Joe T.V. (Technical Violator of MSR)

26 of every 100 inmates leaving state prison in FY 2017 were technical violators of MSR.

Who is the typical offender?  To promote discussion of the common rather than the extreme case, SPAC analyzed the most common characteristics of people leaving state prison from July 2016 to June 2017 (fiscal year 2017) for each type of crime. SPAC used people exiting prison to be able to accurately reflect their length of stay and recidivism patterns. The analysis uses the most common, average, and median (50th percentile) metrics to produce a hypothetical Joe T.V. with a composite offender’s experience.

Who is the average technical violator coming out of state prison?  Joe T.V. is a 35-year-old, black male, born in Illinois. He considers himself single and reported to the Illinois Department of Corrections that he completed high school.
- For every 100 technical violators released in FY 2017, four were women.
- 64 were black, 27 white, and 9 Hispanic.
- 84 were born in Illinois.
- 22 of every 100 technical violators were younger than 25 and 6 were above 55.
- Most reported being single like T.V., but 12 reported being married and 8 said divorced.
- T.V. might have exaggerated on his education, but he probably completed at least half of high school (47 of every 100 reported completing high school or obtaining a GED, 46 completed less than that, and 7 were missing education-level data).

What was his sentence?  Joe T.V. received a sentence for a Burglary offense in 2015 and served 1 year and 1 month in prison before being released to MSR to be supervised for 2 years.
- 11 of every 100 technical violators were originally sentenced for manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance (typically Class 1 or 2), 9 for a possession of a controlled substance (typically 4 felony), and 7 were originally sentenced for robbery.
- T.V.’s holding offense class was a Class 2 felony (32 out of every 100 technical violators).
  - 28 were held on Class 4 felonies.
  - 15 were held on Class 3 felonies.
  - 15 were held on Class 1 felonies.
  - 10 were held on Class X felonies.

Before this incarceration, Joe T.V. had 6 prior arrests for felonies, 8 prior arrests for misdemeanors, and 5 prior arrests for unknown or petty offenses. 6 of these arrests were for property offenses, 4 were drug offenses, and 5 were violent offenses.
- From those 19 arrests, Joe T.V. had been convicted of 3 felony offenses. He had 5 total convictions, including 1 conviction for a drug offense, 1 violent conviction, and 2 property convictions.

How long was he incarcerated?  After being arrested in 2015, Joe T.V. spent 156 days (5 months) in the local jail prior to sentencing (median). After the PRB approved the violation and return to prison, Joe T.V. spent 5 months in state prison for his technical violation (median).
- 40 out of every 100 technical violators were released from Stateville (maximum security).
- Almost none were released from adult transition centers or electronic monitoring.
- Individuals are typically released on a Friday.

Because Joe T.V. had already been on MSR, he was released on a discharged sentence and without additional community supervision on MSR. Past cohorts show that, by June 2020 (3 years from release), T.V. may be expected to be rearrested 3 times.
- Most likely to be rearrested for a violent offense.
- 39 out of the 100 technical violators will be convicted within three years, most often for a property offense.
- 34 of every 100 technical violators released in 2017 will be returned to prison for a new sentence within three years, which will include its own new period of MSR.