Department of Justice Strategic Objectives

- Provide services and programs to help facilitate the successful reintegration of individuals returning from incarceration.

Program Goals

- Support jurisdictions to develop and implement comprehensive and collaborative strategies that address the challenges posed by reentry to increase public safety and reduce recidivism for individuals reentering communities from incarceration who are at medium to high risk for recidivating.

- Use validated assessment instruments to screen and identify offenders for participation in reentry programs.

- Implement a transition plan for incarcerated people, incorporating post-release services.

Second Chance Act State, Local, and Tribal Reentry Courts Program

Purpose[1]

The Second Chance Act (SCA) of 2007,[2] administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), was enacted to break the cycle of recidivism; improve public safety; and help state, local, and tribal government agencies and community organizations respond to the rising populations of formerly incarcerated people who return to their communities. This report covers two quarters of data collected from April to September 2015 for the SCA State, Local, and Tribal Reentry Courts Program grantees.

Report Highlights

- A total of 261 new (post-release only) participants were enrolled between April and September 2014, but this number declined to 103 new (post-release only) participants between April and September 2015, a decrease of 61 percent.

- During the first half of FY 2015, 94 percent (61 participants) of all post-release participants who *successfully* completed the program were classified as either moderate or high risk. In the second half of FY 2015, the percentage increased to 100 percent (all 42 participants).

- Overall, the completion rate by quarter was 59 percent (post-release only).

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[1] The Biannual Grantee Feedback Report includes performance data reported by BJA SCA State, Local, and Tribal Reentry Courts Program grant recipients that conducted grant activities from April–September 2015. The following data are drawn from the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) data covering SCA grants for the second half of FY 2015 (April–September 2015). The data reflected in this report represent the information entered in the PMT by grantees.

[2] Public Law 110-199.

Grantee Overview

Table 1. Program Type: April–September 2015

Program Type	April–September 2015
Jail-based	1
Prison-based	1
Both	2
Total	4

Table 1 shows the program type—jail-based, prison-based, or both—offered by grantees during the reporting period.

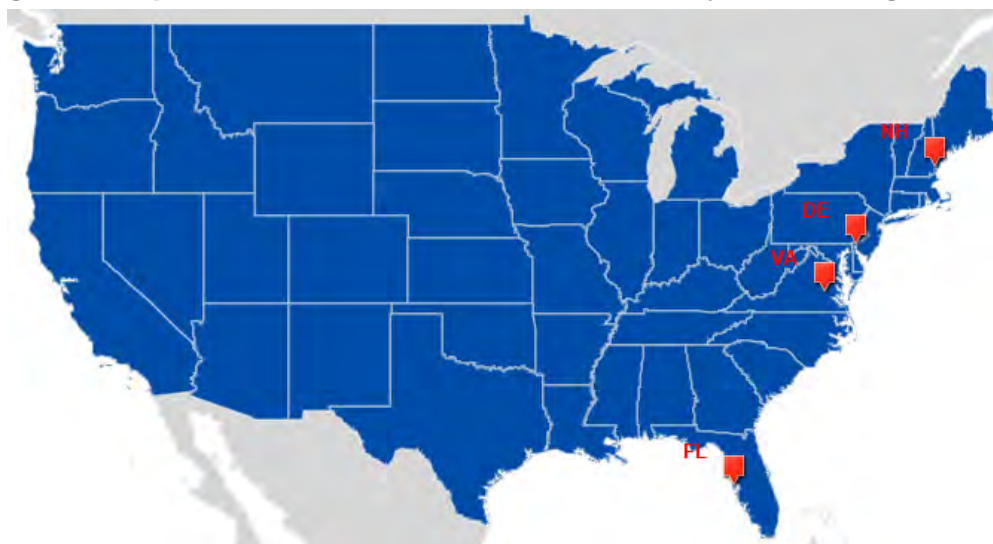**Table 2. SCA State, Local, and Tribal Reentry Courts Program Award Amounts by Fiscal Year[3]**

Federal Fiscal Year	Number of Active Awards	Total of Active Awards[4]	Total Funds Awarded
2010	4	$1,037,439	$2,651,703
Total	4	$1,037,439	$2,651,703

Table 3. Implementing Organization Type: April–September 2015

Agency Type	April–September 2015
Nonprofit organization	1
State agency	1
Unit of local government	2
Total	4

Table 3 shows the organization types/grantees that have provided services to participants.
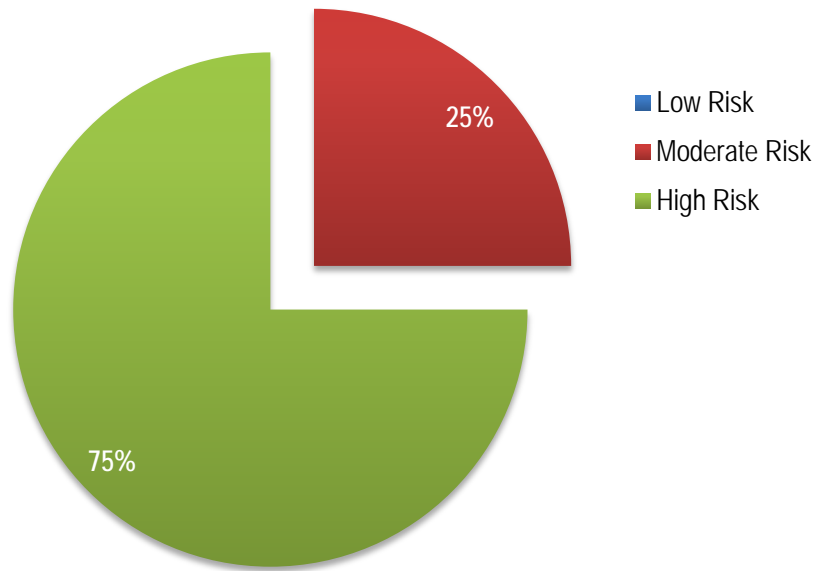
Figure 1. Map of SCA State, Local, and Tribal Reentry Courts Program Sites

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[3] An active award is one with an end date that has not expired, the grantee has not completed a final report in the PMT, and the award is still open in the Grants Management System.
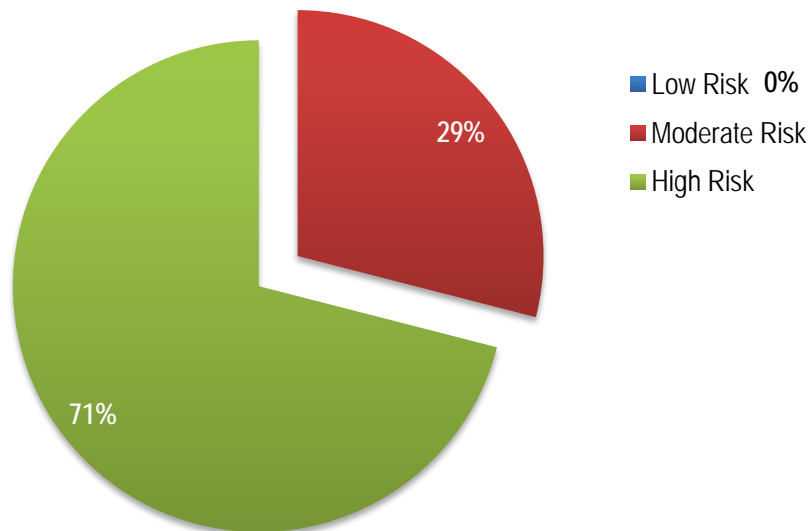
[4] Funding for the SCA State, Local, and Tribal Reentry Courts Program ended in 2011.

Figure 2. Risk Assessment Levels of New Post-Release Participants (*N* = 20)
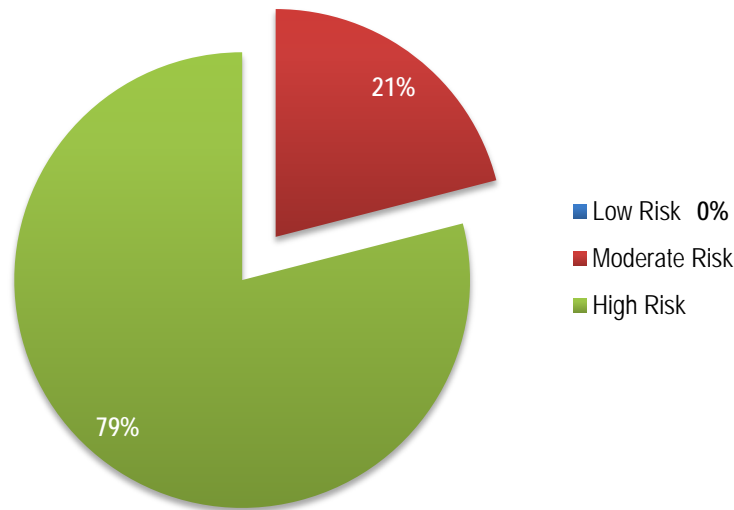

- During the 6-month period of April–September 2015, 100 percent of all new post-release participants were classified as either moderate risk or high risk.

Figure 3. Risk Assessment Levels of Participants Who Did Not Successfully Complete Post-Release Services (*N* = 76)
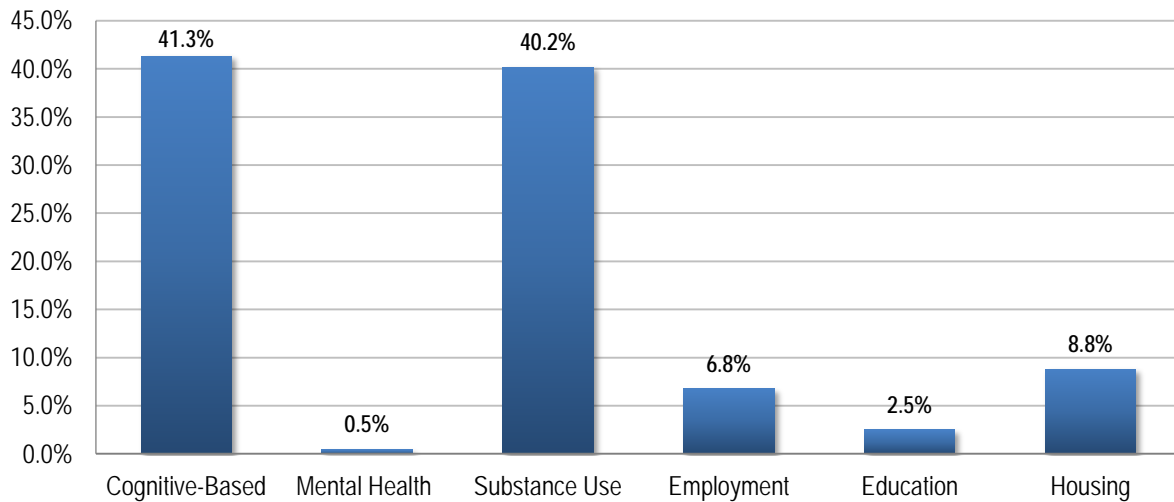

- During the 6-month period of April–September 2015, 100 percent of all post-release participants who did not successfully complete the program were classified as either moderate risk or high risk.

Figure 4. Risk Assessment Levels of Participants Who Successfully Completed Post-Release Services (N = 42)[5]

- Low Risk   0%
- Moderate Risk
- High Risk

21%

79%

- During the 6-month period of April–September 2015, 100 percent of all post-release participants who successfully completed the program were classified as either moderate risk or high risk, which meets program requirements. Research has consistently shown that recidivism reduction is greatest among participants considered moderate to high risk for recidivating, with little to no positive results seen in those participants classified as low risk (McGuire, 2002).[6]

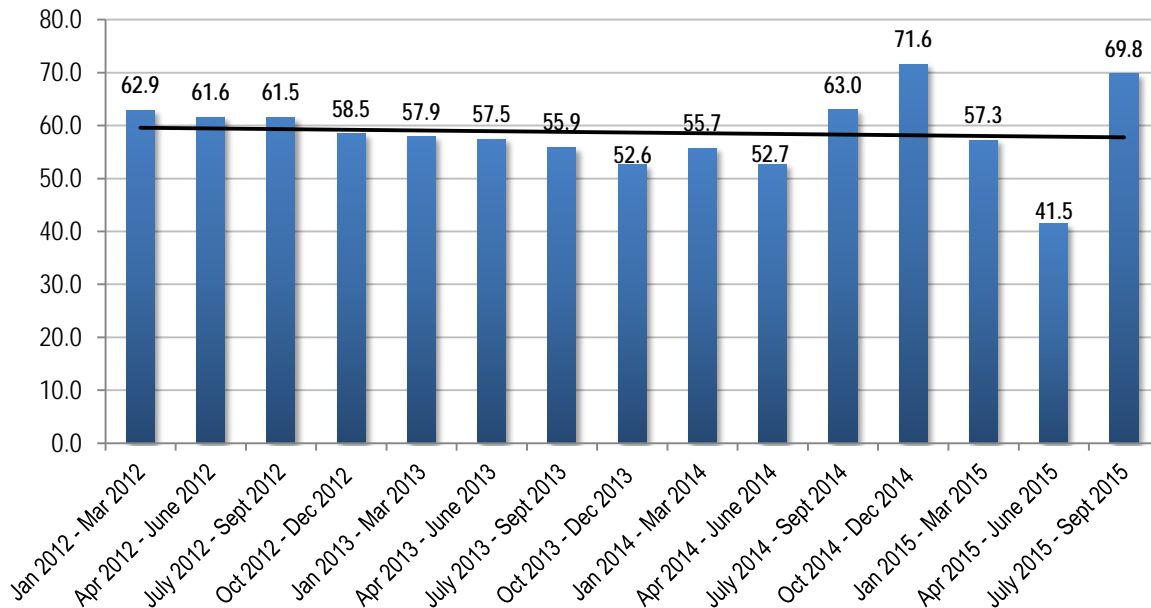**Figure 5. Post-Release Services Utilized Most Often by Participants (*N* = 443)**

- During the 6-month period of April–September 2015, cognitive-based services were the most utilized service type by program participants, followed in order by substance use services, housing services, employment services, educational services, and mental health services.

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[5] The top three validated risk assessment instruments utilized by grantees are: (1) Level of Service Inventory – Revised (LSI/LSI-R/LSI/R: SV); Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS); and Level of Service/ Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI).

[6] McGuire, J. (2002). *Evidence-based programming today.* Paper presented at the International Community Corrections Association Conference, Boston, MA, November 2002.

Overall Completion Rates by Quarter: Post-Release Participants Only

Figure 6. Average Completion Rates by Quarter: Post-Release

- Figure 6 shows the average completion rates[7] reported by grantees for post-release participants in each quarter between January 2012 and September 2015. The trend line shows the overall completion rate trend suggesting that it is stable for post-release participants.

- Average completion rates reported by grantees for post-release participants range from a low of 41.5 in the April–June 2015 quarter to a high of 71.6 in the October–December 2014 quarter. Completion rates are important because they are a meaningful measure of the program's success.

Key Performance Measures

Table 4. Overview of Key Post-Release Performance Measures (April–September 2015)

Key Performance Measure	Number of Grantees	Total	Average (Mean)[8]	Maximum Value[9, 10]
Total number of participants enrolled in post-release services during the reporting period	4	336	42	74
Number of new participants enrolled in post-release services during the reporting period	4	103	21	42
Number of participants who completed post-release services during the reporting period	4	42	6	9
Post-release participants no longer in the program due to failure to meet program requirements	4	22	4	6

- New participants accounted for 31 percent (103 out of 336) of total *post-release* enrollment.

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[7] Completion rate is: Total number of people exiting the program successfully since the start of the grant/ (total number exiting the program successfully since the start of the grant + total number of people exiting the program unsuccessfully since the start of the grant).

[8] The average value represents the average number of participants for grantees that provided data for each of the variables in the table.

[9] The minimum value is zero for these key indicators for all grantees in this report.

[10] The maximum value is provided for the grantee with the highest number of participants for that particular variable.

Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Information to Improve Outcomes

Do you have questions about how to get the most from your SCA State, Local, and Tribal Reentry Courts Program grant? Please contact your TTA team at the National Reentry Resource Center.

TTA Provider Information:	**Upcoming SCA Events:**
Stefan LoBuglio (slobuglio@csg.org) (877) 332-1719/ (240) 482-8587 info@nationalreentryresourcecenter.org http://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc/technical-assistance/	

Figure 7. Post-Release Completion Rates by Grantee: Life of Award