H.874 An act relating to inmate access to prescription drugs

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Mental Illness and the Criminal Justice System

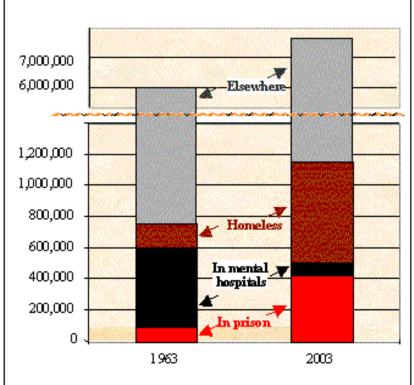


Mental Illness and the Criminal Justice System

More Mentally Ill Persons Are in Jails and Prisons Than Hospitals: A Survey of the States. Treatment Advocacy Center and National Sheriff's Association. May 2010 Report.

- There are now three times more seriously mentally ill persons in jails and prisons than in hospitals.
- At least 16% of inmates in jails and prisons have a serious mental illness.
- 40% of individuals with serious mental illnesses have been in jail or prison at some time in their lives.

- Deinstitutionalization and the movement of people with serious mental illness from hospitalization into the community
- Did not guarantee care, treatment, housing, work, acceptance or community
- Result was a trans-institutional shift to the prisons through the police and the courts



WHE RE THE SEVERELY MENTALLY ILL 'LIVE'

Sources: New York Times, PBS, National Coalition for the Homeless, Human Rights Watch