

THE
PEW

CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Protecting Public Safety
and Containing Corrections
Costs in Louisiana

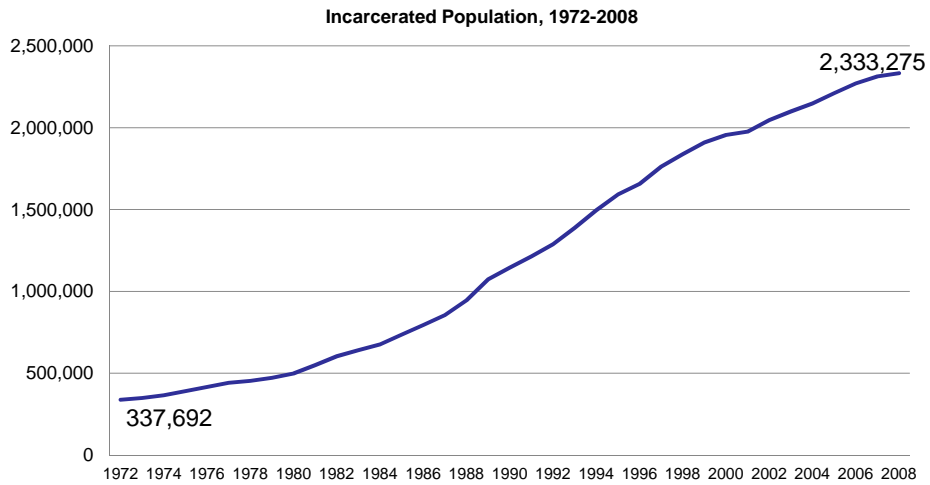
Louisiana Justice Reinvestment Task Force

Baton Rouge, LA

June 17, 2016

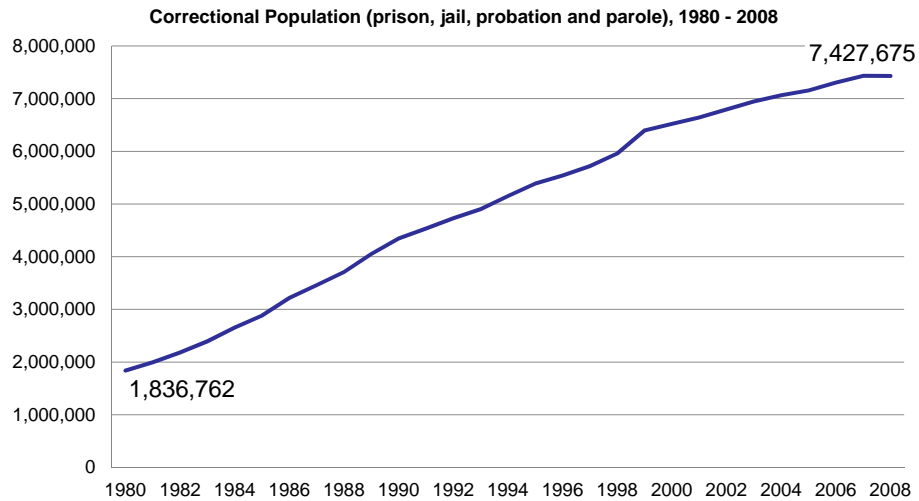
NATIONAL LANDSCAPE

**by 2008:
1 in 100 Adults Behind Bars**



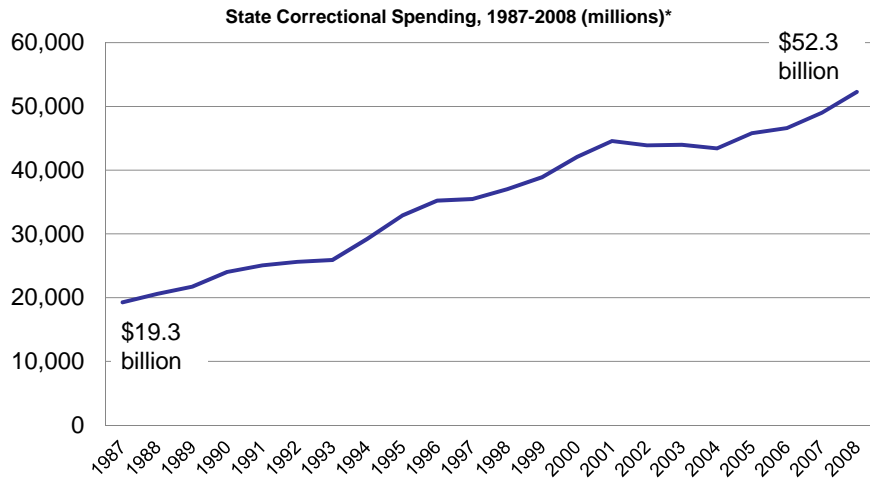
Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics ₃

**by 2008:
1 in 31 Adults Under Correctional Control**



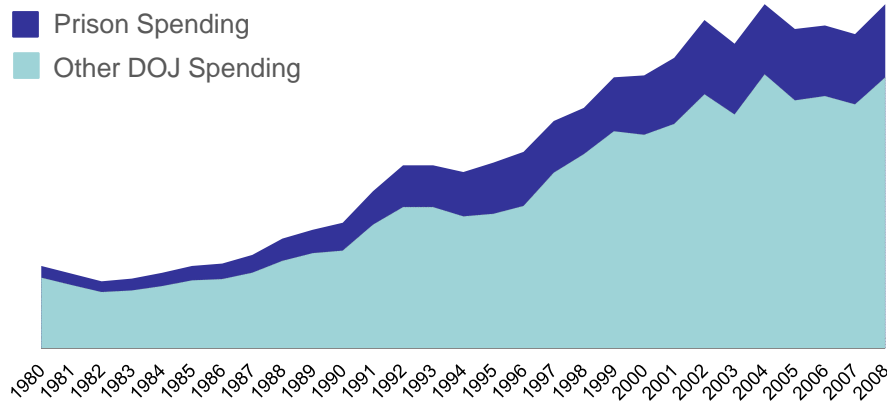
Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics ₄

**by 2008:
1 in 13 State Dollars Spent on Corrections**

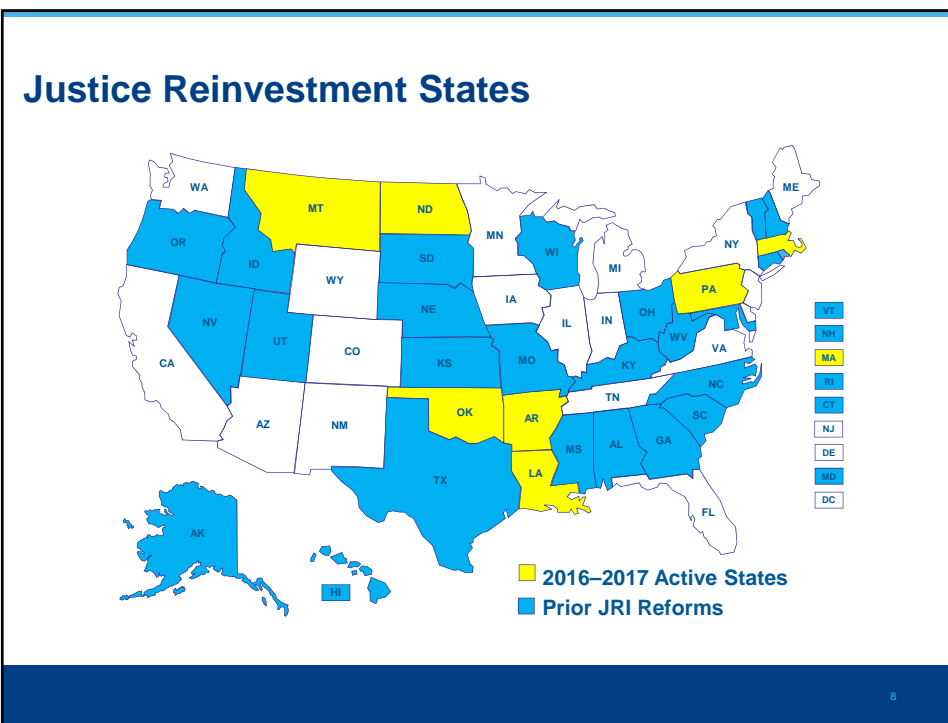
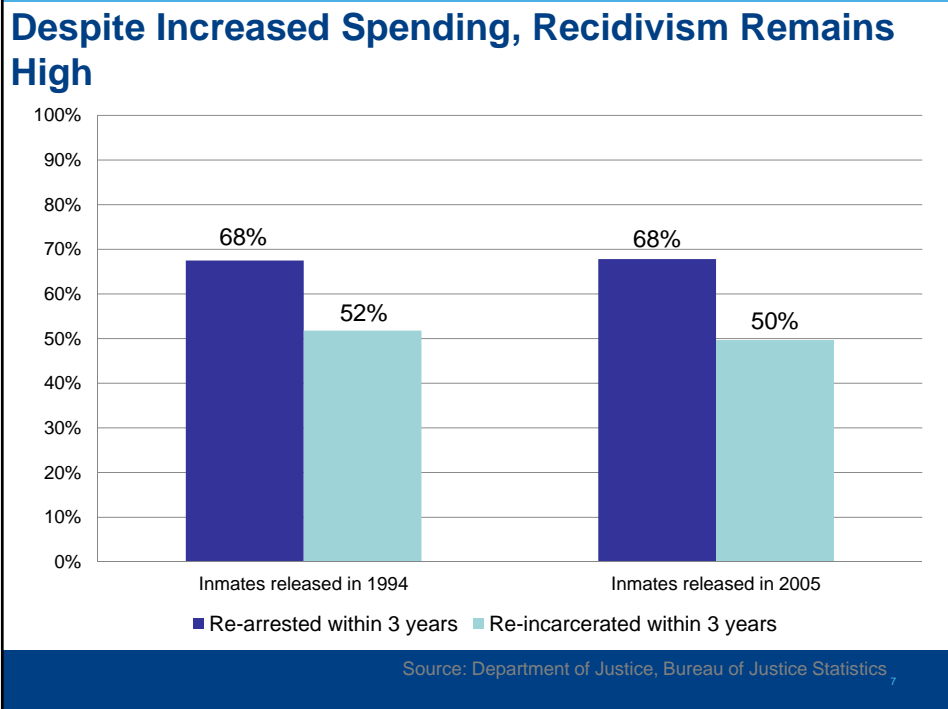


Source: National Association of State Budget Officers
*Inflation-adjusted

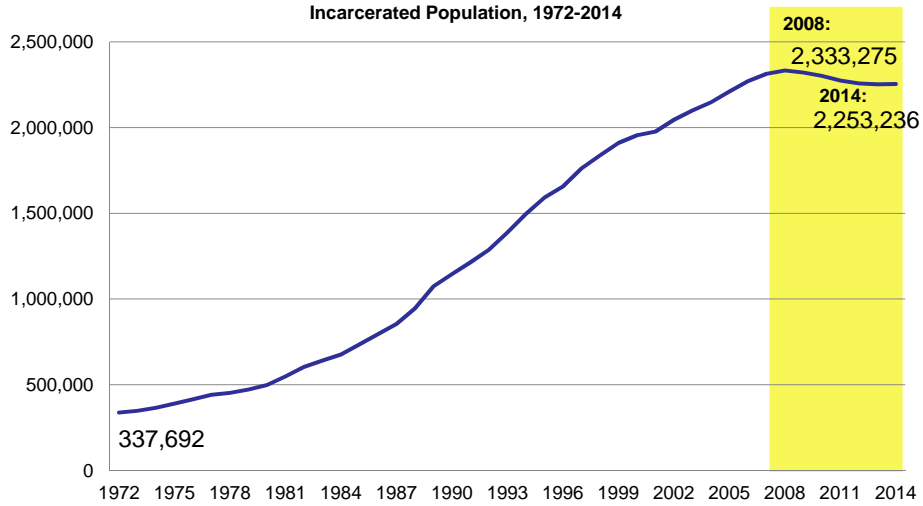
**by 2008:
1 in 5 Justice Department Dollars Spent on Corrections**



Source: Office of Management and Budget

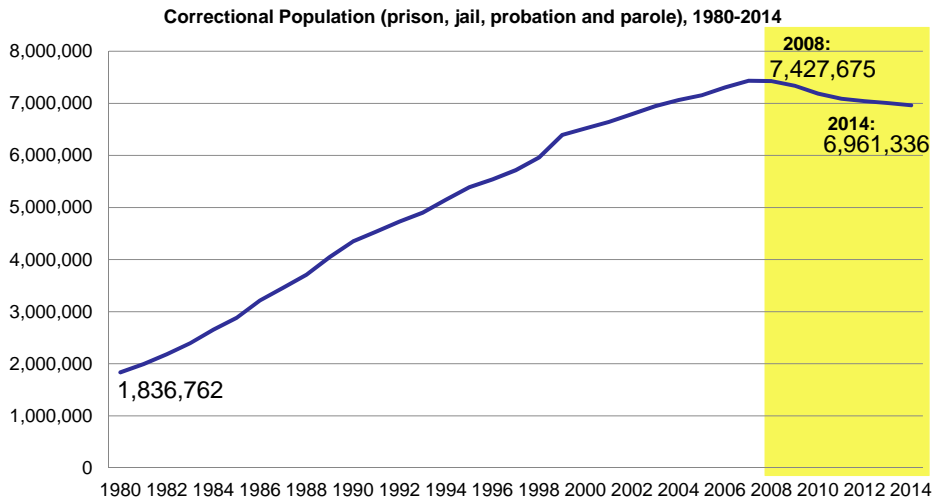


**by 2014:
1 in 111 Behind Bars**



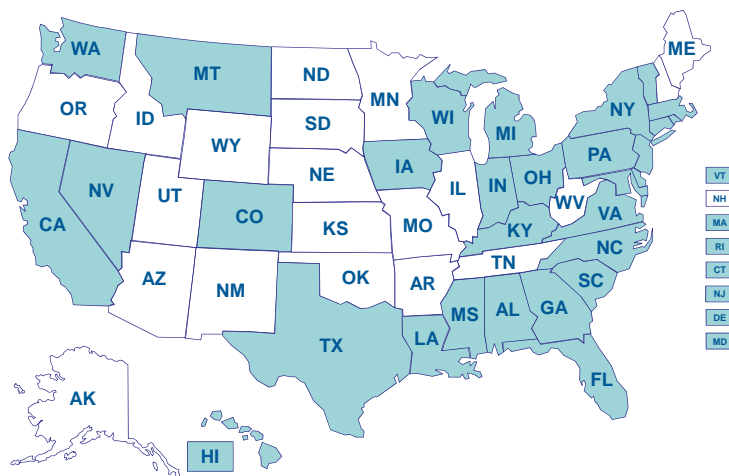
Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics ⁹

**by 2014:
1 in 36 Under Correctional Control**



Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics ¹⁰

From 2009-2014, 30 States Achieved Reductions in Both Crime and Imprisonment Rates

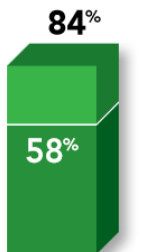


Source: Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Bureau of Justice Statistics

Support for Reforms Strong Across Political Parties

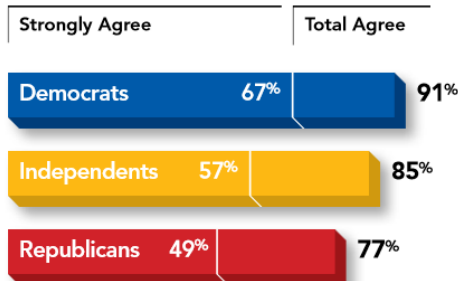
“Some of the money that we are spending on locking up low-risk, nonviolent inmates should be shifted to strengthening community corrections programs like probation and parole.”

Overall



Total Agree / Strongly Agree

By Party Identification



Source: 2012 Public Opinion Strategies/Mellman poll

Reducing Recidivism Higher Priority than Long Prison Stays

“It does not matter whether a nonviolent offender is in prison for 21 or 24 or 27 months. What really matters is the system does a better job of making sure that when an offender does get out, he is less likely to commit another crime.”

STRONGLY AGREE

73%

TOTAL AGREE

90%

Source: 2012 Public Opinion Strategies/Mellman poll

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Reframing the Debate

Old Question:

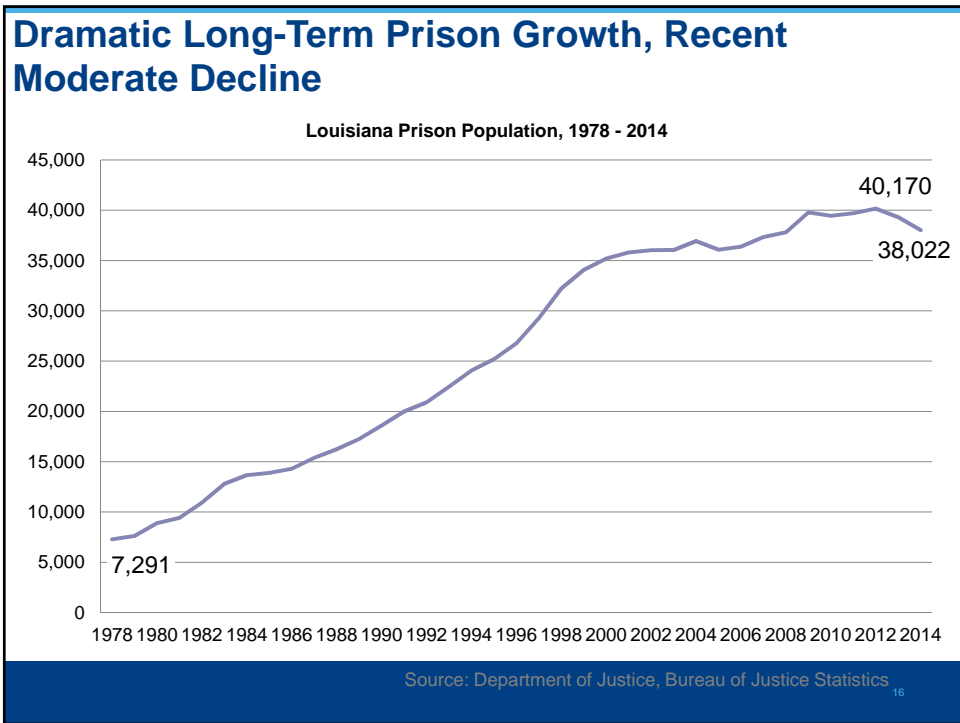
“How Do We Demonstrate that We’re Tough on Crime?”

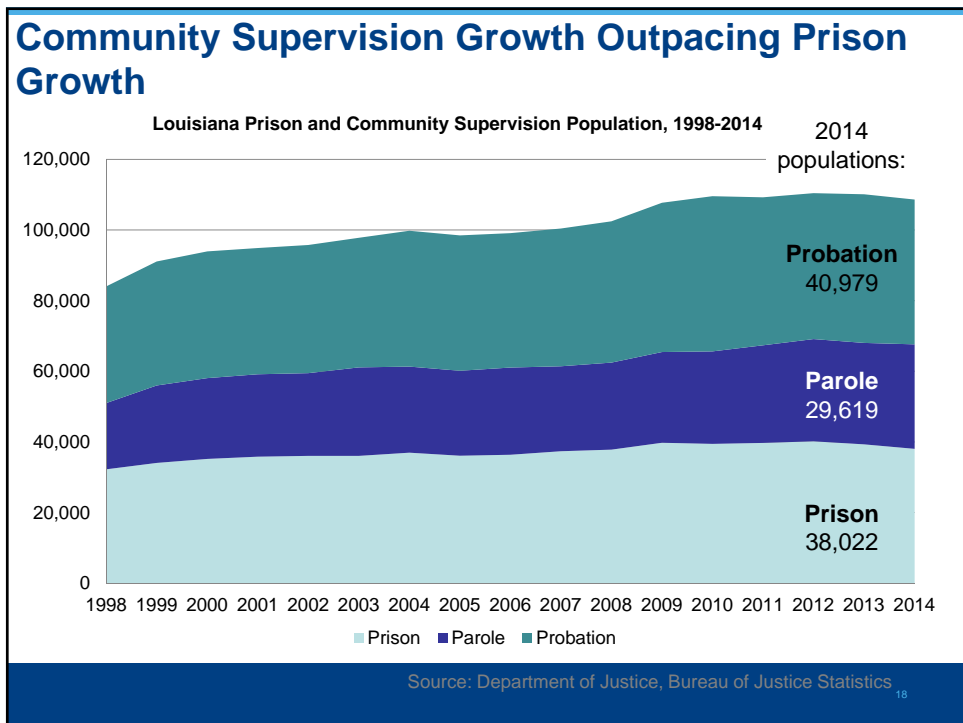
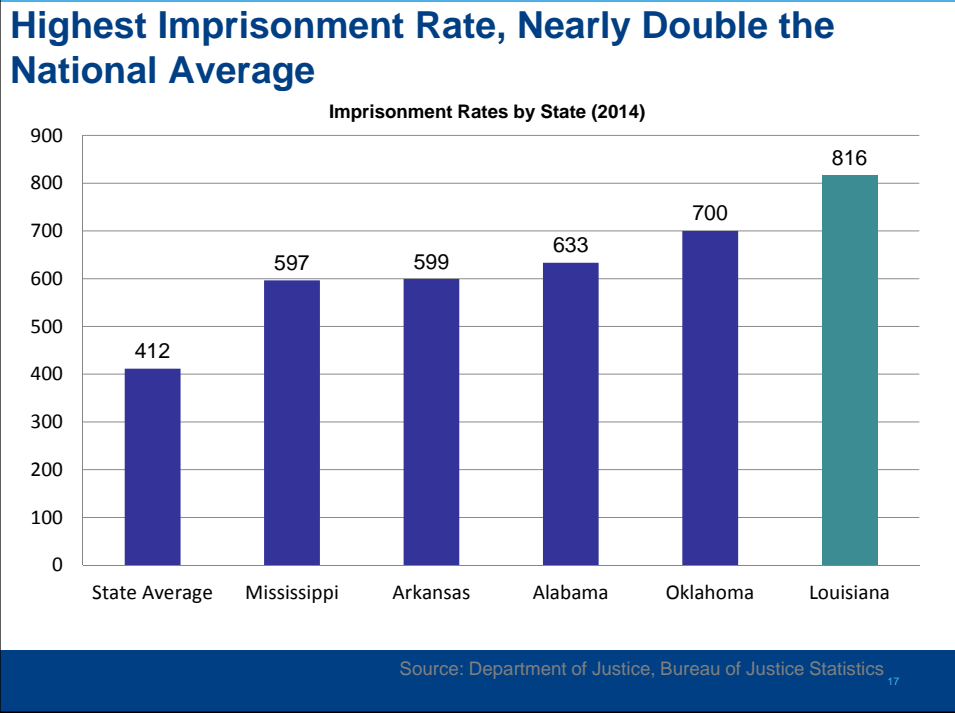
New Question:

“How Do We Get Taxpayers a Better Public Safety Return on Their Corrections Dollars?”

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LOUISIANA



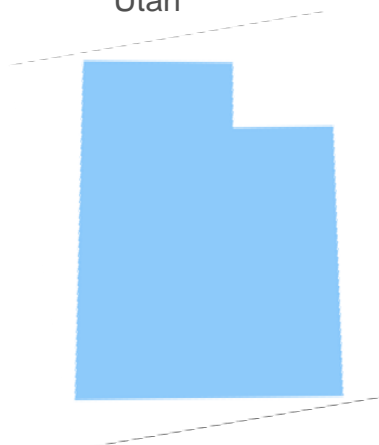


Case Studies: Corrections and Sentencing Reform

Mississippi

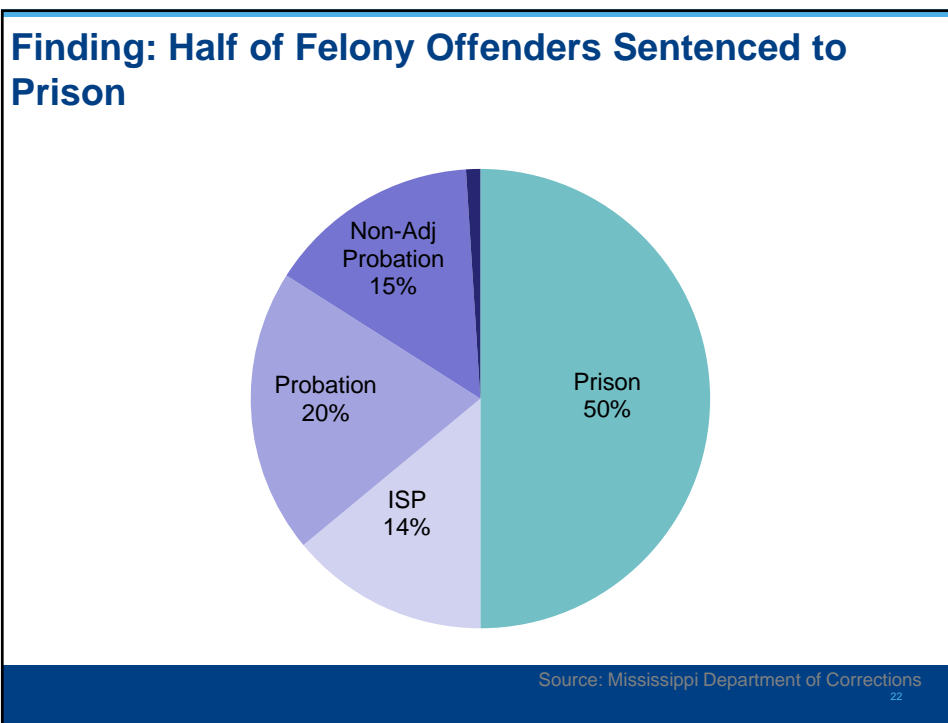
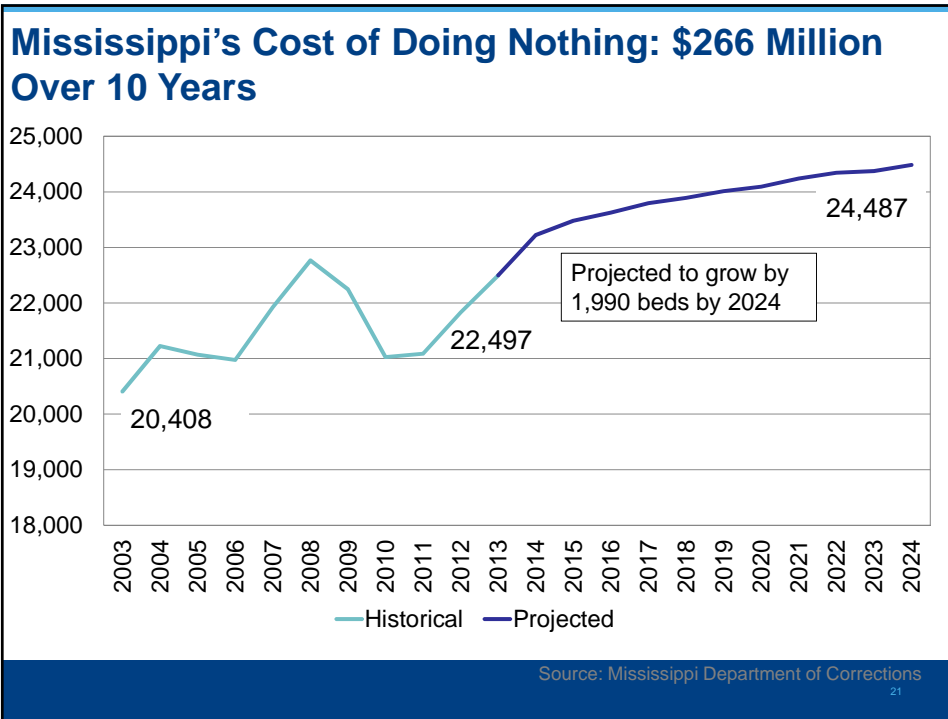


Utah

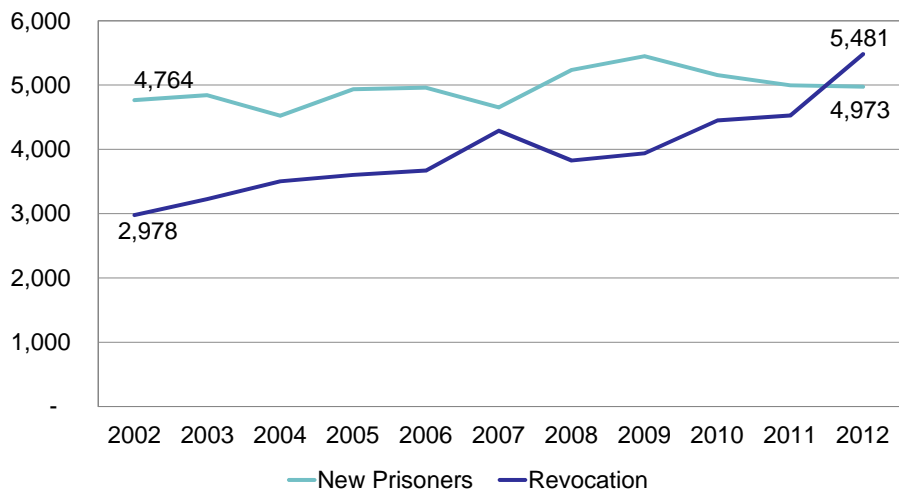


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MISSISSIPPI
2013-2014



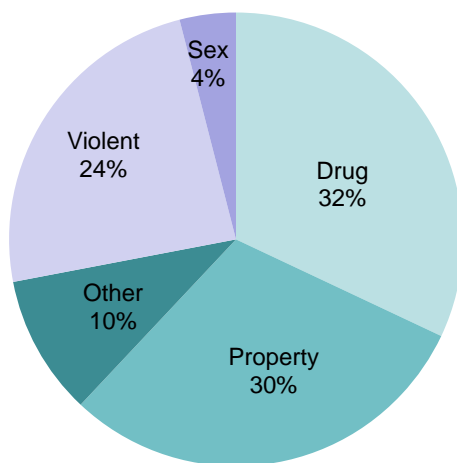
Finding: More Offenders Entered Prison For a Revocation of Supervision Than as New Prisoners in 2012



Source: Mississippi Department of Corrections

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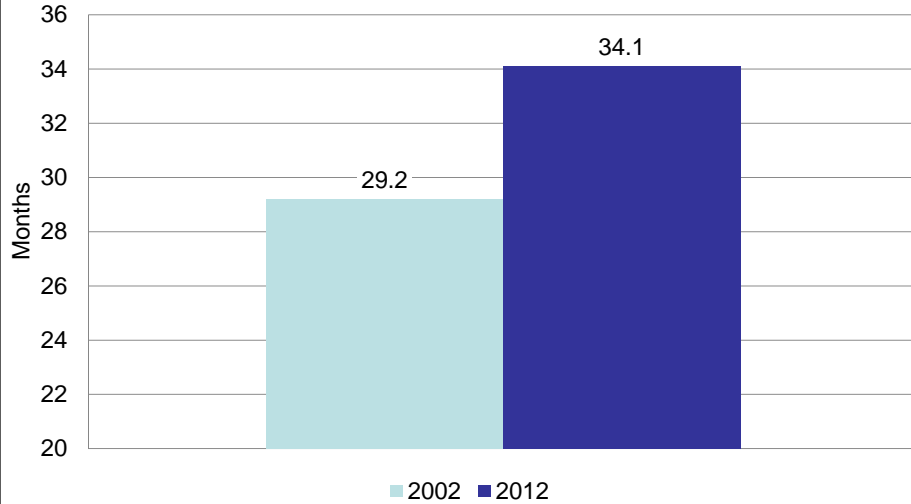
Finding: Almost Three-Quarters of Admissions Sentenced for Nonviolent Crimes



Source: Mississippi Department of Corrections

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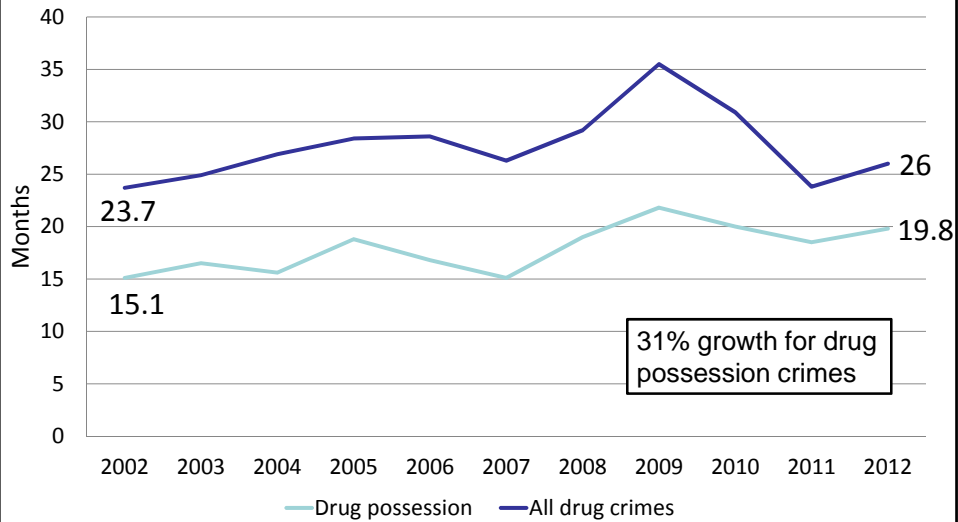
Finding: New Prisoners Released in 2012 Served 17% Longer Than Those Released in 2002



Source: Mississippi Department of Corrections

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Finding: Mean Time Served for Drug Possession Rose 31%, Compared to 10% for All Drug Crimes



Source: Mississippi Department of Corrections

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Task Force Key Findings and HB 585 Reforms

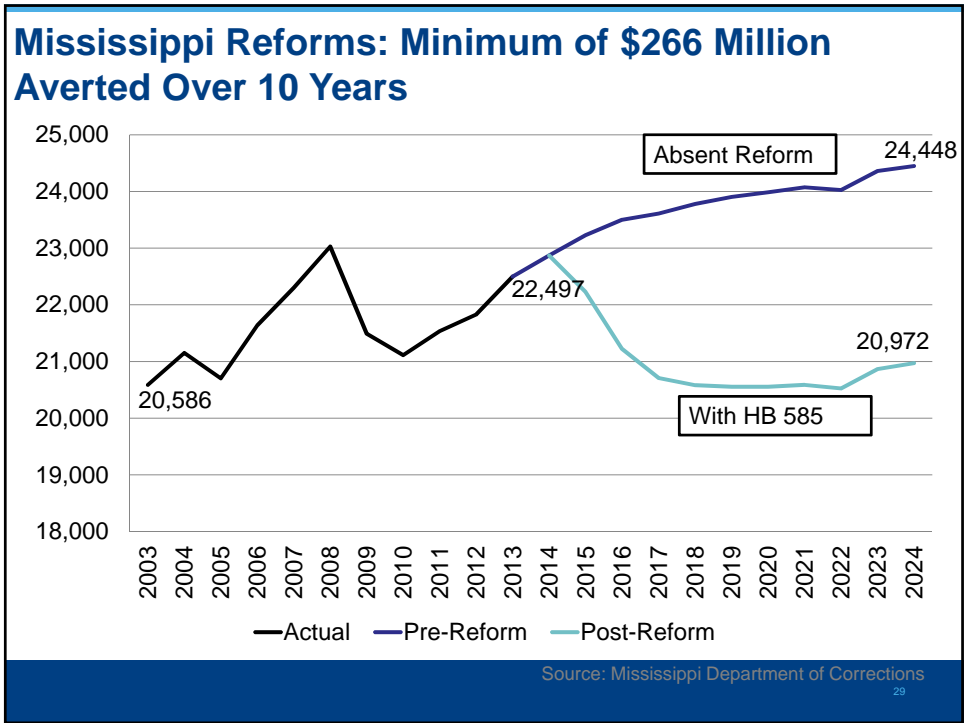
- **Finding: Half of felony offenders sentenced to prison**
 - Reforms: Expands eligibility for prison alternatives, such as probation, electronic monitoring, and drug courts; reinvests \$10.85 million in specialty courts; and authorizes the creation of veterans' courts.
- **Finding: More offenders entered prison from supervision than as new prisoners in 2012**
 - Reforms: Strengthens community corrections through the use of graduated sanctions and earned discharge; creates specialized detention centers; and limits incarceration periods for technical violations of supervision.
- **Finding: Almost three-quarters of admissions sentenced for nonviolent crimes**
 - Reforms: Raises felony theft threshold for property crimes from \$500 to \$1000; and institutes presumptive probation for certain lower-level property and drug crimes.

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Task Force Key Findings and HB 585 Reforms

- **Finding: New prisoners released in 2012 served 17% longer than those released in 2002**
 - Reforms: Creates structured sentences for drug and property offenders based on amount and criminal history; expands eligibility for earned time to certain drug offenders; and ensures that nonviolent offenders are parole eligible.

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Mississippi Reforms: Widespread Political Support

ALEC American Legislative Exchange Council
LIMITED GOVERNMENT • FREE MARKETS • FEDERALISM

POLICY BRIEF

Justice Reinvestment in Mississippi
NONPARTISAN RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

“ALEC’s legislative members believe that criminal justice spending should be held accountable and support policies that give taxpayers a better public safety return on every dollar spent. By slowing the growth of Mississippi’s prisons, the state can avoid \$266 million in corrections spending over the next ten years while maintaining public safety.”

Mississippi Reforms: Widespread Political Support



“Our Christian faith tells us the criminal justice system must be anchored in principles supported by the Bible and rooted in history. **[H.B. 585] would restore victims, justly punish criminals and provide opportunities for redemption.** It also acknowledges that almost every prisoner will one day rejoin our communities, and ensures each of them receives mandatory reentry support. That’s good for returning offenders, and it’s good for public safety too.”

Sincerely,

Dr. Jimmy Porter, Executive Director
Christian Action Commission

Craig DeRoche, President
Justice Fellowship

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Mississippi Reforms: Widespread Political Support

Advocacy Research Resources Leadership

Blake A. Wilson
President & CEO
bwilson@mec.ms



“[...] MEC recognizes that the corrections reform measures included in HB 585 **are in alignment with our long-held policies in support of government efficiency**, which is why I am writing today on behalf of our organization in support of the legislation.”

Sincerely,

Blake A. Wilson

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Mississippi Sees Lower Prison Population, Successful Probation, Fewer Nonviolent Offenders



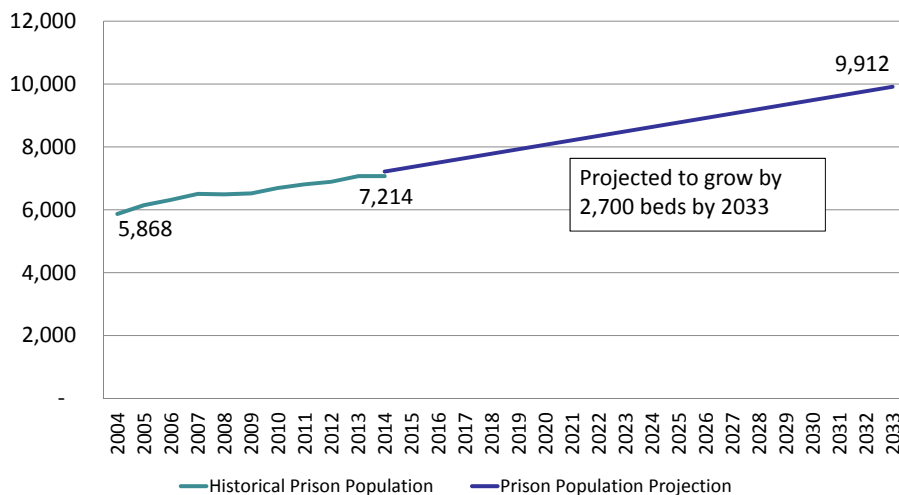
- Probation success rates up
- State's prison space better focused on violent offenders
- Prison admissions for low-level crimes have declined

Source: Mississippi Department of Corrections

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UTAH
2014-2015

Utah's Cost of Doing Nothing: \$542 Million Over 20 Years

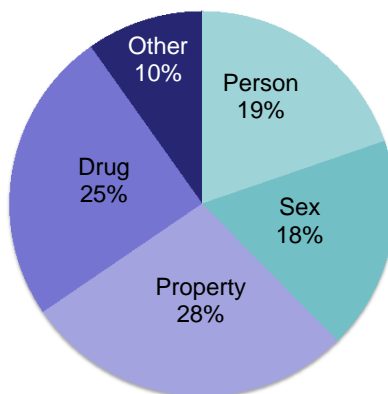


Source: Utah Department of Corrections

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Finding: Nonviolent Offenders Make Up 63% of Those Admitted to Prison for New Crimes

Prison Admissions by Offense Type, 2013



Source: Utah Department of Corrections

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Finding: Drug Possession is the Top Crime at Admission to Prison; 7 of Top 10 Nonviolent

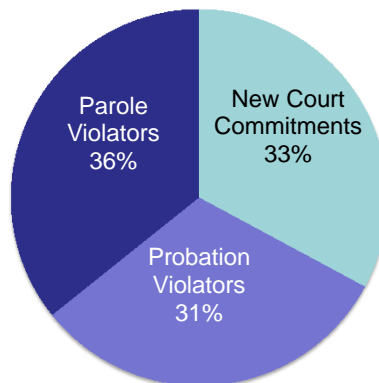
Offense	2004	2013	% Change
Possession/Use Of Controlled Substance	151	120	-21%
Theft	62	71	15%
Possession W/ Intent To Dis Cont Substance	60	70	17%
Retail Theft (Shoplifting)	12	51	325%
Driving Under The Influence Of Alc/Drugs	52	47	-10%
Aggravated Sexual Abuse Of A Child	41	44	7%
Aggravated Assault	47	43	-9%
Burglary	38	43	13%
Distrib/Arrange Dist Cont Substance	36	41	14%
Theft By Receiving Stolen Property	27	39	44%

Source: Utah Department of Corrections

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Finding: Revocations Make Up Two-Thirds of Admissions to Prison

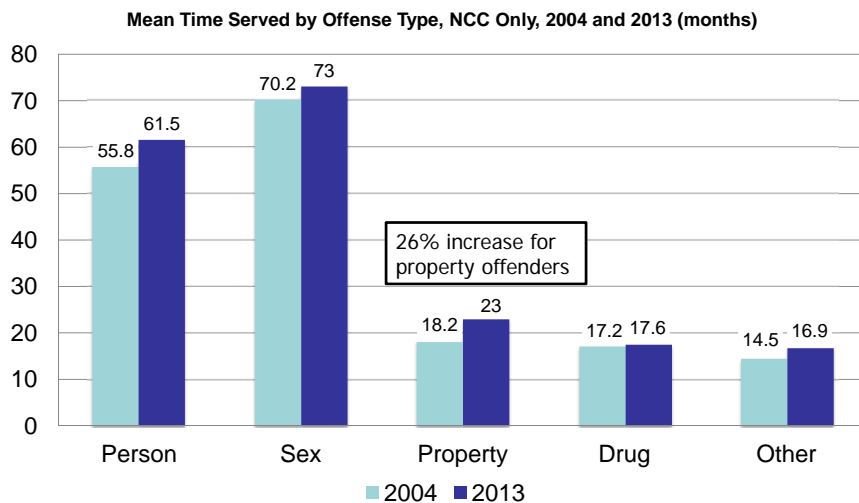
Prison Admissions by Type, 2013



Source: Utah Department of Corrections

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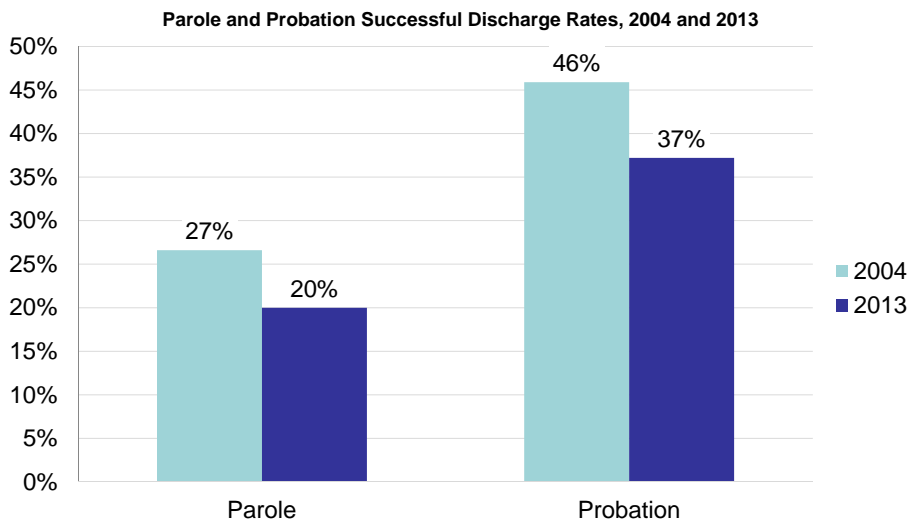
Finding: Increased Lengths of Stay For All Offenses



Source: Utah Department of Corrections

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Finding: Increased Failures on Probation and Parole



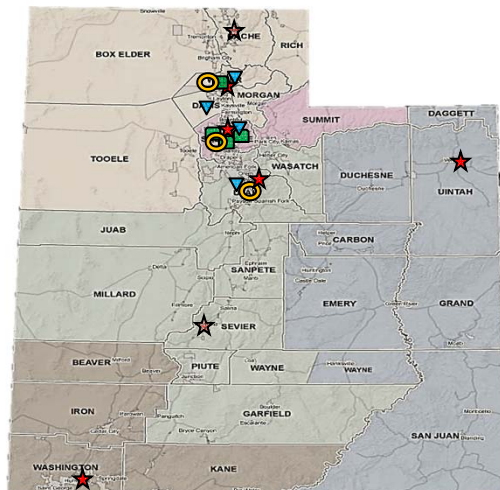
Source: Utah Department of Corrections

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Finding: Limited Treatment Resources

Community Reentry Options

- ★ - Treatment Resource Centers
- - Halfway Houses
- - Employment Placement Project
- ▽ - Parole Access to Recovery



Source: Utah Department of Corrections

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Commission Key Findings and HB 348 Reforms

- **Finding: Nonviolent offenders make up 63% of those admitted to prison for new crimes; drug possession was the number one crime at prison admission**
 - Reforms: Revises the scoring of criminal history to count factors indicative of the risk to reoffend, and eliminates double counting of supervision factors; eliminates prison sentences for first- and second-time drug possession offenders
- **Finding: Revocations make up two-thirds of admissions to prison**
 - Reforms: Creates a graduated sanctions and incentives matrix to address probation and parole violations; provides guidelines for incarceration periods for technical violations

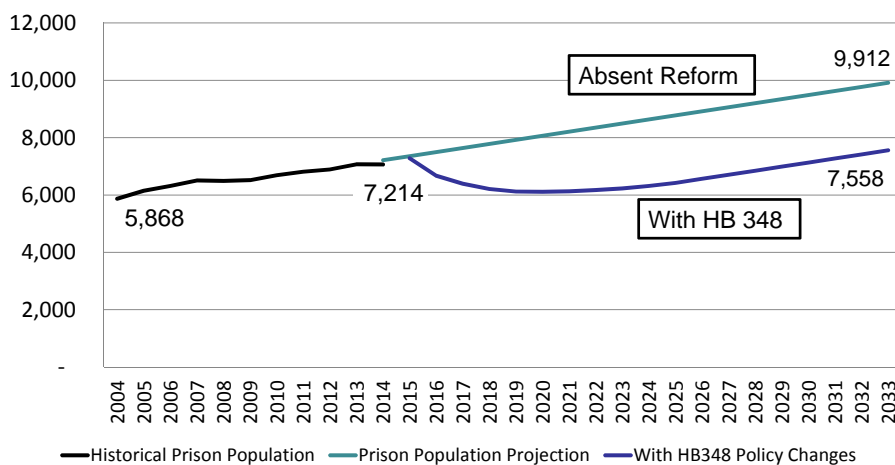
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Commission Key Findings and HB 348 Reforms

- **Finding: Increased lengths of stay for all offenses**
 - Reforms: Reduces sentencing guidelines for more than 50% of the sentences in the guideline matrix including low-level violent offenses; and standardizes earned time for prison release
- **Finding: Increased failures on probation and parole; limited treatment resources**
 - Reforms: Reinvests funds to expand treatment resources and established standards for treatment providers; establishes a county-based grant program providing funds to localities to develop evidence-based, recidivism reduction initiatives; and implements transition planning and reentry services

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Utah Reforms: Reforms Projected to Avert Nearly All Prison Growth and Save Over \$500 Million



Source: Utah Department of Corrections

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Utah Reforms: Widespread Political Support



“Sutherland Institute is encouraged by the direction of the policy recommendations presented to the legislative interim committees yesterday, and to the governor last week, by the Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice. **Overall, they represent a reasonable and, just as important, a moral perspective on the criminal justice system.**”

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Utah Reforms: Widespread Political Support



“The reforms are intended to make criminal justice smarter in Utah, keeping people out of prison who don’t need to be there – saving taxpayers some half a billion dollars over the next 20 years.”

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Utah Reforms: Widespread Political Support



“The ACLU of Utah fully endorses this proposed criminal justice reform legislation [...]. **We need to make sure that the common-sense, data-driven Justice Reinvestment reforms recommended by the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice become a reality in Utah.**”

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Next Steps

Justice Reinvestment Work Plan

1. *System Overview*
 - **Examine how the current system is operating;** how the state uses best practices in sentencing and corrections.
2. *Prison Drivers*
 - **Examine what's driving the size of the state's prison population;** how the prison and supervision populations have changed over last decade.
3. *Lessons from Other States*
 - **Study successful policies that have been implemented in other states;** what the research shows works to reduce crime and incarceration.
4. *Policy Development*
 - **Evaluate potential policies;** reach out to interested stakeholders.
5. *Final Findings and Recommendations*
 - **Finalize recommendations and task legislature with codifying them into law.**

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Public Safety Performance Project

www.pewtrusts.org/publicsafety

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