

Criminal Justice Statistical Report

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New York State Executive Law Article 13-A Classification / Alternatives to Incarceration Program

Annual Report July 2024 – June 2025

Introduction

Pursuant to New York State Executive Law Article 13-A – the Classification/Alternatives to Incarceration Law, the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) provides funding to counties and New York City to examine their criminal justice and jail populations and to conduct planning for effective Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) programs that reduce unnecessary reliance on incarceration. Counties are asked to analyze justice-involved populations to identify common trends that affect their communities. This information can be used to inform the types and nature of programming to be included in the Article 13-A application for funding. Upon approval of an application for funding, the state provides funding for ATI programs and grants approval to localities to continue to use reduced classification at the jails.

ATI programs funded under Executive Law Article 13-A provide a wide range of services to individuals involved in both Criminal and Supreme Court. These include pretrial services, community service programming, client-specific plans, referrals and monitoring, program screening and assessment, case planning and monitoring, cognitive-based interventions, gender-specific services, substance use disorder and mental health treatment, family-focused programming, vocational training, employment-readiness training and job placement, educational programming and interventions, and access to medical and housing services. Programs may deliver these services directly or through referral to an established network of community-based providers.

DCJS is statutorily required to provide information on funded program models, participants served by ATI programs, program outcomes, and jail population trends in New York State.

Approval of Article 13-A / Classification/Alternatives to Incarceration

Applications for Funding

A total of \$5,096,201 was continued for ATI programs through renewals effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. Annual submission of a 13-A application for ATI funding requires DCJS review of program design and how the programming impacts the local criminal justice system.

Program Models and Utilization

ATI programs funded under Executive Law Article 13-A provide a variety of services to individuals with cases in criminal and supreme courts. Funded program models include:

- Pretrial Services,
- Defender-Based Advocacy Services,
- Community Service,
- Specialized and Drug / Alcohol Services, and / or
- Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC).

Details about each program model and data detailing the number of individuals served by each, as funded by DCJS from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, follow. The data in Tables 1 through 5 represent the total number of participants served by these programs and which are funded primarily by localities.

Pretrial Services Programs

Pretrial Services, when authorized or requested by the court, will interview individuals for conditions of release; review criminal history warrants, domestic violence history, and weapons restrictions; and advise the court. Additionally, pretrial services agencies will, when authorized or requested by the court, monitor or supervise individuals and refer clients to court ordered services. When requested by the Office of Court Administration, pretrial services agencies will also notify defendants to return for all court appearances.

The 40 pretrial services programs outside of New York City that receive state funding reported 24,147 individuals monitored or supervised who began pretrial services during this contract year. There were 2,585 instances of failure to appear (FTA).

Table 1: Pretrial Services Program Utilization

	Number Screened	Number Interviewed	Total Number Monitored/ Supervised	Administrative Discharges	Persons FTA
Total	40,128	23,331	24,147	598	2,585

Defender-Based Advocacy Programs

Defender-Based Advocacy (DBA) services screen and identify individuals appropriate for community-based alternatives to incarceration programs. Programs are required to prepare written, client-specific case plans for individuals before the court and to identify appropriate community-based services that will reduce, or in some cases eliminate, sentences to incarceration, while also lowering the risk of reoffending. DBA service programs refer clients to evidence-based services in the community and may provide monitoring and/or case-management services.

Four defender-based advocacy programs prepared 2,588 individualized, client-specific plans. Courts or other releasing authorities accepted 2,664 individualized client-specific plans. Plans accepted during a contract year may have been prepared in the prior contract year.

Table 2: Defender-Based Advocacy Program Utilization

	Number Prepared	Number Accepted	
Total	2,588	2,664	

Community Service Programs

Community service programs provide courts with community-based alternative sentencing. These programs screen and identify individuals for placement with community-based organizations or directly oversee their community service. Programs work to ensure that individuals ordered by the court to complete the prescribed hours of community service do so and may be required to report the completion of community service to the court.

A total of 28 community service programs reported 1,632 satisfactory completions of community service.

Table 3: Community Service Program Utilization

	Number	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Administrative
	Placed	Completions	Terminations	Discharges
Total	2,030	1,632	301	116

Specialized and Drug / Alcohol Service Programs

A total of 16 specialized and drug and/or alcohol service programs (two in New York City, 14 in counties outside of the five boroughs) reported 1,602 successful program completions.

Table 4: Specialized and Drug / Alcohol Service Program Utilization

	Number Assessed	Number Placed	Satisfactory Completions	Unsatisfactory Terminations	Administrative Discharges
NYC	2,732	1,534	862	616	46
Non-NYC	1,822	1,031	740	183	29
Total	4,554	2,565	1,602	799	75

Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC) Model Programs

Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC) programs screen, assess, and refer individuals with substance use disorder and/or mental illness for further evaluation and treatment. TASC model programs monitor individuals' progress in treatment and report outcomes to the court. TASC model programs may also provide cognitive-behavioral interventions and/or employment readiness training and job placement services.

Three TASC model programs reported that 2,575 individuals completed programs.

Table 5: Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities Program Utilization

	Number	Number	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Administrative
	Assessed	Placed	Completions	Terminations	Discharges
Total	2,623	2,570	2,575	459	70

Review of Jail Population

DCJS publishes two reports summarizing census data for local jails. Counties are encouraged to use these reports to examine their jail populations and to plan effective ATI programs that reduce reliance on incarceration. The <u>Annual Jail Population Report</u> summarizes census data for local jails for the last 10 years. The report includes the average daily population for each local jail and the number of individuals being detained pretrial. The <u>DCJS Monthly Jail Population Report</u> summarizes census data for local jails for the last 12 months.

The jail population in New York State declined annually from 2016 through 2020, then increased from 2021 to 2024. Statewide, the average jail population declined 34 percent, from 25,059 in 2016 to 16,593 in 2024.

- In New York City, the average jail population declined 34 percent, from 9,614 in 2016 to 6,358 in 2024.
- In counties outside New York City, the average jail population declined 34 percent, from 15,446 in 2016 to 10,236 in 2024.

Alcohol, Drugs and Crime

The state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) publishes two reports – <u>Admissions and Releases</u> and <u>Community Supervision Legislative Report</u> – that summarize the characteristics of new individuals committed to DOCCS custody and individuals under parole supervision in the community.

These reports present data on admissions to DOCCS facilities in the most recent calendar year and five-year trends in releases to community supervision by crime type, including drug and property offenses.