

A Snapshot of Incarcerations and Reentry in Ohio
Selected Information on Ohio's Criminal Justice System, collected from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC): www.drc.ohio.gov

COST

- In FY2010, a total of \$1.672 billion was spent on Ohio's prison system. The average cost per inmate is about \$24,000 with an average stay of about 2 years.

NUMBER OF INCARCERATIONS

- As of December 2010, there were 50,993 inmates (47,036 males and 3,957 females) in Ohio's 31 prisons—an increase of 9.6% from 2000.. There are 38,389 beds available, creating an overcrowding rate of 133%.
- In Calendar Year 2010, 23,191 offenders were committed to the state prison system (20,155 males; 3,036 females) – an increase of 19% from 2000. The five counties in the Archdiocese with the highest proportions of committed inmates are Hamilton County with 2,083 (8.98% of all state commitments), Montgomery County 1,210 (5.22%), Butler County 744 (3.21%), Clark County 424 (1.83%), and Clermont County 399 (1.72%).
- There are 3 prisons in the boundaries of the Archdiocese, Lebonon Correctional Institution and Warren Correctional Institution in Warren County and Dayton Correctional Institution/Montgomery County Education and Pre-Release Center in Montgomery County.

RACE

- By race, 54.7% of inmates committed in 2010 were White, 42.7% were Black, 2.3% were Hispanic, and 0.3% were “Other”.

CRIMES

- By felony, 26% of offenders were committed for drug offenses, 26% for crimes against persons (e.g. robbery, domestic violence, etc.), 10% for burglary, 15% for property related offenses, and 7% for sex offenses.

VOLUNTEERS

- In FY2010, there were 10,116 volunteers offering positive support to inmates, including 8,121 for religious purposes.

RECIDIVISM

- The recidivism rate from 2007 to 2010 was 34% of those having been released returning back to prison.
- Ohio has 20 community-based correction facilities (6 serving the 19 counties within the Archdiocese) and 23 halfway houses (6 in the Archdiocese boundaries). According to a 2010 study by the University of Cincinnati, commissioned by DRC, new felony convictions for high-risk offenders who completed a program with a community-based correction facility were reduced by 13.4% and by 14.1% for those completing a halfway house.
- In FY 2010, the state invested \$136.6 million in these programs, including \$21.9 million for prison diversion, \$11.1 million for jail diversion \$41.1 million for HWHs, and \$62.5 million for CBCFs.

- There were 86 reentry programs throughout the state for returning citizens. Some effective efforts administered by DRC for returning citizens to find employment and reintegrate into the community include Offender Network for Employment, Work Opportunity Tax Credit, Federal Bonding Program, and Citizen Circles (one of which is run by the CCHD-funded agency Good Samaritan Home in Darke County).
- HB130, signed by Governor Strickland in 2009, offers a statewide framework for investing in reentry, addressing legal barriers for returning citizens, including removing non-relevant prohibitions and collateral sanctions. It established a State Agency Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition to oversee this. In 2010 there were 28 established local reentry task forces representing 34 counties.

Issues Faced by Returning Citizens (provided by the Ohio Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition, 2010 Annual Report: www.reentrycoalition.ohio.gov)

- **EDUCATION:** The lack of adequate educational, career development and vocational transitional programs may contribute to offender recidivism.
 - *The number of certificates (Literacy, ABLE, Pre-GED, GED, High School Diploma, Career Technical, Transition Education Program, Apprenticeship, Tutor and Advanced Job Training) awarded for incarcerated adult offenders for FY2010 was 16,590 and 217 for the incarcerated juvenile offenders*
- **EMPLOYMENT:** The absence of adequate employment opportunities increases the risk of recidivism and compromises successful reentry. Decreased recidivism and successful reentry is affected by employers implementing the Federal (Fidelity) Bonding Program and Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) program in hiring this population.
 - *In FY 2009 there were 421 WOTC issued compared to FY2010 264 WOTC certifications issued.*
 - *In 2009 there were 32 fidelity bonds issued on behalf of offenders compared to 47 bonds issued for CY2010.*
- **HOUSING:** Securing safe, decent affordable housing is a major challenge for people exiting prison, particularly adult offenders with mental illness, sex offender convictions, and those with other chronic health conditions. Approximately 2,208 offenders falling under these categories were released without viable housing in 2009.
- **MENTAL ILLNESS:** There is a prevalence of offenders with mental illness that experience a lack hope of recovery from their mental illness. Mental illness, if coupled with the high-co-occurrence of criminogenic needs, can impede the offender's ability to function in society.
- **SUBSTANCE ABUSE:** Approximately 70% of offenders are in need of some form of substance abuse services. Substance abuse, coupled with the high-co-occurrence of criminogenic needs, impedes offenders' ability to function in society and leads to increased recidivism.
 - *In FY2010, 2,052 offenders participated in a recovery services program or therapeutic community during incarceration*
- **YOUTH:** Approximately 51% of youth released from the Ohio Department of Youth Services remained underemployed or unemployed throughout the duration of parole supervision.
 - *In FY 2010 there were 1,338 youth released from DYS facilities. Of those released, 1,305 had a completed reentry plan that addressed education/employment. Of the youth released in FY2010 176 youth had completed an educational or vocational program and 594 youth were employed.*