

JUSTICE REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE (JRI)

Kansas

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Between 2009 and 2012, Kansas’s prison population increased by almost 9 percent and was projected to grow another 23 percent by 2021 at a cost of at least \$81 million. With technical assistance through JRI, the state enacted H.B. 2170 in 2013 to strengthen probation supervision, increase successful reentry, and make communities safer.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Through H.B. 2170, Kansas:

Expanded Behavioral Health Resources for People on Community Supervision

Invested \$10 million to expand access to community-based behavioral health treatment, significantly increasing treatment capacity and service between FY 2014 and FY 2019.

Increased referrals to cognitive-behavioral and substance abuse treatment for people on supervision by 45 percent within two years after JRI.

Strengthened Community Supervision

Authorized probation officers to respond to technical violations with swift, certain, and cost-effective sanctions, and issued nearly 17,000 short jail stays to respond to technical violations in lieu of revocation between FY 2014 and FY 2018.

Improved Information Sharing to Support Data-Driven Decisionmaking

Developed and published a data dashboard to facilitate real-time data tracking and data sharing between state- and county-level community corrections departments.

LASTING IMPACT OF JRI

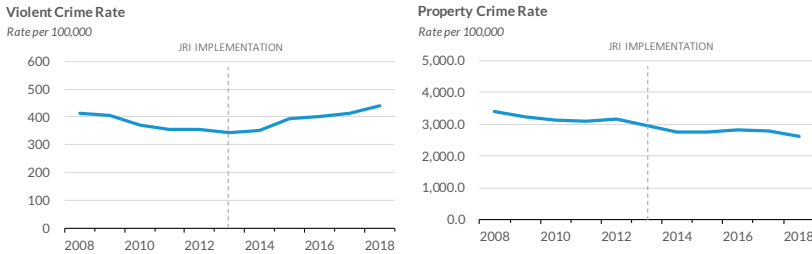
Kansas invested millions of dollars to integrate behavioral health treatment and community supervision.

Recognizing the prevalence of behavioral health needs among the state’s corrections population, Kansas created a statewide system of integrated services for people on community supervision who need substance abuse or mental health services. The state hired more than 40 service providers in community corrections departments and community-based organizations throughout the state and coordinated its first behavioral health cross-training initiative in 2015. The training convened more than 150 supervision officers, treatment providers, and case managers in two counties. Between FY 2014 and FY 2019, more than 5,000 people on probation received behavioral health services. In addition, treatment quality and timeliness have improved, and people report feeling more positively toward their probation officers.

SAVINGS/REINVESTMENT

Savings/averted costs	State JRI investment
\$2,463,092	\$16,747,000

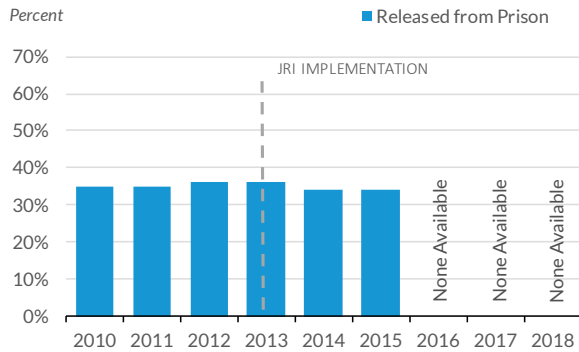
Violent and Property Crime Rates, 2008–18



Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reporting Program (2008–2018).

- ↑ Violent crime rates were decreasing before JRI and began to increase after reform.
- ↓ Property crime rates were decreasing before JRI and continued decreasing after reform.

Recidivism: Reincarceration Within Three Years

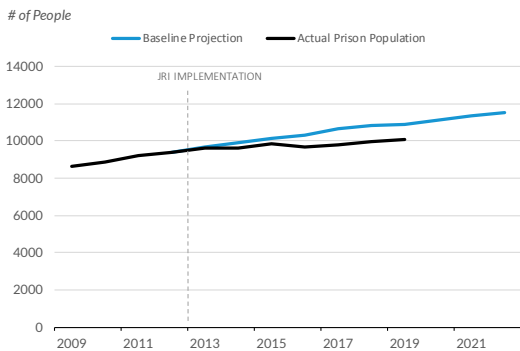


Source: Kansas Department of Corrections Annual Reports, 2012–19.

Note: Data is not yet available for 2016 and sufficient time has not passed to calculate three-year rates for 2017–18.

- ▬ Recidivism rates were stable for people released from prison between 2010 and 2015.

Prison Population

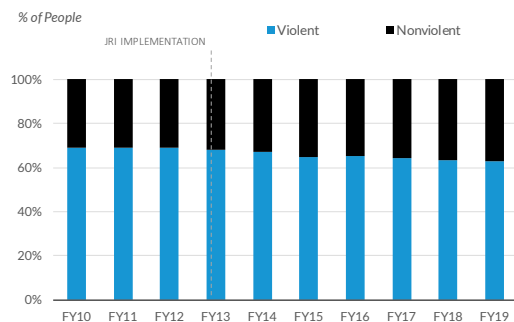


Source: Kansas Department of Corrections Annual Reports, 2012–19; baseline projection is from the Kansas Sentencing Commission 2012 Annual Report.

Note: Population count as of June 30th of each year.

- ↓ In 2019, there were approximately 800 fewer people in Kansas prisons than was projected prereform.

Prison Composition



Source: Data provided by the Kansas Department of Corrections (not available online).

- ↓ In FY 2019, 63 percent of people in prison were there for a violent offense, down from 69 percent in FY 2010.

*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.