Prisoner Reentry: Addressing the Challenges of Returning Home

Reentry: The National Picture

The Government Innovators Network
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More People are Leaving Prison

More than 600,000 Released in 2000

Who is Returning Home?

- 91% Men, but number of women growing
- 33% White, 47% African-American, 16% Hispanic
- Average age is 34 years
- 41% of state prisoners have no HS diploma or GED
- 55% of Men and 65% of Women have minor children
- About three-quarters report alcohol or drug abuse
- At least 16% have mental illness
- 3% carry HIV, 18% have Hepatitis C, 7% have TB
Who Should Care About Reentry?

- Public Safety
- Public Health
  - Physical and Mental
  - Substance Abuse
- Employment
- Housing
- Families and Communities
Rearrest Rates of Prisoners Released in 1994

Source: Langan and Levin 2002; Note: Percentages are cumulative

- 6 Months: 29.9%
- 1 Year: 44.1%
- 2 Years: 59.2%
- 3 Years: 67.5%
Prisoner Reentry is Not Evenly Distributed Across Communities

Brooklyn, NY 2000

Jail & Prison Admissions (1 Yr)
- 151 to 400
- 101 to 150
- 51 to 100
- 21 to 50
- Under 21
- None 0

Residents on Probation/Parole
- 126 to 250
- 51 to 125
- 26 to 50
- 11 to 25
- Under 11
- None 0