



OLR RESEARCH REPORT

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PRISON RELEASE STATISTICS

By: Christopher Reinhart, Chief Attorney

You asked for statistics on the number of people released from Connecticut prisons in recent years.

We compiled information on prison releases since 2009 using monthly release data reported in the *Monthly Indicators Report* published by the Office of Policy and Management's Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division. The total number of releases declined from 2009 to 2010, increased slightly in 2011, and declined in 2012. The slight increase in 2011 occurred in the number of releases at the end of sentences. It appears that the number of releases will decline again in 2013, as the number of releases during the first nine months of 2013 (13,067) is below the number of releases during the first nine month in any of the preceding three years (releases in these years ranged from 15,081 to 15,815).

Table 1 displays the total releases for each year since 2009, including those through the end of September 2013, broken down into two categories: releases at end of sentence and releases on Department of Correction (DOC) supervision. If DOC released an individual from prison more than once during a year, that person is counted more than once.

Table 1: Prison Releases Since 2009

Year	Release at End of Sentence	Release on DOC Supervision	Total Releases
2009	11,750	9,621	21,371
2010	11,035	9,404	20,439
2011	11,642	9,004	20,646
2012	10,841	9,003	19,844
2013*	7,288	5,779	13,067

* Through September 2013.

“End of sentence” means at the completion of the maximum prison sentence imposed for an inmate’s convictions. These inmates are no longer subject to DOC custody or supervision. “Release on DOC supervision” means DOC released an inmate from prison prior to completing his or her maximum sentence, such as to parole supervision. These inmates can be returned to prison for the remainder of their prison sentences for violating their release terms. This does not include releases to probation because a person serves a probation term, if any is imposed by the court, after completing his or her prison term and is supervised by a Judicial Branch probation officer rather than a DOC employee.

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