

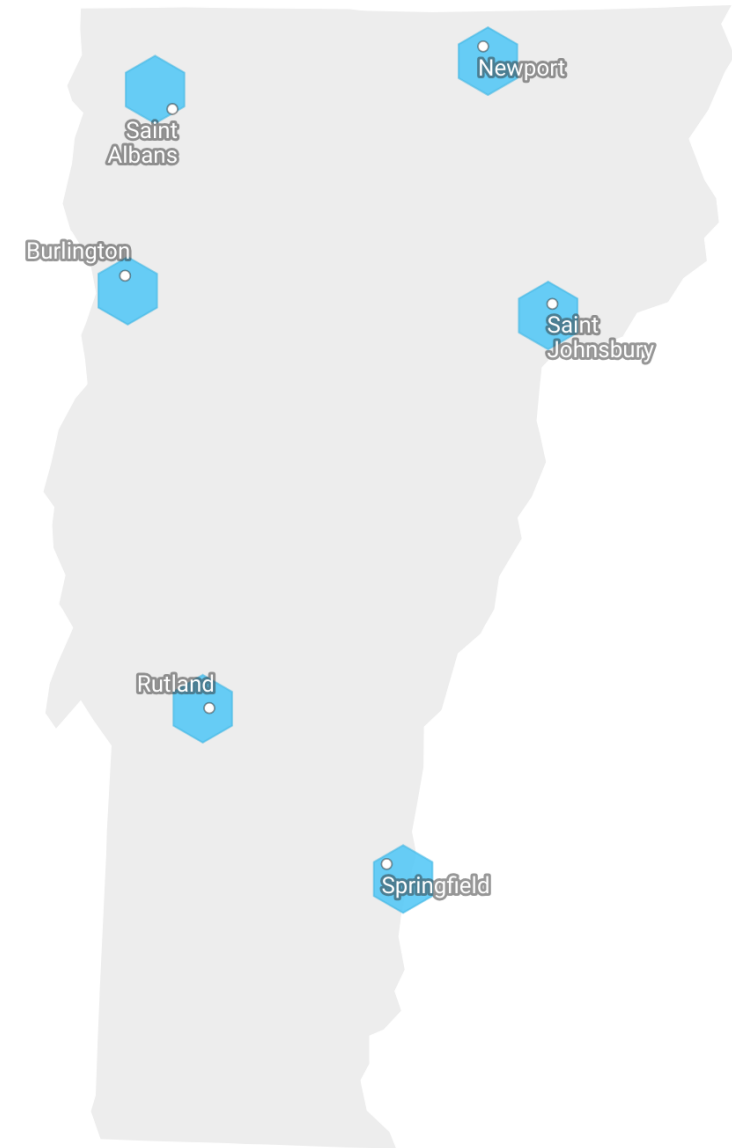
# Vermont's Reentry Initiative: CMS Site Visit

**August 2024**

# DOC Overview

- Housed within Vermont **Agency of Human Services**
- **Unified System**
  - Detention / sentenced / community supervision
- **Facilities:**
  - 6 in-state facilities
    - 5 men's facilities
    - 1 women's facility
  - 1 out-of-state men's facility
- **Probation & Parole:**
  - 12 district offices
- Training: **Vermont Correctional Academy**
- Budget: **\$200M**
- Staff: **1,000**

## Vermont Correctional Facilities



Created with Datawrapper

# Key Features of VT's Reentry Initiative

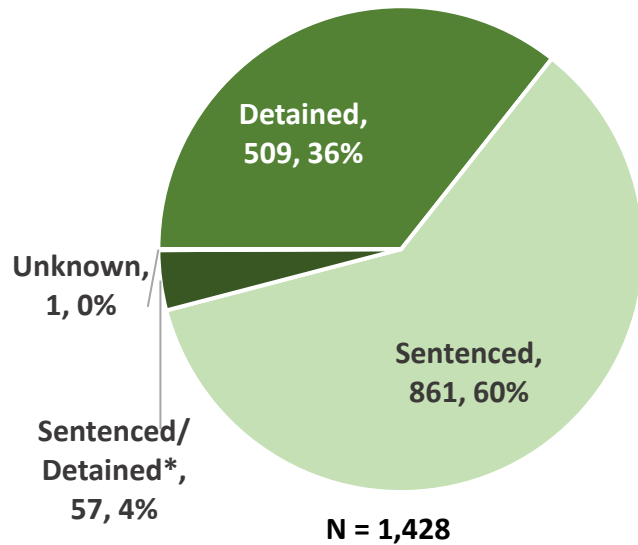
CMS approved Vermont's Reentry Initiative as an amendment to the Global Commitment demonstration on July 2, 2024.

Key Features
<p>✓ <b>Eligible individuals:</b> Post-adjudication population only, no targeted conditions</p>
<p>✓ <b>Eligible facilities:</b> Reentry initiative will be implemented in all DOC facilities</p>
<p>✓ <b>Pre-release duration of services:</b> 90 days</p>
<p>✓ <b>Capacity building funding:</b> \$3 million</p>

Covered Services	
Service	Provider
Case management	Vermont Chronic Care Initiative
Medication-assisted treatment	DOC medical contractor and pharmacy vendor
30-day supply of all prescription medications at release	DOC pharmacy vendor
Medication and medication administration, including treatment for Hepatitis C	DOC pharmacy vendor
Screening for common health conditions	DOC medical contractor
Peer support services	In-reach community-based peer support specialists

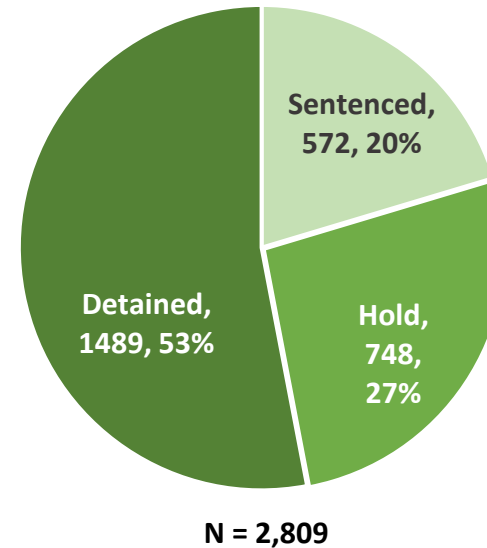
# VT Has 6 DOC Facilities Where 1,400+ People are Incarcerated

**Sentencing Status in DOC Facilities as of 08/20/24<sup>1</sup>**



\*Sentenced/Detained: convicted of crime(s) and held pre-trial for other crime(s)

**Individuals Released by Booking Status from 1/1/24 – 7/31/24<sup>2</sup>**



(1) [Pop\\_Count\\_08-20-2024.pdf \(vermont.gov\)](#), (2) [ReleaseReport\\_07-31-2024.pdf \(vermont.gov\)](#)

# Summary of Eligibility and Enrollment Approach

## Medicaid E&E and Application Assistance

- DOC's medical contractor staff will verify Medicaid enrollment status via MMIS for all individuals at intake.
  - DOC's medical contractor staff will provide Medicaid application assistance to all individuals eligible for but not enrolled in Medicaid
  - DOC may augment Medicaid application assistance staffing, if needed (i.e., training additional medical contractor staff, leveraging community-based application assisters)

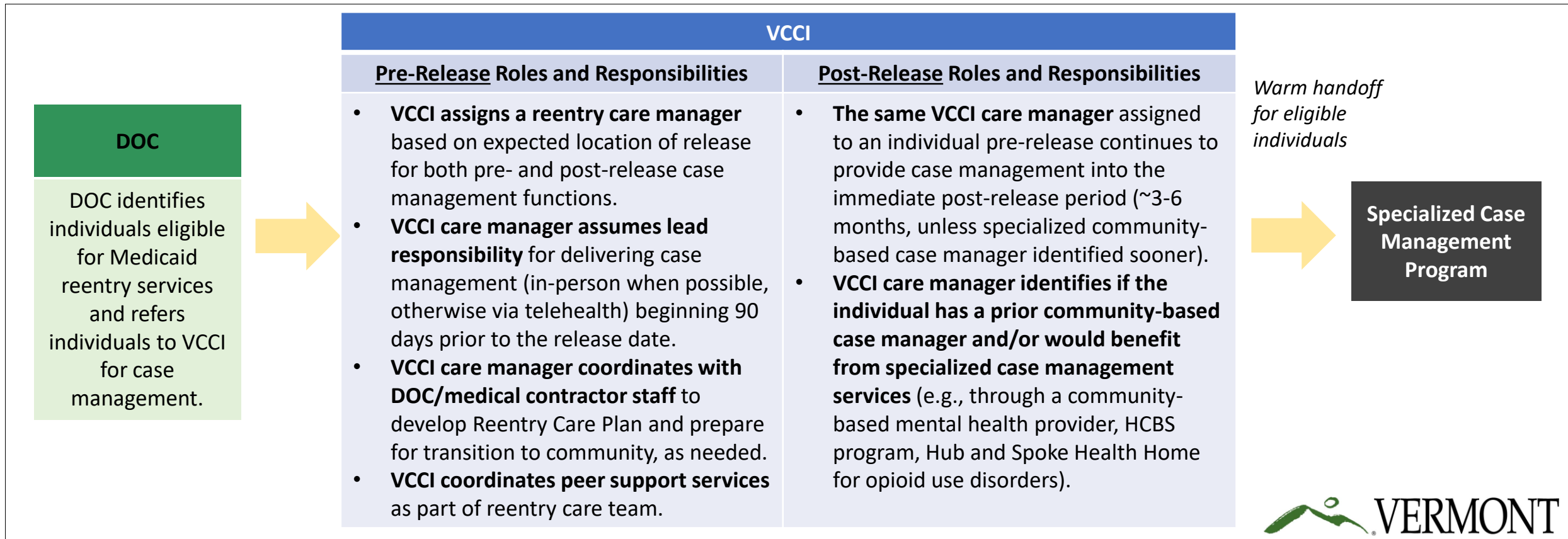
## Medicaid Benefits Suspension Approach & Effectuating Full Medicaid Coverage Upon Release

- VT will establish a Medicaid benefits suspension process to ensure that only allowable benefits are covered and paid for during incarceration, while ensuring coverage and payment of full benefits as soon as possible upon release.
  - **VT will assign a "flag" in the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) eligibility and enrollment systems** to indicate that an individual has been incarcerated and this information will be **sent to the MMIS to effectuate a Medicaid suspension** that will limit the payment of services only to those that are authorized under the Demonstration.
  - Medicaid benefits will **not be suspended for individuals incarcerated for <28 days**.
  - **The flag in DVHA E&E systems** would be removed upon release and MMIS would be updated to establish full Medicaid benefits.
- VT will define a policy that specifies when and how **DOC will share information with DVHA** to confirm an individual has been incarcerated and expected release dates based on minimum sentence to initiate pre-release case management, and actual date of release to trigger Medicaid reimbursement for reentry services and establishment of full Medicaid coverage.

# Summary of Case Management Approach

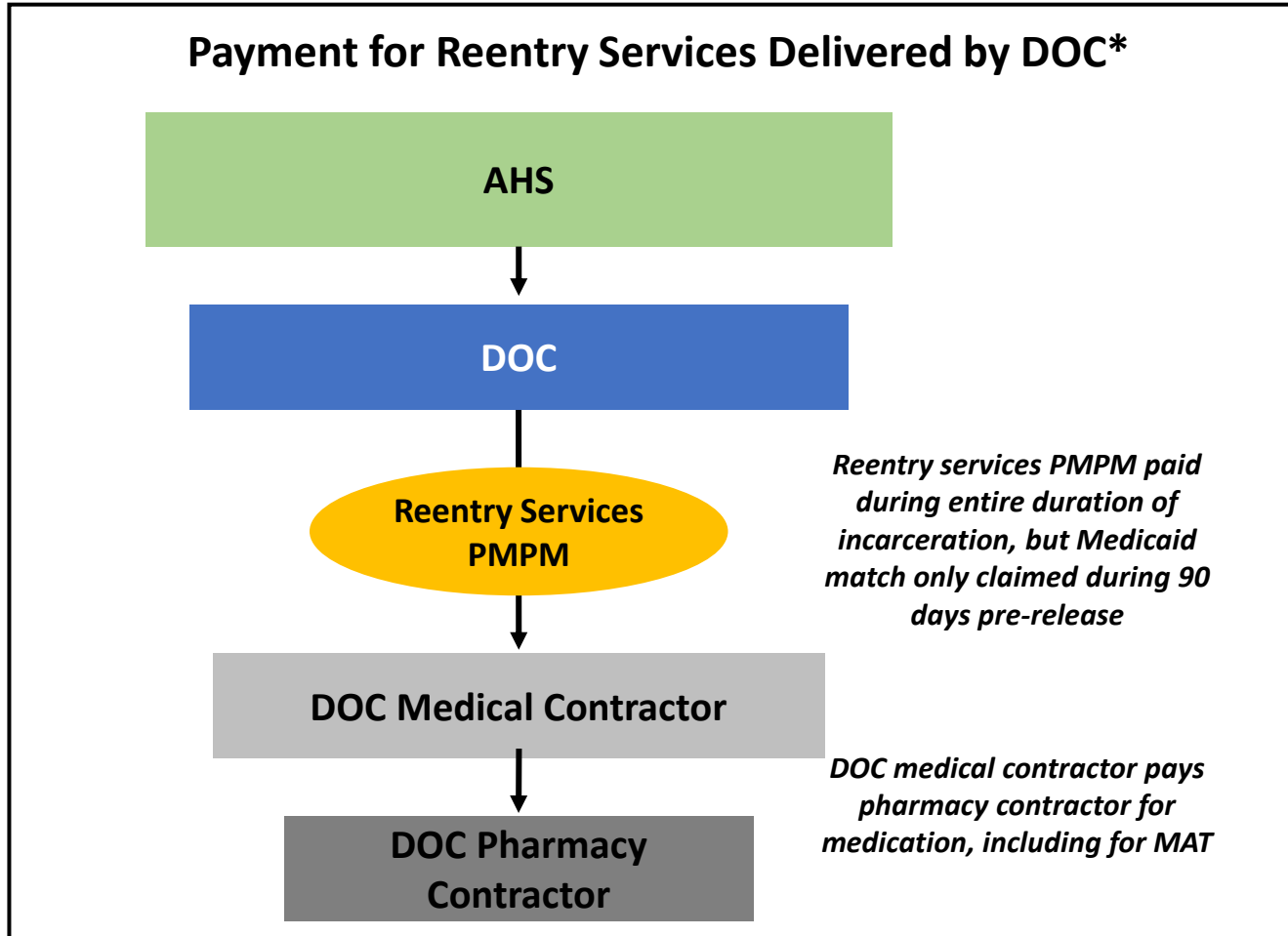
VT's Reentry Initiative will adopt a community-based in-reach case management approach to promote continuity of care throughout the pre-release and immediate post-release period.

The **Vermont Chronic Care Initiative (VCCI)** will be the lead case management entity during the pre- and post-release period. VCCI, which is under VT's Agency of Human Services, provides intensive, community-based whole-person case management services to VT Medicaid enrollees with chronic health conditions and other complex needs.



# Payment Approach for Reentry Services

To ensure that Medicaid is only paying for services in the 90 days pre-release, DOC will pay its medical contractor a PMPM that incorporates only the cost of reentry services. The State will only claim Medicaid match for this PMPM during the 90 days pre-release. DOC will pay its medical contractor separately for the provision of other services (i.e., those that are not covered under the 1115 demonstration).



## Payment for VCCI Case Management

AHS will pay for VCCI case managers as a Medicaid administrative cost. AHS will conduct monitoring to ensure that case management is only provided in the 90 days pre-release, in addition to the post-release period.

\*VT is still determining the payment approach for pre-release peer support services

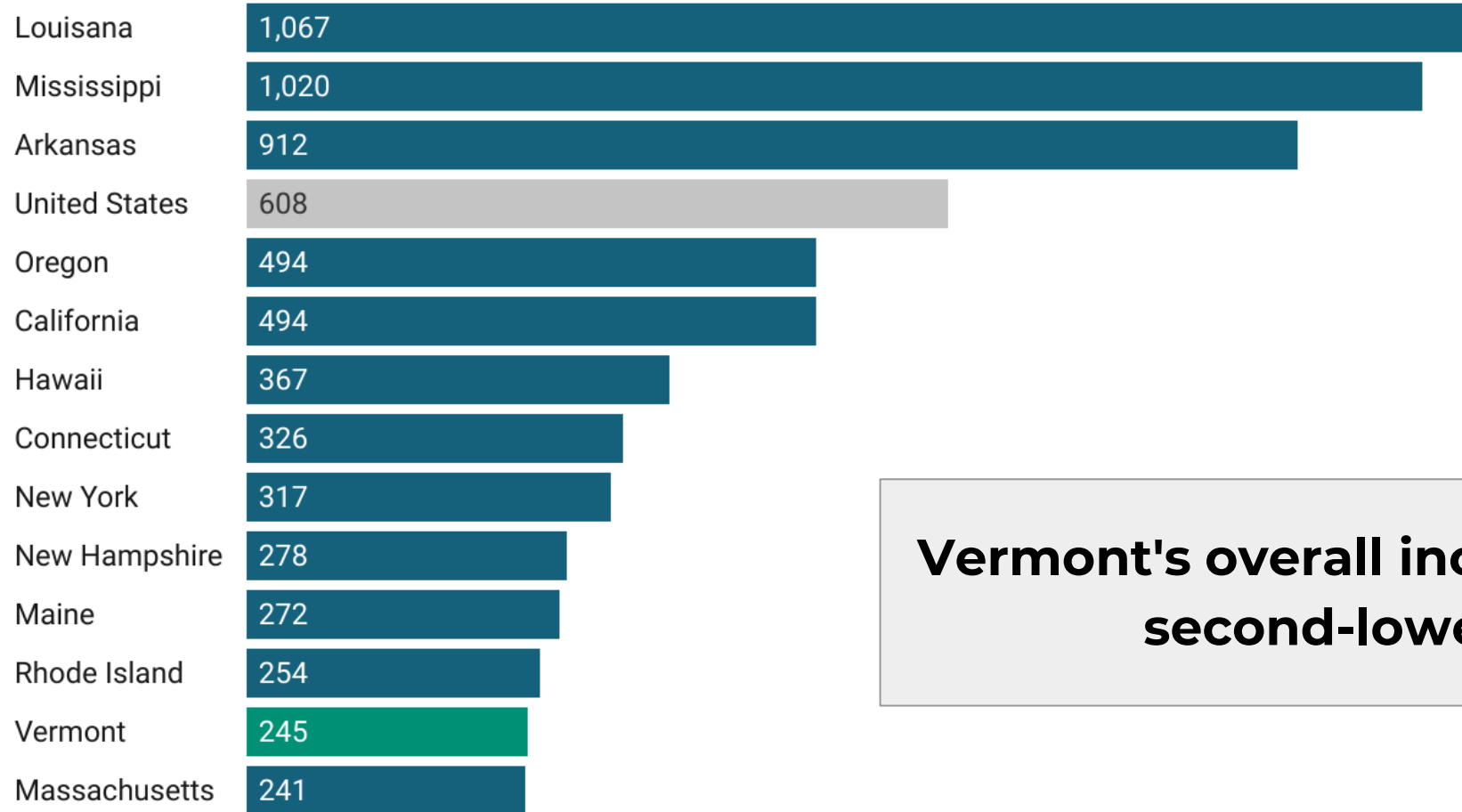
**Questions?**



# Background Materials

# Incarceration Rates by State - 2024

Rate per 100,000



**Vermont's overall incarceration rate ranks second-lowest nationally**

*Includes those held in state prisons, local jails, federal prisons, USMS detainees, Indian Country jails, juvenile facilities, and involuntarily commitments*

Source: Prison Policy Initiative • Created with Datawrapper

# Vermont Incarcerated Population



## Demographics

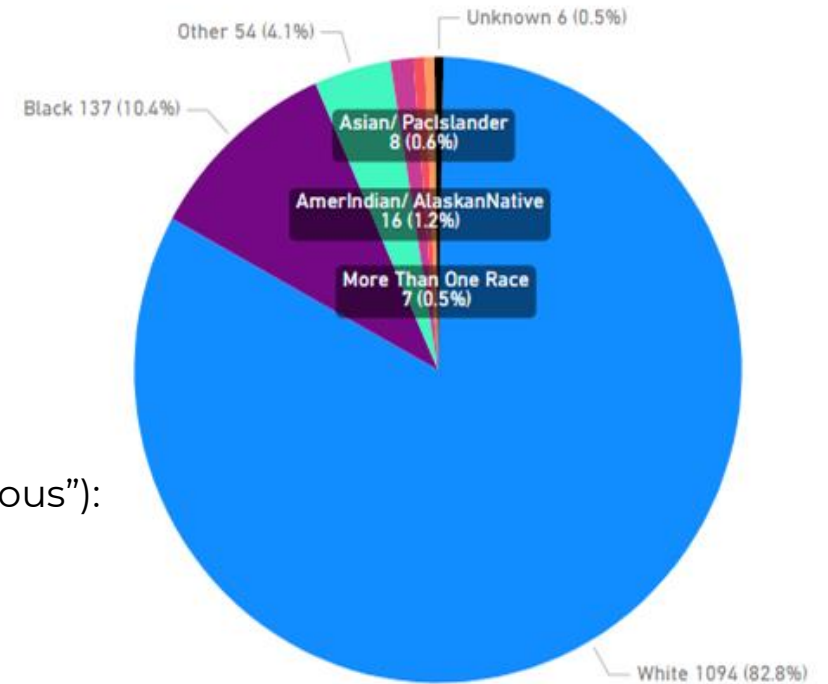
- Gender Identity:
  - Male: 1265 (90.6% of total incarcerated population)
  - Female: 109 (7.8%)
  - Transgender or different gender identify: 22 (1.6%)
- Population by Race:
  - White: 82.1%
  - People of Color: 17.4%
  - Unknown/did not disclose: 0.5%

## Charges & Convictions

- Felony charge/conviction:
  - 92% detained
  - 94% sentenced
- Agg. assault, sexual assault, murder charge/conviction (“Felony Serious”):
  - 60% detained
  - 62% sentenced
- Violent crime: 77% (sentenced)

*Vermont Incarcerated Population by Race*

Race ● White ● Black ● Other ● AmerIndian/ AlaskanNative ● Asian/ Paclslander ● More Than One Race ● Unknown



Data as of 5/31/2024; DOC population dashboard at: <https://doc.vermont.gov/research-and-data/population-data/pop-dashboard>



# DOC Population Statistics: Health

## Medication Trends

- Population receiving medication: **90%**
- Receiving psychotropic medications: **70%**
- Average number of medications: **5.5**
- Receiving Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD): **70%**

## Health Trends

- **1,000** individuals w/ diagnosed chronic illness
  - **90%** of the average daily incarcerated population
  - **47% increase** from 2015 to 2022
- Total ED visits by incarcerated individuals in 2023: **532**
- Deaths in custody in 2024: **3** (2 individuals on medical furlough)