



# CommStat UVM / DOC

October 26, 2023



# Overview

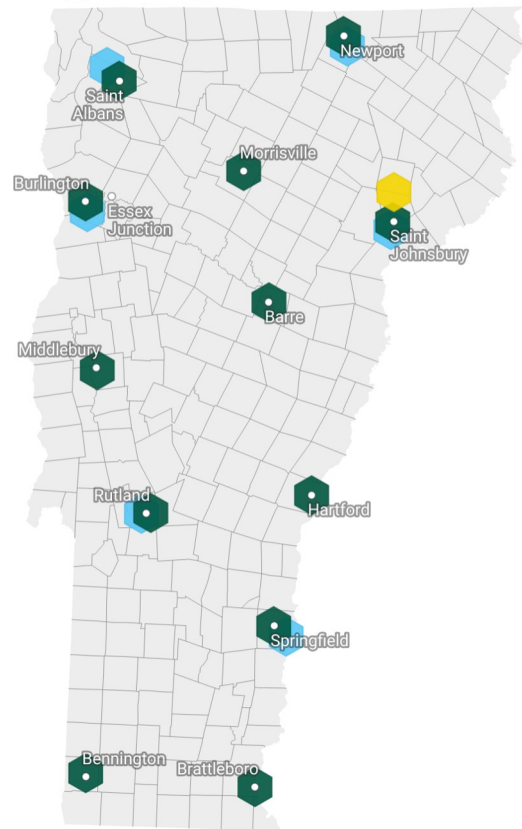
1. **DOC Stats**
2. **PRIN Overview**
3. **Major PRIN Data Points for DOC**
4. **New Initiatives & Future of PRIN**
5. **Discussion**

# Overview

- DOC housed within **Agency of Human Services**
- **Unified System**
  - Detention / sentenced / community supervision
- **Facilities:**
  - 6 in-state facilities
    - 5 men's facilities
    - 1 women's facility
  - 1 out-of-state men's facility
- **Probation & Parole:**
  - 12 district offices
- Training: **Vermont Correctional Academy**
- Budget: **\$200M** (98% General Fund)
- Staff: **1000**

## Vermont DOC Sites

Correctional Facility   District Office   Correctional Academy



# DOC Population Statistics



## Custody Status

- Total incarcerated population: **1400**
- Detainees: **538**
- Supervised individuals: **3797**
- Out of State: **126**

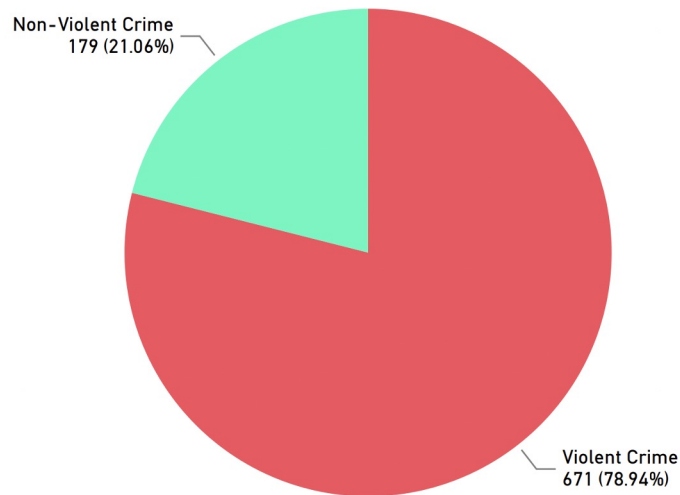
## Demographics

- Male: **1280**
- Female: **101**
- Transgender or other: **19**

## Charges

- Held for a serious felony: **80%**

Sentenced Population: Crime Type



# DOC Population Statistics: Health



## Medication Trends

- Population receiving medication: **90%**
- Receiving psychotropic medications: **70%**
- Average number of medications: **5.5**
- Receiving Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD): **55-60%**

## Health Trends

- **1,000** individuals w/ diagnosed chronic illness
  - **90%** of the average daily incarcerated population
  - **47% increase** from 2015 to 2022
- Total ED visits by incarcerated individuals in FY22: **354**
- Deaths in custody since January 1, 2023: **9**



# **Prison Research Innovation Network**

## **University of Vermont**

# Prison Research and Innovation Network Vermont Prison Climate Surveys: 2022

Legislative Testimony  
House Committee on Corrections and Institutions  
January 20, 2023

[go.uvm.edu/justiceresearch](https://go.uvm.edu/justiceresearch)

Abigail Crocker, Statistics

Kathy Fox, Sociology



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# PRIN Research

Data-driven: understand the issues & measure the impact of innovations

- Independent research partner
- Community-engaged
- Mixed-methods
  - Focus groups, interviews, field notes
  - Surveys, administrative data



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## Prison Research and Innovation Network

Despite their scale and impact, prisons are among the least transparent and most understudied public institutions in the country.

- The US incarcerates more people than any other country in the world\*.
- Structurally marginalized people are overrepresented in carceral settings\*.
- Health harms of incarceration are significant\*.

\*APHA Policy Statement 202117: Advancing Public Health Interventions to Address the Harms of the Carceral System

[go.uvm.edu/justiceresearch](https://go.uvm.edu/justiceresearch)



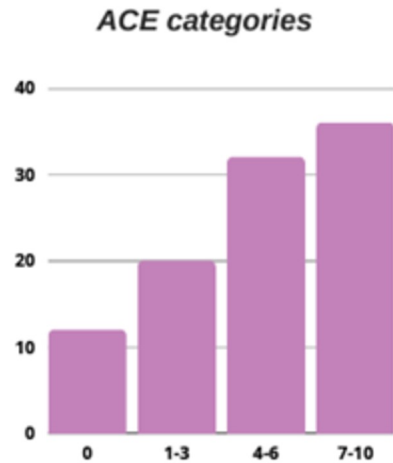
## Pilot Facility – Southern State Correctional Facility



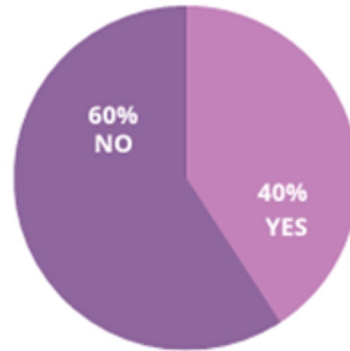
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## ACES & parental incarceration



*% with history of incarcerated parent*



n=212

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# Prison Research – 2022 Survey Results

## Summary results report, key findings 2022 vs 2021

### Staff priority areas

1. Staffing
2. Job Satisfaction
3. Health and Wellbeing

### Incarcerated priority areas

1. Planning for release
2. Healthcare services
3. Commissary
4. Prison Activities







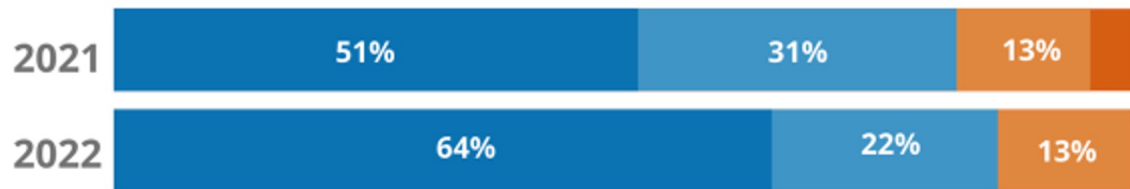
## Results: Planning for Release



**This prison does a good job preparing people for release.**



**The programs in this facility give me the skills I need to be successful on the outside.**



INCARCERATED PRIN - 2022 Data Walk



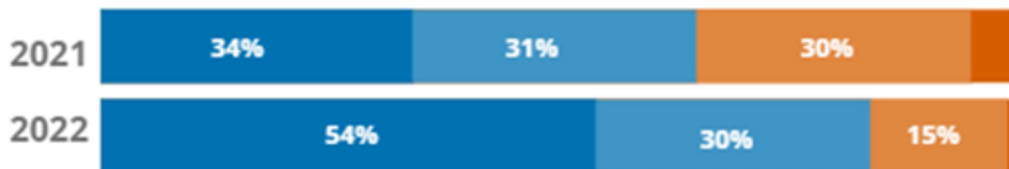
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## Results: Healthcare Services



I get the medical treatment I need in this prison, when I need it.



I get the mental health care/treatment I need in this prison, when I need it.



INCARCERATED PRIN - 2022 Data Walk



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## Results: Healthcare Services

Strongly  
Disagree

Disagree

Agree

Strongly  
Agree

At any time in the last 12 months did you seriously think about trying to kill yourself?

**2021: 36% yes**



**2022: 37% yes**

INCARCERATED PRIN - 2022 Data Walk



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## Results: Healthcare Services

Strongly  
Disagree

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INCARCERATED PRIN - 2022 Data Walk



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## Thank you!

Full & summary survey results available online:

**[go.uvm.edu/justiceresearch](https://go.uvm.edu/justiceresearch)**



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# Major PRIN Data Points



## Health & Wellbeing

- *"I receive better medical care in this prison than I did on the outside."*
  - Strongly disagree/disagree: **90%**
- *"I have access to activities that promote well-being and growth."*
  - Strongly disagree/disagree: **84%**

## Idle Time

- *"There are a lot of times when there is nothing productive (or meaningful) for me to do."*
  - Strongly agree/agree: **85%**

## Preparation for Reentry

- *"This prison does a good job preparing people for release."*
  - Strongly disagree/disagree: **89%**
- *"The programs in this facility give me the skills I need to be successful on the outside."*
  - Strongly disagree/disagree: **86%**

## Divergent Perspectives on MAT

- *"The MAT program has had a positive effect on the prison."*
  - Incarcerated population — strongly agree/agree: **64%**
  - Staff — strongly disagree/disagree: **79%**

# MOUD Divergence: Deep Dive



## Drivers:

- Cultural differences
- Facility operations
  - Delivery mechanism
- Diversion

# New Initiatives (1/3)



## Extend Medicaid into Correctional Facilities

- [Reentry Act of 2023](#) (S. 1165/H.R. 2400)
- 1115 CMS Waiver (see [full state list](#))
  - VTDigger: '[Vermont officials seek Medicaid benefits for incarcerated people, but federal approval could be a long time coming](#)' (October 13, 2023)

## PRIN Intersections

- Preparation for Reentry
  - Building successful pipelines back to the community
- Health & Wellbeing
  - Expanded medical services that better match community standards



# New Initiatives (2/3)

## Partnership with Community College of Vermont (CCV)

- Free community college for all incarcerated individuals & staff
- Supported \$4.5M earmark from Senator Sanders
- Classes began Fall 2023

## PRIN Intersection

- Preparation for Reentry
  - Predicates for success: housing and income
  - Meeting Vermont's acute workforce needs (vocational training)
- Idle Time
  - Better tailor services to population

# New Initiatives (3/3)



## Peer Coaching via Turning Point / Recovery Partners of Vermont

- [Record fatal overdoses](#) in Vermont (115 YTD)
- DOC scaling Rutland pilot statewide
- Blur boundaries between carceral system and Vermont's communities
  - Infuse community resources into corrections

## PRIN Intersection

- Health & Wellbeing
  - Responsive to needs raised in ICAs
- Preparation for Reentry
  - Bridge gaps in connecting to treatment post-incarceration
- Idle Time
  - Groups up and running at SSCF





# PRIN: Next Steps

## Survey Scaling

- Statewide rollout
  - Frequency: 2-3 facilities/year

## Executive Committee / Advisory Body

- “Brain trust”



# Questions?



# Contact:

## DOC

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## UVM

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