





# Justice Reinvestment in Pennsylvania

First Presentation to the Pennsylvania Justice Reinvestment Working Group

March 9, 2016

Carl Reynolds, Senior Legal and Policy Advisor Marc Pelka, Deputy Director Ed Weckerly, Research Manager Patrick Armstrong, Policy Analyst

## **Working Group Composition**

Josh Shapiro Chairman, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency	Randy Albright Secretary, Office of the Budget	Sally Barry Chief Probation Officer, Lebanon County	Mark Bergstrom Executive Director, Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing	Tyree Blocker Commissioner, Pennsylvania State Police	Mark Brunelle Executive Deputy Chief of Staff to the Governor	
Theodore Dallas Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Human Services	William Danowski Secretary, Governor's Office of Legislative Affairs	<b>Tom Darr</b> Court Administrator of Pennsylvania	Sarah E. Galbally Secretary, Governor's Office of Policy and Planning	<b>Michael Green</b> Chairman, Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole	Senator Stewart Greenleaf 12 <sup>th</sup> Senatorial District	
Ellen Greenlee Defender Association of Philadelphia (Ret.)	Hon. Jolene Grubb Kopriva President Judge, Blair County	Michael Hanna, Jr. Deputy Secretary, Governor's Office of Legislative Affairs	Elliot Howsie Director and Chief Public Defender of Allegheny County	Mary Isenhour Chief of Staff, Governor's Office	Robert Jolley President, Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association	
<b>Kathleen Kane</b> Pennsylvania Attorney General	<b>Linda Kelly</b> Court Administrator, Allegheny County	Senator Daylin Leach 17 <sup>th</sup> Senatorial District	Representative Ron Marsico 105 <sup>th</sup> Legislative District	Edward Marsico, Jr. District Attorney, Dauphin County	Les Neri President, Fraternal Order of Police - Pennsylvania State Lodge	
Mavis Nimoh Secretary, Pennsylvania Board of Pardons	Brinda Carroll Penyak County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania	Representative Joseph Petrarca 55th Legislative District	Linda Rosenberg Executive Director, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency	Denise Smyler General Counsel, Governor's Office of General Counsel	Keith Snyder Executive Director, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission	
<b>Jennifer Storm</b> Victim Advocate, Office of Victim Advocate	dvocate, Office Director of Corrections,		John Wetzel Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Corrections	<b>Seth Williams</b> District Attorney, Philadelphia County	Hon. Sheila Woods-Skipper President Judge, Philadelphia County	

# Pennsylvania leaders have indicated strong interest in and commitment to justice reinvestment (JR).

Pennsylvania Justice Reinvestment Launch Event, February 18, 2016



#### **Governor Tom Wolf**

"A broken criminal justice system is a failure to deliver on the promise of a fair and just society, and we must all work together to ensure Pennsylvania leads the nation in rehabilitation and not incarceration."

## Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati

"We need to reduce recidivism to benefit our communities and help ensure that taxpayer dollars that are being sent to Harrisburg are being used productively."

#### **House Speaker Mike Turzai**

"When legislators from both sides of the aisle work together to tackle these tough issues, we create genuine results. We proved that with a justice reinvestment approach we took in 2012."

#### **Chief Justice Thomas Saylor**

"Justice reinvestment provides a clear opportunity to do a thoughtful analysis of our criminal justice challenges."

## Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

- National nonprofit, nonpartisan membership association of state government officials
- Engages members of all three branches of state government
- Justice Center provides practical, nonpartisan advice informed by the best available evidence



### **Presentation Overview**



### **Justice Reinvestment**

**Key Challenges** 

**Next Steps** 



A data-driven approach to reduce corrections spending and reinvest savings in strategies that can decrease recidivism and increase public safety

The Justice Reinvestment Initiative is supported by funding from the U.S. Department of Justice's **Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)** and **The Pew Charitable Trusts** 

## Justice reinvestment offers states a comprehensive step-by-step process.

Bipartisan, Interbranch Working Group

Assemble practitioners and leaders; receive and consider information, reports, and policies

2 Data Analysis

Data compiled from across the criminal justice system for comprehensive analysis

3 Stakeholder Engagement

Complement data analysis with input from stakeholder groups and interested parties

Develop Policy Options & Estimate Impacts

Present a policy framework to reduce corrections costs, increase public safety, and project the impacts

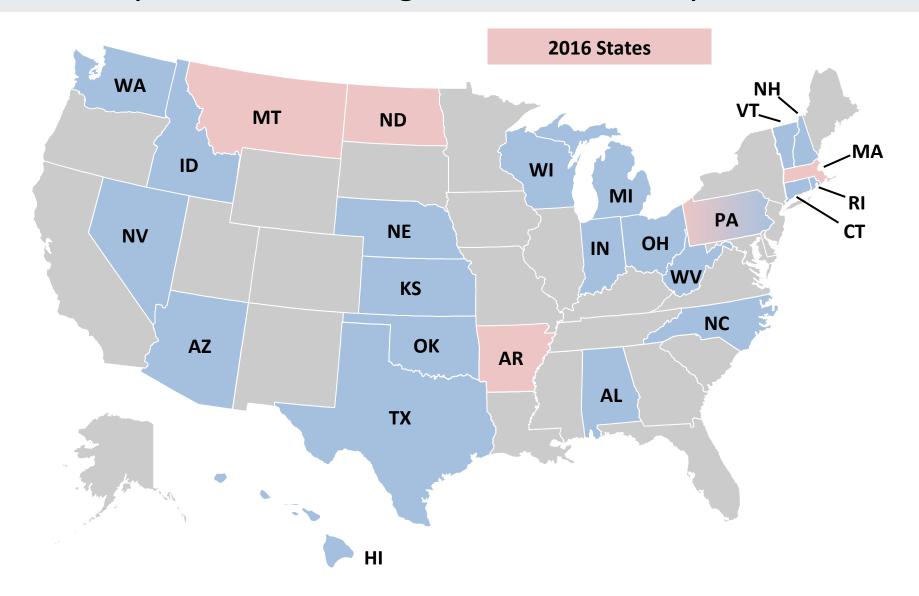
5 Implement New Policies

Identify assistance needed for implementation and deliver technical assistance for reinvestment strategies

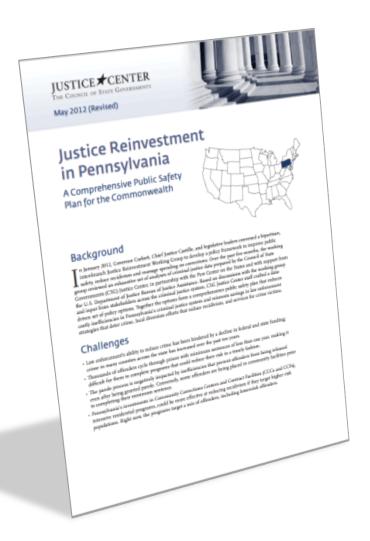
6 Target Reinvestments & Monitor Key Measures

Track and monitor the impact of enacted policies and programs, and adjust implementation plan as needed

CSG has worked on justice reinvestment in 21 states, with five underway in 2016 including a return to Pennsylvania.



# Pennsylvania's previous JR project led to a data-driven policy framework, which was then converted to legislation.



### **2012 Policy Framework**

- Reduce inefficiencies in the corrections and parole process
- Prioritize CCC/CCFs for higher-risk parolees who benefit most from the intensive programs
- Apply shortened periods of incarceration to technical parole violators followed by supervision
- Provide performance-driven funding to help divert misdemeanants and the short-minimumsentence prison population
- Expand local resources to reduce recidivism

## Although implementation of policies enacted in 2012 has varied in timing and impact, it has still generated significant savings.

Reducing inefficiencies in parole decision making	Address inefficiencies that delay decision-making in parole by increasing the proportion of parole cases interviewed per month	Efficiencies have increased paroles		
Prioritizing use of CCC/CCF programs	Redesign CCCs and CCFs as parole transition and violation centers, prohibiting "pre-release" offenders and prioritizing the placement of higher-risk parolees	Some improvements but room for more		
Applying shorter periods of incarceration for parole violators	Respond to major technical parole violations with shortened periods of incarceration in SCI followed by supervision.			
Addressing low-level offenders in prison	Require low-level misdemeanants (UM and M3) to be sentenced to a sanction other than prison	Impact less than expected		
Diverting the short-min population	Provide funding to help counties divert misdemeanants and short-minimum sentence population (<1 year in prison)	Delay in funding has impaired impact		

Through avoided construction, facility closures, and annualized operating cost savings, the DOC estimates that the total averted costs in the three years since JRI 2012 are **\$285 million**.

## With savings increasing each year, nearly \$4 million has been reinvested since 2012.

#### **Act 122**

Creation of guidelines for probation and parole violators including intermediate sanctions

Increased eligibility for boot camp, RRRI, and SIP

Sentencing low-level offenders (UM and M3) to a sanction other than prison

Creation of highintensity supervision programs for county probation

Caps on length of stay for technical parole violators

#### **Implementation**

#### **Calculation of generated savings**



FY2012-2013 \$57,000 FY2013-2014 \$990,719 FY2014-2015 **\$11,812,718** 

#### Savings required for reinvestment

FY2013-2014	
75%	

FY2014–2015 **100%** (\$21m cap) FY2015–2016 **25%** 

#### **Total reinvested**

FY2013-2014 \$43,000 FY2014-2015 \$990,719 FY2015-2016 \$2,953,000



During implementation, state agencies recognized some barriers to achieving the full impact of Acts 122 and 196 of 2012. Important administrative policy adjustments were made in the latter stages of the

implementation period to increase impact and generate greater savings.

#### Reinvestments

(FY2015-2016 Total)

#### **Victim services**

\$1,000,000

#### Risk assessment

\$400,000

#### **Policing**

\$668,000

#### **Probation**

\$404,000

### County short-min diversion

\$326,000

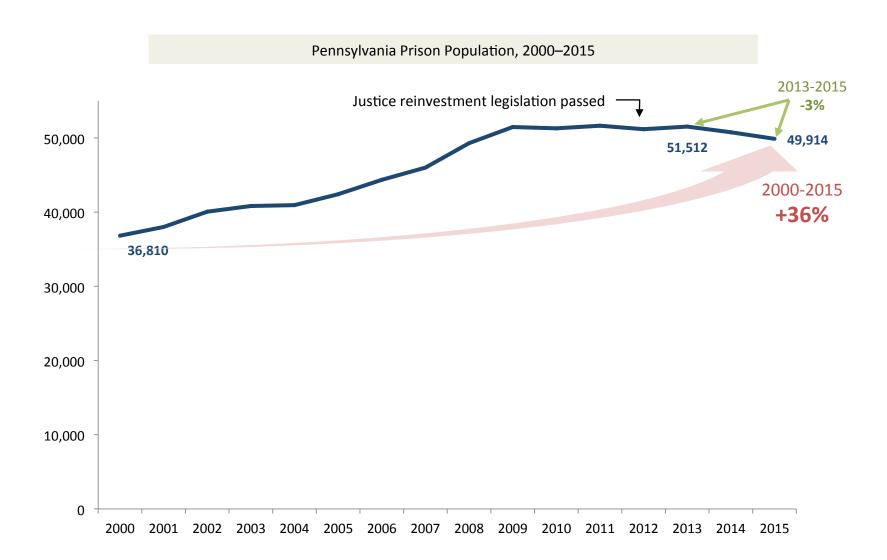
#### **Local reentry**

\$62,000

#### Parole release

\$93,000

# Despite recent reductions, the prison population is 36 percent higher than in 2000.



The 2016 justice reinvestment project differs from the 2012 effort in timeline, scope, and data analysis.

### Pennsylvania Justice Reinvestment

	2012	2016						
Timeline	<b>5 months</b> Launched in January 2012 with policy options developed by May 2012	10 months  Project launch in March 2016; policy options targeted for January 2017						
Scope	Primarily focused on  Prison and Parole	Comprehensive Examination Including arrest, diversion, pretrial, sentencing, probation, jail, prison and parole						
Analysis	State Research Staff Provided discrete data sets and analytical support; cross-system analyses limited	CSG Research Staff Partnering with state research staff to conduct case-level analysis; linking of data across systems						

### **Presentation Overview**

### **Justice Reinvestment**



### **Key Challenges**

**Next Steps** 

## Key challenges as they appear at the beginning of the project

### **County Impacts and Outcomes**

- Most sentences are served locally, on probation or in jail
- Resources and practices vary and outcomes are unknown

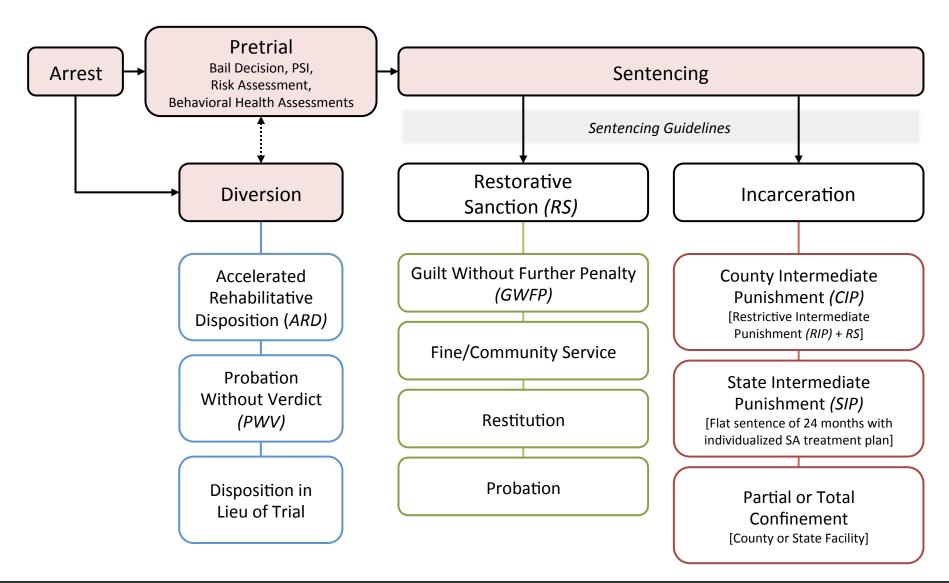
### **Sentencing Complexity and Variation**

- Complexity that grows with legislative enactments over time
- Advisory guidelines enable variation

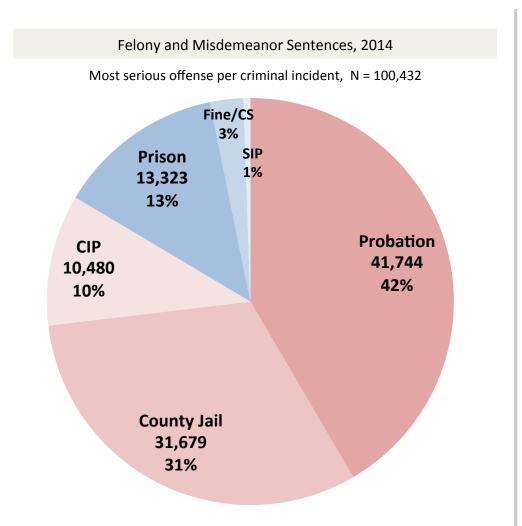
#### **Prison and Parole Volumes**

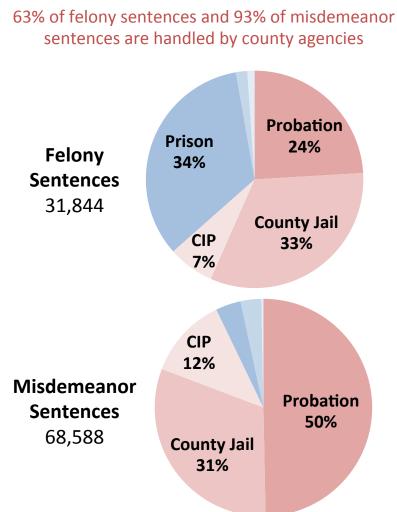
- Large prison population
- Highest parole supervision rate in the country

The arrest, pretrial, and sentencing stages provide numerous pathways to diversion, supervision, and incarceration options.

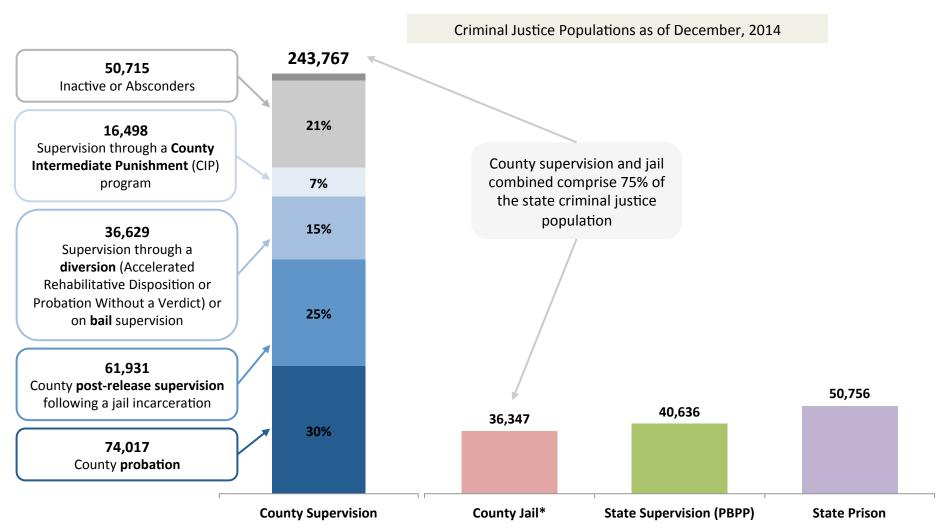


# Over 80 percent of sentences are served at the county level, either on probation, in jail, or CIP.





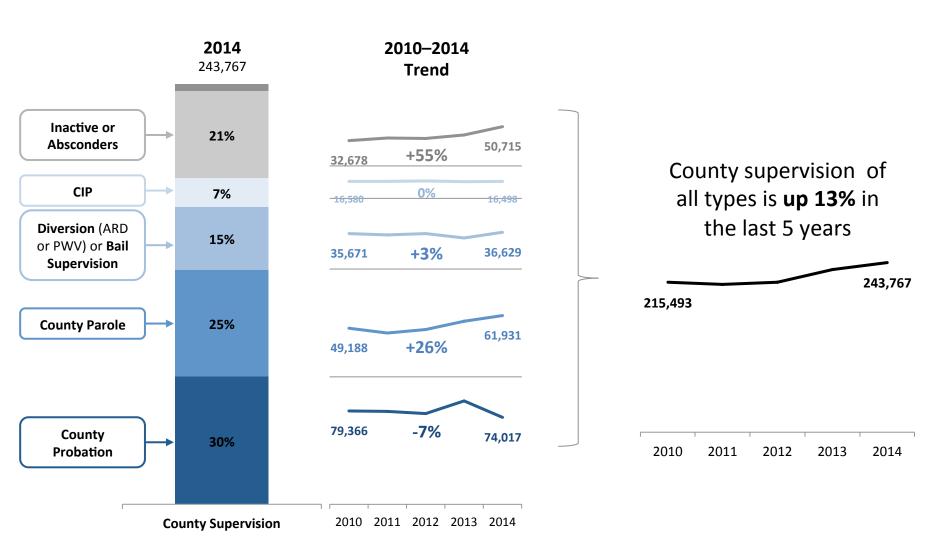
# Almost a quarter million people are supervised by 65 county adult probation departments on any given day.



<sup>\* 2014</sup> jail average in-house daily population

Source: Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, County Adult Probation and Parole Annual Statistical Report, 2014.

# County supervision growth is driven by inactive/absconder and county parole increases.



Source: Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, County Adult Probation and Parole Annual Statistical Reports, 2010-2014,

# Supervision practices that are demonstrated to reduce recidivism depend on manageable caseloads.

There is no accepted, universal caseload size standard, however supervision can reduce recidivism rates when the dosage of time and attention is matched with the risk and need level of the client. An example of potential caseload levels stratified by risk:

Low: 120–200 cases Moderate: 50–60 cases High: 20–30 cases

2014	State Probation/ Parole	County Probation/ Parole	
Number of Agents	498	1,724	
Active Cases (All supervision types and levels)	33,082	187,707	
Average Active Caseload per Agent	66	109	

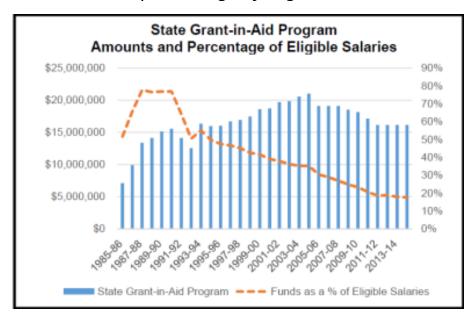
County caseloads are generally comprised of less serious offenders and could be higher than state caseloads. Still, these county caseloads appear to be high.

Source: APPA <a href="https://www.appa-net.org/eweb/docs/APPA/stances/ip\_CS.pdf">https://www.appa-net.org/eweb/docs/APPA/stances/ip\_CS.pdf</a>, <a href="https://www.appa-net.org/eweb/docs/APPA/stances/ip\_CSPP.pdf">https://www.appa-net.org/eweb/docs/APPA/stances/ip\_CSPP.pdf</a>. <a href="htt

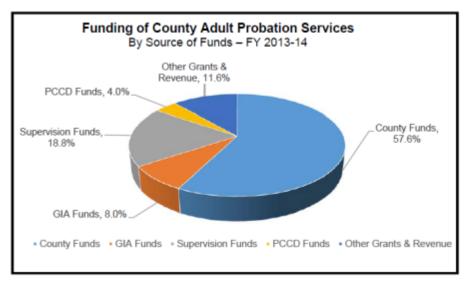
Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, Funding of County Adult Probation Services, February 2015

# State Grant-in-Aid funding has declined, and counties bear most of the cost of local supervision.

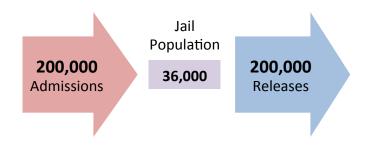
"State Grant-in-Aid funding has declined markedly in the last 10 years, both in real dollars and as a percentage of eligible salaries."

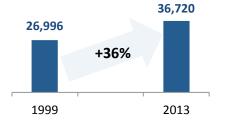


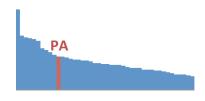
"As state GIA funds have fallen, the amount counties contribute to their probation and parole offices has increased. On average, county funds comprised 58 percent of total funding for county probation and parole offices in FY2013–14. In FY1998–99, county funds comprised, on average, only 45 percent of total funds."



# County jails handle about 200,000 admissions and releases per year.









- The statewide on-hand jail population is about 36,000, but there is tremendous churn with around 200,000 admissions and releases over the course of the year.
- Pennsylvania's jail population increased by 9,700 people from 1999 to 2013, the second highest number increase in the country and the 20th largest percentage change (+36%).
- Pennsylvania had the 11th highest jail incarceration rate among states in 2013 (360 per 100,000, excludes six states with unified systems).
- High cost per day (range from \$37 to \$112/day);
   average is \$67.

Source: BJS Census of Jails: Population Changes, 1999–2013, 2014 PA County Prison Statistics http://www.cor.pa.gov/Facilities/CountyPrisons/Pages/Inspection-Schedule,-Statistics-And-General-Info.aspx

## Key challenges as they appear at the beginning of the project

### **County Impacts and Outcomes**

- Most sentences are served locally, on probation or in jail
- Resources and practices vary and outcomes are unknown

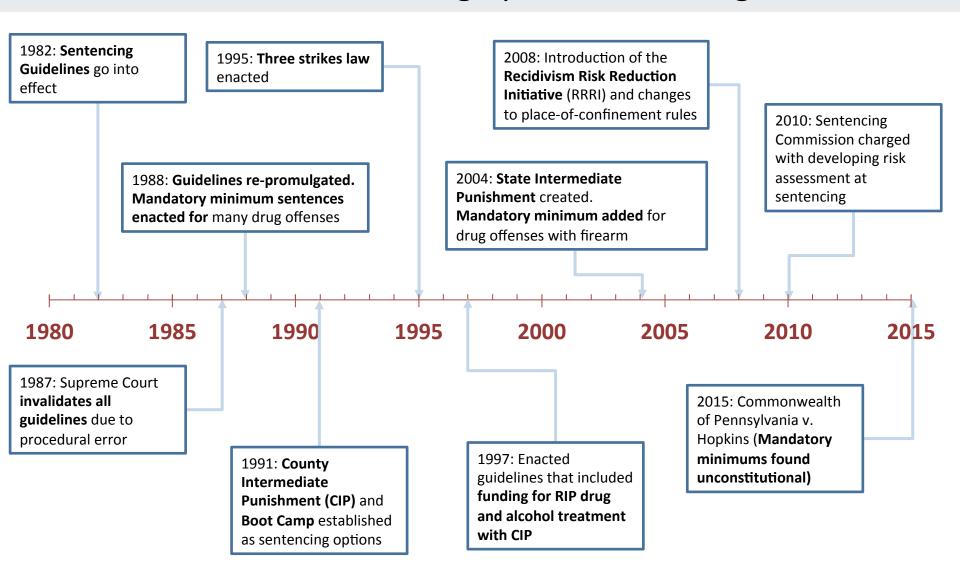
### **Sentencing Complexity and Variation**

- Complexity that grows with legislative enactments over time
- Advisory guidelines enable variation

#### **Prison and Parole Volumes**

- Large prison population
- Highest parole supervision rate in the country

# Sentencing guidelines have expanded to include penalty enhancements and sentencing options, including treatment.



# Sentencing policies and practices have a major impact on the system in various ways.

### **Policy**

Sentencing policies, such as place of confinement and the min/max rule, can have an impact on corrections and parole practices.



Length of maximum sentence determines whether the person completes the sentence in jail or prison.

### Min/Max Rule:

Length of minimum sentence may be no longer than half the length of the maximum sentence.

### **Parole Eligibility:**

People become eligible for parole at their minimum sentence date, and if released on parole must serve until their maximum sentence date.

#### **Practice**

Sentencing practices affect the volume going to supervision or incarceration or an incarceration alternative, such as intermediate punishment.

Sentencing guidelines matrix provides recommended sanctions based on severity of offense and an offender's criminal history, often giving discretion on sanctioning options.

Probation,
Fines,
or Community
Service

County Jail or County Intermediate Punishment

State
Intermediate
Punishment
or Prison

ncreasing Offense Severity

## Sentencing options are directed through a sentencing guidelines grid with five dispositional levels.

### **Increasing Criminal History**

			L.	_			rior Recor				
Level	065	Example Offenses Murder 3	0	1	2	3	4	5	RFEL	REVOC	AGG/MIT
	14	Inchaste Murder (SBI)	72-5L	84-SL	96-5L	120-5L	168-5L	192-5L	204-5L	SL	~/-12
	13	Rape (victim <13 yrs) Inchaste Murder (No SBI) Weapons Mass Destr-Use	60-78	66-84	72-90	78-96	84-102	96-114	108-126	240	+/- 12
		PWID Cocaine (>1,000 g)	60-78	90-94	72-90	78-90	84-102	30-114	108-126	240	+/- 12
	12	Rape-Forcible Compulsion IDSI-Forcible Compulsion Robbery-Inflicts SBI	48-66	54-72	60-78	66-84	72-90	84-102	96-114	120	+/- 12
State Incar	11	Agg Assault-Cause SBI Voluntary Manslaughter Sexual Assault PWID Cocaine (100-1,000 g)	36-54 BC	42-60	48-66	54-72	60-78	72-90	84-102	120	+/- 12
	10	Kidnapping Agg Indecent Assault F2 Arson-Person in Building Hom by Vehicle-DUI & Work Zone PWID Cocaine(SO<100 g)	22-36 BC	30-42 BC	36-48 BC	42-54	48-60	60-72	72-84	120	+/- 12
	9	Sexual Exploitation of Children Robbery-Commit/Threat F1/F2 Burglary-Home/Person Present Arson-No Person in Building	12-24 BC	18-30 BC	24-36 BC	30-42 BC	36-48 BC	48-60	60-72	120	+/- 12
LEVEL 4 State Incar/ RIP trade	8 (F1)	Agg Assault -Cause Bl w/DW Theft (Firearm) Identity theft (Ind/+ & Vic>=60 yrs) Hom by Veh-DUI or Work Zone Theft (>5100,000) PWID Cocaine (10-<50 g)	9-16 BC	12-18 BC	15-21 BC	18-24 8C	21-27 BC	27-33 BC	40-52	NA	+/- 9
LEVEL 3 State/	7 (F2)	Robbery-Intricty Investions III Burglary-Home/No Person Present Statutory Sexual Assault Theft (+550,000-5100,000) Identity Theft (3rd/subq) PWID Cocaine (5-<10 g)	6-14 BC	9-16 BC	12-18 BC	15-21 BC	18-24 BC	24-30 BC	35-45 BC	NA	+/- 6
Cnty Incar RIP trade	6	Agg Assault-Cause Fear of SBI Homicide by Vehicle Burglary-Not a Home/Person Print Theft (>525,000-550,000) Arson-Endanger Property PWID Cocaine (2<5 g)	3-12 BC	6-14 BC	9-16 BC	12-18 8C	15-21 BC	21-27 BC	27-40 8C	NA	+ <i>f</i> -6
LEVEL	5 (F3)	Burglary F2 Theft (>\$2000-\$25,000) Bribery PWID Marij (1-<10 lbs)	RS-9	1-12 8C	3-14 BC	6-16 BC	9-16 BC	12-18 BC	24-36 BC	NA	+/- 3
Cnty Incar RIP	4	Indecent Assault M2 Forgery (Money, Stocks) Weapon on School Property Crim Trespass F2	RS-3	RS-9	R5-<12	3-14 BC	6-16 BC	9-16 BC	21-30 BC	NA	4/- 3
RS	3 (M1)	Simple Assault-Attempt/Cause BI Theft (\$200-\$2000) Carrying Explosives Simple Possession	R5-1	RS-6	RS-9	R5-<12	3-14 BC	6-16 BC	12-18 8C	NA	4/-3
LEVEL	2 (M2)	Theft (\$50~\$200) Retail Theft (1st/2nd Offense) Bad Checks (\$500~\$1,000)	RS	RS-2	RS-3	RS-4	RS-6	1/9	6-<12	NA	+/- 3
RS RS	1 (M3)	Most Misd. 3's;Theft (<\$50) DUI (M) Poss Small Amount Marij	RS	RS-1	RS-2	RS-3	RS-4	R5-6	34	NA.	+/- 3

#### Recommended Sentence

LEVEL 5: State Incarceration

LEVEL 4: State Incarceration **County Incarceration** 

LEVEL 3: State Incarceration **County Incarceration County Intermediate Punishment Restorative Sanctions** 

LEVEL 2: **County Incarceration** County Intermediate Punishment **Restorative Sanctions** 

> LEVEL 1: **Restorative Sanctions**

#### 2014 Total = **100,317** incidents

5,605 sentences **6%** 

8,211 sentences 8%

21,143 sentences 21%

45,239 sentences 45%

20,119 sentences 20%

Source: Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing Annual Report, 2014.

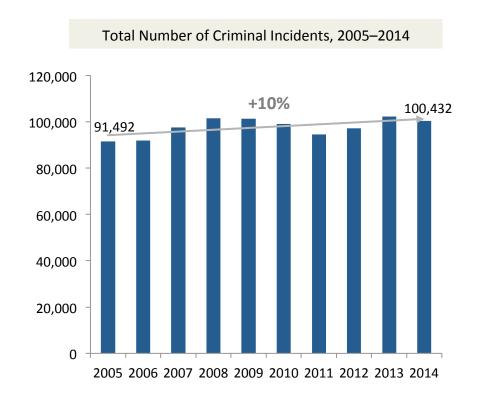
# The majority of sentences are for offenders with little or no criminal history and for lower-level offenses.

Criminal Incident Sentencing, 2014

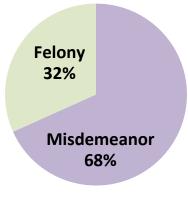
Increasing Criminal History										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	RFEL	REVOC		
14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
13	•	•	•	•	•	•				
12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
11	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
10	1	•	•	• •		•	•	•		
9	1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
8	1	•	•	•	•	0	•			
7	2%	•	•	•	•	1	•			
6	2%	1	1	•	•	1	•			
5	8%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	•			
4	2%	•	•	•	•	0	•			
3	12%	3%	3%	2%	2%	4%	1			
2	5%	2%	1	1	1	1	•			
1	15%	3%	2%	1	1	2%	•			
	14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	0 14 0 13 12 0 11 0 10 1 9 1 8 1 7 2% 6 2% 5 8% 4 2% 3 12% 2 5%	0 1 14 • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	0       1       2         14       •       •         13       •       •         12       •       •         11       •       •         10       1       •         9       1       •         8       1       •         7       2%       •         6       2%       1         1       1       1         5       8%       2%         2%       2%         4       2%       •         3       12%       3%         2       5%       2%       1	0       1       2       3         14       •       •       •         13       •       •       •         12       •       •       •         11       •       •       •         10       1       •       •         9       1       •       •         8       1       •       •         7       2%       •       •         6       2%       1       1         5       8%       2%       2%       1%         4       2%       •       •       •         3       12%       3%       3%       2%         2       5%       2%       1       1	0       1       2       3       4         14       0       0       0       0         13       0       0       0       0         12       0       0       0       0         11       0       0       0       0         9       1       0       0       0         9       1       0       0       0         8       1       0       0       0         6       2%       1       1       0         5       8%       2%       2%       1%       1%         4       2%       0       0       0       0         3       12%       3%       3%       2%       2%         2       5%       2%       1       1       1	14       •       •       •       •       •       •         13       •       •       •       •       •       •       •         12       •<	0 1 2 3 4 5 RFEL  14		

Source: Justice Center analysis of Commission on Sentencing data.

## Total sentencing volume is up 10 percent in the past decade.



Total Incidents by Offense Level and Disposition Type, 2014



Two-thirds of sentenced offenses are misdemeanors and the most common dispositions are probation and county jail time.

Other Restorative 3%

Prison 13%

**CIP 10%** 

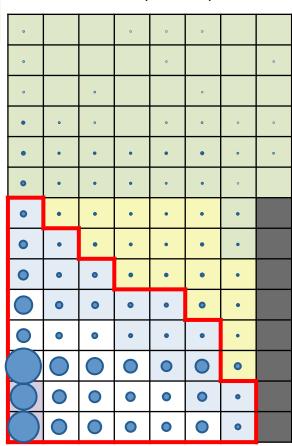
County Jail 31%

**Probation 42%** 

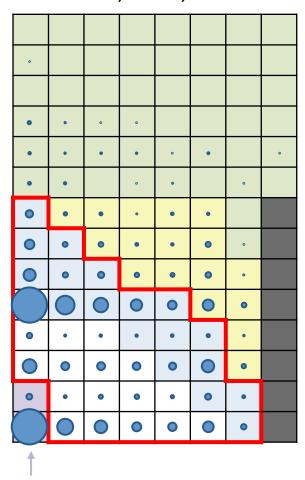
# Probation sentences are largely found where expected on the sentencing grid; CIP shows sentences outside standard.

Criminal Incident Sentencing, 2014

Probation, N=41,744



CIP, N=10,480

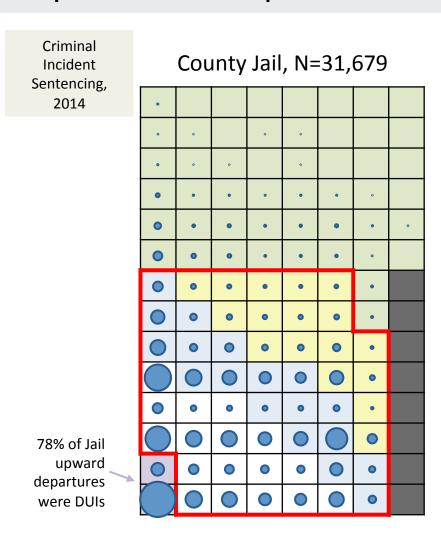


Bubble sizes only proportionate within each sentencing category.

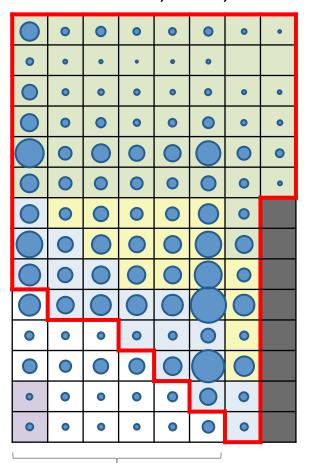
95% of CIP upward departures were DUIs

Source: Justice Center analysis of Commission on Sentencing data.

# Sentences to jail and prison also show upward and downward dispositional "departures."



State Prison, N=13,208

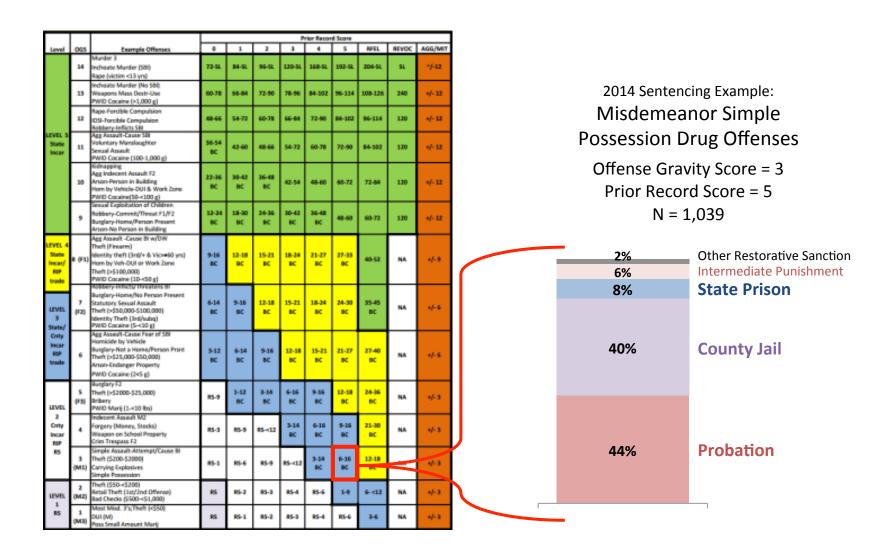


Bubble sizes only proportionate within each sentencing category. SIP (N=554) and Other Restorative Sanctions (N=2,652) not displayed.

Prison upward departures were a blend of offenses: theft, simple assault, burglary, DUI, retail theft, drug offenses

Source: Justice Center analysis of Commission on Sentencing data.

## Despite the structure provided through the guidelines, variation in sentencing outcomes can still exist across similar cases.



## Key challenges as they appear at the beginning of the project

### **County Impacts and Outcomes**

- Most sentences are served locally, on probation or in jail
- Resources and practices vary and outcomes are unknown

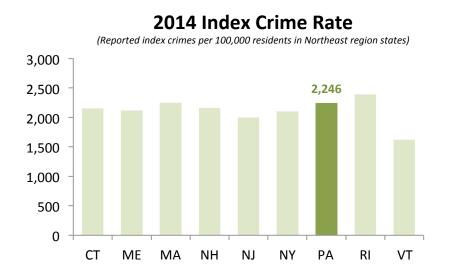
### **Sentencing Complexity and Variation**

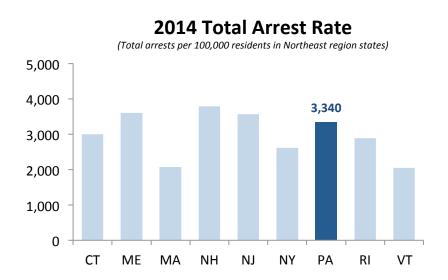
- Complexity that grows with legislative enactments over time
- Advisory guidelines enable variation

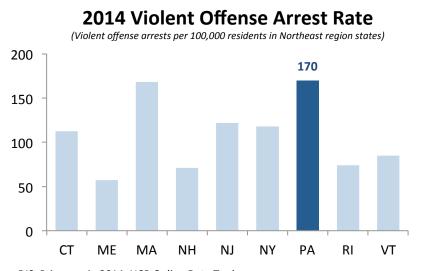
#### **Prison and Parole Volumes**

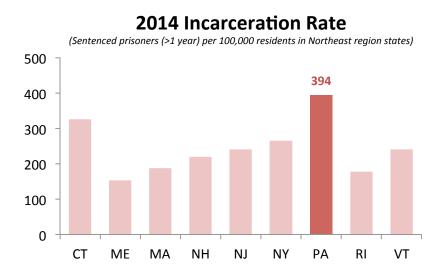
- Large prison population
- Highest parole supervision rate in the country

## Pennsylvania's incarceration rate exceeds other states in the region, and crime rates do not provide an explanation.





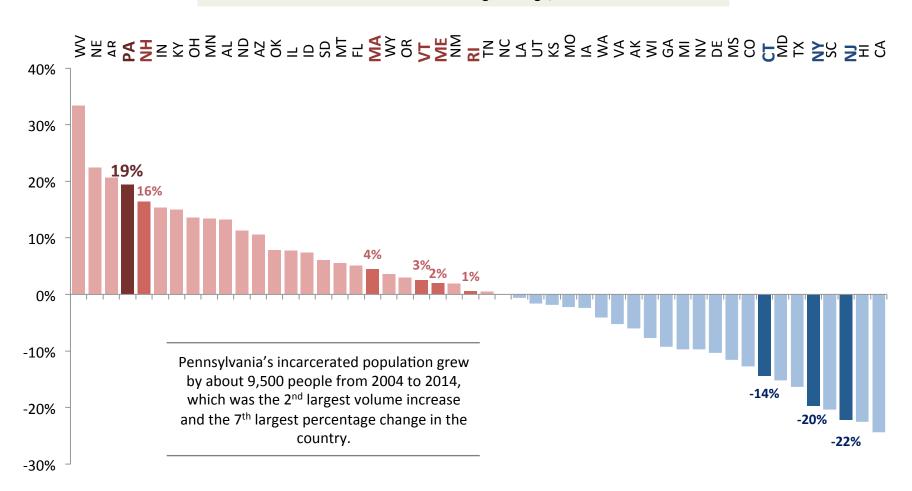




Source: BJS, Prisoners in 2014; UCR Online Data Tool.

# Pennsylvania's 2004–2014 increase in incarceration rate was the fourth highest in the nation.

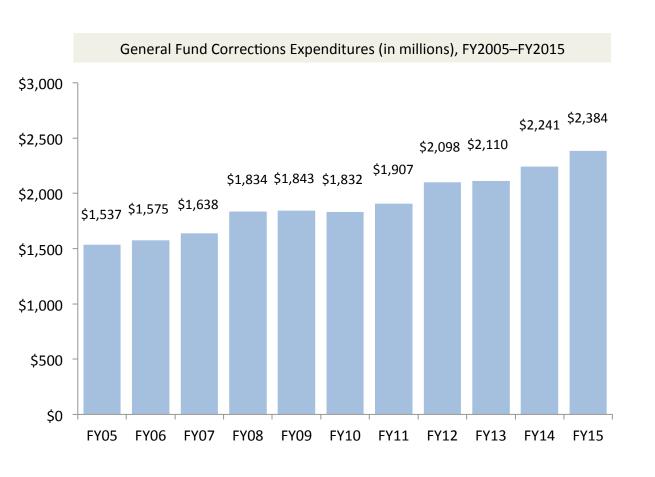


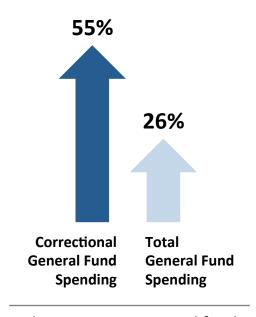


Imprisonment rate of sentenced prisoners per 100,000 residents (sentences greater than one year).

Source: BJS Corrections Statistical Analysis Tool, http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nps

# Corrections spending increased 55 percent over the last decade and is currently over \$2.3 billion.

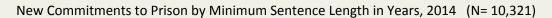


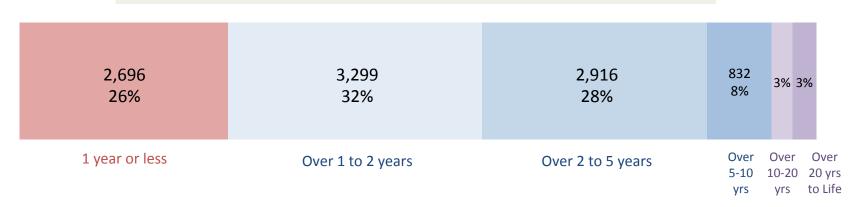


The increase in general fund correctional spending from FY2005 to FY2015 was twice as large as the growth in total general fund expenditures.

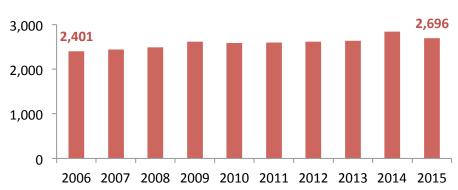
Source: NASBO State Expenditure Reports, 2005-2015

## A large portion of new prison commitments continue to have short minimum sentences.





## Short min new court commitment volume has increased 12%

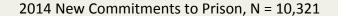


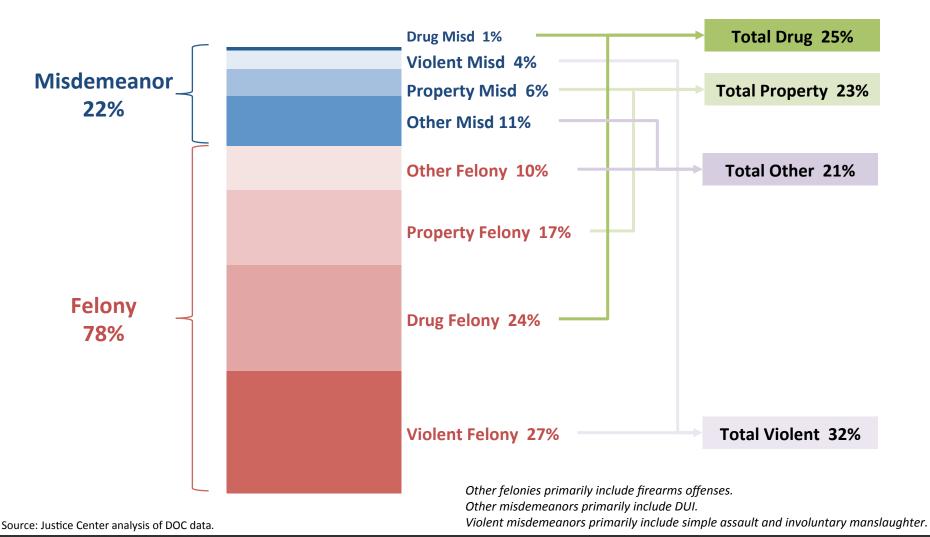
Prisoners with a minimum sentence of one year or less who were released from prison in 2014 had an average length of stay of 15 months.

Note that DOC defines Short Mins as those with less than a year remaining on their minimum sentence at intake, after taking time served into account. This expands the number slightly.

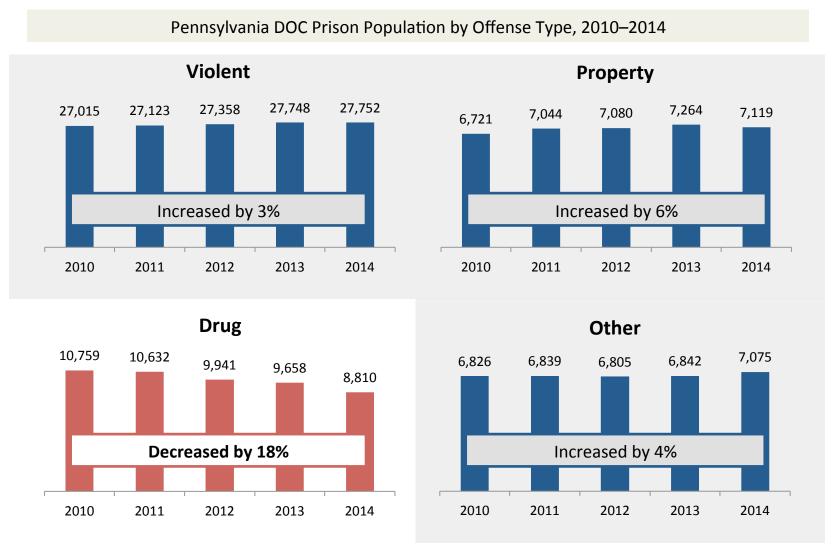
Source: DOC Annual Statistical Reports, Justice Center analysis of DOC data.

# Nearly half of new court commitments to prison are for property or drug offenses.



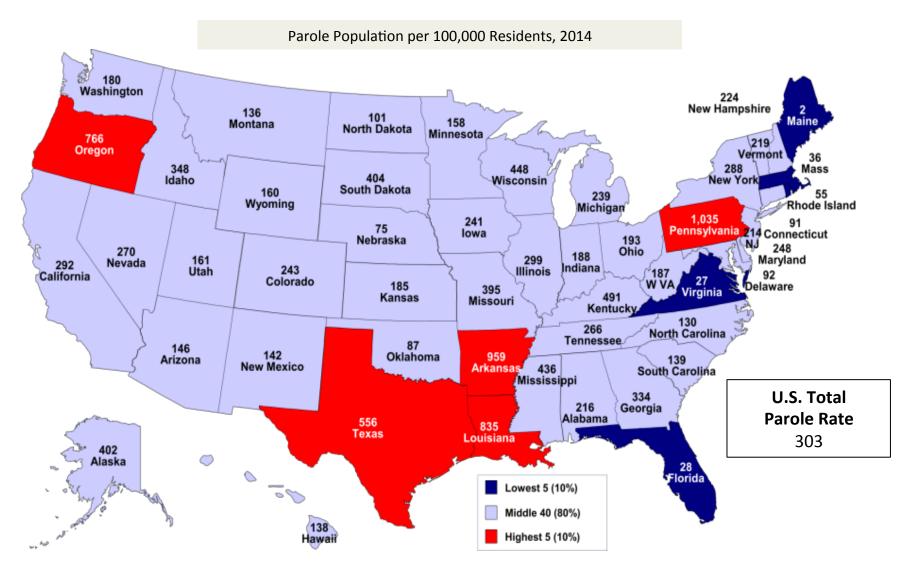


## Pennsylvania's recent decline in the prison population has been limited to drug offenders.



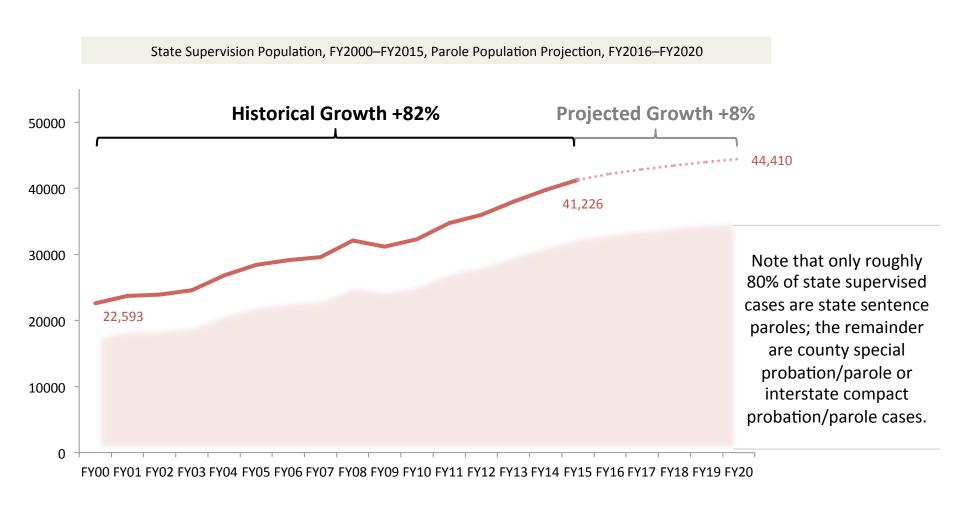
<sup>&</sup>quot;Other" includes firearms, DUI, and other nonviolent sex offenses. Parole violators are included with the original offense. Source: Justice Center analysis of DOC data.

# Pennsylvania has the highest parole supervision rate in the country.



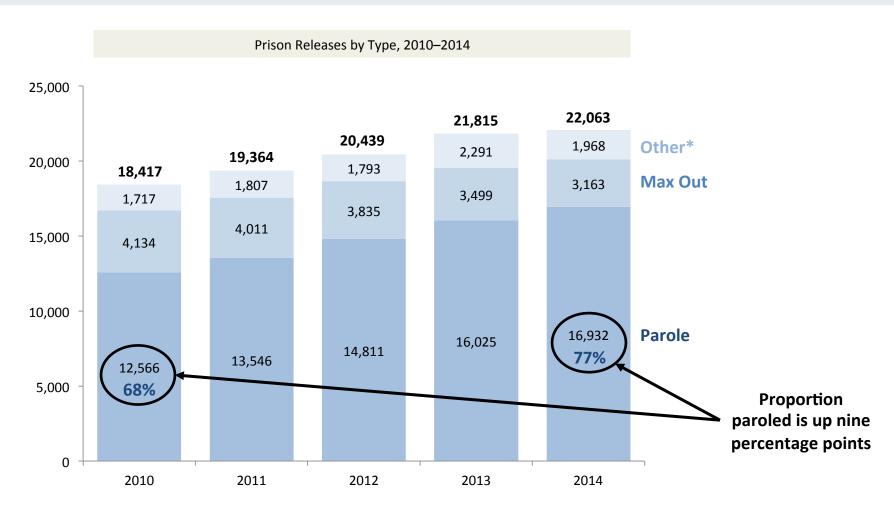
Source: Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Probation and Parole in the United States, 2014.

## State supervision population has increased and is projected to continue growing.



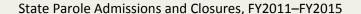
Source: PA Board of Probation and Parole, Monthly Statistics Reports. Criminal Justice Population Projections Committee, Pennsylvania Criminal Justice Population Projections, FY2015/16 to FY2019/20.

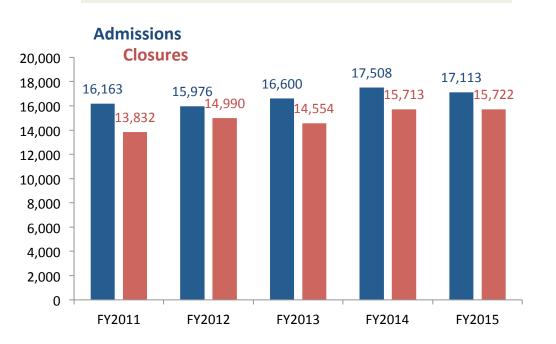
## The number and proportion of state parole releases have increased, reducing max-outs but increasing supervision.



<sup>\*</sup> Other includes releases by court order, deaths, transfers to other jurisdictions, and released detentioners.

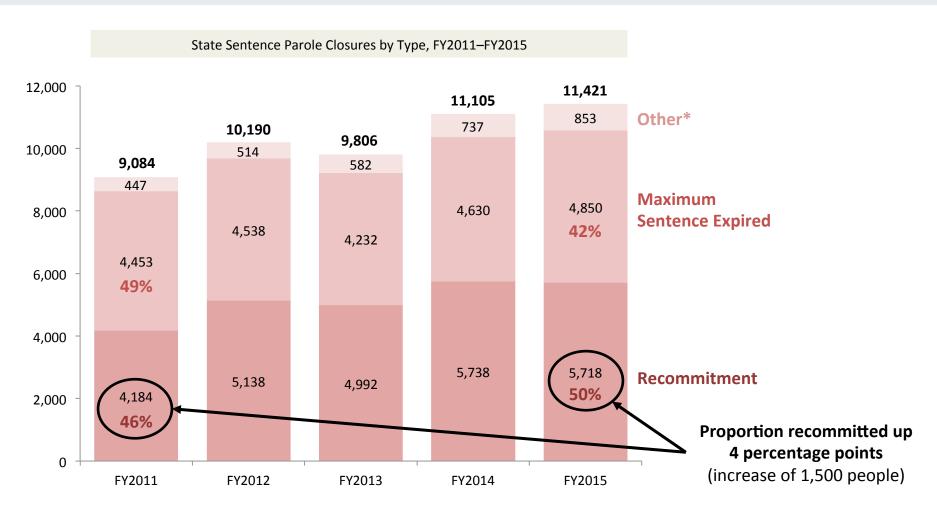
# Since 2011, parole admissions have outpaced parole closures, and lengths of stay for some closures have increased.







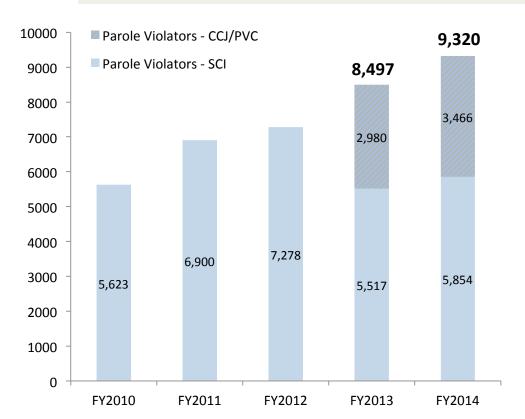
## The largest proportion of state sentence parole case closures are recommitments to DOC.



<sup>\*</sup> Other includes administrative closures, deaths, and early discharges.

## Total parole violator admissions have increased but the diversion of some to PVCs has limited bed consumption.





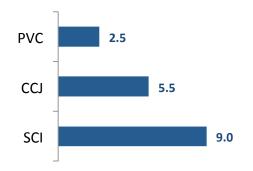
SCI = State Correctional Institution

CCJ = Contracted County Jail

PVC = Parole Violator Center

Parole violators comprise the same proportion of the DOC total population (~15%) despite more admissions. This is due to shorter lengths of stay for technical parole violators.

Parole Violator Average Length of Stay at DOC by Facility Type in Months, 2014



Source: PBPP's "201406 JPM Dashboard.xlsx"

### Summary of Initial Findings

#### **County Impacts and Outcomes**

- The vast majority of the criminal justice population is controlled at the local level through a combination of jail, CIP, probation, county parole, and other supervision.
- County probation/parole caseloads are high, and the supervision population is on the rise.
- 58% of probation funding is from counties and trending upward.
- The jail incarceration rate is relatively high, and a huge number of people cycle through jails every year.

#### **Sentencing Complexity and Variation**

- An array of options and mandates overlays the guidelines and basic rules.
- 100,000 incidents are sentenced in a year, and 65% are in the lowest two levels of the grid.
- Sentencing volume is up 10%, but the proportion to prison remains stable at +/- 13%.
- Significant variation exists in spite of the guidelines.

#### **Prison and Parole Volumes**

- In the region, Pennsylvania has a high incarceration rate that is consuming more and more of the state's budget.
- Half of new prison commitments are for property or drug offenses and a quarter of new commitments are Short Mins.
- Pennsylvania has the highest parole supervision rate in the country, and state parole numbers continue to rise.
- Parole violator returns to prison are up, but their length of stay has been reduced.

### **Presentation Overview**

#### **Justice Reinvestment**

### **Key Challenges**



**Next Steps** 

### Questions for Further Research

#### **County Impacts and Outcomes**

- What is the volume of missed opportunities for diversion to treatment in lieu of arrest, at the pretrial stage, and at sentencing?
- What are pretrial lengths of stay in different counties, and what release decisions/processes are in place?
- What are recidivism outcomes for: diversion options, probation, intermediate punishments, and jail?
- What are the opportunities and obstacles for increasing evidence-based practices at the local level?
- What is behind the large and growing number of inactive/absconders on county supervision?

#### **Sentencing Complexity and Variation**

- How does the system sort out sentenced populations to supervision and incarceration, locally and at the state level?
- How are high-volume sentences (such as DUI) affecting resource capacity and utilization?
- What are recidivism rates for people convicted of lower-level felonies and misdemeanors among the available sentencing options: probation, intermediate punishments, jail, and prison?
- Are there intolerably wide variations in sentencing across geographic or demographic categories?

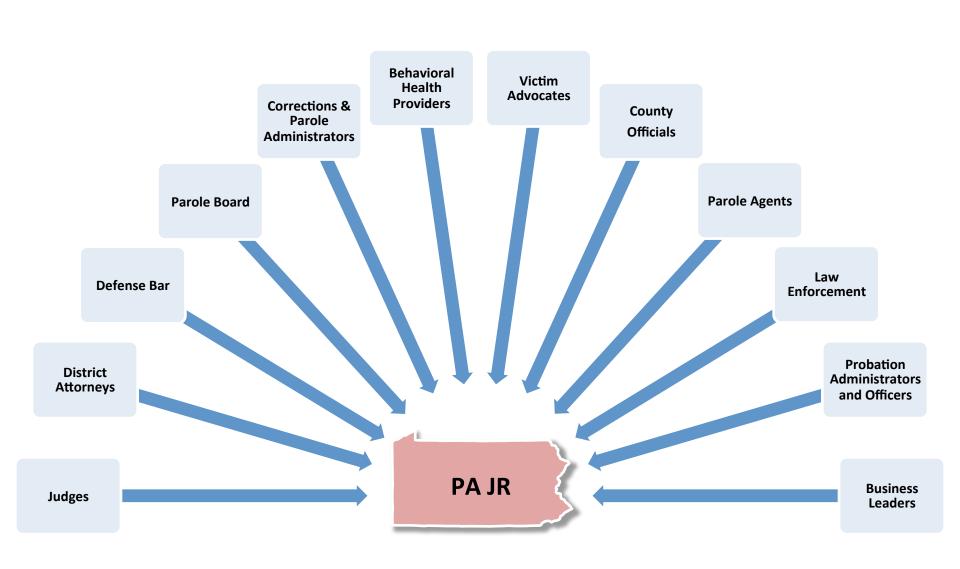
#### **Prison and Parole Volumes**

- What factors contribute to Pennsylvania's incarceration rate and how do they compare to neighboring states?
- What is causing Pennsylvania's high rate of adults on county and state parole, and what is the effect on: supervision resources, use of community corrections and violator centers, and recidivism?
- What is driving the large volume of state parole violators returning to prison?

### Acquisition of data is almost complete.

Data Type	Source	Status
Arrests	Pennsylvania State Police	Scoping underway
Jail	Counties/JNET	Scoping underway
Court Filings	Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts	Pending
Sentencing	Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing	Received
Prison	Pennsylvania Department of Corrections	Received
Parole Supervision	Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole	Received
Parole Decision Making	Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole	Received
Probation Supervision	Counties/CCAP/JNET	Scoping underway
Behavioral Health	Pennsylvania Department of Corrections Department of Drug and Alcohol	Received
	Programs/Department of Human Services	Pending

### Stakeholder engagement will raise additional issues.



## The Justice Center and the Working Group will combine efforts to achieve a successful project outcome.

### **CSG Justice Center Staff**

Serve as dedicated staff to the state

**Analyze data** 

Engage stakeholders

Deliver presentations and facilitate discussion

Interpret data and assess trends

Identify additional stakeholders

Develop data-driven policy framework

Identify priorities for reinvestment

## PA JR Working Group

Endorse project scope of work

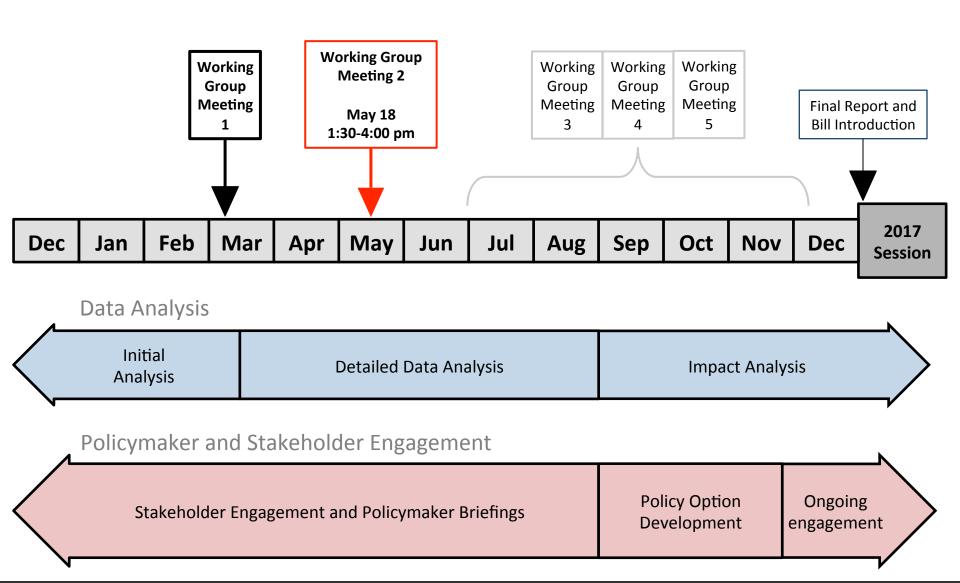
Provide expertise on system dynamics and structures

**Approve policy package** 

Identify legislative versus judicial policies

Create momentum for adoption of justice reinvestment policies

### Proposed timeline leading to the 2017 legislative session



### **Thank You**

#### **Patrick Armstrong, Policy Analyst**

parmstrong@csg.org





#### csgjusticecenter.org/subscribe

This material was prepared for the State of Pennsylvania. The presentation was developed by members of the Council of State Governments Justice Center staff. Because presentations are not subject to the same rigorous review process as other printed materials, the statements made reflect the views of the authors, and should not be considered the official position of the Justice Center, the members of the Council of State Governments, or the funding agency supporting the work.