

JUSTICE REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE (JRI)

North Dakota

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Between 2005 and 2015, North Dakota’s prison, probation, and parole populations increased significantly and the prison population was projected to grow an additional 36 percent by 2022 at a cost of \$130 million. With technical assistance through JRI, the state enacted HB 1041 and SB 2015 in 2017 to address prison growth, strengthen supervision, and improve community-based behavioral health services.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Through HB 1041 and SB 2015, North Dakota:

Preserved Prison Space for People Convicted of Serious Offenses

- Created a presumption of probation for people convicted of some nonviolent felony and misdemeanor offenses.

- Extended credit for time served in custody pre-trial, shortening prison terms for more than 1,300 people in the first year post-reform.

- Created a 30-day custodial sanction option for probation violations in lieu of revocation.

Invested in Community-Based Behavioral Health Treatment

- Invested \$7 million in a joint project between the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR) to support community-based behavioral health treatment that served more than 1,000 clients in the first year.

- Invested \$500,000 to develop a plan to increase the behavioral health workforce across the state.

INNOVATION THROUGH JRI

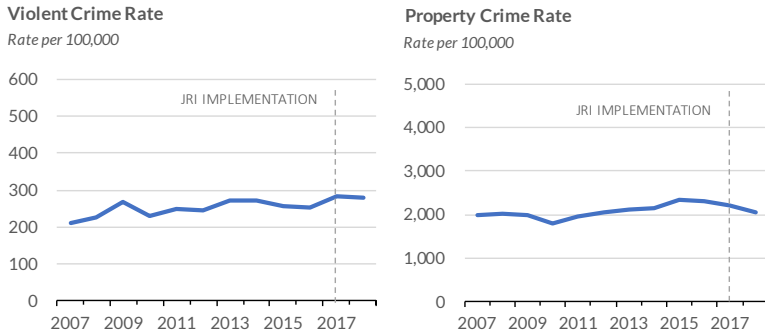
Through JRI, North Dakota invested in **Free Through Recovery** to more effectively address the needs of justice-involved people with serious behavioral health disorders.

To address the critical need for treatment among its many people with behavioral health needs, North Dakota created a new community-based program in 2017. Through JRI, North Dakota has invested \$7 million in Free Through Recovery, a joint venture between the state’s department of human services and department of corrections. The program is available to people involved in the justice system who are at risk for future involvement and show signs of a behavioral health condition. Free Through Recovery combines care coordination, recovery services, and peer support and offers providers financial incentives for improving client outcomes. As of 2019, 31 providers across the state had served a total of more than 1,000 clients, and early outcomes were positive. Between March 2018 and January 2019, roughly two out of three participants met three or four of the four outcome goals (no law enforcement involvement, acquire stable housing, obtain employment, and maintain recovery).

SAVINGS/REINVESTMENT

Savings/averted costs	State JRI investment
No data available	\$7,500,000

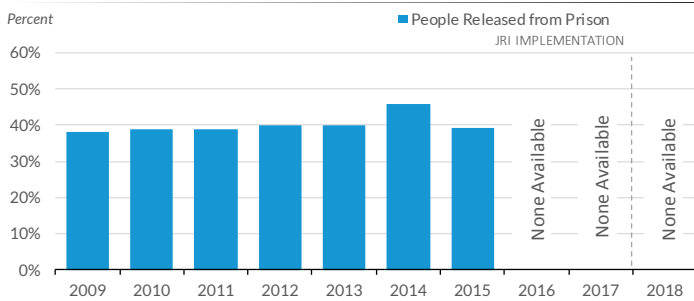
Violent and Property Crime Rates, 2007–18



Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reporting Program (2007–2018).

- Violent crime rates were increasing before JRI and stabilized after reform.
- Property crime rates were decreasing before JRI reform and continued decreasing in 2018.

Recidivism Rate: Reincarceration within Three Years

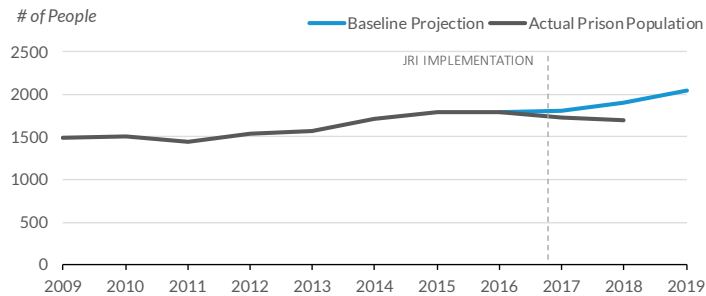


Source: Data provided by the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Note: Includes people imprisoned on a felony conviction, released in each calendar year, and reincarcerated on any offense (including misdemeanor or felony offense or supervision violation) within three years.

- Recidivism rates remained stable for people released from prison between 2009 and 2015.

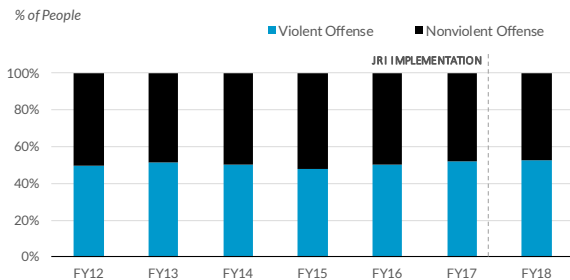
Prison Population



Source: North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Fact Sheets, 2009-2018.

- In 2018, there were approximately 200 fewer people in North Dakota prisons than projected before reform.

Prison Composition



Source: North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Fact Sheets, 2012-2018.

- In 2018, 53 percent of people in prison were there for a violent offense, compared with 49 percent in 2012.

*The data in this summary describe trends and provide additional context on system changes pre- and post-reform. Indicators shown here track high-level changes in state justice systems and do not necessarily demonstrate the impact of any specific reform, including JRI policy and practice changes. Visit urbn.is/JRI to see detailed sources for information in this fact sheet.