

Correctional Education Study Findings: FY2016 Releases

Prepared by the Research - Evaluation Unit
November 2021



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Presentation Outline

- Overview of the four Correctional Education programs examined
 - Purpose and background for the programs
 - Education Functioning Levels and the tie to Employability
- Educational attainment by FY2016 State Responsible (SR) Releases from DOC Facilities
 - Educational Program participant characteristics and outcomes
- Recidivism rates for the Correctional Education programs
 - Overall rates
 - Program participants versus comparison groups
 - Comparison to FY2013 SR Releases Study
- Summary

Overview of Correctional Education Programs at DOC Facilities

- Correctional Education programs
 - Focus on helping inmates successfully re-enter the community.
 - Increase skills: academic, workplace readiness, technical, and employability
 - Offered to all eligible inmates and eligibility is determined by various factors.
 - Factors: prior possession of High School/Special Education diploma (HSD); High School Equivalency (HSE)/General Education Development Program (GED[®]) credential; length of stay; release-related situations (work-release and pre-release)
 - Require participation in Adult Basic Education Program (ABE) for those inmates without a verified HSD or HSE/GED[®] credential.
- Main education programs focused on for this study
 - Adult Basic Education Program (ABE)
 - General Education Development Program (GED[®])
 - Career and Technical Education Program (CTE)
 - Career Readiness Certificate (CRC)

Adult Basic Education Program (ABE)

- Purpose: To provide instruction with the goal of improving basic and specific skills necessary to function adequately in society.
 - Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE)
 - Aligned to the National College and Career Readiness Standards.
 - Measures and assesses student achievement levels in reading, math, and language arts.
 - First step in determining the educational path of students and also aids in determining eligibility for GED® and CTE programs.
 - After initial assessment, students are re-tested throughout their incarceration to determine gains.
 - TABE Battery Average: average of the reading and math tests and used as the measure of student achievement in this study.
 - Education Functioning Levels are determined via TABE scale scores.
 - TABE Initial Participation (required, as of 2007)
 - Individuals are exempt if they possess a verified HSD/HSE or not accessible for Correctional Education services, i.e. medical/infirmarary, out to court, etc.

Adult Basic Education Program (ABE): Education Functioning Levels

ABE I

- Grade Equivalent: 0 to 1.9
- Little ability to read or provide basic information
- **Basic entry level jobs:** no written communication or technical knowledge

ABE II

- Grade Equivalent: 2 to 3.9
- Able to read and provide simple information
- **Entry level jobs:** minimal literacy skills

ABE III

- Grade Equivalent: 4 to 5.9
- Able to handle basic reading, writing, and computation
- **Entry level jobs:** basic literacy and computation skills

Adult Basic Education Program (ABE): Education Functioning Levels

ABE IV

- Grade Equivalent: 6 to 8.9
- Can handle basic life skills, read simple material, and follow multistep diagrams
- **Jobs:** able to follow written instructions and diagrams; can use basic software and technology

ABE V

- Grade Equivalent: 9 to 10.9
- Able to read most documents and follow multistep directions and diagrams
- **Jobs:** can interpret information from multiple sources; proficient in using computers and technology

ABE VI

- Grade Equivalent: 11 to 12
- Able to read and interpret technical information as well as complex materials
- **Jobs:** can function in situations that involve higher order thinking; proficient with computers; can learn new software and technology

General Education Development Program (GED®)

- Purpose: Provide individuals who have not graduated from high school the opportunity to demonstrate attainment of necessary skills and earn an HSE credential.
 - A Research Synthesis (Passarell, 2013) shows that attainment of a GED® while incarcerated has a positive impact on recidivism rates.
 - Resulting in increased employment, advanced training, and higher education opportunities.
 - Meeting minimum proficiency requirements
 - Increased earning potential for GED® credential earners versus those without GED®.
 - GED® Tests
 - Test version evolution
 - 1978 & 1988: Tests = writing, social studies, science, interpreting literature and the arts, math
 - 2002: Tests = reading, writing, science, social studies, math; informed by Bloom's Taxonomy; paper and pencil
 - 2014: Tests = language, science, social studies, math; informed by Webb's Depth of Knowledge, Common Core State Standards, and College and Career Readiness Standards; computer-based

Career and Technical Education Program (CTE)

- Purpose: Provide students with courses that emphasize cultivating career information, technical skills, industry-based certification and licensing.
 - Outcomes: improve employability and workplace readiness.
- CTE Course Program
 - Courses are diverse (40 types, with ~164 courses offered): Automotive Repair, Food Services, Pipefitting, CAD, Masonry, HVAC, Optical, Electricity and Welding, and many others
 - Courses are offered statewide and current capacity (limited by pandemic protocols [50%])= 1,435
 - Wait lists are common
 - Prerequisites vary depending on the CTE Course
 - Minimum TABE scores; GED®/HSE; HSD
 - Sufficient time left in sentence to complete course (or a substantial component)
 - Challenges
 - Students transferred prior to class completion; limitations of space and resources; qualified instructors; competing programming needs

The Virginia Career Readiness Certificate Program

- Purpose: To illustrate an individual's job behavior and potential success in the workplace
- Virginia CRC program consists of three WorkKey assessments in work-related skills:
 - Applied Math; Reading for Information; Locating Information
- CRC Credentials Awarded*†:
 - CRC proficiency levels correspond to skill requirements of profiled jobs specified at the state level
 - **Bronze** – at least 16% of profiled jobs
 - **Silver** – at least 67% of profiled jobs
 - **Gold** – at least 93% of profiled jobs

Notes:

*CRC program participants not qualifying for a Bronze level do not receive any certificate.

† Platinum-level earners were not evaluated in this study because the Platinum level was not available for VADOC CRC program participants until 2018.

Source:

<http://www.vccs.edu/workforce/career-readiness-certificate/>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title2.2/chapter24/section2.2-2477/>

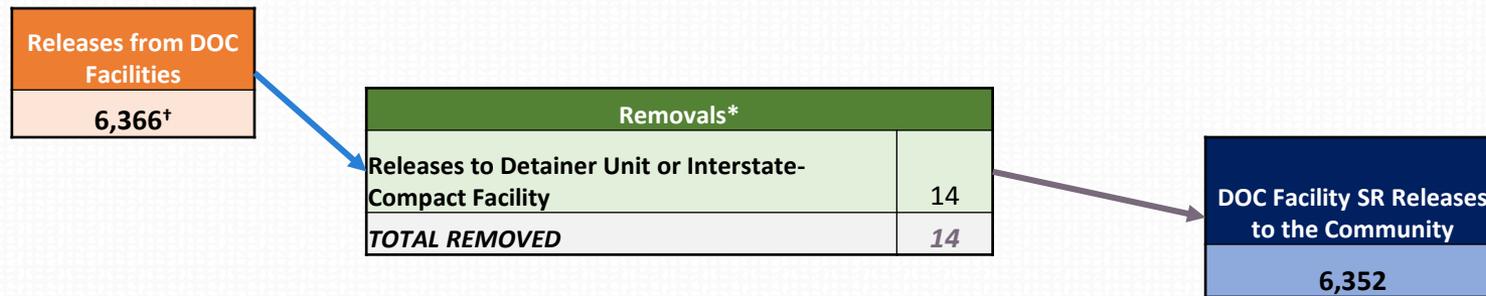
The VADOC Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) Program

- Eligibility Qualifications for CRC Program (OP 601.4):
 - Inmates within one year of release
 - Academic level requirements:
 - Minimum of an 8th grade equivalency on TABE for reading and mathematics -or-
 - Earned a verifiable HSE or GED® -or-
 - Successfully completed one or more college course with a grade of C or better
- Transitioned from Virginia-specific to National CRC in 2018
 - Three WorkKey assessments in work-related skills:
 - Applied Math; Graphic Literacy; Workplace Documents
 - Credential Levels: Proficiency levels correspond to the skill requirements of profiled jobs from ACT's national database
 - Bronze- 17%; Silver- 69%; Gold- 93%; Platinum- 99%

Source:

<https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/NCRC-InformationFlyer.pdf>

FY2016 State Responsible (SR) Releases from DOC Facilities: Correctional Education Program Eligible



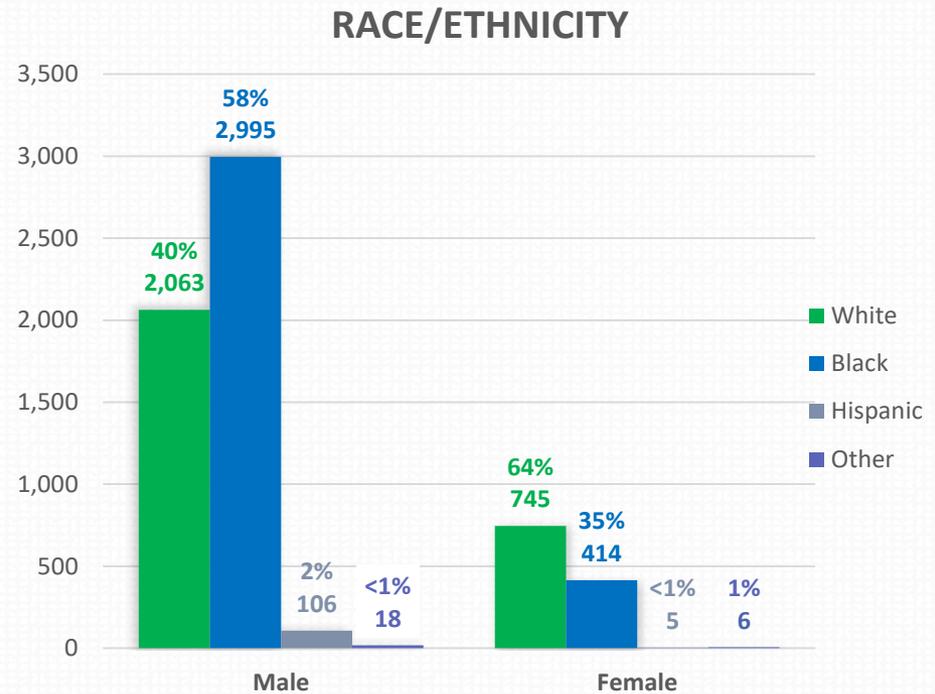
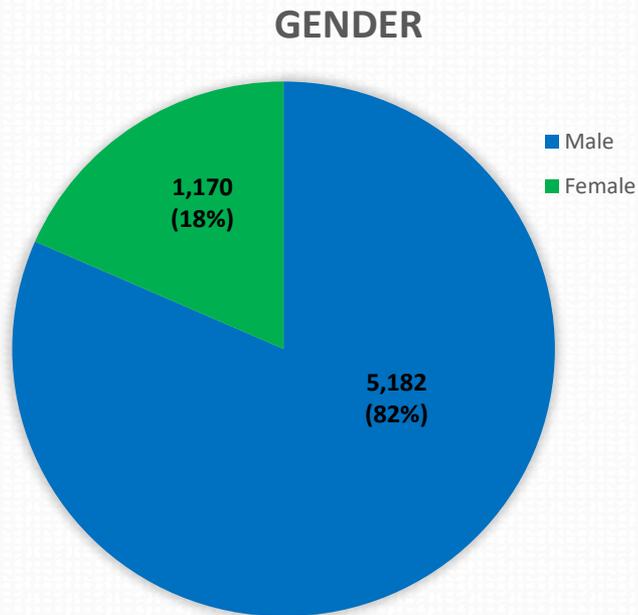
- FY2016 SR Releases included **6,366** inmates
- After reviewing the overall release group, we removed **14** inmates*
- The resulting group used for analysis has **6,352** inmates
 - These inmates had the potential to be eligible for Correctional Education programs

Notes:

†Deaths in Custody (n=96) were already removed from the original release file.

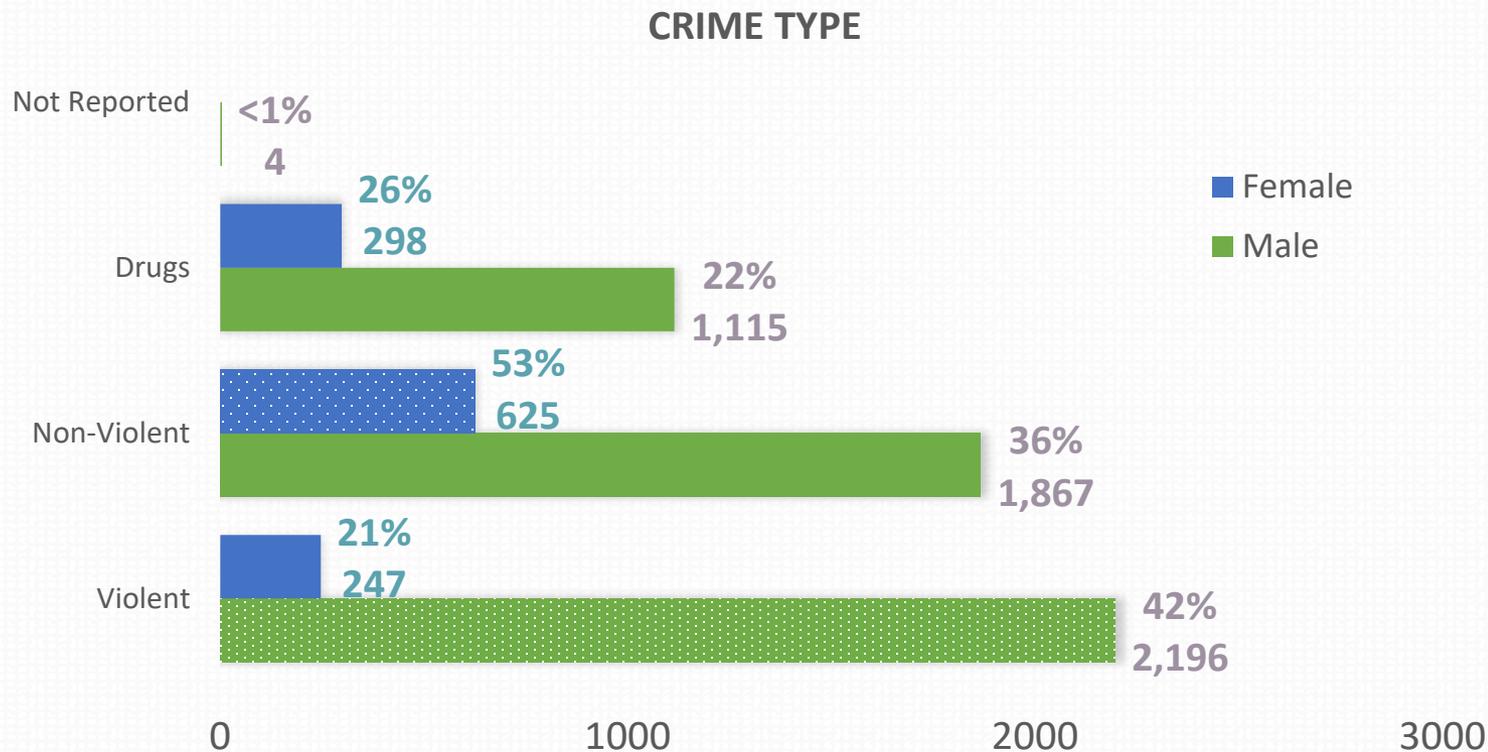
*6 inmates were released to the Detainer Unit and 8 to Interstate-Compact Facilities. These inmates were excluded because we do not have the ability to track their recidivism information.

Characteristics of Inmates Released from DOC Facilities: FY2016 (n = 6,352)



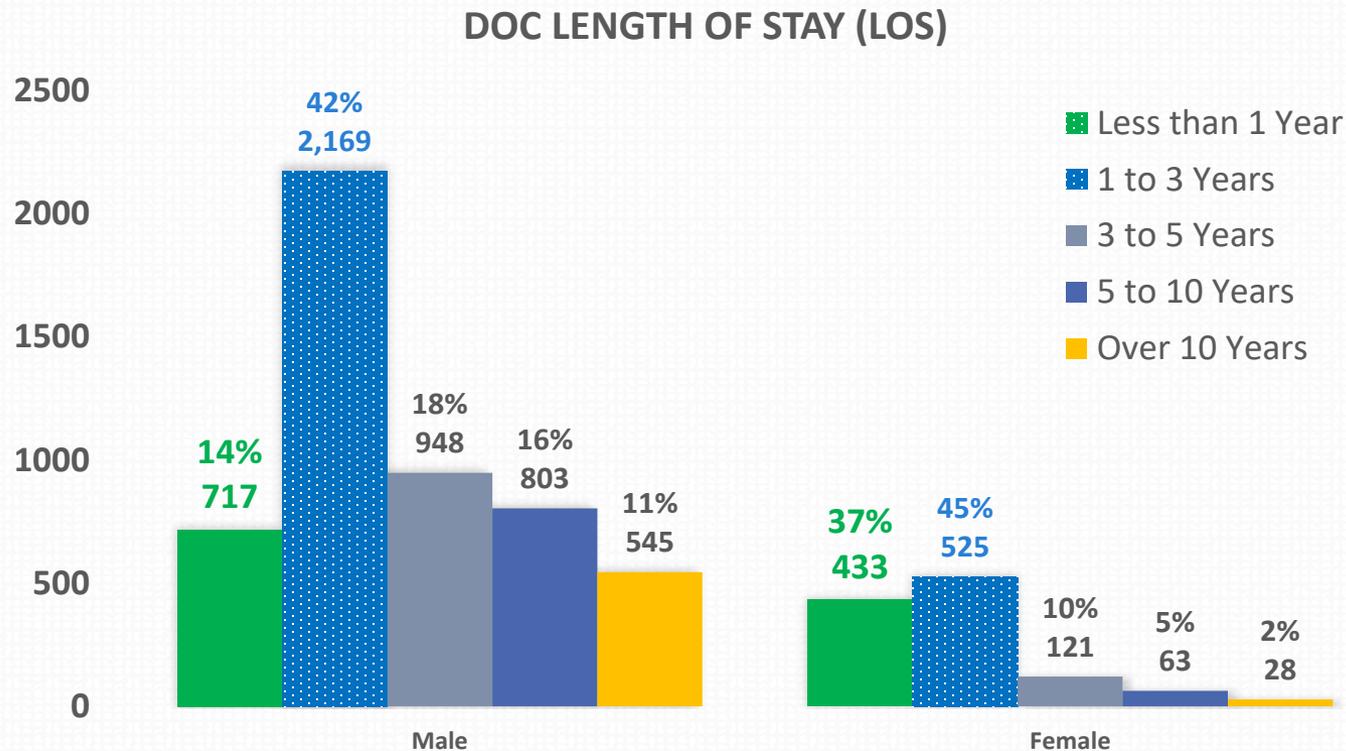
- The majority of the release group is Male (82%) versus Female (18%)
- Male Releases: 58% Black, 40% White, 2% Hispanic, <1% Other
- Female Releases: 64% White, 35% Black, <1% Hispanic, <1% Other

Characteristics of Inmates Released from DOC Facilities: FY2016 (n = 6,352)



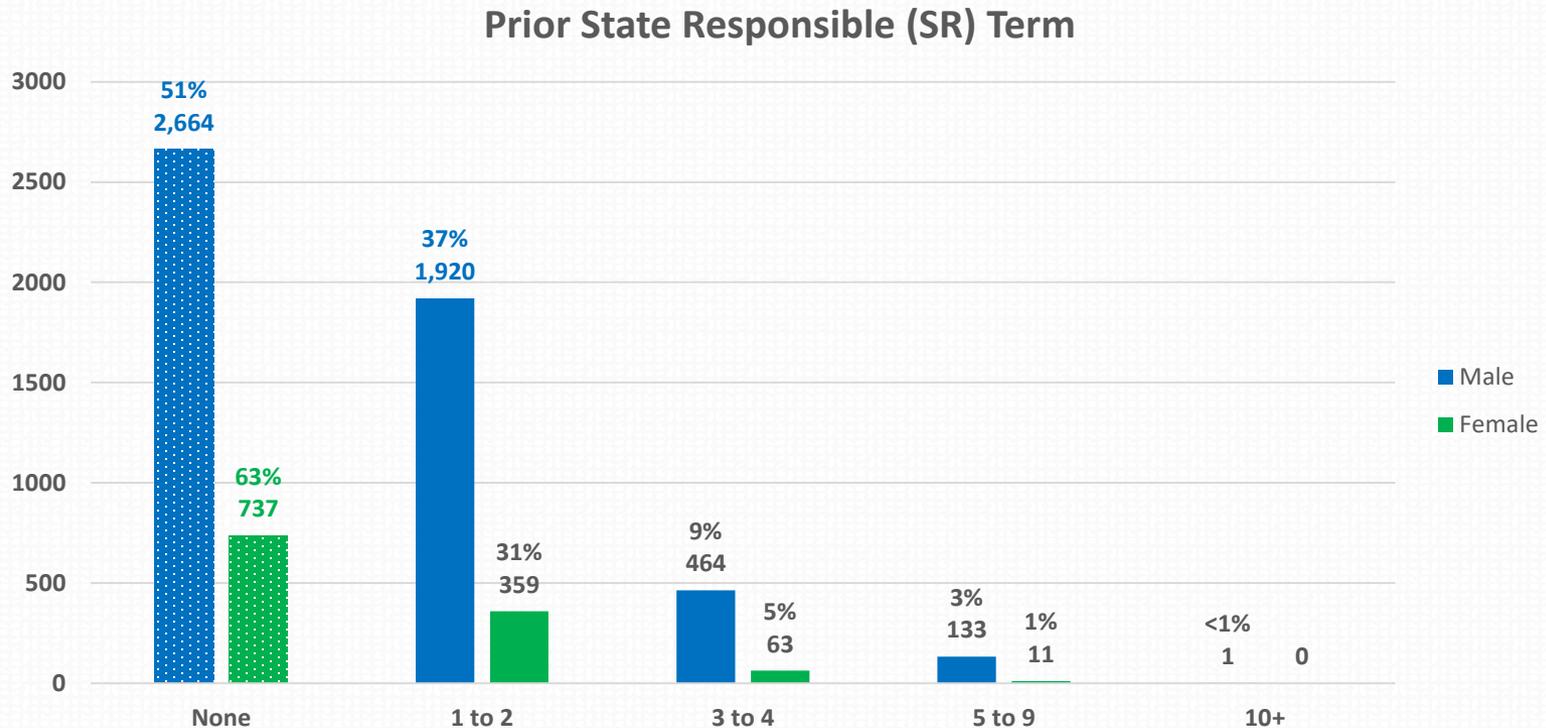
- A majority of male inmates (42%) committed violent offenses, whereas 53% of the female inmates committed non-violent offenses

Characteristics of Inmates Released from DOC Facilities: FY2016 (n = 6,352)



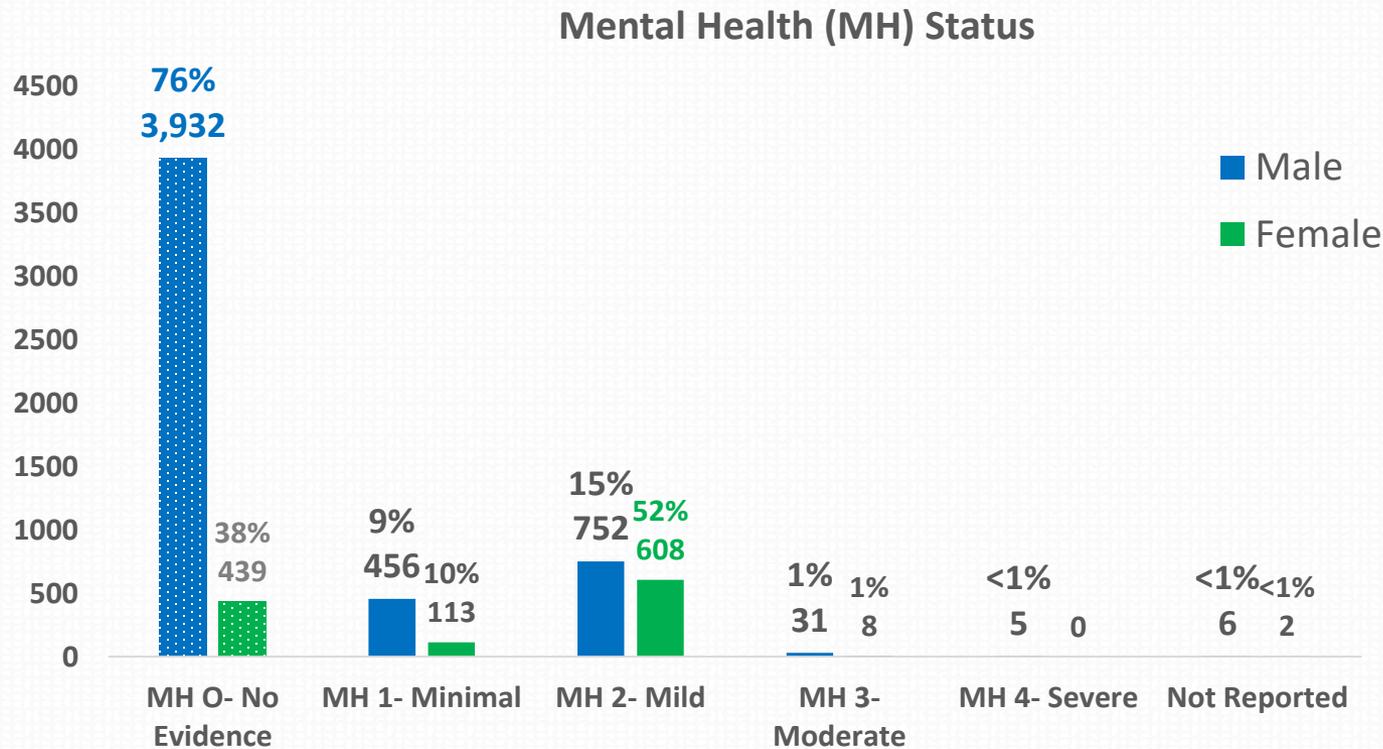
- DOC Length of Stay (LOS) is the total amount of time spent in DOC facilities
 - Most inmates were incarcerated in DOC facilities for 1 to 3 years before release: Males = 42% and Females = 45%

Characteristics of Inmates Released from DOC Facilities: FY2016 (n = 6,352)



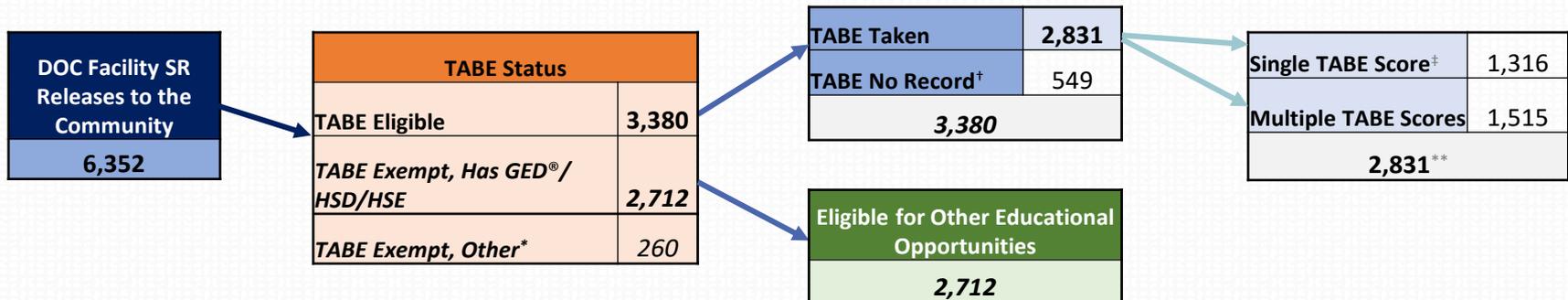
- Over half of both Males (51%) and Females (63%) had no Prior SR terms
- 37% of Males show 1 to 2 Prior SR Incarcerations

Characteristics of Inmates Released from DOC Facilities: FY2016 (n = 6,352)



- A majority of males (76%) had no evidence of impairment (MH 0)
- 52% of Females show mild levels of impairment (MH 2)

FY2016 State Responsible (SR) Releases from DOC Facilities: Adult Basic Education Status



- FY2016 SR Releases included **6,352** inmates potentially eligible for Correctional Education programs
- We identified **2,972** TABE Exempt inmates
- The resulting group used for analysis has **3,380** inmates
 - 2,831 of these individuals have taken the TABE and 97.4% (2,757) have received a Battery Average score

Notes:

*Individuals with: DOC Length of Stays (LOS) of less than 1 year; social security eligibility, or a hospital location.

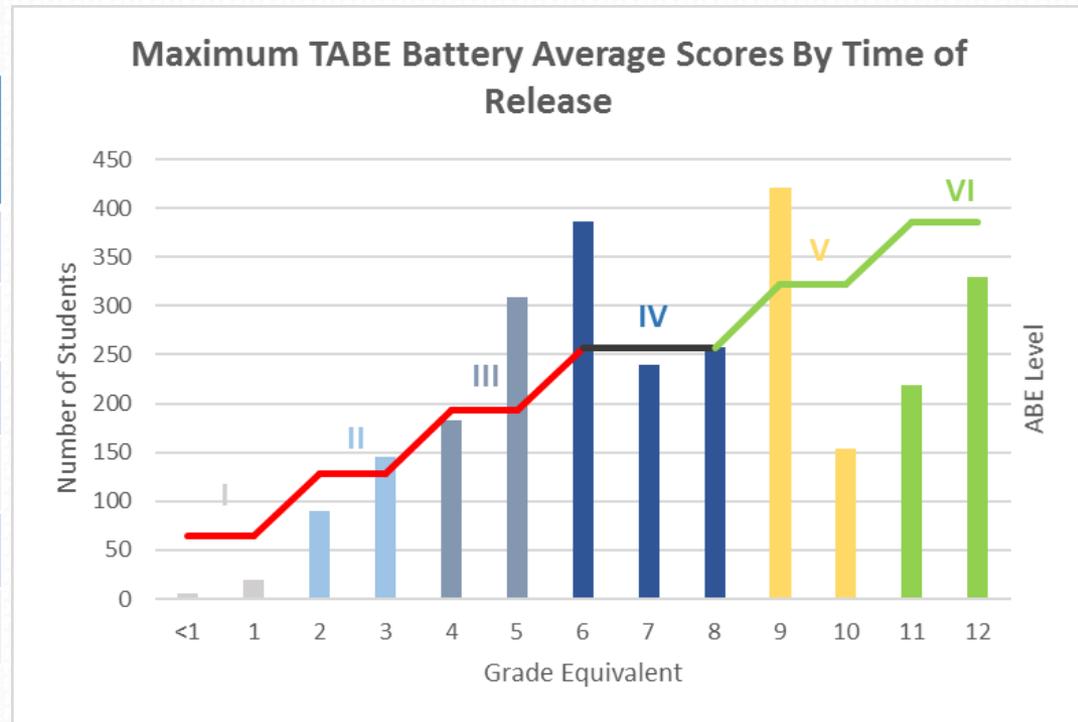
[†]Lack of TABE scores may be due to: data conversion issues during 2012 transition from DCE to DOC (2,341 had NCC Dates before 12/31/11); education taken prior to DCE data system; TABE administered during jail stay, but information not provided to DOC after transfer; or refusals to participate.

[‡]Individuals may have been fast-tracked into more advanced education opportunities, but cannot confirm due to transition.

**74 took the TABE test, but had missing TABE Battery Average scores.

Adult Basic Education Profile: TABE Scores

Grade Equivalents [†]	TABE Takers
0 to 1.9	24 (1%)
2 to 3.9	235 (9%)
4 to 5.9	492 (18%)
6 to 7.9	625 (23%)
8 to 9.9	678 (25%)
10 to 12	703 (25%)



- Half of the inmates (50%) who took the TABE test and had valid scores (n=2,757*) scored a Battery Average at or above 8th grade level (ABE Levels: partial IV through VI)
- More than a quarter (27%) of the release group had a Battery Average below the 6th grade level (ABE Levels: III and below)

Note:

* 74 took the TABE test, but had missing TABE Battery Average scores.

[†] Grade Equivalent score indicate the level (school year and month) at which a student performed in a given subject area.

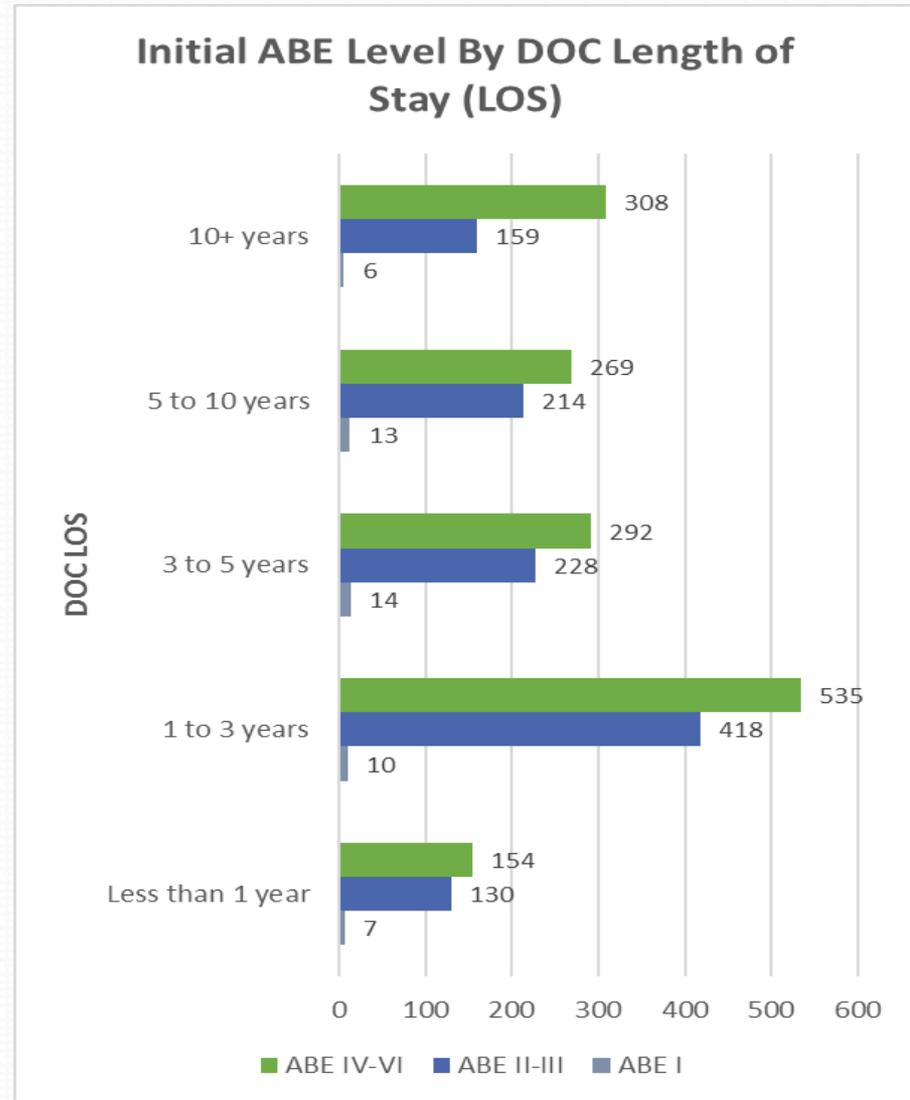
Time Required for GED® Readiness

- This factor varies based on initial ABE Levels:
 - Non-Readers move to ABE III = 5 years
 - ABE II/III to GED® Testing = 3-5 years
 - ABE IV/V/VI to GED® Testing = usually less than 3 years
- In the current sub-group of TABE takers (n=2,757*), 46% had a Length of Stay (LOS) less than 3 years, regardless of their initial ABE Level

DOC LOS	TABE Takers
Less than 1 year	291 (11%)
1 to 3 years	963 (35%)
3 to 5 years	534 (19%)
5 to 10 years	496 (18%)
10+ years	473 (17%)

Note:

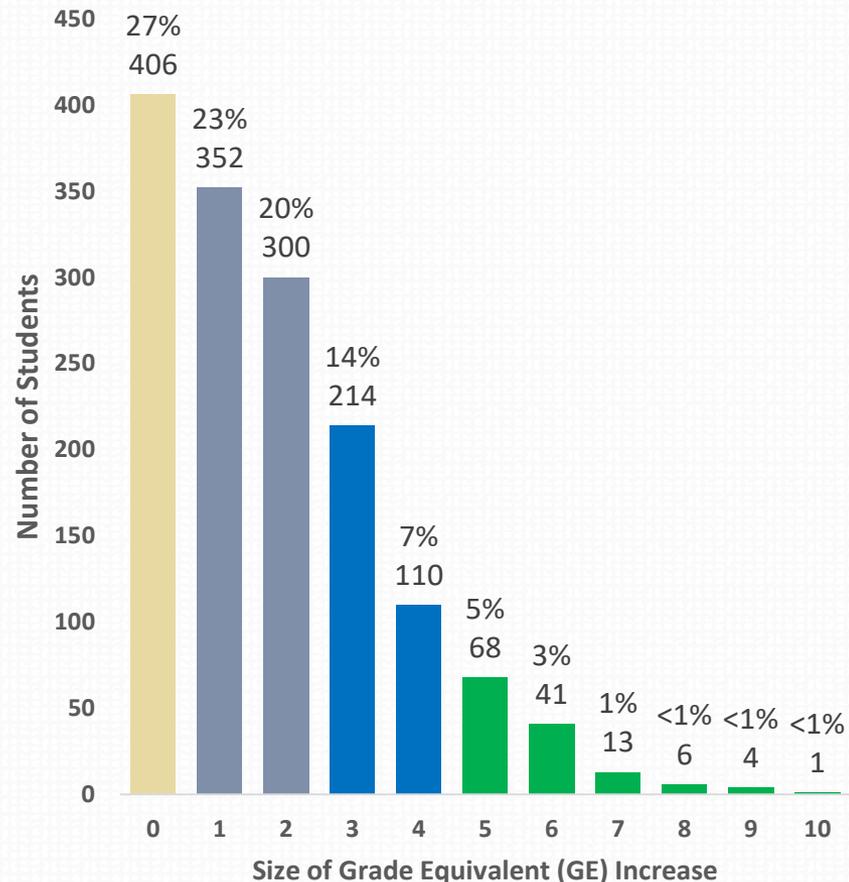
* 74 took the TABE test, but had missing TABE Battery Average scores.



Change in TABE Scores Trend

- Sub-group limited to those with multiple TABE Battery Average scores (n = 1,515)
 - Gains were calculated between the initial and maximum TABE Battery Average scores for students
- About three-quarters (73%) of inmates' TABE Battery Average scores improved by at least one grade equivalent level
 - Gains:
 - 1-2 GE: 652 (43%)
 - 3-4 GE: 324 (21%)
 - 5+ GE: 133 (9%)
- The average grade level improvement was **1.9 GE (median = 1.0 GE)**

Gains in TABE Battery Average Scores:
By Grade Equivalents



Change in ABE Levels

Initial ABE Level vs. Highest ABE Level (Prior to Release*)										
		ABE Level from Highest Battery Average Score						Students with Gains		Total
		ABE I	ABE II	ABE III	ABE IV	ABE V	ABE VI	N	(%)	
ABE Level from Initial Battery Average Score	ABE I	7	13	7	4	1	1	26	(79%)	33
	ABE II		110	113	47	18	7	185	(63%)	295
	ABE III			168	266	84	20	370	(69%)	538
	ABE IV				252	198	65	263	(51%)	515
	ABE V					57	34	34	(37%)	91
	ABE VI						43			43
Total		7	123	288	569	358	170	878	(60%)	1,515

- The data above show several instances of ABE Level improvement between the inmates' initial TABE Battery Average scores and their highest Battery Average scores (prior to release)
 - 60% (878 of 1,472[†]) of eligible students showed gains in their ABE Levels
 - ABE I (little or no ability to read basic signs or maps) moving to ABE II (able to read simple directions, signs and maps) have already improved the 13 individuals' ability to function in society

Notes:

* Exams taken during the Current Term are those that fall between the New Court Commitment Date and the Release Date.

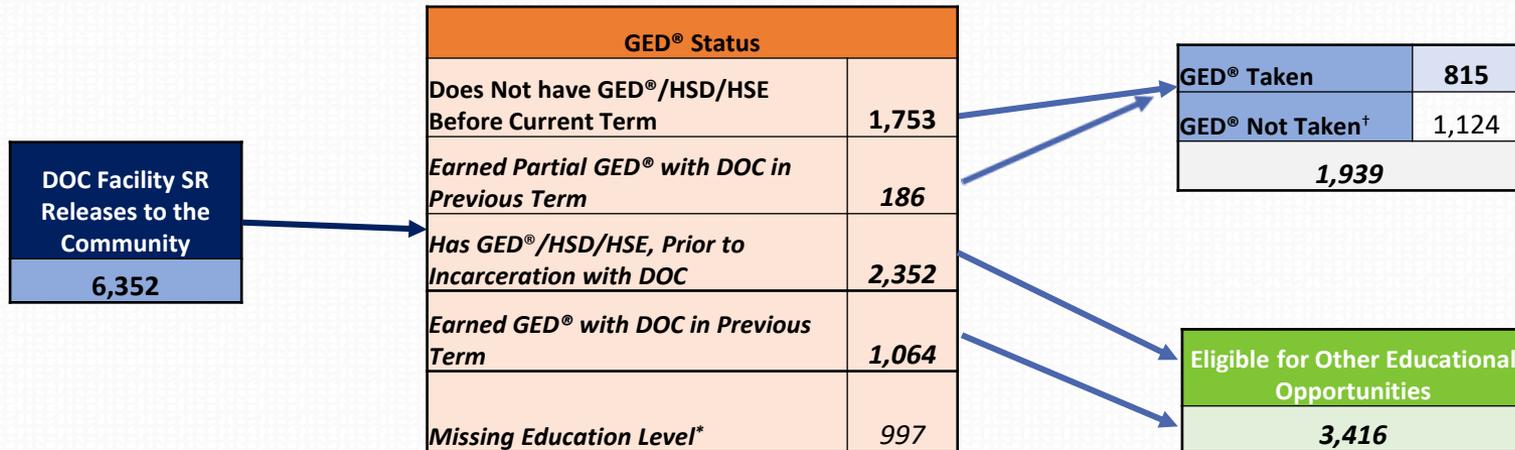
[†] Individuals at initial ABE Level VI were removed, since they would not be able to gain any additional levels (n=43).

Overall Recidivism Rates Three Years After Release by ABE Level

- Recidivism rates decreased as ABE level increased
- Inmates who reached an ABE level of V were 10.5 percentage points less likely to recidivate than inmates who reached an ABE level of III

ABE Level from Highest Battery Average Score	N	Recidivism Rate
ABE I	24	41.7%
ABE II	235	23.0%
ABE III	492	27.4%
ABE IV	882	21.7%
ABE V	575	16.9%
ABE VI	549	15.5%

FY2016 State Responsible (SR) Releases from DOC Facilities: GED® Status



- FY2016 SR Releases included **6,352** inmates potentially eligible for Correctional Education programs
- We identified **3,416** inmates who had their GED®/HSD/HSE either prior to incarceration or earned it during a previous term
- The resulting group used for analysis has **1,939** inmates
 - 42% (815) were determined to have reached GED® readiness criteria and participated in GED® testing

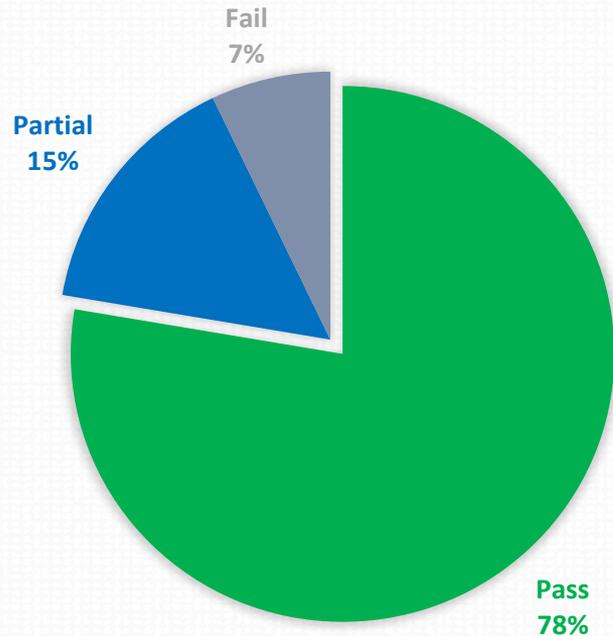
Notes:

*Lack of Missing Education Information may be due to: data conversion issues during 2012 transition from DCE to DOC or that education was taken prior to DCE data system.

[†]The Correctional Education group determines when inmates have met GED® readiness criteria, so these individuals may not have shown enough improvement to meet the necessary ABE level to qualify for GED® testing.

GED® Testing Results for Current Term

CURRENT TERM GED® TESTING



	Fail	Partial	Pass	Total
Male	52 (7%)	86 (12%)	585 (81%)	723
Female	6 (7%)	38 (41%)	48 (52%)	92
TOTAL	58 (7%)	124 (15%)	633 (78%)	815

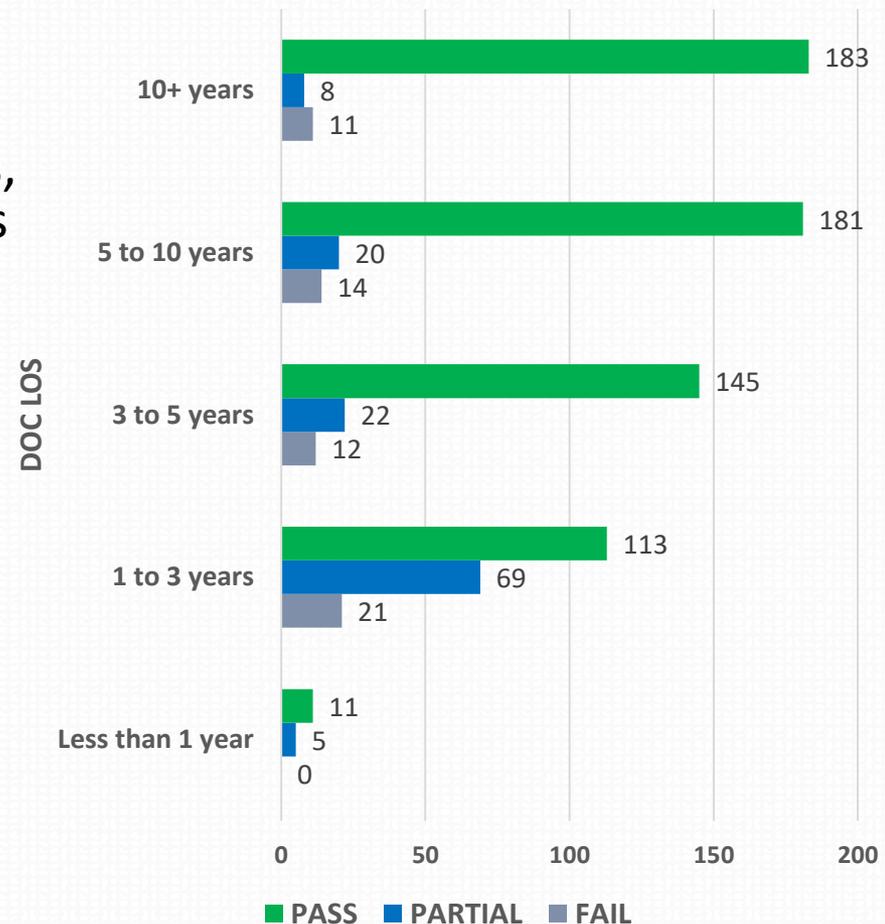
- GED® testing group: 89% (723) were Male versus 11% (92) Female
- Overall, 78% (633) of the inmates who took the GED® in their current term passed
 - When passing rates were examined by gender, Males had a higher rate of passing (81%) than Females (52%)

GED® Testing Results and LOS for Current Term

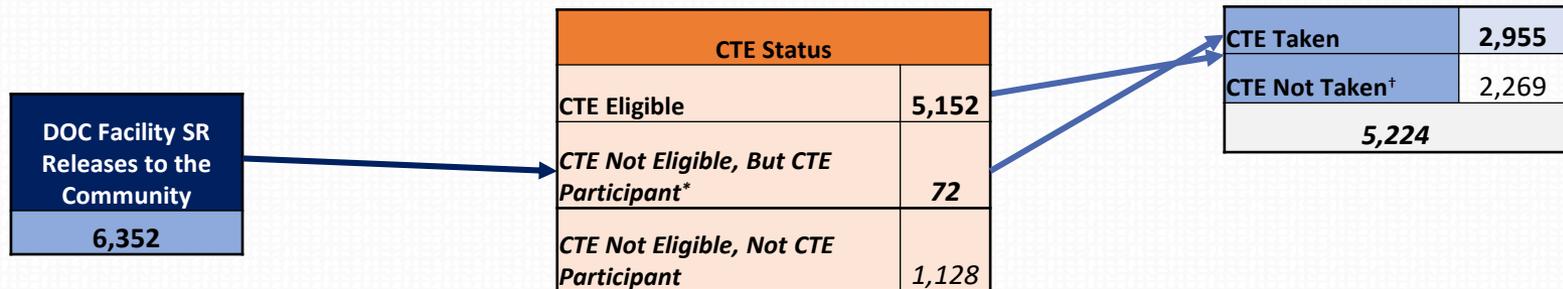
- In the current sub-group of GED® takers, 73% had a LOS 3 years or greater, regardless of their GED® testing results
- Except for DOC LOS of 1-3 years, GED® passing rates improved as DOC LOS levels increased:
 - Less than 1 year: 69%
 - 1 to 3 years: 56%
 - 3 to 5 years: 81%
 - 5 to 10 years: 84%
 - 10+ years: 91%

DOC LOS	GED® Takers
Less than 1 year	16 (2%)
1 to 3 years	203 (25%)
3 to 5 years	179 (22%)
5 to 10 years	215 (26%)
10+ years	202 (25%)

GED® Results By DOC Length of Stay (LOS)



FY2016 State Responsible (SR) Releases from DOC Facilities: CTE Status



- FY2016 SR Releases included **6,352** inmates that were potentially eligible for Correctional Education programs
- Eligibility Criteria: Sentence length of ≥ 24 months and has GED[®]/HSD
- We identified **1,128** inmates who were not CTE Eligible and did not participate in a CTE course
- The resulting group used for analysis has **5,224** inmates
 - ~ 56.6% (2,955) met requirements and participated in CTE Courses

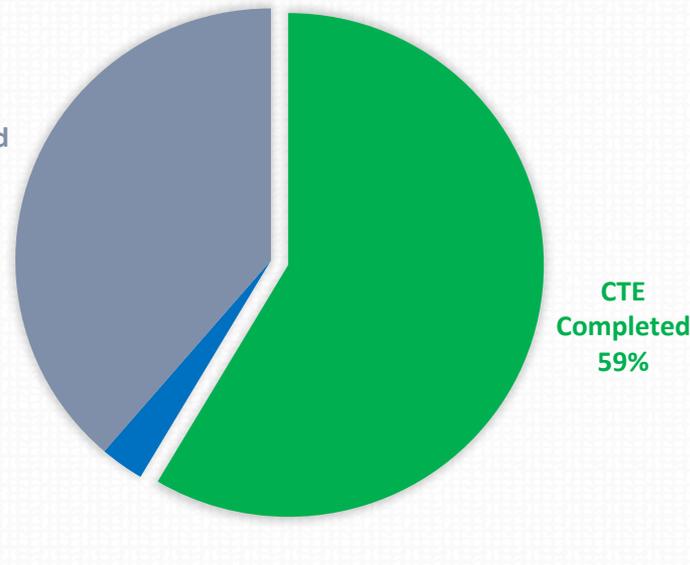
Notes:

*Since the current study looked at TABE Battery Average scores, Math and Reading TABE score minimum level requirements could not be examined and may explain these individuals not being identified as CTE Eligible.

[†]The Correctional Education group does not have the capacity to enroll all interested inmates, so wait lists occur for every CTE program. In addition, those who have LOS of 5 years or less have priority based on current policy (Operating Procedure 601.6).

CTE Program Completion for Current Term

CTE COMPLETIONS



	Removed	Partial	Complete	Total
Male	757 (39%)	61 (3%)	1,110 (58%)	1,928
Female	121 (36%)	2 (1%)	218 (64%)	341
TOTAL	878 (39%)	63 (3%)	1,328 (59%)	2,269

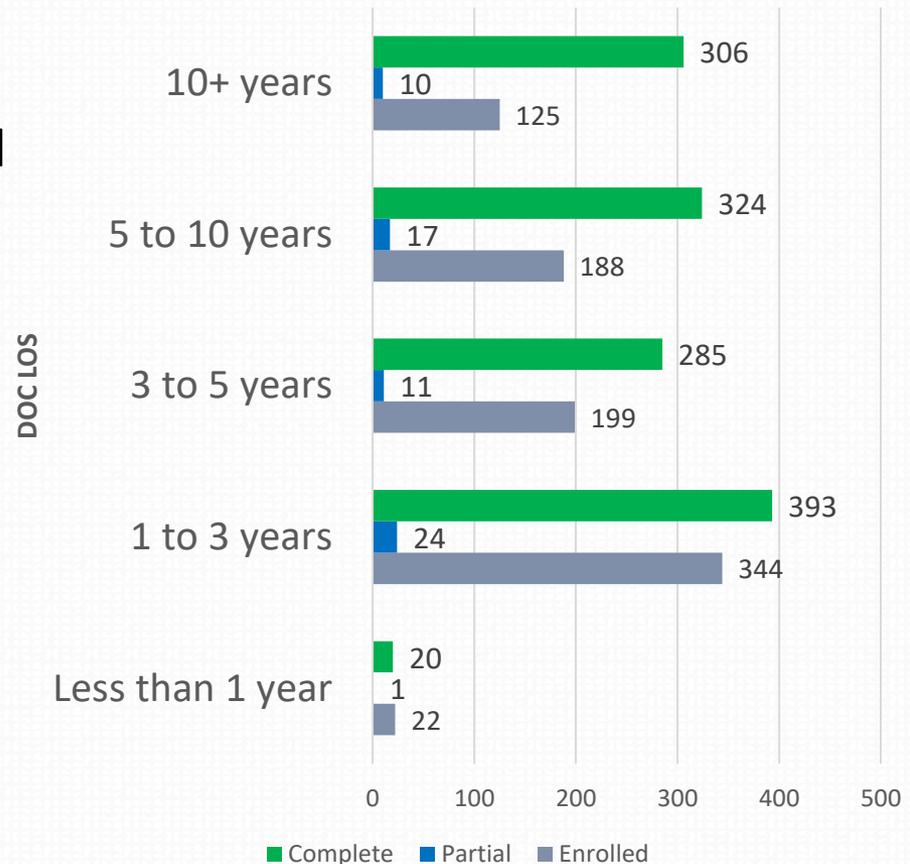
- Of the CTE Program group, 85% (1,928) were Male and 15% (341) were Female
- 39% (878) of inmates had been enrolled in CTE courses, but were removed for various reasons and were unable to complete these courses prior to release
- Overall, 59% (1,328) of the inmates who took CTE courses in their current term completed them
 - Female completion rate (64%) was higher than Males (58%)

CTE Course Completion and LOS for Current Term

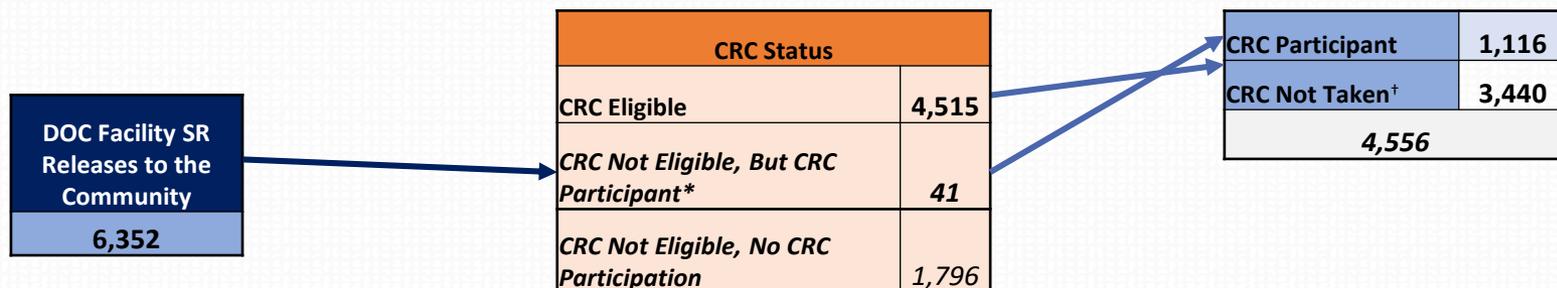
- In the current sub-group of CTE students, 65% had a LOS 3 years or greater, regardless of their CTE course outcomes
- CTE completion rates improved as DOC LOS increased:
 - Less than 1 year 47%
 - 1 to 3 years: 52%
 - 3 to 5 years: 58%
 - 5 to 10 years: 61%
 - 10+ years: 69%

DOC LOS	CTE Students
Less than 1 year	43 (2%)
1 to 3 years	761 (34%)
3 to 5 years	495 (22%)
5 to 10 years	529 (23%)
10+ years	441 (19%)

CTE Course Outcomes By DOC Length of Stay (LOS)



FY2016 State Responsible (SR) Releases from DOC Facilities: CRC Status



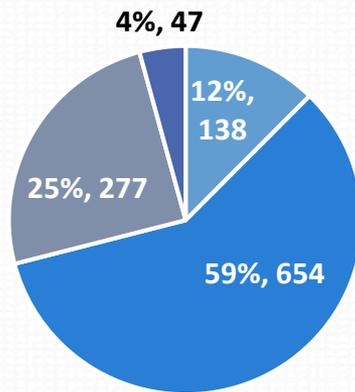
- FY2016 SR Releases included **6,352** inmates potentially eligible for Correctional Education programs
- We identified **1,796** inmates who were not CRC Eligible and did not take the CRC exam
- The resulting group used for analysis has **4,556** inmates
 - ~ 24.5% (1,116) met requirements and participated in CRC testing

Notes:

*Since the current study looked at TABE Battery Average scores, Math and Reading TABE score minimum level requirements could not be examined and may explain these individuals not being identified as CRC Eligible.

CRC Certification for Current Term

CRC Certification



	Gold	Silver	Bronze	No Certificate Earned	Total
Male	110 (12%)	532 (59%)	220 (24%)	41 (5%)	903
Female	28 (13%)	122 (57%)	57 (27%)	6 (3%)	213
TOTAL	138 (12%)	654 (59%)	277 (25%)	47 (4%)	1,116

■ Gold ■ Silver ■ Bronze ■ No Certificate

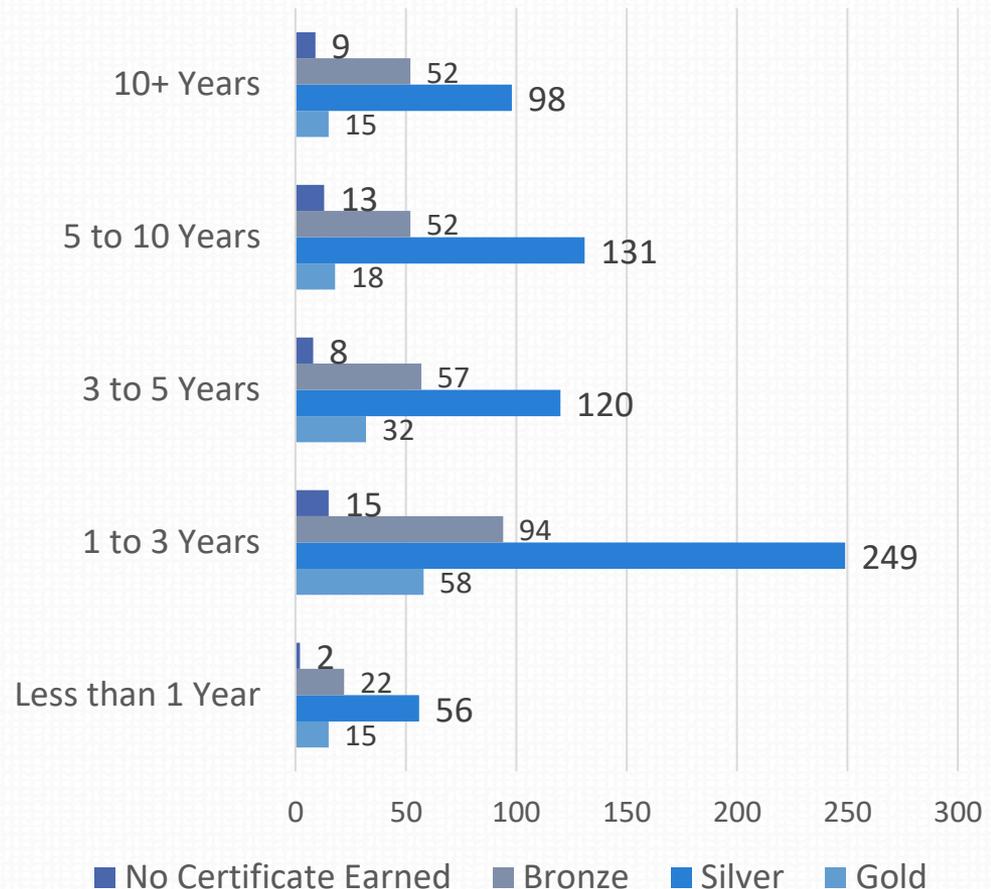
- Of the CRC students, 81% (903) were Male and 19% (213) were Female
- Overall, 96% (1,069) of the inmates who took the CRC exams during their SR term earned a certificate
 - Female and male completion rates were very similar (97% and 96%, respectively)
 - The majority of inmates who earned a certificate earned a silver certificate (58.6%)

CRC Certification and LOS for Current Term

- In the current sub-group of CRC students, 54% had a LOS 3 years or greater, regardless of their CRC exam outcomes

DOC LOS	CRC Students
Less than 1 year	95 (9%)
1 to 3 years	416 (37%)
3 to 5 years	217 (19%)
5 to 10 years	214 (19%)
10+ years	174 (16%)

CRC Certification By DOC Length of Stay (LOS)



Recidivism Rates by Certificate Level Earned

CRC Level	N	Recidivism Rate
None	47	25.5%
Bronze	277	17.7%
Silver	654	16.2%
Gold	138	17.4%
Overall	1,116	17.1%

CRC Certificate Earners	N	Recidivism Rate
Male	862	17.5%
Female	207	13.5%
Overall	1,069	16.7%

- Overall, 191 (17.1%) were re-incarcerated within three years of release
- 16.7% of CRC Certificate earners were re-incarcerated within three-years compared to 25.5% for inmates who took the CRC exam and did not earn a certificate

Overall Recidivism[†] Rates Three Years After Release

Correctional Education Status for Current Term	N	Recidivism Rate
Overall CTE Complete*:		
Male	1,110	14.6%
Female	218	13.3%
Overall	1,328	14.4%
Overall GED Pass*:		
Male	585	20.0%
Female	48	10.4%
Overall	633	19.3%

- The Overall Three Year Recidivism Rate for the CTE Completers (14.4%) was lower than that observed for GED[®] Passers (19.3%)
 - The lowest rate was seen for the Female GED[®] Passers (10.4%)

Note:

*Both the Overall CTE Complete and Overall GED Pass rates include the 272 individuals who passed their GED and completed a CTE in the current term.

[†] Recidivism for this study is defined as a new state responsible term of re-incarceration occurring within three years of an individual's release.

Recidivism Rates Three Years after Release: Matched* Cases and Comparison Groups – GED & CTE

Correctional Education Status for Current Term	N	Study	Comparison
GED® Pass Only†:			
Male	333	22.5%	25.8%
Female	26	11.5%	11.5%
Overall	359	21.7%	24.8%
CTE Complete Only†:			
Male	858	14.0%‡	22.1%
Female	189	14.3%	14.3%
Overall	1,047	14.0%‡	20.7%
GED® Pass + CTE Complete†:			
Male	251	16.7%	14.7%
Female	21	9.5%	9.5%
Overall	272	16.2%	14.3%

- Significant differences in rates between study and comparison groups were observed for Male and Overall CTE Complete Only individuals
- No significant differences were observed for GED® Pass Only comparisons

Notes:
 *Case and Comparison individuals were matched on the following: age at release (± 9 yrs.), gender, crime type, prior SR, and mental health status.
 †Two GED® Pass Only cases and nine CTE Complete Only cases have been removed due to difficulty in identifying an appropriate match.
 ‡McNemar Test Significant (p < 0.01).

Recidivism Rates Three Years after Release: Matched* Cases and Comparison Groups – CRC Only

	N	Study	Comparison
Male	301	20.6%	27.2%
Female	82	13.4%	17.1%
Overall	383 [‡]	19.1%**	25.1%

- CRC Earners had lower recidivism rates than the comparison group
- Significant differences in rates between study and comparison groups were observed for overall CRC earners

Notes:

* Study and Comparison cases were matched on: gender, race, crime type, previous SR incarcerations, mental health, release age (± 7 yrs.)

† To be included in the CRC Non-Earners group, an inmate must not have taken the CRC assessment, participated in a CTE course, and must not have passed the GED in the current term. Previous VADOC studies have shown that CTE completers have lower recidivism rates.

‡ While 1,069 FY2016 SR Releases earned a CRC, 684 were excluded from comparison testing since they also participated in or completed CTE programming. The remaining 383 inmates in the eligible study group were matched with 383 inmates from the FY2016 Releases who had not participated in the CRC or CTE programs (two inmates could not find matched-pairs).

** McNemar test of significance ($p < 0.05$)

Recidivism Rates Three Years after Release: Matched* Cases and Comparison Groups – CRC & CTE

	N	Study	Comparison
Male	382	13.9%**	24.3%
Female	84	14.3%	11.9%
Overall	466‡	13.9%**	22.1%

- The CRC & CTE group had lower recidivism rates than the comparison group
- Statistically significant differences were found for males and overall CRC earners

Notes:

* Study and Comparison cases were matched on: gender, race, crime type, previous SR incarcerations, mental health, release age (\pm 7 yrs.)

‡ In the FY2016 SR Releases, 470 inmates earned a CRC certificate in addition to completing a CTE course. 466 inmates were matched to the comparison group who had not participated in either program (four inmates could not find matched-pairs).

** McNemar's test of significance ($p < 0.01$)

Recidivism Rate Comparison

	Full Release Group (n = 6,352)	CTE Completers (n = 1,328)	GED® Completers* (n = 633)	CTE ⁺ & GED®* (n = 272)	CRC Certificate Earners (n=1,096)
Current Study (FY2016 Releases)	21.0%	14.4%	19.3%	16.2%	16.7%
	Full Release Group (N = 7,009)	CTE Completers (n = 1,220)	GED® Completers (n = 836)	CTE ⁺ & GED® (n = 221)	CRC Certificate Earners (n=1,641)
Previous Study (FY2013 Releases)	20.4%	14.2%	19.1%	16.7%	17.8%

- All education groups had similar three-year recidivism rates for FY2013 and FY2016 releases.
- The largest difference was for CRC Certificate earners. FY2016 Releases who earned a CRC Certificate had a recidivism rate 1.1 percentage points lower than the FY2013 Releases.

Note:

*The previous study only examined the 2012 and 2014 GED® test version.

Summary

- Correctional Education students vary greatly in Adult Basic Education (ABE) Functioning Levels.
 - 59.6% of those students with initial ABE Levels of less than VI (n=1,472) showed improvement
 - Even small levels of improvement can increase an individual's ability to function in the community
- Recidivism rates decrease and function increases with higher ABE levels
- Academics forms the base for eligibility to technical programs

Summary

- GED® Readiness criteria may not be met for those individuals with DOC LOS less than 3 years, especially if initial ABE Levels are low.
 - 60.5% of the FY2016 SR Releases from DOC facilities (n = 6,352) served less than 3 years prior to release
 - For non-GED® completers, gains in TABE Battery Average scores give an idea of the improvements these students have made in their time with the Agency
- GED® Passing is critical in preparing students for CTE Coursework or Advanced Educational opportunities.

Summary

- Correctional Education programs had larger completion or pass rates for individuals with DOC LOS 3+ years.
 - GED® Pass: <3 year = 57% versus 3+ years = 85%
 - CTE Complete: <3 years = 51% versus 3+ years = 62%
- CTE Course completion and the resulting industry based certification seem to be strong factors in reducing recidivism.
 - Male CTE Complete Only = 14.0% (n = 858)
 - Female CTE Complete Only = 14.3% (n = 189)
 - Overall CTE Complete Only = 14.0% (n = 1,047)
- All Adult Education students have the opportunity to improve, so this may be impacting the GED® Pass study versus comparison group outcomes.
 - There is no way to isolate non-education, since all inmates with need have an education participation requirement

Summary

- In the FY2016 DOC Facility Releases, 18% (1,116) participated in the CRC Program.
 - 96% of participants received either a Bronze, Silver, or Gold certificate
- 16.7% of CRC Certificate earners were re-incarcerated within three-years compared to 25.5% for inmates who took the CRC exam and did not earn a certificate.
- CRC Earners showed lower recidivism rates than comparison groups, the differences were statistically significant
- The CRC + CTE group showed lower recidivism rates, and the differences were statistically significant overall and for males

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