

OPM - Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division

Brief: Recidivism, 2018-release cohort

Highlights

- OPM's Criminal Justice Policy and Planning February 2022 Recidivism Report analyzes the three-year cumulative return-to-correctional-facilities rate of the 2018 cohort.
- The 2022 recidivism report compares the return rate of the 2018 cohort to the 2015 and 2017 cohorts included in the previous year's report.
- The 2018 cohort's three-year return rate was 6 percentage points lower than the 2015 cohort's 50% benchmark and 5 percentage points lower than the 2017 cohort's 49% return rate.

This brief was produced by the Research Unit in the Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division at:

The Connecticut Office of Policy and Management
 450 Capitol Avenue
 Hartford CT, 06106

The **full report will be presented** to the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission in March 2022.

This report and others are available for download on the OPM CJPPD website:

<https://portal.ct.gov/OPM/CJ-About/CJ-SAC/SAC-Sites/SAC-Homepage>. Please submit questions and comments to:

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Recidivism Rates: 2015, 2017, & 2018 cohorts

The OPM Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division (OPM CJPPD) is required by statute to produce annual reports on recidivism among Connecticut's correction population. For the 2022 analysis, OPM CJPPD presents a comparative study of recidivism for sentenced individuals discharged or released from Connecticut DOC facilities in 2018. This report examines rates of returns-to-correctional facilities for any reason over a 36-month period among sentenced prisoners released or discharged in calendar year 2018 and compares them with 2015 and 2017 release cohorts.

Recidivism rates commonly use at least one of four measures: 1) new arrests 2) new convictions 3) returns-to-prison for any reason, and 4) returns-to-prison to begin a new prison sentence. In keeping with prior reports, this year's report again utilizes returns for any reason. Subsequent references to "recidivism" will refer to the rate at which sentenced people released are readmitted to a Connecticut correctional facility within a designated number of months. Connecticut is one of six states to have a unified correction system, in which prisons and jails are both state-administered and both pretrial detainees and sentenced prisoners comprise the correction population. Therefore, a return to a Connecticut correctional facility for any reason provides a meaningful indicator of when an individual returned from the community, whether remanded, held for pretrial, or serving a new sentence.

Chart 1: Cumulative returns over time; 2015, 2017, & 2018 cohorts

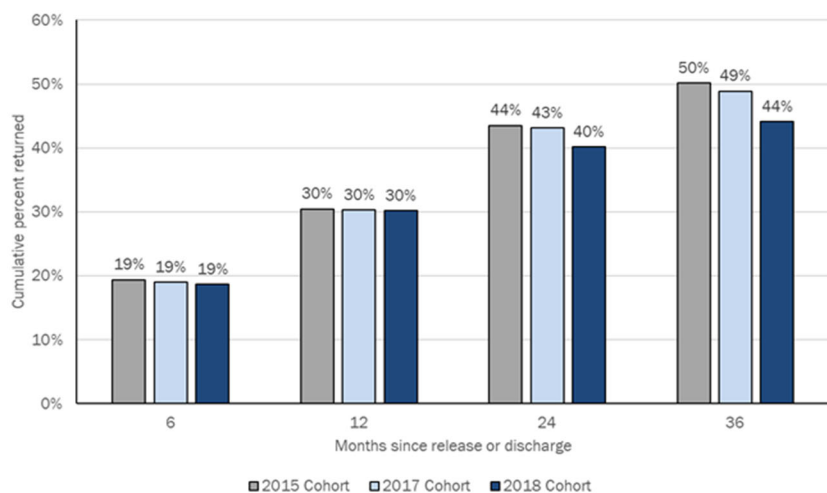


Chart 1 presents the cumulative percentage of individuals returned at six, twelve, 24, and 36 months compared across three different release cohorts: 2015, 2017, & 2018. While six and twelve month return rates are similar across all cohorts, return rates among the 2018 cohort are notably lower by years two and three following release.