

# **Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction**

## **Characteristics of Those who Enter the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) with an Expected Stay of Less than One Year: A Report Based on Admissions**

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**Characteristics of Those who Enter the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction  
(DRC) with an Expected Stay of Less than One Year:  
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Context: Ohio has a sentencing structure that allows judges to sentence felons to the prison system for terms as short as six months, and there are sentences at the Felony 5, 4, and 3 levels that can be one year or less. Given that most offenders spend at least a few days in jail, and that time is reduced from the time to be spent in prison, which means almost all sentences of one year or less will spend less than 12 months in prison. As will be noted below, most years at least three fifths of those sent to prison will spend less than 12 months in prison, and many will spend only a few months. This pattern allows Ohio to reserve most of its prison capacity for more serious offenders, who typically spend many years in prison. A profile of average time served for Ohio inmates released from prison during 2006 can be found at <http://www.drc.state.oh.us/web/reports/reports15.asp>.

Those Released in Less Than 12 Months: Two databases were used for this summary. First, all felons committed to DRC from common pleas courts during CY 2006 are summarized in a commitment database. That database is used to produce the overall commitment report, detailed at <http://www.drc.state.oh.us/web/reports/reports12.asp>, on all 27,431 admissions. That database has a variable that records the likely completion date of the prison term. Those in the commitment database with a completion date of less than 12 months after admission were selected (N=16,994; 62 % of admissions) and summarized in several tables, below.

Unfortunately, the overall commitment database does not have many detailed variables about each offender. Thus, we turned to a second database for which a detailed social, offense, and criminal history was collected and coded. That “sample” was for over 3500 consecutive admissions between May and June 2006, and it seems to be fully representative of the larger population. For that sample also those expected to spend less than one year were extracted and described in the tables below. This was 57% of the sample. A full detailing of the 2006 Intake sample is available on DRC’s website at <http://www.drc.state.oh.us/web/reports/reports18.asp>.

Commitment Database Tables: These tables are attached as Tables A – G. Table A shows that 35% of these offenders are in for drug possession or trafficking of small amounts. Most of the other ten most frequent offenses are property offenses. Still it is useful to note that some of these offenders have committed violent crimes. Table B sorts the offenders by felony level, with 83% F4 or F5. Table C shows expected time to serve. Over 12% of those serving less than a year will be out in less than three months. Another 42% will spend three, four, or five months, for a total of 54% of the one year or less offenders spending less than six months. Table D shows a county distribution; no total seems completely out of line with overall commitment patterns. Table E shows race/ethnicity commitment patterns consistent with all admissions, but there are slightly more females in the less than one year group (Table F) than in all admissions. Age patterns also are consistent with overall intake (Table G). Thus, overall, these offenders are similar to all inmates with the exception of having shorter terms, less serious crimes (specifically drugs and property), and offenses with lower felony levels.

Intake Sample Database Tables: These tables are attached as Tables 1-14. Certain tables can be compared between the Commitment and Intake Databases. Sex (Table 1), Race/Ethnicity (Table 2), and County of Commitment (Table 9) show great consistency between the two databases. So does Table 10 – Offenses; the four most frequent offenses are in the same order, with percentages within one percentage point between the two tables. There is a fairly close ordering between the next several offenses. All this suggests that for the less than one year offender the social and criminal profile of the intake sample is probably reasonable for all commitments. There are 3553 offenders in the sample; for the remaining tables, some cases were excluded due to missing information.

Intake Sample Social History: Over 44% of the intake sample did not have a high school degree on entering prison (Table 3). Table 4 shows that only 44% had been full time employed at the time of arrest for the committing offense. Table 5 notes that just over a quarter had some history of mental illness or treatment. Over half of the sample had a documented history of drug abuse or admitted to the same (Table 6), while fewer had problems with alcohol, but still almost 43%. Just over half of the sample, 55%, has previously been in substance abuse treatment. More than half of those (30% of the full sample) have completed the treatment (Table 8). With regard to all these variables, there are no meaningful differences from the full Intake sample; a slight exception is that two or three more percentage points of the “less than one year” portion of the sample had a history of drug abuse and also had been to substance abuse treatment.

Intake Sample Criminal History: Although the instant offenses of these short sentence offenders are not very serious, this does not mean that all are easy to divert. Many have several prior felonies (Table 11) and prior imprisonments (Table 13). Slightly over a quarter had prior violent felony convictions (Table 12). These distributions are very similar for both the short term offenders and the full intake sample. Further, Table 14 illustrates that many had been given a chance this time. Almost 35% were on probation/community control at the time they committed additional behavior for which they were sent to prison. Another seven percent were on parole or post-release control from prison when they committed a new felony that resulted in a new prison term. The full Intake sample was about five percentage points lower in probation violators and one percentage point higher for parole/PRC than was true for the short term offenders.

Summary: In many ways the inmates entering prison with short terms are remarkably similar to the full range of inmates coming to prison. Demographics – sex, ethnicity, age, county of commitment – and social history – education, employment, substance abuse, treatment—are all very similar between the two groups. Differences relate to the kinds of offenses for which the short term inmates enter prison, which are predominately, but not exclusively, drug and property offenses, the term lengths of admission, and a five percentage point higher likelihood that the short term offender entered for a probation violation.

**DATA TABLES FOR SENTENCES OF LESS THAN ONE  
YEAR, N = 16,994 (CY2006 COMMITMENTS)**

**Table A: MOST FREQUENT CRIMES**  
(ranked in order of frequency)

<b>Top Ten Offenses</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Drug Possession	4134	24.3%
Drug Trafficking	1843	10.8%
Theft	1600	9.4%
Receiving Stolen Property	1163	6.8%
Burglary (F4, F3, F2)	718	4.2%
Nonsupport of Dependents	702	4.1%
Breaking & Entering	627	3.7%
Domestic Violence	590	3.5%
Forgery	580	3.4%
Escape	377	2.2%
<b>Subtotal for Top Ten Offenses</b>	<b>12334</b>	<b>72.6%</b>
<b>Other Offenses with 100 or more</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Robbery	360	2.1%
Aggravated Assault	322	1.9%
Weapon Under Disability	288	1.7%
Carrying Concealed Weapon	280	1.6%
Resist Arrest/Fail to Comply	250	1.5%
Assault	249	1.5%
Driving While Intoxicated	246	1.4%
Illegal Manufacture of Drugs	161	0.9%
Failure To Register	160	0.9%
Corrupting a Minor	156	0.9%
Felonious Assault	150	0.9%
Tampering With Evidence	117	0.7%
<b>All Other Crimes</b>	<b>1921</b>	<b>11.3%</b>
<b>Total Admissions To Serve Less Than One Year</b>	<b>16994</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table B: Felony Level (N= 16994)

Felony Level	Frequency	Percent
1ST	112	0.7
2ND	203	1.2
3RD-DETER	2630	15.5
4TH-DETER	5552	32.7
5TH	8497	50.0
Total	16994	100.0

**Table C: EXPECTED TIME TO SERVE**

(N=16,994)

	Frequency	Percent
Less than one month	227	1.3
1.00-1.99	685	4.0
2.00-2.99	1216	7.1
3.00-3.99	1696	10.0
4.00-4.99	2625	15.4
5.00-5.99	2787	16.4
6.00-6.99	1301	7.7
7.00-7.99	1346	8.0
8.00-8.99	1358	8.0
9.00-9.99	1322	7.8
10.00-10.99	1098	6.5
11.00-11.99	1333	7.8
Total	16994	100.0

**Table D: County of Commitment (N=16,994)**

County	Frequency	Percent
1 ADAMS	14	0.1
2 ALLEN	106	0.6
3 ASHLAND	35	0.2
4 ASHTABULA	109	0.6
5 ATHENS	65	0.4
6 AUGLAIZE	52	0.3
7 BELMONT	18	0.1
8 BROWN	31	0.2
9 BUTLER	547	3.2
10 CARROLL	30	0.2
11 CHAMPAIGN	38	0.2
12 CLARK	285	1.7
13 CLERMONT	176	1.0
14 CLINTON	105	0.6
15 COLUMBIANA	70	0.4
16 COSHOCTON	55	0.3
17 CRAWFORD	51	0.3
18 CUYAHOGA	3817	22.5
19 DARKE	71	0.4
20 DEFIANCE	48	0.3
21 DELAWARE	101	0.6
22 ERIE	99	0.6
23 FAIRFIELD	119	0.7
24 FAYETTE	57	0.3
25 FRANKLIN	1172	6.9
26 FULTON	47	0.3
27 GALLIA	22	0.1
28 GEAUGA	33	0.2
29 GREENE	282	1.7
30 GUERNSEY	36	0.2
31 HAMILTON	1964	11.6
32 HANCOCK	68	0.4
33 HARDIN	19	0.1
34 HARRISON	8	0.0
35 HENRY	15	0.1
36 HIGHLAND	70	0.4
37 HOCKING	40	0.2
38 HOLMES	19	0.1

39 HURON	53	0.3
40 JACKSON	28	0.2
41 JEFFERSON	37	0.2
42 KNOX	40	0.2
43 LAKE	183	1.1
44 LAWRENCE	60	0.4
45 LICKING	157	0.9
46 LOGAN	58	0.3
47 LORAIN	477	2.8
48 LUCAS	494	2.9
49 MADISON	36	0.2
50 MAHONING	229	1.3
51 MARION	195	1.2
52 MEDINA	179	1.1
53 MEIGS	11	0.1
54 MERCER	25	0.1
55 MIAMI	180	1.1
56 MONROE	8	0.0
57 MONTGOMERY	981	5.8
58 MORGAN	5	0.0
59 MORROW	11	0.1
60 MUSKINGUM	164	1.0
61 NOBLE	17	0.1
62 OTTAWA	14	0.1
63 PAULDING	29	0.2
64 PERRY	26	0.2
65 PICKAWAY	87	0.5
66 PIKE	8	0.0
67 PORTAGE	92	0.5
68 PREBLE	41	0.2
69 PUTNAM	30	0.2
70 RICHLAND	174	1.0
71 ROSS	67	0.4
72 SANDUSKY	82	0.5
73 SCIOTO	186	1.1
74 SENECA	83	0.5
75 SHELBY	77	0.5
76 STARK	582	3.4
77 SUMMIT	1042	6.1
78 TRUMBULL	174	1.0
79 TUSCARAWAS	58	0.3
80 UNION	51	0.3
81 VAN WERT	48	0.3

82 VINTON	36	0.2
83 WARREN	207	1.2
84 WASHINGTON	78	0.5
85 WAYNE	47	0.3
86 WILLIAMS	43	0.3
87 WOOD	93	0.6
88 WYANDOT	17	0.1
Total	16994	100.0

**Table E: Race/ Ethnicity  
(N= 16,994)**

	Frequency	Percent
Black	7917	46.6
Asian	13	0.1
Native American	18	0.1
White	8702	51.2
Hispanic-Black	49	0.3
Hispanic-White	265	1.6
Other	30	0.2
Total	16994	100

**Table F: Sex of Commitments  
(N=16,994)**

	Frequency	Percent
Male	14256	83.9
Female	2738	16.1
Total	16994	100.0

**Table G: Age Group of Commitments  
(N=16,994)**

Age Group	Frequency	Percent
0-17	25	0.1
18-24	4262	25.1
25-29	3214	18.9
30-34	2387	14.1
35-39	2361	13.9
40-44	2158	12.7
45-49	1510	8.9
50-54	710	4.2
55-59	257	1.5
60-64	86	0.5
65-69	21	0.1
70-74	2	0
75-79	1	0
80-100	0	0
Total	16994	100

**MEAN AGE**

N	Valid	16994
	Missing	0
<b>Mean</b>		<b>33.04</b>
<b>Median</b>		<b>32</b>

Table 1: Sex of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
Female	307	15.2
Male	1709	84.8
Total	2016	100.0

Table 2: Race and Ethnicity of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
Asian	2	0.1
Black	952	47.2
Hispanic	0	0.0
Indian	5	0.2
Other	6	0.3
White	1051	52.1
Total	2016	100.0

**\*\*There is not data for Hispanics. They are instead grouped with Black and White inmates**

Table 3: Education Level at Arrest of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
8th Grade or less	124	6.6
9 - 12, No Diploma	718	37.9
High School Diploma	407	21.5
GED	329	17.4
Attended College - No Degree	291	15.4
College Degree - Bachelors or more	24	1.3
Total	1893	100.0

Table 4: Employment Status at Arrest of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
Unemployed	952	49.5
Partial Employment	118	6.1
Full Time Employment	855	44.4
Total	1925	100.0

Table 5: Indication of Mental Illness of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
No Mental Illness	1397	70.6
Self-Admission/Evidence	56	2.8
Diagnosed with Mental Illness	9	0.5
Treated for Mental Illness	516	26.1
Total	1978	100.0

Table 6: History of Past Drug Abuse of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
No Indication	207	10.5
Self-Admission/Evidence	1046	52.8
Diagnosis of Problem	2	0.1
Treatment of Problem	725	36.6
Total	1980	100.0

Table 7: History of Past Alcohol Abuse of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
No Indication	638	32.1
Self-Admission/Evidence	864	43.4
Diagnosis of Problem	2	0.1
Treatment of Problem	486	24.4
Treatment of Problem	486	24.4
Total	1990	100.0

Table 8: History of Substance Abuse Treatment of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
No History of Completion	898	45.3
Failure to Comply with Treatment	215	10.9
Began Treatment-Completion Unknown	41	2.1
In Treatment at Time of Arrest	3	0.2
Completed Treatment	601	30.3
Treatment After Arrest Only	223	11.3
Total	1981	100.0

Table 9: Counties of Commitment of Offenders with less than one year term

	Intake 2006	Frequency	Percent
ALLEN		13	0.6
ASHLAND		7	0.3
ASHTABULA		10	0.5
ATHENS		7	0.3
AUGLAIZE		7	0.3
BELMONT		3	0.1
BROWN		3	0.1
BUTLER		61	3.0
CHAMPAIGN		1	0.0
CLARK		29	1.4
CLERMONT		21	1.0
CLINTON		8	0.4
COLUMBIANA		12	0.6
COSHOCTON		7	0.3
CRAWFORD		4	0.2
CUYAHOGA		469	23.3
DARKE		5	0.2
DEFIANCE		4	0.2
DELAWARE		11	0.5
ERIE		12	0.6
FAIRFIELD		11	0.5
FAYETTE		7	0.3
FRANKLIN		133	6.6
FULTON		5	0.2
GALLIA		3	0.1
GEAUGA		4	0.2
GREENE		23	1.1
GUERNSEY		3	0.1
HAMILTON		266	13.2
HANCOCK		9	0.4
HARDIN		2	0.1
HIGHLAND		9	0.4
HOCKING		1	0.0
HOLMES		2	0.1
HURON		4	0.2
JACKSON		2	0.1
JEFFERSON		7	0.3
KNOX		4	0.2
LAKE		21	1.0
LAWRENCE		9	0.4
LICKING		21	1.0
LOGAN		4	0.2
LORAIN		71	3.5
LUCAS		44	2.2
MADISON		3	0.1

MAHONING	29	1.4
MARION	16	0.8
MEDINA	25	1.2
MEIGS	3	0.1
MERCER	3	0.1
MIAMI	25	1.2
MONTGOMERY	124	6.2
MORROW	1	0.0
MUSKINGUM	19	0.9
NOBLE	2	0.1
OTTAWA	1	0.0
PAULDING	1	0.0
PERRY	2	0.1
PICKAWAY	7	0.3
PORTAGE	7	0.3
PREBLE	6	0.3
PUTNAM	1	0.0
RICHLAND	19	0.9
ROSS	8	0.4
SANDUSKY	11	0.5
SCIOTO	11	0.5
SENECA	13	0.6
SHELBY	14	0.7
STARK	65	3.2
SUMMIT	134	6.6
TRUMBULL	24	1.2
TUSCARAWAS	4	0.2
UNION	4	0.2
VAN WERT	4	0.2
VINTON	3	0.1
WARREN	31	1.5
WASHINGTON	12	0.6
WAYNE	8	0.4
WILLIAMS	4	0.2
WOOD	10	0.5
WYANDOT	3	0.1
Total	2016	100.0

Table 10: Most Serious Conviction Offense of Offenders with less than one year term, ranked by frequency

Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
DRUG ABUSE	473	24.6
TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS	222	11.6
THEFT	204	10.6
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	129	6.7
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	83	4.3
BREAKING AND ENTERING	82	4.3
FORGERY	74	3.9
NONSUPPORT OF DEPENDENTS	74	3.9
BURGLARY	74	3.9
ESCAPE	42	2.2
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	38	2.0
WEAPON UNDER DISABILITY	33	1.7
FAILURE TO COMPLY	32	1.7
CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPON	24	1.3
ROBBERY	6	0.3
FELONIOUS ASSAULT	2	0.1
NOTICE CHANGE OF ADDRESS	21	1.1
ASSAULT	18	0.9
POSSESS CHEMICALS FOR DRUG MFG	18	0.9
DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED	17	0.9
DECEPTION TO OBTAIN DRUGS	16	0.8
TAMPERING WITH EVIDENCE	16	0.8
UNLAWFUL SEXUAL CONDUCT WITH A MINOR	15	0.8
VIOLATE OWN RECOG.	13	0.7
UNAUTHORIZED USE OF VEHICLE	12	0.6
POSSESSION OF CRIMINAL TOOLS	10	0.5
VANDALISM	10	0.5
BAD CHECKS	9	0.5
ILLEGAL DRUG DOCUMENTS	9	0.5
ABDUCTION	8	0.4
MISUSE OF CREDIT CARD	8	0.4
PERIODIC ADDRESS VERIFICATION	8	0.4
VIOLATION OF PROTECTION ORDER	8	0.4
DUTY TO REGISTER	7	0.4
AGGRAVATED VEHICULAR ASSAULT	5	0.3
ARSON	5	0.3
ENDANGERING CHILDREN	5	0.3
ILLEGAL MANUFACTURE OF DRUGS	5	0.3
ILLEGAL WEAPONS	5	0.3
IMPORTUNING	5	0.3
IMPROPER HANDLING OF FIREARM	5	0.3
SALE COUNTERFEIT DRUGS	5	0.3

TAKING THE IDENTITY OF ANOTHER	5	0.3
CORRUPTING OTHER WITH DRUGS	4	0.2
DISRUPTING PUBLIC SERVICE	4	0.2
INTIMIDATION OF VICTIM/WITNESS	4	0.2
MENACING BY STALKING	4	0.2
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE	4	0.2
TAMPERING WITH COIN MACHINE	4	0.2
TAMPERING WITH RECORDS	4	0.2
OBSTRUCTION OFFICIAL BUSINESS	3	0.2
KIDNAPPING	3	0.2
AGGRAVATED MENACING	2	0.1
GROSS SEXUAL IMPOSITION	2	0.1
RECKLESS HOMICIDE	2	0.1
UNAUTHORIZED USE OF PROPERTY	2	0.1
ASSAULT/HARASS POLICE OR ASSIST DOG	1	0.1
BRIBERY	1	0.1
DISSEMINATING OBSCENE INFORMATION	1	0.1
DUTY TO REGISTER	1	0.1
ETHNIC INTIMIDATION	1	0.1
FAILURE TO APPEAR	1	0.1
FALSIFICATION	1	0.1
FIREARM SPECIFICATION	1	0.1
HARASSMENT BY INMATE	1	0.1
ILLEGAL CONVEY DEADLY WEAPON SCHOOL PROPERTY	1	0.1
INTIMIDATION	1	0.1
PATIENT ABUSE/NEGLECT	1	0.1
PERMIT DRUG ABUSE	1	0.1
PHONE HARASSMENT	1	0.1
POSSESS DEADLY WEAPON UNDER DETENTION	1	0.1
PREPARATION OF DRUG FOR SALE	1	0.1
PROMOTING PROSTITUTION	1	0.1
UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS ORDNANCE	1	0.1
Total	1920	100.0

Table 11: Adult Felony Convictions of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
0	724	36.0
1	476	23.7
2	295	14.7
3	179	8.9
4	112	5.6
5	69	3.4
6	52	2.6
7	35	1.7
8	17	0.8
9 or more	52	2.6
Total	2011	100.0

Table 12: Adult Violent Felony Convictions of Offenders with less than one year  
term

Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
0	1475	73.3
1	386	19.2
2	108	5.4
3	31	1.5
4	5	0.2
5 or more	7	0.3
Total	2012	100.0

Table 13: Adult Prison Incarcerations of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
0	1014	50.4
1	387	19.2
2	232	11.5
3	134	6.7
4	85	4.2
5	58	2.9
6	35	1.7
7	29	1.4
8	17	0.8
9	10	0.5
10 or more	10	0.5
Total	2011	100.0

Table 14: Parole/Probation Violation of Offenders with less than one year term  
Intake 2006

	Frequency	Percent
NOT A VIOLATOR	1148	57.3
TECHNICAL VIOLATOR/PROBATION	405	20.2
NEW CRIME/TECHNICAL VIOLATOR	1	0.0
NEW CRIME/PROBATION	309	15.4
NEW CRIME ON PAROLE	140	7.0
Total	2003	100.0