



Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

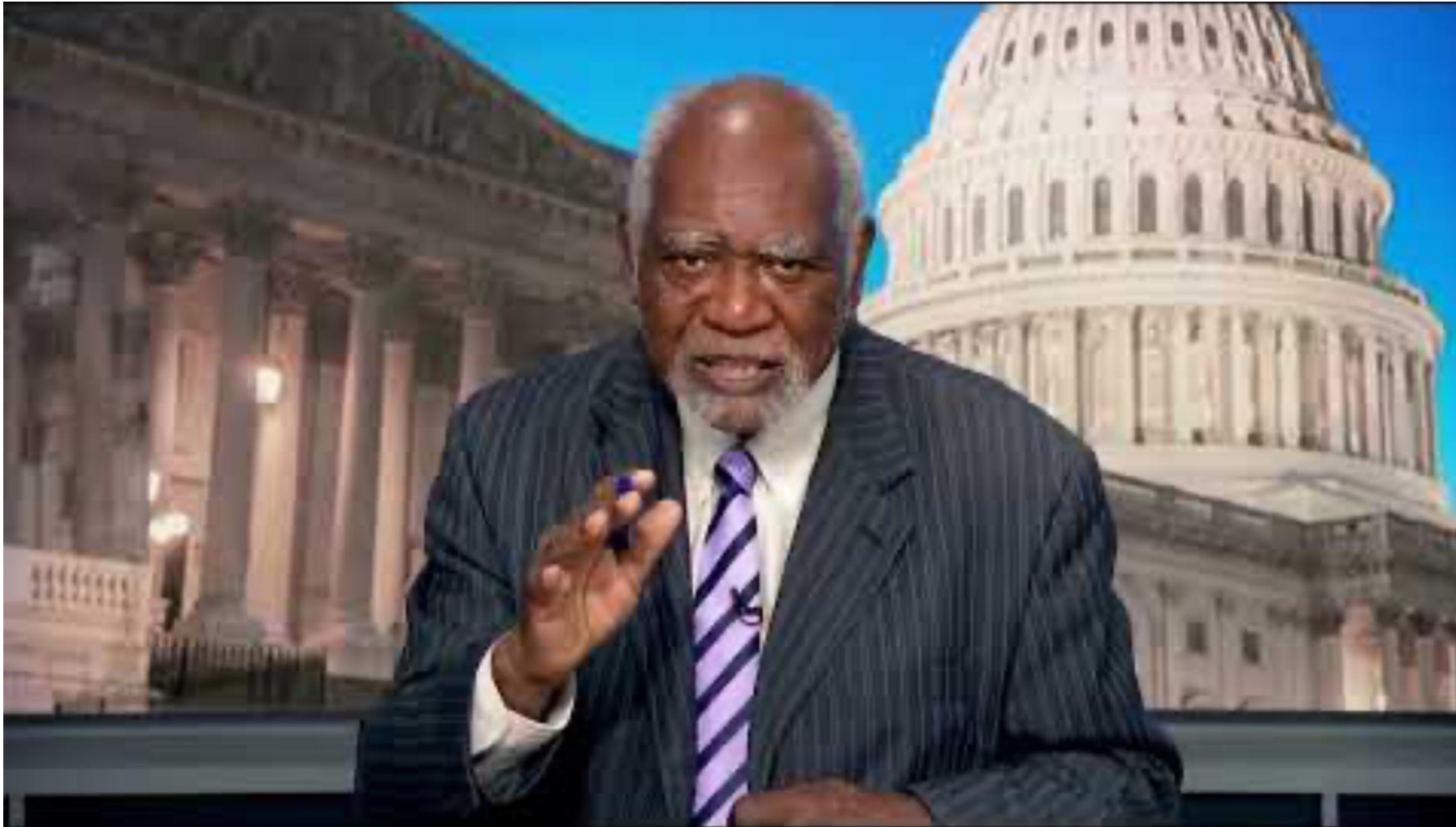
The Future of Reentry Programs and Policy

July 22, 2025

Representative Carol Miller (R-WV)



Representative Danny Davis (D-IL)



Second Chance Reauthorization Act of 2025

- Senators Capito and Booker + 12 co-sponsors
- Representatives Miller and Davis + 26 co-sponsors
- 321 organizations have signed on

Add your organization:



Recidivism rates have fallen since 2008.

50 States, 1 Goal: Examining State-Level Recidivism Trends in the Second Chance Act Era

For the past 15 years, federal, state, local, and Tribal governments, as well as community-based organizations across the country, have been focused on reducing recidivism like never before. This report answers three critical questions:

What progress has been made?

- State-level **reincarceration rates are 23 percent lower** since 2008.
- Fewer returns to custody mean that more people can rejoin their families and contribute in their communities. States are achieving these rates with changes in policy and by increasing opportunities and resources to support employment and connections to behavioral health care and housing.

How much could states save by reducing recidivism further?

- Despite the progress made, **states will spend an estimated \$8 billion on reincarceration costs** for people who exited prison in 2022.
- Scaling effective policies and reentry models can reduce the economic and human costs of recidivism, while creating meaningful opportunities for returning people to contribute to the workforce and their families and communities.

Are states ready to expand their efforts?

- In the past year, leaders in **Missouri, Alabama, North Carolina, and Nebraska have set bold goals** for reducing recidivism and improving reentry outcomes further by 2030.
- The goals include increasing access to treatment, mental health services, and medical care; improving individuals' economic independence by ensuring they are better prepared for work and have access to employment; and increasing access to stable housing.

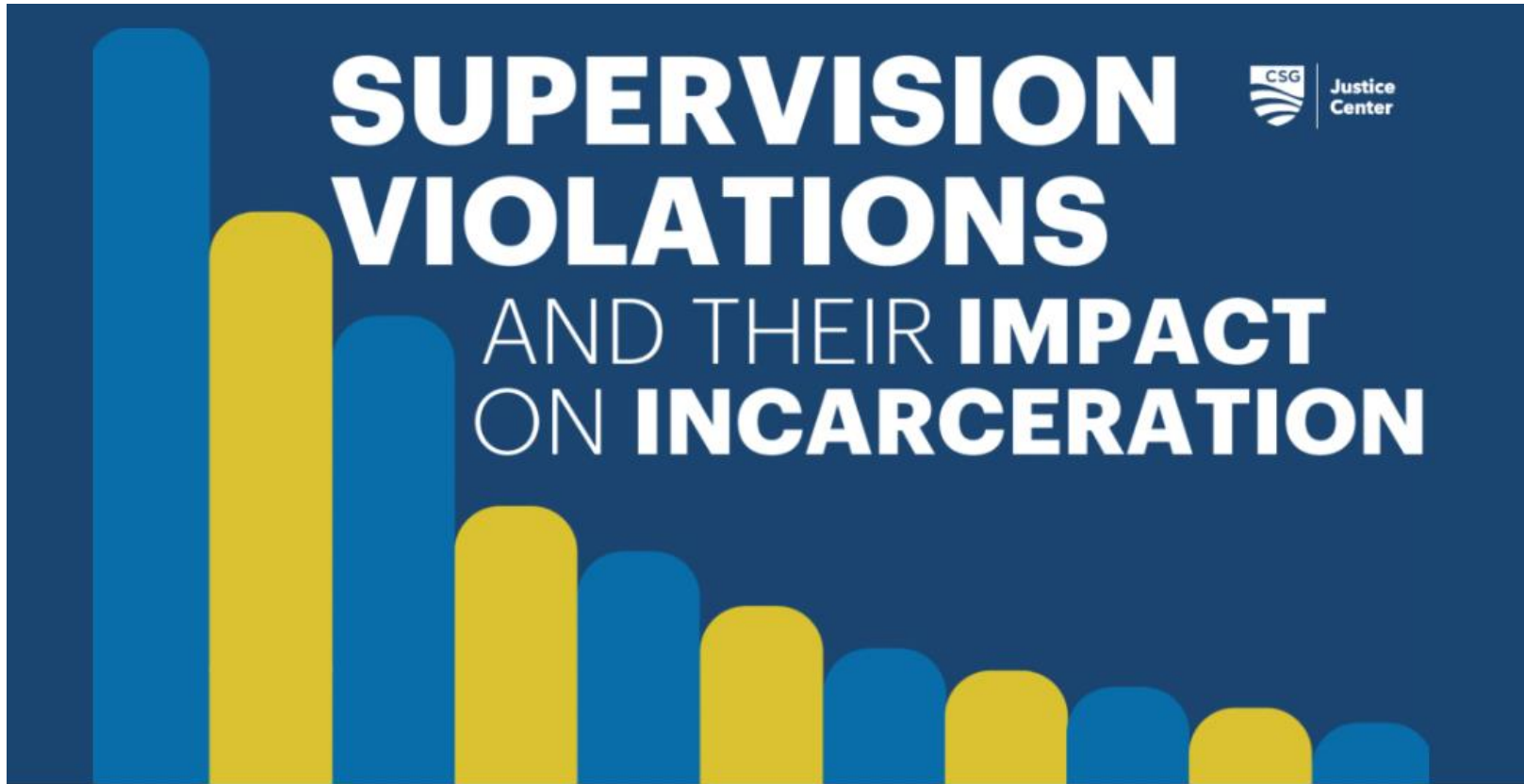


United States Total

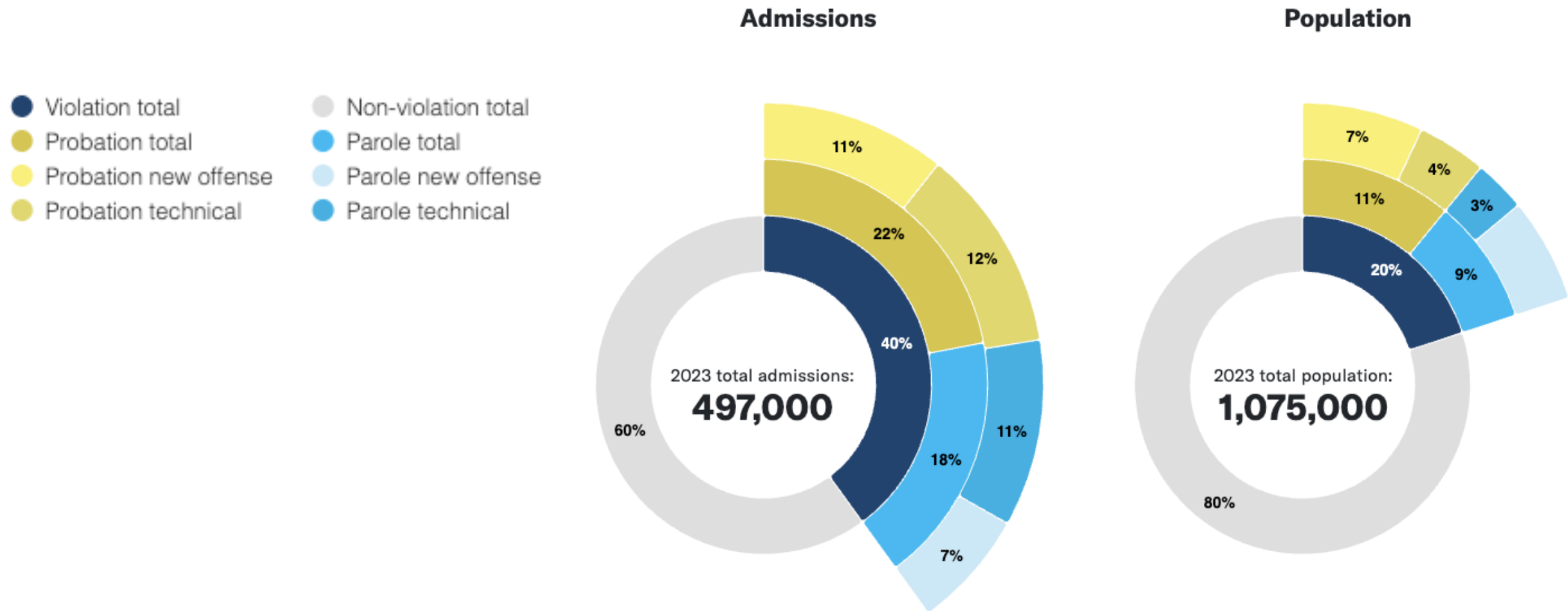
27% ← 35%

- State-level 3-year reincarceration rates are **23 percent lower**.
- $\frac{3}{4}$ of states experienced a decrease in recidivism.
- Recidivism rates dropped by double digits in 9 states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, and South Carolina.

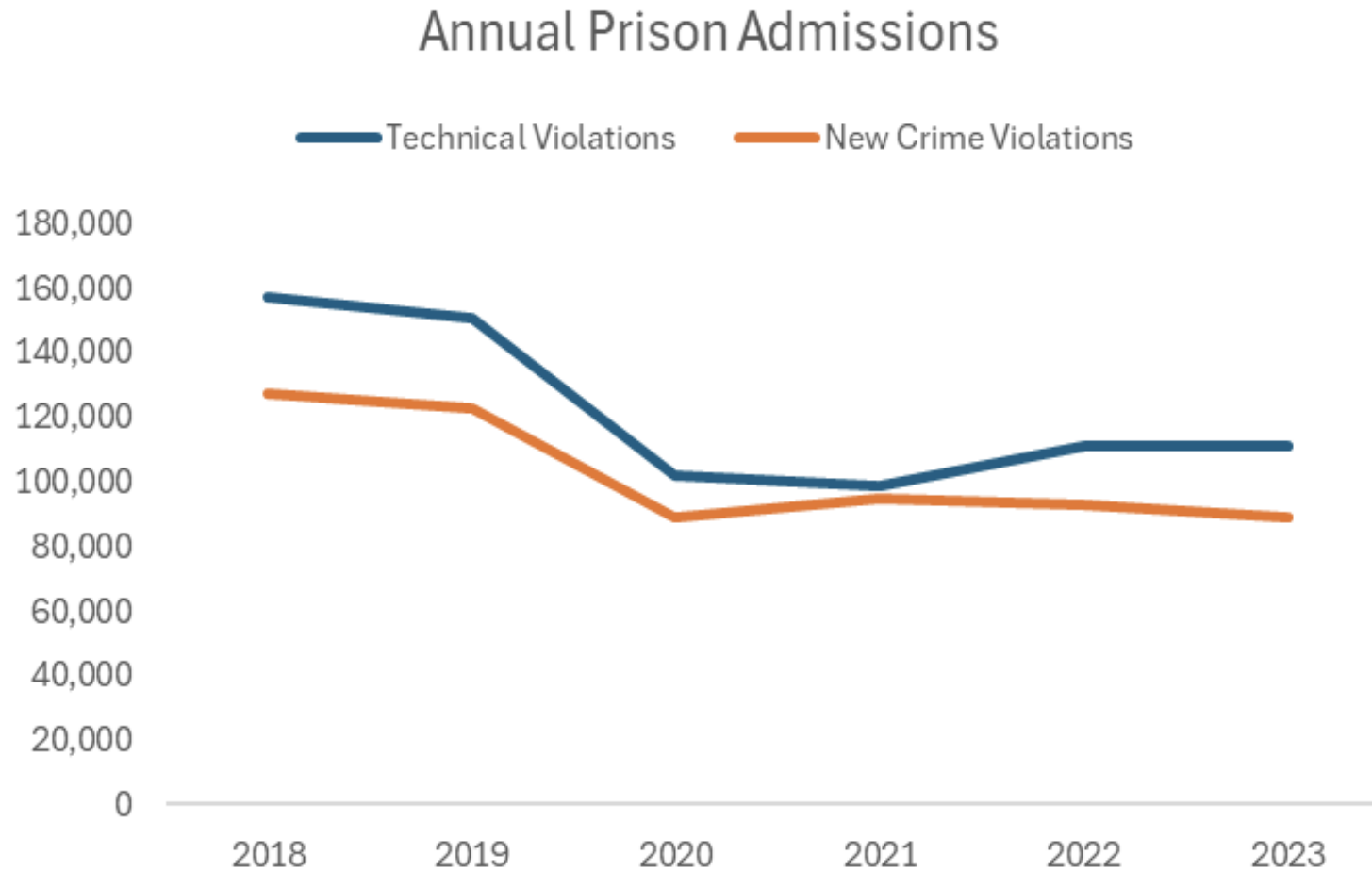
New Analysis Released Today



Supervision violations are a big driver of prison admissions and population.



Prison admissions for new crimes are down; admissions for technical violations are climbing back up.



Technical violations are costly.

States spend an estimated **\$3 billion** on technical violations.

Expanding successful reentry efforts can reduce technical violations that lead to reincarceration.

Since 2018, Missouri has reduced technical violations leading to incarceration:

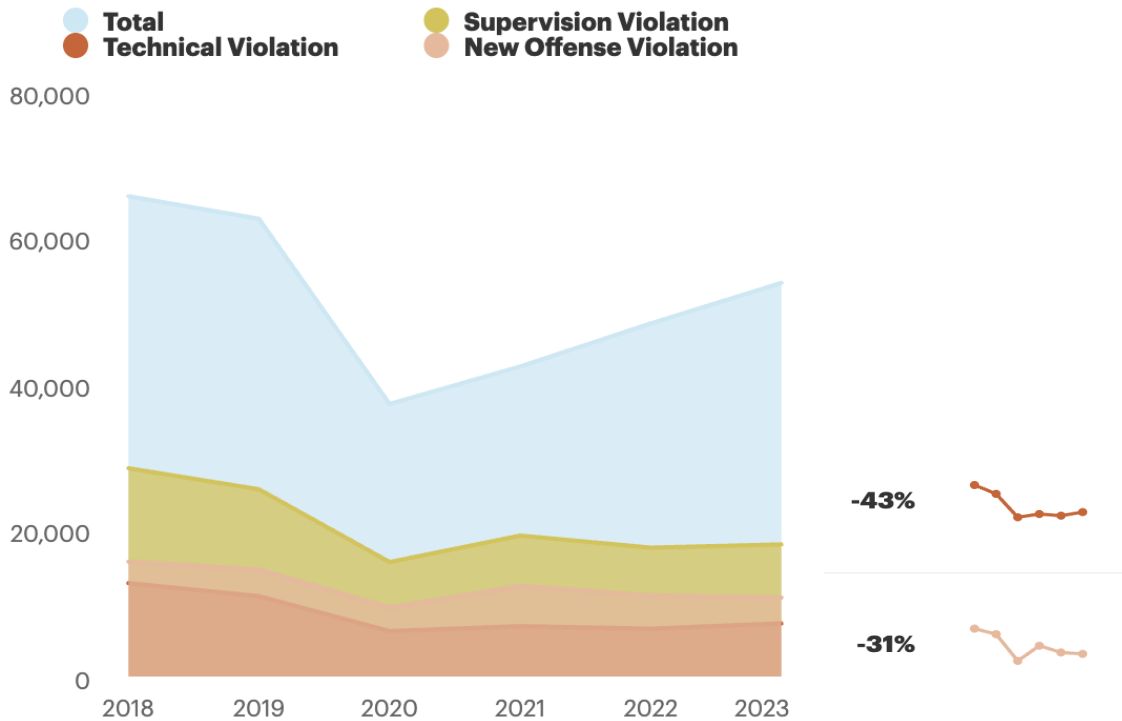


Diverging State Trends

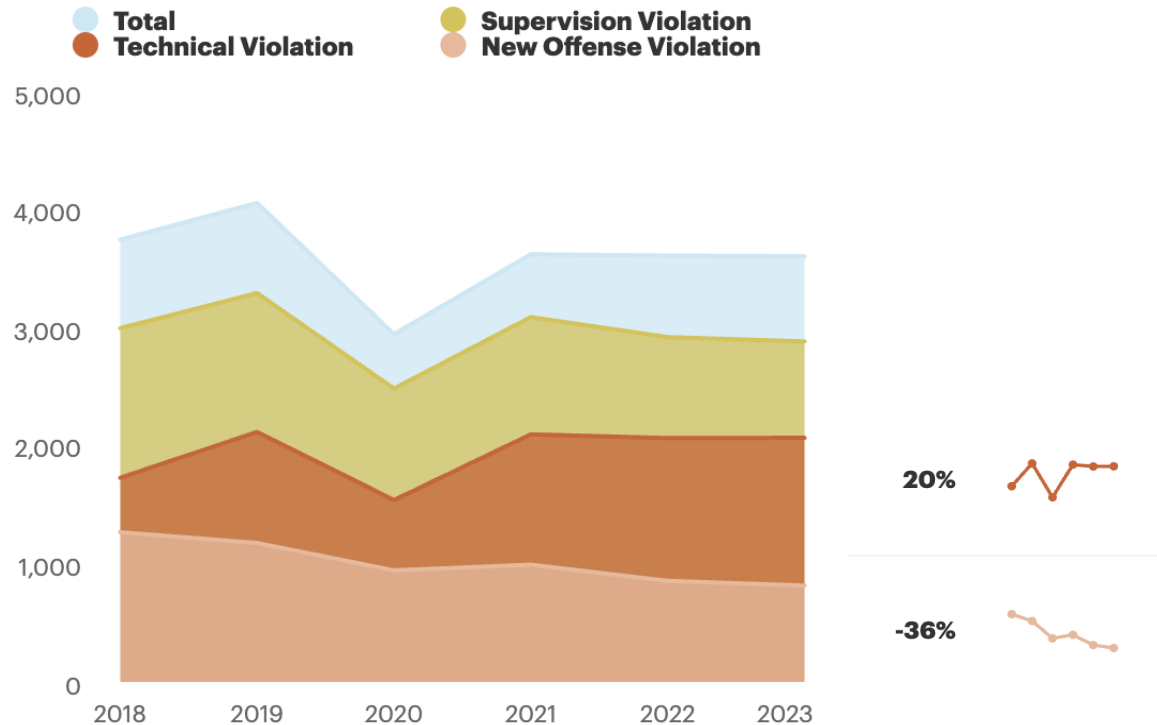


Dive into your state's supervision violation data.

Prison Admission Trends in Texas



Prison Admission Trends in Utah



Reentry must be measured in broader ways.

Beyond Recidivism: Redefining Measures to Understand Reentry Success



Critical Elements to Measure



**Recidivism
progression**



**Employment and
financial stability**



**Housing
security**



**Health and
wellbeing**



**Social
reintegration**



Reentry 2030 State Success Stories Missouri



Lori Lewis-Kennedy

Assistant Division Director

Division of Offender Rehabilitative Services

Director of Reentry and Education Services

Missouri Department of Corrections



Reentry 2030 State Success Stories North Carolina



Leslie Cooley Dismukes
Secretary
North Carolina Department of Adult Corrections

Reentry 2030

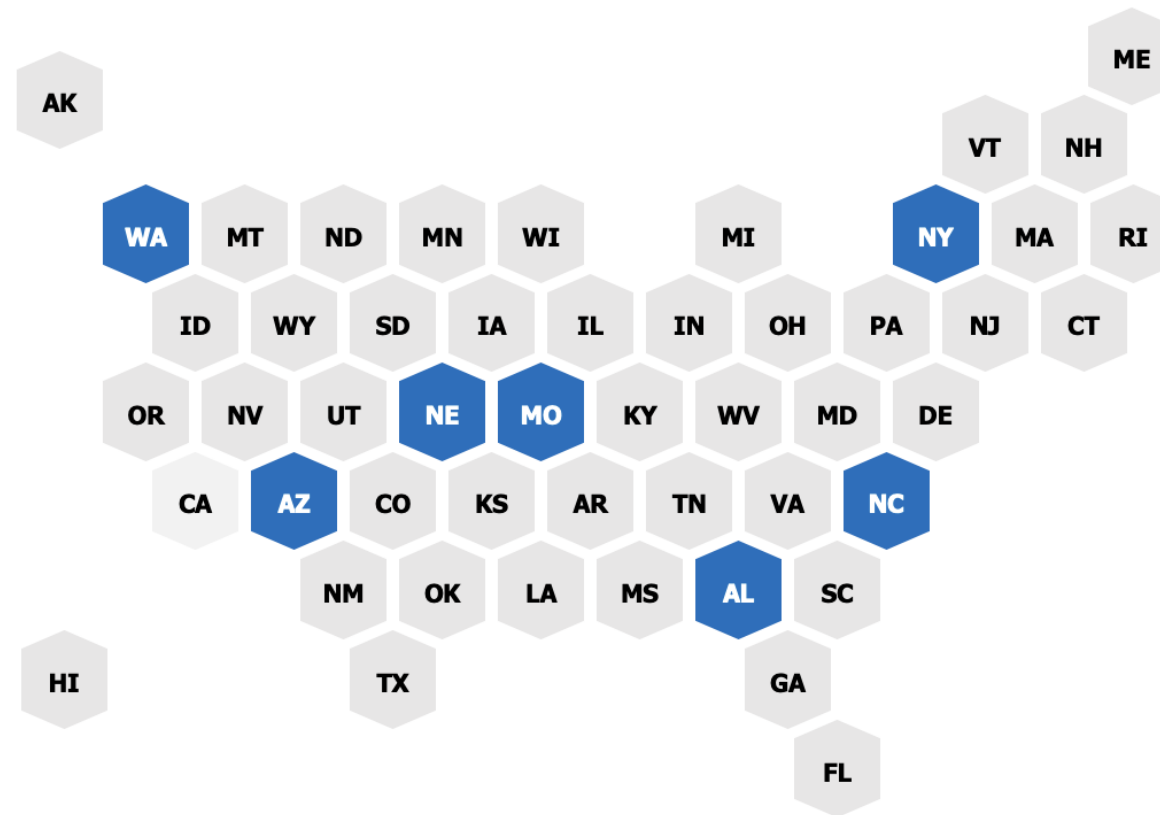
A national initiative to improve reentry success

We are committed to a future of reentry that is:

1. **Human-centered** and incorporates the perspectives of people who have gone through the reentry process.
2. **Coordinated** and fully embraces a whole-of-government approach.
3. **Transparent** by establishing public goals with definable metrics.
4. **Data-driven** by leveraging data to understand and address gaps in access to services, quality of services, and outcomes.



Reentry 2030 States and Distinct Reentry Goals



New Data Resources

Supervision Violations and Their Impact on Incarceration

- This web tool offers state-by-state supervision violation data from 2018 to 2023 and details 3 key findings about their impact on incarceration and state budgets.



Justice Data Snapshots

- Interactive snapshots that pull together the most recent state data on crime, arrests, behavioral health, workforce, recidivism, and more: justicedata.us



How You Can Help

- **Sign on in support of the Second Chance Act!**
- **Learn how your state can set bold goals and join Reentry 2030.**



Thank You!



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The presentation was developed by members of The Council of State Governments Justice Center staff. The statements made reflect the views of the authors and should not be considered the official position of The Council of State Governments Justice Center, the members of The Council of State Governments, or the funding agency supporting the work.

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