

South Carolina Department of Corrections Recidivism Rates of Inmates Released during FY 2019 - FY 2021			
	Year of Release		
	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>Total Number of Releases</b>	<b>7,519</b>	<b>7,445</b>	<b>5,706</b>
<b>Percentage of Releasees who Returned to SCDC:</b>	<b>Recidivism Rate by Year of Release</b>		
	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
Within One Year or Less	5.8%	3.5%	4.3%
Within Two Years or Less	12.1%	10.5%	12.3%
Within Three Years or Less	17.8%	17.1%	19.0%
Within Four Years or Less	23.2%	22.4%	n/a
Within Five Years or Less	26.6%	n/a	n/a
<b>Comparison of 3-Year Recidivism Rates by Inmate Attributes</b>			
<b>Attributes</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
Overall Rate	17.8%	17.1%	19.0%
<b>Gender</b>			
Males	18.9%	18.4%	19.7%
Females	10.2%	9.2%	13.3%
<b>Type of Release</b>			
Maxout (Expiration of Sentence)	13.6%	13.2%	15.6%
Parole	16.6%	17.0%	19.2%
Probation	24.1%	24.7%	29.2%
Community Supervision	9.5%	8.6%	8.4%
Supervised Reentry	18.1%	15.0%	18.2%
Youthful Offender Act* - Parole	25.2%	24.7%	38.8%
Youthful Offender Act* - Maxout	15.1%	18.5%	20.5%
Youthful Offender Act* - Intensive Supervision Parole	35.0%	35.0%	38.1%
<b>Age at Release</b>			
Under 25 Years	27.5%	28.5%	33.3%
25-30 Years	17.2%	18.3%	21.4%
31-40 Years	17.5%	15.0%	18.0%
Over 40 Years	13.5%	13.8%	13.7%
<b>Program Participation</b>			
Pre-Release	14.3%	13.4%	19.3%
Work Program	14.6%	14.8%	14.9%
Labor Crew	15.3%	13.5%	16.7%
Labor Crew/Work Program	15.4%	13.5%	16.6%
Prison Industry	9.1%	10.3%	7.3%
GED Earned in SCDC Education Program	13.4%	15.3%	9.7%
<b>Sentence Type</b>			
Youthful Offender Act*	30.2%	31.4%	35.9%
Straight-time	16.4%	15.7%	17.7%
<b>Mental Health Classification at time of release</b>			
Mentally Ill	18.7%	17.6%	19.8%
Non-Mentally Ill	17.5%	17.0%	18.7%

\* 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, 2024			
Characteristics	Male Population	Female Population	Total Population
<b>TOTAL Inmates Population</b>	<b>15,198</b>	<b>1,328</b>	<b>16,526</b>
<b>Current Age</b>			
Average Current Age	41.5	40.1	41.4
21 & Under	357 (2%)	17 (2%)	374 (2%)
22-25	1,006 (7%)	77 (6%)	1,083 (7%)
26-35	4,255 (30%)	424 (33%)	4,679 (30%)
36-55	7,214 (46%)	669 (48%)	7,883 (46%)
56 and Over	2,365 (15%)	141 (11%)	2,506 (14%)
Average Age at Admission	33.7	35.8	33.8
<b>Race</b>			
Black	9,265 (61%)	361 (27%)	9,626 (58%)
White	5,473 (36%)	929 (70%)	6,402 (39%)
Other	460 (3%)	38 (3%)	498 (3%)
<b>Citizenship</b>			
Aliens	310 (2%)	13 (1%)	323 (2%)
Citizens	14,879 (97%)	1,315 (96%)	16,194 (97%)
<b>Sentencing Data/Criminal History</b>			
<b>Admission Type:</b>			
New	12,867 (85%)	1,229 (93%)	14,096 (85%)
Revocator	2,126 (14%)	96 (7%)	2,222 (13%)
Other	205 (1%)	3 (0%)	208 (1%)
With Current Violent Offense	11,634 (77%)	773 (58%)	12,407 (75%)
With Prior Criminal History	7,923 (52%)	429 (32%)	8,352 (51%)
With Prior Commitments	3,059 (20%)	82 (6%)	3,141 (19%)
Average Sentence Length in Years 1	16.5	11.4	16.0
Average Time to Serve before Maxout 2	6.9	5.0	6.7
Sentences One Year or Less (excl. YOA)	227 (1%)	60 (5%)	287 (2%)
Sentences More than 20 years (excl.lifers)	3,564 (23%)	185 (14%)	3,749 (23%)
With Life Sentence	1,923 (13%)	71 (5%)	1,994 (12%)
With YOA/Juvenile Sentence	266 (2%)	19 (1%)	285 (2%)
On Death Row	33 (0%)	0 (0%)	33 (0%)
Non-Paroleable (includes TIS inmates)	10,134 (67%)	684 (52%)	10,818 (65%)
TIS Sentences	9,874 (65%)	681 (51%)	10,555 (64%)
<b>Special Needs</b>			
With Children 3	10,187 (67%)	1,060 (80%)	11,247 (68%)
With Convicted Disciplinaries in Last 12 Months	5,770 (38%)	341 (26%)	6,111 (37%)
With Victim Witness Indicator	11,163 (73%)	747 (56%)	11,910 (72%)
Sex Registry	2,676 (18%)	39 (3%)	2,715 (16%)
Required DNA Testing	15,063 (99%)	1,291 (97%)	16,354 (99%)
Chemical Dependent per SASSI/TCUDDS 4	4,365 (29%)	571 (43%)	4,936 (30%)
<b>Education/Work</b>			
Average Education Level at Intake	10.6	10.8	10.6
Without HS/GED	9,356 (62%)	894 (67%)	10,250 (62%)
<b>Leading Most Serious Offense 5</b>			
Homicide	27%	Drug Offense	34%
Drug Offense	19%	Homicide	23%
Robbery	9%	Traffic Offense	6%
Burglary	9%	Robbery	6%
Sexual Assault	9%	Burglary	6%
<b>Top Five Committing Counties</b>			
Greenville	9%	Greenville	11%
Spartanburg	9%	Spartanburg	9%
Richland	7%	York	9%
Charleston	7%	Horry	6%
Horry	6%	Lexington	6%
<b>Mental Health Classification</b>			
No Mental Health Problem	10,467 (69%)	383 (29%)	10,850 (66%)
Developmentally Disabled	6 (0%)	0 (0%)	6 (0%)
Mentally Ill	4,647 (31%)	919 (69%)	5,566 (34%)
Classification Pending	78 (1%)	26 (2%)	104 (1%)

1 Excludes Lifers, Death-Row & YOA's

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

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 MSO NOTE: Percentages may not add up due to rounding.

# THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

JOEL E. ANDERSON  
INTERIM DIRECTOR



## SCDC FAQs

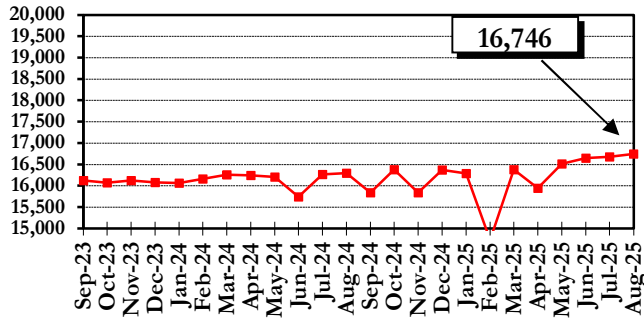
SEPTEMBER 2025

**For further information, contact:**  
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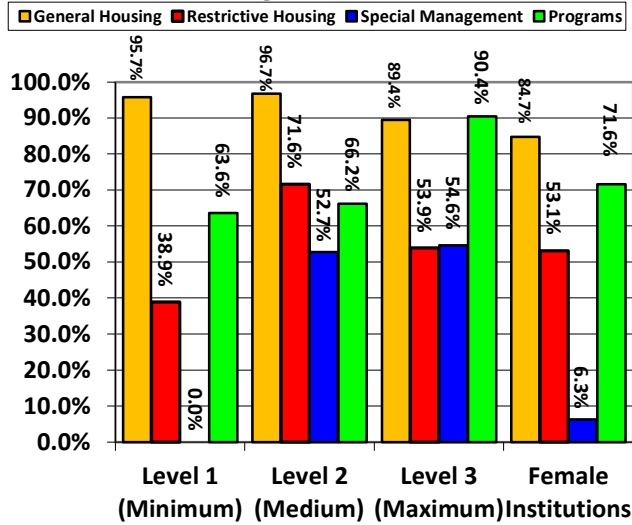
This document is available in alternative formats by contacting the number above.

This report contains preliminary statistics.  
Changes/updates will be posted on the SCDC website  
[www.doc.sc.gov](http://www.doc.sc.gov).

## SCDC Average Daily Facility Count per Month September 2023 – August 2025



## Bedspace Utilization Rates by Housing Type August 15, 2024



Average Daily Inmate Population per Year Fiscal Year 2016 - 2024					
Fiscal Year	SCDC Facilities	Other <sup>1</sup>	SCDC Jurisdiction	Change over Last Year	% Change over Last Year
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%
2024	16,142	582	16,724	185	1.1%

<sup>1</sup> Other Placements = Special Placements + Designated Facilities

## Admissions to SCDC Fiscal Years 2022 – 2024

ADMISSIONS	FY 2022		FY 2023		FY 2024	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
NEW ADMISSIONS FROM COURT	4,616	83.1%	4,970	86.5%	4,938	87.0%
Indeterminate Sentence (YOA)*	234	4.2%	246	4.3%	254	4.5%
Straight Sentence (Non-YOA)	4,353	78.4%	4,693	81.7%	4,659	82.1%
Other Jurisdiction	29	0.5%	31	0.5%	25	0.4%
PROBATION REVOCATIONS***	451	8.1%	432	7.5%	428	7.5%
PAROLE REVOCATIONS	241	4.4%	184	3.2%	114	2.0%
Youthful Offender Act (YOA)	47	0.8%	40	0.7%	17	0.3%
NON-YOA	194	3.5%	144	2.5%	97	1.7%
ISS REVOCATIONS	127	2.3%	67	1.2%	71	1.3%
SUPERVISED RE-ENTRY REVOCATIONS	30	0.5%	20	0.3%	29	0.5%
SF/EPA REVOCATIONS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
COMMUNITY SUPV. REVOCATIONS	75	1.4%	64	1.1%	93	1.6%
RE-SENTENCED	12	0.2%	4	0.1%	2	0.0%
DEATH ROW	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OTHER **	1	0.0%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	5,553	100.00%	5,743	100.00%	5,675	100.00%

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 2022 - 2024

OFFENSE CLASSIFICATION	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
DRUG OFFENSES	26.1%	28.6%	28.3%
BURGLARY	11.3%	10.1%	10.4%
ASSAULT	8.7%	9.8%	9.6%
FAMILY OFFENSE	8.6%	9.1%	9.0%
LARCENY	6.4%	5.7%	6.1%
ROBBERY	4.7%	4.7%	4.3%
TRAFFIC OFFENSE	5.1%	4.3%	4.6%
ALL OTHERS	28.9%	27.7%	27.7%
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	5,553	5,743	5,675

## Average Sentence Length of SCDC Admissions Fiscal Years 2022 – 2024

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Average Sentence Length	5 Yrs. 5 Mos.	5 Yrs. 4 Mos.	5 Yrs. 6 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 2022 – 2024

TIME SERVED	FY 2022		FY 2023		FY 2024	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
3 Months or Less	242	4.2%	194	3.4%	179	3.5%
3 Months 1 Day-6 Months	487	8.5%	559	9.8%	494	9.5%
6 Months 1 Day-9 Months	585	10.2%	669	11.7%	599	11.6%
9 Months 1 Day-1 Year	507	8.8%	589	10.3%	490	9.4%
1 Year 1 Day-2 Years	2,182	38.1%	1,523	26.6%	1,433	27.6%
5 Years 1 Day-6 Years	577	10.1%	190	3.3%	157	3.0%
10 Years 1 Day-15 Years	271	4.7%	271	4.7%	231	4.5%
15 Years 1 Day-20 Years	130	2.3%	121	2.1%	108	2.1%
20 Years 1 Day-25 Years	52	0.9%	64	1.1%	43	0.8%
25 Years 1 Day-30 Years	42	0.7%	47	0.8%	47	0.9%
Over 30 Years	31	0.5%	25	0.4%	25	0.5%
TOTAL RELEASES	5,106	100.0%	5,731	100.0%	5,186	100.0%
Average Time Served	3 Years 7 Months		3 Years 4 Months		3 Years 2 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 2022 – 2024

RELEASES	FY 2022		FY 2023		FY 2024	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE/ LESS GOOD TIME	1,689	31.1%	2,169	37.8%	2,006	38.7%
MAXOUT - YOA	77	1.5%	42	0.7%	70	1.3%
PLACED ON PROBATION	919	18.0%	1,111	19.4%	969	18.7%
PAROLED TO INTENSIVE SUPERVISION SERVICES*	307	6.0%	237	4.1%	211	4.1%
PAROLED BY YOA PAROLE BOARD**	60	1.2%	66	1.2%	78	1.5%
PAROLED BY DPPPS***	318	6.2%	187	3.3%	132	2.5%
RE-SENTENCED	1	0.0%	2	0.0%	1	0.0%
COMMUNITY SUPERVISION	936	18.3%	1,048	18.3%	853	16.4%
SUPERVISED RE-ENTRY	685	13.4%	754	13.2%	755	14.6%
DEATH	92	1.8%	88	1.5%	90	1.7%
DEATH-EXECUTED	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
RELEASED TO EPA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OTHER ****	22	0.4%	27	0.5%	21	0.4%
TOTAL RELEASES	5,106	100.0%	5,731	100.0%	5,186	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.

South Carolina Department of Corrections Cost Per Inmate* Fiscal Years 2020-2024				
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
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
2024	\$36,553	\$99.87	\$40,429	\$110.46

\*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.