

# PAROLE

## 50 YEARS AND COUNTING

**Professor Nick Hardwick**  
**Chair**  
**The Parole Board for England and Wales**

**6 November 2017**

# The Parole Board then and now

- **1967:** The Parole Board created by the Criminal Justice Act 1967. Initially just 17 members, less than 100 cases and sole purpose was to advise ministers on the release of life sentenced prisoners
- **Now:** An independent court-like body which orders the release of prisoners (Article 5(4) ECHR) (CJA 1991) (CJA 2003) (LAPSO 2012)
- A non-departmental body (NDPB) sponsored by the Ministry of Justice
- Justice Secretary makes Parole Board Rules and directions on matters to be taken into account
- 2016-17: 7,377 oral hearings and 16,866 cases on paper
- Made up of 45 Judicial Members, 34 psychologist members, 17 psychiatrist members, 149 independent members (probation, legal and other backgrounds)

# Remit

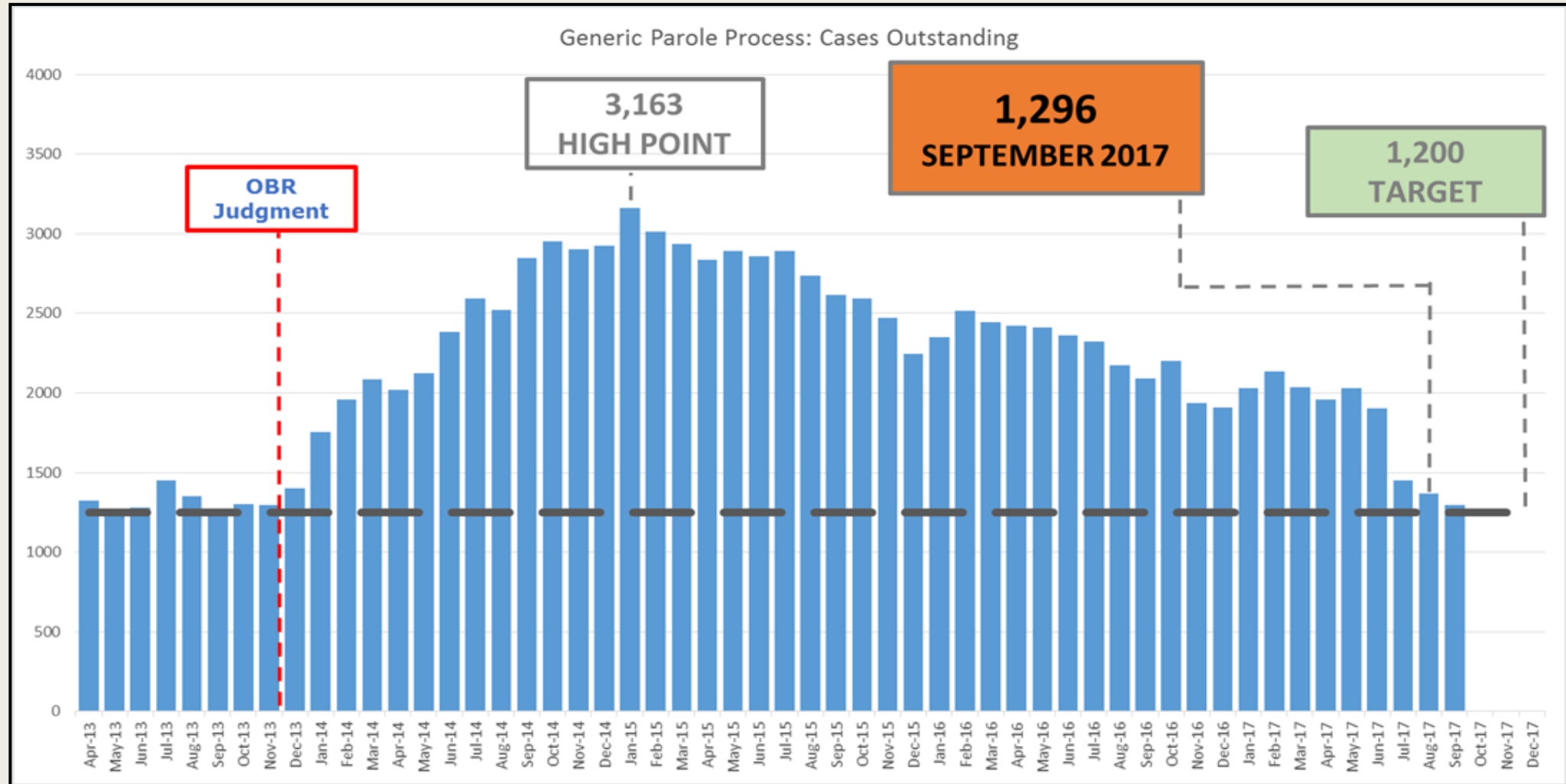
- ***Deciding*** whether to release indeterminate sentence prisoners, including life sentence prisoners and prisoners given indeterminate sentences for public protection (IPP prisoners) after their minimum term of imprisonment has expired
- ***Deciding*** whether to release some categories of determinate sentence prisoners
- ***Deciding*** whether some prisoners who have been recalled to prison can be re-released
- ***Advising*** the Secretary of State whether indeterminate prisoners can be moved from closed to open conditions
- ***Advising*** the Secretary of State on any release or recall matters referred to it

# The risk test

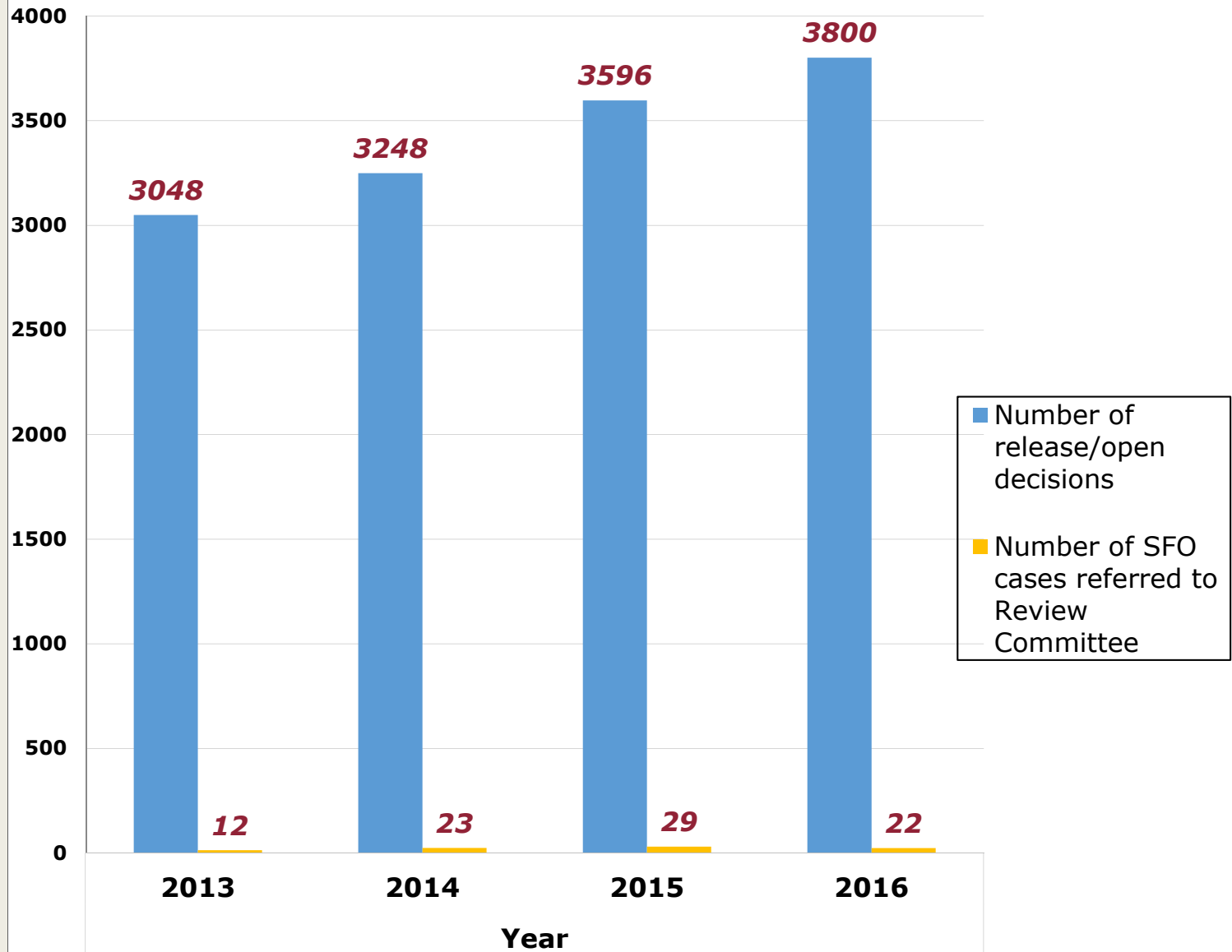
Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment Offenders Act 2012:

When considering the release of prisoners who come before it, the Board is required to determine whether it is satisfied that it is no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the prisoner should remain detained

# Impact of Osborn on outstanding cases



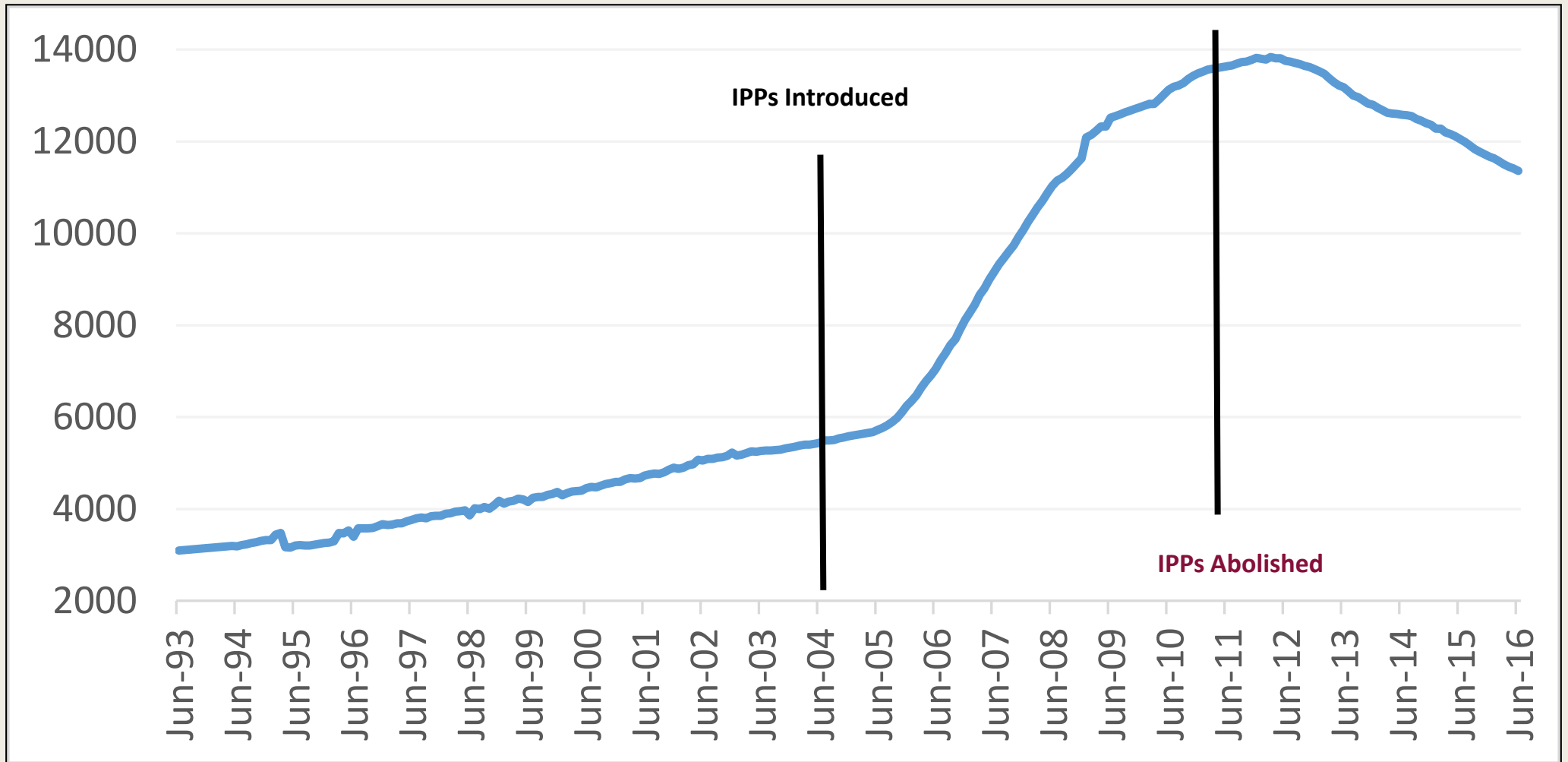
## Total number of Release/Open Decisions in relation to eligible Serious Further Offences



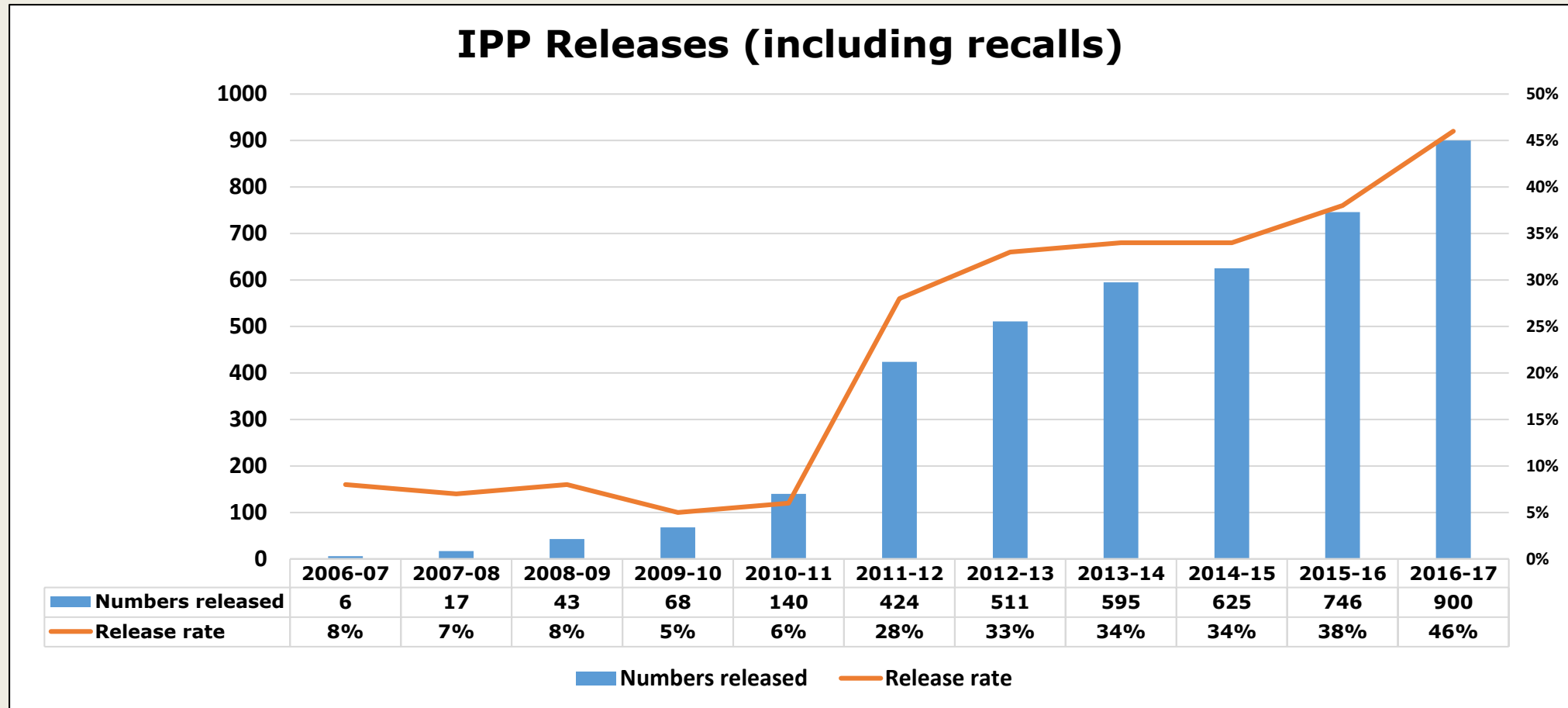
# Serious further offences

# The IPP and life story

'Indeterminate' Prison Population

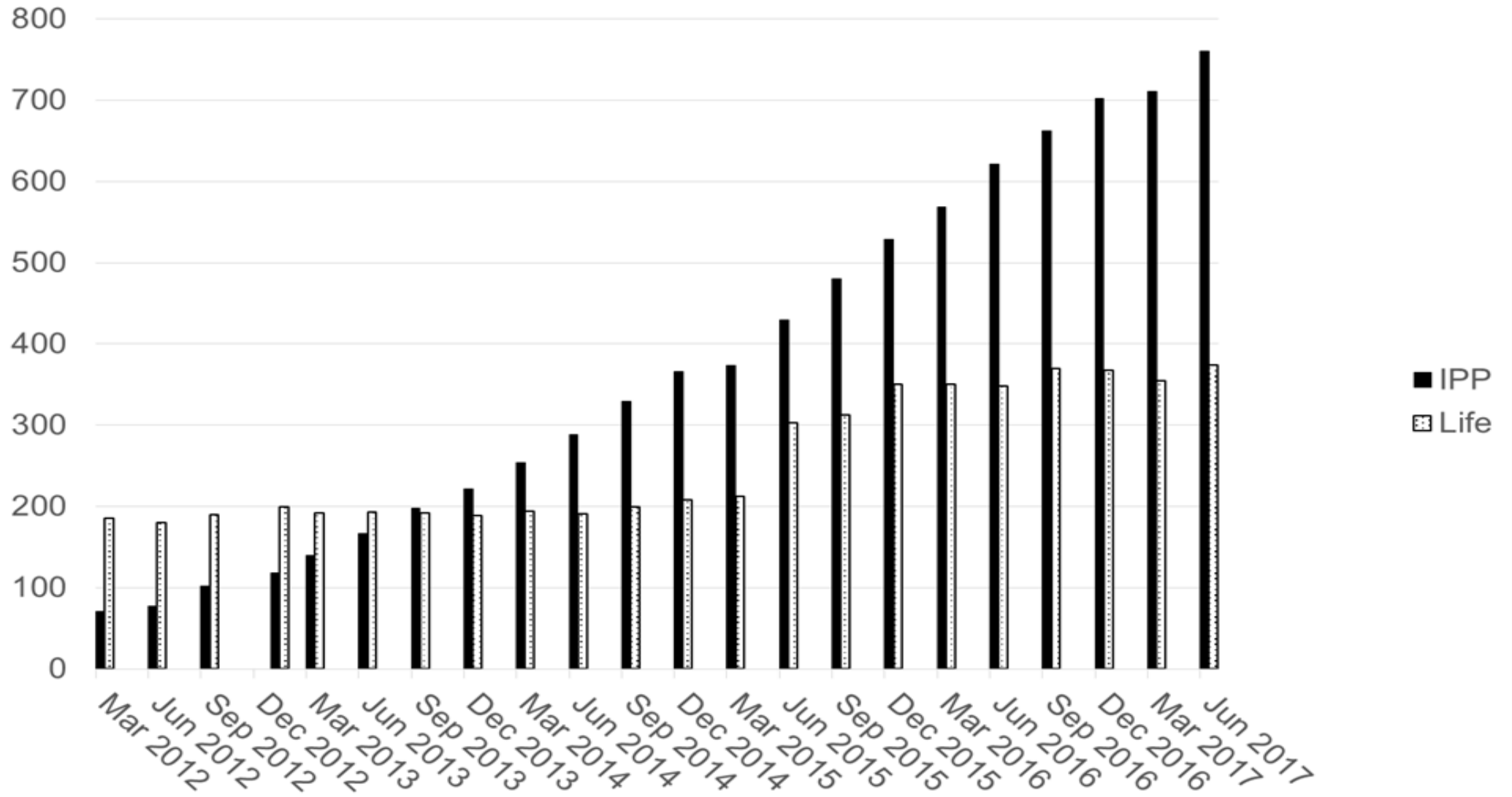


# IPP release trend





# ISP Recall Population



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