

**LOUISIANA OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE  
2017 RECIDIVISM REPORT**

FISCAL YEAR	Secure			Non-Secure			Supervision			Total		
	1 Year Rate	2 Year Rate	3 Year Rate	1 Year Rate	2 Year Rate	3 Year Rate	1 Year Rate	2 Year Rate	3 Year Rate	1 Year Rate	2 Year Rate	3 Year Rate
2013-14	22.30%	35.90%	42.00%	16.10%	28.10%	35.30%	12.20%	19.20%	23.40%	14.60%	23.40%	28.30%
2014-15	19.40%	30.30%	N/A	17.10%	33.20%	N/A	13.00%	19.60%	N/A	14.60%	23.00%	N/A
2015-16	17.70%	N/A	N/A	17.30%	N/A	N/A	13.00%	N/A	N/A	14.50%	N/A	N/A

**Introduction.** Recidivism is one of many outcome measures that determine the juvenile justice system’s effectiveness in rehabilitating youths. Although there are numerous contributing factors that may influence a juvenile to re-offend, the recidivism rate is one of the primary tools used in measuring the success of programs within the juvenile justice system.

**Definitions.** OJJ defines a recidivist as a youth who is discharged from juvenile justice custody and later placed back into the care of juvenile justice as a result of a subsequent adjudication or placed into custody with the Adult Corrections System.

Secure, non-secure and supervision classifications are based on the legal status of the youth. Youth may have multiple legal statuses due to multiple petitions, so secure, non-secure and supervision are defined by the legal status with the deepest penetration in the system.

Families In Need of Service (FINS) juveniles are not included in the recidivism analysis and can be classified into the following: Custody Non-Secure FINS and Probation FINS also Informal Adjustment Agreement, and Deferred Disposition Agreement.

**Methodology.** All youths discharged from custody within a given fiscal year are tracked for up to N years after discharge. Youths that have a subsequent adjudication, and are again placed into Juvenile Justice custody or with Adult Corrections within N years are counted as recidivist. Youths that are discharged multiple times within a fiscal year are only counted once. Youths discharged in multiple fiscal years are counted once in each fiscal year. Below are the computational formulas for computing recidivism rates.

- 1 Year Rate = Number of Juveniles that Recidivate within 0-1 year of discharge / Number of Unduplicated discharges.
- 2 Year Rate = Number of Juveniles that Recidivate within 0-2 year of discharge / Number of Unduplicated discharges.
- 3 Year Rate = Number of Juveniles that Recidivate within 0-3 year of discharge / Number of Unduplicated discharges.

The one-year, two-year, and three-year recidivism rates can be calculated 13 months, 25 months and 37 months respectively after the completion of the discharge year. The number of discharges or the recidivism rates will not change in the future unless historical data is edited. ‘N/A’ is represented in those categories wherein enough time has not elapsed to calculate a percentage.

The Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice recidivism model was developed to clearly define recidivism by identifying the population involved and applying standardized measurements. The methodology incorporated many recommendations for standardization of recidivism as contained in CJCA’s white paper, [Defining and Measuring Recidivism](#), November 2009. The goal is to develop a state model which contains recommended national standards for measuring recidivism for the juvenile justice system that will transcend a variety of organizational structures.