

# Equipping Individuals for Life Beyond Bars

The Promise of Higher Education & Job Training in Closing the Gap in Skills for Incarcerated Adults

## JOB TRAINING IN PRISON

**1** While 94% of those in federal and state prisons will rejoin society, many are released without the necessary skills to obtain employment upon reentry.

**2** However, participating in job training while incarcerated significantly reduces the gap in skills.

	Average Literacy Score	Average Numeracy Score
Incarcerated Adults	249*	220*
General Public	270	255

\* Significantly different (p < .05) from the comparison category, general public.

Source: New America Analysis of U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), U.S. National Supplement: Prison Study 2014, U.S. PIAAC 2012/2014 Household Survey (public use file).

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	Average Literacy Score	Average Numeracy Score
General Public	270	255
Did Not Participate in Correctional Job Training	247	216
Participated in Correctional Job Training	258*	235*

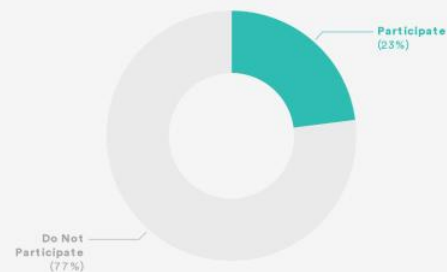
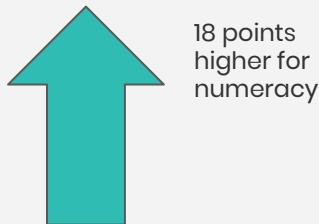
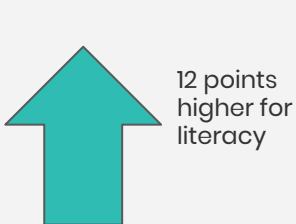
\* Significantly different (p < .05) from the comparison category, either the incarcerated population who did not complete additional levels of education during prison or those who did not participate in correctional job training.

Source: New America Analysis of U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), U.S. National Supplement: Prison Study 2014, U.S. PIAAC 2012/2014 Household Survey (public use file).

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**3** On average, students who participate in job training in prison score 12 points higher in literacy and 18 points higher in numeracy than incarcerated adults who do not.

**4** Although job training equips adults with the critical skills necessary for employment, only 23 percent participate while in prison.



Source: New America Analysis of U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), U.S. National Supplement: Prison Study 2014, U.S. PIAAC 2012/2014 Household Survey (public use file).

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