



**Parole and Reentry
Referral Report**

Fiscal Year 2025

Texas Board of Criminal Justice

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Overview

Texas Government Code § 501.103 and Article V, Rider 47 of the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Years (FY) 2024-2025 as passed by the 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, require the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) to submit an annual report detailing certain resource referrals for individuals released after discharging their sentence and for individuals under parole supervision.

The statute and rider require the report to include information and outcomes on referrals for employment, housing, medical care, treatment for substance use or mental illness, education, veteran services, and other basic needs. Included in the requirements of the report are the common reentry barriers, the community resources available, the identified areas where resources were not available, and the data on training for reentry coordinators and parole officers. This report contains FY 2025 data and information.

Executive Summary

Access to information, employment, and resources is essential to an individual's successful reentry into society after incarceration. TDCJ provides support services, program opportunities, education and work training, access to case management, resource referrals, and a structured path to a successful reentry. TDCJ staff are trained to deliver pre- and post-release assistance to support this transition.

Prior to release from incarceration, inmates receive a resource referral packet, access to case management services, and an individualized reentry plan. These reentry plans include referrals and information on substance use treatment, medical and mental health services, education, employment, housing, veteran services, and other basic needs. Through the combined efforts of reentry case managers and human service specialists (HSS), TDCJ's Rehabilitation and Reentry Division (TDCJ-RRD), made 168,705 referrals to connect individuals with resources that support successful transitions in FY 2025.

Upon release to parole supervision, TDCJ Parole Division's (TDCJ-PD) parole officers made 505,247 referrals during FY 2025 to address compliance with conditions imposed by the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles (BPP) and to meet other identified needs pertaining to substance use, medical, education, employment, housing, veteran services, basic needs, and special needs.

Community resource providers support formerly incarcerated individuals in areas across the state. By having access to local providers, individuals receive services

without needing to travel outside their local area or county of residence. TDCJ is continuously working to build and enhance referral networking opportunities with community partners to maintain and augment resources for referrals.

TDCJ Reentry System

TDCJ's reentry efforts begin upon an inmate's initial reception to TDCJ. Reentry efforts are agency-wide with TDCJ divisions working collaboratively to deliver programs and services aimed at assisting inmates upon release to the community.

Inmates receive extensive diagnostic assessments upon intake that include:

- Obtaining personal and family history through inmate interviews;
- A full physical and mental health assessment;
- A database search conducted in cooperation with the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to identify inmates who have been part of the public mental health system;
- A criminal history check;
- A Veteran Reentry Search Service (VRSS) check to verify veteran status;
- An educational assessment and verification conducted by the Windham School District (WSD) to identify inmates who must receive services through the special education program based on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and
- An individual screening and assessment via the Texas Risk Assessment System (TRAS) to identify criminogenic risk levels and reintegration barriers. This information can be used for programmatic placement throughout the incarceration period and is carried forward to aid in post-release planning.

Information gained through various evaluations and assessments is used to develop an Individualized Treatment Plan (ITP) for each inmate. The inmate's ITP indicates their level of need for services and acts as a guide for placement and enrollment in programs and treatment.

Programs available to individuals during their incarceration aid in preparing them for success upon release. The types of programs include academic, career and technical education, post-secondary education, life skills, workforce training, cognitive intervention, substance use treatment, sex offender treatment, and faith-based activities. Additionally, thousands of volunteers offer services to supplement the programs provided by TDCJ, WSD, and contract staff.

As an inmate nears release, the TDCJ-RRD and the TDCJ-PD work together to ensure the individual is prepared for reentering society.

Resources Provided by Reentry and Parole

In preparation for an individual's release, TDCJ's release and reentry efforts are driven by the TDCJ-RRD and the TDCJ-PD. Individuals access services provided by TDCJ while they are incarcerated and upon release to parole supervision. There are specialized program opportunities for some inmates who have unique needs that need to be addressed prior to release.

TDCJ Rehabilitation and Reentry Division

The actions of the TDCJ-RRD are guided by legislative mandates, proven best practices, and a set of core values designed to establish a comprehensive rehabilitation and reentry plan for those involved in the adult criminal justice system.

During FY 2025, the TDCJ-RRD dedicated 182 positions to its reentry program: 125 case managers and four HSS located at correctional facilities, 26 post-release employment coordinators located at district parole offices and residential reentry centers, five support service specialists who support releasing staff and conduct family coordination for release, 10 HSS providing continuity of care planning for special needs inmates, and 12 case manager supervisors. Over 49,000 individuals received pre- and post-release services from the TDCJ-RRD in FY 2025.

The needs of those discharging upon completion of sentence from prison and state jail confinement are addressed through referrals to state-funded programs, non-profit organizations, and other alternatively subsidized programming. These referrals connect them to community-based intervention and support services to provide continuity of care services. At the time of their release, all individuals are provided with a resource pamphlet which lists organizations that assist with health care, social services, substance use treatment, veteran specific needs, employment, and support systems.

The Reentry Program works in conjunction with the Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments (TCOOMMI), which coordinates the mental health and medical needs of individuals releasing to the community and those under parole supervision, through established partnerships and targeted state resources. To prepare individuals for a successful reentry and ultimately reduce recidivism, the TDCJ-RRD organized a three-phased Reentry Program for inmates being released from a TDCJ prison or state jail.

The three-phased Reentry Program, designed to assist inmates in preparation for successful return to the community, consists of the following:

Phase I – Identification Processing Services: Phase I services for identification documents are essential for all releasing inmates as this is the primary starting point for the inmate to be able to obtain housing and employment, as well as accessing other services upon return to the community. All identification documents obtained for an inmate are ordered in advance and provided to the inmate at the time of release from the TDCJ.

During Phase I of the Reentry Program, a reentry case manager assists eligible inmates in ordering identification documents. If applicable, a replacement Social Security card, certified birth certificate, Department of Public Safety Identification Card (DPS ID) or replacement Driver License, and military service record (DD-214) are ordered.

Identification documents are ordered at various stages of an inmate's incarceration and, upon receipt, are received, processed, and verified by the TDCJ-RRD's Verification and Identification Processing Section. In FY 2025, the TDCJ-RRD ordered:

- 37,872 certified birth certificates;
- 44,620 replacement Social Security cards; and
- 24,692 DPS Identification Cards or replacement Driver Licenses.

Identification documents are ordered prior to an individual's release and are securely stored until an individual is released from TDCJ custody. Identification documents are ordered based on timeline criteria established by the agency issuing the document.

- For prison-sentenced inmates, documents are ordered according to the timeline indicated in contractual agreements with the document-issuing agency. The timeline criteria for when documents may be ordered vary based on the circumstances of the individual's status to include:
 - Initial intake to TDCJ custody;
 - Initial parole eligibility; or
 - Within six months of an individual's sentence completion.
- For state jail and Substance Abuse Felony Program (SAFP) inmates, documents are contractually permitted to be ordered upon intake to TDCJ custody.

The certified birth certificate (CBC) and social security card are ordered as soon as possible. The CBC document is used as supporting documentation to request a

Department of Public Safety Identification Card (DPS ID) or replacement Driver License. Upon receipt of the CBC, the TDCJ-RRD case managers process and submit the DPS application. DPS accepts an affidavit attached to the ID- or DL-Replacement application for those individuals who have not received a Social Security card but have a verified Social Security number on file with TDCJ. DPS displays the individual's home address to which they are returning on the DPS ID or replacement DL. All IDs and replacement DLs issued to individuals through this process are Real ID Act compliant. Timelines for ordering documents from DPS include:

- For prison-sentenced inmates, a DPS ID or replacement Driver License is ordered at the time of parole approval or within six months of discharging their sentence.
- For state jail and SAFFP-sentenced inmates, a DPS ID or replacement Driver License is ordered immediately upon receipt of the CBC.

DPS IDs or replacement Driver Licenses may be ordered at residential reentry centers. During Fiscal Year 2025, six locations became operational, and all eight residential reentry center locations now offer the service to residents. Due to Real ID Act requirements, there are occasions when an individual must go in person to a Texas DPS Driver License office to obtain an ID or replacement DL.

Phase II – Assessment and Reentry Planning: After the Texas BPP votes to approve an individual to release to parole supervision for the remainder of their sentence, Phase II of the Reentry Program commences. Phase II includes the development of a reentry plan and employment plan, along with the actual release from incarceration with identification documents, referrals, and a personalized information packet.

The reentry plan is developed as a cooperative effort between the case manager and the inmate. Reentry plans include referrals and information on substance use treatment, medical and mental health services, education, employment, housing, veteran services, and other basic needs. A copy of the case plan is provided to the inmate at the time of release, and the case plan is available to the supervising parole officer and reentry employment coordinator post-release.

To develop this reentry plan, a unit-based reentry case manager conducts a Reentry Tool or Supplemental Reentry Tool assessment using the TRAS to determine the criminogenic risk level of re-offending. Through the assessment process, reentry barriers are identified, and areas of needed support are used to build and develop resources for release. Individuals who score moderate or high risk on the assessment are enrolled in individualized case planning to identify needs, develop goals, set

action steps, and are given targeted resources and connections to equip the inmate for successful return to the community.

During Phase II, inmates who are set to release to their community are offered mock interviews and résumé-building programs. The TDCJ-RRD, TDCJ Manufacturing, Agribusiness and Logistics Division (TDCJ-MAL), TDCJ Facilities Division, and the WSD work together to ensure skill-building exercises are completed prior to release. Through the inmate tablet system, the Workbay application allows individuals to independently access and edit their résumé, engage in enrichment activities, participate in skill-building within their field of interest, seek feedback from reentry case managers, and work with reentry peers. Upon release, the résumé developed within the Workbay application is accessible to the individual via an online web-based portal with log-in credentials.

Phase II concludes with leaving custody and releasing to the community. At this juncture, TDCJ-RRD case managers provide the releasing inmate with their individualized packets of information which include their identification and educational documents, job training and work records, and copies of their résumé. The personalized information packet is tailored to the area and county in which they are to live. The packet includes maps to the locations of the referrals identified in the reentry plan such as non-profit reentry groups, housing, employment, substance use support services, health care, and other identified personalized resources.

In FY 2025, TDCJ-RRD staff provided the following materials in individualized packets:

- 25,387 personalized information packets were completed for parole and mandatory supervision releasing inmates;
- 14,592 personalized information packets were completed for inmates who were released from a SAFP program, state jail, or flat discharge;
- 29,437 eligible individuals received certified birth certificates;
- 30,034 eligible individuals received their Social Security card; and
- 13,652 eligible individuals received a DPS ID or Replacement Driver License.

Reentry services are available to individuals previously associated with TDCJ. The Reentry Hotline at (877) 887-6151 is a toll-free number available to individuals who need support after their release. In FY 2025, 11,498 calls were received by the Reentry Hotline and assistance was given.

Phase III – Community Reentry Services: The third phase of the Reentry Program is available to individuals post-release who were enrolled in Phase II pre-release or those who are self-referred or referred by a parole officer.

Individuals receive reentry employment coordinator services to assist with employment, food, clothing, education, finance and budgeting, nutrition and health, life skills, parenting and relationships, medical and mental health, transportation support, and cognitive skills.

TDCJ-RRD employment coordinators organize job fairs and hiring events across the state which provide job leads and access to additional training and employment resources available through local services in the area.

TDCJ is working toward the goal of having 95% of work eligible inmates employed prior to release, including employment in skilled industry positions. To achieve this goal, TDCJ-RRD has partnered with Workbay to utilize their Integrated Learning and Employment Platform which informs, educates, and develops job seekers while directly connecting them to employers, career counseling, career pathways, and jobs. Workbay is serving the TDCJ population by:

- leveraging the inmate tablet system to share targeted job openings to individuals based on their training and skill sets;
- encouraging participation in a résumé writer program; and
- facilitating, submitting, tracking and following up on an individual's job application through the employment process.

At any time, formerly incarcerated individuals can contact the TDCJ-RRD via the toll-free reentry hotline number for additional assistance and referrals. This hotline is answered by dedicated reentry staff trained to address the variety of needs that may arise post-release.

TDCJ Parole Division

The TDCJ Parole Division (TDCJ-PD) supervises individuals released from the custody of the TDCJ Correctional Institutions Division (TDCJ-CID) to serve the remainder of their sentence in the community. The TDCJ-PD works collaboratively with community partners, volunteers, individuals, and their families to provide a positive vehicle for the reintegration process.

In FY 2025, over 36,000 inmates were released to parole supervision. During this same time, approximately 1,145 parole officers supervised an average of 74,980 active parole clients.

The TDCJ-PD's mission is to facilitate successful reintegration by identifying factors that may contribute to recidivism and providing individuals with services to mitigate those factors. Parole supervision services include employment assistance, housing,

education, anger management, cognitive intervention, and substance use treatment.

The TDCJ-PD collaborates with the Texas BPP to ensure individuals have the necessary special conditions in place prior to release from incarceration to help them reintegrate successfully into society. The TDCJ-PD connects individuals with aftercare programs and residential reentry centers where no other viable home plans are available. During parole supervision, the TDCJ-PD provides appropriate referrals to resources to ensure compliance with imposed special conditions and to address any identified needs that arise.

The TDCJ-PD, TDCJ-RRD, and the WSD are responsible for ensuring individuals have completed the required BPP-voted program prior to their release from prison. In addition to monitoring program completion, these two divisions, along with WSD, work together throughout the release process to ensure appropriate placement for any special needs inmates are coordinated prior to release to ensure continuity of care is maintained.

Coordination between various divisions in the agency, such as TDCJ-RRD, -TDCJ-MAL, and TDCJ-PD, as well as the WSD, have resulted in an improved exchange of information and increased strategies for employment and vocational certification opportunities for clients. To further the goal of ensuring a successful transition into the community, representatives from each division and WSD participate in ongoing meetings which focus on current and proposed employment initiatives.

Specialized Reentry and Parole Programs and Services

Just as in any community, some inmates have unique and specialized needs. As a result, the TDCJ-RRD and TDCJ-PD have developed programs to promote reentry efforts and services aimed at assisting inmates upon release to the community and reducing recidivism. A few examples of specialized programs include:

STRIVE: The Strength Through Restoration, Independence, Vision, and Empowerment (STRIVE) Reentry Center is a comprehensive, collaborative initiative for female inmates that involves several TDCJ divisions. During FY 2025, STRIVE successfully graduated 157 participants. The 12-week STRIVE program includes the following:

- The program integrates a trauma-informed care methodology to address a range of issues. The diverse STRIVE curriculum is centered on themes related to trauma and abuse.
- The WSD offers educational programming that encompasses goal setting, wellness, financial literacy, employment skills, and the chance to obtain

recognized certifications such as Southwest Airlines Professional Communications, ServSafe, OSHA-10, and Fork-lift training.

- Within STRIVE, reentry services comprise of résumé building, career expositions, online job search tools, telephonic or online interview techniques, and sessions with employer representatives.
- Peer-led education, facilitated by peer support specialists, is a crucial component of STRIVE, focusing on substance use recovery, wellness, and fitness. Prior to becoming mentors, these peer support specialists not only complete specific training but also graduate from the STRIVE program themselves. Stationed within the dormitories, they are readily available to advocate for, and assist STRIVE participants.
- Before release, those on parole undergo a mandatory Parole New Arrival orientation and Substance Abuse Counseling Program I Class. This ensures they do not miss a workday for this essential training later.
- TCOOMMI conducts pre-release assessments and arranges post-release services for inmates with special needs, ensuring a smooth transition by connecting them with community resources.
- Due to generous donations from staff, volunteers, and the community, participants receive clothing and accessories suitable for work and casual settings.
- STRIVE has partnerships with sober living establishments, offering transitional housing options.
- If participants need support with child custody or related matters, referrals are made to the Texas Office of the Attorney General and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, providing a holistic reintegration approach.

THRIVE: An equivalent to STRIVE that is geared for male inmates, the Trust, Healing, Restoration, Independence, Vision and Empowerment (THRIVE) program is a collaboration between multiple TDCJ divisions and the WSD that aims to prepare male inmates for reentry into the community through a comprehensive 12-week program that is gender-responsive and trauma-informed.

Classes are led by reentry case managers and Reentry Peer Support Specialists who reside in the same housing area, are specifically trained, and serve as mentors and leaders within the program. The program is structured to ensure that participants are well-prepared for life after release, addressing both practical and emotional

needs to enhance their chances of successful reintegration and reduce the risk of recidivism.

The WSD offers new programs such as Renewable Energy, Electrical Line Worker, and Computer Programming at the Bartlett Innovation Unit; additionally, THRIVE participants can engage in Digital Workforce Preparation classes.

Participants in THRIVE engage in pre-release employment searches and interviews and, through generous donations, meet with potential employers in professional attire, to include suits. Graduates are released from the unit with a suit, enhancing the individual's overall sense of professionalism and achievement. THRIVE programming seeks to transform the lives of individuals who may have once believed that opportunities were out of reach. In FY 2025, a total of 44 participants graduated from THRIVE.

Veterans: The TDCJ-RRD has a dedicated Veterans Coordinator assigned to coordinate pre- and post-release services for veterans who are incarcerated in the TDCJ. During intake at a TDCJ facility, an individual's veteran status is identified and verified using VRSS by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). As of August 2025, 6,491 veterans were incarcerated in the TDCJ and 6,022 were identified as under parole supervision.

The agency has initiatives such as unit programming and housing dedicated to veterans, assistance with veterans benefit applications, access to education benefits, and continuity of care coordination with veteran peer groups for post-release assistance. In FY 2025, TDCJ-RRD completed 656 Benefit and Compensation Applications, and 1,206 Compensation & Pension Exams were scheduled.

The TDCJ recognizes the need to address the specific needs of this special population as research has revealed that veterans involved in the criminal justice system have an increased likelihood of a history of alcohol dependence, frequently live with a mental illness, suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, have difficulty finding employment, and are at risk for post-confinement suicide. Accordingly, TDCJ-RRD has developed the following programs to address those special needs and prepare individuals for reentering their community.

- The Success Through Restoration, Independence, Perseverance, Excellence and Service (STRIPES) male veterans' dorm is a collaboration with multiple TDCJ divisions and community partners providing support programming, incorporating Moral Recognition Therapy curriculum, coordination for a Texas Veteran Commission peer specialist program specifically designed for those incarcerated, and other veteran specific programming. This program is designed to equip veterans with the necessary tools to enhance their well-being and ultimately their reintegration into society. Since its inception in July 2021, there have been 230 individuals served.

- The Service Through Actions Reveals Strength (STARS) female veterans' dorm addresses veteran specific needs and is gender-responsive to participants paving a path towards a healthy future. 30 veterans have been participating during FY 2025. Participants have also been trained as peer specialists to engage fellow dorm participants as well as other program participants and provide supportive services. The veterans' dorm is fully integrated into the facility, providing color guard services at the flagpole and during unit program graduations and performing the national anthem as requested.
- In FY 2025, the TDCJ-RRD and TDCJ-CID expanded Veteran Peer Housing to 30 units with living areas dedicated solely to veterans. This concept of barracks-living-behind-bars creates an environment where veterans can support one another peer-to-peer on common issues related to military trauma. Veteran X (males) and Veteran Hope (females) peer services are offered in the living areas to create a safe space for veterans to not only help each other but navigate one's own struggles with a means for healing via real-world coping mechanisms in the form of scenarios derived from experiences that many veterans are facing or will face.

Medical or Mental Impairments: The TDCJ-RRD includes the Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments (TCOOMMI) which develops and facilitates continuity of care transitional planning for special needs inmates, through different specialized programs based on individual needs.

Continuity of care is the process of identifying the service needs of inmates with special needs, developing a plan to meet those needs, and coordinating services between various agencies that provide treatment, care, or services. During FY 2025, TCOOMMI served 51,315 individuals within the continuity of care medical programs and 38,546 in mental health continuity of care programs.

TCOOMMI works collaboratively with the agency's university medical and mental health providers and reentry staff to improve identification processes, and through joint efforts, improve potentials for healthcare coverage to be achieved through federal benefit application processes or connections with community partners and referrals to the healthcare marketplace.

Innovation Unit: During FY 2025, the Bartlett Innovation Unit opened its doors and launched a range of new programs designed to expand opportunities for incarcerated individuals. Among those programs are the Trust, Healing, Restoration, Independence, Vision and Empowerment (THRIVE) program, the Fostering Opportunities through Resiliency, Growth and Empowerment (FORGE) dorms, and various veteran services programs.

- The FORGE program, a collaboration between TDCJ-RRD and the TDCJ-CID, was designed to provide enhanced personalized reentry services for those

within 180 days from release to prepare incarcerated individuals for a successful reentry into the community by providing tailored support from Reentry Services and dedicated Peer Support Specialists. The goal for FORGE is to create an environment for concentrated reentry efforts with like-minded individuals to facilitate a smoother reentry journey.

- TDCJ-RRD provides several programs to the veteran population within the Bartlett Innovation Unit:
 - The veteran dorms at Bartlett received training in the Veterans Affairs' Veteran X model with trained peers providing service.
 - TDCJ-RRD collaborated with the Williamson County Animal Shelter on the Leashing Hope program. Through Leashing Hope, veteran inmates gain the opportunity to become dog handlers and train dogs in social skills to improve adoption potential upon the dog's graduation from the program. Since inception, two cohorts of dogs have graduated.
 - During FY 2025, TDCJ-RRD acquired access to the Status Query and Response Exchange System (SQUARES) Veterans Affairs web application. SQUARES users enter key identity attributes, such as name and date of birth, to retrieve real time critical information about a veteran's status and eligibility for healthcare and Veterans Affairs programs. Utilizing SQUARES enhances the ability of users to provide critical support to veterans, which significantly improves quality of life and ensures that veterans receive benefits, support, and preventative care, particularly to those who face homelessness, legal disputes, involvement in criminal justice, or mental health crises.

Common Reentry Barriers and Referrals

To ensure an inmate has the greatest possible chance for a successful transition and reintegration to the community, TDCJ staff work to identify the individual needs of each person and coordinate with a contracted vendor or another state agency for services specific to that need.

These resources may be state paid or subsidized, private pay or private insurance, or provided by peer support networks at no charge.

Employment

For those individuals who are unemployed or under-employed, a referral is made by the parole officer to TDCJ-RRD employment coordinators, the Texas Workforce

Commission (TWC) when appropriate, and to job fairs and hiring events coordinated by TDCJ-RRD staff. TDCJ-RRD and TDCJ-PD staff collaborate to provide weekly classes for clients at the local parole office to identify and address the barriers causing continued unemployment.

TDCJ-RRD employment coordinators work directly with individual employers to increase the number of employers actively hiring clients. The TDCJ-RRD coordinates with employers interested in hiring clients and helps make the connection between the individual and employer.

TDCJ-RRD and TDCJ-PD staff focus on employment as a significant element of a successful transition to the community. Employment assistance is provided both pre- and post-release. To capitalize on education, as well as job and skills training received while in custody, the TDCJ offers hiring events, job fairs, career expositions, employment preparation classes, and soft skills training (non-technical skills, such as communication, listening, time management, and empathy) on a consistent basis to enhance the client's employability, often working in conjunction with the TWC. By securing employment, the risk of losing a residence is reduced, thereby providing a more stable environment for the individual to complete their term of supervision and reintegrate into the community. In FY 2025, TDCJ-RRD staff hosted 15 employment events with over 500 individuals attending and a 63% hire rate within 90 days of the event.

Collaboration between the TDCJ-RRD, TDCJ-MAL, and the WSD connects a pre-release inmate's job training and skills information with employers to increase opportunities for sustainable employment. Barriers for employment are caused by many variables, including geographical locations and a client's job skills. There are barriers related to licensing restrictions as well as overall job markets in the client's surrounding area.

For those inmates with specific vocational skills, the inmate's information is uploaded to the TDCJ Website for Work web portal for potential employers to review and, if interested, offer employment. As of the end of FY 2025, over 1,200 employers were active and hiring via Website for Work.

Housing

For those inmates who need housing, a referral is made to arrange for a bed in a contracted residential reentry center.

Inmates are not released to parole supervision without an approved residence. There are eight privately operated residential reentry centers for inmates without an approved residence. Individuals under parole supervision are placed in a residential reentry center either upon release or upon referral from field parole staff in the event they no longer have an approved residence.

Other housing options include TDCJ-approved community residential resources where two or more unrelated clients reside, and the facility is owned by an individual, a private entity, non-profit, or faith-based organization with which the TDCJ has no contractual agreement. Community residential resources must complete an application process to be approved to accept clients on parole supervision. These residential resources receive no compensation from the TDCJ, and any fees must be paid by the clients.

The Temporary Housing Assistance Program (THAP) facility is also a community residential resource where two or more unrelated clients reside, and is owned by an individual, private entity, non-profit, or faith-based organization with which the TDCJ has no contractual agreement. THAP facilities receive compensation from the TDCJ in an amount not to exceed the established cost to house a client incarcerated in a correctional institution or housed in a residential reentry center. These facilities must complete an application process to be approved to accept clients under parole supervision. Consistent with Texas Government Code § 508.157, THAP sites cannot be in a county that has a state contracted residential reentry center.

While housing options are available for the paroling population, housing barriers for formerly incarcerated individuals might include limitations of public housing assistance programs or entitlements for clients with felony convictions, lack of housing in the county of conviction, or a restriction that prohibits clients from returning to the county of conviction. The agency's contracted residential services are not available to inmates who are released from prison after having served their entire sentence and therefore are not under parole supervision. Initiatives by TDCJ-RRD to identify housing barriers prior to release have contributed to more stable housing options for these clients by connecting them with community services, establishing family connections, and assisting in obtaining sustainable employment.

Medical Care

The TCOOMMI office works in conjunction with local resources to provide referrals to medical care for clients without medical coverage due to ineligibility for disability benefits on a federal or state level, or with limited access to care due to financial constraints. Through case management efforts between TDCJ-RRD and TDCJ-PD, staff provide referrals to programs for assistance in transportation, access to chronic care community programs or other specialty health services. During FY 2025, to facilitate pre-release connection to community resources for Healthcare Marketplace enrollment, the relationships with community partners resulted in a total of 11,088 referrals made with 27% of the referred individuals engaging with the partner service and 19% of those enrolling into a healthcare plan. TDCJ-RRD staff are working collaboratively with community partners to raise awareness and provide opportunities for education on the importance of health and health care coverage during the reentry journey.

Substance Use

Inmates who are known substance users are often referred to various programs. The In-Prison Therapeutic Community (ITPC) and SAFP programs are six- to nine-month programs in the prison setting, with an aftercare component that lasts approximately 12-15 months after release to parole supervision, ensuring a seamless continuum of care. The exact length of the program is based on the inmate's progress and needs.

Other programs addressing chemical dependency during incarceration include the Pre-Release Substance Abuse Program (PRSAP), Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) Recovery Program, Pre-Release Therapeutic Community (PRTC), In-Prison Substance Use Treatment Program (IPSUTP), Substance Use Education Program (SUEP), Intermediate Sanction Facility (ISF) Program and State Jail Substance Abuse Program (SJSAP).

The Therapeutic Community Substance Abuse Aftercare Treatment Program administers a range of therapeutic outpatient and resource programs to clients released to supervision who completed certain programs while in prison. It oversees and coordinates interrelated programs for the substance use treatment of clients and makes use of case management and drug and alcohol testing to assist in supervising clients.

The Substance Abuse Counseling Program is an educational, intervention, and treatment initiative aimed at supporting clients under parole supervision. This program seeks to minimize the rate of recidivism among clients who use alcohol or drugs while on supervision, have a history of substance use, or seek assistance with substance-related issues during their supervision period. Licensed counselors from the TDCJ-PD, authorized by the HHS, provide relapse prevention services. Eligible clients who test positive for prohibited substances may receive outpatient and inpatient treatment services through contracted treatment vendors. Additionally, peer support programs such as Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, and Winner's Circle (a non-secular support program) are available to clients both during and after treatment.

Because the TDCJ-PD has dedicated funding for substance use treatment services for individuals on parole supervision, the population transitioning out of these services may not face certain barriers. Nonetheless, challenges such as limited transportation options and waiting lists for services may still present obstacles for clients under supervision.

Mental Health

TCOOMMI coordinates access to care and referrals to all Local Mental Health Authorities across the state. Specific TCOOMMI funds are utilized to provide services for eligible individuals with severe and persistent mental health disorders. For individuals who may not meet the traditional qualifiers for services within the public mental health system, community resource information for general medical and other public assistance options are provided.

Education

Inmates released to supervision with less than a sixth-grade education or without a verified High School Equivalency Certificate or high school diploma, as well as those clients who do not possess adequate vocational skills, are referred to TDCJ-RRD case managers, the TWC, and the Texas Educational Agency (TEA) when appropriate. The barrier to obtaining education typically exists when testing centers are geographically limited in rural areas or testing hours are not varied.

Basic Needs

Basic needs encompass identification documents such as social security cards and DPS ID, clothing, food, social and support services. Individuals lacking resources to meet the basic needs for clothing and food can be assisted through referrals to local charities, food banks, churches, and non-profit organizations. Support services can range from budget management and assistance with utilities to parenting and life skills programs. An individual may have several referrals within this category.

Veteran Services

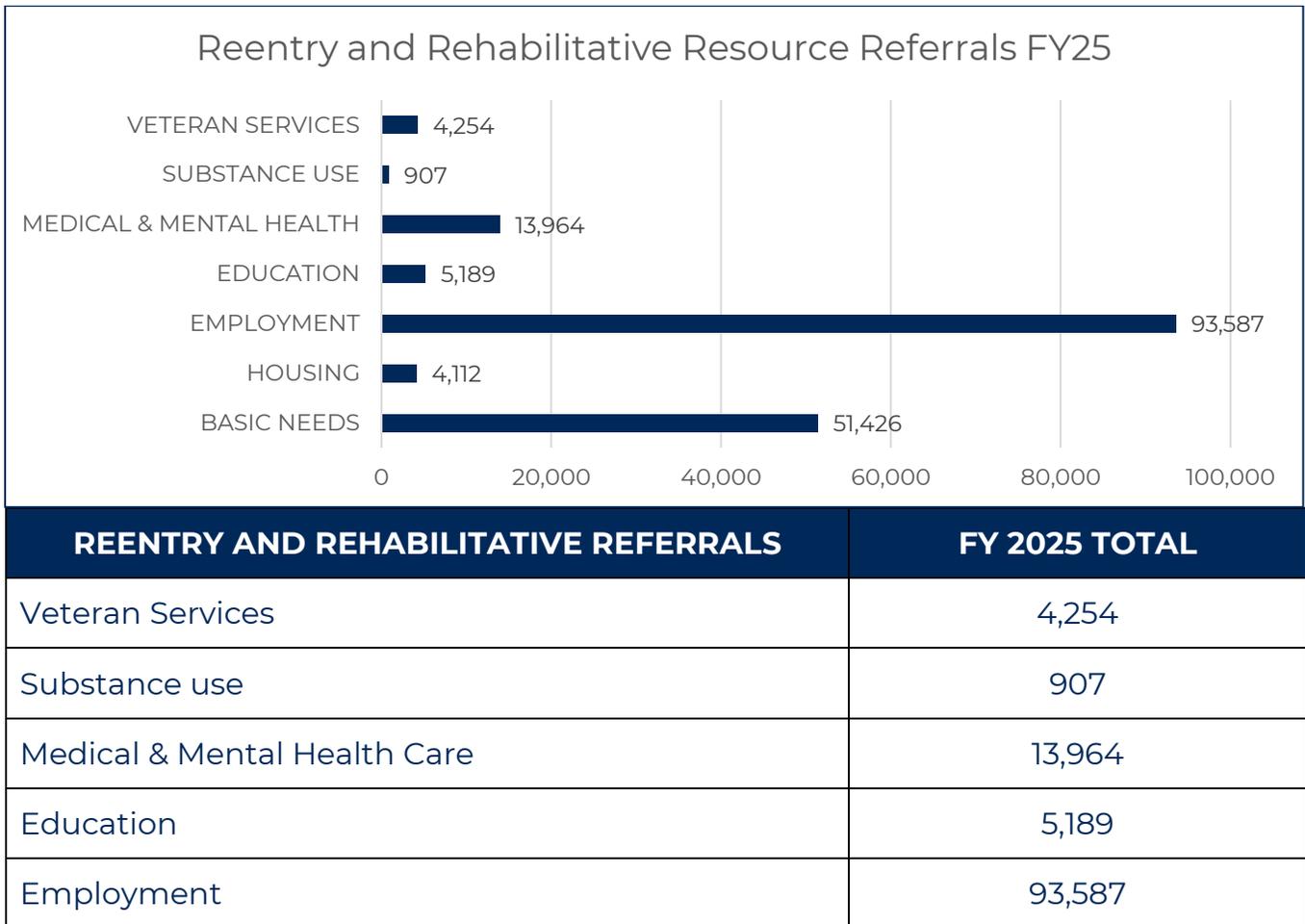
Inmates and clients verified through the Veteran Reentry Search Service (VRSS) as veterans of the United States Armed Forces are eligible for referral services at both the state and federal levels through the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) and the VA - Health Care for Re-Entry Veterans (HCRV) program, and peer network support services on a local level, such as the local county Veteran Services Officer. These resources provided to veterans include housing, medical, and mental health assistance, in addition to other individual needs. Through a cooperative agreement with the TVC, TDCJ-RRD reentry case managers assist veterans with filing disability claims, health enrollment, apportionment application, and compensation and pension reinstatement forms. Additionally, the TDCJ-RRD Veteran Services Coordinator, in coordination with the TVC, provides training to parole officers and reentry case managers.

Referrals and Outcomes

Agency staff work with individuals who are releasing from prison to identify all needs, parole requirements, or any barriers to reentry and to assist the individual by referring them to a resource. Initial referrals are tracked by the referring TDCJ division, and referrals are combined to assess the outcome and to identify any services not readily available.

Referrals

A total of 173,439 resource referrals were made by the TDCJ-RRD prior to release, including multiple resources in each area given to inmates enrolled in case management services and released in FY 2025. Referrals for veterans through TDCJ-RRD are not tracked separately from non-veteran inmates within the case management system; all referrals are recorded uniformly regardless of veteran status.

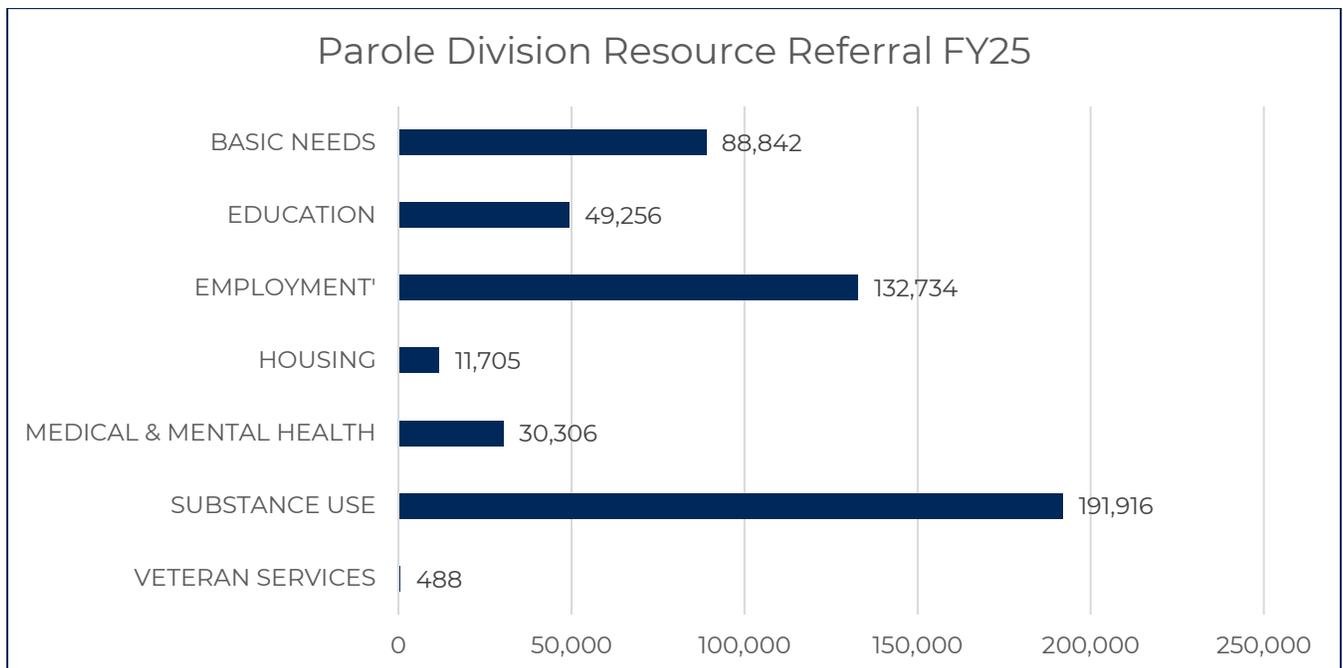


Housing	4,112
Basic Needs	51,426
TOTAL	173,439

Additionally, over 505,247 referrals were made in FY 2025 by TDCJ-PD. Referral resources include:

- TDCJ resources such as residential reentry centers;
- State agencies such as the TVC, TEA, or the TWC;
- Local mental health authorities for psychiatric issues, including intensive case management, transitional case management, or continuity of care services through a TCOOMMI contracted vendor;
- Residential and outpatient substance use treatment or psychiatric services; and
- Community resources such as churches or food pantries, and support services such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Winner’s Circle, or the VA-HCRV program.

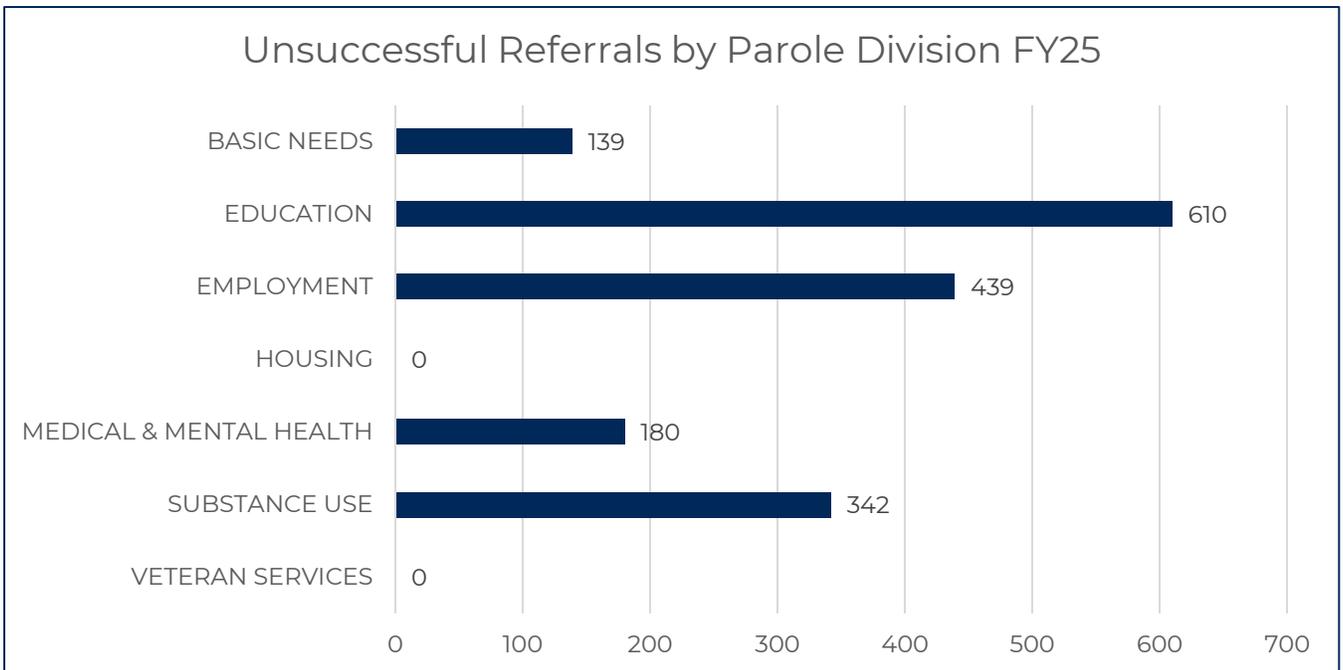
Of the 505,247 referrals made by the TDCJ-PD in FY 2025 to individuals on parole supervision, only 1,710 referrals were made for services not readily available or that involved waiting lists.



PAROLE DIVISION REFERRAL	FY 2025 TOTAL
Basic Needs	88,842
Education	49,256
Employment	132,734
Housing	11,705
Medical and Mental Health Care	30,306
Substance Use	191,916
Veteran Services	488
TOTAL	505,247

Outcomes

The following chart reflects the outcome of referrals by assessing a breakdown of services not readily available due to access limitations for referrals that were given to individuals on parole supervision. Housing had no areas where services were not available that involved a waiting list.



UNSUCCESSFUL REFERRALS BY PAROLE DIVISION	FY 2025 TOTAL
Basic Needs	139
Education	610
Employment	439
Housing	0
Medical and Mental Health Care	180
Substance Use	342
Veteran Services	0
TOTAL	1,710

Outcomes of referrals are measured based upon availability of services. If a referral was made and the service was not available or a waiting list existed, the outcome of the referral was considered unsuccessful. The agency works to ensure the resource directory for referrals is up-to-date and accurate to avoid delays in service delivery. Appendix A lists availability of resources in 254 counties across the state.

Resource Directories

TDCJ utilizes several databases which provide resource referral reports to benefit individuals releasing from incarceration including Texas Connector, Workbay, and a resource directory.

Texas Connector

TDCJ has partnered with Texas Connector, an interactive online resource guide which gives reentry case managers and parole officers the ability to access numerous non-profits and agencies in the client's area to further assist with the individual's reentry needs.

Texas Connector allows TDCJ to produce general or specific reports containing information for referrals. General reports may list several program or service options, including substance use, education, batterer's intervention, anger management, housing, employment, or mental health. A specific report may be narrowed to any program or service needed for an individual client.

Texas Connector provides the ability to search for resources statewide by a specific address or region by city, county, or ZIP code parameters. Staff may produce a report

containing the requested search information for a radius ranging from one to 100 miles.

Resource Directory

Along with Texas Connector, the TDCJ-RRD maintains a resource directory that is shared with the WSD for use in determining pre-release referrals during case planning. This directory is published on the TDCJ website for community partners, inmate families, and other agency staff.

Resources identified as no longer available are removed from the directory. In areas lacking resources, individuals are referred to the nearest available resource.

The TDCJ-PD utilizes an electronic case management system that contains a resource directory for parole officers to track client information. Parole officers address referrals and monitor effectiveness monthly and provide additional referrals or modifications as needed.

Workbay

The Workbay platform serves as an innovative enhancement to the resource directory by incorporating a virtual application allowing for live data collection and monitoring of services being accessed or utilized.

The Workbay platform integrates into the existing Website for Work furthering employer connection opportunities for the releasing and recently released population. As the inmate population engages with the Workbay platform, their profiles and activities will transition with them to the community and be accessible post-release through Workbay's online platform.

In addition to identifying the outcome of referrals, parole officers and reentry case managers have identified those counties where additional resources or providers would be beneficial to meet clients' reentry needs (Appendix A).

Training and Curriculum Development

Training is an agency priority. The agency makes every effort to provide staff with the tools necessary to perform their job functions efficiently and effectively and apply proven practices to aid in case management and supervision of clients.

Rehabilitation and Reentry Division Training

In FY 2025, training for TDCJ-RRD staff included TRAS End User Certification Training, Basic Training for New Case Managers, and Basic Training for New Employment Coordinators.

- **TRAS End User Certification Training** is a 16-hour class that develops the knowledge and skills necessary for completing an inmate's TRAS assessment. All newly hired reentry case managers are required to attend TRAS End User Certification training and pass the certification test.
- **Basic Training for New Case Managers** is a 22-hour class which consists of an overview of the TDCJ-RRD, reentry planning, identification documents, and release processing. Case managers are required to complete 56 hours of structured observation of an experienced case manager performing duties on a TDCJ facility prior to attending Basic Training for New Case Managers.
- **Basic Training for New Employment Coordinators** is a 20-hour class and a 16-hour TRAS End User Training with topics specific to the employment coordinator. The course concentrates on the tasks that are employment coordinator specific, such as job fairs, oral communication, and employment coordinator duties. In Basic Training for New Employment Coordinators, employment coordinators are required to complete 32 hours of structured observation of an experienced employment coordinator performing duties prior to attending the formal training, and eight hours observing a case manager on a unit. Structured observation, together with formal classroom training, has been determined to be critical to an employment coordinator's success.

Parole Division Training

In FY 2025, training for Parole Division staff consisted of:

- Parole Leader Education and Development (LEAD) – training for newly hired parole officers (272 hours);
- In-Service Training – annual training consisting of various pertinent topics identified by management (24 hours);
- Supervisor Leader Course – overview of supervisory duties (36 hours);
- Senior Leader Course – overview of functions of an office manager (38 hours);
- Firearms – firearm preparedness course for staff who choose to carry a weapon (40 hours); and

- Specialized Officer Supervision Schools (SOSS).
 - SOSS courses consist of a week-long training that is conducted for officers prior to assignment to a specialized caseload. SOSS courses were conducted for the following specialized caseloads to include: Residential Reentry Center (32 hours), Special Needs (32 hours), Sex Offender (32 hours), Therapeutic Community (32 hours), District Reentry Center (32 hours), and Super-Intensive Supervision Program/Electronic Monitoring Officers (40 hours).

Appendix A

The agency is committed to effectively addressing clients' needs. The following is a list of counties where staff have identified opportunities for enhanced support through additional services or providers.

A mark in the table below signifies the county may have limited or no resources, or resources may not be available in some areas of the county.

Referral Needs by County

COUNTY	HOUSING	BASIC NEEDS	EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT	VETERAN SERVICES	MEDICAL	MENTAL HEALTH	SUBSTANCE USE
Anderson				X	X			
Andrews	X	X		X	X		X	X
Angelina								
Aransas								
Archer			X	X		X		X
Armstrong								
Atascosa								X
Austin	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bailey	X		X	X	X			X
Bandera								X
Bastrop				X	X		X	X
Baylor			X	X				X
Bee								
Bell	X	X						X
Bexar	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Blanco								
Borden	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bosque								
Bowie		X	X		X			X
Brazoria			X					
Brazos	X		X					
Brewster	x		X	X			X	X
Briscoe				X	X			X
Brooks			X					
Brown	X		X					X
Burleson	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Burnet	X				X			

COUNTY	HOUSING	BASIC NEEDS	EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT	VETERAN SERVICES	MEDICAL	MENTAL HEALTH	SUBSTANCE USE
Caldwell								
Calhoun			X	X				X
Callahan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cameron								
Camp	X	X	X		X			X
Carson								
Cass	X	X	X	X	X			X
Castro	X		X	X	X			X
Chambers	X	X	X		X		X	X
Cherokee	X		X	X				
Childress	X			X				X
Clay			X	X				X
Cochran	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Coke								X
Coleman	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Collin								
Collingsworth			X			X		X
Colorado	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Comal								
Comanche	X		X		X			X
Concho								X
Cooke								
Coryell	X	X	X	X	X			X
Cottle			X	X		X		X
Crane	X		X	X	X		X	X
Crockett							X	X
Crosby								
Culberson	X		X	X	X		X	
Dallam		X				X	X	X
Dallas								
Dawson	X		X	X	X			X
Deaf Smith		X	X			X	X	X
Delta	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Denton	X							
DeWitt								X
Dickens	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Dimmit								
Donley						X	X	X
Duval								

COUNTY	HOUSING	BASIC NEEDS	EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT	VETERAN SERVICES	MEDICAL	MENTAL HEALTH	SUBSTANCE USE
Eastland	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ector								
Edwards	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Ellis	x							
El Paso					X			
Erath	X				X			
Falls								
Fannin	X		X		X			
Fayette	X				X		X	X
Fisher	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Floyd	X		X	X	X	X		X
Foard	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Fort Bend	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Franklin	X	X	X		X	X		X
Freestone	X		X	X				
Frio								X
Gaines	X		X	X	X		X	
Galveston	X	x	x		x	x		X
Garza	X	X	X	X	X			
Gillespie								X
Glasscock	X		X		X			
Goliad								X
Gonzales								
Gray	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Grayson	X				X			
Gregg			X					
Grimes	X		X					X
Guadalupe								
Hale	X				X			
Hall	X		X	X	X	X		X
Hamilton	X	X	X	X	X			X
Hansford								
Hardeman			X	X		X		X
Hardin					X			
Harris								
Harrison			X		X			X
Hartley								
Haskell	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hays	X				X		X	X

COUNTY	HOUSING	BASIC NEEDS	EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT	VETERAN SERVICES	MEDICAL	MENTAL HEALTH	SUBSTANCE USE
Hemphill								
Henderson			X	X				
Hidalgo								X
Hill								
Hockley			X		X			
Hood	X				X			
Hopkins	X	X	X		X			X
Houston	X		X	X				
Howard	X			X	X			X
Hudspeth	X		x	X	X		x	
Hunt	X				X			X
Hutchinson		X						
Irion							X	X
Jack			X					X
Jackson								X
Jasper				X	X			X
Jeff Davis	X		X	X	X	X		X
Jefferson								
Jim Hogg			X					
Jim Wells								
Johnson								
Jones	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Karnes								X
Kaufman					X			
Kendall								X
Kenedy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Kent	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Kerr								X
Kimble							X	X
King	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Kinney	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Kleberg								
Knox			X	X		X		X
Lamar			X					
Lamb		X	X		X			X
Lampasas	X		X	X	X			X
La Salle	X	X	X	X	X			X
Lavaca								X
Lee	X			X	X		X	X

COUNTY	HOUSING	BASIC NEEDS	EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT	VETERAN SERVICES	MEDICAL	MENTAL HEALTH	SUBSTANCE USE
Leon	X		X	X	X	X		X
Liberty	X		X		X			X
Limestone								
Lipscomb								
Live Oak					X			X
Llano	X				X			
Loving	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Lubbock	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Lynn	X	X	X	X	X			
Madison	X		X	X	X	X		X
Marion	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Martin	X		X	X	X		X	X
Mason	X				X		X	X
Matagorda			X					
Maverick								
McCulloch	X		X		X			X
McLennan								
McMullen	X			X				X
Medina								
Menard							X	X
Midland	X							
Milam	X	X	X		X	X		X
Mills	X		X		X			X
Mitchell	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Montague			X	X				X
Montgomery	X		X		X			
Moore		X				X	X	X
Morris	X	X	X		X	X		X
Motley	X		X	X	X	X		X
Nacogdoches					X			
Navarro					X			
Newton				X	X			X
Nolan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Nueces								
Ochiltree								
Oldham								
Orange								
Palo Pinto	X				X			
Panola				X	X		X	

COUNTY	HOUSING	BASIC NEEDS	EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT	VETERAN SERVICES	MEDICAL	MENTAL HEALTH	SUBSTANCE USE
Parker	X				X			
Parmer	X		X	X	X			X
Pecos	X		x	x	x		X	X
Polk			X		X			
Potter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Presidio	X		x	x	x		X	X
Rains	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Randall	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Reagan							X	X
Real	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Red River		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Reeves	X		x	x	x		X	X
Refugio								X
Roberts								
Robertson	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Rockwall	X				X			
Runnels							X	X
Rusk								
Sabine	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
San Augustine	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
San Jacinto	X	X	X	X	X			
San Patricio								X
San Saba	X		X		X			X
Schleicher								
Scurry	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Shackelford	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Shelby	X	X		X	X		X	
Sherman								
Smith			X	X				
Somervell								
Starr	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Stephens	X				X			
Sterling							X	X
Stonewall	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sutton							X	X
Swisher			X	X	X			X
Tarrant								
Taylor		X	X					
Terrell	X		X	X	X		X	X

COUNTY	HOUSING	BASIC NEEDS	EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT	VETERAN SERVICES	MEDICAL	MENTAL HEALTH	SUBSTANCE USE
Terry	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Throckmorton	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Titus	X	X	X		X			X
Tom Green								
Travis								
Trinity	X		X	X		X		X
Tyler				X	X			X
Upshur	X	X	X		X	X		X
Upton	X		X	X	X		X	X
Uvalde								
Val Verde								
Van Zandt			X	X				
Victoria								
Walker	X		X	X	X	X		X
Waller	X		X		X			
Ward	X		X	X	X		X	X
Washington	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Webb								
Wharton			X					
Wheeler								
Wichita								X
Wilbarger		X	X	X				X
Willacy							X	X
Williamson								
Wilson			X					
Winkler	X		X	X	X		X	X
Wise	X				X			
Wood			X	X				
Yoakum	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Young			X					X
Zapata								
Zavala			X	X	X		X	X



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