



The [Missouri Department of Corrections](#) manages the care, custody and supervision of Missourians sentenced to state prison or community supervision following felony convictions. The agency's 10,000 employees oversee approximately 23,000 people incarcerated in 19 adult institutions as well as 53,000 people on probation or parole.

With a mission of improving lives for safer communities, the department promotes sober, responsible, productive and prosocial behavior. It fosters rehabilitation, treatment, education and job training to equip Missourians involved in the criminal justice system with the skills and resources they need to contribute to their communities, inside and outside prison walls. More than 95% of people who enter the state's prison system ultimately are released. The Department of Corrections aims to make sure they're good neighbors.

The department strives to carry out sentences set by the court and the Parole Board in ways that promote public safety while ensuring the best return on investment of staff time, state resources and taxpayer dollars. Corrections staff, contracted staff and community partners work together to return Missourians to their families and homes better equipped for success than they were when they entered state custody. With the goal of reducing risk and recidivism, the department implements results-oriented policies and evidence-based practices tailored to addressing the specific needs and strengths of each offender. Department-wide use of a validated risk and needs assessment tool is buoyed by a system of incentives and sanctions designed to reinforce positive behaviors while encouraging accountability for negative behaviors. The department employs strategic planning at all levels of the organization to promote continuous improvement.

The Department of Corrections encompasses five divisions. The Office of the Director functions as the central administrative hub, overseeing the four main divisions as well as special units for research and planning, professional standards, legal services, budget and finance, victim services, legislative affairs, constituent services and communications. The Division of Human Services recruits, trains and supports a professional and diverse workforce and cultivates a workplace in which safety and wellness are practiced as part of the job. The Division of Adult Institutions manages the state's 19 correctional centers using an inmate classification system to enhance safety and security for all staff, offenders and visitors. The Division of Offender Rehabilitative Services develops offender programs that address medical and mental health issues; provide treatment for substance use disorders; offer education, vocational training and life skills programs; and help prepare incarcerated Missourians to successfully reenter the community. The Division of Probation and Parole supervises felony offenders ordered to probation by the courts or released by the Parole Board from adult institutions by means of parole or conditional release and also operates the state's six community supervision centers and two transition centers.