

Missouri Board of Probation and Parole 2009 Annual Report



Missouri Board of Probation & Parole

New Central Office Building Location

3400 Knipp

Jefferson City, Missouri 65109

www.doc.mo.gov

A Force for Positive Change

*Excellence * Evidence Based Practices * Effective * Evaluation * Extant Yet Evolving*

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor

George A. Lombardi
Director

Words from the Chair:



In 2009, all of state government struggled with a difficult budget climate and the Missouri Board of Probation and Parole was not immune. The agency made difficult decisions with expenditure and staffing reductions and also closely examined service delivery. Throughout that process, we kept our Mission (Bottom of page) and history as the touchstones for our decision-making.

For over 40 years the supervision approach in Missouri has been grounded in the philosophy of the probation and parole officer as a change agent and broker of services. Agency policy has been driven by the understanding that supervision and intervention resources should be focused on those offenders most likely to present the greatest risk of supervision failure.

In reassessing service delivery due to the budget, in addition to the Mission, agency history and supervision philosophy, in 2009 we also made sure that our supervision model changes reached toward **Excellence**, were supported through researched **Evidence Based Practices**, were cost **Effective**, had a strong **Evaluation** component and were **Extant** yet **Evolving**. These principles, and the resulting modifications to field practice, became known as E-Driven Supervision. In evaluating the first six months of outcomes since these changes we have found that the trend in lower revocation rates has continued and there has been no increase in law violation returns.

Beyond the changes noted above, the work we are engaged in with community partners throughout the state supports improved public safety and offender success. These partnerships are a key component of the Missouri Reentry Process and involve the faith based community, victims, law enforcement, treatment community, governmental agencies, citizens, and others. The Missouri Reentry Process partners work together to enhance opportunities for clients returning to the community from prison or those sentenced to probation.

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not highlight the quality of work performed by the men and women who work for this agency. Throughout this report you will see the words “**A Force for Positive Change**.” This is the American Probation and Parole trademark, and it truly applies to our support staff, field officers, institutional officers and supervisors—they are truly a **Force for Positive Change**.

Sincerely,
Ellis McSwain, Jr.
Parole Board Chair

Our Mission

The Missouri Board of Probation and Parole, as an essential part of the criminal justice system, is to provide for the professional assessment and release of offenders and their supervision in the community, using appropriate treatment sanctions, and controls, with the primary consideration being the promotion of public safety .

2009 Facts and Figures

Missourians under Probation and Parole Supervision
73,963

Restitution Paid
\$9,770,746.00

Community Service Hours Performed
337,969

Number of Sentencing Assessment Reports Completed
5,618

Number of Parole/Conditional Releases
10,724

Number of Parole Hearings
10,996

Community Release/Supervision Center Admissions
2,895/940

Interstate Cases Received
3,034

Interstate Cases Transferred to other States
5,341

Daily Cost of Supervision
\$3.71

A Force for Positive Change

Trained and Experienced Workforce

- All staff are required to adhere to professional standards designed to avoid conflicts of interest, foster fair and equitable treatment of offenders, and deliver quality customer service to the citizens of the State.
- Probation and Parole Officers are provided at least five weeks of specialized training when hired.
- All staff have received introductory Motivational Interviewing training, a proven evidence-based practice. They are also in the process of completing a Case Management training series that includes journeyman level Motivational Interviewing, cognitive restructuring, and other evidence based practices.
- Officers complete an extensive on the job checklist under the supervision of a supervisor during a nine month probationary period.
- Each year officers are required to attend advanced training , including safety training, to improve their skills and abilities to provide effective, professional probation services.
- The average Probation and Parole Officer's tenure is 9.4 years.
- Officers are hired locally after an extensive background investigation.

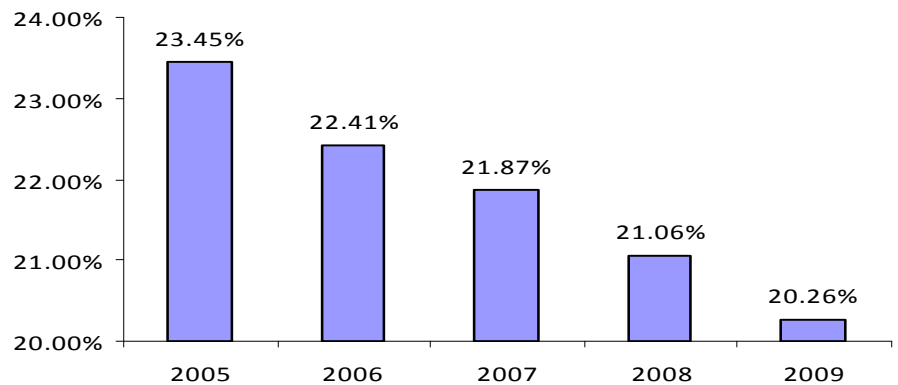


PROBATION AND PAROLE OFFICERS PROVIDE CONSISTENT SUPERVISION SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MISSOURI.

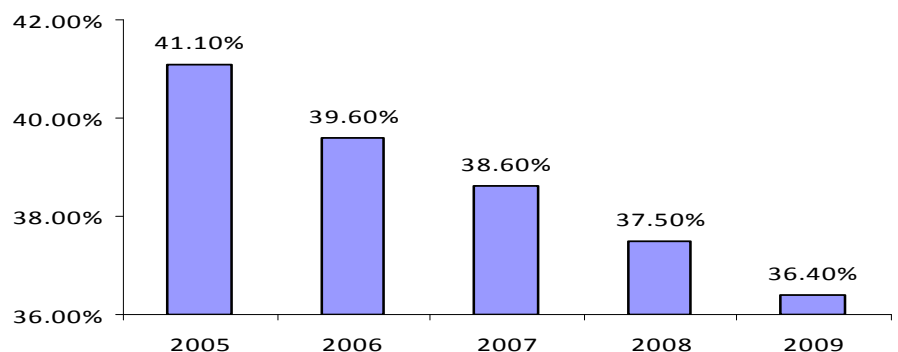
Public Service

- The field caseload has grown by over 11,000 cases in the last decade without additional staffing resources.
- Even with the growth in caseload, through the hard work of agency staff and use of Evidence Based Practices, fewer offenders have returned to prison for law or technical violations.
- With fewer revocations from supervision communities become safer as offenders lead more productive and stable lives. There is a significant cost savings to the state (Reduced pressure on limited prison beds).
- December 2009 Probation and Parole Caseload by type of supervision:
 - ⇒ Probation Cases: 53,398
 - ⇒ Parole Cases: 17,803
 - ⇒ Interstate Cases: 2,762
 - ⇒ Total Supervised: 73,963

Recidivism Rate for Probationers



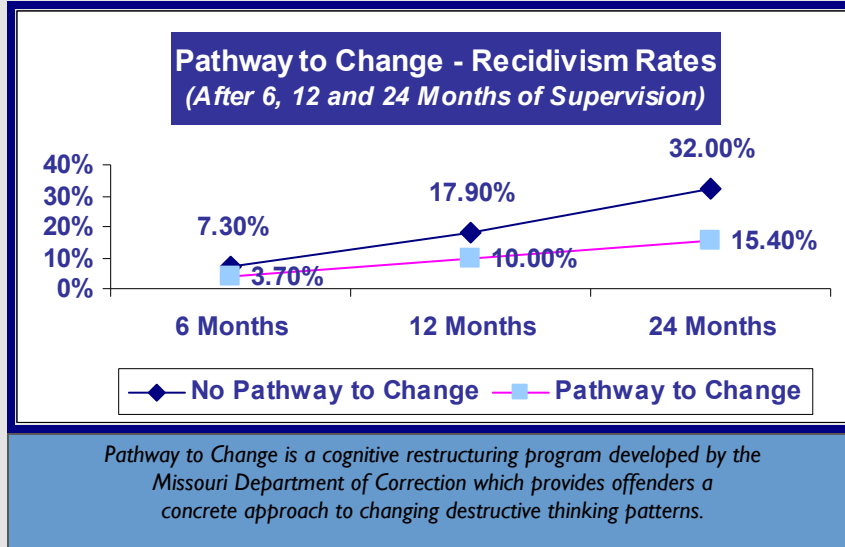
Recidivism Rate for Parole/ Conditional Releases



A Force for Positive Change

Supervision Interventions

- The agency has an intervention fee of \$30.00 per month, which is used for a variety of services to assist offenders.
- The intervention fee is waived when an offender is in a Drug Court, in custody, transferred out of state, or when the offender has insufficient income (Federal poverty guidelines are utilized).
- Beyond the monthly \$30 intervention fee there are no additional costs associated with specialized services provided to the offender, including:
 - ⇒ Community Release /Supervision Centers
 - ⇒ Residential Facilities
 - ⇒ Electronic Monitoring
 - ⇒ Impact of Crime on Victims Class
 - ⇒ Pathway to Change (A Cognitive Skills Development Program)
 - ⇒ Specialized Court Programming (DWI Courts, Domestic Violence Courts, Mental Health Courts, etc.)
 - ⇒ Community Reentry Contracts
- The intervention fee directly supports Specialized Substance Abuse and Mental Health Treatment Contracts along with Community Reentry Contracts.
 - ⇒ Mental Health Treatment-Currently, there are approximately 800 offenders receiving community mental health treatment (Evaluation, counseling, and medication).
 - ⇒ Substance Abuse Treatment-Over 2,000 offenders are actively receiving substance abuse treatment services through the intervention fee.
 - ⇒ Re-Entry Contracts-In November 2009, approximately \$3,000,000 was awarded to 36 non-profit groups around the state to provide essential services, including offender housing, employment, education, and substance abuse and mental health treatment to offenders.



Case Management

- Regular case summary reports are prepared documenting offender progress relative to standard/special condition compliance.
- A risk assessment tool (Field Risk Reduction Instrument) is used to determine the level of services provided to each offender.
- Independent officer assessment augments the minimum standards established for various intervention levels.
- The use of intervention strategies, such as Electronic Monitoring and Residential Facilities, is determined by the supervising officer based on an evaluation of case risk and offender needs.
- The agency has a case note system (Automated Road Book), that documents all case specific activity.
- PC Tablets are available for Probation and Parole Officers and Unit Supervisors to utilize while attending court, in the office or conducting field work.
- Officers hold offenders accountable to standard conditions of supervision as well as special conditions established by the Court and/or Parole Board.
- Institutional Parole Officers work as a member of an institutional team to prepare offenders for release with a sustainable supervision plan.



Probation and Parole Officer utilizes her PC Tablet while conducting fieldwork.