

**OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS**  
**Program Name: Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI)**

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding: \$30.0M  
 Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: + \$2.5M

**Program Description**

**Purpose:** To support states and tribes to examine their corrections-related spending, manage and allocate criminal justice populations more cost-effectively, and reinvest the savings in evidence-based strategies that reduce unnecessary incarceration and improve public safety.

The program provides grants and technical assistance that enable state and tribal grantees to conduct this data-driven analysis.

**Authorizing Legislation:** Created through Department of Justice appropriations acts

**Administering Agency:** Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

**DOJ Strategic Objective 3.3:** Provide for the safe, secure, humane, and cost-effective confinement of detainees awaiting trial and/or sentencing, and those in the custody of the federal prison system



Figure 1: JRI Process Map

**Who Can Apply for Funding and How Funds are Distributed:**

Activity	Who Can Apply for Funding	Award Type	Amounts
State and Tribal Justice Reform Grants	State governments and federally recognized Indian tribal governments	Competitive discretionary grants available for 36 months	\$1.75M per award
Training Technical Assistance, and Evaluation	National nonprofit organizations with expertise needed to assist states with JRI process	Cooperative agreements	Varies depending on tasks

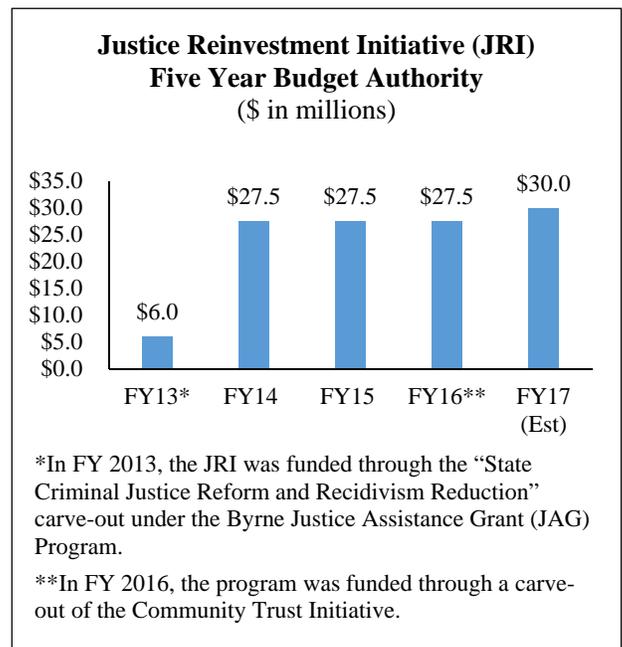
**Program Goals:**

In addition to reducing prison populations, this program encourages states to embrace a culture of greater collaboration, data-driven decision-making, and increased use of evidence-based practices. Each grantee must establish a governmental working group with bipartisan and inter-branch representation.

**Accomplishments:**

27 states across the nation are a part of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative. Some examples of JRI successes include:

- South Carolina has saved \$12.5 million while increasing public safety;
- Georgia’s prison population has decreased by 8%, saving over \$20 million alone in direct payments for counties to hold state prisoners in local jails;
- Kentucky's pretrial reforms have saved counties roughly \$25 million; and
- North Carolina's prison population decreased almost 5.6 percent between December 2011 and June 2013, allowing the state to close 10 prisons and use some of the savings to add 175 probation and parole officers.



For more information on success stories, please see:

[https://www.bja.gov/programs/justicereinvestment/success\\_stories.html](https://www.bja.gov/programs/justicereinvestment/success_stories.html)

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:** N/A

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** Without this increase, BJA will have to slow the expansion of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative and reduce the amount of funding provided for the implementation grants in spite of strong interest in this program.

**Application and Award History**

(\$ in millions)	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Amount Appropriated	[\$6.0]*	\$27.5	\$27.5	[\$27.5]**	\$30.0 Requested
Total Funding Awarded^	\$4.9	\$22.7	\$20.9	TBD	TBD
Number of Applications	6	12	21	TBD	TBD
Number of awards	4	10	11	TBD	TBD

\* In FY 2013, the JRI was funded through the “State Criminal Justice Reform and Recidivism Reduction” carve-out under the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

\*\* In FY 2016, the program was funded through a carve-out of the Community Trust Initiative.

^ Total Funding Awarded does not include funds used for management and administration, peer review, or other authorized purposes.

**For additional information, please visit: [Justice Reinvestment Initiative \(JRI\)](#).**