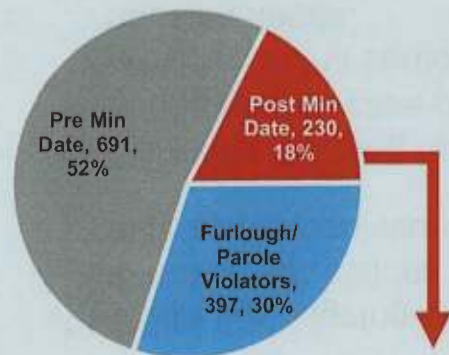


The current availability of reentry housing does not match the needs of people accessing it.

1,318 Total People in Sentenced Incarceration Population at the end of FY2019



| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Programming Issues | 38% |
| Lack of Housing | 26% |
| Holds/Security/Safety | 24% |
| Plan to Max Out | 6% |
| Unknown | 6% |

- ✓ Vermont DOC has a Transitional Housing budget dedicated to supporting reentry for the sentenced population and has established grants with an array of housing providers across the state.
- ✓ Vermont has pioneered certain housing options, including Pathways (Housing First Model), to serve people with complex needs.
- ✗ Vermont has a network of sober housing options available for people returning from prison, but these options often have rigid rules about relapse that differ from current evidence-based practices and some disallow the use of MAT, resulting in increased revocations for people who relapse and lose their housing.
- ✗ Under DOC's transitional housing program, approximately 20 percent of beds at any given time go unused. Some DOC clients are denied entry because of past violations of program agreements, causing beds to be vacant.
- ✗ Only a limited number of DOC's population accesses Pathways, and there is no formal funding bridge to support people finding and maintaining stable services after they leave community supervision.
- ✗ Statewide housing for people experiencing domestic violence, particularly for people with children, is severely lacking.

Source: The Council of State Governments Justice Center analysis of data from the Vermont Department of Corrections.

Housing is a significant reentry and recidivism challenge, particularly for people with behavioral health needs, and a critical step in addressing this challenge is for the state to better understand housing needs for people who are incarcerated.

- ✓ There are ongoing discussions between DOC and Agency of Human Services to match corrections and homeless information in Vermont to understand the overlap in populations.
- ✗ Currently, housing needs are identified for people in the sentenced population during reentry case planning; however, there is no consistent screening provided to the sentenced population to determine the full scope of their housing needs.
- ✗ There is no housing needs assessment for people in the detained population.
- ✗ Although DOC, the Department of Mental Health, and the Department of Health's Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs have shared clients with behavioral health and housing needs, each of these agencies contract separately with housing providers, which can lead to an uncoordinated response for the same person.