

SMALLER SAFER FAIRER

Monthly Progress on New York City's Roadmap to Closing Rikers Island

ACCOMPLISHED IN THE LAST MONTH:

1 SMALLER The jail population in New York City fell below 9,000 for the first time in more than three decades. With an average daily jail population of 8,951 in January 2018, the City has **reduced the jail population** by 5% since January 2017 and 22% since the Mayor first took office.

2 SAFER The City will **close the first building on Rikers Island** by the summer of 2018. Closing the George Motchan Detention Center (GMDC), which currently houses about 600 men, will bring the number of jails on Rikers Island from nine to eight without any reduction in DOC uniformed staff.

3 FAIRER Every person in city custody now receives at least five hours of vocational, educational and therapeutic programming. Individuals can now be matched with the right combination of programs provided by a network of non-profits to address their unique needs.

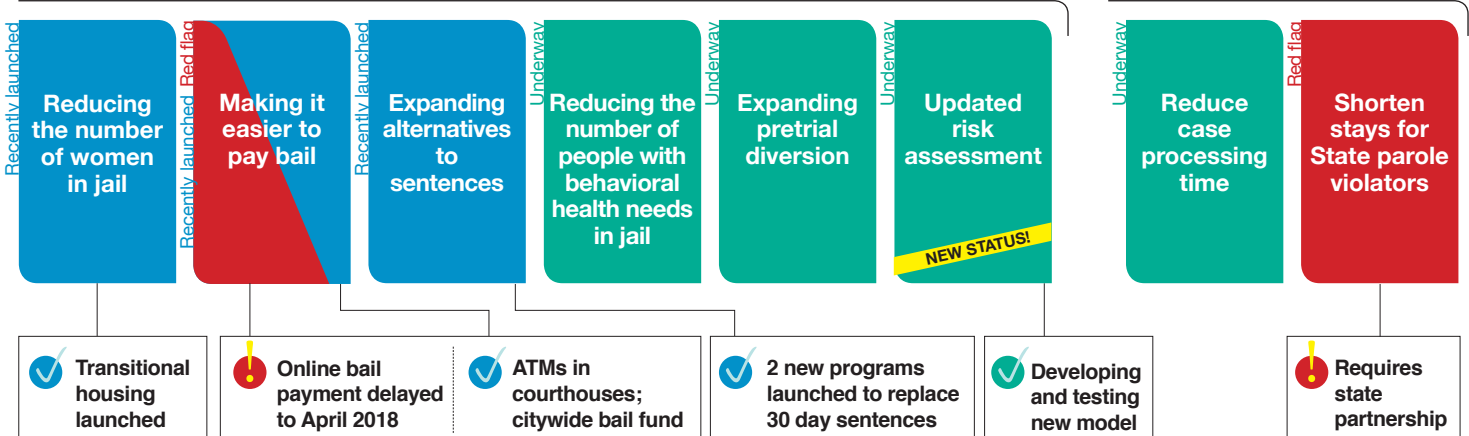
4 TASK FORCE All three Working Groups of the Justice Implementation Task Force, the body tasked with ensuring effective implementation of the Mayor's plan to replace Rikers Island with a borough-based jail system, met in January to work on design principles to inform the new borough-based jail system, recommendations for the City's new risk assessment tool, and ways to improve programming.

UPDATES ON THE STRATEGIES IN THE CITY'S ROADMAP TO CLOSING RIKERS ISLAND:

1 SMALLER SAFELY REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE JAIL POPULATION

Reduce number of people who enter jail

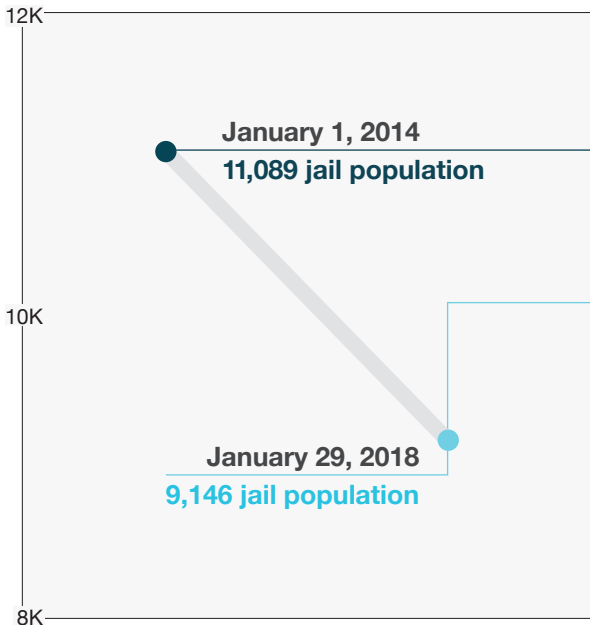
Reduce how long they stay



■ In planning
 ■ Recently launched
 ■ Implementation underway
 ■ Target met
 ■ Red flag

1 SMALLER

Who is in jail? **PROGRESS SNAPSHOT**



The Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice analysis of New York City Department of Correction data, Jan 2018.

JANUARY 1 2014

Jail population	11,089
Misdemeanor	995
Violent felony	3,969
Nonviolent felony	3,343
City sentenced	1,600
State parole violators	521
Other	661

JANUARY 29, 2018

Jail population	9,146	% Change	Direction
Misdemeanor	665	-33%	↓
Violent felony	3,467	-13%	↓
Nonviolent felony	2,733	-18%	↓
City sentenced	1,101	-31%	↓
State parole violators	641	23%	↑
Other	539	-18%	↓

HIGHLIGHTS:

As the jail population continues to fall, jail is increasingly reserved for individuals facing serious charges or who pose a higher risk. Arrests for low-level crimes have fallen dramatically: **misdemeanor arrests are down 29% and jail admissions for misdemeanor detainees have dropped by 25% since 2013.**

MOCJ analysis of NYPD Criminal Justice Bureau and NYC DOC admission data.

KEY TRENDS

(December 2013-January 2018)



TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR WOMEN

While the number of incarcerated women continues to climb nationwide, the number of women in NYC jails has fallen by 34% in the last four years. The City has recently launched two new programs to safely accelerate these reductions while addressing the unique needs of women facing detention. These include transitional supportive housing that provides homeless women with a stable place to live, allowing them to qualify for alternative to jail programs while awaiting trial, and a program that works to secure release for eligible women and place them into alternative to jail programs.

"Rather than jailing people who have committed misdemeanors for a few days, why not give judges the option to direct them to counseling, drug treatment, job programs or other services that might prevent future offenses?...Building on the success of jail-diversion programs, the city and prosecutors have initiated programs to serve these men and women...A life spent between jail and the streets is hardly an existence most people would choose. That is why programs like these are so sorely needed."

Joel Copperman,
Executive Director of CASES (op-ed from amNY)

2 SAFER CREATING SAFE AND HUMANE ENVIRONMENTS



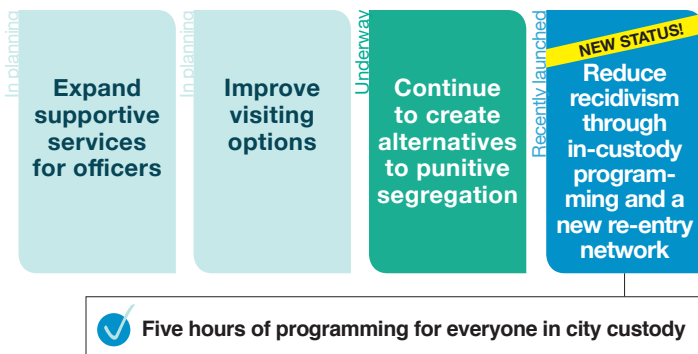
The City kicked off the New Year with the announcement that it will shutter its first jail on Rikers Island this summer. Closing the George Motchan Detention Center (GMDC), an all-male, 600 person facility currently operating under capacity, will help the Department of Correction reduce overtime, provide increased training and support, and strengthen staff in other key areas.

PERSPECTIVES FROM THE JUSTICE IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE

“Today’s announcement that the City will close GMDC is a welcome down payment on the commitment to close Rikers Island. It is made possible by the drop in the NYC correctional population to below 9,000 – a 20 percent decline since the Mayor took office four years ago. We still have a long way to get to the target of 5,000 and planning for new, state-of-the-art facilities; both the City and the State will need to lean into this massively this year and in the years to come. However, this is a productive and concrete step, and the Mayor should be applauded for taking it,”

Nicholas Turner, President, Vera Institute of Justice

3 FAIRER CHANGING THE CULTURE AND PURPOSE OF JAILS



IMPLEMENTATION HIGHLIGHT

The City recently implemented a new programming system to ensure everyone in custody receives customized vocational, educational and therapeutic programming for five hours per day. The system, implemented in partnership with a network of non-profits, matches individuals with a combination of programs to address their unique needs, helping to lay a foundation for future stability, prevent re-offending, and promote a safer and calmer environment for both staff and those detained.

PERSPECTIVES FROM OUR PARTNERS

“We applaud all efforts to address the unique needs of justice-involved women and their families at Rikers and in the community. The City has already taken huge steps in this direction by developing new initiatives to reduce the number of women unnecessarily detained at Rikers. When women can stay connected to their families and access the services they need, they are much more likely to successfully reenter the community. The best way to serve justice-involved women and strengthen families is to get them back home and connected to services they need in their neighborhoods. This is what long-term stability for the women, their families, and the community looks like.”

Rita Zimmer, Executive Director, HousingPlus and Women’s Community Justice Project (which implements MOCJ’s new transitional housing diversion program for women)