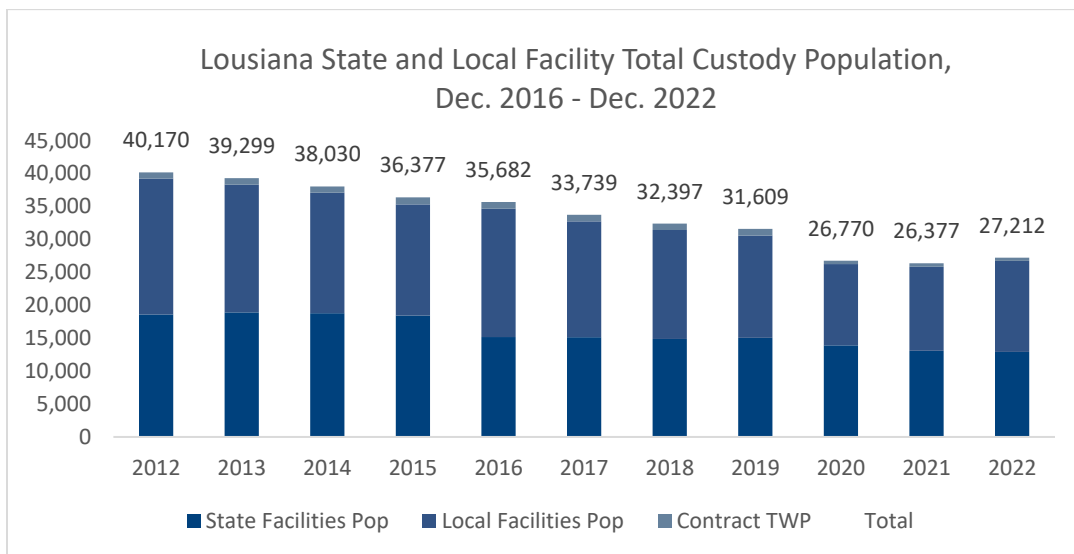


# Louisiana’s Prison Population Overview [2017-2022]

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### What is happening with Louisiana’s prison population?

- Louisiana’s prison population has been decreasing. It **dropped 24%** between 2016 and 2022, with the most significant decrease occurring in 2020 (15% drop) during the pandemic. There has been a slight uptick in 2023 with a 3% increase as of June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- This parallels national trends that saw a U.S. prison population **decline of 19%** during the same period, with the most significant decline similarly occurring in 2020 (down 14% from 2019).



- More violent offenders are going to prison. Between 2016 and 2022, the percentage of the population serving time for a violent offense **grew 18%** and the percentage of admissions for violent offenses has **increased 44%**.

### Is the state releasing more individuals from prison?

- **No.** Fewer people are being released from prison now than previously. The number of releases per year **dropped 19%** between 2016 and 2022.

- The population is decreasing because fewer individuals are being admitted to prison. Admissions have **declined 13%** since 2016. This decline in admissions is not specific to Louisiana, as nationally, admissions **dropped 23%** between 2016 and 2022.

## Are violent offenders serving less time in prison?

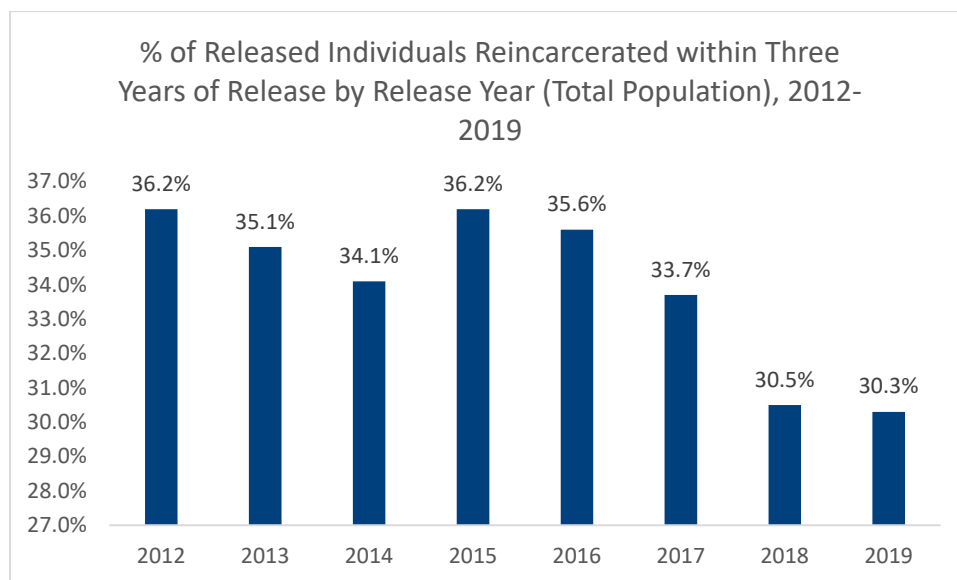
- **No.** Violent offenders served **25% longer** in 2022 than they did in 2018 (the earliest period data is available).

## Are people on probation and parole failing and re-entering prison more frequently?

- **No.** More people are succeeding on supervision than previously. In 2021, the percentage of individuals successfully completing supervision was **4% higher** for probationers and **28% higher** for parolees than in 2016.

## Are more people cycling through Louisiana’s prison system?

- **No.** Comparing releases in 2016 and 2019, there was a **15% decrease** in the percentage of individuals who were readmitted within 3 years.
- Looking more narrowly for those who were released and returned within one year (most common for revocations) **15.3% of releases** returned within one year in 2016, as **compared to 13.8%** in 2021, a decline of 10%.



### Sources:

- Bureau of Justice Statistics, Prisoner Series, 2022 and 2016.
- Bureau of Justice Statistics, Probation and Parole in the U.S., 2021 and 2016.
- Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections Dashboard, Releases.