



# Hiring and Supporting Re-Entering Citizens

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- June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016

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# Who is the Ex-Offender Population?

# Statistics



2.2 Million Incarcerated

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2<sup>nd</sup> Highest Global Prison Population Rate

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VS



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# Statistics



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2<sup>nd</sup> Highest Global Prison Population Rate

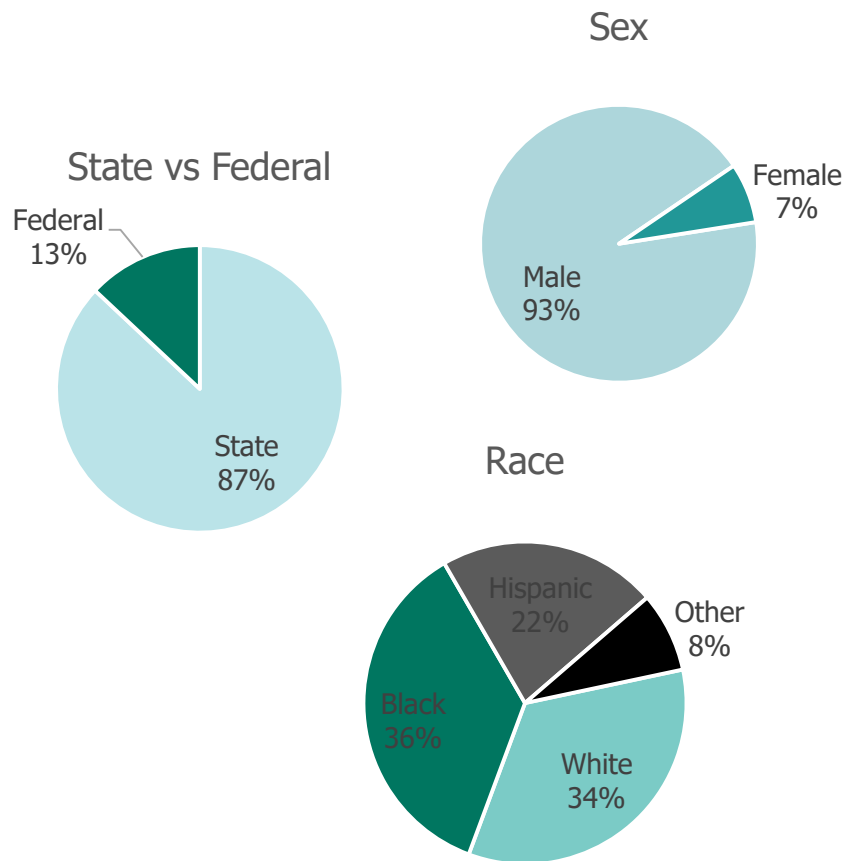


600,000+ Prisoners Released Annually

Sources: U.S. Dept of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics

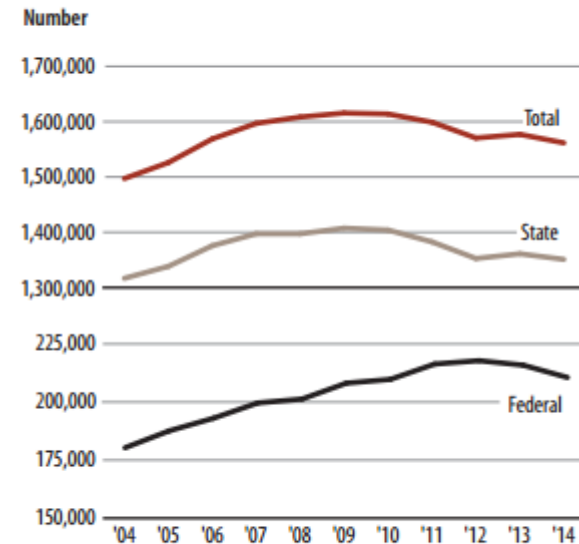
# Other Statistics

## Prison Demographics



## Trend

**FIGURE 1**  
Total, state, and federal U.S. prison population, 2004–2014



Note: Counts based on all prisoners under the jurisdiction of state and federal correctional authorities.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Prisoner Statistics, 2004–2014.

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# Other Statistics

- About 65% of prisoners have not completed high school
- Annual cost per inmate can reach as high as \$60k
- 47% of inmates arrested for non-violent crimes
- Louisiana (847), Oklahoma (703), and Mississippi (693) highest imprisonment rates

Sources: US DOJ, [www.vera.org](http://www.vera.org)

# Hiring Hurdles

- Employment
  - Recidivism Rates: 67.5% within 3 years
- Housing
- Education
  - Lagging in education before and during imprisonment
- Finances and Debt
- Identity
  - Arrest record
  - Identity theft
  - Driver's license

Sources: US DOJ

# Current State of Programs Offered for Ex-Offenders

- Second Chance Pell Pilot Program
- Resilience Education, Texas PEP, Rising Tide Capital, Defy Ventures
- Halfway houses



# Growing National Recognition



*Wide variety of resources and initiatives available and continuing to grow!*

Sources: US DOJ

# Resilience Education



- **Mission:** providing university-level education to underserved populations like re-entering offenders
- **Goals:** provide ability for graduates to start their own businesses, increase chances of being hired, reduce recidivism
- **Courses:** Entrepreneurship, Foundations of Business, Financial Capability and Literacy
- **History:** started five years ago, over 250 graduates, 0% recidivated

Sources: US DOJ

# Questions to ask

- Different organizations take different approaches to aiding re-entering citizens
  - ✓ Does it address the actual employment barrier?
  - ✓ Are programs offered specifically designed for ex-offenders?
  - ✓ Is the program's understanding representative of the overall ex-offender population?
  - ✓ How will success be measured?
  - ✓ Local or systemic?

# Questions?

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