VADOC RECIDIVISM



FY2018 State Responsible Releases

2023

Research - Evaluation Unit

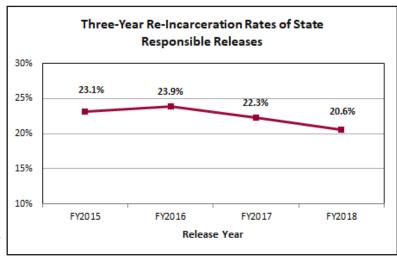
Table of Contents

Trends in Recidivism Rates and Technical Violations	1-2
Recidivism Rate Trends	1
Impact of COVID-19 on Recidivism	1-2
Technical Violations among Recidivists	2
Predictors of Recidivism	2-4
Known Predictors	2
Time to Recidivate and Recidivism Rates	3-4
Current Analyses	4
SR Incarceration Location and Recidivism	5
Mental Health and Recidivism	6
History of Opioid and/or Cocaine Use and Recidivism	6-7
Known Gang Affiliation and Recidivism	7
Combined Impact of Predictors	7-11
SR Location and Mental Health	7-8
SR Location and History of Opioid and/or Cocaine Use	8
Mental Health and History of Opioid and/or Cocaine Use	8-9
SR Location and Known Gang Affiliation	9
Mental Health, SR Location, and History of Opioid and/or Cocaine Use	10
Substance Use, Known Gang Affiliation, Mental Health, and SR Location	11
Summary and Conclusion	12
Appendix	13

Trends in Recidivism Rates and Technical Violations

Recidivism Rate Trends

The Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) studies and tracks recidivism to obtain information on the success of inmates re-entering society once released from state responsible (SR) incarceration. Virginia's recidivism rate is the second lowest among the 35 states that report the reincarceration rate of inmates with an SR sentence within three years of their release. The three-year SR re-incarceration rate among the FY2018 cohort was 20.6%, the lowest it has been in over 20 years. The process used by VADOC to calculate the three-year re-incarceration rate of SR releases includes



waiting at least four years to allow all court information to be received and entered into VirginiaCORIS.² Without waiting for the data to fully mature, the FY2018 cohort recidivism rate in July 2021 would have been 20.1%.

Impact of COVID-19 on Recidivism

To assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the FY2018 cohort recidivism rate, the number of releases that recidivated during the last 15.5 months of the follow-up period for each of the last three release cohorts, excluding FY2017 releases due to the follow-up period being impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, were examined. The last 15.5 months of the follow-up

period for each release cohort was selected, since it corresponds to the amount of time the courts were closed or operating in a limited capacity during the FY2018 releases follow-up period due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the FY2018 cohort, there were 512 releases who recidivated between March 16, 2020 and June 31, 2021. The previous three fiscal year release cohorts, excluding FY2017, averaged 791 recidivists during the last 15.5 months of their follow-up period. In order to estimate

	COVID-19 Impact Comparison							
	Releases	Follow-Up Period	Recidivists					
FY2014*	12,021	March 16, 2016-June 30, 2017	781					
FY2015	12,385	March 16, 2017-June 30, 2018	803					
FY2016	12,551	March 16, 2018-June 30, 2019	788					
FY2017	12,376	March 16, 2019-June 30, 2020	771**					
FY2018	12,499	March 16, 2020-June 30, 2021	512					
**An additional 25 recidivists from the 2021 COVID Impact report were included in this								

				Time to F	Recidivate
		Total			
	SR Releases	Recidivists	Rate	Mean	Median
FY2014*	12,021	2,869	23.9%	607	607
FY2015	12,385	2,862	23.1%	606	604
FY2016	12,551	2,997	23.9%	607	609
FY2017	12,376	2,755	22.3%	600	597
FY2018	12,499	2,576	20.6%	580	569

*Due to multiple court-updated New Commitment Dates in the data, re-incarceration rates for the FY2014 release cohort has been kept constant with the rates reported in the previous year.

how the FY2018 releases were impacted by court closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we determined that approximately 279 additional releases would have recidivated if courts were fully operational. By adding the additional 279 recidivists to the FY2018 cohort, the recidivism rate would have increased by 2.2% to 22.8%.

¹ VADOC Research-Evaluation Unit (2023), State Recidivism Comparison Report.

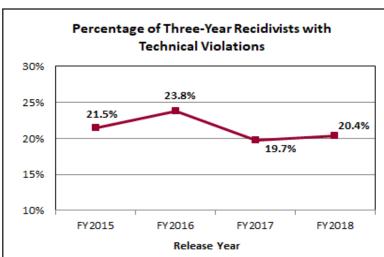
² VirginiaCORIS: The computer-based Virginia Department of Corrections' inmate management system.

This indicates that even with the estimated impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the FY2018 recidivism rate may be, at least in part, lower than previous release cohorts. Due to the similarities in cohort numbers, the same methodology used last year to estimate the COVID-19 impact was used again this year. In future years, the methodology may need to change to account for the changing release numbers.

The average time to recidivate was also approximately a month sooner (27 days) for FY2018 releases compared to previous years. Court closures at the end of the follow-up period for FY2018 releases may have also impacted the average time to recidivate as courts were unable to process individuals who may have recidivated during this time.

Technical Violations among Recidivists

The percentage of inmates returning for technical violations in the FY2018 cohort was 20.4%, an increase of almost 1% (0.7%) compared to the FY2017 cohort. Although the rate for the FY2018 cohort showed an increase, it is still lower than the rate for the FY2016 cohort (23.8%). Without technical violations, the recidivism rate for FY2018 cohort would have been 16.4%.



Predictors of Recidivism

Known Predictors

The VADOC examines inmate characteristics and other factors associated with recidivism in order to understand, identify, and address their criminogenic needs, with the ultimate goal of reducing recidivism and thereby increasing public safety. VADOC research findings have shown a link between certain factors and recidivism, as well as time to recidivism, establishing their importance in predicting recidivism among inmates released from an SR incarceration in Virginia.

These predictive factors include the following:

- 1) Gender: Male inmates are more likely to recidivate but spend slightly more time in the community, on average, prior to recidivating than females.
- 2) Age: Younger inmates are more likely to recidivate and inmates released between the ages of 60 and 69 spend more time in the community, on average, prior to recidivating.
- 3) Previous SR Incarcerations: Inmates with a greater number of previous SR incarcerations are more likely to recidivate and those with no previous SR incarceration terms spend the most time, on average, in the community prior to recidivating.
- 4) Crime Type of Most Serious Offense: Inmates who commit a property/public order crime as their most serious offense are more likely to recidivate than those who commit violent crimes or drug-related offenses.

Time to Recidivate and Recidivism Rates

Just as recidivism rates vary among released inmates with different offense types and risk characteristics, the time to recidivate also varies. Time to SR re-incarceration is defined as the number of days between a recidivist's release date and receiving a sentence that results in a new SR incarceration. The table (see Appendix) is divided into four quartiles and displays the average time to recidivate. The re-arrest and re-incarceration rates of inmates with different offense types and risk characteristics are also included in the table.

Of the 10,707 male inmates released from an SR incarceration in FY2018, 21.3% had a new SR incarceration within three-years of their release date. Of the 2,284 male inmates who were re-incarcerated within three-years, 25% had a new SR incarceration within 388 days, one-half had a new SR incarceration within 570 days, and 75% had a new SR incarceration within 773 days. On average, males who recidivated started a new term of SR incarceration within 581 days of release. Over one-half of all male releases (53.2%) were re-arrested within three-years of release. Females were less likely to recidivate than males (16.3% and 21.3%, respectively). Despite their lower recidivism rates, when females recidivate, they tend to return with a new SR incarceration sooner than males. On average, female recidivists had a new SR incarceration within 569 days of release compared to 581 days for male recidivists.

Recidivism Ra	ites and Time	e to necialivat	e IUI FTZI			Cilaracte	HISTICS		
	Total	Total			Quartiles			Percent	Percent
	Releases	Recidivists	25th	50th ¹	75th	100th	Average	Re-Arrested ²	Re-Incarcerated
All Releases	12,499	2,576	387	569	772	1,095	580	52.7%	20.6%
Gender									
Male	10,707	2,284	388	570	773	1,095	581	53.2%	21.3%
Female	1,792	292	379	561	770	1,095	569	50.1%	16.3%
Age at Release									
Under 30	3,362	869	399	576	771	1,095	587	64.9%	25.8%
30-39	4,183	964	383	559	771	1,095	576	56.6%	23.0%
40-49	2,739	483	380	573	794	1,090	586	45.7%	17.6%
50-59	1,680	222	368	529	724	1,095	555	40.0%	13.2%
60-69	469	38	390	564	857	1,070	600	25.2%	8.1%
70+	66	0						4.5%	
Previous SR Incarcerations									
No previous SR terms	6,602	1,045	401	588	792	1,095	596	46.5%	15.8%
1 previous SR term	2,891	702	360	550	765	1,093	566	56.6%	24.3%
2 previous SR terms	1,538	386	390	568	778	1,085	577	61.3%	25.1%
3 previous SR terms	760	222	388	541	737	1,081	567	64.5%	29.2%
4 previous SR terms	372	119	386	562	815	1,087	586	63.7%	32.0%
5 or more previous SR terms	336	102	403	480	745	1,095	544	64.3%	30.4%
Crime Type									
Violent	4,231	818	357	568	766	1,093	572	49.3%	19.3%
Property/Public Order	5,259	1,226	400	556	767	1,095	579	57.0%	23.3%
Drug	3,009	532	396	602	798	1,095	596	50.2%	17.7%

¹50th percentile = Median.

Arrest records come from the Virginia State Police (VSP) and are matched to data in VirginiaCORIS based on key identifiers. As of July 2021, only arrests mandated to be reported to the Central Criminal Records Exchange (CCRE) are included in the VSP data, per 2021's House Bill 2113. Re-arrest information is based on July 2022 Virginia State Police criminal history data.

Note: As of Data Copy Date 10/31/2022.

As the age of released inmates increased, the re-arrest and re-incarceration rates declined. Those under the age of 30 at the time of release had the highest re-arrest rates (64.9%). Younger inmates spent more time in the community before returning for a new SR incarceration term, though they did not spend the most amount of time in the community. Inmates aged 60-69 spent the longest amount of time in the community with an average of 600 days, although this may be due to the low number of releases in the age category (n = 469). Inmates

released between the ages of 50 and 59 averaged 555 days in the community before starting a new term of SR incarceration, 32 days sooner than inmates released under 30 years of age (587 days).

Overall, those who had more previous SR incarcerations tended to have higher re-arrest rates and re-incarceration rates. Of inmates with five or more previous terms of incarceration, over two-thirds (64.3%) were re-arrested and approximately one-third (30.4%) were re-incarcerated within three-years of release compared to inmates with no previous terms (46.5% and 15.8%, respectively). Of those with a prior SR incarceration term, inmates with four previous SR incarcerations tended to spend more time in the community before returning to VADOC with an average of 586 days. Inmates with five or more previous terms of incarceration averaged the least amount of time overall and 42 days less, on average, in the community before returning to VADOC when compared to inmates with four previous terms of incarceration (544 days and 586 days, respectively). Inmates with no previous terms of incarceration spent 596 days, on average, in the community before returning to VADOC.

Inmates whose most serious offense (MSO) during their release term of incarceration was a property/public order crime had the highest re-arrest rates (57.0%) compared to those whose MSO was a violent or drug-related crime (49.3% and 50.2%, respectively). Inmates with a property/public order crime were also more likely to recidivate (23.3%) than inmates with a violent or drug-related crime (19.3%, and 17.7%, respectively). Inmates with a drug-related crime MSO spent 596 days on average (median of 602 days), which is the longest average time spent in community before returning. Those with a property/public order or violent crime spent similar time in the community prior to recidivating (579 days and 572 days, respectively).

Current Analyses

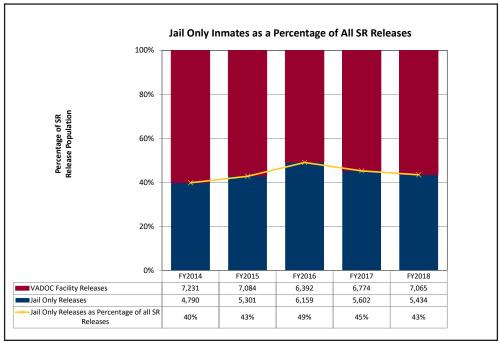
In addition to the known predictors of recidivism previously discussed, VADOC has found other predictors that will be highlighted in this report. In particular, this report highlights the links between mental health impairment, drug use, gang affiliation, and recidivism. The relationships between the following factors, alongside other known predictors of recidivism, will be explored in this report:

- 1) SR Incarceration Location: Inmates who serve their entire SR term of incarceration in a local/regional jail are more likely to recidivate than those who serve some or all of their SR incarceration term in a VADOC facility.
- 2) Evidence of a Mental Health Impairment: Inmates with a known mental health impairment are more likely to recidivate than those with no known mental health impairment.
- 4) History of Positive Drug Tests for Opioids and/or Cocaine:³ Inmates with a history of positive drug tests for opioids and cocaine are more likely to recidivate than inmates with a history of positive drug tests for either opioids or cocaine or inmates without any history of positive drug tests for opioids or cocaine.
- 5) Known Gang Affiliation: Inmates with a known gang affiliation at the time of release are more likely to recidivate than those with no known gang affiliation.

³ History of multiple drug tests was evaluated in the FY2016, FY2017, and FY2018 cohorts. History of drug tests was examined before or within three years of an inmate's release (end of three-year follow-up for non-recidivists and recidivated date for recidivists).

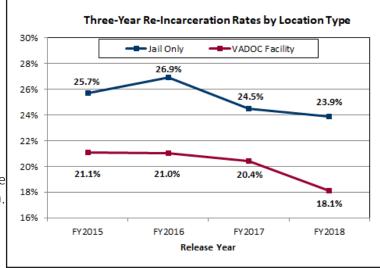
SR Incarceration Location and Recidivism

Due to capacity limitations in VADOC facilities, some SR inmates served their entire term of incarceration in a local or regional jail (Jail Only). The number of Jail Only SR releases reached a high of 6,159 (49%) in the FY2016 cohort, and declined to 5,434 (43%) in the FY2018 cohort. The percentage of Jail Only SR inmates decreased by 2% between the FY2017 and FY2018 cohorts, while those who spent at least a portion of their SR incarceration term in VADOC facilities increased from 55% to 57%. The percentage of Jail Only SR inmates has decreased by 6% since the peak FY2016. The increase in SR releases who spent a portion of their incarceration in a VADOC facility may help explain the overall lower recidivism rate for the FY2018 cohort compared to previous cohorts.



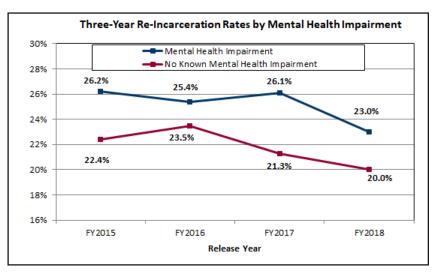
The three-year re-arrest and re-incarceration rates of Jail Only SR inmates are consistently higher than that of inmates who spent at least part of their SR incarceration term in a VADOC facility. FY2018 releases who were Jail

Only prior to release had a re-arrest rate of 58.1% compared to 48.6% of those who were located in a VADOC facility. Among FY2018 releases who served at least part of their SR term of incarceration in a VADOC facility, 18.1% recidivated within three-years. This is a decrease of over 2% (2.3%) compared to the FY2017 cohort. Inmates who spent at least a portion of their SR term in a VADOC facility spent over one month more (49 days) on average in the community prior to recidivating than those who spent their entire SR term in a jail (605 days and 556 days, respectively). Access to evidence-based programs (EBPs), educational programs, substance use treatment, and mental health treatment in VADOC facilities helps returning citizens successfully reenter society.



Mental Health and Recidivism

Inmates with a known mental health impairment are designated with a mental health code in VirginiaCORIS indicating the severity of mental health impairment or a diagnosis of a serious mental illness. The recidivism rate of inmates with a known mental health impairment is higher than that of inmates with no known mental health impairment. Individuals with a known mental health impairment had the highest re-arrest rates (56.0%) compared to those who had no known mental health impairment (50.1%).



Inmates without a known mental health

impairments spent, on average, two weeks longer (16 days) in the community before returning to VADOC than those with mental health impairment. The average length of time to re-incarceration of inmates with a mental health impairment was 579 days (median of 556 days) whereas the average length of time to re-incarceration for inmates without a history of mental health impairment or no known mental health impairment was 595 days (median of 592 days).

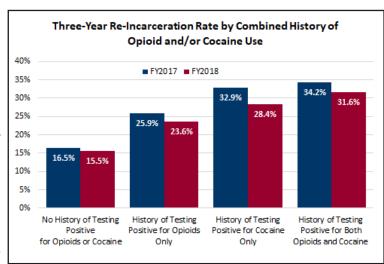
In the FY2018 cohort, the recidivism rate of those with a known mental health impairment decreased by over 3% (3.1%) compared to the FY2017 cohort. The recidivism rate of those with no known mental health impairment also decreased, though the difference was not as drastic with a decrease of over 1% (1.3%). Recognizing the increased risk of recidivism among those with a known mental health impairment, in 2016, the Virginia General Assembly approved funding for 20 full-time mental health positions to help support VADOC's 43 Probation and Parole (P&P) Districts. The primary objective for the new staff was to facilitate continuity of care and increase the likelihood of successful re-entry for supervisees with a known mental health impairment. The additional mental health staff are also able to collaborate with VADOC prisons, local jails, and regional jails to assist with re-entry planning. The additional support may have contributed to the convergence in recidivism rates observed in the FY2016 and FY2018 cohort among those with a known mental health impairment and those without.

History of Opioids and/or Cocaine Use and Recidivism

The effect of testing positive for both opioids and/or cocaine on recidivism was explored for the FY2016, FY2017, and FY2018 cohorts. Similar patterns were observed in all cohorts. Inmates with a history of testing positive for both opioids and cocaine before or within three-years of release had the highest recidivism rate.

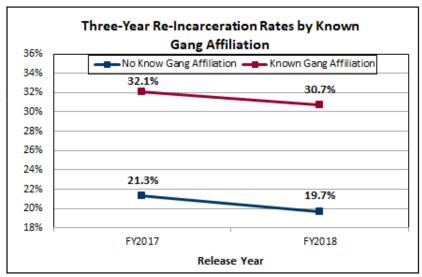
FY2018 releases who had a history of testing positive for both opioids and cocaine had a three-year re-arrest rate of 73.0% and a three-year recidivism rate of 31.6%, while releases who did not have a history of opioid and/or cocaine use had a significantly lower re-arrest rate of 42.1% and re-incarceration rate of 15.5%. Inmates

with a history of testing positive for cocaine and not opioids had the second highest recidivism rate of 28.4%. Additionally, inmates with no history of testing positive for opioids and/or cocaine had a lower recidivism rate than the release cohort overall (15.5% and 20.6%, respectively). The recidivism rates for the FY2018 cohort were lower across all drug use categories. Inmates who tested positive for both opioids and cocaine spent the most amount of time in the community prior to returning to VADOC, on average, 603 days (median of 587 days), which may be attributed to increased access to treatment while in the community. These results further underline the essential role of substance use treatment in reducing recidivism.



Known Gang Affiliation and Recidivism

Gang affiliation at the time of release was a new characteristic explored with the FY2017 and FY2018 cohort. Inmates with a known gang affiliation⁴ tend to have a higher recidivism rate than those with no known gang affiliation. The percentage of FY2018 releases with a known gang affiliation who recidivated was 30.7%, a decrease of over 1% (1.4%) compared to the FY2017 cohort. Additionally, inmates with no known gang affiliation had a lower recidivism rate than the release cohort overall (19.7% and 20.6%, respectively). Individuals with a known gang affiliation at the time of release had a higher three-year re-arrest rate (68.8%) than those who did not have a known gang affiliation (51.3%).



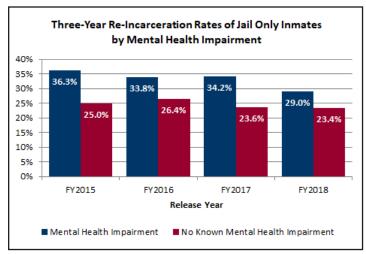
Combined Impact of Predictors

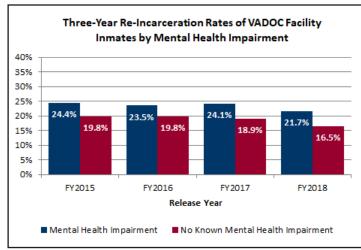
SR Location and Mental Health

When considering both SR incarceration location and mental health, the recidivism rate of FY2018 Jail Only releases with a known mental health impairment was 7.3% higher than that of those with a known mental health impairment who spent at least part of their SR incarceration term in a VADOC facility (29.0% and 21.7%,

⁴ Gang affiliation is defined as affiliation with at least one documented gang organization at release. Inmates may be affiliated with more than one gang.

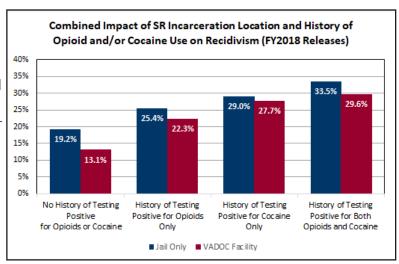
respectively). This exceeds the 6.9% difference in recidivism between those without a known mental health impairment who were Jail Only versus those without a known mental health impairment who spent at least part of their SR incarceration term in a VADOC facility (23.4% and 16.5%, respectively). This trend holds true for all four fiscal years.





SR Location and History of Opioid and/or Cocaine Use

Regardless of location of incarceration, inmates who tested positive for opioids and/or cocaine had higher recidivism rates than those who did not. However, the recidivism rates were even higher for those releases who were Jail Only. For example, among FY2018 releases who were Jail Only, those who tested positive for both opioids and cocaine had the highest recidivism rate (33.5%), followed by those who tested positive for cocaine only (29.0%) and those who tested positive for opioids only (25.4%).



Mental Health and History of Opioid and/or Cocaine Use

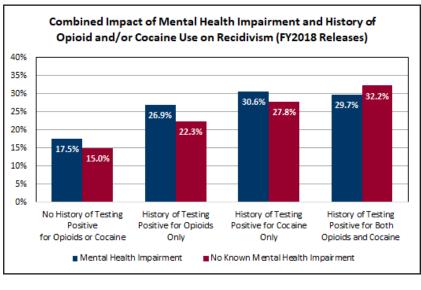
Except for the known mental health impairment and history of opioids and cocaine category, those with a mental health impairment had higher recidivism rates than those with no mental health impairment regardless of positive test history. For the FY2018 cohort, inmates who had a history of testing positive for cocaine only and had a known mental health impairment were more likely to recidivate (30.6%) than those with a history of testing positive for opioids only or opioids and cocaine and had a known mental health impairment (26.9% and

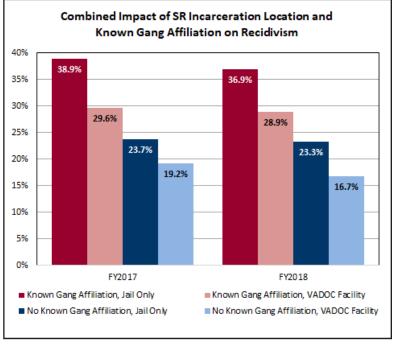
29.7%, respectively). However, those who tested positive for opioids and cocaine and had no known mental health impairment were more likely to recidivate (32.2%) than those who tested positive for opioids only or cocaine only and had no known mental health impairment (22.3% and 27.8%, respectively). This suggests that inmates with comorbid mental health impairment and substance use disorders may require additional resources to prevent recidivism.

SR Location and Known Gang Affiliation

Roughly 12% of the 2,576 inmates who recidivated in the FY2018 cohort had a known gang affiliation at the time of release (n = 314), almost three-

quarters of whom spent at least a portion of their SR incarceration term in a VADOC facility (74%). Jail Only inmates were less likely to be identified as a member of a gang as not all local/regional jails have access to VirginiaCORIS. However, if a Jail Only inmate had previous DOC history (incarceration or supervision), their gang affiliation could be identified. A total of 11% of inmates in the FY2018 cohort who spent at least a portion of their incarceration term in a VADOC facility had a known gang affiliation at the time of release. In contrast, only 4% of Jail Only inmates in the FY2018 cohort had a known gang affiliation at the time of release. Inmates with a known gang affiliation at the time of release who spent the entirety of their incarceration term in a jail were at a greater risk of recidivating (36.9%) than those who spent at least a portion of their term in a VADOC facility (28.9%). Recidivism rates of inmates with a known gang





affiliation regardless of incarceration location were lower for the FY2018 cohort when compared to the FY2017 cohort. These findings suggest that inmates with a known gang affiliation may benefit from the social, cognitive behavioral, and work-related programs offered by VADOC facilities (e.g., Thinking For a Change [T4C]) that are not consistently available in all jails, prior to and upon release.

Mental Health, SR Location, and History of Opioids and/or Cocaine Use

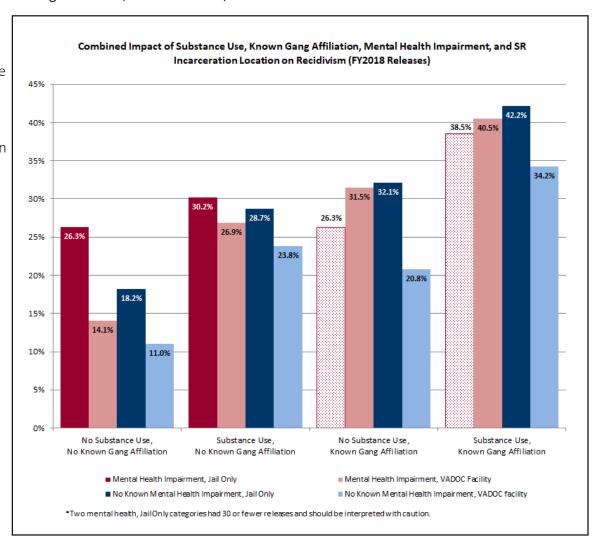
Inmates with a known mental health impairment and a history of testing positive for opioids only who spent their entire SR incarceration term in jail had a recidivism rate of 31.3%. For those with the same characteristics who spent at least part of their incarceration term in a VADOC facility, the recidivism rate was 26.0%. Interestingly, the recidivism rate of inmates with a known mental health impairment and history of both opioid and cocaine use who spent at least part of the term in a VADOC facility was slightly higher than the rate of those with the same characteristics who spent their term in jail (29.9% and 29.0%, respectively). Of those with a known mental health impairment and a history of testing for both opioids and cocaine who spent their entire SR incarceration term in jail had a recidivism rate of 29.0%, which is 2-4% lower than the recidivism rate of inmates with the same mental health impairment and location history who tested positive for either opioids only or cocaine only (31.3% and 33.0%, respectively). The recidivism rate for FY2018 releases with no known mental health impairment, no history of opioid and/or cocaine use, and who spent at least a portion of their incarceration in a DOC facility prior to release was 12.0% which is significantly lower than the overall recidivism rate (20.6%).

Combined Impact of Mental Health, SR Location, and History of Opioid and/or Cocaine Use on Recidivism (FY2018 Releases) 40% 35% 30% 29.4% 29.09 28.6% 26.7% 26.0% 24.6% 20% 19.6% 16.0% 15% 12.0% 10% No History of Testing Positive History of Testing Positive for History of Testing Positive for History of Testing Positive for for Opioids or Cocaine Opioids Only Cocaine Only Both Opioids and Cocaine ■ Mental Health Impairment, Jail Only ■ Mental Health Impairment, VADOC Facility ■ No Known Mental Health Impairment, Jail Only No Known Mental Health Impairment, VADOC facility

Substance Use⁵, Known Gang Affiliation, Mental Health, and SR Location

Comparing the recidivism rates of inmates by substance use, gang affiliation, mental health impairment, and SR incarceration location shows that inmates with a known gang affiliation at the time of release, a known mental health impairment, and a history of testing positive for substances who spent their entire incarceration term in a jail had a lower recidivism rate than those with similar characteristics who spent their entire incarceration term in a VADOC facility (38.5% and 40.5%, respectively). These

rates should be



interpreted with caution, however, since there were only 26 inmates who were categorized as such who spent their entire incarceration term in a jail. Regardless of mental health impairment or SR incarceration location, inmates with a known gang affiliation at the time of release or a history of testing positive for substances were at a greater risk of recidivating. This risk was compounded in the presence of multiple risk factors.

These findings suggest that inmates with a known gang affiliation at the time of release are especially vulnerable to recidivism, particularly those with a history of substance use and a mental health impairment. Disparities in identifying gang affiliation by incarceration location may factor into the differences in recidivism rates by SR incarceration location seen here. These results indicate that improvements are needed to better identify and support gang-affiliated inmates to increase their chances of successful re-entry.

⁵ Substance use in this context is defined as a history of positive tests for opioids and/or cocaine use.

Summary and Conclusion

The analyses in this report indicate that risk factors historically tied with recidivism continue to play a central and statistically significant role in the prediction of recidivism in the FY2018 cohort. Most broadly, there was a 1.7% decrease in the recidivism rate for the FY2018 cohort compared to the FY2017 cohort. The three-year SR re-incarceration rate among the FY2018 cohort was 20.6%, the lowest it has been in over 20 years. This low recidivism rate may be partially attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, even with the estimated impact of COVID-19, the recidivism rate would still be lower than the FY2016 cohort.

Mental health impairment, history of testing positive for opioids and/or cocaine, SR incarceration location, and known gang affiliation were found to be significant factors that impact recidivism. These factors, when considered individually or cumulatively, are associated with an increase in the likelihood of recidivating. Regardless of whether inmates have a mental health impairment, a history of testing positive for opioids and/or cocaine, or a known gang affiliation, inmates who spent at least a portion of their incarceration term in a VADOC facility consistently have lower re-incarceration rates than their counterparts who spent the entirety of their incarceration term in a jail. These differences are likely due to the evidence-based practices, educational programs, and substance use treatment provided in VADOC facilities.

In the FY2018 cohort, the recidivism rates of those with a mental health impairment and those without converged. The recidivism rate of those without a mental health impairment declined slightly (1.3%) while the recidivism rate of those with a mental health impairment declined drastically, with a decrease of over 3%. The recidivism rates of both groups in the FY2018 cohort differ by 3%, compared to a difference of almost 5% in the FY2017 cohort.

Inmates with a history of testing positive for opioids and cocaine were more likely to recidivate than those with a history of testing positive for either opioids or cocaine. It is also important to note that inmates with no history of testing positive for opioids or cocaine had a recidivism rate 5.1% lower than that of the overall FY2018 cohort (15.5% and 20.6%, respectively). These results underline the central role of substance use treatment in preventing recidivism.

Consistent with the pattern seen in the FY2017 cohort, inmates in the FY2018 cohort with a known gang affiliation at the time of release were more likely to recidivate than those with no known gang affiliation (30.7% and 19.7%, respectively).

Additionally, when time to recidivism was examined by demographic factors, mental health impairment, previous incarceration history, crime type, incarceration location, history of opioid and/or cocaine use, and gang affiliation, differences in the length of time to recidivism emerged.

The current study found that established predictors of SR incarceration location, mental health, and substance use still play a role in recidivism and identified gang affiliation as a novel predictor of recidivism. Addressing these risks may help prevent recidivism in future cohorts.

Appendix

Recidivism Ra	Rates and Time to Recidivate for FY2018 SR Releases by Characteristics								
	Total	Total	Quartiles				Percent	Percent	
	Releases	Recidivists	25th	50th ¹	75th	100th	Average	Re-Arrested ²	Re-Incarcerated
All Releases	12,499	2,576	387	569	772	1,095	580	52.7%	20.6%
Gender									
Male	10,707	2,284	388	570	773	1,095	581	53.2%	21.3%
Female	1,792	292	379	561	770	1,095	569	50.1%	16.3%
Age at Release									
Under 30	3,362	869	399	576	771	1,095	587	64.9%	25.8%
30-39	4,183	964	383	559	771	1,095	576	56.6%	23.0%
40-49	2,739	483	380	573	794	1,090	586	45.7%	17.6%
50-59	1,680	222	368	529	724	1,095	555	40.0%	13.2%
60-69	469	38	390	564	857	1,070	600	25.2%	8.1%
70+	66	0						4.5%	
Previous SR Incarcerations									
No previous SR terms	6,602	1,045	401	588	792	1,095	596	46.5%	15.8%
1 previous SR term	2,891	702	360	550	765	1,093	566	56.6%	24.3%
2 previous SR terms	1,538	386	390	568	778	1,085	577	61.3%	25.1%
3 previous SR terms	760	222	388	541	737	1,081	567	64.5%	29.2%
4 previous SR terms	372	119	386	562	815	1,087	586	63.7%	32.0%
5 or more previous SR terms	336	102	403	480	745	1,095	544	64.3%	30.4%
Crime Type						_,			
Violent	4,231	818	357	568	766	1.093	572	49.3%	19.3%
Property/Public Order	5,259	1,226	400	556	767	1,095	579	57.0%	23.3%
Drug	3,009	532	396	602	798	1,095	596	50.2%	17.7%
Location History	-,					_,			
VADOC Facility Releases	7,065	1,277	422	597	789	1,095	605	48.6%	18.1%
Jail Only Releases	5,434	1,299	363	536	752	1,095	556	58.1%	23.9%
Mental Health Code	-,	_,				_,			
Mental Health Impairment	2,668	613	404	556	771	1,095	579	56.0%	23.0%
No Known Mental Health Impairment	6,202	1,196	403	592	778	1,095	595	50.1%	19.3%
Not Reported	3,629	767	358	535	769	1,095	558	54.9%	21.1%
History of Testing Positive for Opioids and Cocaine ³	3,023	707	330	333	705	1,055	330	34.570	21.170
Negative both Opioids and Cocaine	7,358	1,141	380	560	771	1,095	574	42.1%	15.5%
Positive only Cocaine	1,903	540	396	568	764	1,095	577	69.2%	28.4%
Positive only Opioids	1,607	380	379	567	760	1,093	571	61.3%	23.6%
Positive both Opioids and Cocaine	1,631	515	400	587	817	1,087	603	73.0%	31.6%
Known Gang Affiliation at Time of Release	1,031	313	400	307	01/	1,095	003	/3.0/0	31.0/0
Known Gang Attiliation at Time of Release Known	1,023	314	403	576	765	1,079	581	68.8%	30.7%
No Known	1,023	2,262	387	569	705 773	1,079	581	51.3%	19.7%
	11,470	2,202	36/	209	//3	1,095	380	31.370	19.770
Re-Incarceration Reason ⁴		504	225	440		4.00-	105		
Technical Revocation		531	296	449	657	1,090	485		
New Crime Revocation		1,590	422	584	785	1,095	597		
Not a Revocation, New Crime Only		455	441	644	835	1,095	632		

¹50th percentile = Median.

Note: As of Data Copy Date 10/31/2022.

² Arrest records come from the Virginia State Police (VSP) and are matched to data in VirginiaCORIS based on key identifiers. As of July 2021, only arrests mandated to be reported to the Central Criminal Records Exchange (CCRE) are included in the VSP data, per 2021's House Bill 2113. Re-arrest information is based on July 2022 Virginia State Police criminal history data.

³ Drug test history was examined before and within three years of release (end of three-year follow-up period for non-recidivists and recidivate date for recidivists).

 $^{^{4}}$ 6 Technical Revocations were Parole Violators and 6 New Crime Revocations were Parole Violators.