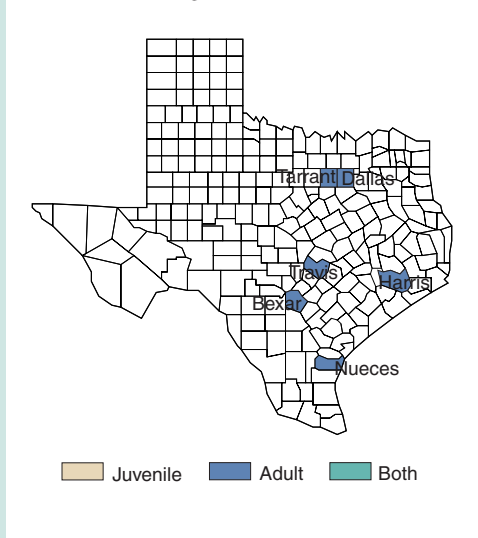


SVORI Grantees in Texas

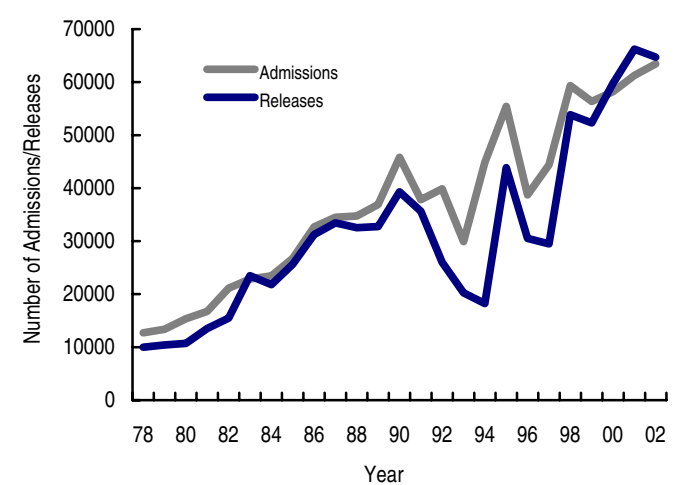
- Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TX DCJ)

Texas has one SVORI grantee focused on adults in Administrative Segregation (Ad Seg) returning to Harris, Bexar, Dallas, Nueces, Travis, and Tarrant counties (depicted in the map below). The grantee chose to target prisoners housed in Ad Seg (a non-punitive separation of offenders from the general population for the purpose of maintaining the safety and security of offenders, staff, and the institution) because these offenders were not eligible for the programs and services offered to other offenders prior to SVORI. The line chart below provides BJS statistics on adult prison admission and release trends in Texas over a 24-year period.

Texas SVORI Target Areas



Texas 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: Texas Department of Criminal Justice

SVORI website	http://tdcj.state.tx.us/parole/parole-splpgms.htm
Data management system	A SVORI-specific MIS will be developed in conjunction with an existing offender information system for all offenders
Local evaluation planned	Yes, evaluator not selected
Program name	Texas SVORI Ad Seg Adults

TX DCJ

Texas SVORI Ad Seg Adults

TARGET POPULATION

Population type	Male adults
Number of targeted prisoners	101–150 (annually)
Inclusion criteria	Confined to Ad Seg for at least 1 year, within 12 months of release, must be returning to target communities, and Level 1 offenders (minimal behavioral problems)
Exclusion criteria	Those with special health (including psychiatric) problems
Pre-release facilities	Estelle Unit-Expansion Cellblock Facility
Post-release locations	Harris, Bexar, Dallas, Nueces, Travis, and Tarrant counties
Participation	Voluntary for mandatory supervision offenders; may be placed in program by Board of Pardons and Paroles vote
Legal release status	Offenders are under conditional supervision

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND SERVICES

Steering committee	Yes
Post-release reentry authority	TX DCJ
Number of phases	3

Phase 1: Pre-release

Duration: 6–8 months

Assessments: Criminogenic risk assessment; needs assessment

Components/services offered within phase:

- Individualized case management
- Development of a reentry plan for offenders
- Involvement of the community in the development of the reentry plan through the creation of a Community Advisory Network
- Commencing the first month of SVORI: offender participation, identification by the Reentry Coordinator of one stable family member and one faith-based community contact (if desired); in the fifth month of participation, one consistent mentor contact for each SVORI participant
- Coursework through PC-based equipment installed in each cell
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, gang renunciation, cognitive intervention, domestic violence intervention, family awareness, mentoring, employment/vocational skills training and development (job search and employment retention skills), substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical services, education (literacy and GED), anger management, cultural diversity, and faith-based services

Coordination of services:

- Reentry Coordinators will coordinate services. In the last month of incarceration, the Resource Operations Manager will assist to ensure that immediate post-release needs are identified and resources are available.

Phase 2: Post-release Transition

Duration: Phases 2 and 3 combined last 12 months; the specific duration of Phase 2 varies

Assessments: Needs and risk assessments conducted on the day of release

Components/services offered within phase:

- Case management handled by the Parole Division District Resource Center (DRC)
- Continued development of the reentry plan
- Specific targeted services include, as needed, gang renunciation, life skills training, housing assistance, parenting skills training, domestic violence intervention, family awareness, mentoring, transportation, employment/vocational skills training and development (including job search and employment retention skills), substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling, medical services, education (literacy and GED), anger management, cultural diversity, and faith-based services

Coordination of services:

- Parole Division DRC

Phase 3: Post-release

Duration: 6 months

Assessments: LSI-R and/or C-RAS

Components/services offered within phase:

- Case management by DRC continues
- Continued reentry plan development, with an increased focus on cognitive intervention, family involvement, and support services
- Specific post-release services initiated in Phase 2 are continued, as needed

Coordination of services:

- Parole Division DRC

CHANGES EXPECTED AS A RESULT OF SVORI FUNDING

System-level changes

- Provision of specific services to Ad Seg offenders within the institution (no services available to this population before SVORI)
- Transition team that includes staff from within the institution and community agencies, who will be working with the SVORI participant before and after release
- Integrated case management, where representatives from multiple community service providers and/or corrections/supervision agencies meet to discuss and work on particular cases
- Regular feedback mechanism among agencies to ensure that the collaboration is working
- Sharing of agency protocols regarding how service provision is working
- Use of video-conferencing while the SVORI participant is in prison to meet with community service providers or family
- Involvement of the community, through a Community Advisory Network, in the development of the reentry plan

Individual-level changes

- Development of a reentry plan for offenders, which includes the offender and family members as active participants in the reentry plan prior to release
- Ongoing risk/needs assessment throughout the reentry process
- Individualized case management services
- Promotion of accountability to the community through direct involvement of community members