

MONTANA

OFFICE OF REENTRY REPORT 2026



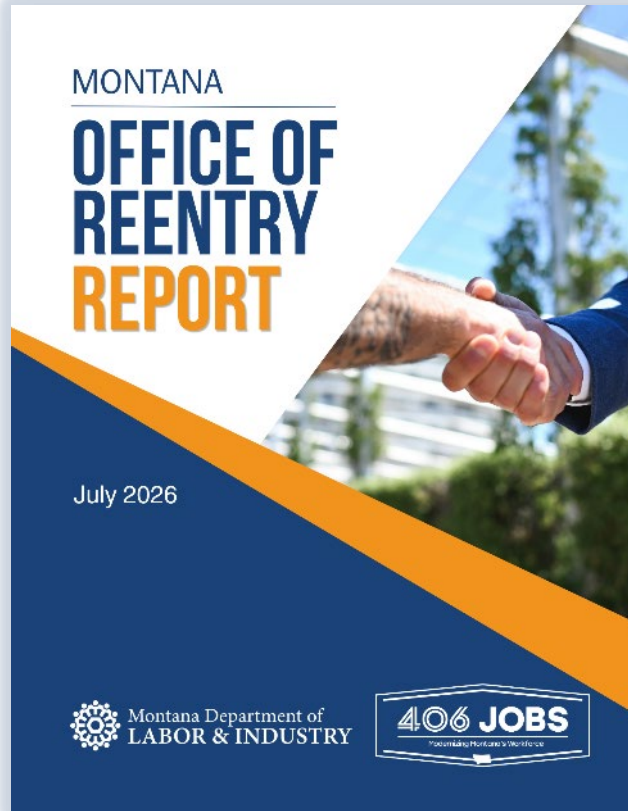
Office of Reentry
Criminal Justice Oversight Council
July 15, 2026



Montana Department of
LABOR & INDUSTRY

Labor Market Reports

Scan the QR Codes to view.



406 JOBS

Modernizing Montana's Workforce



Year One Work Plan



On August 11, 2023, Governor Greg Gianforte announced the 406 JOBS initiative and signed Executive Order 5.20073 to implement the initiative. 406 JOBS is designed to modernize Montana's workforce, ensuring that every Montanan has a pathway to a career and a plan to achieve it.

4 Pathways to Work

0 Barriers to Employment

6 High Demand Industries

66 TASKS
48 METRICS
48 DESIRED OUTCOMES

12 Priority Initiatives

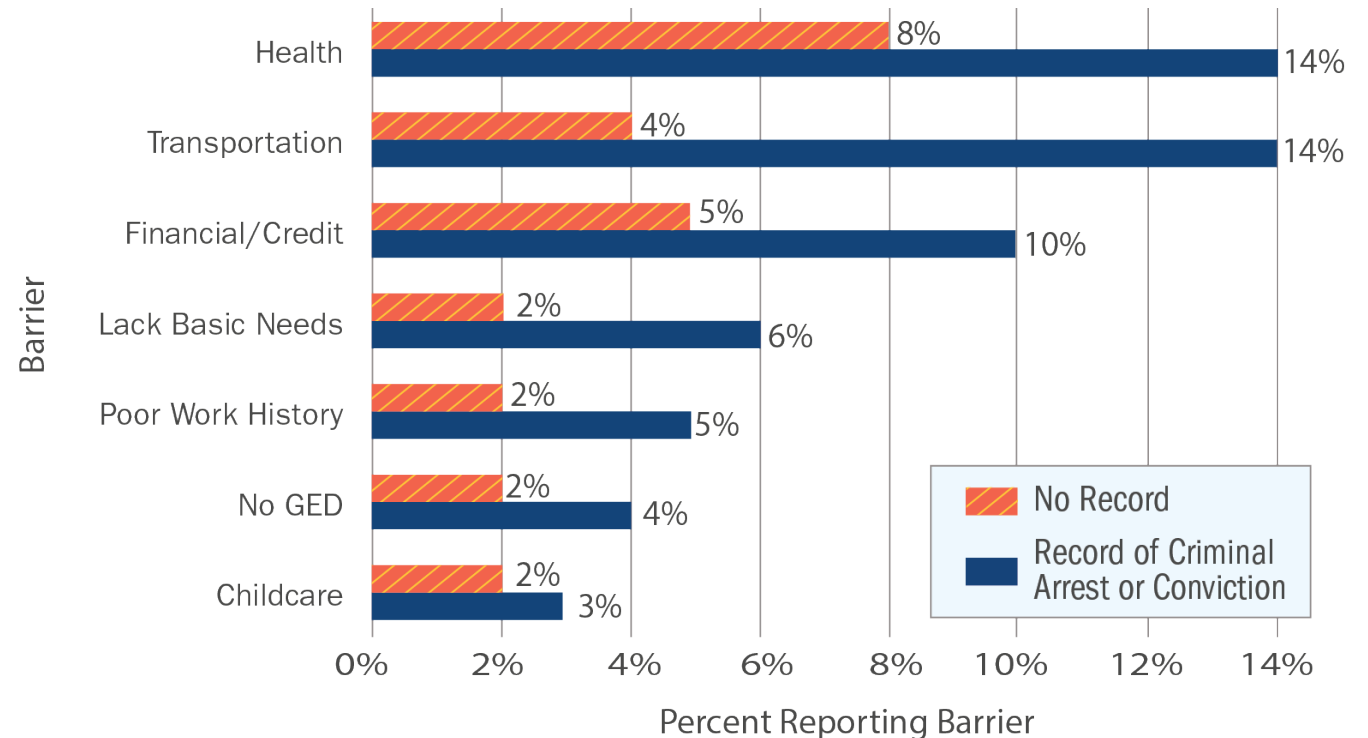
- Enhance Registered Apprenticeship Pathways
- Prepare Workforce for AI and Automation Opportunities
- Establish Local Sector Partnerships in High Demand Sectors
- Address Critical Skills Shortages to Enable Labor Force Growth
- Reduce Barriers to Employment through Disability Inclusion
- Highlight Montana's Skills and Support Sector Transitions
- Establish Internship Programs
- Launch Skills-to-Career Registry
- Modernize Career Exploration Tools
- Expand Jobs for Montana's Graduates & Unemployed Sites
- Tell the Story of Montana's Workforce
- Improve System Leadership, Coordination, & Communication



Criminal Record = More Employment Barriers

WIOA participants with a criminal record report barriers at nearly twice the rate of other participants, 50% versus 20%.

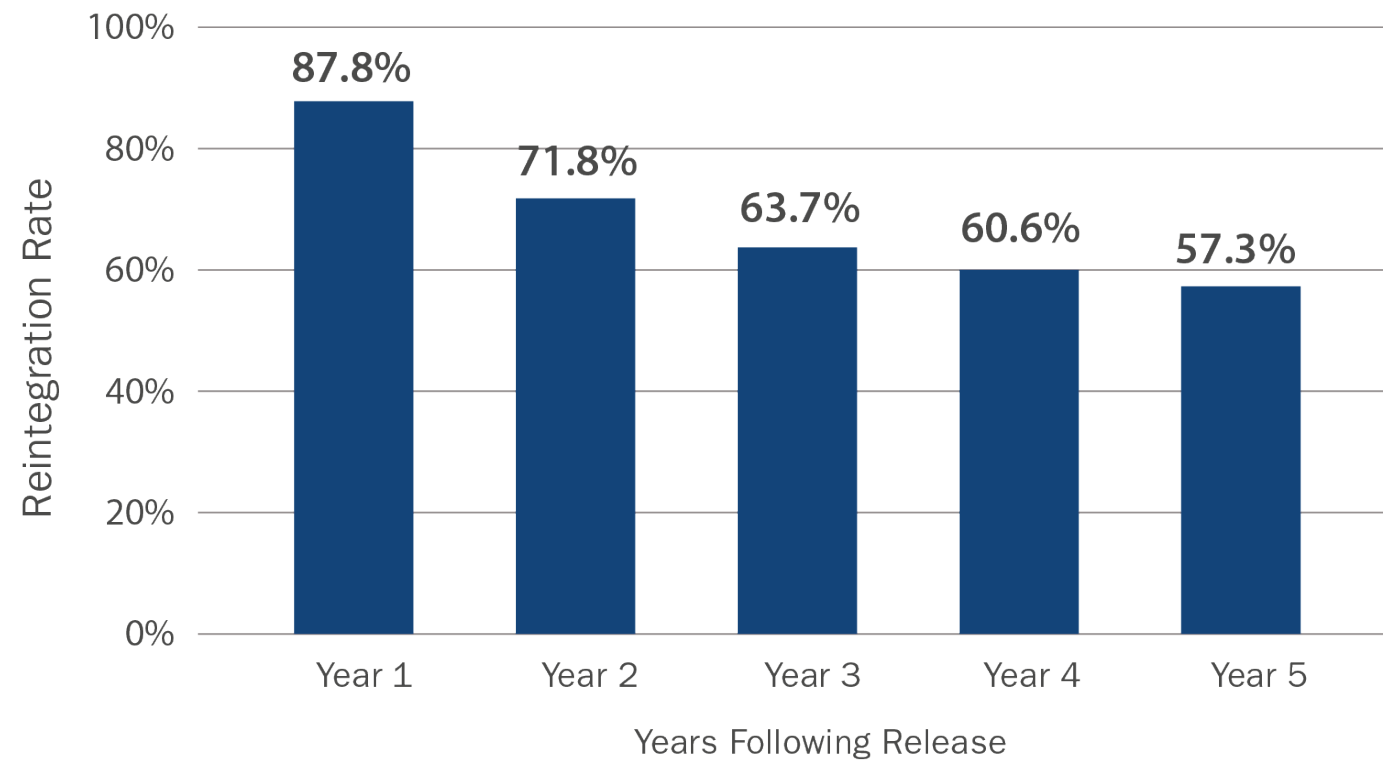
Largest reported gaps include health, transportation, and financial barriers.



Employment Is Public Safety



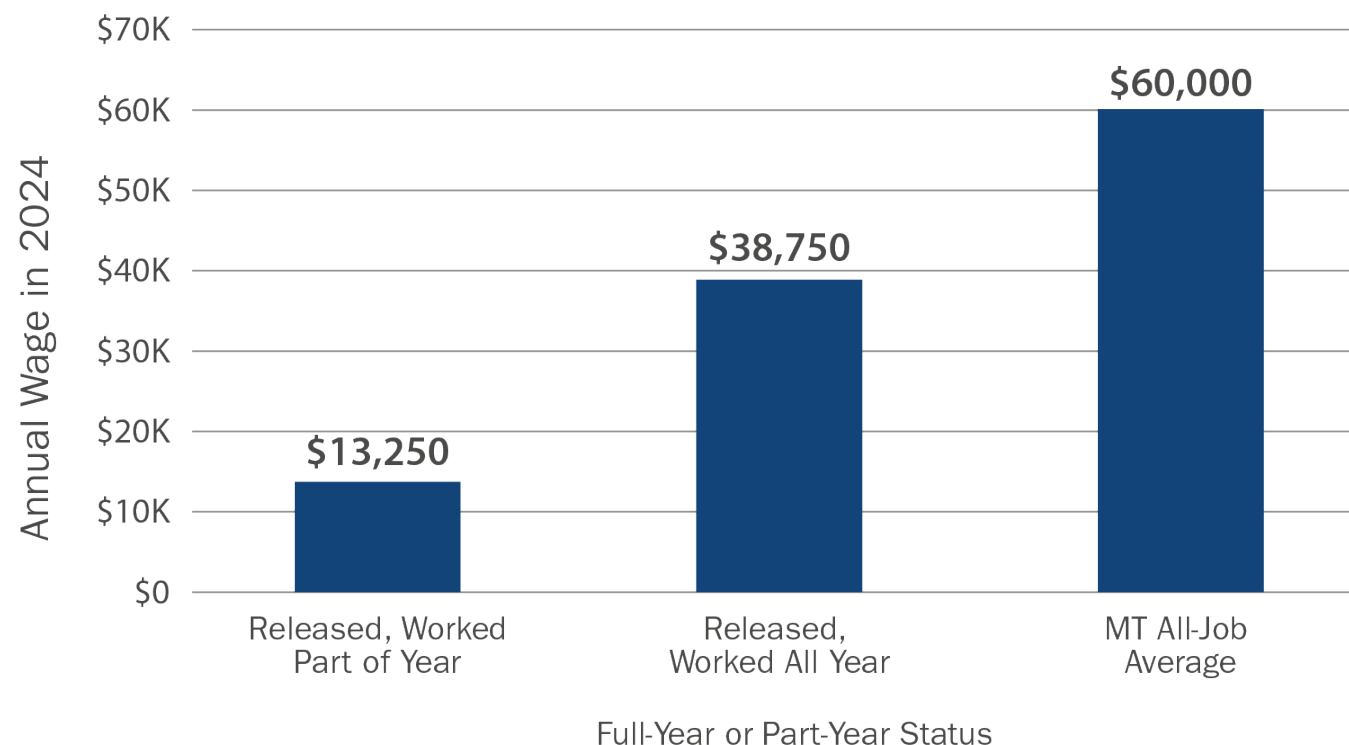
- Year one reintegration: **87.8%**
- Year five reintegration: **57.3%**



Job Quality Matters

Work Found Is Often Not Enough

- Released, worked part of year: \$13,250.
- Released, worked all year: \$38,750.
- Montana all-job average: \$60,000.



Barriers Beyond Job Readiness

The Problem Is Bigger Than Job Readiness

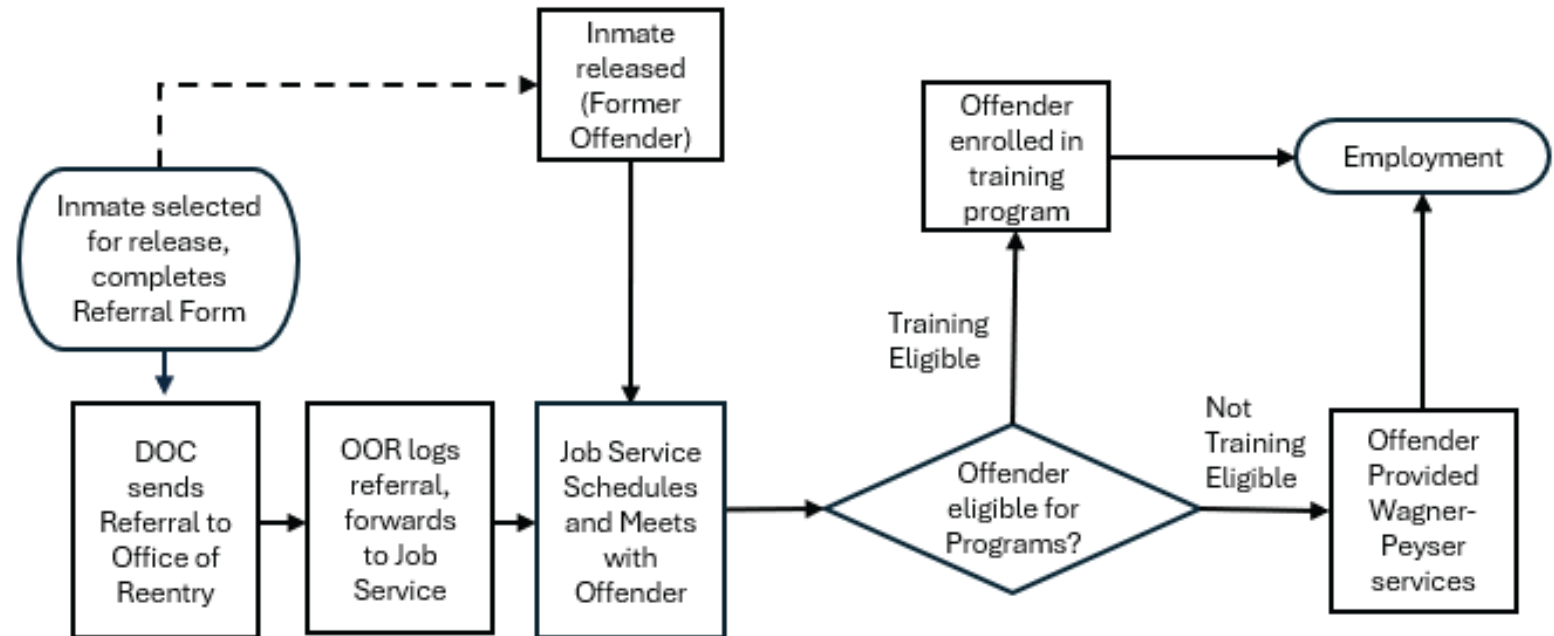


-  I.D. & DOCUMENTS
-  HOUSING INSECURITY
-  RURAL TRANSPORTATION GAPS
-  DIGITAL LITERACY AND TECHNOLOGY ACCESS
-  BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT ACCESS

What the Office of Reentry is doing

Building a Practical Referral Pipeline

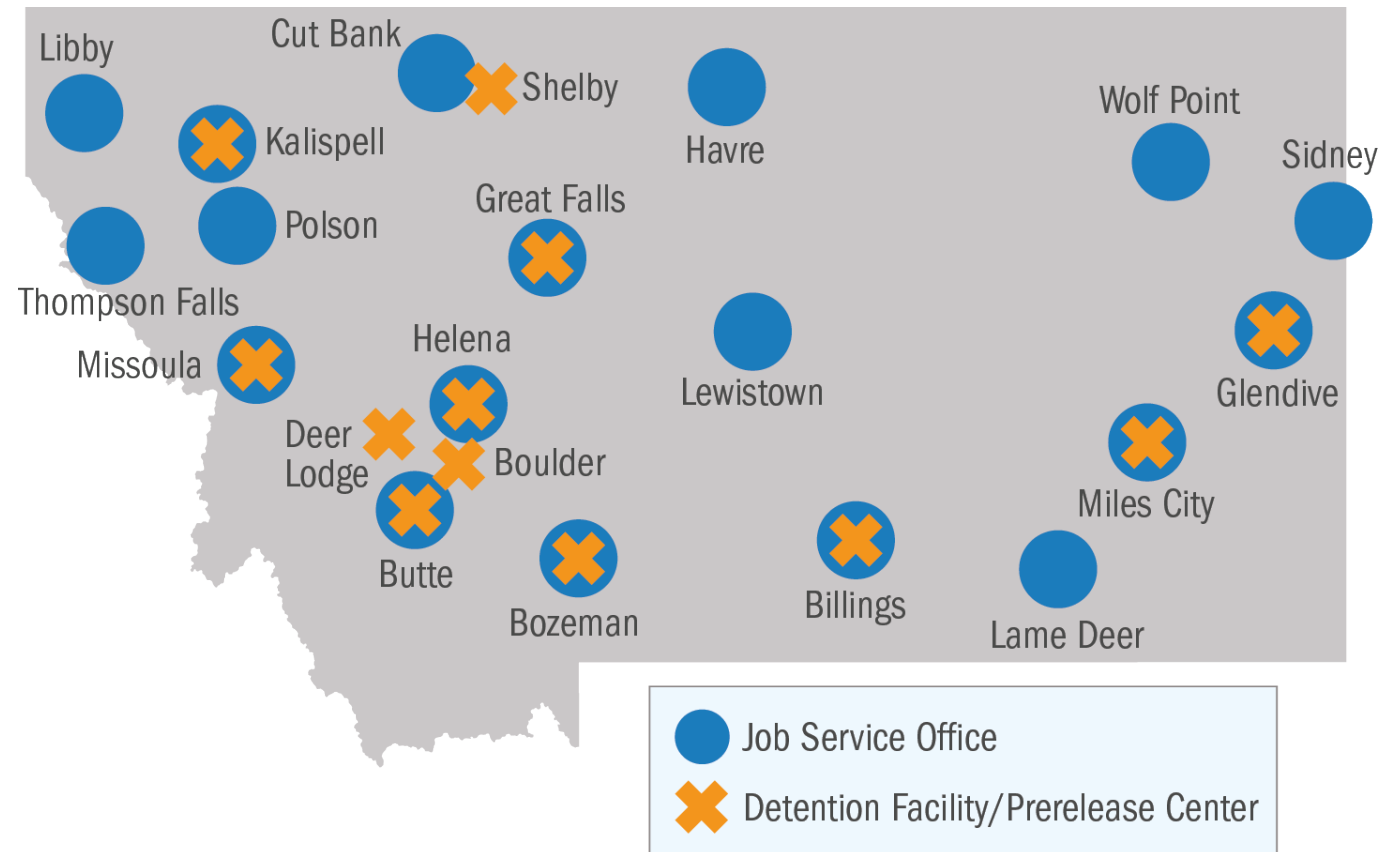
- Referral begins before release.
- Office of Reentry connects the individual to Job Service.
- Job Service routes to training or other employment services.



Statewide opportunity

Montana Already Has the Footprint to Do This Better

- Montana has 18 Job Service offices across the state.
- Most prisons, detention facilities, & prerelease centers have nearby Job Service access.



The Path Forward



- Improve interagency coordination on workforce programs and strategies, particularly when it comes to reducing recidivism and protecting the general public.
- Make high-quality employment services through Job Services available in all pre-release centers in the state.
- Robust data sharing between agencies for meaningful collaboration.
 - Shared metrics
 - Warm referrals
 - Unified outcomes tracking



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SWIB: swib.mt.gov

DLI: dli.mt.gov

Labor Market Data: lmi.mt.gov