

South Carolina Department of Corrections Recidivism Rates of Inmates Released during FY 2020 - FY 2022			
	Year of Release		
	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Total Number of Releases	7,445	5,706	5,708
Percentage of Releasees who Returned to SCDC:	Recidivism Rate by Year of Release		
	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Within One Year or Less	3.5%	4.3%	5.0%
Within Two Years or Less	10.5%	12.3%	13.0%
Within Three Years or Less	17.1%	19.0%	19.8%
Within Four Years or Less	22.4%	n/a	n/a
Within Five Years or Less	n/a	n/a	n/a
Comparison of 3-Year Recidivism Rates by Inmate Attributes			
Attributes	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Overall Rate	17.1%	19.0%	19.8%
Gender			
Males	18.4%	19.7%	20.5%
Females	9.2%	13.3%	13.8%
Type of Release			
Maxout (Expiration of Sentence)	13.2%	15.6%	18.8%
Parole	17.0%	19.2%	18.3%
Probation	24.7%	29.2%	28.7%
Community Supervision	8.6%	8.4%	9.2%
Supervised Reentry	15.0%	18.2%	20.7%
Youthful Offender Act* - Parole	24.7%	38.8%	30.5%
Youthful Offender Act* - Maxout	18.5%	20.5%	17.3%
Youthful Offender Act* - Intensive Supervision Parole	35.0%	38.1%	29.6%
Age at Release			
Under 25 Years	28.5%	33.3%	26.8%
25-30 Years	18.3%	21.4%	22.4%
31-40 Years	15.0%	18.0%	20.7%
Over 40 Years	13.8%	13.7%	15.0%
Program Participation			
Pre-Release	13.4%	19.3%	16.4%
Work Program	14.8%	14.9%	15.5%
Labor Crew	13.5%	16.7%	14.6%
Labor Crew/Work Program	13.5%	16.6%	14.5%
Prison Industry	10.3%	7.3%	8.6%
GED Earned in SCDC Education Program	15.3%	9.7%	9.4%
Sentence Type			
Youthful Offender Act*	31.4%	35.9%	27.7%
Straight-time	15.7%	17.7%	19.1%
Mental Health Classification at time of release			
Mentally Ill	17.6%	19.8%	22.3%
Non-Mentally Ill	17.0%	18.7%	18.9%

* 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, 2025							
Characteristics		Male Population		Female Population		Total Population	
TOTAL Inmates Population		15,529		1,389		16,918	
Current Age							
Average Current Age		41.8		40.6		41.7	
21 & Under		379 (2%)		23 (2%)		402 (2%)	
22-25		984 (6%)		61 (4%)		1,045 (6%)	
26-35		4,120 (27%)		413 (30%)		4,533 (27%)	
36-55		7,581 (49%)		742 (53%)		8,323 (49%)	
56 and Over		2,465 (16%)		150 (11%)		2,615 (15%)	
Average Age at Admission		34.1		36.3		34.3	
Race							
Black		9,500 (61%)		378 (27%)		9,878 (58%)	
White		5,539 (36%)		975 (70%)		6,514 (39%)	
Other		490 (3%)		36 (3%)		526 (3%)	
Citizenship							
Aliens		329 (2%)		12 (1%)		341 (2%)	
Citizens		15,193 (98%)		1,366 (98%)		16,559 (98%)	
Sentencing Data/Criminal History							
Admission Type:							
New		13,251 (85%)		1,291 (93%)		14,542 (86%)	
Revocator		2,144 (14%)		97 (7%)		2,241 (13%)	
Other		134 (1%)		1 (0%)		135 (1%)	
With Current Violent Offense		11,771 (76%)		799 (58%)		12,570 (74%)	
With Prior Criminal History		8,882 (57%)		524 (38%)		9,406 (56%)	
With Prior Commitments		2,986 (19%)		77 (6%)		3,063 (18%)	
Average Sentence Length in Years 1		16.3		11.2		15.8	
Average Time to Serve before Maxout 2		6.9		5.0		6.7	
Sentences One Year or Less (excl. YOA)		244 (2%)		67 (5%)		311 (2%)	
Sentences More than 20 years (excl.lifers)		3,591 (23%)		192 (14%)		3,783 (22%)	
With Life Sentence		1,928 (12%)		73 (5%)		2,001 (12%)	
With YOA/Juvenile Sentence		314 (2%)		29 (2%)		343 (2%)	
On Death Row		25 (0%)		0 (0%)		25 (0%)	
Non-Parolable (includes TIS inmates)		10,259 (66%)		702 (51%)		10,961 (65%)	
TIS Sentences		9,976 (64%)		697 (50%)		10,673 (63%)	
Special Needs							
With Children 3		10,489 (68%)		1,045 (75%)		11,534 (68%)	
With Convicted Disciplinary in Last 12 Months		5,561 (36%)		366 (26%)		5,927 (35%)	
With Victim Witness Indicator		11,136 (72%)		741 (53%)		11,877 (70%)	
Sex Registry		2,685 (17%)		38 (3%)		2,723 (16%)	
Required DNA Testing		15,364 (99%)		1,351 (97%)		16,715 (99%)	
Chemical Dependent per SASSI/TCUDDS 4		4,337 (28%)		606 (44%)		4,943 (29%)	
Education/Work							
Average Education Level at Intake		10.6		10.6		10.6	
Without HS/GED		9,957 (64%)		986 (71%)		10,943 (65%)	
Leading Most Serious Offense 5							
		Homicide	27%	Drug Offenses	34%	Homicide	27%
		Drug Offenses	19%	Homicide	23%	Drug Offens	20%
		Sexual Assault	9%	Assault	6%	Sexual Assa	9%
		Burglary	9%	Traffic Offense	6%	Burglary	8%
		Robbery	8%	Family Offense	6%	Robbery	8%
Top Five Committing Counties							
		Greenville	10%	Greenville	11%	Greenville	10%
		Spartanburg	9%	York	10%	Spartanburg	9%
		Charleston	7%	Spartanburg	9%	Richland	7%
		Richland	7%	Lexington	6%	Charleston	7%
		York	6%	Pickens	5%	York	6%
Mental Health Classification							
No Mental Health Problem		10,773 (69%)		469 (34%)		11,242 (66%)	
Developmentally Disabled		6 (0%)		0 (0%)		6 (0%)	
Mentally Ill		4,610 (30%)		895 (64%)		5,505 (33%)	
Classification Pending		140 (1%)		25 (2%)		165 (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 data.

NOTE: Percentages may not add up due to rounding.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

JOEL E. ANDERSON
DIRECTOR



SCDC FAQs

SEPTEMBER 2026

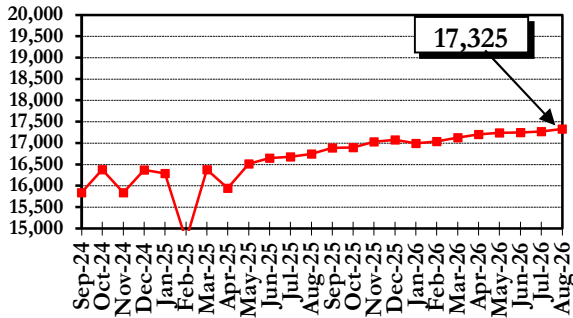
For further information, contact:
South Carolina Department of Corrections

Division of Technology
4444 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29210
(803) 896-8526

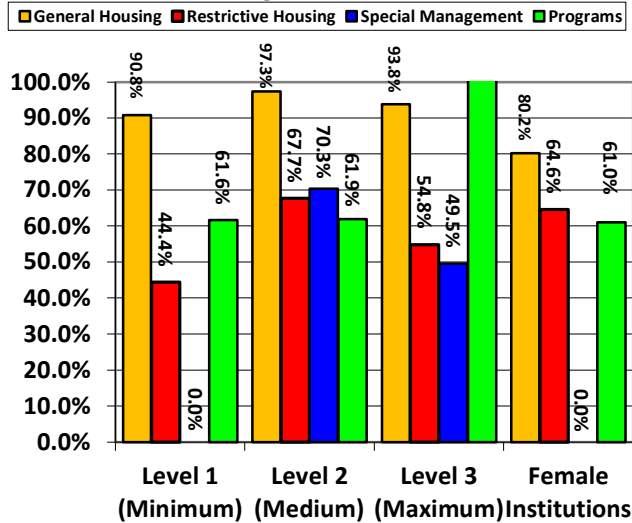
This document is available in alternative formats by
contacting the number above.

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

SCDC Average Daily Facility Count per Month September 2024 – August 2026



Bedspace Utilization Rates by Housing Type August 15, 2026



Average Daily Inmate Population per Year Fiscal Year 2017 - 2025					
Fiscal Year	SCDC Facilities	Other ¹	SCDC Jurisdiction	Change over Last Year	% Change over Last Year
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%
2025	16,418	531	16,949	225	1.3%

¹ Other Placements = Special Placements + Designated Facilities

Admissions to SCDC Fiscal Years 2023 – 2025

ADMISSIONS	FY 2023		FY 2024		FY 2025	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
NEW ADMISSIONS FROM COURT	4,970	86.5%	4,938	87.0%	5,371	88.2%
Indeterminate Sentence (YOA)*	246	4.3%	254	4.5%	252	4.1%
Straight Sentence (Non-YOA)	4,693	81.7%	4,659	82.1%	5,089	83.5%
Other Jurisdiction	31	0.5%	25	0.4%	30	0.5%
PROBATION REVOCATIONS***	432	7.5%	428	7.5%	456	7.5%
PAROLE REVOCATIONS	184	3.2%	114	2.0%	89	1.5%
Youthful Offender Act (YOA)	40	0.7%	17	0.3%	34	0.6%
NON-YOA	144	2.5%	97	1.7%	55	0.9%
ISS REVOCATIONS	67	1.2%	71	1.3%	65	1.1%
SUPERVISED RE-ENTRY REVOCATIONS	20	0.3%	29	0.5%	29	0.5%
SF/EPA REVOCATIONS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
COMMUNITY SUPV. REVOCATIONS	64	1.1%	93	1.6%	79	1.3%
RE-SENTENCED	4	0.1%	2	0.0%	4	0.1%
DEATH ROW	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OTHER **	2	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	5,743	100.00%	5,675	100.00%	6,093	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 2023 - 2025

OFFENSE CLASSIFICATION	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
DRUG OFFENSES	28.6%	28.3%	28.3%
BURGLARY	10.1%	10.4%	8.4%
ASSAULT	9.8%	9.6%	10.0%
FAMILY OFFENSE	9.1%	9.0%	9.4%
LARCENY	5.7%	6.1%	6.2%
ROBBERY	4.7%	4.3%	3.9%
TRAFFIC OFFENSE	4.3%	4.6%	4.9%
ALL OTHERS	27.7%	27.7%	28.9%
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	5,743	5,675	6,093

Average Sentence Length of SCDC Admissions Fiscal Years 2023 – 2025

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Average Sentence Length	5 Yrs. 4 Mos.	5 Yrs. 6 Mos.	5 Yrs. 5 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 2023 – 2025

TIME SERVED	FY 2023		FY 2024		FY 2025	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
3 Months or Less	194	3.4%	179	3.5%	198	3.5%
3 Months 1 Day-6 Months	559	9.8%	494	9.5%	487	8.5%
6 Months 1 Day-9 Months	669	11.7%	599	11.6%	588	10.3%
9 Months 1 Day-1 Year	589	10.3%	490	9.4%	541	9.5%
1 Year 1 Day-2 Years	1,523	26.6%	1,433	27.6%	1,634	28.6%
5 Years 1 Day-6 Years	190	3.3%	157	3.0%	163	2.9%
10 Years 1 Day-15 Years	271	4.7%	231	4.5%	267	4.7%
15 Years 1 Day-20 Years	121	2.1%	108	2.1%	141	2.5%
20 Years 1 Day-25 Years	64	1.1%	43	0.8%	70	1.2%
25 Years 1 Day-30 Years	47	0.8%	47	0.9%	47	0.8%
Over 30 Years	25	0.4%	25	0.5%	33	0.6%
TOTAL RELEASES	5,731	100.0%	5,186	100.0%	5,708	100.0%
Average Time Served	3 Years 4 Months		3 Years 2 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 2023 – 2025

RELEASES	FY 2023		FY 2024		FY 2025	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE/ LESS GOOD TIME	2,169	37.8%	2,006	38.7%	2,254	39.5%
MAXOUT - YOA	42	0.7%	70	1.3%	45	0.8%
PLACED ON PROBATION	1,111	19.4%	969	18.7%	1,009	17.7%
PAROLED TO INTENSIVE SUPERVISION SERVICES*	237	4.1%	211	4.1%	166	2.9%
PAROLED BY YOA PAROLE BOARD**	66	1.2%	78	1.5%	71	1.2%
PAROLED BY DPPPS***	187	3.3%	132	2.5%	141	2.5%
RE-SENTENCED	2	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%
COMMUNITY SUPERVISION	1,048	18.3%	853	16.4%	1,021	17.9%
SUPERVISED RE-ENTRY	754	13.2%	755	14.6%	869	15.2%
DEATH	88	1.5%	90	1.7%	105	1.8%
DEATH-EXECUTED	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
RELEASED TO EPA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OTHER ****	27	0.5%	21	0.4%	26	0.5%
TOTAL RELEASES	5,731	100.0%	5,186	100.0%	5,708	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 2021-2025				
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
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
2025	\$34,673	\$95.00	\$37,503	\$102.75

*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.