

Mapping Reentry

WHY MAP REENTRY?

Research examining geographic trends in reentry suggests that the reentry population is not evenly distributed across communities. Mapping the reentry population by return zip-code in Tarrant County is a valuable tool for the planning and coordination of reentry services. As illustrated in the density map of parole return to Tarrant County, upon release, most of the reentry population returning to our community return to a select few zip-codes within the county. The identification of these “high density” zip-codes can help the service provider community better target the placement and delivery of reentry services where they are most needed. Using this approach to service placement and delivery is one possible strategy that can be used to overcome the lack-of-transportation barrier that is commonly encountered by the reentry population during the reentry process.

The Distribution of TDCJ Parole Releases to Tarrant County

The density map displayed on the reverse side of this page provides a visual representation of the distribution of parolees returning to zip-codes within Tarrant County. The map displays seven annual release cohorts, (each dot color represents an annual release cohort). Between 2000 and 2006, there were a total of 14,764 release events (with available data) to Tarrant County. During the seven years examined, 50% of all parolees returned to only nine zip-codes within the Tarrant County geography. A full third of all parolees released during this time, returned to only four zip-codes within Tarrant County (76107, 76119, 76105, and 76106). Data reveal that these high density zip-codes consistently appear among the top four release locales each year. The only exception, the 76106 zip-code, was in fact one of the top four release zip-codes from 2003-2006. Prior to 2003 however, it was the sixth most released to zip-code. Data also reveal that two zip-codes 76107 and 76119, consistently receive the most parole returns. Between 2000 and 2006, 1,716 parolees were released to 76107 and 1,433 parolees were released to 76119. These two zip-codes account for 18.8% to 23.3% of all annual parole releases to Tarrant County.

Localized Recidivism Rates

Identification of the *high density* zip-codes facilitates the comparison between recidivism rates in the four high density zip-codes and recidivism rates for all other zip-codes within Tarrant County. The comparative analysis reveals that with the exception of re-arrest rates for the 2000 annual release cohort, those returning to the high density zip-codes have higher rates of re-arrest, re-conviction, and re-incarceration. This trend is true at each and every year post-release across all annual release cohorts. Even with lower re-arrest rates (found in the 2000 release cohort) individuals returning to the high density zip-codes were still more likely to be re-convicted and re-incarcerated when compared to the rest of the Tarrant County parole population. As shown in the table below, 30.0% of those returning to the four identified zip-codes in the 2006 cohort were re-arrested within the first twelve months, compared to 23.6% of the 2006 cohort returning to all other Tarrant County zip-codes. This trend remains at 24-months post-release.

Recidivism Rates at 12 and 24 Months Post-Release For the 2006 Release Cohort

	“High density” zip-codes (n=723)		All other zip-codes (n=1404)	
	12-months post-release	24-months post-release	12-months post-release	24-months post-release
Re-arrested	30.0%	45.1%	23.6%	39.3%
Re-convicted	24.2%	34.2%	16.0%	25.3%
Re-incarcerated	23.7%	33.3%	15.2%	24.1%