

ISP FACT SHEET

*Intensive Supervision Program
Administrative Office of the Courts
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THE INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Administrative Office of the Courts' Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) provides an opportunity for a carefully selected population of offenders, sentenced to state prison, to be released into the community. They are released under a rigorous form of community supervision that emphasizes control, monitoring, surveillance, and substance abuse or mental health treatment, when needed.

ISP has been in existence since 1983. As of December 31, 2014 more than 21,000 prisoners had been released into the program, freeing up prison space for more serious offenders. At any one time, the size of ISP's population is comparable to the capacity of a medium-sized state prison. Thus, not only is ISP providing more bed space, but it also saves the state the cost of building and maintaining additional prisons.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ❖ For FY'14 the average employment compliance rate was 95%;
- ❖ Among the participants that graduated from 2005 through 2007 the recidivism rate was 15.6%.

Since program inception:

- ❖ Participants have earned over \$137 million, enabling them to pay more than \$46 million in court required payments;
- ❖ Over 4.4 million hours of community service have been completed;
- ❖ 9,323 successfully completed the program.

PROGRAM CONDITIONS

All participants must:

- ❖ be employed full-time;
- ❖ submit to urine monitoring and breathalyzer testing for use of alcohol and illegal substances;
- ❖ maintain a nightly curfew, which is carefully monitored by ISP officers;
- ❖ perform community service;
- ❖ make regular payments toward fines, restitution, penalties, support of dependents and toward the cost of being supervised in the program;
- ❖ actively participate in treatment programs;
- ❖ keep a daily diary and weekly budget of all income and expenses.

Participants may not collect welfare assistance or unemployment insurance benefits without approval, nor may they borrow money without approval. The majority of ISP participants comply with these requirements; those who do not are returned to prison.

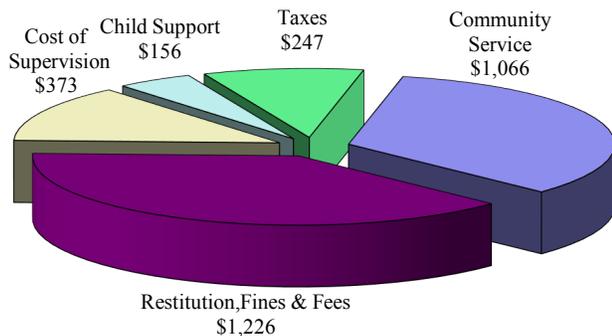
Caseloads are generally maintained at a maximum of 20 participants per officer. Since 1984, officers have performed more than 3.7 million field contacts. ISP officers devote approximately 80% of their time to direct field supervision.

Costs and Benefits of ISP

The Intensive Supervision Program is a cost effective alternative to incarceration. In fiscal year 2014, the per-participant cost of ISP was approximately \$11,073 as compared to approximately \$39,000 for incarceration.

In addition to paying financial obligations ordered by the ISP Re-sentencing Panel, participants are required to maintain employment, pay taxes, and perform community service which provides substantial monetary benefit to society. ISP research has estimated that each participant, on average, contributed at least \$3,229 to the economy in fiscal year 2014, reducing the net cost of ISP to \$7,844.

FY 2014 Benefits Average per Participant



Recidivism in ISP

Between 2005 and 2007 inclusive, 1,143 participants successfully completed the Intensive Supervision Program. According to State Police Criminal History records, only 178 (15.6%) ISP graduates were convicted of a new indictable offense. These ISP graduates were out of prison and functioning in the community for an average of three years. In light of this, an indictable conviction rate of 15.6% is quite an accomplishment.

Caseload Statistics

As of December 31, 2014, 21,007 participants were released into ISP. Of those, 1182 (6%) were actively under supervision, 9,323 (44%) had successfully graduated from the program, 9,936 (47%) were returned to custody, and 566 (3%) had either died while under supervision, maxed out, or had their prison sentences overturned.

Among the 9,936 who were returned to prison, 7,079 were returned for violating program rules, 2,773 for criminal arrests made by police for new charges, and 84 for criminal arrests initiated by ISP Officers. Therefore, approximately 71% of all of those returned to prison were returned for programmatic violations, rather than for criminal arrests. The high percentage of participants returned to custody is a direct result of rigorous supervision, including frequent drug monitoring and curfew checks performed by ISP officers.

New Jersey Judiciary

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