

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to share with you two new reports from The Sentencing Project that document the trend of states downsizing prison systems and adopting sentencing policy reforms. Our research documents a three-year trend of prison closings that produced a reduction of 35,000 beds, including six states reducing capacity by 11,000 beds in 2013.

[*On the Chopping Block 2013*](#) documents state prison closures and attributes the trend to several factors:

- A declining prison population in many states
- State fiscal constraints
- Sentencing and parole reforms in the areas of drug policy, diversion programs, and reductions in parole revocations to prison

[*The State of Sentencing 2013*](#) documents reforms in 31 states in both the adult and juvenile justice systems, including:

- Expanding alternatives to incarceration for drug offenses
- Policies to reduce returns to prison for supervision violators
- Comprehensive juvenile justice measures that emphasize prevention and diversion

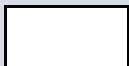
I hope you find these publications useful in your work. The full reports, which include comprehensive charts on criminal justice reform legislation and state prison closures, can be found online [here](#). I'd encourage you to be in touch with Nicole D. Porter, Director of Advocacy, at nporter@sentencingproject.org to discuss how we can support your efforts in the area of state policy reform.

Sincerely,



Marc Mauer

The Sentencing Project
1705 DeSales Street, NW, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20036, 202.628.0871



Send an email to The Sentencing Project. [» CONTACT](#)