

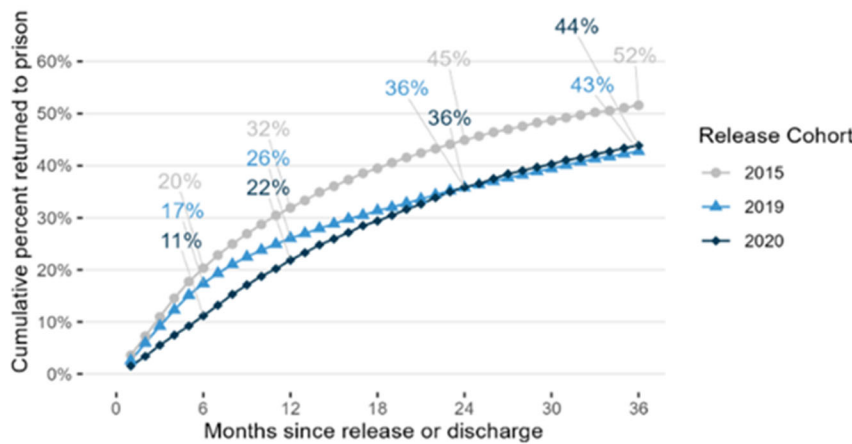
# BRIEF: 2024 Recidivism Study

## 2020 Release Cohort

### Recidivism Study of the 2020 Release Cohort

Per statute, the OPM Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division (OPM CJPPD) produces annual reports on *recidivism*, i.e. a relapse into criminal behavior, among individuals released or discharged from Connecticut’s correctional facilities.

Cumulative percent returned to DOC within 3 years;  
 2015, 2019, & 2020 release cohorts



For 2024, OPM CJPPD studied sentenced individuals released or discharged from Department of Correction (DOC) facilities during 2020. The chart above presents the cumulative percentage of individuals returned to DOC facilities for any reason over three years (36 months) following release or discharge, and compares the 2020 cohort to the 2015 & 2019 cohorts. Given Connecticut’s unified correction system, we report the rate of return to DOC for any reason for its utility in long-range system and facility planning. Additional recidivism measures, including 1) rearrest, 2) re-conviction and 3) returns to DOC to serve an incarceration sentence, will be presented to the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission in **Spring 2024**.

*This brief was produced by the Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division Research Unit of:*

**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 **Spring 2024**.*

*This brief and other reports are available for download on the [OPM CJPPD website](#).*

### Key Changes in Study Population

	2015	2020	Percent Change 2015-2020
DOC Population July 1	16,025	9,946	-37.9%
<b>Release/Discharged Recidivism Study population</b>			
Sentenced	11,332	6,673	-41.1%
Male	10,098	5,995	-40.6%
Female	1,294	677	-47.7%
Age 25 or younger	2,214	923	-58.3%

### 2024 Study: Key Findings

- The number of sentenced individuals in the study’s 2020 release cohort **declined 41%** compared to the number in the 2015 cohort, and shrank **27%** compared to 2019’s cohort.
- **44%** of individuals in the 2020 release cohort returned to a DOC facility within three years, **8% lower** than the 2015 benchmark (52%), but similar to the 2019 three-year rate (43%).
- The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted the 2020 cohort’s return rates, especially in the first year following release. **11%** returned to the DOC within six months, and just **22%** within one year, **10% lower** than the 2015’s 32% rate.
- **42%** total of those discharging their sentence with Risk Reduction Earned Credits (RREC) in 2020 returned to prison within three years. Though slightly lower than the 2020 cohort’s overall three-year rate (44%), this difference is statistically insignificant.

