



# State Recidivism Comparison

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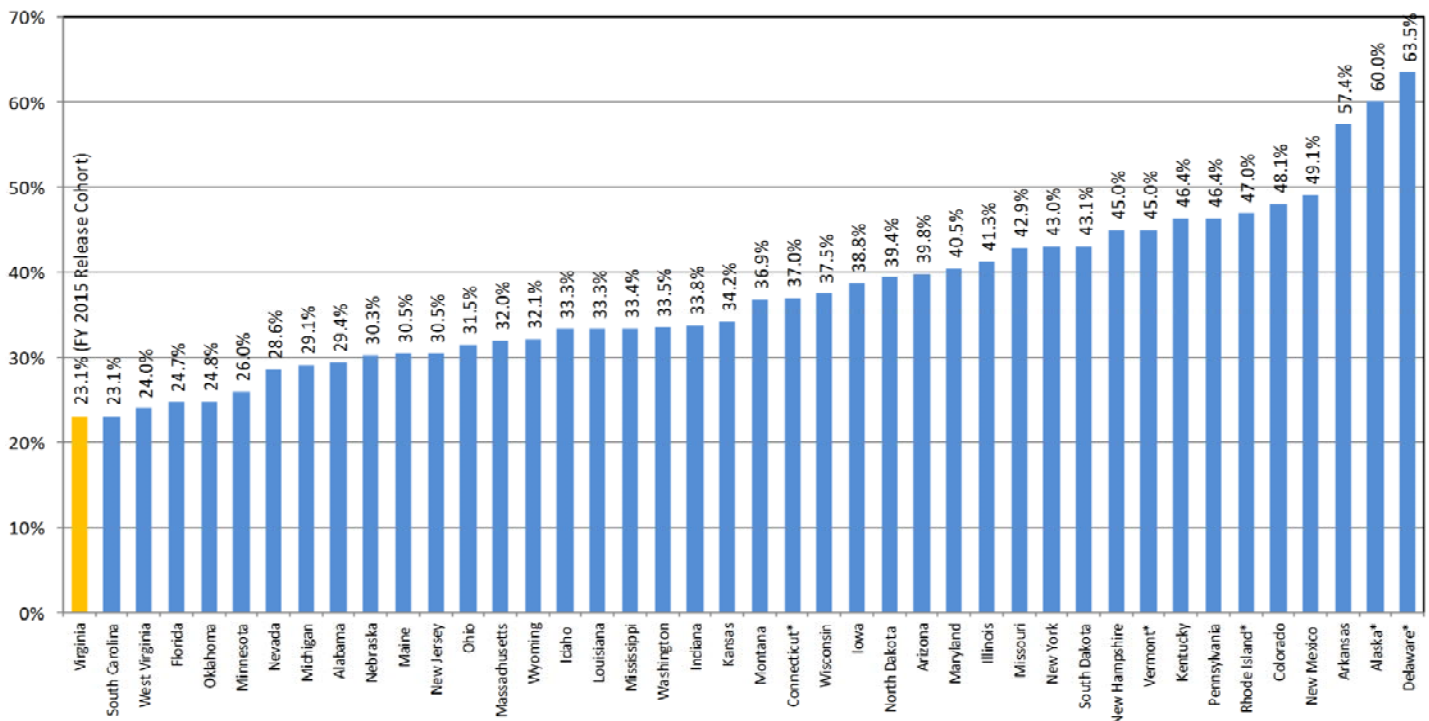
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## Virginia Maintains Lowest Recidivism Rate in the Country for Fourth Consecutive Year

At 23.1%, Virginia’s recidivism rate remains lowest<sup>†</sup> among the states that report three-year State Responsible (SR) re-incarceration rates. Of the 12,385 State Responsible (SR) offenders released from incarceration in Virginia in FY2015 who had an opportunity to recidivate, 2,862 were re-incarcerated within three years. Virginia’s leading rate is attributable to the effective re-entry and educational programming and treatment offered by the Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) during an offender’s incarceration and its effective supervision in the community after release. The VADOC tailors its programming and supervision to address each offender’s criminogenic risks and needs. This aligns with the agency’s mission to enhance the quality of life in the Commonwealth by improving public safety through the successful reintegration of sentenced men and women in its custody and care by providing effective supervision, programs, and re-entry services in safe environments. From this, the agency fosters positive change and growth consistent with research-based evidence, fiscal responsibility, and constitutional standards.

Virginia’s FY2015 rate is tied with South Carolina’s (SC) FY2016 rate. SC’s FY2015 rate was 24.5%.

### Three-Year Re-Incarceration Rates: A State Comparison

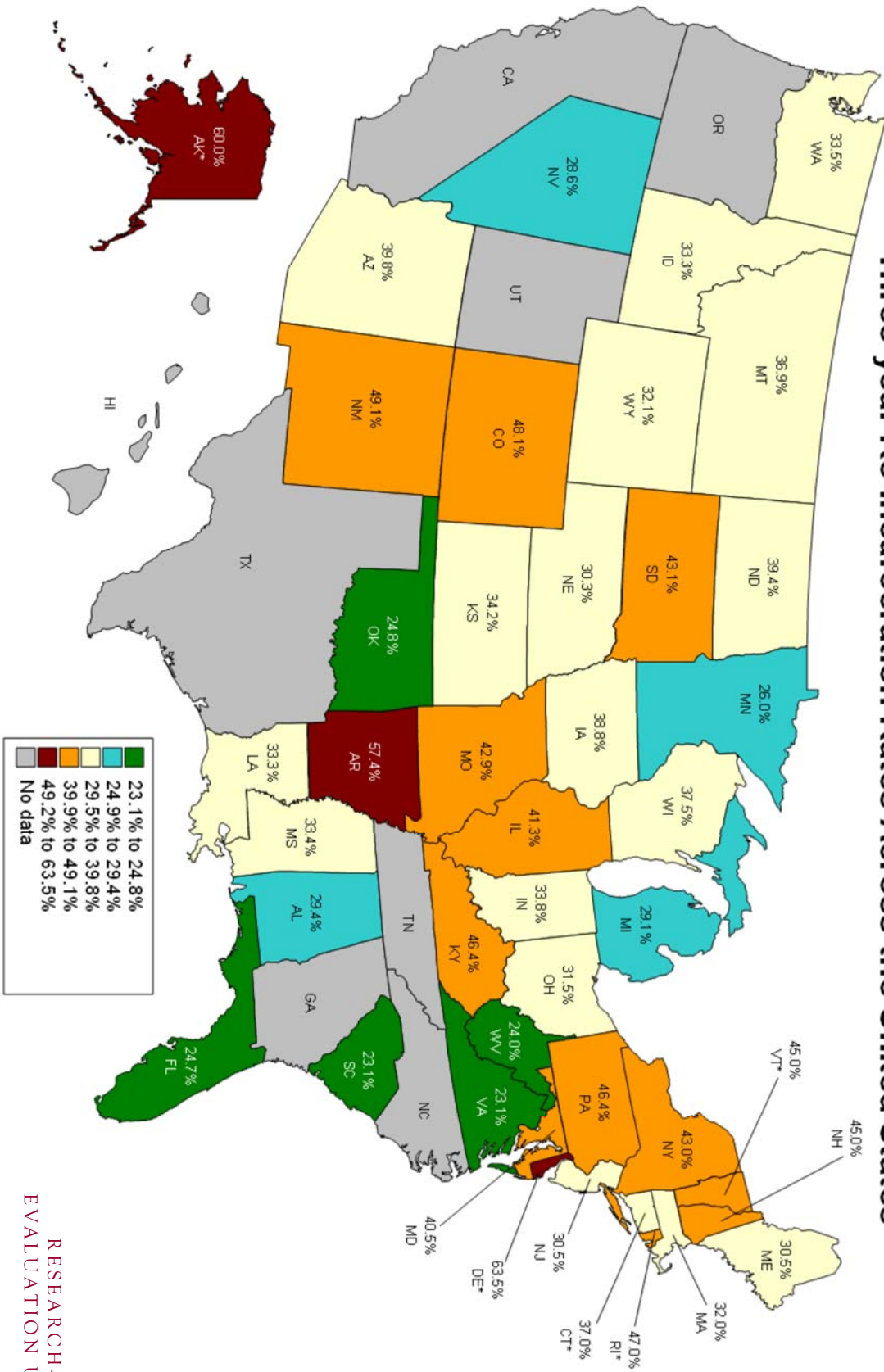


<sup>†</sup> Virginia (VA) waits at least 4 years to compute the 3 year re-incarceration rate to assure all court orders are accounted for. All SR sentences after release are counted as recidivism in VA, including technical violations and sentences for offenses that occurred prior to release. SC computes an additional rate that excludes re-incarcerations for offenses committed prior to the initial incarceration.

\*Unified state, rate includes both state and local responsible offenders

NOTES: Recidivism rates for each state are the most recent three-year re-incarceration rates produced and made publicly available by each state (as of November 8, 2019); please contact each state with any questions about that particular state’s recidivism figures; the following states are excluded from this analysis for the following reasons: California’s rate excludes parole violations; Georgia only reports re-conviction information; Hawaii only reports re-arrest information; Oregon’s rate is based on a six-month release cohort and includes releases from prison and felons released from jails; Tennessee’s rate combines re-arrest, re-conviction, and re-incarceration; Texas’ rate was calculated separately from seven different populations including both felons and misdemeanants; Utah’s rate only includes releases to parole; and North Carolina solely produces 2-year follow-up rates.

# Virginia Compared to Other States Three-year Re-Incarceration Rates Across the United States



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