

# SMALLER SAFER FAIRER

## New York City's Roadmap to Closing Rikers Island Monthly Scorecard on Implementation and Progress

**1 SMALLER** The New York City jail population is down ~18 percent since January 2014. One big reason is judges' heavy use of the first citywide pretrial diversion program, Supervised Release, which has meant that over 5,500 defendants have waited for trial at home instead of in jail.

**2 SAFER** In a major step in configuring jails off Rikers Island, the city is inviting proposals for a master plan for a borough based jail system for New York City. Starting with the three existing Department of Correction facilities in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens, the study will provide information on bed capacity and what is possible at each location, as well as help to identify additional sites as needed to house a population of 5,000 off-Island. The study also will involve community and neighborhood engagement, as well as work with the Design Working Group of the Justice Implementation Task Force. **Learn more at [rikers.cityofnewyork.us/](http://rikers.cityofnewyork.us/).**

**3 FAIRER** Among the multiple efforts underway, this month's spotlight is Jails to Jobs, a citywide initiative that will provide by the end of 2017 transitional employment to everyone who leaves jail after serving a city sentence.

**4 TASK FORCE** The Justice Implementation Task Force has fully launched, with Working Groups on Safely Reducing the Jail Population, Culture Change and Design meeting to provide feedback and innovation to the city's strategies to transform its justice system. **See [rikers.cityofnewyork.us/](http://rikers.cityofnewyork.us/) for membership and frequent updates.**

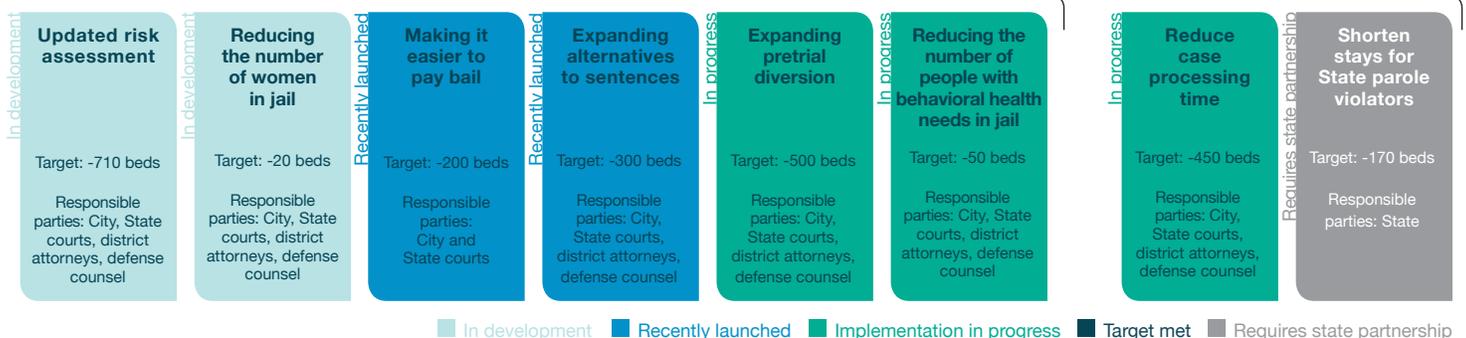
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### SAFELY REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE JAIL POPULATION

**Strategy Overview:** The Roadmap includes eight strategies to reduce the size of the city's jail population by 25% over the next five years. Current implementation status for each strategy is below.

Reduce number of people who enter jail

Reduce how long they stay



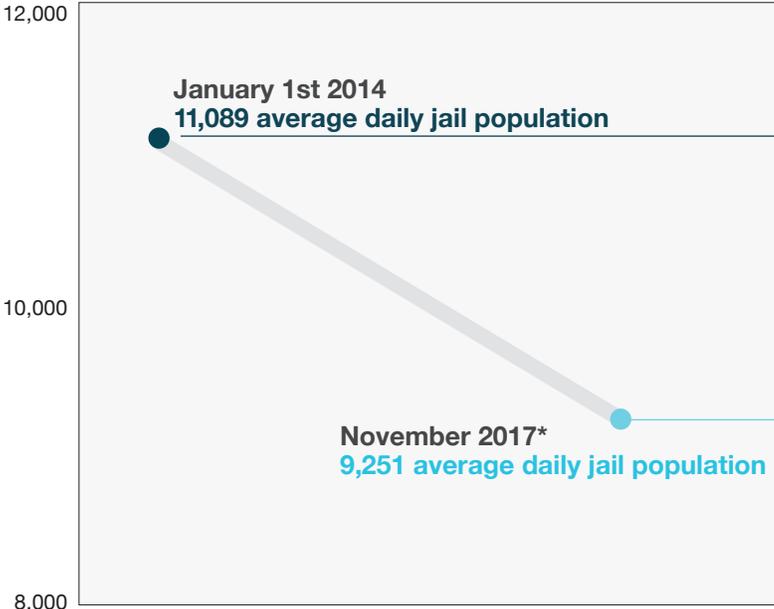
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## SAFELY REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE JAIL POPULATION

Who is in jail?

### PROGRESS SNAPSHOT

**Highlights:** The jail population has dropped by ~18% since January 2014 and New York City maintains one of the lowest incarceration rates of any big city in the country



\*Based on data from November 6th, 2017

#### JANUARY 1st 2014

**Average daily jail population 11,089**

Misdemeanor	995
Violent felony	3,969
Nonviolent felony	3,343
City sentenced	1,600
State parole violators	521
Other	661

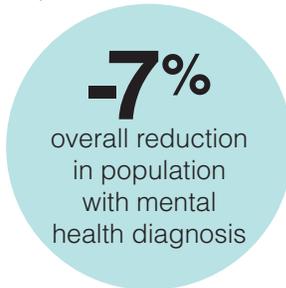
#### CURRENT

**Average daily jail population 9,251**

Misdemeanor	610	-39%	↓
Violent felony	3,462	-13%	↓
Nonviolent felony	2,745	-18%	↓
City sentenced	1,219	-24%	↓
State parole violators	700	+34%	↑
Other	515	-22%	↓

### KEY TRENDS

(2015-July 2017)



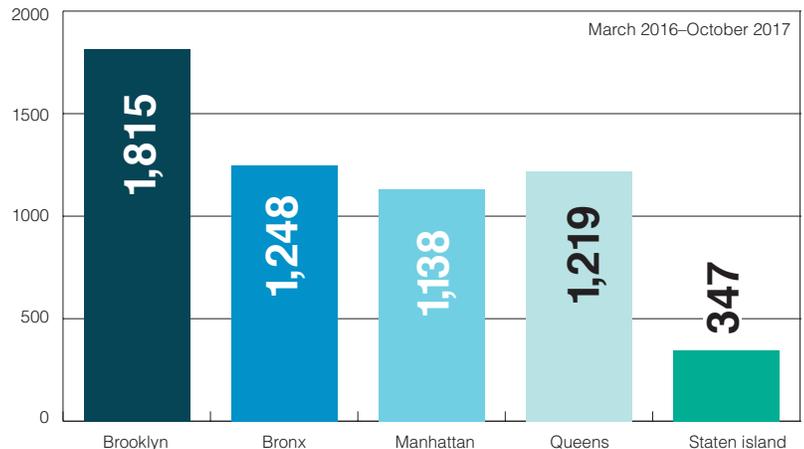
### IMPLEMENTATION HIGHLIGHT

Implementation working groups comprised of providers, defense attorneys, prosecutors and judges have shaped and begun implementing three new diversion strategies in the last few months. New community-based programs in Manhattan, the Bronx and Brooklyn, now provide judges with an alternative to jail sentences under 30 days. The Women's Community Justice Project now offers 55 transitional housing beds citywide, increasing the number of women who can be placed into alternatives to detention and incarceration. And Supervised Release has expanded its capacity to serve defendants with behavioral health needs.

**Learn more:** [rikers.cityofnewyork.us](http://rikers.cityofnewyork.us).

### SUPERVISED RELEASE ADMISSIONS BY BOROUGH

Every month, this report will feature different data showing borough progress in implementing strategies to reduce safely the number of people in jail.



## 2 SAFER CREATING SAFE AND HUMANE ENVIRONMENTS

**Strategy Overview:** The Roadmap includes five strategies to ensure everyone who works or is incarcerated in city jails is in a safe and humane environment as quickly as possible. Current implementation status for each strategy is below.



### IMPLEMENTATION HIGHLIGHT

The city has issued a request for proposals to develop a master plan for a borough based jail system off of Rikers Island. This request for proposals (RFP) will provide a comprehensive assessment of what is possible at the three existing DOC facilities in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens, and help to identify additional sites needed to develop a jail system to house 5000 people off of Rikers Island.

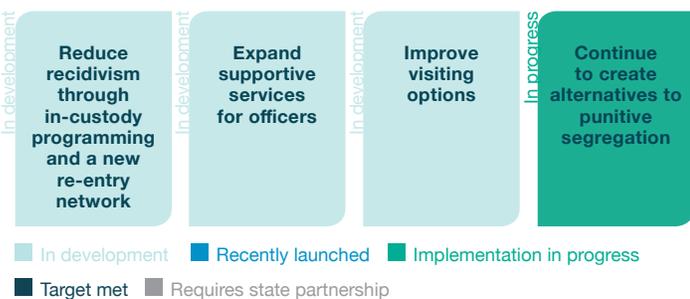
### PERSPECTIVES FROM THE JUSTICE IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE

“Mayor de Blasio is committing City resources to ensure people currently incarcerated have the tools, skills, and resources necessary to build brighter lives post incarceration; while simultaneously working to reform bail policy, creating expanded diversion programs, and engaging his task force to operationalize closing Rikers so that fewer people experience incarceration. These important strategies aiming to address criminal justice system reform from multiple angles, will collectively lead us to a more equitable and conscionable system. As a formerly incarcerated person and now Executive Vice President of The Fortune Society, I can tell you first hand that the services the City is offering will make a fundamental difference for the individuals impacted by the criminal justice system and the mission and culture of the NYC Department of Corrections.”

**Stanley Richards, Executive Vice President, The Fortune Society, Inc., co-chair of the Justice Implementation Task Force Working Group on Design**

## 3 FAIRER CHANGING THE CULTURE AND PURPOSE OF JAILS

**Strategy Overview:** The Road map includes four strategies to improve the culture in City jails. Current implementation status for each strategy is below.



### IMPLEMENTATION HIGHLIGHT

By the end of 2017, everyone in city custody will have access to five hours per day of individualized vocational, educational and therapeutic programming as well as re-entry planning. And for those who leave jail after serving a city sentence, new transitional employment opportunities will be available once people return to the community through a program called Jails to Jobs.

### PERSPECTIVES FROM THE JUSTICE TASK FORCE

“New York City is faced with a unique opportunity to overhaul a broken system and develop a people centered, visionary approach that can improve the lives of thousands of New Yorkers.”

**Soffiyah Elijah, Executive Director of Alliance of Families for Justice and co-chair of the Justice Implementation Task Force Working Group on Culture Change**