

Prisoner Reentry into the Community

Compiled by Arden Rice, March 2007

www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lrb/pubs/tapthepower.htm

Over 600,000 people are being released from prison annually nationwide. According to the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, over half of these individuals will be convicted of additional crimes within three years of their release. Longer prison sentences, an increase in the number of ex-drug offenders, and a reduction in vocational training and education programs within prisons make reintegration to society even more challenging. To reduce this high rate of recidivism, many communities are establishing reentry programs to assist former prisoners seeking employment, housing, and coping with alcohol and substance abuse addictions and other mental health issues.

After Prison – Roadblocks to Reentry: A Report on State Legal Barriers Facing People with Criminal Records / Legal Action Center. 2004. (365.45/L52) A compilation of surveys of state laws affecting ex-convicts. Wisconsin is ranked 21st in having the fewest barriers.

www.hirenetwork.org/pdfs/LAC_PrintReport.pdf

Aftercare Services / U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. 2003. (347.172/X2/pt.1) Reviews the characteristics of successful programs that offer health, education, family, and vocational services to youth released from juvenile detention centers.

<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS44912>

Attitudes of US Voters Toward Prisoner Rehabilitation and Reentry Policies / National Council on Crime and Delinquency. 2006. (365.45/N211b) Survey results based on a national public opinion poll conducted by Zogby International.

www.nccd-crc.org/nccd/pubs/2006april_focus_zogby.pdf

Does Parole Work? Analyzing the Impact of Postprison Supervision on Rearrest Outcomes / Urban Institute, Justice Policy Center. 2005. (365.45/Ur1) Compares recidivism rates for former prisoners released on parole and those released unconditionally to try and identify for whom supervision is most important.

www.urban.org/publications/311156.html

Effective Reentry Programs / Urban Institute. 2006. (365.45/U52) www.urban.org/publications/1001016.html

Families: A Critical Resource for New Jersey's Prisoner Reentry Strategy / New Jersey Institute of Social Justice. September 2003. (365.45/N46a) Recommends methods for establishing partnerships between families and the criminal justice system to create a network of support for returning ex-convicts.

www.njisj.org/reports/shapiro%5Freport.pdf

From Prison to Work: The Employment Dimensions of Prisoner Reentry / Urban Institute. 2004. (365.45/Ur1c)

www.urban.org/publications/411097.html

Implementation and Outcome Evaluation of the Intensive Aftercare Program: Final Report / National Council on Crime and Delinquency. 2005. (365.45/N211a) A report on a five-year evaluation of the Intensive Aftercare Program to reduce recidivism among high-risk juvenile parolees.

www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojdp/206177.pdf

Just Out: Early Lessons from the Ready4Work Prisoner Reentry Initiative / Public/Private Ventures. 2006. (365.45/P96) Public/Private Ventures conducted this self-evaluation of the program it created to help returning prisoners with job training, placement, and mentoring.

www.ppv.org/ppv/publications/assets/198_publication.pdf

Mapping Prisoner Reentry: An Action Research Guidebook / Urban Institute, Justice Policy Center. 2005. (365.45/Ur1a) Analyzes the distribution of prisoner reentry in local communities to recommend practices for more effective delivery of services.

www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411250%5FRMNguidebook.pdf

The Power of Work: The Center for Employment Opportunities Comprehensive Prisoner Reentry Program / Center for Employment Opportunities and Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation. 2006. (365.45/C331) Provides an overview of the job training program used in New York City since the 1970s to help over 2,000 people a year obtain jobs.

www.mdrc.org/publications/426/summary.html

Prisoner Reentry: What Are the Public Health Challenges? / Rand Institute. 2003. (Rand Research Brief) (365.45/R15b) Discusses the incidence of infectious diseases, chronic illnesses, and substance abuse among former inmates.

www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB6013/RB6013.pdf

Prospects for Prisoner Reentry / Economic Policy Institute. 2003. (Working Paper no. 125) (365.45/Ec7) Describes the successes and challenges of implementing reentry programs. Addresses the institutional barriers created by conflicting policies and practices between state and local agencies.

www.epinet.org/workingpapers/WP125.pdf

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Prisoner Reentry into the Community Continued

Reintegration, Supervised Release, and Intensive Aftercare / U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. 1999. (347.173/X7) www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/175715.pdf

The Report of the Re-Entry Policy Council / Council of State Governments. 2005. (365.45/C83f) An extensive report drawing on empirical research and existing programs to support 35 policy recommendations regarding prison programming, transitioning out of prison, and community supervision.
www.reentrypolicy.org/reentry/THE_REPORT.aspx

The Risks of Recidivism: An Employment Perspective / University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Political Science. 2001. (UW/Pol/r) (library use only) “Pursuant to 1999 Wisconsin Act 9, s. 9111 (4xx) ... report on the correlation between prior convictions and the propensity to commit future acts of abuse, neglect or misappropriation.”—Letter of transmittal.

Safe at Home: A Reference Guide for Public Housing Officials on the Federal Housing Laws Regarding Admission and Eviction Standards for People with Criminal Records / Legal Action Center. 2004. (331.839/L52)
www.hirenetwork.org/pdfs/Safe@Home.pdf

Successful Transition and Reentry for Safer Communities: A Call to Action for Parole / Center for Effective Public Policy. 2006. (365.45/C33) Examines the role of parole officials in directing resources to the most high-risk offenders, making successful reentry the focus of parole, and reducing the fragmented delivery of support services to former prisoners.
www.appa-net.org/resources/pubs/burke.htm

Understanding the Challenges of Prisoner Reentry: Research Findings from the Urban Institute’s Prisoner Reentry Portfolio / Urban Institute. 2006. (365.45/Ur1)
www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411289_reentry_portfolio.pdf

Related Web Sites

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York: www.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/research/pathfinder.html
“Prisoner Reentry: A Pathfinder.” Prepared by Lloyd Sealy Librarians Barbara Carrel and Catherine Stern.

Madison-Area Urban Ministry: www.emum.org/WhatWeDo/PrisonerReEntry.cfm “Prisoner Re-Entry Work.”

National Governor’s Association Center for Best Practices: <http://tinyurl.com/2dvz8g> “Prisoner Reentry.”

National Hire Network: www.hirenetwork.org/who.html
Established by the Legal Action Center to increase the job opportunities for former prisoners by changing public policy, employment practices, and public opinion.

National Institute for Justice:
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/journals/252/reentry.html
“Reentry Programs for Women Inmates.”

Reentry National Media Outreach Campaign:
www.reentrymediaoutreach.org Features clips from documentaries produced to support community and faith-based groups trying to organize prisoner reentry programs.

Thomas: <http://thomas.loc.gov> Search this federal legislation database for legislation and related documents on the “Second Chance for Ex-Offenders Act” introduced in 2000, 2001, 2003, 2005, and 2007.

T.O.P. – Transition of Prisoners, Inc.: www.topinc.net
“The mission of Transition of Prisoners, Inc. (TOP, Inc.) is to encourage, train and support local churches in building their capacity to more effectively minister to prisoners, ex-prisoners in transition, and their families.”

U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics:
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/reentry/reentry.htm#highlights
“Reentry Trends in the United States.”

U.S. Department of Justice, National Criminal Justice Reference Service: www.ncjrs.gov/app/topics/Topic.aspx?topicid=21 “Reentry/Release.”

U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs:
www.reentry.gov Reentry site. Updates on federal legislation and federal and state initiatives.

U.S. Department of Labor:
www.dol.gov/cfbci/Ready4Work.htm “Ready4Work – A Business, Faith, Community & Criminal Justice Partnership,” funded by the U.S. Department of Labor. (Milwaukee’s Word of Hope Ministries has received grants through this program.)

University of Maryland, Bureau of Governmental Research:
www.bgr.umd.edu/reentry.html “Reentry: Innovative Practices.”

University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh:
www.uwosh.edu/public_affairs/prisonteaching.htm
“Inviting Convicts to College” program.

Urban Institute: www.urban.org/projects/reentry-roundtable
“The Reentry Roundtable is an ongoing forum that brings together accomplished academics, practitioners, community leaders, policymakers, advocates, and formerly incarcerated individuals to push the envelope of research and practice.”

Clippings: (Library use only)

- Criminals/recidivism: 346.6/Z
 - Parole/probation: 346.65/W7z; 346.65/Z
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