



Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010

**Supplemental Tables: Most serious commitment
offense and types of post-release arrest charges
of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005**

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HIGHLIGHTS

- These tables supplement the estimates in tables 5 and 10 of *Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010* (NCJ 244205, BJS web, April 2014) with more detailed offense categories. Offense definitions and additional details about the methodology can be found in the full report.
- Among the 404,638 prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, 31.8% were in prison for a drug offense, 29.8% for a property offense, 25.7% for a violent offense, and 12.7% for a public order offense (table 1).
- Among released prisoners, 1.9% were in prison for homicide (including murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, or negligent manslaughter), and 5.0% were in prison for rape or sexual assault.
- Overall, an estimated 76.6% of the 404,638 state prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 were arrested for a new crime within 5 years of release (table 2).

TABLE 1

Most serious commitment offense of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005

Most serious commitment offense	Prisoners released in 30 states in 2005	
	Number	Percent
All released prisoners	404,638	100%
Violent	103,971	25.7%
Homicide	7,621	1.9
Rape/sexual assault	20,422	5.0
Robbery	28,900	7.1
Assault	38,756	9.6
Other	8,272	2.0
Property	120,508	29.8%
Burglary	45,771	11.3
Larceny/motor vehicle theft	41,569	10.3
Fraud/forgery	19,343	4.8
Other	13,826	3.4
Drug	128,767	31.8%
Public order*	51,393	12.7%

Note: See appendix table 1 for standard errors.

*Includes 0.8% of cases in which the prisoner's most serious offense was unspecified.

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

TABLE 2

Recidivism of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense and types of post-release arrest charges

Most serious commitment offense	Percent of released prisoners arrested within 5 years for—											
	Any offense	Violent offense					Property offense					
		Total ^a	Homicide	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Assault	Total ^b	Burglary	Larceny/motor vehicle theft	Fraud/forgery	Drug offense	Public order
All released prisoners	76.6%	28.6%	0.9%	1.7%	5.5%	23.0%	38.4%	10.1%	21.3%	11.9%	38.8%	58.0%
Violent^a	71.3%	33.1%	1.1%	2.6%	7.0%	26.5%	29.7%	6.7%	14.6%	8.7%	28.2%	55.3%
Homicide	51.2	21.7	2.1	1.3	3.0	17.4	17.0	3.8	7.3	4.5	19.9	36.4
Rape/sexual assault	60.1	21.4	0.2	5.6	2.8	15.5	17.9	3.4	7.2	6.0	13.0	51.4
Robbery	77.0	35.8	1.0	2.5	13.1	25.7	37.3	9.0	21.9	10.7	36.7	56.3
Assault	77.1	39.3	1.1	1.6	5.9	34.4	32.4	7.4	14.6	9.1	32.5	59.8
Property^b	82.1%	28.5%	0.8%	1.6%	6.5%	22.2%	54.0%	18.1%	34.5%	18.2%	38.5%	61.9%
Burglary	81.8	30.1	0.7	1.8	6.1	24.0	52.3	23.2	30.8	13.3	37.1	59.6
Larceny/motor vehicle theft	84.1	29.4	0.9	1.4	8.2	22.1	56.9	15.8	41.4	18.6	41.9	67.1
Fraud/forgery	77.0	20.2	0.5	1.0	3.4	15.9	52.0	11.0	30.6	29.7	32.7	54.7
Drug	76.9%	24.8%	0.8%	1.0%	3.9%	20.5%	33.1%	6.5%	16.1%	10.0%	51.2%	56.1%
Public order^c	73.6%	29.2%	0.8%	1.7%	4.4%	24.3%	32.7%	7.2%	17.1%	8.9%	30.0%	59.6%

Note: The numerator for each percent is the number of persons arrested for a charge during the 5-year follow-up period, and the denominator is the number released for each type of commitment offense. Inmates could have been in prison for more than one offense; the most serious one is reported in this table. Detail may not sum to total because a person may be arrested more than once and each arrest may involve more than one charge. When information on the arrest charge was missing in the criminal history records, the court disposition data were used to describe the charge. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

^aIncludes other miscellaneous violent offenses, not shown separately.

^bIncludes other miscellaneous property offenses, not shown separately.

^cIncludes 0.8% of cases in which the prisoner's most serious offense was unspecified.

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

HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

- Among the 103,971 prisoners released for a violent offense in 30 states in 2005, 71.3% were arrested for any type of crime within 5 years.
- An estimated 60.1% of prisoners released for rape or sexual assault in 30 states in 2005 were arrested for any type of crime within 5 years of release.
- Compared to inmates incarcerated for a property (28.5%), drug (24.8%), or public order offense (29.2%), a higher percentage of inmates incarcerated for a violent offense were arrested for another violent crime (33.1%) during the 5-year period.
- A higher percentage of released property offenders were arrested for a property crime (54.0%) than violent (29.7%), drug (33.1%), or public order (32.7%) offenders.
- While these statistics suggest that there was some specialization in the offending behaviors of released inmates, the recidivism patterns also show that released inmates were involved in a wide range of law-violating behaviors.
- Among prisoners released for rape or sexual assault in 30 states in 2005, an estimated 5.6% were arrested for rape or sexual assault within 5 years of release.
- Within 5 years of release, an estimated 17.9% of prisoners released for rape or sexual assault were arrested for a property offense, and 13.0% were arrested for a drug offense.
- During the 5-year follow-up period, the majority (51.4%) of prisoners released for rape or sexual assault were arrested for a public order offense.
- Among prisoners released for assault in 30 states in 2005, an estimated 34.4% were arrested for assault within 5 years of release.
- Within 5 years of release, an estimated 32.4% of prisoners released for assault were arrested for a property offense, and 32.5% were arrested for a drug offense.
- An estimated 23.2% of prisoners released for burglary in 30 states in 2005 were arrested for burglary during the 5-year follow-up period.
- Among prisoners released for burglary in 30 states in 2005, an estimated 30.1% were arrested for a violent offense, and 37.1% were arrested for a drug offense.
- Given the changes in the characteristics of the U.S. prison population, an increase in the number of states participating in the study, and improvements made to the nation's criminal history records since the mid-1990s, direct comparisons of the recidivism estimates from the study on prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 should not be compared to those from the 1983 and 1994 BJS prisoner recidivism studies. In addition, this study employed a 5-year follow-up period, 2 years longer than found in the previous BJS recidivism studies.

APPENDIX TABLE 1

Standard errors for table 1: Most serious commitment offense of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005

Most serious commitment offense	Prisoners released in 30 states in 2005	
	Number	Percent
Violent	1,056.57	0.26%
Homicide	0.95	0.00
Rape/sexual assault	538.97	0.13
Robbery	593.43	0.15
Assault	782.93	0.19
Other	360.95	0.09
Property	1,112.92	0.28%
Burglary	759.73	0.19
Larceny/motor vehicle theft	807.16	0.20
Fraud/forgery	429.68	0.11
Other	439.28	0.11
Drug	1,120.16	0.28%
Public order	741.85	0.18%

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

APPENDIX TABLE 2

Standard errors for table 2: Recidivism of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005, by most serious commitment offense and types of post-release arrest charges

Most serious commitment offense	Percent of released prisoners arrested within 5 years for—											
	Any offense	Violent offense					Property offense					
		Total	Homicide	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Assault	Total	Burglary	Larceny/motor vehicle theft	Fraud/forgery	Drug offense	Public order
All released prisoners	0.23%	0.27%	0.06%	0.08%	0.15%	0.25%	0.29%	0.19%	0.24%	0.20%	0.29%	0.27%
Violent	0.50%	0.57%	0.12%	0.19%	0.32%	0.53%	0.55%	0.29%	0.41%	0.36%	0.56%	0.57%
Homicide	0.06	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.06
Rape/sexual assault	1.30	1.16	0.06	0.63	0.53	1.03	1.09	0.51	0.69	0.68	0.97	1.35
Robbery	0.85	1.01	0.15	0.39	0.71	0.92	1.02	0.57	0.86	0.66	1.05	1.03
Assault	0.84	1.06	0.20	0.23	0.54	1.03	1.00	0.54	0.72	0.66	1.05	1.01
Property	0.39%	0.50%	0.11%	0.13%	0.30%	0.45%	0.56%	0.44%	0.53%	0.43%	0.56%	0.51%
Burglary	0.64	0.80	0.16	0.20	0.44	0.73	0.88	0.74	0.81	0.61	0.88	0.84
Larceny/motor vehicle theft	0.71	0.95	0.23	0.25	0.62	0.85	1.04	0.81	1.03	0.82	1.05	0.91
Fraud/forgery	0.87	0.89	0.12	0.32	0.38	0.79	1.13	0.82	1.05	1.06	1.15	1.11
Drug	0.41%	0.47%	0.11%	0.11%	0.23%	0.43%	0.51%	0.29%	0.40%	0.34%	0.53%	0.50%
Public order	0.64%	0.71%	0.14%	0.16%	0.35%	0.66%	0.73%	0.39%	0.58%	0.43%	0.73%	0.72%

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