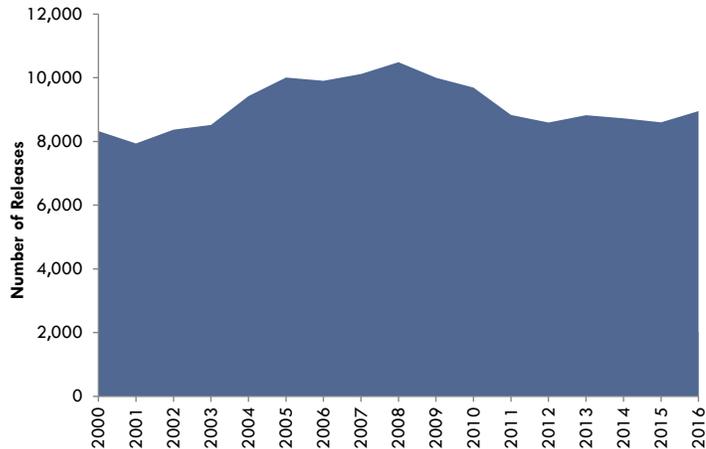




WISCONSIN PRISON RELEASES: 2000-2016

The releases numbers presented below are physical releases from Wisconsin adult prisons or contracted facilities from 2000 to 2016. The release counts exclude inmates who were never physically admitted and released from a WI DOC prison or contract facility if they were determined at the time of sentencing to have already served sufficient time while being held in a county jail. Releases from temporary holds are also excluded.

Prison releases have followed approximately the same trend as admissions, increasing from 8,325 releases in 2000, to 10,487 releases in 2008, and then decreasing again to 8,952 releases in 2016. In 2016, on average, 740 inmates were released per month.



Highlights:

Gender. Males have consistently made up the majority (between 90% and 92%) of prison releases across all release years.

Race. Since 2000, the percentage of Black inmates released has steadily decreased while the percentage of White inmates released has steadily increased. In 2016, 58.4% of inmates released were White, and 36.0% of inmates released were Black.

Age. In 2016, 66.4% of all releases were for inmates between the ages of 20 and 39. However, the percentage of releases for inmates aged 50 or older more than tripled between 2000 and 2016, increasing from 4.1% to 15.5% of all releases.

Releases by Type. In 2016, 82.1% of inmates were released to Extended Supervision or Mandatory Release (ES/MR), while only 2.1% of inmates were released to Parole. The implementation of Truth in Sentencing in 2001 led to a decrease in releases to Parole and an increase in releases to ES/MR.

Releases by County. In 2016, Milwaukee County had the largest proportion of releases (31.3%), followed by Dane County (6.1%), Racine County (5.9%), Brown County (4.7%), and Waukesha County (4.3%).

Time Served. The majority of inmates released between 2000 and 2016 served less than two years in prison. Of the 2016 releases, 35.7% served less than one year and 9.5% served five or more years. The average number of years served increased by 26.5% between 2000 and 2016, from 1.9 to 2.3 years.

Time Served by Most Serious Offense. On average between 2000 and 2016 (for new sentence only admissions), the majority of inmates with violent offenses as their most serious offense served two or more years, the majority of inmates with property or drug offenses served between one and five years, and the majority of inmates with public order offenses served less than two years.

For more detail, see the full Prison Releases report on the WI DOC website: [Prison Releases: 2000-2016](#)

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