



# Juvenile Justice Information System

## Data & Evaluation Reports Recidivism Charts and Trends (2007)

JJIS Steering Committee  
JJIS Data & Evaluation Sub-Committee

JJIS – A Shared Information System

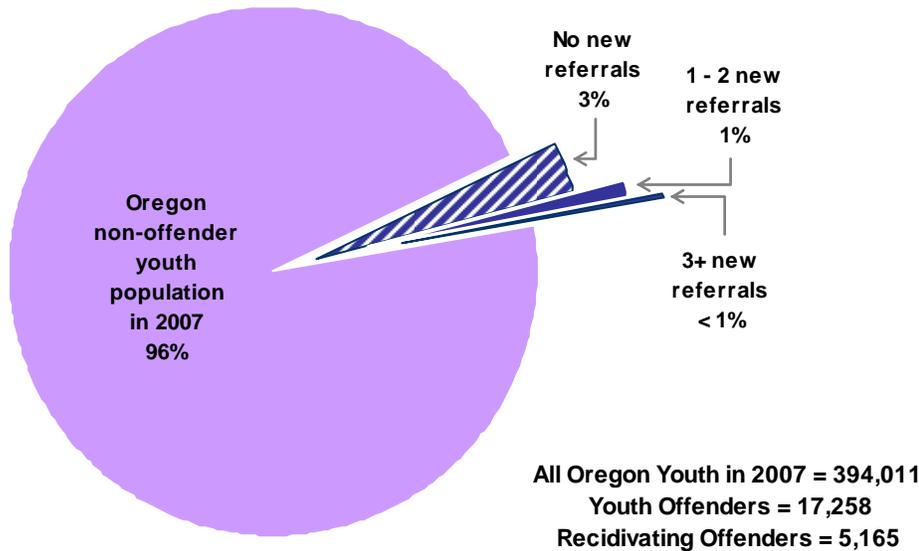
Oregon Youth Authority  
Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association



# Recidivism of Youth Referred in 2007

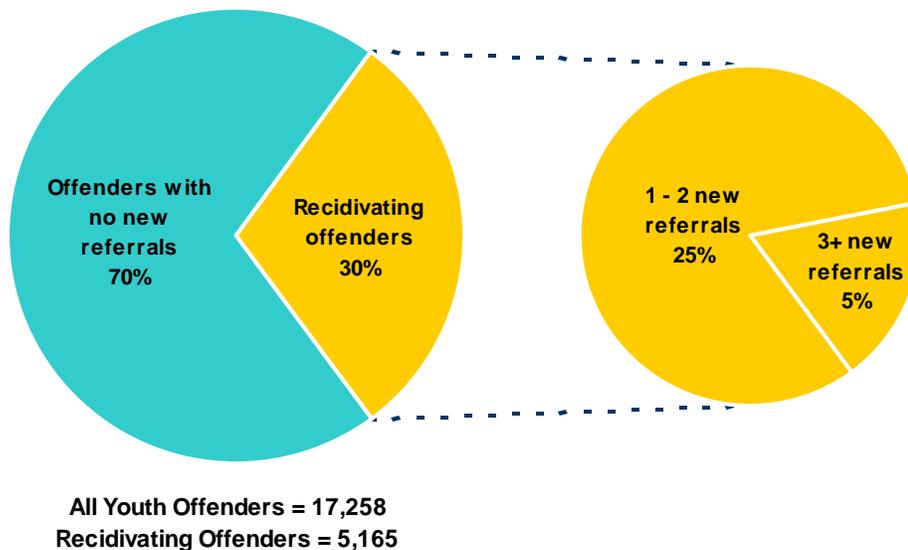
As a measure of public safety, recidivism is defined as a new criminal referral within 12 months. A criminal referral is a law enforcement report to a juvenile department alleging one or more felonies or misdemeanors. Status offenses are excluded from the recidivism measure.

## Offender Population as a Proportion of Oregon Youth



For context, this chart shows the size of the juvenile offender groups relative to the entire population of Oregon youth aged 10–17 in 2007. The three protruding slices on the pie chart represent the 2007 juvenile offender cohort, the subject of the remainder of this report.

## Recidivism – All Youth Offenders



Of the youth referred to a county juvenile department in 2007, 30% were referred at least once more within 12 months (25% had one or two new criminal referrals and 5% had three or more new criminal referrals within 12 months).

## Juvenile Justice Information System

### TERMINOLOGY

#### **Allegation**

Legal reason or reasons for the referral to a juvenile department.

#### **Cohort**

The group of youth with criminal referrals in a particular calendar year. Youth with multiple criminal referrals may be counted in more than one cohort.

#### **Criminal Offense**

Conduct for which a sentence of imprisonment is authorized (ORS 161.515).

#### **Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS)**

A statewide electronic case management system used by all Oregon county juvenile departments and the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA). JJIS is maintained by OYA.

#### **New Referral**

Any criminal referral within 12 months of the youth's qualifying referral.

#### **Prior Referral**

Any criminal referral prior to the youth's qualifying referral.

#### **Qualifying Referral**

A youth's first criminal referral in the calendar year. This referral qualifies the youth for the cohort.

#### **Recidivism**

One or more new criminal referrals within 12 months of the qualifying referral.

#### **Recidivism Rate**

Percentage of the cohort with one or more new criminal referrals within 12 months of the qualifying referral.

#### **Referral**

Any allegation or group of allegations received by a juvenile department at any one time, documented by a police report or other formal means of referral.

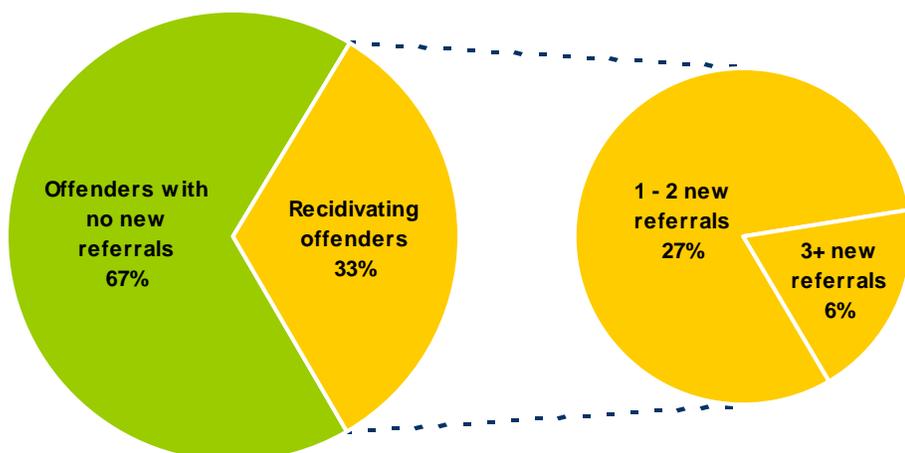
#### **Status Offense**

Generally, conduct illegal for juveniles but not for adults. Referrals for runaways constitute the largest share of status offenses in JJIS.

**Note:** Throughout this report, chart detail may not total 100% because of rounding.



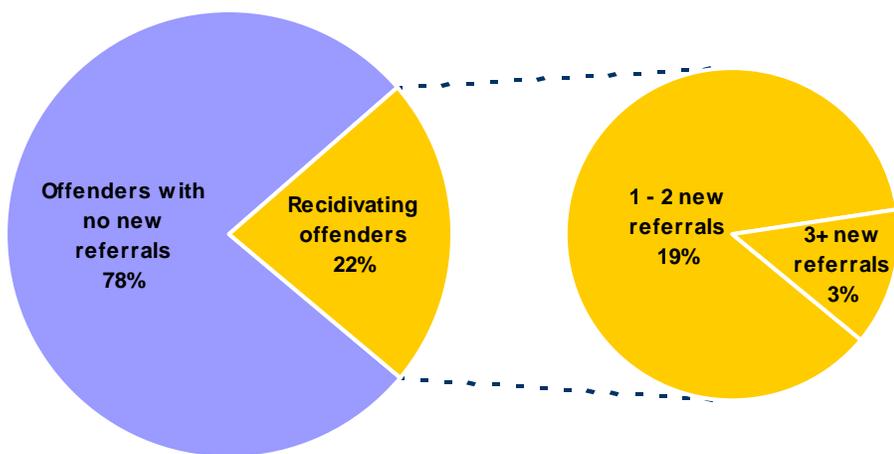
**Recidivism – Male Offenders**



**All Male Offenders = 12,109**  
**Recidivating Offenders = 4,016**

Of the males referred to a county juvenile department in 2007, 33% were referred at least once more within 12 months (27% had one or two new criminal referrals and 7% had three or more new criminal referrals within 12 months).

**Recidivism – Female Offenders**



**All Female Offenders = 5,137**  
**Recidivating Offenders = 1,149**

Of the females referred to a county juvenile department in 2007, 22% were referred at least once more within 12 months (19% had one or two new criminal referrals and 3% had three or more new criminal referrals within 12 months).

**Recidivism of 2007 Juvenile Offender Cohort**

	Total Offenders #	1 - 2 New Referrals #	3+ New Referrals #	Overall Rate Pct.
Total	17,258	4,238	927	29.9%

Note: This table relates to the graph on the prior page titled "Recidivism – All Youth Offenders."

**Sex Composition of Oregon Youth vs. Youth Offenders**

Sex	2007 Oregon Youth Aged 10-17 (a)		2007 Juvenile Offender Cohort (b)	
	#	Pct.	#	Pct.
Female	191,967	49%	5,137	30%
Male	202,044	51%	12,109	70%
Total	394,011	100%	17,246	100%

(a) Puzanchera, Sladky, and Kang (2008). (b) The 2007 juvenile offender cohort comprises 17,258 youth; however, 12 records do not specify sex and are excluded from this table.

**Recidivism by Sex 2007 Juvenile Offender Cohort**

Sex	Total Offenders #	1 - 2 New Referrals #	3+ New Referrals #	Overall Rate Pct.
Female	5,137	996	153	22.4%
Male	12,109	3,242	774	33.2%

**SOURCES**

**Recidivism data and youth characteristics:**

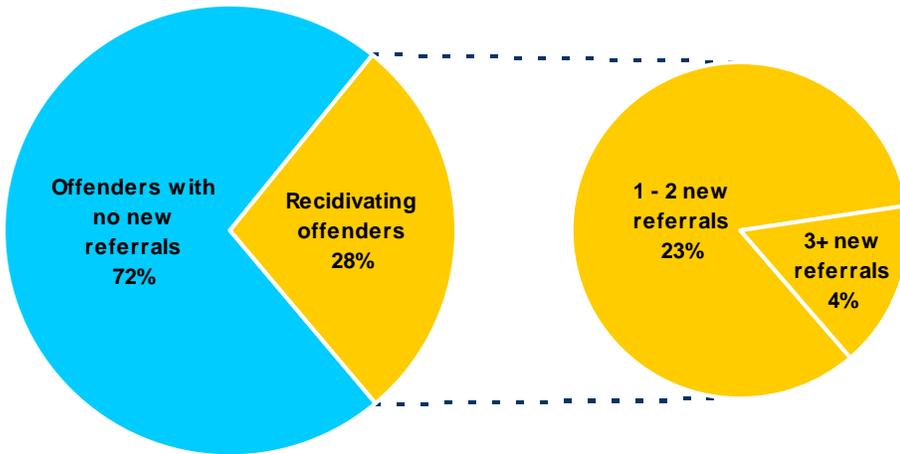
Juvenile Justice Information System database and annual published JJIS Data and Evaluation Reports. (1998 – 2007). Available from <http://www.oregon.gov/OYA/>

**Oregon population estimates on July 1, 2007, for youth aged 10-17:**

Puzanchera, C., Sladky, A. and Kang, W. (2008). Easy Access to Juvenile Populations. Retrieved January 13, 2009, from <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/>



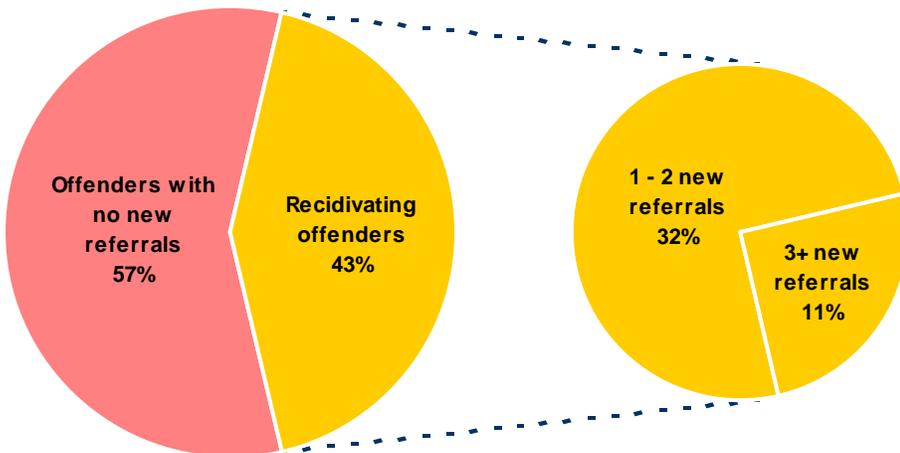
**Recidivism – White Offenders**



**All White Offenders = 11,672**  
**Recidivating Offenders = 3,259**

Of the White youth referred to a county juvenile department in 2007, 28% were referred at least once more within 12 months (23% had one or two new criminal referrals and 4% had three or more new criminal referrals within 12 months).

**Recidivism – African American Offenders**



**All African American Offenders = 1,182**  
**Recidivating Offenders = 504**

Of the African American youth referred to a county juvenile department in 2007, 43% were referred at least once more within 12 months (32% had one or two new criminal referrals and 11% had three or more new criminal referrals within 12 months).

**Race/Ethnicity Composition of Oregon Youth vs. Youth Offenders**

Race/Ethnicity	2007 Oregon Youth Aged 10–17 (a)		2007 Juvenile Offender Cohort (b)	
	#	Pct.	#	Pct.
African American	12,247	3%	1,182	7%
Asian	16,439	4%	262	2%
Hispanic	59,980	15%	3,102	19%
Native American	6,535	2%	357	2%
White	298,810	76%	11,672	70%
<b>Total</b>	<b>394,011</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,575</b>	<b>100%</b>

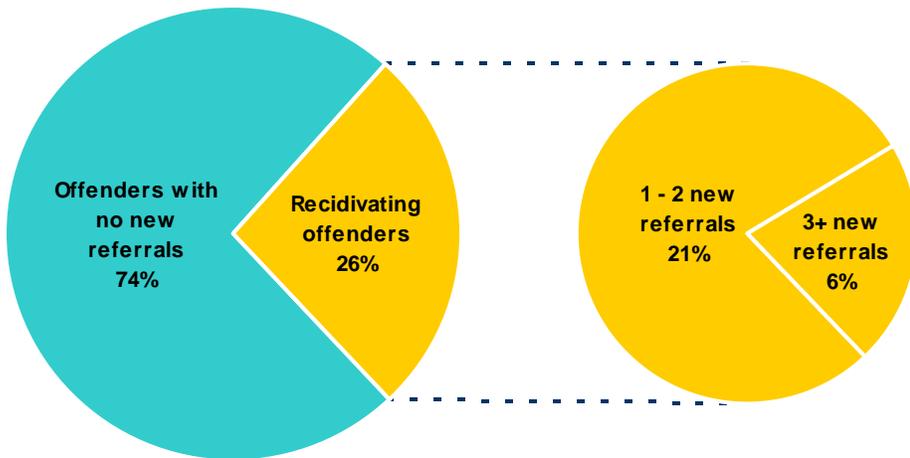
(a) Puzzanchera, Sladky, and Kang (2008). (b) The 2007 juvenile offender cohort comprises 17,258 youth; however, 683 records do not specify race/ethnicity and are excluded from this table.

**Recidivism by Race/Ethnicity 2007 Juvenile Offender Cohort**

Race/Ethnicity	Total Offenders #	1–2 New Referrals #	3+ New Referrals #	Overall Rate Pct.
African American	1,182	378	126	42.6%
Asian	262	54	15	26.3%
Hispanic	3,102	881	217	35.4%
Native American	357	91	30	33.9%
Other/Unknown	683	98	16	16.7%
White	11,672	2,736	523	27.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,258</b>	<b>4,238</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>29.9%</b>



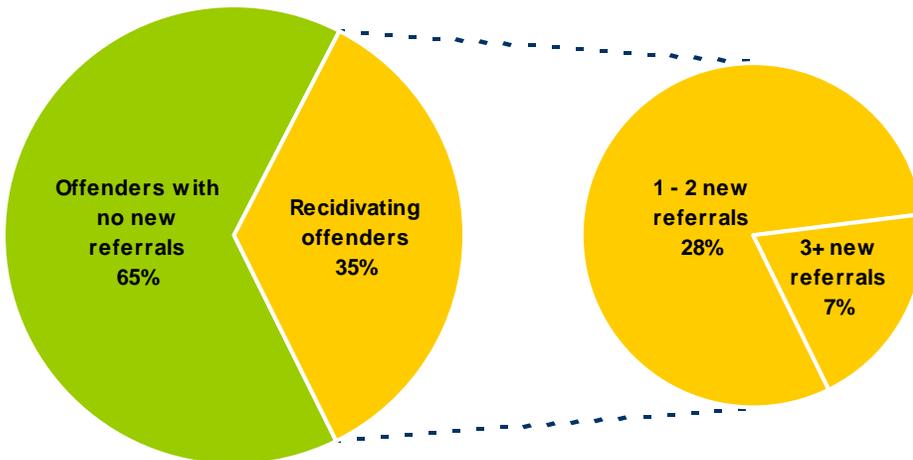
**Recidivism – Asian Offenders**



**All Asian Offenders = 262**  
**Recidivating Offenders = 69**

Of the Asian youth referred to a county juvenile department in 2007, 26% were referred at least once more within 12 months (21% had one or two new criminal referrals and 6% had three or more new criminal referrals within 12 months).

**Recidivism – Hispanic Offenders**

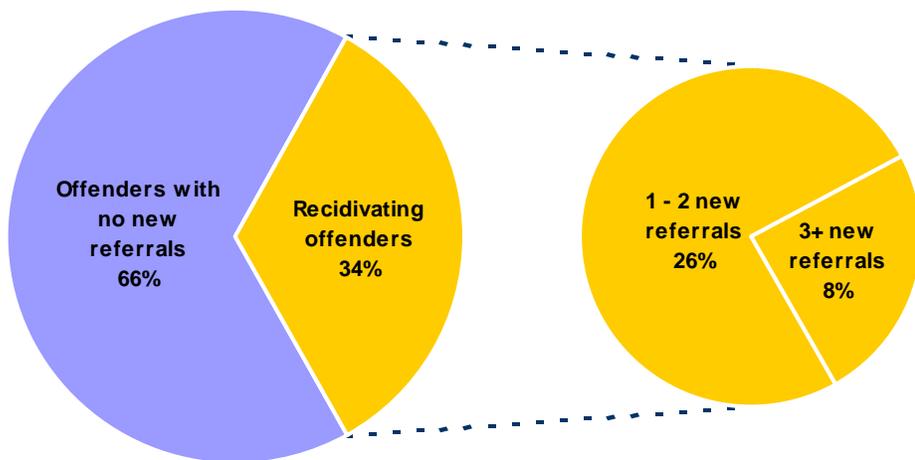


**All Hispanic Offenders = 3,102**  
**Recidivating Offenders = 1,098**

Of the Hispanic youth referred to a county juvenile department in 2007, 35% were referred at least once more within 12 months (28% had one or two new criminal referrals and 7% had three or more new criminal referrals within 12 months).



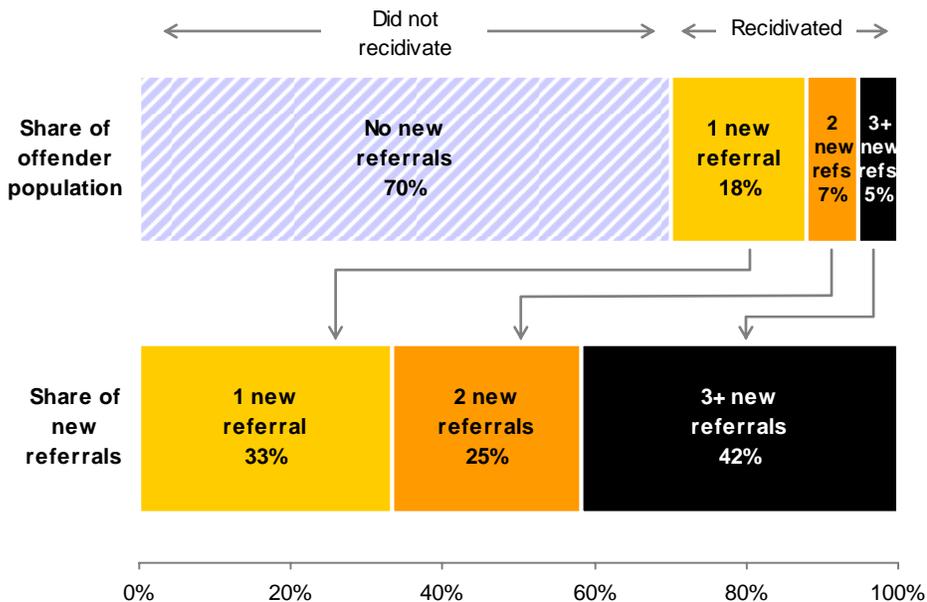
**Recidivism – Native American Offenders**



All Native American Offenders = 357  
 Recidivating Offenders = 121

Of the Native American youth referred to a county juvenile department in 2007, 34% were referred at least once more within 12 months (26% had one or two new criminal referrals and 8% had three or more new criminal referrals within 12 months).

**Recidivism – Breakout by Referral Frequency**



The figure above uses referral frequency to show the relationship between multiple referrals and total new referrals for the 2007 juvenile offender cohort. The upper bar groups youth by the number of new criminal referrals within 12 months. The lower bar shows the proportion of new criminal referrals within 12 months attributed to youth in each frequency group.

Of the youth who were referred for a crime in 2007...

- 70% had no new criminal referrals within 12 months.
- 18% had one new referral, accounting for 33% of the new referrals of the 2007 cohort.
- 12% had multiple new referrals, accounting for 67% of the new referrals of the 2007 cohort.
  - 7% had two new referrals, accounting for 25% of the new referrals of the 2007 cohort.
  - 5% had three or more new referrals, accounting for 42% of the new referrals of the 2007 cohort.

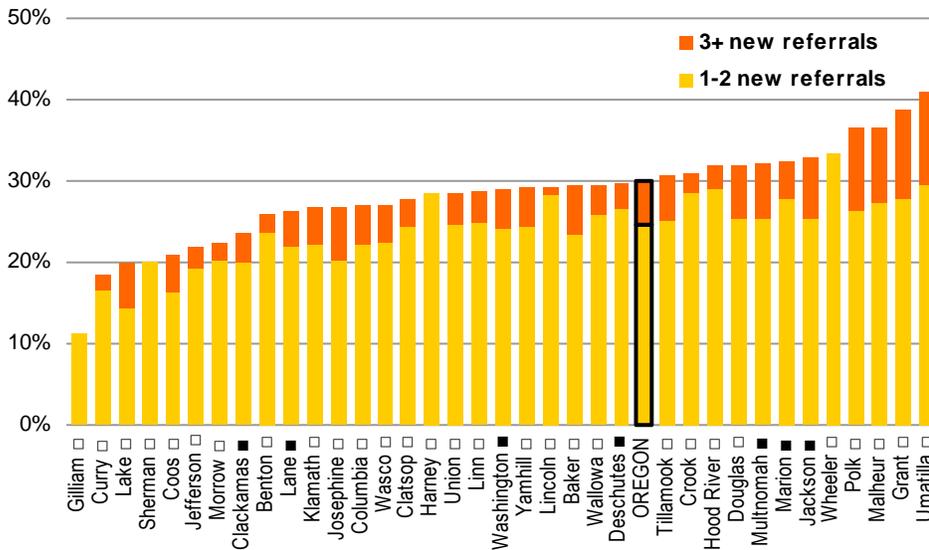
**New Criminal Referrals of 2007 Cohort  
 Breakout by Youth Referral Frequency**

	Youth		Share of New Referrals	
	#	Pct.	#	Pct.
<b>Did Not Recidivate</b>				
No New Referrals	12,093	70%	0	0%
<b>Recidivated</b>				
1 New Referral	3,078	18%	3,078	33%
2 New Referrals	1,160	7%	2,320	25%
3+ New Referrals	927	5%	3,856	42%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,258</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>9,254</b>	<b>100%</b>



# Recidivism by County in 2007

**Recidivism by County (arranged by overall recidivism rate)**

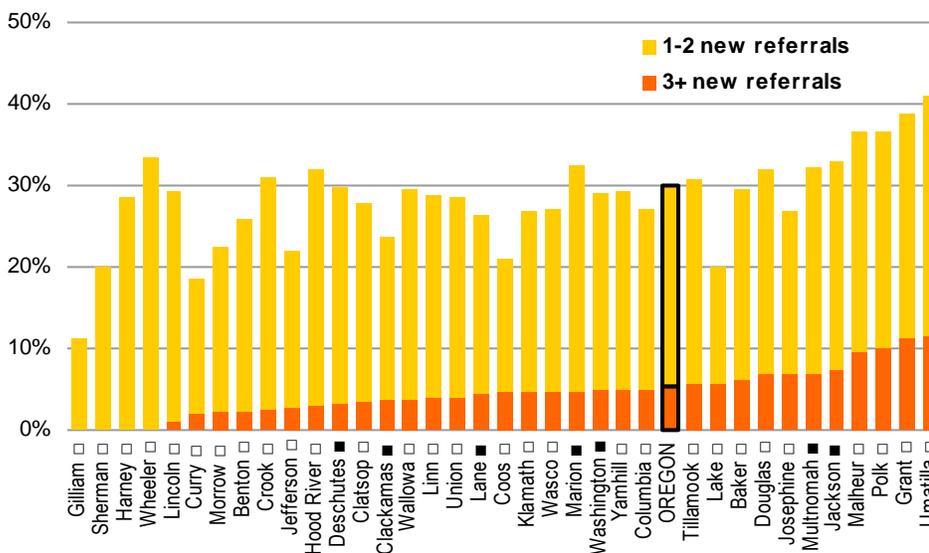


This graph arranges counties by their overall recidivism rate, which is represented by the top of each bar. For each county, the graph shows the relative proportion of recidivism attributable to youth with one or two new criminal referrals vs. three or more new criminal referrals. Oregon's overall recidivism rate was 30% for the 2007 cohort.

Counties with at least 15,000 youth aged 10–17 in 2007 are marked with a solid square.

Caution: Recidivism rates based on only a few cases can be very misleading.

**Recidivism by County (arranged by rate of 3+ new referrals)**



In this graph, counties are arranged by the amount of their recidivism attributed to youth who had three or more new criminal referrals within 12 months, the bottom portion of each bar.

Counties with at least 15,000 youth aged 10–17 in 2007 are marked with a solid square.

Caution: Recidivism rates based on only a few cases can be very misleading.

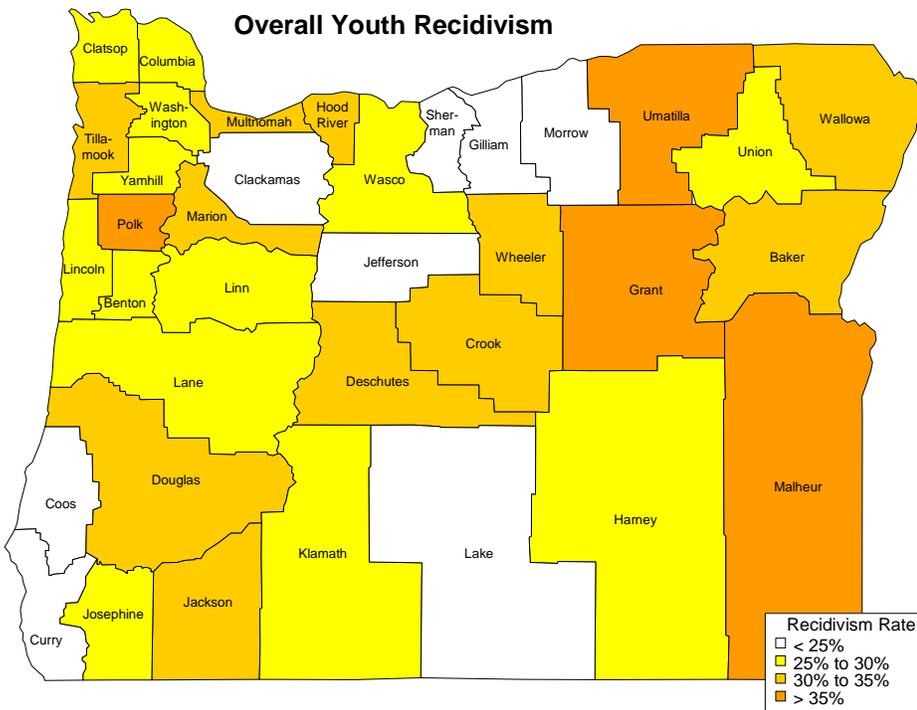
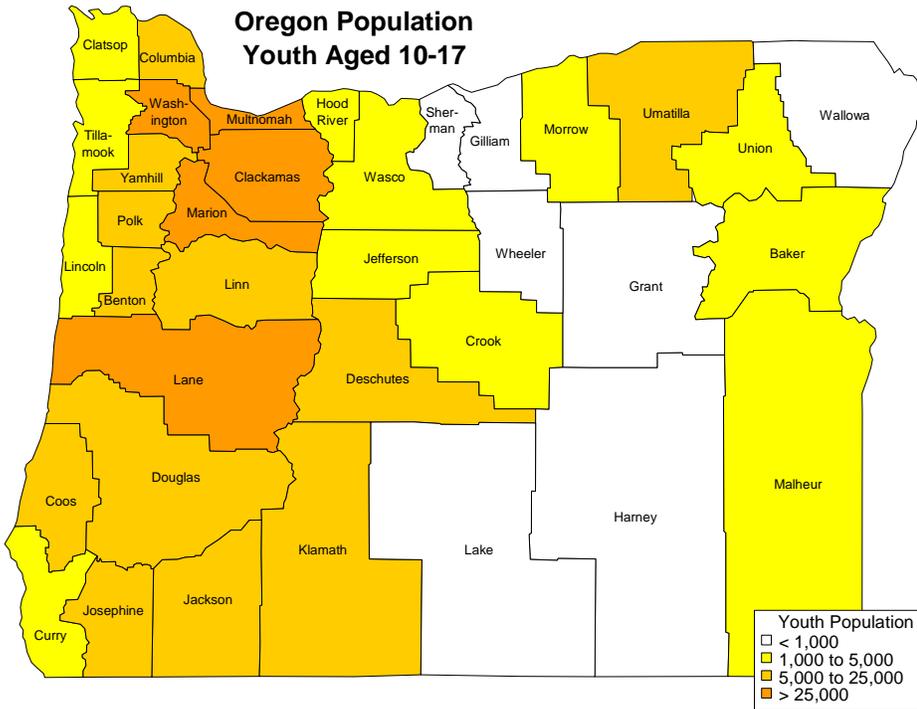
**County Recidivism Youth by Referral Frequency 2007 Cohort**

County (a)	Total Offenders #	1 - 2 New Referrals #	3+ New Referrals #	Overall Rate (b) Pct.
Baker	115	27	7	30%
Benton	216	51	5	26%
Clackamas	1,304	261	47	24%
Clatsop	209	51	7	28%
Columbia	240	53	12	27%
Coos	243	40	11	21%
Crook	158	45	4	31%
Curry	102	17	2	19%
Deschutes	1,020	271	33	30%
Douglas	562	142	38	32%
Gilliam	9	1	0	11%
Grant	18	5	2	39%
Harney	28	8	0	29%
Hood River	141	41	4	32%
Jackson	1,209	308	89	33%
Jefferson	151	29	4	22%
Josephine	323	65	22	27%
Klamath	413	92	19	27%
Lake	35	5	2	20%
Lane	1,420	310	63	26%
Lincoln	201	57	2	29%
Linn	545	136	21	29%
Malheur	330	90	31	37%
Marion	1,917	533	89	32%
Morrow	94	19	2	22%
Multnomah	2,664	675	184	32%
Polk	359	95	36	36%
Sherman	5	1	0	20%
Tillamook	143	36	8	31%
Umatilla	560	165	64	41%
Union	126	31	5	29%
Wallowa	27	7	1	30%
Wasco	173	39	8	27%
Washington	1,741	420	84	29%
Wheeler	12	4	0	33%
Yamhill	435	106	21	29%
Oregon (c)	17,248	4,236	927	30%
Other (d)	10	2	0	20%
Totals	17,258	4,238	927	NA

(a) County where the qualifying referral originated. (b) Rates based on only a few cases are very sensitive to small changes (c) Oregon calculations exclude youth from other jurisdictions. (d) Other comprises youth admitted from other jurisdictions, i.e., out of state, tribal, and federal.



Recidivism and Population



The upper map indicates that the youth population is concentrated in the western regions of Oregon. The lower map depicts youth recidivism rates by county. Youth recidivism rates and youth population appear to be unrelated.

Caution: Recidivism rates based on only a few cases can be very misleading.

County Population and Overall Recidivism 2007 Cohort

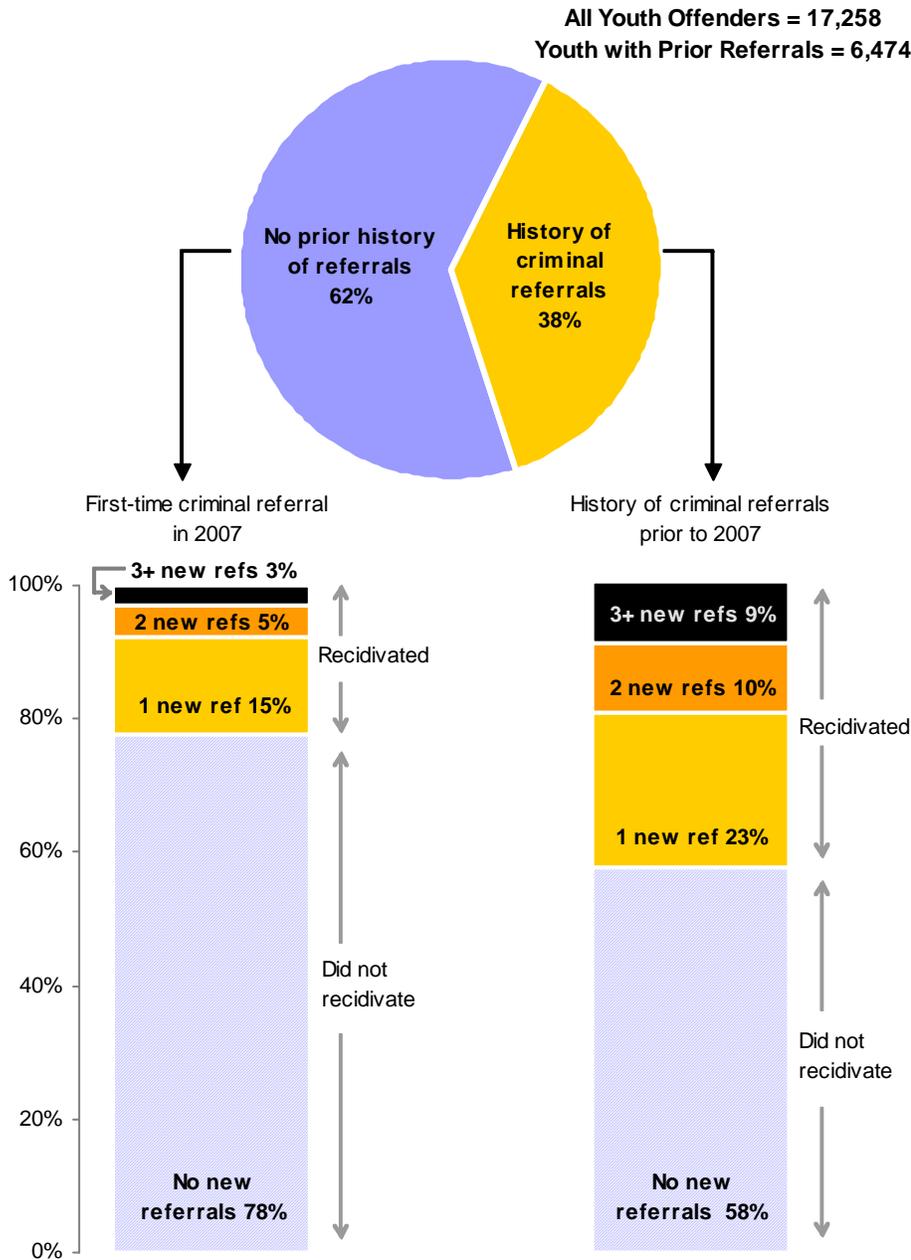
County (a)	Youth Population Aged 10-17 (b)	Recidivism		
		Total Offenders #	New Referrals #	Overall Rate (c) Pct.
Baker	1,629	115	34	30%
Benton	7,099	216	56	26%
Clackamas	42,142	1,304	308	24%
Clatsop	3,735	209	58	28%
Columbia	5,486	240	65	27%
Coos	5,736	243	51	21%
Crook	2,524	158	49	31%
Curry	1,894	102	19	19%
Deschutes	15,452	1,020	304	30%
Douglas	10,318	562	180	32%
Gilliam	165	9	1	11%
Grant	774	18	7	39%
Harney	791	28	8	29%
Hood River	2,478	141	45	32%
Jackson	20,776	1,209	397	33%
Jefferson	2,643	151	33	22%
Josephine	8,192	323	87	27%
Klamath	7,509	413	111	27%
Lake	759	35	7	20%
Lane	32,760	1,420	373	26%
Lincoln	4,200	201	59	29%
Linn	12,287	545	157	29%
Malheur	3,716	330	121	37%
Marion	36,568	1,917	622	32%
Morrow	1,555	94	21	22%
Multnomah	67,884	2,664	859	32%
Polk	7,590	359	131	36%
Sherman	169	5	1	20%
Tillamook	2,428	143	44	31%
Umatilla	8,780	560	229	41%
Union	2,492	126	36	29%
Wallowa	670	27	8	30%
Wasco	2,529	173	47	27%
Washington	59,548	1,741	504	29%
Wheeler	131	12	4	33%
Yamhill	10,602	435	127	29%
Oregon (d)	394,011	17,248	5,163	30%
Other (e)	NA	10	2	20%
Totals	NA	17,258	5,165	NA

(a) County where the qualifying referral originated. (b) Puzzanchera, Sladky, and Kang (2008). (c) Rates based on only a few cases are very sensitive to small changes (d) Oregon calculations exclude youth from other jurisdictions. (e) Other comprises youth admitted from other jurisdictions, i.e., out of state, tribal, and federal.



# Referral History of Offenders

## Prior Referrals of 2007 Cohort



This chart shows the relationship between prior criminal referrals and subsequent criminal referrals for the 2007 cohort.

For youth referred in 2007 who had no history of prior criminal referrals, 78% had no new criminal referrals within 12 months, while 15% had one and 8% had multiple new criminal referrals. For youth referred in 2007 who had ever been referred previously for a crime, 58% had no new criminal referrals within 12 months, while 23% had one and 19% had multiple new criminal referrals.

## Criminal Referral History of Youth in 2007 Cohort

	#	Pct.
No Prior Referrals	10,784	62%
One or More Prior Referrals	6,474	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,258</b>	<b>100%</b>

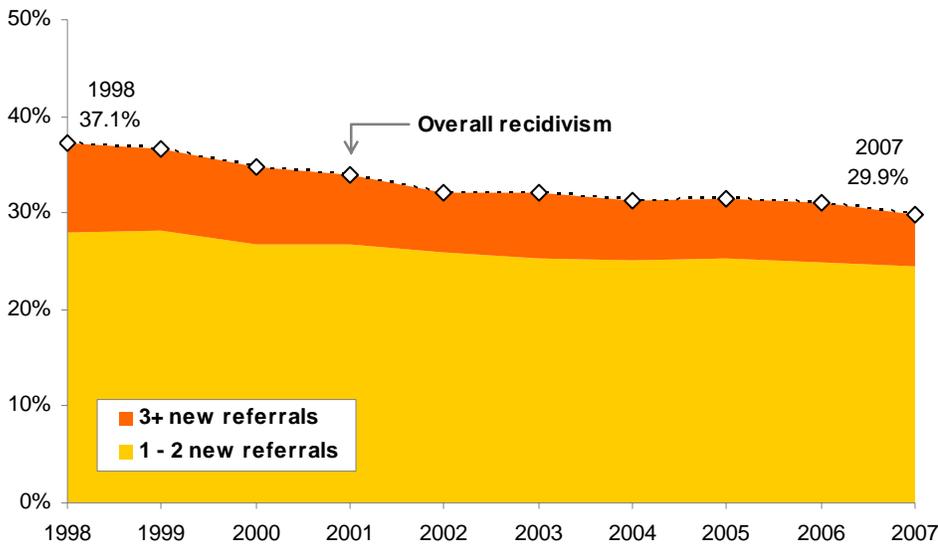
## New Criminal Referrals of 2007 Cohort Breakout by Criminal Referral History

	No Prior Referrals		One or More Prior Referrals	
	#	Pct.	#	Pct.
<b>Did Not Recidivate</b>				
No New Referrals	8,369	78%	3,724	58%
<b>Recidivated</b>				
1 New Referral	1,584	15%	1,494	23%
2 New Referrals	498	5%	662	10%
3+ New Referrals	333	3%	594	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,784</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6,474</b>	<b>100%</b>



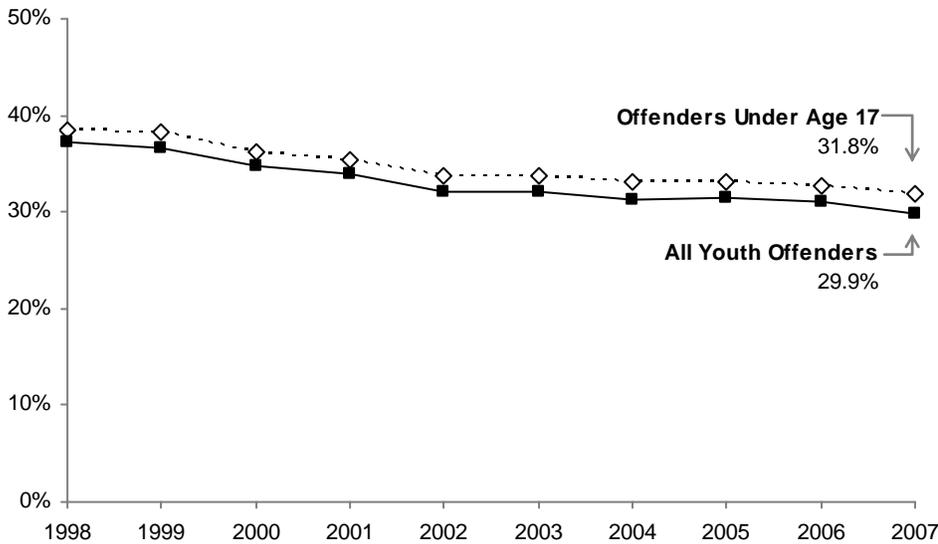
# Recidivism Trends: 1998 – 2007

## Recidivism Rate Trend – All Youth Offenders



The chart shows a decline in overall recidivism from 1998 to 2007.

## Recidivism Rate – Trends for All Youth Offenders vs. Offenders Under Age 17



This chart compares recidivism of all youth offenders (regardless of age at referral) and recidivism of offenders who were under 17 at the time of their qualifying referral. Age is an issue for juvenile recidivism because re-offending by individuals age 18 and over results in adult charges, which are not captured in the Juvenile Justice Information System.

The chart shows that recidivism is somewhat higher when older youth (those who were 17 at the time of their qualifying referral) are excluded from the calculation. However, the two trend lines track very closely over the years. All other references to recidivism in this report reflect the behavior of all youth offenders, regardless of their age at qualifying referral.

## Recidivism Rates by Year

All Youth Offenders					
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
1 – 2 New Referrals	28.1%	28.1%	26.8%	26.8%	25.9%
3+ New Referrals	9.1%	8.5%	7.9%	7.1%	6.2%
Overall Rate	37.1%	36.6%	34.8%	33.9%	32.1%

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
1 – 2 New Referrals	25.3%	25.1%	25.4%	24.9%	24.6%
3+ New Referrals	6.8%	6.3%	6.2%	6.2%	5.4%
Overall Rate	32.1%	31.4%	31.5%	31.0%	29.9%

## Recidivism Rate Comparison

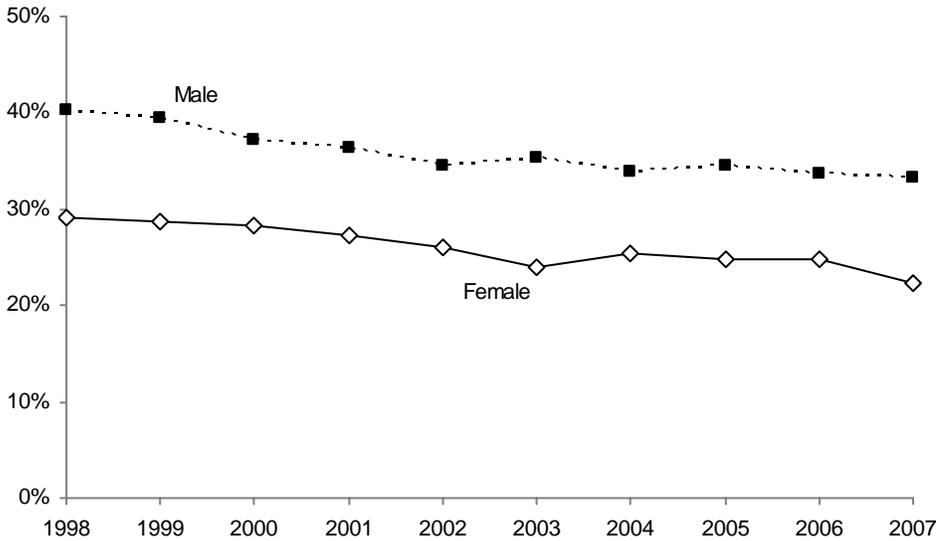
All Youth Offenders vs. Youth Offenders Under Age 17					
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Offenders Under Age 17	38.6%	38.3%	36.3%	35.4%	33.7%
All Youth Offenders	37.1%	36.6%	34.8%	33.9%	32.1%

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Offenders Under Age 17	33.8%	33.1%	33.2%	32.7%	31.8%
All Youth Offenders	32.1%	31.4%	31.5%	31.0%	29.9%

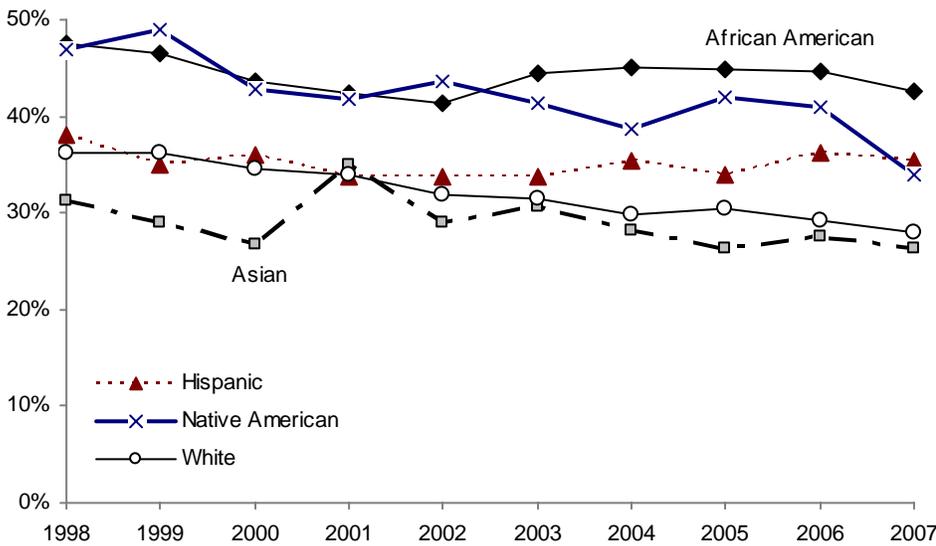


**Recidivism Rate Trend by Sex**



The chart shows a decline in overall recidivism for both males and females from 1998 to 2007. Females recidivated at lower rates in every year.

**Recidivism Rate Trend by Race/Ethnicity**



The chart shows the overall recidivism rates by race/ethnicity from 1998 to 2007. There was a general decline in recidivism among Whites. Recidivism among minority groups was more variable.

**Recidivism Rates by Sex**

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Female	29.0%	28.8%	28.4%	27.4%	26.1%
Male	40.2%	39.5%	37.1%	36.4%	34.6%

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Female	24.0%	25.5%	24.7%	24.9%	22.4%
Male	35.3%	33.8%	34.4%	33.6%	33.2%

**Recidivism Rates by Race/Ethnicity**

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
African American	47.6%	46.5%	43.6%	42.3%	41.4%
Asian	31.2%	29.1%	26.7%	35.1%	29.0%
Hispanic	38.0%	35.1%	36.1%	33.7%	33.7%
Native American	46.8%	49.0%	42.7%	41.9%	43.7%
White	36.2%	36.2%	34.6%	34.0%	32.0%

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
African American	44.4%	45.1%	44.9%	44.6%	42.6%
Asian	30.7%	28.1%	26.3%	27.5%	26.3%
Hispanic	33.7%	35.4%	34.0%	36.1%	35.4%
Native American	41.4%	38.7%	42.0%	40.9%	33.9%
White	31.5%	29.9%	30.4%	29.3%	27.9%



