

Inventory of Evidence-Based, Research-Based, and Promising Programs for Adult Corrections: Series Recap

The 2023 Legislature directed WSIPP to update its adult corrections inventory, focusing on programs offered in Washington’s adult prison facilities. Our preliminary report identified facility programs that had been evaluated for effects on recidivism. Our final report presents the 2024 inventory, describes all updates, and summarizes programs’ likely effects on recidivism.

Background

In [2013](#), the legislature directed WSIPP to publish an inventory of evidence-based and research-based programs to be used by the Department of Corrections (DOC). The adult corrections inventory summarizes evidence for programs and policies at all stages of the criminal justice system. The most recent inventory update was published in [2018](#). The 2023 Legislature directed WSIPP to update the inventory, focusing on new programs used by the DOC for individuals during incarceration.

Results

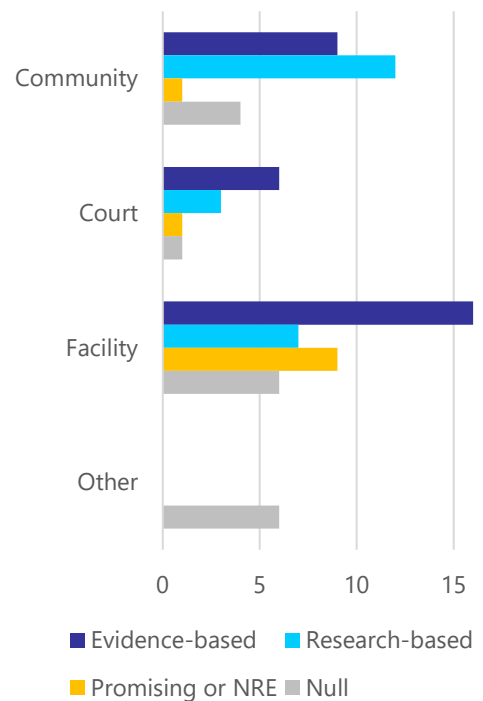
We completed **28 new or updated classifications for facility-based programs in Washington**. These include two family and relationships programs, eight learning and working programs, and 18 therapeutic and support programs.

The updated inventory includes classifications for 83 programs in total, ordered by program setting. Overall, 53 are classified as evidence-based or research based, 11 as promising, and 19 as null or poor. Nine inventory programs did not have any rigorous evaluation evidence.

Limitations and Next Steps

For some DOC facility programs, we did not identify any rigorous evaluations conducted with incarcerated adults. Further updates to the inventory are contingent on receiving an assignment and funding.

Adult Corrections Inventory Program Classifications by Program Setting



Notes:

Promising programs = well-established theory of change.
 NRE = No rigorous evaluations with outcomes of interest.
 Null = No significant effect on outcomes of interest.

Assignment Details

Assigned in 2023 Legislative Session
[ESSB 5187](#), Operating Budget

Links to the full reports are provided below:
[Preliminary Report](#)
[Final Report](#)

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