

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 both pre-release and post-release services.

Second Chance Act Reentry Demonstration Program

Purpose¹

The Second Chance Act (SCA) of 2007,² administered by 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 Adult Offender Reentry Demonstration grantees.

Program Highlights

- A total of 6,758 new (4,453 pre-release and 2,305 post-release) participants were enrolled between April and September 2014, but this number declined to 4,017 new participants (2,543 pre-release and 1,474 post-release) between April and September 2015, a decrease of 41 percent.
- During the first half of FY 2015, 92 percent (814 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 number increased to 94 percent (728 participants).
- Overall, the completion rates by quarter were 83 percent (pre-release) and 65 percent (post-release).

Grantee Overview

Table 1. Program Type: April–September 2015

Program Type	April–September 2015
Jail-based	13
Prison-based	15
Both	12
Total	40

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

¹ The Biannual Grantee Feedback Report includes performance data reported by BJA SCA Reentry Demonstration 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. In addition, most Statewide Adult Recidivism Reduction Strategic Planning Program grantees are conducting planning activities for this program. However, some are using grant funds for reentry services. In this case, performance data for these grantees have been combined with the Adult Offender Reentry Demonstration data throughout the rest of this document.

² Public Law 110-199.

Table 2. SCA Reentry Demonstration Award Amounts by Fiscal Year³

Federal Fiscal Year	Number of Active Awards	Total of Active Awards	Total Funds Awarded ⁴
2009	0	\$0	\$0
2010	2	\$1,499,733	\$25,458,995
2011	5	\$8,925,219	\$12,139,765
2012	10	\$17,296,724	\$27,825,969
2013	18	\$15,667,176	\$16,916,845
2014	9	\$6,791,919	\$6,791,919
2015	4	\$7,991,722	\$7,991,722
Total	48 ⁵	\$58,172,493	\$97,125,215

Table 3. Implementing Organization Type: April–September 2015

Agency Type	April–September 2015
State agency	20
Tribal government	1
Unit of local government	19
Total	40

Table 3 shows the organization types/grantees that have provided services to Reentry Demonstration Program participants.

Figure 1. Map of SCA Reentry Demonstration Program Sites

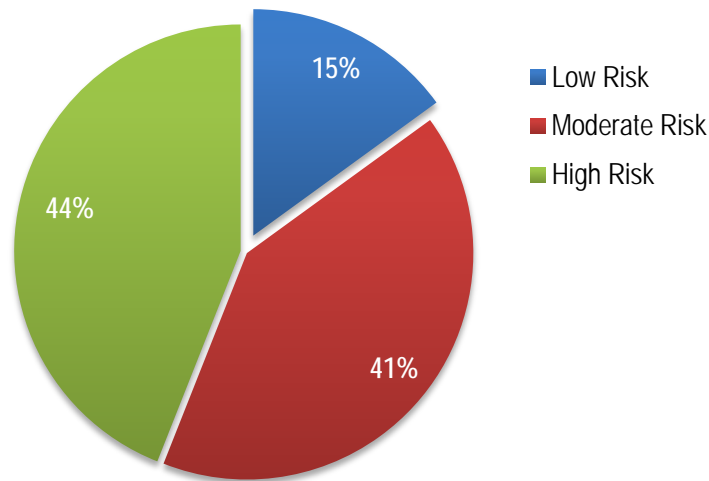


³ An active award is one with an end date that has not expired, the grantee has not completed a final report in the PMT, and the award is still open in the Grants Management System.

⁴ Funding for the SCA Reentry Demonstration Program has been declining, from its peak in FY 2010 to \$12,564,241 in FY 2015.

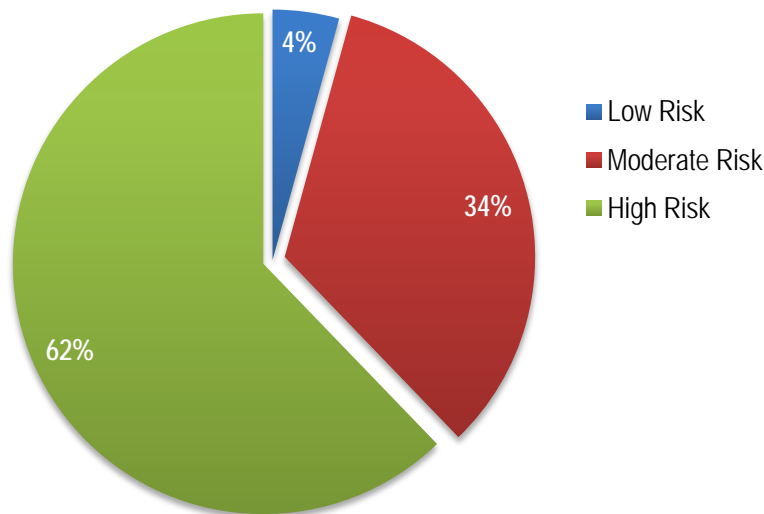
⁵ This number is more than 40 because Fulton County Georgia, Minnesota Department of Corrections and Vermont Department of Corrections have more than one award (see Appendix A). This number also includes Statewide Recidivism Reduction State planning and implementation awards. However, data reflect below does not include planning as grantees do not report in the PMT

Figure 2. Risk Assessment Levels of New Pre-Release Participants (N = 2,780)



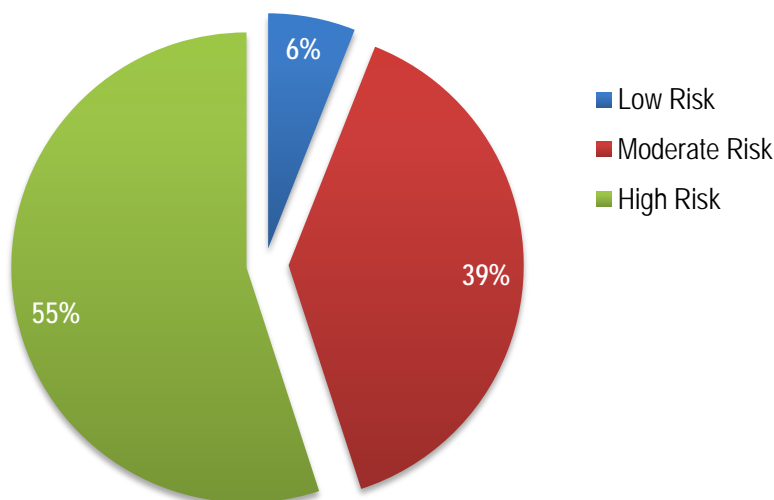
- During the 6-month period of April–September 2015, 85 percent of all new pre-release participants were classified as moderate risk or high risk.

Figure 3. Risk Assessment Levels of Participants Who Did Not Successfully Complete Post-Release Services (N = 770)



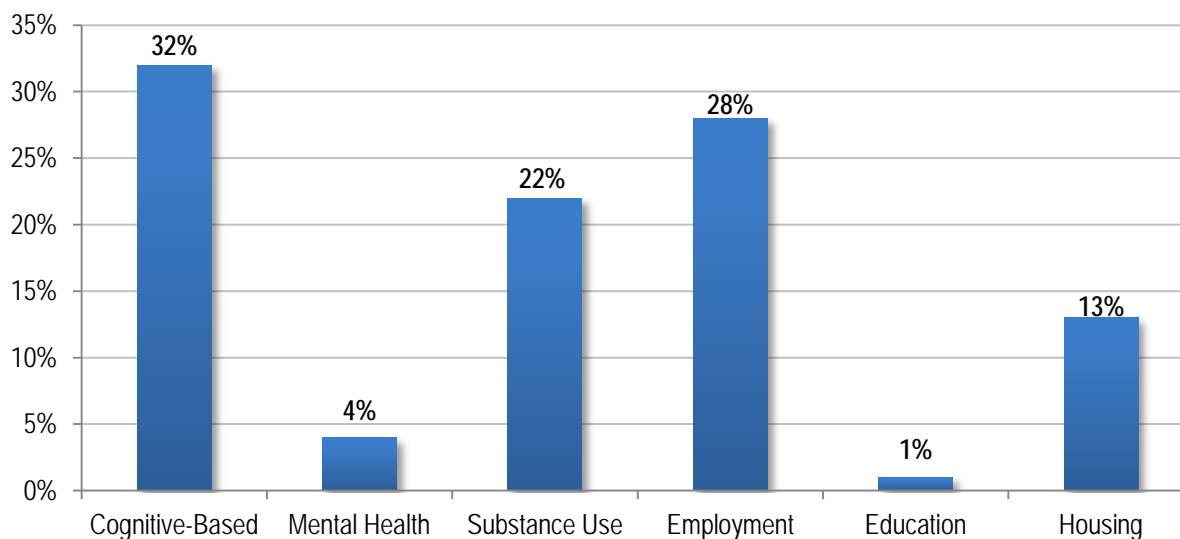
- During the 6-month period of April–September 2015, 96 percent of all post-release participants who did not successfully complete the program were classified as moderate risk or high risk.

Figure 4. Risk Assessment Levels of Participants Who Successfully Completed Post-Release Services (N = 773)⁵



- During the 6-month period of April–September 2015, 94 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 = 2,188)



- 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 employment services, substance use services, housing services, mental health services, and educational services.

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: Pre-Release and Post-Release Participants

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

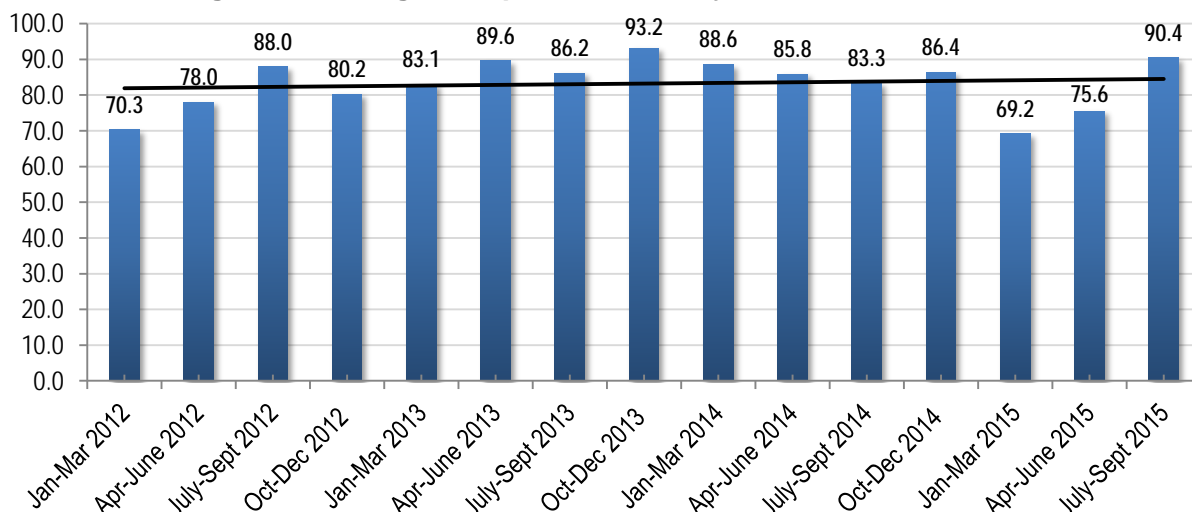


Figure 6 shows the average completion rates⁷ reported by grantees for pre-release participants in each quarter between January 2012 and September 2015. The trend line shows the overall completion rate trend suggesting that it is stable for pre-release participants.

- Average completion rates for pre-release participants range from a low of 69.2 in the January–March 2015 quarter to a high of 93.2 in the October–December 2013 quarter. Completion rates are important because they are a meaningful measure of participant success in the program.

Figure 7. Average Completion Rates by Quarter: Post-Release

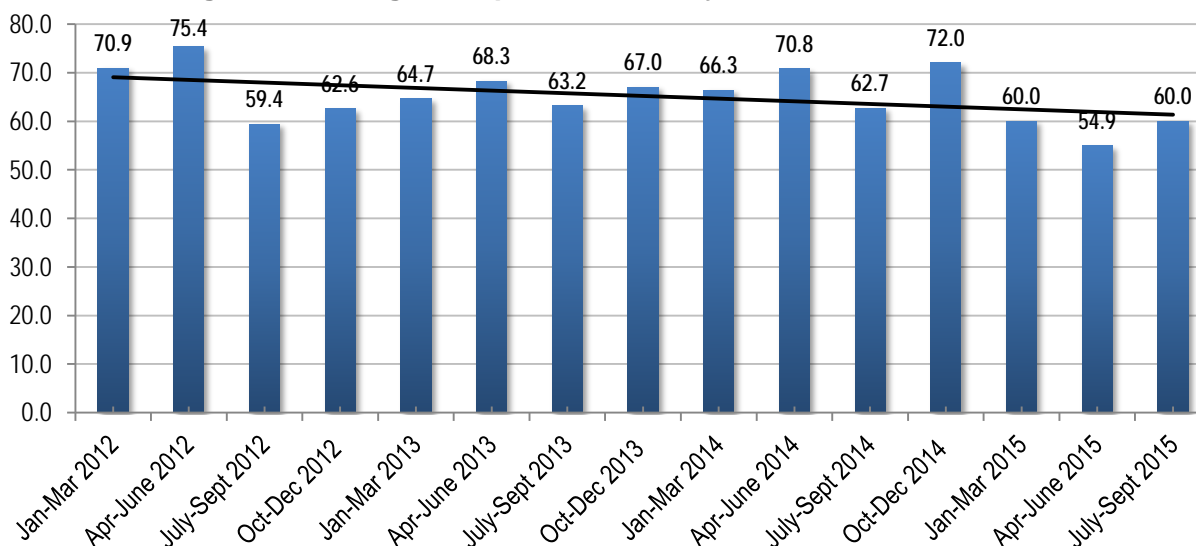


Figure 7 shows the average completion rates reported by grantees for post-release participants in each quarter between January 2012 and September 2015. The trend line shows that the average completion rates have decreased since January 2012.

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).

- Average completion rates range from a low of 54.9 in the April–June 2015 quarter to a high of 75.4 in the April–June 2012 quarter. Overall, grantees reported higher completion rates for pre-release participants than they did for post-release participants.
- The lower completion rates for post-release participants, compared to pre-release participants, may be attributable to intensive post-prison supervision that leads to a relatively large number of participants leaving the SCA Reentry Demonstration Program unsuccessfully.⁸

Key Performance Measures

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

Key Performance Measure	Number of Grantees	Total	Average (Mean) ⁹	Maximum Value ^{10, 11}
Total number of participants enrolled in pre-release services during reporting period	40	5,643	74	595
Number of new participants enrolled in pre-release services during reporting period	40	2,982	46	267
Number of participants who completed pre-release services during reporting period	40	1,028	22	159
Pre-release participants no longer in the program due to failure to meet program requirements	40	207	4	40

- New participants accounted for 53 percent (2,982 out of 5,643) of total *pre-release* enrollment.

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

Key Performance Measure	Number of Grantees	Total	Average (Mean) ¹²	Maximum Value ^{13, 14}
Total number of participants enrolled in post-release services during reporting period	40	5,529	73	821
Number of new participants enrolled in post-release services during reporting period	40	1,638	23	327
Number of participants who completed post-release services during reporting period	40	945	19	137
Post-release participants no longer in the program due to failure to meet program requirements	40	424	8	137

- New participants accounted for 30 percent (1,638 out of 5,529) of total *post-release* enrollment.

⁸ Sabol, W.J., & McGready, J. (1999). *Time Served in Prison By Federal Offenders, 1986-97*. Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice. NCJ 171682.

⁹ The average value represents the average number of participants for grantees that provided data for each of the variables in the table.

¹⁰ The minimum value is zero for these key indicators for all grantees in this report.

¹¹ The maximum value is provided for the grantee with the highest number of participants for that particular variable.

¹² The average value represents the average number of participants for grantees that provided data for each of the variables in the table.

¹³ The minimum value is zero for these key indicators for all grantees in this report.

¹⁴ 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 Reentry Demonstration grant? Please contact your TTA team at the National Reentry Resource Center.



TTA Provider Information:

Stefan LoBuglio (slobuglio@csg.org)
(877) 332-1719/ (240) 482-8587
info@nationalreentryresourcecenter.org
<http://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc/technical-assistance/>

Upcoming SCA Events:

Figure 8. Pre-Release Completion Rates By Grantee: Life of Award

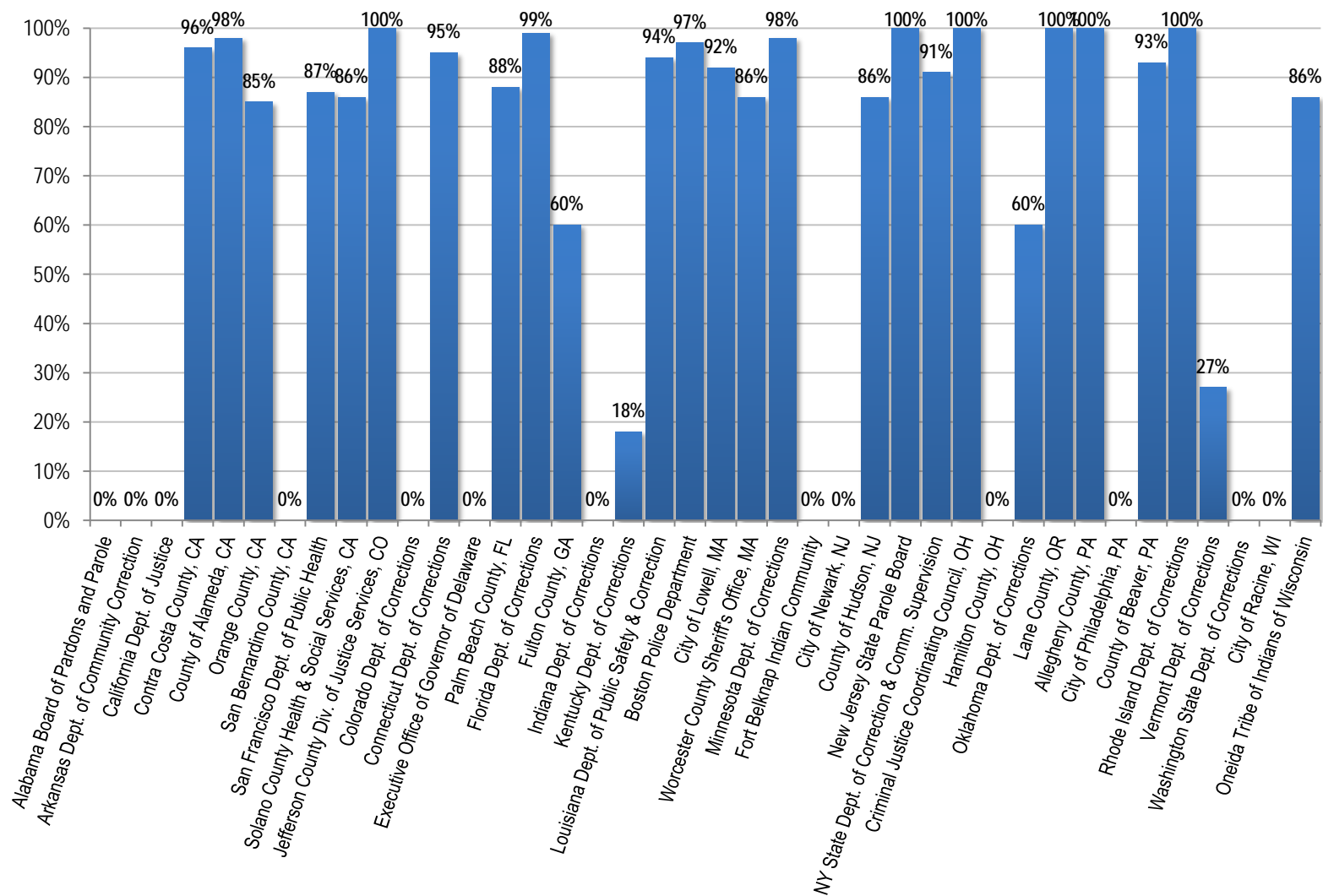


Figure 9. Post-Release Completion Rates By Grantee: Life of Award

