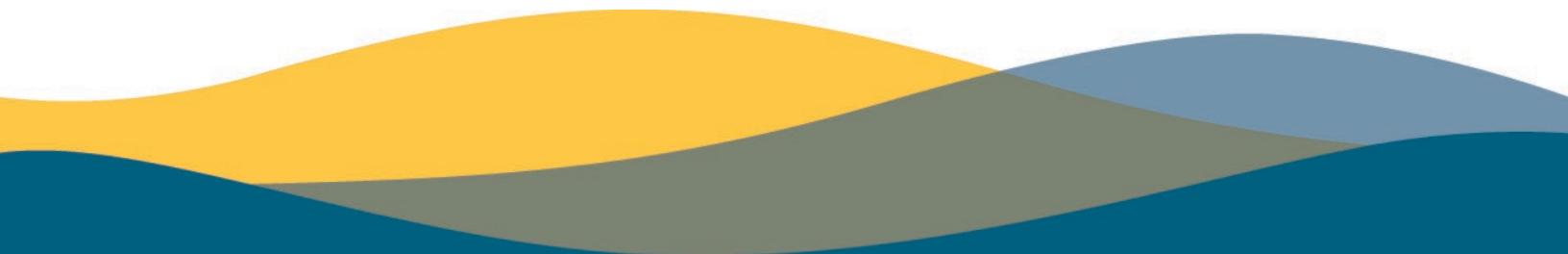


# **2026 Mandatory Discharge Report**

**February 1, 2026**

Submitted jointly by:

Rob Jeffreys, Director  
Nebraska Department of Correctional Services  
and  
Dr. Janee Pannkuk, Chair  
Nebraska Board of Parole



## **SCOPE AND INTRODUCTION**

This report is filed jointly by the Nebraska Board of Parole and the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. Data represents calendar year 2025 (CY2025). In accordance with N.R.S. §83-1,100.03, the report:

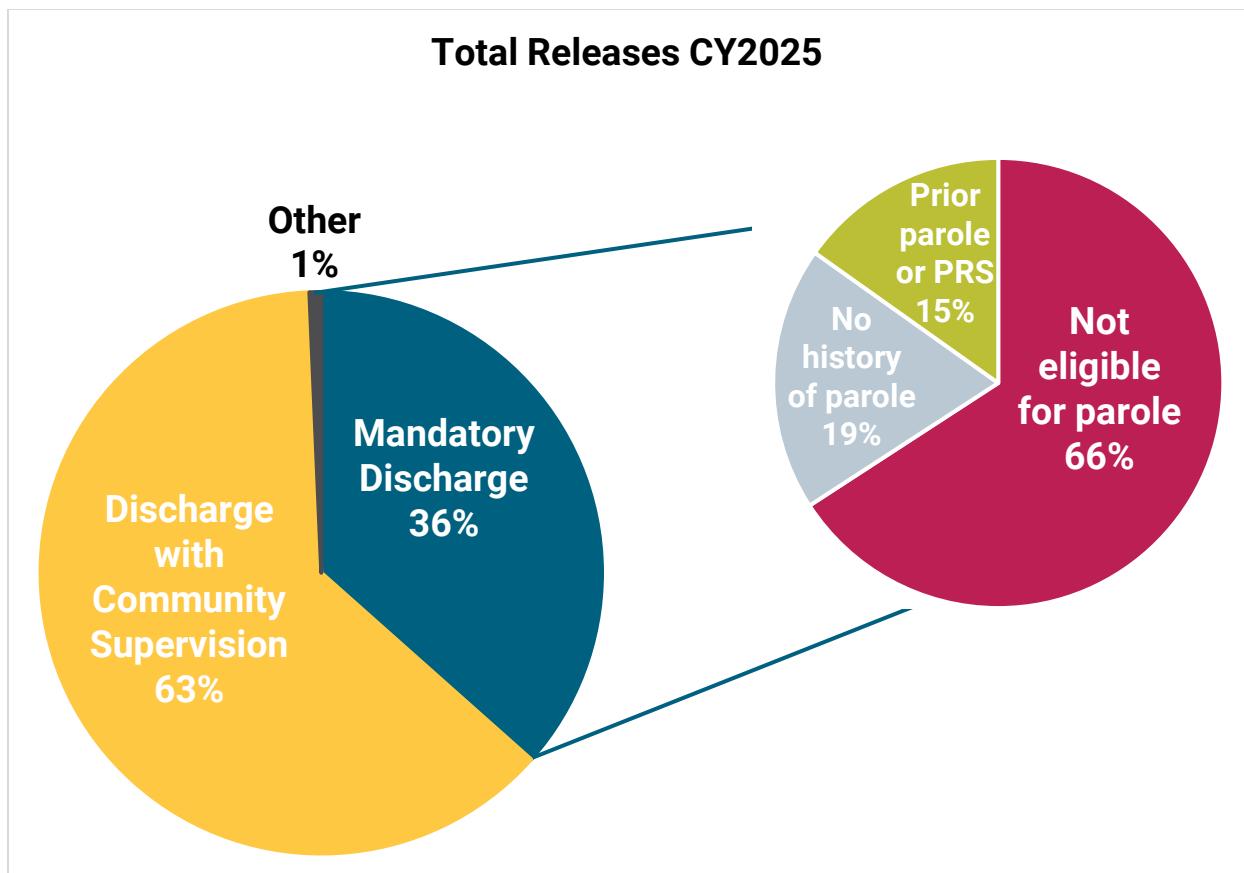
- “describes the percentage of individuals sentenced to NDCS custody who complete their entire sentence and are released with no supervision following that release.
- documents the characteristics of these individuals, including their:
  - highest felony class of conviction,
  - offense type of conviction,
  - most recent risk assessment,
- provides the status of the individualized release or reentry plan, and
- gives reasons why parole was denied or deferred at their most recent Board appearance.
- provides recommendations from both the Board and NDCS with regard to policy and practice changes that will meet the goal of achieving a reduction in the number of inmates under the custody of NDCS who serve their entire sentence in a correctional facility and are released without supervision.”

## **CY2025 Discharges**

Table 1 illustrates the release type and percentage of each type for 2025 and includes three years of historic data for comparison. In CY2025, there were 2,073 individuals who discharged (completed) their sentences. Of these, 758 individuals (36.6%) were discharged directly from an NDCS facility. As noted in Table 1, **499** were not eligible for parole due to their sentence structure; **115** paroled at least once during their incarceration or spent a portion of their term on post-release supervision (PRS); and **144** did not experience supervised release. For purposes of this report, the data will focus on these three groups. Chart 1 (below) breaks down the mandatory discharge group by reason.

**Table 1 - 2021 to 2025 Discharge Comparison**

<u>Release Type</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Releases 2025</u>
<b>Mandatory Discharge</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>36.6%</b>
<i>Not eligible for parole</i>	468	487	503	499	24.1%
<i>No history of parole</i>	202	204	197	144	6.9%
<i>Prior parole or PRS</i>	160	165	165	115	5.5%
<b>Discharge with Community Supervision (Parole or PRS)</b>	<b>1089</b>	<b>1010</b>	<b>1153</b>	<b>1301</b>	<b>62.8%</b>
<i>Parole</i>	544	519	574	689	33.2%
<i>PRS</i>	545	491	579	612	29.5%
<b>Other</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
<i>Released to another jurisdiction, transfer, not under NDCS supervision, died in custody</i>	26	37	28	14	0.7%
<b>Total Releases</b>	<b>1945</b>	<b>1903</b>	<b>2046</b>	<b>2073</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



### Characteristics

Table 2 provides a breakdown of the highest felony class of conviction for each of the three groups.

Table 2 - Highest Felony Class of Conviction			
Felony Class	Prior Parole or PRS	No History of Parole	Not Eligible for Parole
Class 1	15	25	11
Class 2	37	46	5
Class 2A	53	66	7
Class 3	10	4	21
Class 3A	0	2	114
Class 4	0	1	339
Misdemeanor	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>499</b>

Table 3 presents the distribution of individuals in each of the three groups by most serious offense type.

Table 3 - Most Serious Offense Type			
Offense Type	Prior Parole or PRS	No History of Parole	Not Eligible for Parole
Arson	0	3	2
Assault	19	14	117
Burglary	5	8	10
Drugs	22	25	163
Fraud	0	1	12
Homicide	1	3	1
Morals	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle	2	3	35
Restraint	0	0	0
Robbery	19	11	1
Sex Offenses	17	25	25
Theft	8	14	71
Weapons	22	35	36
Other	0	2	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>499</b>

Table 4 provides the most recent risk assessment score for each of the three groups. Individuals who did not have a risk assessment completed generally have refused the assessment or their length of stay within a NDCS facility was less than 45 days.

Table 5 - Risk Assessment Information			
Most Recent Risk Assessment Score	Prior Parole or PRS	No History of Parole	Not Eligible for Parole
<u>Completed Assessment</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>197</u>
Very High Risk	2	0	0
High Risk	48	68	155
Moderate Risk	49	18	26
Low/Moderate Risk	3	0	0
Low Risk	11	14	16
<u>No Assessment Recorded</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>302</u>
Length of Stay Between 0 and 7 Days	0	20	41
Length of Stay Between 8 and 45 Days	0	9	30
Length of Stay 46 Days or More	2	15	231
<b>Total Discharges</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>499</b>

\*The two individuals with prior community supervision and no risk assessment score recorded had previously been released to PRS and returned to NDCS prior to mandatory discharge.

## **Status of the Individualized Release or Reentry Plan**

Planning for a successful reentry begins immediately upon an individual's arrival at an intake facility and continues throughout their sentence.

In CY2025, reentry specialists conducted orientation sessions for newly admitted individuals at all three intake facilities: the Reception and Treatment Center (adult males), Nebraska Correctional Center for Women (females), and Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility (males under the age of 18). In accordance with the [5-Key Model for Reentry and Well-Being Development™](#), individuals are encouraged to begin thinking about their goals and what areas of their life they need to work on in support of their holistic wellbeing and successful reintegration.

Reentry specialists meet with individuals at key points throughout their sentence, including 180 days, 120 days, and 30 days prior to release. They also meet with individuals on an as-needed basis to provide support and assist in developing personalized reentry plans.

Table 5 presents the status of the individualized release or reentry plan for the individuals who were parole-eligible, but did not receive supervised release and those who were not eligible for parole.

**Table 5 - Reentry Plan Status**

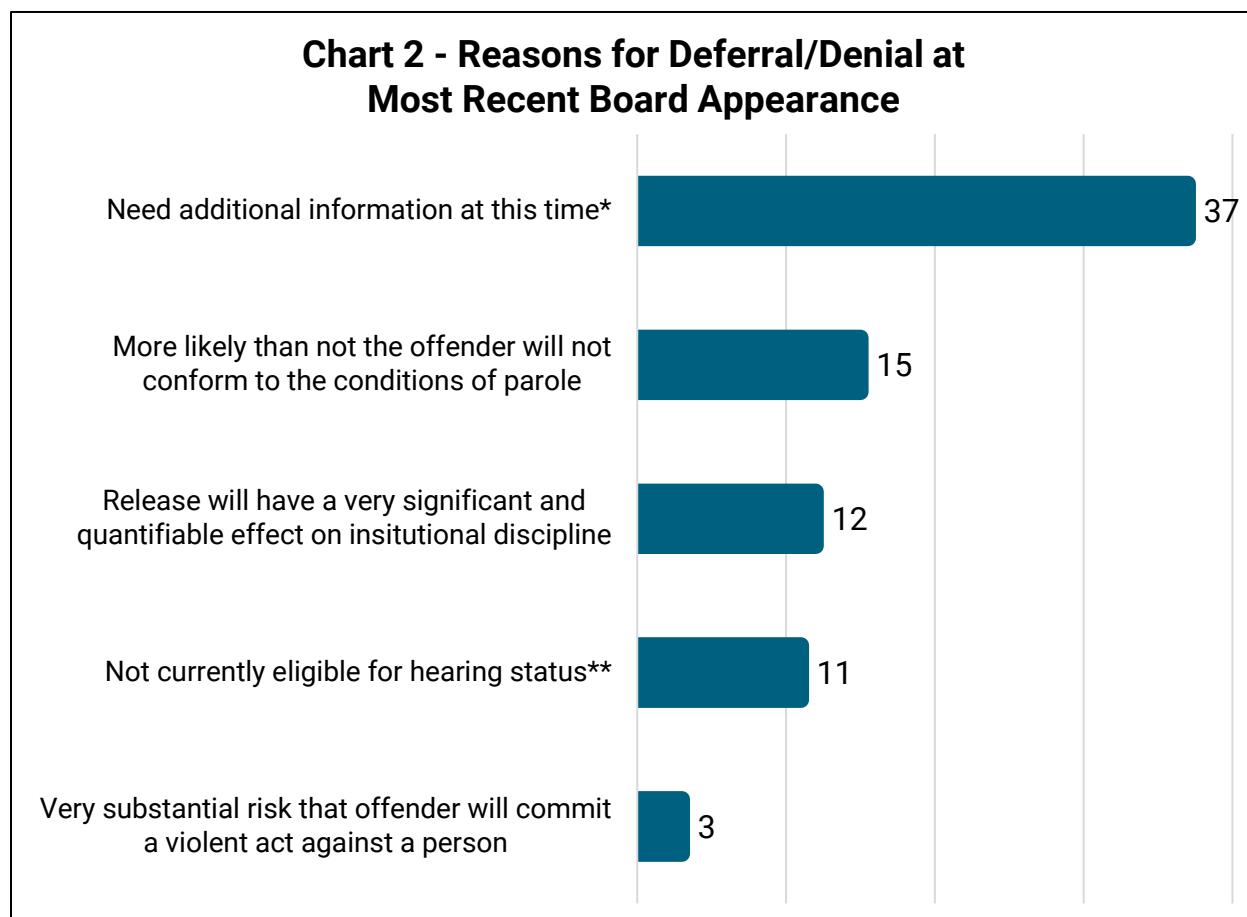
Reentry Plan Status	No History of Parole	Not Eligible for Parole
<b>Completed Reentry Plan</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>410</b>
<b>No Completed Reentry Plan</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>89</b>
<i>Admitted and Discharged on Same Day</i>	16	32
<i>Discharged within Two Weeks of Admission</i>	4	10
<i>Not in NDCS facility prior to discharge (court, detainer, transfer)</i>	6	5
<i>Individual Refusal</i>	5	27
<i>Met with Reentry, but did not have completed plan</i>	7	9
<i>No record of meeting with Reentry</i>	2	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>499</b>

## **REASONS FOR PAROLE DENIAL/DEFERRAL**

Table 6 represents the decisions of the Board of Parole regarding an individual's most recent Board appearance. Data in this table represents only the group of parole-eligible individuals who did not receive parole.

<b>Table 6 - Parole Board Appearance</b>		
<b>Most Recent Appearance</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent of Total</b>
Offender Review	61	42.4%
Initial Parole Hearing	17	11.8%
Review of Parole	0	0.0%
No Parole Review	66	45.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Chart 2 indicates the categories and reasons used by the Board of Parole in documenting the decision for deferral/denial.



\*More than half of the individuals in this category were identified as waiving their appearance and/or not interested in parole. Others were unavailable at the time of review, had incomplete programming or treatment recommendations, not enough time to be set for a hearing, or had pending detainers.

\*\*Only applies to individuals with most recent appearance of Offender Review

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGES TO POLICY AND PRACTICE**

NDCS and the Board are committed to collaboratively minimizing the number of individuals who are released directly from an NDCS facility without supervision. The following strategies and recommendations will be implemented or continued in CY2025 and address common reasons for parole deferrals and denials. These are in addition to all other rehabilitative strategies currently employed by both agencies.

- The Board will begin setting a hearing date three years prior to a person's PED. This will allow the person to start preparations and incentivizing behavior earlier.
- Collaboration between the Board and NDCS has increased significantly in the second half of CY2025. This collaboration will continue.
- Provide guidance for parole hearing preparation and attendance through Parole School classes
- During CY2025, parole officers began meeting with individuals approximately 30 days prior to their parole hearing to ensure a smooth, warm handoff.
- Increase engagement in educational services, to include high school, GED and college courses
- Increase access to workforce development opportunities through collaboration with community partners