MSO was larceny/fraud at around 30% of technical violation recidivists each year. Their criminal history followed a relatively consistent pattern with about one-half to two-thirds having no previous SR terms or one previous SR term. Over one-half of technical violation recidivists in each year did not have a prior violent offense as defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805. Slightly under one-half of these recidivists scored 'High' on the COMPAS risk of general recidivism scale and almost 40% scored 'Low' on the COMPAS risk of violent recidivism scale. The proportion of technical violation recidivists in the FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts with a positive opioid and cocaine drug test history is much higher the proportion of technical violation recidivists with a positive history in the FY2015 cohort (20-21% and 6%, respectively). Slightly more than one-half of technical violation recidivists tested positive for opioids and/or cocaine in both the FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts. The majority of FY2015 technical violation recidivists tested negative for opioids and cocaine. The majority of technical violation recidivists in the FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts were not tested for methamphetamines. The majority (91%) of technical violation recidivists within the FY2017 cohort had no known gang affiliation, but almost 10% did have a known gang affiliation.

Community Starters who Returned with a Technical Violation/Not Reported MSO*				
Number	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
	1,500	1,571	1,772	1,688
Gender				
Male	82%	83%	83%	83%
Female	18%	17%	17%	17%
Age at Community Start Date				
29 and Younger	42%	41%	40%	39%
30 to 44	40%	42%	41%	44%
45 to 54	14%	15%	15%	13%
55 and Older	5%	3%	3%	4%
Most Serious Offense (MSO) of Supervision				
Capital Murder, Homicide 1st, Homicide 2nd	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Manslaughter	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Abduction	1%	1%	1%	1%
Rape/Sexual Assault	5%	5%	5%	7%
Robbery	6%	6%	6%	7%
Assault	11%	10%	11%	12%
Weapons	2%	2%	2%	3%
Arson	<1%	1%	1%	<1%
Burglary/B&E	10%	11%	10%	10%
Larceny/Fraud	29%	30%	30%	27%
Conspiracy	<1%	<1%	--	<1%
Sex Offense**	2%	3%	3%	1%
DUI	2%	1%	2%	1%
Habitual Offender	2%	1%	1%	2%
Other Non-Violent	4%	5%	3%	3%
Drug Sales	9%	9%	10%	10%
Drug Possession	11%	12%	13%	14%
Not Reported	6%	2%	1%	1%
Previous SR Incarcerations				
No Previous SR Terms	25%	33%	32%	33%
1 Previous SR Term	31%	32%	34%	33%
2 Previous SR Terms	22%	18%	16%	17%
3 Previous SR Terms	22%	17%	17%	18%
Violent by §17.1-805†				
No	56%	55%	54%	54%
Yes	44%	45%	46%	46%
COMPAS Risk of General Recidivism†				
Low	19%	20%	18%	19%
Medium	33%	31%	33%	32%
High	41%	41%	40%	41%
Not Reported	7%	8%	8%	8%
COMPAS Risk of Violent Recidivism†				
Low	39%	38%	37%	39%
Medium	31%	31%	33%	31%
High	23%	23%	21%	22%
Not Reported	7%	8%	8%	8%
History of Testing Positive for Opioids and Cocaine***				
No Drug Test History		--	7%	7%
Negative both Opioids and Cocaine		75%	38%	37%
Positive Only Opioids		9%	14%	15%
Positive Only Cocaine		10%	20%	21%
Positive both Opioids and Cocaine		6%	20%	21%
History of Testing Positive for Methamphetamines				
No Drug Test History			7%	7%
Not Tested for Methamphetamines			77%	77%
Negative Methamphetamines			13%	12%
Positive Methamphetamines			3%	4%
Known Gang Affiliation				
No				91%
Yes				9%

*Information presented here is for community supervision.
**Sex offenses are non-violent sex related offenses such as: indecent exposure, failure to register, etc.
†§17.1-805 outlines the adoption of initial discretionary guideline midpoints that enhances sentence lengths.
‡The first COMPAS assessment after community start date.
***Drug test history was examined before community start date to recidivist date.

Summary and Conclusions

There are consistent patterns in proportions and offense types of community starters and released inmates committed to return to DOC custody over the last four and five fiscal years, respectively. For community starters and released inmates, the largest percentage of recidivists commit a PPO offense followed by technical violations. Less than 5% of SR releases and 4% of community starters committed a violent offense during the follow-up period. One-half of recidivists who committed a violent offense were on supervision for a violent offense or were released with a violent MSO.

There are also clear and consistent patterns when looking at characteristics of released inmates and community starters that commit each offense type. The largest proportion, both of community starters and released inmates, who committed violent offenses had a previous MSO of assault, had a violent offense as defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805, and scored 'Medium' or 'High' on the COMPAS general and violent risk of recidivism scales. The largest proportion of recidivists who committed PPO offenses during the follow-up period had a previous MSO of larceny/fraud and scored 'Medium' or 'High' on the COMPAS general risk of recidivism scale. Over one-half of those who returned with a drug offense had a prior MSO of drug possession or sales, no violent offense history as defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805, and had a history of testing positive for opioids, cocaine, or both. Of those who returned with a technical violation, the largest proportion had a prior MSO of larceny/fraud, slightly less than one-half had a violent offense as defined by Virginia Code §17.1-805, approximately 30% scored 'Medium' or 'High' (40%) on the COMPAS general risk of recidivism scale, and about 20% scored 'High' on the COMPAS risk of violent recidivism scale and tested positive for both opioids and cocaine¹.

¹ The rates for the FY2016 and FY2017 cohorts were not comparable to the FY2015 cohort due to a change in methodology beginning with the FY2016 cohort.