

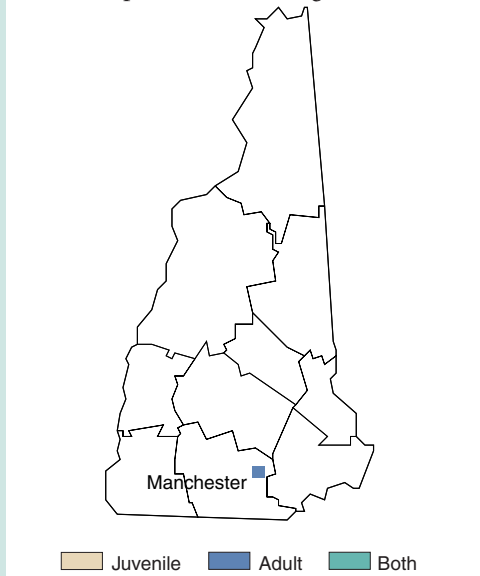
NEW HAMPSHIRE

SVORI Grantees in New Hampshire

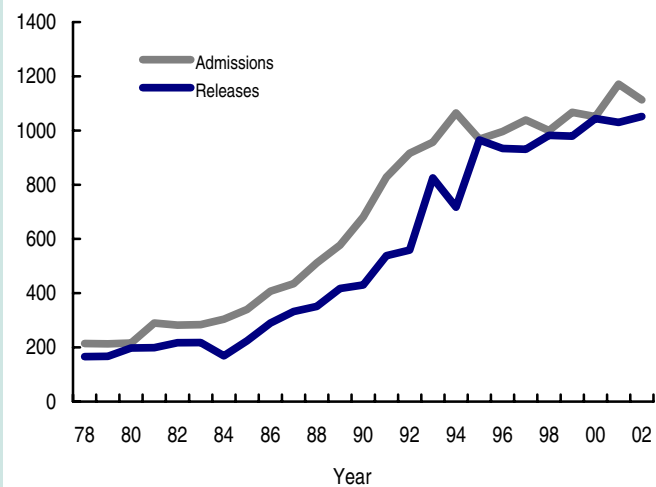
- New Hampshire Department of Corrections (NH DOC)

New Hampshire has one SVORI grantee focused on adults returning to the City of Manchester (depicted in the map below). Manchester was chosen as the State’s reentry site because it receives the majority of releasees and poses barriers to successful reentry such as rapid population growth, a high proportion of ethnic populations (including refugee and “linguistically isolated” families), high poverty rates, and a high unemployment rate. The line chart below provides BJS statistics on adult prison admission and release trends in New Hampshire over a 24-year period.

New Hampshire SVORI Target Areas



New Hampshire Adult Prison Admissions and Releases, 1978–2002



Source: Correctional Populations in the U.S. (BJS, 2002) and Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2002 and 2003 (Harrison and Karberg, 2004)

SVORI Grantee: New Hampshire Department of Corrections

SVORI website	None
Data management system	SVORI-specific automated MIS is in development
Local evaluation planned	The research and planning arm of the NH DOC is conducting an internal local evaluation
Program name	NH DOC Reentry Initiative

NH DOC

Reentry Initiative

TARGET POPULATION

Population type	Male and female adults
Number of targeted prisoners	201+
Inclusion criteria	Ages 17–35; residing in Manchester at time of incarceration; at least 12-month incarceration; highest risk of recidivism; greatest number of barriers/are most in need of reentry services (because of issues such as criminal history, resistance to reentry services, unemployment, lack of education, substance abuse, poor mental and physical health, disabilities, inadequate housing, lack of transportation, family troubles, and poverty) as determined by risk assessment
Exclusion criteria	None
Pre-release facilities	All State prisons
Post-release locations	City of Manchester
Participation	Voluntary
Legal release status	Most participants are under probation/parole supervision

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND SERVICES

Steering committee	State Reentry Steering Committee; Local Reentry Advisory Council; Institution-Based Reentry Committee
Post-release reentry authority	NH State Parole Board
Number of phases	3

Phase 1: Institution-Based Services

Duration: Approximately 4–6 months (begins at least 6 months prior to release)

Assessments: LSI-R; NH DOC's Objective Classification System evaluation; STATIC 99 for sex offenders

Components/services offered within phase:

- Development of an individual Institution-Based Reentry Plan
- Monitoring of participant's progress and preparedness by case managers/case counselors
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical and dental services, employment/vocational training, education, parenting skills training, domestic violence services, life skills training, anger management, faith-based services, victim empathy, family support services, a victim witness assistance program, and a variety of specialized reentry-focused services

Coordination of services:

- Transition team (case management team) management, led by Reentry Advocate, will begin at this time and continue throughout the program. Members will vary depending on the program phase (although core members will remain constant) and may include the offender, Reentry Advocate, Probation and Parole Officer (PPO), institution-based staff, law enforcement staff, and community service providers.

Phase 2: Residential Transition and Community-Based Services

Duration: Approximately 3 months (prior to release, once the participant has been reclassified to minimum security status)

Assessments: Reassessment to determine program eligibility

Components/services offered within phase:

- Community reentry plan (later used as the parole plan) is updated, identifying how community services will be procured
- Provision of institution-based services will continue, including specialized reentry-focused services and required participation in victim empathy workshops, community service, and restitution activities while still incarcerated and once in the residential transitional facility
- Participant and family members are active participants in reentry planning process
- Community service providers enter institution to meet with offenders
- Participant moves to a community-based, residential, supervised transition program prior to being granted parole and reentry
- Once granted parole, the Reentry Advocate introduces the offender and the PPO to improve and expedite the release process after reentry conditions are met and approved by the appropriate parole authority

Coordination of services:

- Weekly meetings between Project Manager and staff from Probation and Parole to ensure open, consistent communication between Reentry Advocates and the PPOs
- Reentry Advocates serve as Institutional PPOs, lead the case management/transition teams, and maintain primary responsibility of coordinating services
- An integrated systems protocol is used

Phase 3: Long-Term Self-Directed Support

Duration: 12 months

Assessments: Reassessment to determine what services are needed to sustain successful integration into the community will occur 3 months before the end of the phase (approximately 9 months after release) using LSI-R (STATIC 99 for sex offenders)

Components/services offered within phase:

- Supervision by PPO
- Reentry Support/Progress meetings held to provide peer encouragement and reinforcement
- Development of a plan for self-directed maintenance and continued support
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, education, housing assistance provided by faith-based organizations, job training and placement, vocational rehabilitation for offenders with significant disabilities, substance abuse, mental health, medical and dental services (including assistance with enrollment in SSI, Medicaid, etc.), family support (including domestic violence prevention and intervention, parenting education, and family counseling), sex offender assessment and treatment, life skills training, anger management, and transportation

Coordination of services:

- Reentry Advocate provides case management leadership; works with case management/transition team; serves as liaison to PPO; ensures that all of the indicated reentry services are coordinated, in place, and readily accessible; and monitors offender progress

CHANGES EXPECTED AS A RESULT OF SVORI FUNDING

System-level changes

- Enhanced ability of NH DOC to improve existing reentry procedures and services
- Involvement of community service providers prior to prisoner's release
- Use of a dedicated staff person to create partnerships, open channels of communication and collaboration among agencies, and facilitate services
- Sharing of agency protocols
- Development of Integrated Systems protocol
- Use of a victims' rights approach central to project's approach to reentry with addition of Victim Advocate position
- Reduction of caseloads for Reentry Advocates as compared to regular PPOs

Individual-level changes

- Improved case management and service coordination from dedicated Reentry Advocates
- Use of a case management/transition team that includes representatives and clinicians from appropriate agencies is put in place for each participant
- Inclusion of family members in reentry planning prior to release
- Allowing community service providers to enter the institution to meet with prisoners to participate in reentry planning