Maryland taxpayers spend approximately $288 million to incarcerate 7,794 people from Baltimore City. The burden of incarceration is disproportionately felt by some communities. The same communities that experience incarceration most acutely also have the greatest challenges serving their residents. Rather than spend millions of dollars to incarcerate people from each of these communities, the funds could, instead, be invested in education, workforce development, treatment, and housing services.

**Number of people in prison from Dorchester/Ashburton** 155  
**Cost of incarcerating people from Dorchester/Ashburton** $5,735,000

### Challenges in Dorchester/Ashburton

The challenges that Baltimore communities face contribute to a cycle of incarceration, poverty, and lost opportunity. Redirecting people and funds away from prison would help Baltimore City address these persistent challenges and barriers to the success of each community. Specific indicators of the challenges faced by this community include:

- **Population 16-64 not Employed (2008-2012)** 39.6 %
- **Employed Population with Travel Time to Work of 45 Minutes or More (2012)** 25.0 %
- **Median Household Income (2008-2012)** $36,715 dollars
- **Families Receiving TANF (2012)** 8.3 %
- **9th-12th Grade Students that are Chronically Absent (2012)** 32.1 %
- **Population (25 years and over) with Less than a High School Diploma (2012)** 67.8 %
- **Number of Narcotics Calls for Service per 1,000 Residents (2011)** 82.8 calls
- **Mortality Rate for 15-24 year olds (2012)** 17.2 per 1,000 youth
- **Life Expectancy (2012)** 74.0 years
- **Residential Properties that are Vacant or Abandoned (2012)** 3.3 %
- **Children (aged 0-6) with Elevated Blood-Lead Levels (2012)** .0 %
- **Violent Crime Rate** 13.5 per 1,000 residents

### Investments in Opportunity for Dorchester/Ashburton

For what taxpayers spend on incarceration in Dorchester/Ashburton, Baltimore City could invest in an array of programs and resources already available to help address community challenges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost per person</th>
<th>Number that could be served with $5,735,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug treatment for adults</td>
<td>$4,494 1,276 adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment training</td>
<td>$5,000 1,147 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing (per month)</td>
<td>$1,252 4,581 families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GED course</td>
<td>$1,000 5,735 students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the full report, sources, and additional data see *The Right Investment?* at JusticePolicy.org/TheRightInvestment or PrisonPolicy.org/origin/