

Recidivism and Employment

by Yuancie Lee

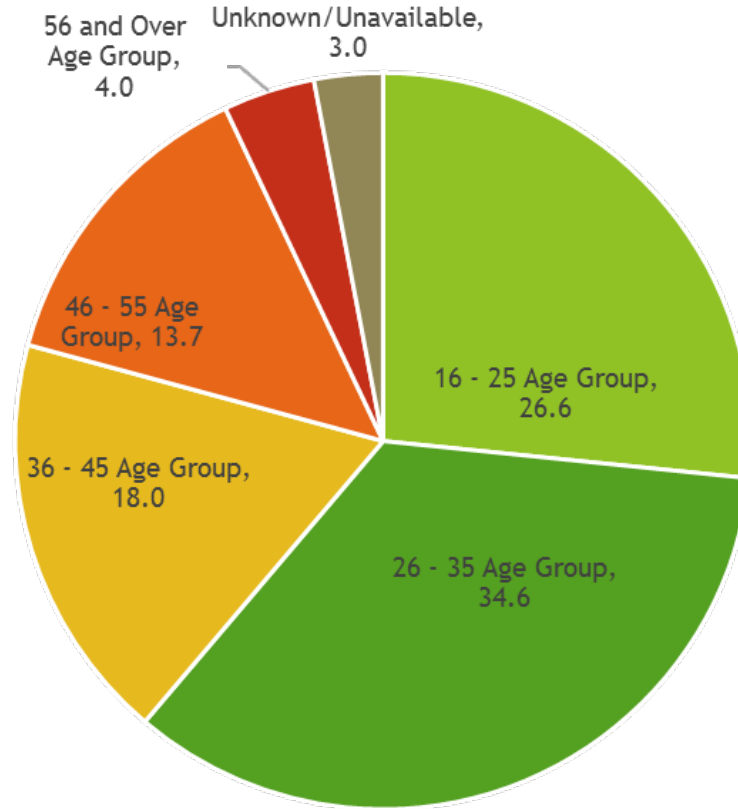


What is Recidivism?

- Recidivism is when a person relapses into a criminal act and returns to prison.
- 66% returned to prison over the next three years after their release in 2012.

Age Groups

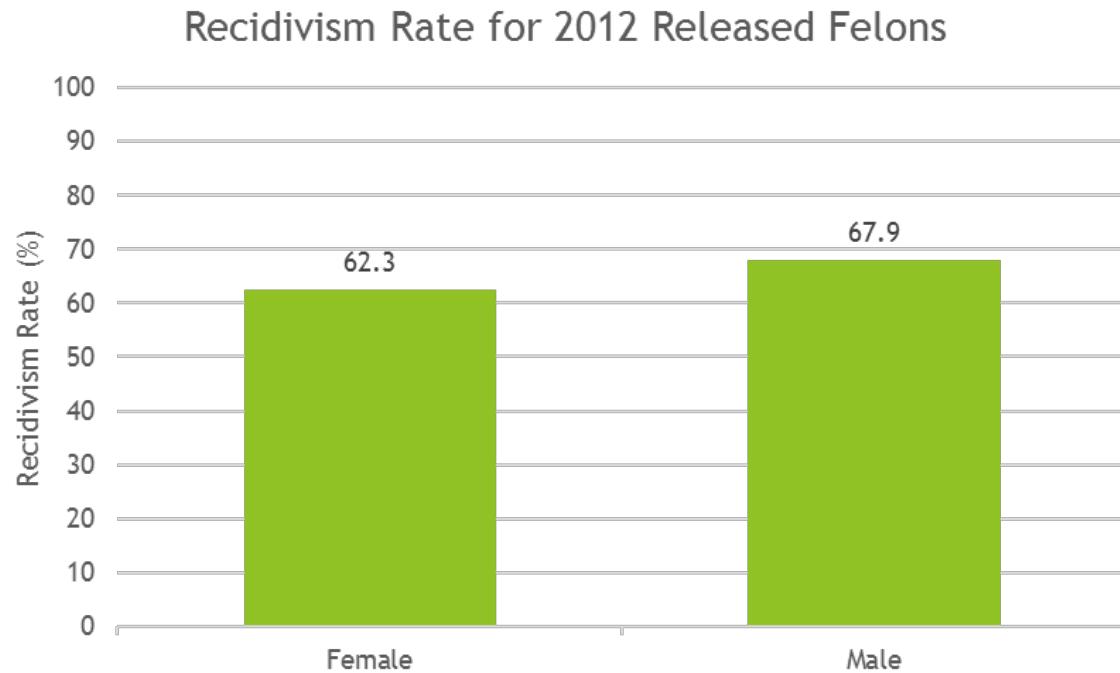
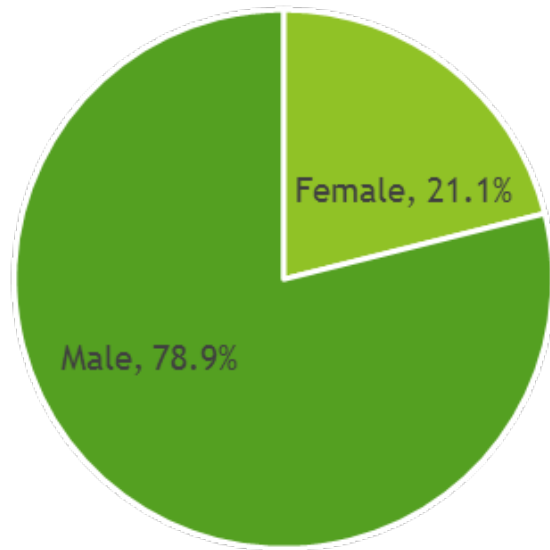
2012 Released Felons by Age Group



- 61% of the released inmates were under 36 when they were incarcerated.
- Close to three quarters of those who were between 16 and 25 recidivated.

Gender

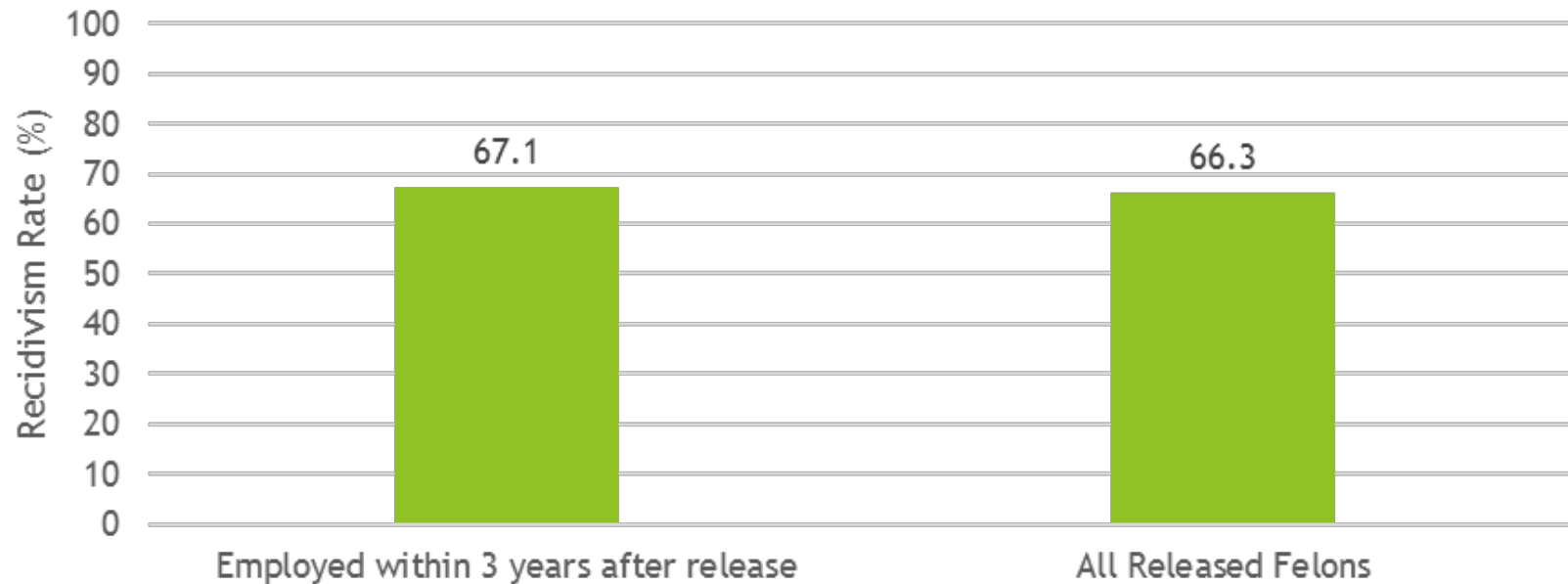
2012 Released Felons



- 79% of the released inmates were male.
- Recidivism for males was slightly higher.

Does Employment Affect Recidivism?

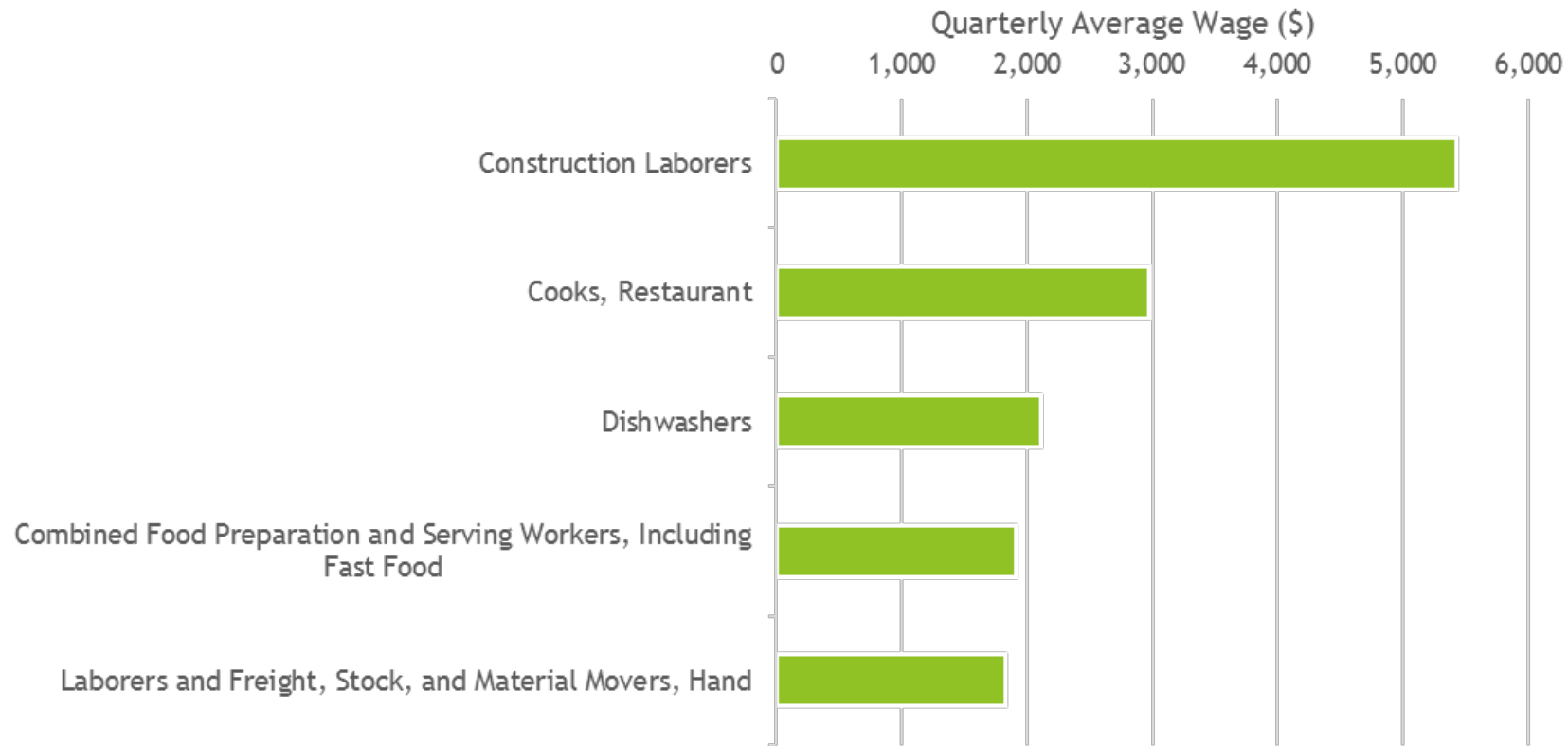
3-year Recidivism Rate of those employed
any time 3 years after release



- By itself, just being employed doesn't affect recidivism.
- 67% of those employed within three years after release returned to prison.

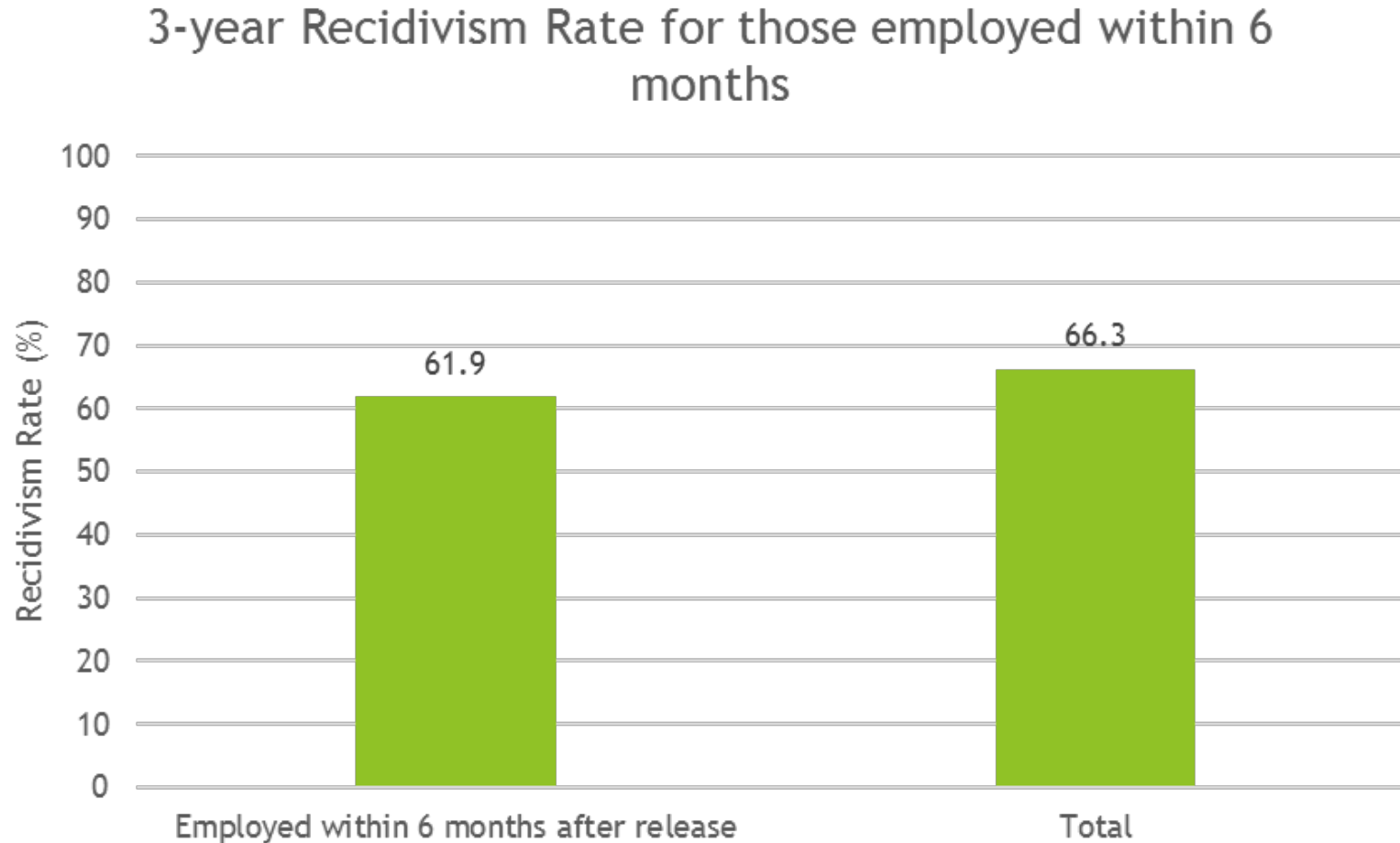
Top 5 First Occupations

Top 5 First Occupations within Two Years After Release



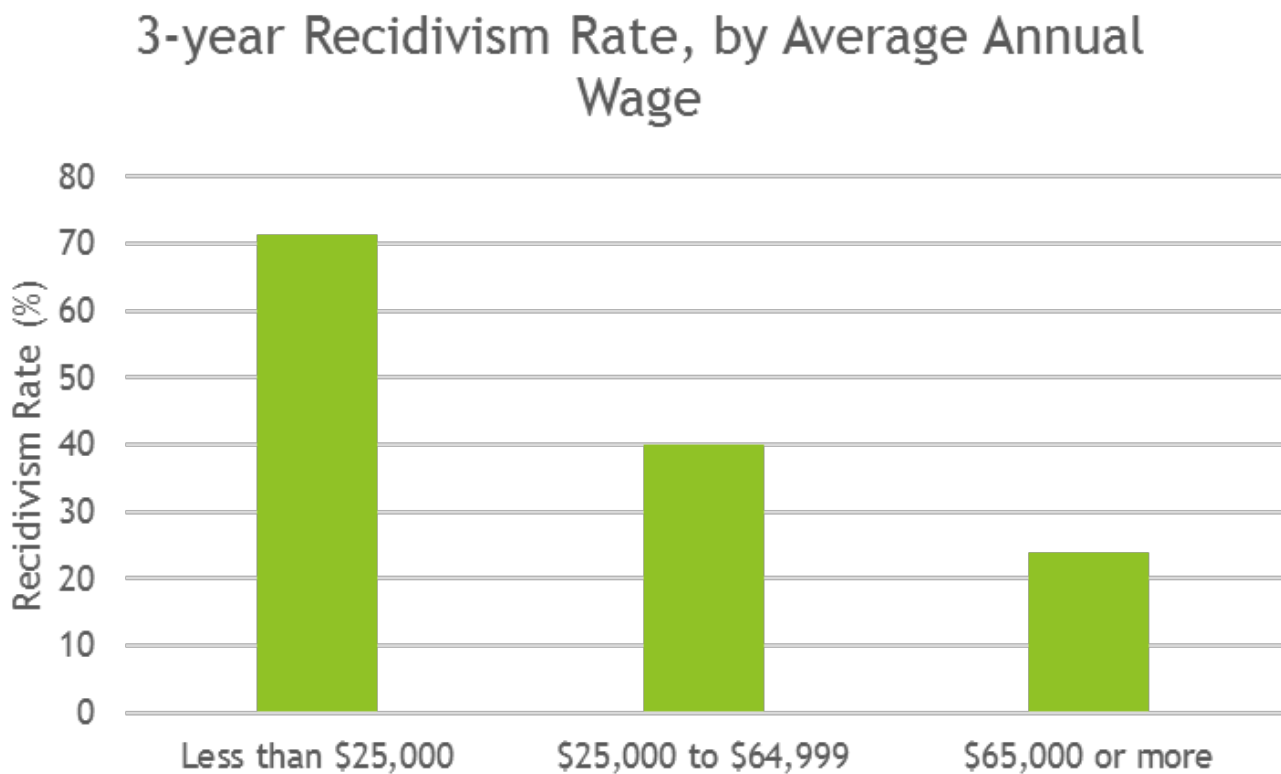
- The top five occupations accounted for 24% of all the first jobs.
- None of the occupations require any formal education.
- 94% of the first occupations for released inmates required a high school diploma or less.

Employed Quickly



- Slight improvement for those who find employment soon after release.
- 62% of those who found jobs six months after release would recidivate.

Annual Wages



- How much a released inmate earns during the three years after release makes a difference.
- Those who earned less than \$25,000 a year had a 71% recidivism rate.
- 87.5% of the released inmates who were employed, averaged less than \$25,000 a year.
- Those who earned \$65,000 or more had a 24% recidivism rate.

Future Study

- Are other years similar, or is 2012 an exception?
- Do job training and education for released inmates provide them with better jobs?
- What are the similarities between inmates who don't recidivate?