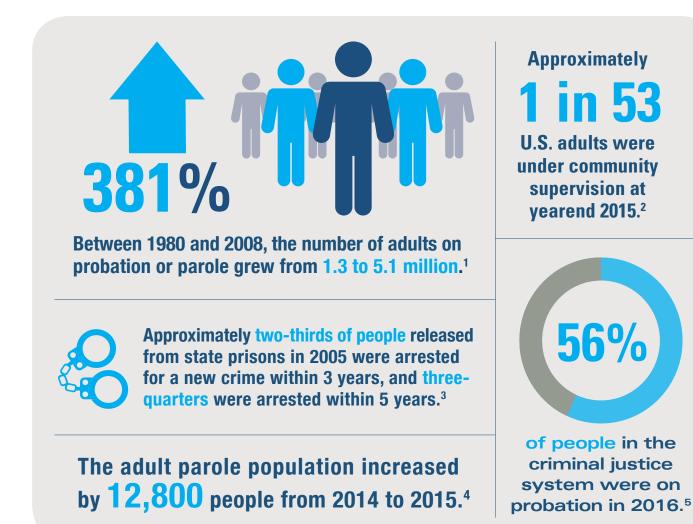


### **Improving Outcomes for People under Community Supervision**

The majority of people in the U.S. criminal justice system are not held in secure correctional facilities, but under correctional supervision in their communities. The two main types of community supervision are **probation**, a court order through which a person is placed under the supervision of a probation field staff member and is expected to meet certain standards of conduct; and **parole**, the term of supervision that occurs once someone is conditionally released to the community after serving a prison term.



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Ensure that recidivism rates of people on probation and parole are being tracked by multiple measures and reported publicly.

#### Conduct a statewide review of state-funded correctional programming to gauge whether programs are

reaching the right people, using the right curricula, and being delivered properly.



Find out if the assessment tools used to estimate the risk of recidivism for people on community supervision have been validated on your state's population within the last five years in order to determine whether they are working properly and without bias.

## What Policymakers Can Do



Explore how supervision officers can respond to noncriminal violations of supervision conditions without sending people back to court, jail, or prison.



## Review the allocation of community supervision resources in your state,

as research shows that focusing treatment and supervision in the first one to two years of community supervision for those assessed as most likely to reoffenc can have the greatest impact.<sup>6</sup>

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- 6. The Pew Center on the States, Risk/Needs Assessment 101: Science Reveals New Tools to Manage Offenders (Washington, DC: The Pew Center on the States, 2011), 4, http://www.pewtrusts.org/-/ media/legacy/uploadedfiles/pcs\_assets/2011/pewriskassessmentbriefpdf.pdf; Durose et al., Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005.

This project was supported by Grant No. 2016-MU-BX-K011 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.