

# LATINO DECISIONS / NM SAFE – NEW MEXICO CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLL



September 2018

## Methodology

- Sponsored by New Mexico SAFE
- Field dates: August 22-29, 2018
- NM sample N=502 adults registered to vote
  - > (50% Hispanic, 41% White; 51% Male/49% Female)
- Margin of error +/- 4.4 percentage points
- Conducted landline, cellphone, and web
- English or Spanish, respondent's preference

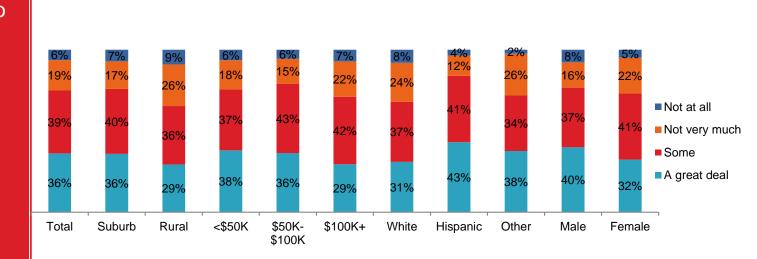
## Main Findings From The Survey

- New Mexicans are very conscious of our state's problems with crime and many indicate they have been directly impacted by crime.
- Most New Mexicans, including most victims of crime, want criminal justice reform that *reduces* the number of New Mexicans who are incarcerated through rehabilitation.
- New Mexicans prefer candidates for elected office that embrace rehabilitation over more punitive approaches to addressing the crime problems facing New Mexico.

## Most New Mexicans Worry About Crime and Safety

How much do you worry about crime and safety in the area where you live?

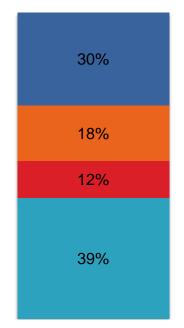
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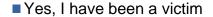


Source: NM Safe LD Survey (N=502; MoE +/-4.4%), August 22-29, 2018

## Many New Mexicans Have Been Crime Victims

Have you or an immediate family member ever been a victim of a crime here in New Mexico?





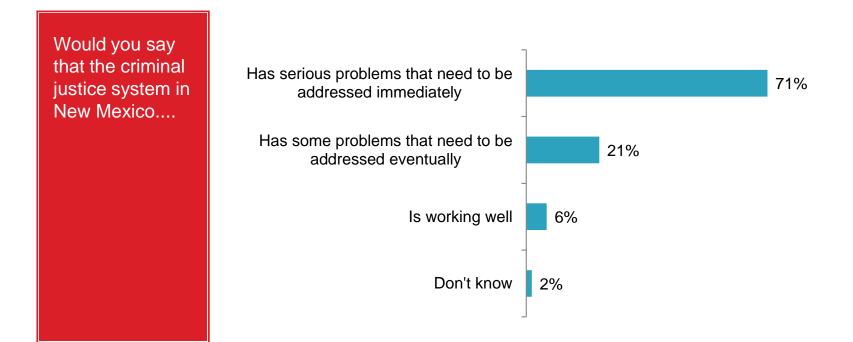
- Yes, an immediate family member has been
- Yes, BOTH me and an immediate family member has been a victim
- No, never been a victim or know a victim (who is an immediate family member)

Don't Know

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Source: NM Safe LD Survey (N=502; MoE +/-4.4%), August 22-29, 2018

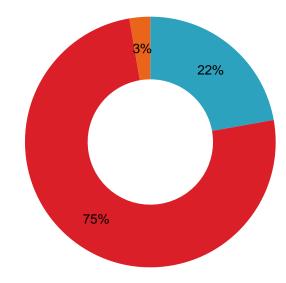
## New Mexicans Want Criminal Justice Reform



Source: NM Safe LD Survey (N=502; MoE +/-4.4%), August 22-29, 2018

## New Mexicans Support Rehabilitation Over Punitive Approaches to Address Crime

Which of the following would do more to prevent people convicted of crimes from committing further offenses once they're released from prison?



- Making prison as hard and unpleasant as possible so they are afraid of going back
- Providing rehabilitation services and training so they can re-enter society and be productive citizens

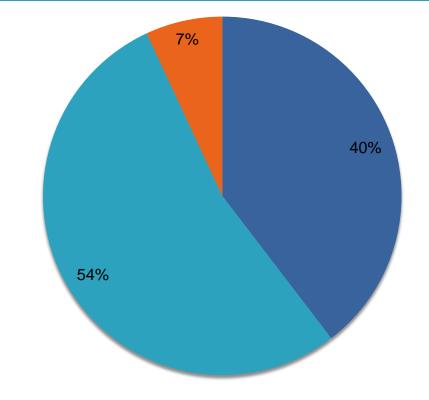
Don't Know

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Source: NM Safe LD Survey (N=502; MoE +/-4.4%), August 22-29, 2018

# The Majority of New Mexicans Believe that Reducing the Number of People in Prison Would Help Communities

In your view, would making reforms that reduce the prison population...

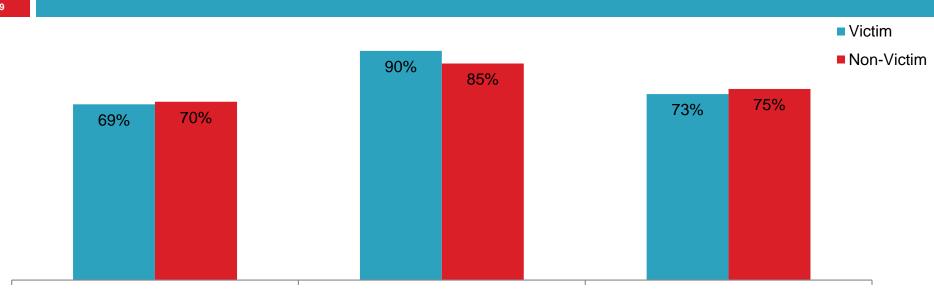


Harm communities because people who belong behind bars will be let out

Help communities by saving taxpayer dollars that can be reinvested into preventing crime and rehabilitating people convicted of crimes

Don't Know

### Crime Victims in New Mexico Are Just as Likely to Support Reducing the Prison Population and Rehabilitation as Non-victims



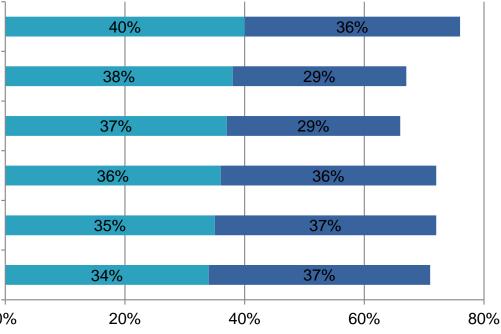
Think that it is important to reduce the number of people who are in prison in New Mexico today

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Agree that even if people with mental health disabilities commit serious crimes, communities will be safer if they're sent to mental health programs where they can get the treatment they need from professionals Agree that people with drug addictions don't belong in prison, they should be in rehabilitation programs where they can recover from their addiction

## Would You be More Likely to Vote for an Elected Official Who Supported the Following?

More funding for mental health programs to rehabilitate people who 40% have committed a crime Reduce the prison population and use the cost savings to reinvest in 38% community programs that have been shown to prevent crime Eliminate mandatory sentences that take discretion away from iudges so that judges can issue a sentence that is appropriate to 37% each crime Reduce the prison population and use the cost savings to reinvest in 36% drug treatment and mental health programs More funding for drug treatment programs to rehabilitate people who 35% have committed a crime Reduce the prison population by diverting offenders into proven rehabilitation programs that address the root causes of violent 34% behavior 0% 20% Latino Decisions Much more likely



Somewhat more likely

## Questions or Suggestions

## Feel free to contact me with follow up questions: gabriel.sanchez@latinodecisions.com

## Sample Distribution

- > The sample had the following distribution across key items:
  - Gender: 51% male and 49% female
  - Race/Ethnicity: 50% Hispanic, 41% non-Hispanic White, 5% Native American, and the remaining percentage comprised of African American and Asian American residents of New Mexico.
  - Party Identification: 41% Democrats, 27% Republicans, and 28% Independent/Other Party
  - Ideology: 34% Liberal, 25% Moderate, and 32% Conservative

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