

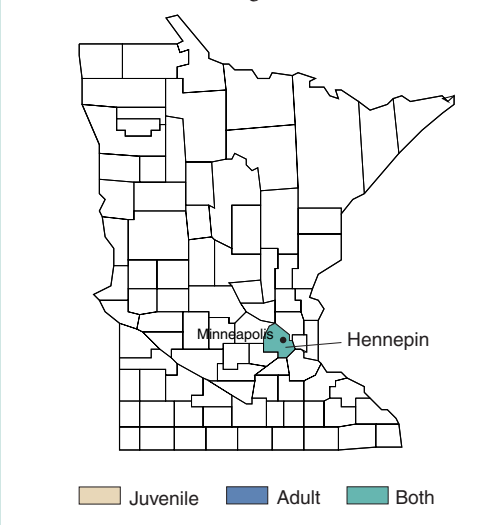
# MINNESOTA

## SVORI Grantees in Minnesota

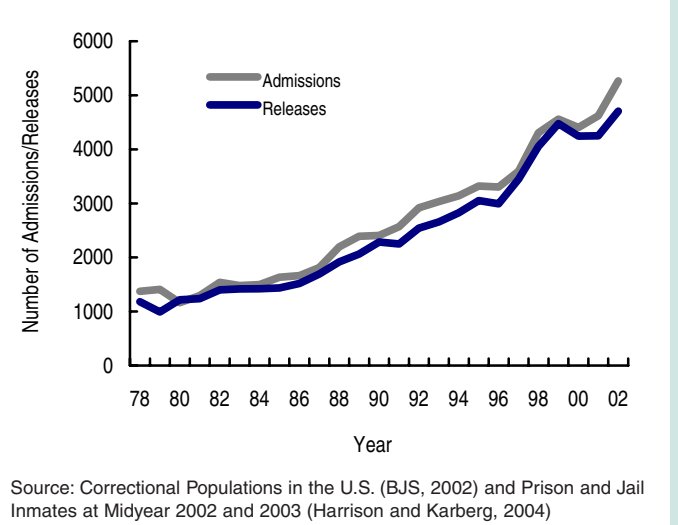
- Minnesota Department of Corrections (MN DOC)

Minnesota has one SVORI grantee focused on adults and juveniles returning to Hennepin County (depicted in the map below). The grantee chose to target Hennepin County because the majority of offenders return there. The line chart below provides BJS statistics on adult prison admission and release trends in Minnesota over a 24-year period.

Minnesota SVORI Target Areas



Minnesota Adult Prison Admissions and Releases, 1978–2002



## SVORI Grantee: Minnesota Department of Corrections

SVORI website	None
Data management system	Using a SVORI-specific MIS called TEAMS
Local evaluation planned	The Research and Evaluation Unit of the Minnesota Department of Corrections is conducting a local evaluation
Program name	Minnesota Serious and Violent Youthful Offender Reentry Project

MN DOC

Minnesota Serious and Violent Youthful Offender Reentry Project

### TARGET POPULATION

Population type	Male and female adults and juveniles
Number of targeted prisoners	201+
Inclusion criteria	Ages 16–34, release date prior to June 2004; multiple challenges (chemical dependency, serious mental illness, developmental and learning disabilities); and high risk of re-offending (high scores on LSI-R and YLSI)
Exclusion criteria	Sex offenders
Pre-release facilities	All State prisons except one low-level juvenile facility and one boot camp
Post-release locations	Hennepin County
Participation	Voluntary
Legal release status	Minnesota does not have discretionary parole. Fourteen percent of offenders are discharged from prison at expiration with no community supervision.

## PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND SERVICES

Steering committee	3 committees
Post-release reentry authority	MN DOC and Community (Hennepin County Community Corrections [i.e., the parole officer] requests that sanctions be given, but the MN DOC Hearings and Release Division is the agency that imposes them)
Number of phases	3

**Phase 1: Reentry Preparation****Duration:** 45 days**Assessments:** LSI-R and YLSI**Components/services offered within phase:**

- 90-day plan over course of Phases 1 and 2, includes reentry curriculum, community visit/screen, and release plan
- Institutional treatment priority
- Release plan that includes input from the participant, family members, and victim, as well as a transition team that includes staff from within the institution and community agencies
- Nontraditional case management through Community Reentry Coordinators (CRCs) rather than probation officers
- Team approach with use of community support groups/community reintegration teams, and coordination with law enforcement
- Transfer to pre-release facility (most participants) 90 days prior to release, orientation, and treatment plan development
- Specific reentry services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical services, dental services, employment skills/vocational training, education, housing assistance, parenting skills training, domestic violence prevention and intervention, life skills training, faith-based services, restorative justice, use of flex fund/service linkages, electronic alert system, preferred provider service network, and circles of support

**Coordination of services:**

- Institutional case managers

**Phase 2: Community-Based Services and Case Management****Duration:** 45 days

**Assessments:** CRCs perform an assessment of offenders' interest in receiving faith-based services while still incarcerated; if offenders want faith-based services, then staff from Faith-Based Call go into the prisons and a full assessment is completed

**Components/services offered within phase:**

- 72-hour intensive service
- Case management continues with reentry-specific goals, such as provision of local services
- Other services initiated in Phase 1 are continued as part of the 90-day plan

**Coordination of services:**

- Institutional case managers

**Phase 3: Informal Social Control****Duration:** Up to 1 year

**Assessments:** Informal self-assessment to determine needed services

**Components/services offered within phase:**

- Transition team that includes staff from within the institution and community agencies
- Ongoing case management through CRCs who monitor service use and meet with offenders once or twice a week, varying over time
- Supervision of participants (only 3% are not under supervision)
- Continuation of previous phases' services, as needed

**Coordination of services:**

- Institutional reentry coordinator, the CRC, and staff from Faith-Based Call

## CHANGES AS A RESULT OF SVORI FUNDING

## System-level changes

- Realization of the importance of the faith community
- Allowing community organizations into prisons
- State agency focus on sustainability
- Joint mission statements with other agencies around reentry
- Mechanism for regular feedback among agencies
- Shared agency protocols regarding how service provision is approached

## Individual-level changes

- More community involvement and priority for services during pre-release phase
- Intensive case management from the CRCs during post-release phase
- Through their CRCs, offenders have access to flex funds (for immediate needs) and ongoing services during the post-release phase consistent with each offender's reentry plan