



Corrections and Community Supervision

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Governor

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Commissioner

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION ANNOUNCES NEW YORK STATE'S COMMITMENT TO JOIN COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS JUSTICE CENTER REENTRY 2030 INITIATIVE

Aims to Further Improve Upon New York's 19.1 Percent Recidivism Rate

Identifies Strategic Goals to Reduce Recidivism and Improve Reentry Outcomes for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals

Sets a Measurable Timeline for the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to Achieve Reentry Goals by 2030

New York – The New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) today announced the State of New York's commitment to join Reentry 2030, a national initiative led by The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, in partnership with JustLeadershipUSA and the Correctional Leaders Association, to push states to improve reentry outcomes for all formerly incarcerated individuals. As part of this initiative, DOCCS has identified key performance indicators that will inform programming, policies, and objectives to achieve its reentry goals by 2030. Reentry 2030 is supported by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance under the Second Chance Act, Arnold Ventures, the Tow Foundation, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

"One of my main priorities as Commissioner is public safety, and it is abundantly clear that reducing recidivism among formerly incarcerated individuals has a positive impact on the welfare of our communities," **DOCCS Commissioner Daniel F. Martuscello III said.** "I am proud for New York to join the Reentry 2030 initiative and build upon the successes of Governor Hochul's Jails to Jobs program so that we can continue to make a meaningful change in the lives of those who have paid their debt to society. I thank the Governor for her continued prioritization of public safety and for her support for New York's participation in Reentry 2030."

DOCCS' Reentry 2030 goals seek to address a variety of barriers formerly incarcerated individuals face upon their return to the community, including obtaining personal documents, accessing healthcare, finding secure housing and employment, and completing relevant programming. These barriers were previously identified in a [joint study](#) conducted by DOCCS and the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA). The Reentry 2030 campaign now provides an opportunity for DOCCS, in partnership with state and local agencies, service providers, and community-based organizations, to address these reentry barriers in a comprehensive manner that will enhance overall public safety. The work of the [state's Council on Community](#)

[Justice](#)—an advisory group of local and state criminal justice practitioners, including Commissioner Martuscello; professionals from community-based organizations; and leaders in higher education—is also informing these efforts. Just last month, Council members hosted a first-of-its-kind meeting at Sing Sing Correctional Facility, meeting with 13 incarcerated individuals and hearing their perspectives on the ways the state can improve access to programs and services in facilities and communities and further reduce recidivism.

The launch of this campaign follows record-low recidivism rates for individuals released from prison. Based on DOCCS' analysis of 2020 releases from custody, 19 percent of releasees were returned to custody within three years, or looked at in a more positive light, 81 percent have been successful in the community. This represents the lowest return-to-custody rate since 1985, when DOCCS began tracking recidivism. For a detailed breakdown of recidivism data, the full recidivism analysis can be [viewed online](#).

The Department will [build upon this progress](#)—made in large part by the work of staff in all disciplines within DOCCS—to enhance community safety by striving toward bold objectives to achieve by 2030, including:

Successful Community Supervision

- Reduce recidivism rate to 17 percent—compared to the national average of 27 [percent as reported by CSG](#)

Public Benefits

- Ensure 100 percent of eligible incarcerated individuals released to the community will have received or requested a Social Security Card and Birth Certificate prior to release
- Arrange for 100 percent of eligible releasees under supervision to have a Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) ID

Education and Employment

- Increase post-release employment by 50 percent
- More than double the rate of incarcerated individuals participating in college

Behavioral Health

- Secure substance abuse treatment for 100 percent of individuals with a need prior to release
- Enroll 100 percent of eligible individuals in Medicaid prior to release

Governor Hochul's [Jails to Jobs initiative](#) includes a number of objectives that will assist the Department in reaching its goals, ranging from workforce training, vocational programming, and college tuition assistance. One program in particular that will assist the Department in their efforts to provide 100 percent of releasees with a DMV ID is an existing partnership between DOCCS and the DMV that was [recently expanded](#) by Governor Hochul. The agencies work in tandem to acquire the necessary paperwork, take a photo, process the transaction, and deliver the non-driver ID cards directly to the correctional facility so that the incarcerated individual will have it available to them upon their release. DOCCS also works with the DMV to assist incarcerated individuals in renewing their drivers license to regain their driving privileges post-release.

The Jails to Jobs initiative also included the hiring and training of Employment Parole Officers and reentry specialists who support individuals under community supervision with career planning and job placement. This includes “Ready, Set, Work,” a four week skill-based job readiness program which equips releasees with the necessary tools to obtain and maintain quality employment. These efforts will directly impact New York’s Reentry 2030 goal to increase the rate of post-release employment by 50 percent.

As proposed in the Jails to Jobs initiative, the Governor also restored Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) eligibility for incarcerated individuals enrolled in college programs. As part of the Governor’s 2024 State of the State, DOCCS is expanding post-secondary education to each of the state’s correctional facilities this year. This will have a significant impact on DOCCS’ goal to more than double the college participation rate.

In November 2023, Governor Hochul [signed the Clean Slate Act](#), another Jails to Jobs commitment, that will seal certain criminal records for individuals who remain crime-free years after release from incarceration, while maintaining the availability of this information for law enforcement purposes. As an incentive toward record expungement and a deterrent to committing new crimes, this legislation is a key component to reducing the recidivism rate.

As part of the [FY 2024 Budget](#), Governor Hochul tripled the investment in reentry services to support New Yorkers reintegrating into their communities. The investment significantly increased the number of formerly incarcerated individuals who could benefit from the services provided by County Reentry Task Forces from approximately 2,500 per year to 7,500 per year. These task forces serve as a critical lifeline during the reentry process by helping individuals meet their healthcare needs, find employment, participate in behavioral programming, and access an education. In partnership with local government agencies and community-based organizations, they also provide support and referrals for housing, workforce training, and transportation, providing stability during the initial reentry period. This investment will have a direct impact on DOCCS’ Reentry 2030 goals relating to employment, housing, and overall recidivism.

Further, DOCCS is actively recruiting for both security and civilian staff who will ultimately play a critical role in the Department achieving these goals by 2030. If you or someone you know is interested in being a part of an organization committed to improving our communities, more information on [current employment opportunities](#) is available online through DOCCS and the [Department of Civil Service](#) websites.

New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Commissioner Rossana Rosado said, "I applaud Governor Hochul and Commissioner Martuscello for their unwavering commitment to the re-entry and reintegration of justice-involved people throughout New York State. People who have served their time deserve the opportunity to have a real 'second chance' to help themselves, their families, and their communities. At DCJS, we are proud to partner with DOCCS, local governments, and community organizations to provide re-entry services that connect people with the support that they need from housing and healthcare to employment and education. We look forward to making these goals into New York’s reality in the years to come."

Megan Quattlebaum, director of the CSG Justice Center said, “The Council of State Governments Justice Center congratulates New York State on launching Reentry 2030.

New York is committing to Reentry 2030 at an inspiring time, with the White House having proclaimed April to be Second Chance Month. Nothing could better embody the ideals Second Chance Month seeks to uplift than Governor Hochul's announcement that her state will take a whole-of-government approach to improving outcomes for people leaving prison and jail by 2030. We are excited to provide research-driven strategies and resources to help New York realize its vision of successful reentry for all. Reentry 2030 is positioned to drive positive change throughout the Empire State by fostering collaboration and connections, promoting individual success, and enhancing public safety."

According to the CSG Justice Center, formerly incarcerated individuals reentering their communities have a higher chance of being un- or underemployed, struggle to access health care, and lack stable housing. By not meeting these needs, the CSG Justice Center estimates that states spend more than \$8 billion annually on costs related to recidivism. Reentry 2030 seeks to address these shortcomings by scaling effective reentry practices nationwide, providing assistance to states with setting and achieving bold goals, and facilitating a network of state reentry leaders to reduce recidivism and improve public safety.

The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center is a national, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, serving state officials in all three branches of government, with policy and research expertise to develop strategies that increase public safety and strengthen communities.

For more information about Reentry 2030, visit <https://reentry2030.org>.

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