Reentry, Suicide and Staff

12 annotated reference entries

A companion to the existing research archive. This collection contains original annotations and source links, not copies of published papers.

How to read this collection

Evidence types, populations and limits accompany every entry. Associations do not establish causation. Reports, policy documents and testimony serve different purposes from clinical studies. Research from other environments cannot be assumed to measure prison-specific effects.

Review scope

Sources were traced from topic-scoped research notes and checked on October 28, 2026. The review is not systematic or exhaustive. Some entries rely on abstracts or official summaries; each states its review depth.

The full package has 57 new source works and one existing-table citation enrichment (MP31). Reports and reviews may reuse evidence; this is not a count of independent experiments.

Use the companion source register for citations and the coverage log for duplicate decisions and unresolved leads. Original source IDs are shared across the website, register, PDFs and RIS file.

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"They Might Not Kill You Today but They're Going to Get You in the End": The Correctional Subculture and the Schematization of Danger

Ethan M. Higgins; Kristin Swartz; John C. Navarro; Katie Hughes (2023). British Journal of Criminology.

Setting: United States

Eighteen staff focus groups across one state prison system describe how shared danger narratives shape perceptions of safety, including outside work.

Evidence limits

Qualitative accounts illuminate experience, not population PTSD rates or proof of neurological injury.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Publisher abstract.

Source note: Prison mental health.

DOI: 10.1093/bjc/azac099

Link access check (28 October 2026): Page or document content returned.

Open source publication

MP06 / Direct evidence | Peer-reviewed meta-analysis

Does disciplinary confinement fulfill its objectives? A meta-analysis on the effects of disciplinary confinement on misconduct and recidivism

Laura Dellazizzo; Sabrina Giguère; Charles-Édouard Giguère; Alexandre Dumais (2025). Aggression and Violent Behavior.

Setting: Meta-analysis; study locations not fully extracted

The synthesis found no reduction in misconduct and an association between disciplinary confinement and greater recidivism.

Evidence limits

Selection into disciplinary confinement and confounding in underlying studies limit causal interpretation. This is not evidence that all forms of custody have identical effects.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Publisher indexed abstract and highlights.

Source note: Prison mental health.

DOI: 10.1016/j.avb.2025.102097

Link access check (28 October 2026): Access blocked (403).

Open source publication

Medicaid Expansion and Mortality Among Persons Who Were Formerly Incarcerated

Pasangi S. Perera et al. (2024). JAMA Network Open.

Setting: United States

A controlled interrupted time-series comparison of Rhode Island and North Carolina associated Medicaid expansion with improved all-cause and overdose mortality trends after incarceration.

Evidence limits

A two-state observational policy comparison cannot eliminate concurrent changes. Suicide did not show the same improvement; benefits differed across racial groups.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Abstract and full-text results.

Source note: Prison mental health/ insurance post-prison.

DOI: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2024.29454

Link access check (28 October 2026): Verification challenge; content not retrieved.

Open source publication

Report: Hawai'i Prison Guards Face 'Unsustainable' Working Conditions

Kevin Dayton (2025). Honolulu Civil Beat.

Setting: United States

Reporting on a commission survey of more than 800 staff describes overtime, exhaustion, and difficult working conditions in Hawaii corrections.

Evidence limits

Journalism about self-reported workplace conditions is not a clinical prevalence study. The note title mentions the UK, but this linked source concerns Hawaii.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: News article.

Source note: Prison Gaurds trauma (Uk).

Link access check (28 October 2026): Page or document content returned.

Open source publication

MP29 / Peer-reviewed observational study

Self-reported offending and drug use after prison release: The pernicious role of stress during reentry

Chantal Fahmy (2025). Journal of Criminal Justice.

Setting: United States

Research following men leaving Texas prisons links perceived stress to offending and drug use during reentry and examines how stress alters mental-health associations.

Evidence limits

Self-report and an observational male Texas sample limit causal and broader population inference. Stress-management recommendations were not tested as an intervention.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Publisher abstract/highlights; author-university description.

Source note: Prison mental health.

DOI: 10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2025.102437

Link access check (28 October 2026): Access blocked (403).

Open source publication

MP37 / Peer-reviewed longitudinal observational study

The Impact of Incarceration on Wage Mobility and Inequality

Bruce Western (2002). American Sociological Review.

Setting: United States

Analysis of the US National Longitudinal Survey of Youth connects incarceration with slower wage growth and examines its contribution to racial and ethnic wage inequality.

Evidence limits

Observational employment trajectories are vulnerable to selection and unmeasured differences. This is socioeconomic evidence, not evidence of brain damage; results describe a historical cohort.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Article abstract and methods/introduction; original Harvard link unavailable, university-hosted copy matched.

Source note: socio brain damage How the environment alters your thought process -> western_asr.pdf.

DOI: 10.2307/3088944

Link access check (28 October 2026): Page or document content returned.

Open source publication

Mass Imprisonment and the Life Course: Race and Class Inequality in U.S. Incarceration

Becky Pettit; Bruce Western (2004). American Sociological Review.

Setting: United States

Examines how imprisonment became a common life-course event among disadvantaged Black men in the United States, with marked racial and educational differences in exposure.

Evidence limits

Historical population estimates describe unequal exposure to incarceration, not its neurological effects or current rates.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Publisher indexed abstract and citation; direct full-text retrieval failed.

Source note: socio brain damage How the environment alters your thought process.

DOI: 10.1177/000312240406900201

Link access check (28 October 2026): Fetch timed out.

Open source publication

MP43 / Government performance audit

Support for First Nations peoples in custody and post-release to reduce reoffending

Audit Office of New South Wales (2026). NSW Auditor-General performance audit.

Setting: New South Wales, Australia; First Nations peoples in custody and after release

Examines adult and youth correctional support for First Nations people in New South Wales, identifying weaknesses in culturally responsive services, shared decision-making, and evidence about programme effectiveness.

Evidence limits

The audit concerns specific agencies and programmes. It does not show that all rehabilitation is ineffective, or that findings apply to every First Nations community or Australian jurisdiction.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Official audit indexed findings and report summary; full report retrieval timed out.

Source note: Prison mental health -> NSW audit reporting -> original audit.

Link access check (28 October 2026): Fetch timed out.

Open source publication

MP44 / Peer-reviewed observational study

Examining the connection between mental illness and recidivism for persons on parole

D. Michael Applegarth (2024). Journal of Criminal Justice.

Setting: United States

Administrative records for 24,046 people released from Georgia prisons linked mental-health treatment conditions on parole to higher odds of rearrest during three years. More time employed was associated with lower odds of rearrest.

Evidence limits

Treatment requirements are an imperfect mental-illness indicator. Rearrest is not a measure of violent behavior, and observational associations do not show that mental illness causes offending.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Author-university abstract and methods description.

Source note: Prison mental health -> University at Buffalo story -> primary study.

DOI: 10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2024.102315

Link access check (28 October 2026): Page or document content returned.

Open source publication

MP47 / Peer-reviewed linked-record cohort study

Suicide Mortality Among Formerly Incarcerated People Compared With the General Population in North Carolina, 2000-2020

Kate Vinita Fitch; Brian W. Pence; David L. Rosen; Vanessa E. Miller; Bradley N. Gaynes; Monica E. Swilley-Martinez; Andrew L. Kavee; Timothy S. Carey; Scott K. Proescholdbell; Shabbar I. Ranapurwala (2024). American Journal of Epidemiology.

Setting: United States

Linked records for 266,400 formerly incarcerated people in North Carolina showed elevated suicide mortality extending through three years after release, highlighting a need for sustained support beyond the immediate transition.

Evidence limits

One-state observational data do not isolate the causal effect of incarceration. Differences in pre-existing health, social conditions and record classification affect interpretation.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Publisher methods, results and discussion.

Source note: Prison mental health; suicide / prison -> NC reporting -> original study.

DOI: 10.1093/aje/kwad214

Link access check (28 October 2026): Page or document content returned.

Open source publication

Suicide Among Justice-Involved Veterans: Understanding Risk and Meeting Needs

Ryan Holliday (2023). Council on Criminal Justice.

Setting: United States

Synthesizes research on suicide risk among US veterans with criminal-justice involvement and discusses opportunities to connect people with prevention and support.

Evidence limits

The brief explicitly distinguishes association from causation. Justice involvement includes stages beyond imprisonment; this is not a war-captivity cohort or a trial of a prevention programme.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Original brief introduction, key takeaways and research discussion.

Source note: Military suicide, POW & incarceration.

Link access check (28 October 2026): Page or document content returned.

Open source publication

MP52 / Government research synthesis

Understanding and Reducing Deaths in Custody: Final Summary Report to Congress

National Institute of Justice (2025). US Department of Justice, NCJ 310060.

Setting: United States

Combines review of mortality evidence and administrative data with agency case studies to examine deaths during law enforcement contact, in jails and in prisons. Recommendations address care, staffing, suicide prevention and mortality review.

Evidence limits

Data gaps, descriptive associations and case-study selection limit causal conclusions. Recommendations are not all supported by controlled outcome evaluations. The January 2025 final summary supersedes the saved December 2024 interim summary.

Review and provenance

Reviewed: Official interim and final summaries: scope, methods, recommendations and limitations.

Source note: suicide / prison -> interim summary -> final report.

Link access check (28 October 2026): Page or document content returned.

Open source publication