

Hello! I heard that the legislature is looking at the DOC status of furlough. I am not clear on what aspects of furlough you are analyzing but I want to throw my two cents in.

At the risk of sounding like a perpetual contrarian, furlough should be abolished. Vermont is either the last to keep it or among the last because other states have realized the problems and expense it causes.

Administratively, it is inefficient to keep processing people back in and out for technical violations. And because it is an incarcerative condition, folks under supervision can't drive (but need to because they have to work so get in trouble for that), or they get a felony (!) escape charge for being out of place. It is a system designed for failure, not intentionally of course, but it is very difficult to follow. See the data below and you will see that people who max out fare better:

For ANY Reconviction

All released

Value	Not reconvicted for offense within 3 years Offense in year 3	Reconvicted for offense within 3 years	Offense in year 1 Total	Offense in year 2 Reconviction Rate (3yr)
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Variable= To most

Reentry	3771	2719	1425	907	5051	8822	57.3%		
Interm.Sanctions			1150	579	369	202	1150	2300	50.0%
Parole	173	123	59	33	215	388	55.4%		
Probation		3464	1804	778	493	3075	6539	47.0%	
No supervision	1867		1160	429	245	1834	3701	49.6%	
Any type of Release			10425	6385	3060	1880	11325	21750	52.1%

For ANY relodging

All released

Value	Not relodged within 3 years	Relodge in year 1	Relodge in year 2	Relodge in year
3	Relodged within 3 years	Total	Relodging Rate (3yr)	

Variable= To most

Reentry	1993	5847	745	363	6955	8948	77.7%		
Interm.Sanctions			622	1396	185	107	1688	2310	73.1%
Parole	132	192	54	20	266	398	66.8%		
Probation		3024	2698	622	321	3641	6665	54.6%	
No supervision	1948	1328	432	201	1961	3909	50.2%		
Any type of Release		7719	11461	2038	1012	14511	22230	65.3%	

For minimum relodging of at least 90 days (Act 41 Section 5)

All released

Value	Not relodged within 3 years	Relodge in year 1	Relodge in year 2	Relodge in year
3	Relodged within 3 years	Total	Relodging Rate (3yr)	

Variable= To most

Reentry	4850	2696	931	471	4098	8948	45.8%		
Interm.Sanctions			1460	575	172	103	850	2310	36.8%
Parole	230	107	47	14	168	398	42.2%		
Probation		4973	984	429	279	1692	6665	25.4%	
No supervision	2883	560	274	192	1026	3909	26.2%		
Any type of Release		14396	4922	1853	1059	7834	22230	35.2%	

Prisoners released

Variable= To most

Reentry	5168	1331	775	490	2596	7764	33.4%		
Interm.Sanctions			1113	161	112	85	358	1471	24.3%
Parole	198	52	33	14	99	297	33.3%		

Probation	757	121	78	53	252	1009	25.0%
No supervision	1316	147	119	103	369	1685	21.9%
Any type of Release	8552	1812	1117	745	3674	12226	30.1%

(These data are from 2011 because they don't do this analysis anymore, which is another issue that the Leg should address and fund so we can be evidence based)

I am happy to chat more about this but I will tell you that you would save money and have better outcomes if we had presumptive parole at one's minimum and also DOC wouldn't have to scrutinize housing so closely and we would get rid of the B-1 population (those past min waiting for approved housing). I think DOC would support this move, although can't speak for them.

Thank you for your service to VT! Kathy Fox