

WHITE PAPER ON RECIDIVISM PREVENTION 2025 (Summary)



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
JAPAN

- In order to further promote initiatives to reduce reoffending, the Second Recidivism Prevention Promotion Plan states that **“private-sector partners should be actively cultivated to further strengthen cooperation”**, in light of the importance of the role played by private-sector partners [Measure No. 71]



As the role of private-sector partners in the field of reducing reoffending becomes increasingly important, there has been a need for cooperation with more diverse stakeholders, including private companies, in recent years.

⇒ **Introduction of the pioneering initiatives of companies and organizations newly participating in the field of reducing reoffending**

Case 1 MARUZEN-YUSHODO Company, Limited

- Cooperate in public relations on the “Brighter Society Campaign” and hold a symposium on reducing reoffending jointly with the Ministry of Justice.

Case 2 Arc & Beyond Association, Inc.

- Using MESH™, a programming tool developed by a Sony Group company, to implement educational programmes at juvenile training schools nationwide.

Case 3 Development Bank of Japan Inc.

- Involved as an investor in a PFS/SIB project implemented by the Ministry of Justice to provide learning support for juvenile delinquents

Case 4 Shizuoka City

- Since FY 2023, training courses have been held to facilitate public understanding of, and support for, preventing recidivism.

- The participation of new stakeholders, including those introduced in the cases above, can broaden the scope of initiatives to reduce reoffending and encourage more people to take an interest in recidivism prevention.



When companies and citizens with common interests become involved in the field of recidivism prevention, community-based inclusion will be strongly promoted.

⇒ **Taking us one step closer to achieving a safe and secure society.**

Chapter 1: Securing employment and housing

● Prevention of job loss for employed persons and enhanced support for re-employment

- Implementation of a system for consultation by e-mail for juveniles who were released from juvenile training schools [Juvenile Training Schools]

● Collaboration with stakeholders engaged in agriculture-welfare collaboration

- Promotion of initiatives to motivate persons who have committed offenses to engage in farming, based on the Vision for Promoting Agriculture-Welfare Collaboration (2024 Revised Edition) [Ministry of Justice, Penal Institutions, Juvenile Training Schools, Probation Offices, and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries]

Chapter 2: Facilitating the use of health, medical, and welfare services

● Enhancement of support for elderly persons and persons with disabilities who have not secured appropriate post-release housing

- Strengthening multi-stakeholder cooperation among correctional institutions, probation offices, offender rehabilitation facilities (halfway houses), support centers for settlement in local communities, and local governments [Ministry of Justice, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare]

● Implementation of effective “Early-Stage Support” within the criminal justice process

- Implementation of adjustment of living conditions for detained suspects [Probation Offices, and Public Prosecutors Office]

● Enhancement of support for persons with drug addiction problems

- Implementation of effective guidance based on risk of reoffending [Penal Institutions, Juvenile Training Schools, Probation Offices]
- Enhancement of treatment programs to cope with the increased number of cannabis-related offenses [Ministry of Justice, Penal Institutions, Juvenile Training Schools, Probation Offices, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare]

Chapter 3: Implementing educational support in collaboration with schools

● Support for preventing delinquency in local communities

- Appointment of regional educational support coordinators at juvenile assessment centers in Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya [Juvenile Assessment Centers]

● Enhancement of efforts for smooth continuance of learning through collaboration both with correctional institutions and schools

- Implementation of opportunities for senior high school education at all juvenile training schools for juveniles who wish to continue their studies [Juvenile Training Schools]

Chapter 4: Implementing effective guidance that is tailored to the individual attributes of persons who have committed offenses

● Guidance and other initiatives for persons with developmental issues who have committed offenses

- Implementation of model projects to support the treatment and reintegration into society of inmates with developmental issues [Penal Institutions]

● Guidance and other initiatives that incorporate the perspectives of crime victims

- Implementation of a system to hear and communicate victims' sentiments in correctional treatment for adults and juveniles [Penal Institutions, Juvenile Training Schools, and Probation Offices]

Chapter 5: Promoting activities of cooperating non-governmental stakeholders

● Consideration for the establishment of a sustainable *hogoshi* (volunteer probation officer) system

- Holding study groups on the establishment of a sustainable *hogoshi* system and compiling related reports [Ministry of Justice]

Chapter 6: Advancing community-based inclusion

● Supporting the efforts of local governments to advance recidivism prevention

- Implementation of the regional recidivism prevention projects as a joint initiative of the state and prefectures [Ministry of Justice]

● Promotion of community-based assistance for offender rehabilitation

- Establishment of “Risutapo”, a local counseling service for crimes and delinquency [Probation Offices]
- Provision of assistance to persons who have completed custodial sentences [Probation Offices]

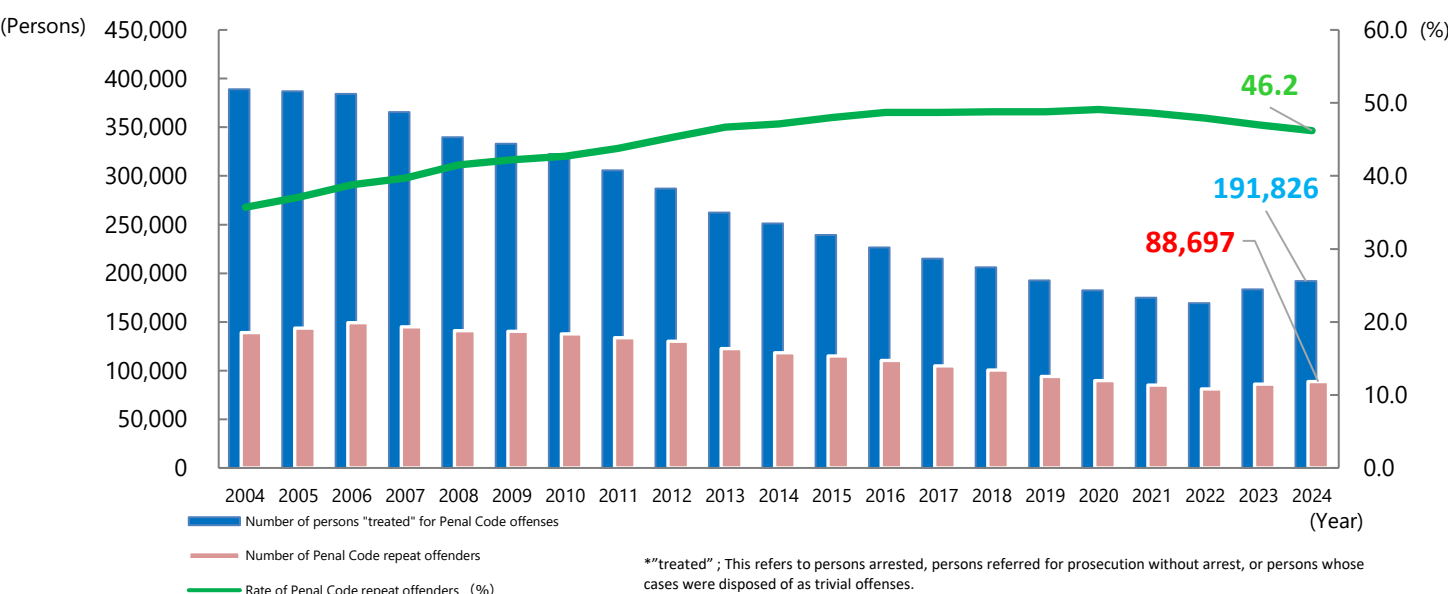
Chapter 7: Developing foundations for recidivism prevention

● Promotion of public relations and awareness-raising activities

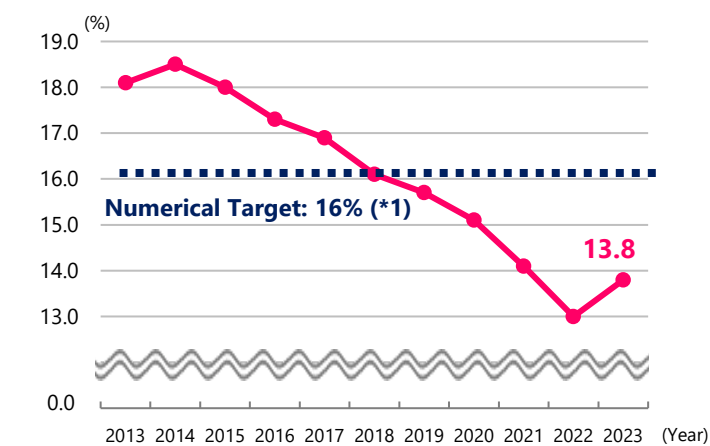
- Holding recidivism prevention symposia in eight regions nationwide [Ministry of Justice]

Performance Indicators for Initiatives to Prevent Recidivism

Number and rate of repeat offenders among those “treated” for Penal Code offenses



Rate of persons who are re-imprisoned within two years of their release from prison (*hereinafter* “the rate of re-imprisonment within two years”)

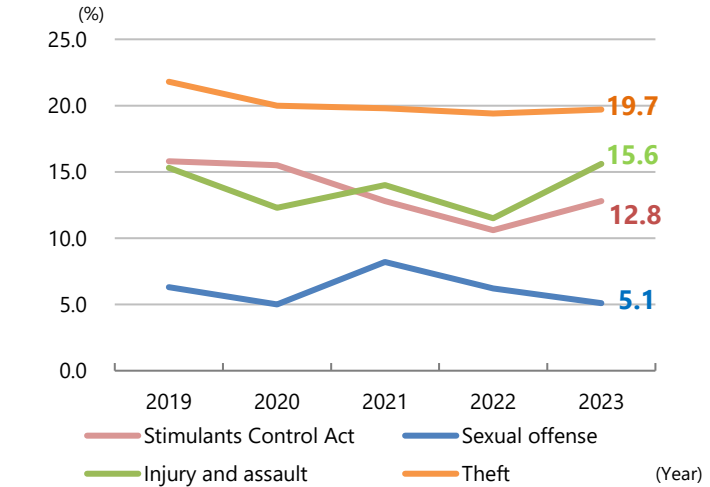


(*1) “Comprehensive Measures to Prevent Recidivism” (Ministerial Commission on Crime Control, 20 July 2012)
Numerical target: Reduce the rate of re-imprisonment within two years to 16% or less by 2021
(*2) This includes cases where the custodial portion of a partially suspended sentence has been completed.

The rate of re-imprisonment within two years categorized by grounds of previous release

		Released upon completion of term of imprisonment(*2)	Released on parole
Year of release	2019	23.3% (1,936)	10.2% (1,189)
	2020	22.6% (1,749)	10.0% (1,114)
	2021	21.6% (1,504)	9.3% (1,011)
	2022	20.2% (1,306)	8.6% (912)
	2023	20.8% (1,249)	9.6% (979)

The rate of re-imprisonment within two years categorized by type of offense



(*3) “Comprehensive Measures to Prevent Recidivism” (Ministerial Commission on Crime Control, 20 July 2012)
Numerical target: Reduce the rate of re-commitment within two years to 8.8% or less by 2021

Rate and number of juveniles who are re-committed to juvenile training schools or imprisoned within two years of their release from juvenile training schools

