

SCSL Digital Collections

SCDC FAQs

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South Carolina Department of Corrections Recidivism Rates of Inmates Released during FY 2018 - FY 2020			
	Year of Release		
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Total Number of Releases	8,585	7,519	7,445
Percentage of Releasees who Returned to SCDC:	Recidivism Rate by Year of Release		
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Within One Year or Less	5.7%	5.8%	3.5%
Within Two Years or Less	14.8%	12.1%	10.5%
Within Three Years or Less	19.4%	17.8%	17.1%
Within Four Years or Less	23.4%	23.2%	n/a
Within Five Years or Less	27.2%	n/a	n/a
Comparison of 3-Year Recidivism Rates by Inmate Attributes			
Attributes	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Overall Rate	19.4%	17.8%	17.1%
Gender			
Males	20.1%	18.9%	18.4%
Females	14.3%	10.2%	9.2%
Type of Release			
Maxout (Expiration of Sentence)	15.2%	13.6%	13.2%
Parole	18.5%	16.6%	17.0%
Probation	29.7%	24.1%	24.7%
Community Supervision	8.9%	9.5%	8.6%
Supervised Reentry	19.4%	18.1%	15.0%
Youthful Offender Act* - Parole	32.8%	25.2%	24.7%
Youthful Offender Act* - Maxout	16.7%	15.1%	18.5%
Youthful Offender Act* - Intensive Supervision Parole	28.1%	35.0%	35.0%
Age at Release			
Under 25 Years	27.1%	27.5%	28.5%
25-30 Years	19.8%	17.2%	18.3%
31-40 Years	18.8%	17.5%	15.0%
Over 40 Years	15.8%	13.5%	13.8%
Program Participation			
Pre-Release	17.4%	14.3%	13.4%
Work Program	15.8%	14.6%	14.8%
Labor Crew	16.8%	15.3%	13.5%
Labor Crew/Work Program	16.8%	15.4%	13.5%
Pison Industry	10.4%	9.1%	10.3%
GED Earned in SCDC Education Program	12.8%	13.4%	15.3%
Sentence Type			
Youthful Offender Act*	27.2%	30.2%	31.4%
Straight-time	18.6%	16.4%	15.7%
Mental Health Classification at time of release			
Mentally Ill	20.3%	18.7%	17.6%
Non-Mentally Ill	19.2%	17.5%	17.0%

* Youthful Offender Act (YOA) inmates serve an indeterminate sentence of 1 to 6 years. *Intensive Supervision Parole* releases began in FY13, this parole program includes "first time" youthful offenders who undergo intensive programs/oversight while institutionalized and while on parole supervision.

South Carolina Department of Corrections Profile of Inmates in Institutional Count (Including Inmates on Authorized Absence) as of June 30, 2023			
Characteristics	Male Population	Female Population	Total Population
TOTAL Inmates Population	14,819	1,178	15,997
Current Age			
Average Current Age	41.1	39.7	41.0
21 & Under	331 (2%)	17 (2%)	348 (2%)
22-25	1,072 (7%)	64 (6%)	1,136 (7%)
26-35	4,242 (30%)	396 (33%)	4,638 (30%)
36-55	6,939 (46%)	583 (48%)	7,522 (46%)
56 and Over	2,235 (15%)	118 (11%)	2,353 (14%)
Average Age at Admission	33.3	35.0	33.4
Race			
Black	8,996 (61%)	310 (27%)	9,306 (58%)
White	5,382 (36%)	835 (70%)	6,217 (39%)
Other	441 (3%)	33 (3%)	474 (3%)
Citizenship			
Aliens	304 (2%)	11 (1%)	315 (2%)
Citizens	14,510 (97%)	1,152 (96%)	15,662 (97%)
Sentencing Data/Criminal History			
Admission Type:			
New	12,476 (84%)	1,067 (91%)	13,543 (85%)
Revocator	2,130 (14%)	106 (9%)	2,236 (14%)
Other	213 (1%)	5 (0%)	218 (1%)
With Current Violent Offense	11,447 (77%)	711 (60%)	12,158 (76%)
With Prior Criminal History	8,369 (56%)	409 (35%)	8,778 (55%)
With Prior Commitments	5,125 (35%)	179 (15%)	5,304 (33%)
Average Sentence Length in Years 1	16.7	11.8	16.3
Average Time to Serve before Maxout 2	7.0	5.0	6.8
Sentences One Year or Less (excl. YOA)	179 (1%)	43 (4%)	222 (1%)
Sentences More than 20 years (excl. lifers)	3,503 (24%)	170 (14%)	3,673 (23%)
With Life Sentence	1,909 (13%)	71 (6%)	1,980 (12%)
With YOA/Juvenile Sentence	298 (2%)	22 (2%)	320 (2%)
On Death Row	34 (0%)	0 (0%)	34 (0%)
Non-Parolable (includes TIS inmates)	9,920 (67%)	621 (53%)	10,541 (66%)
TIS Sentences	9,688 (65%)	618 (52%)	10,306 (64%)
Special Needs			
With Children 3	9,899 (67%)	898 (76%)	10,797 (67%)
With Convicted Disciplinaries in Last 12 Months	5,170 (35%)	401 (34%)	5,571 (35%)
With Victim Witness Indicator	10,517 (71%)	636 (54%)	11,153 (70%)
Sex Registry	2,676 (18%)	35 (3%)	2,711 (17%)
Required DNA Testing	14,681 (99%)	1,148 (97%)	15,829 (99%)
Chemical Dependent per SASSI/TCUDDS 4	4,282 (29%)	521 (44%)	4,803 (30%)
Education/Work			
Average Education Level at Intake	10.6	10.6	10.6
Without HS/GED	8,136 (55%)	615 (52%)	8,751 (55%)
Leading Most Serious Offense 5			
Homicide	27%	Drug Offenses	32%
Drug Offenses	18%	Homicide	24%
Robbery	10%	Traffic Offens	6%
Burglary	10%	Robbery	6%
Sexual Assault	10%	Burglary	5%
		Sexual Assault	9%
Top Five Committing Counties			
Greenville	9%	Greenville	10%
Spartanburg	9%	Spartanburg	10%
Richland	7%	York	10%
Charleston	7%	Horry	6%
Horry	6%	Lexington	6%
Mental Health Classification			
No Mental Health Problem	10,384 (70%)	292 (25%)	10,676 (67%)
Developmentally Disabled	13 (0%)	0 (0%)	13 (0%)
Mentally Ill	4,288 (29%)	868 (74%)	5,156 (32%)
Classification Pending	134 (1%)	18 (2%)	152 (1%)

¹ Excludes Lifers, Death-Row & YOAs

² Include inmates to be released to Community Supervision under Truth-in-Sentencing, excludes Lifers, Death-Row and YOAs

³ Based on inmate self-reported information at intake

⁴ Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI) stopped being used in January 1997. Currently Texas Christian University Drug Dependency Screen (TCUDDS) is used.

⁵ To facilitate statistical reporting, SCDC determines a single "most serious offense" (MSO) for each inmate. Before August 2005, the offense with the longest sentence determined MSO. Effective August 2005, inmates' MSO is the offense with the highest severity level (i.e. offenses are classified between severity level 1 and 5, with 5 as the most severe). In cases where an inmate has multiple offenses at the same severity level, SCDC considers the category of each offense, where homicide offenses take precedence, followed by sex offenses and violent offenses. If multiple offenses exist within the same category, the offense with the longest sentence then determines MSO. Because of this definitional change, post-2005 MSO data cannot be compared to pre-2005 NOTE: Percentages may not add up due to rounding.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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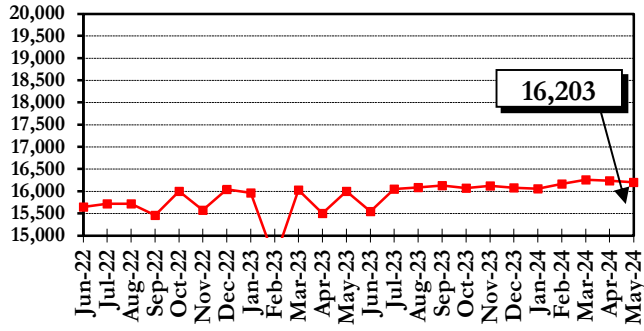
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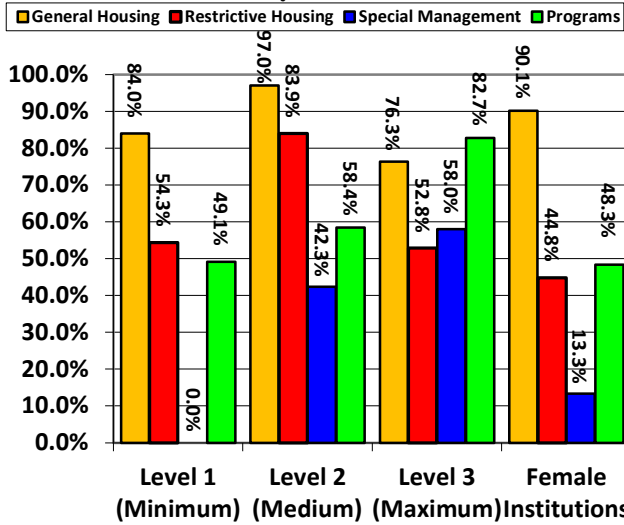
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This report contains preliminary statistics.
Changes/updates will be posted on the SCDC website
www.doc.sc.gov.

SCDC Average Daily Facility Count per Month June 2022 – May 2024



Bedspace Utilization Rates by Housing Type May 15, 2024



Fiscal Year	SCDC Facilities	Other ¹	SCDC Jurisdiction	Change over Last Year	% Change over Last Year
2015	21,183	590	21,773	-542	-2.4%
2016	20,671	623	21,294	-479	-2.2%
2017	20,483	652	21,135	-159	-0.7%
2018	19,559	686	20,245	-890	-4.2%
2019	18,743	673	19,416	-829	-4.1%
2020	18,171	664	18,835	-581	-3.0%
2021	15,807	594	16,401	-2,434	-12.9%
2022	15,437	533	15,970	-431	-2.6%
2023	15,976	563	16,539	569	3.6%

¹ Other Placements = Special Placements + Designated Facilities

Admissions to SCDC Fiscal Years 2021 – 2023

ADMISSIONS	FY 2020		FY 2021		FY 2022	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
NEW ADMISSIONS FROM COURT	3,071	78.8%	4,616	83.1%	4,970	86.5%
Indeterminate Sentence (YOA)*	184	4.7%	234	4.2%	246	4.3%
Straight Sentence (Non-YOA)	2,868	73.6%	4,353	78.4%	4,693	81.7%
Other Jurisdiction	19	0.5%	29	0.5%	31	0.5%
PROBATION REVOCATIONS***	386	9.9%	451	8.1%	432	7.5%
PAROLE REVOCATIONS	191	4.9%	241	4.4%	184	3.2%
Youthful Offender Act (YOA)	38	1.0%	47	0.8%	40	0.7%
NON-YOA	153	3.9%	194	3.5%	144	2.5%
ISS REVOCATIONS	178	4.6%	127	2.3%	67	1.2%
SUPERVISED RE-ENTRY REVOCATIONS	23	0.6%	30	0.5%	20	0.3%
SF/EPA REVOCATIONS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
COMMUNITY SUPV. REVOCATIONS	44	1.1%	75	1.4%	64	1.1%
RE-SENTENCED	6	0.2%	12	0.2%	4	0.1%
DEATH ROW	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OTHER **	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	2	0.0%
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	3,899	100.0%	5,553	100.0%	5,743	100.0%

All percentages rounded where possible.
 *The Youthful Offender Act provides for indeterminate sentences of 1-6 years for offenders aged 17-25.
 ** These inmates include appeal bond denied, ICC, and other state inmates.
 *** Death Row admissions figures represent placements to death row, includes new admissions, resentenced and returned inmates.
 **** Includes only those inmates released to probation from SCDC.

Most Serious Offense of SCDC Admissions Fiscal Years 2021 - 2023

OFFENSE CLASSIFICATION	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
DRUG OFFENSES	23.3%	26.1%	28.6%
BURGLARY	14.3%	11.3%	10.1%
ASSAULT	9.5%	8.7%	9.8%
FAMILY OFFENSE	9.9%	8.6%	9.1%
LARCENY	6.4%	6.4%	5.7%
ROBBERY	5.7%	4.7%	4.7%
TRAFFIC OFFENSE	4.2%	5.1%	4.3%
ALL OTHERS	26.7%	28.9%	27.7%
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	3,899	5,553	5,743

Average Sentence Length of SCDC Admissions Fiscal Years 2021 – 2023

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Average Sentence Length	5 Yrs. 1 Mos.	5 Yrs. 5 Mos.	5 Yrs. 4 Mos.

* This average does not include inmates with life, death, YOA sentences and inmates released on paid fine, remanded appeal, court order, pardon, resentenced, or death.

Time Served by SCDC Inmates Released Fiscal Years 2021 – 2023

TIME SERVED	FY 2021		FY 2022		FY 2023	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
3 Months or Less	160	2.8%	242	4.2%	194	3.4%
3 Months 1 Day-6 Months	377	6.6%	487	8.5%	559	9.8%
6 Months 1 Day-9 Months	537	9.4%	585	10.2%	669	11.7%
9 Months 1 Day-1 Year	547	9.6%	507	8.8%	589	10.3%
1 Year 1 Day-5 Years	2,994	52.5%	2,182	38.1%	1,523	26.6%
5 Years 1 Day-10 Years	568	10.0%	577	10.1%	190	3.3%
10 Years 1 Day-15 Years	279	4.9%	271	4.7%	271	4.7%
15 Years 1 Day-20 Years	103	1.8%	130	2.3%	121	2.1%
20 Years 1 Day-25 Years	59	1.0%	52	0.9%	64	1.1%
25 Years 1 Day-30 Years	35	0.6%	42	0.7%	47	0.8%
Over 30 Years	47	0.8%	31	0.5%	25	0.4%
TOTAL RELEASES	5,706	100.0%	5,106	100.0%	5,731	100.0%

Average Time Served	3 Years 3 Months	3 Years 7 Months	3 Years 4 Months
This average does not include inmates with life, death, YOA sentences and inmates released on paid fine, remanded appeal, court order, pardon, resentenced, or death.			

Releases from SCDC by Type Fiscal Years 2021 – 2023

RELEASES	FY 2021		FY 2022		FY 2023	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE/ LESS GOOD TIME	1,774	37.3%	1,689	31.1%	2,169	37.8%
MAXOUT - YOA	46	0.8%	77	1.5%	42	0.7%
PLACED ON PROBATION	965	16.9%	919	18.0%	1,111	19.4%
PAROLED TO INTENSIVE SUPERVISION SERVICES*	281	4.9%	307	6.0%	237	4.1%
PAROLED BY YOA PAROLE BOARD**	49	0.9%	60	1.2%	66	1.2%
PAROLED BY DPPPS***	808	14.2%	318	6.2%	187	3.3%
RE-SENTENCED	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	2	0.0%
COMMUNITY SUPERVISION	922	16.2%	936	18.3%	1,048	18.3%
SUPERVISED RE-ENTRY	720	12.6%	685	13.4%	754	13.2%
DEATH	123	2.2%	92	1.8%	88	1.5%
DEATH-EXECUTED	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
RELEASED TO EPA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OTHER ****	17	0.3%	22	0.4%	27	0.5%
TOTAL RELEASES	5,706	100.0%	5,106	100.0%	5,731	100.0%

* Intensive Supervision Administrative Release Authority (ISARA) assumed YOA Parole Board duties on February 1, 2013
 ** The Youthful Offender Act provides for indeterminate sentences of 1 - 6 years for offenders aged 17 - 25.
 *** Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services.
 **** These releases include court ordered, paid fine, appeal bond, pardon, remanded to county and released on furlough.

Fiscal Year	Based on State Funds Spent		Based on All Funds Spent***	
	Annual Cost Per Inmate	Daily Cost Per Inmate	Annual Cost Per Inmate	Daily Cost Per Inmate
2019	\$23,673	\$64.86	\$25,836	\$70.78
2020	\$24,510	\$66.97	\$26,627	\$72.75
2021	\$27,883	\$76.39	\$30,187	\$82.70
2022	\$30,044	\$82.31	\$32,247	\$88.35
2023	\$34,570	\$94.71	\$37,758	\$103.45

* Calculation of the SCDC per inmate costs is based on the average number of inmates in SCDC facilities and a small number of authorized absences and does not include state inmates held in designated facilities, institutional diversionary programs, or other non-SCDC locations.