

Vera Institute of Justice

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://www.vera.org/publications/report-of-the-vera-institute-of-justice-to-the-tennessee-governors-task-force-on-sentencing-and-recidivism-recommendations-to-the-public-safety-subcabinet>

Campaign and Advocacy

Publication

While the national prison population has begun to decline and states around the country have achieved reductions in their prison populations, their recidivism rates, and their crime rates Tennessee's imprisonment rate has climbed 256 percent since 1981, its prison population grew by 0.4 percent in 2013, and its violent crime rate ranks among the top five U.S. states. In response to these issues, and with support from the Vera Institute of Justice and staff from the Governors Public Safety Subcabinet, Governor Bill Haslam created the Governors Task Force on Sentencing and Recidivism. The Vera report is an interim overview and analysis of the work of the task force as of June 2015, including impact projections from the recommendations on the Tennessee Department of Corrections prison population, where available.

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